



GENDER AND CLIMATE RESILIENT COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE (GCRCI)

One of the key components of this project is to build the capacity of women smallholder farmer's enterprises, particularly those relying on mango produce, followed by more diversified enterprises, to ensure that they take part in the local economy and decision-making of the community. These diversified enterprises will be developed with participatory methodologies to ensure women, rather than just men, in the communities can determine viable, culturally appropriate and marketable additions to the mango enterprises.

With agriculture being one of South Africa's key economic drivers, GenderCC SA has partnered with farming cooperatives in different regions to reduce poverty through increased climate resilience and reduced climate vulnerability of grassroots communities.

Mango farming has been identified as a key to unlocking this value chain with 6000 smallholder farmers in the Hebron district (North West) and Vhembe district (Limpopo) earmarked to supply high-quality drought-resistant green mango varieties, produced in a sustainable way to the Hebron Mango Tree Owner Primary and Vhembe Agro-Processing Cooperatives. The project will focus on critical sectors such as water, ecosystem resources, energy and agriculture amongst others.

The key driving force will be to enhance and create a conducive environment for Climate Smart Enterprises with a bias on women-led enterprises in the communities of Hebron, Madibeng Municipality, North West and Mutale, Vhembe District in Limpopo.

The Project subscribes to several of United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) and is supported by the Government of Flanders. (GCRCI Document)

This project will integrate gender throughout all the activities because in most instances the poor, the majority of whom are women, are more vulnerable to climate change due to their limited resources and as a result, it is harder for them to adapt to the changing environment.

Within South Africa, women and girls in the rural areas are most immediately affected by climate change because they are likely to have the least access to resources to manage the changes.

Climate change worsens existing vulnerabilities and gender inequalities and adds to the pressures on the environment and natural resources on which so many South Africans directly rely.

These existing gender differential impacts of climate change are attributed to existing inequalities between men and women in South Africa such as unequal access to resources, gendered division of labour and decision-making power which affects the ability to respond to the effects of climate change.