



Green jobs for rural youth employment

Project summary

Through this global project, a mix of selected rural and urban youth in Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe and Timor-Leste are provided with capacity development opportunities across green agriculture, green energy, and green waste management sectors, and transferable soft skills (problem solving, communication, teamwork, gender leadership, green business development, and financial literacy).

The participants will then identify a local issue and propose green jobs solutions that can be applied to address the problem. Participants with selected proposals by either public or private sector will be offered a 2-year employment (Public Employment Programme) or entrepreneurship (business start-up) opportunity.

At the end of the project, challenges and best practices will be widely disseminated among various stakeholders. Project results will be also used for developing national (and possibly regional) strategies for youth employment, agricultural and rural development, and transition to the Green Economy.

Project overview

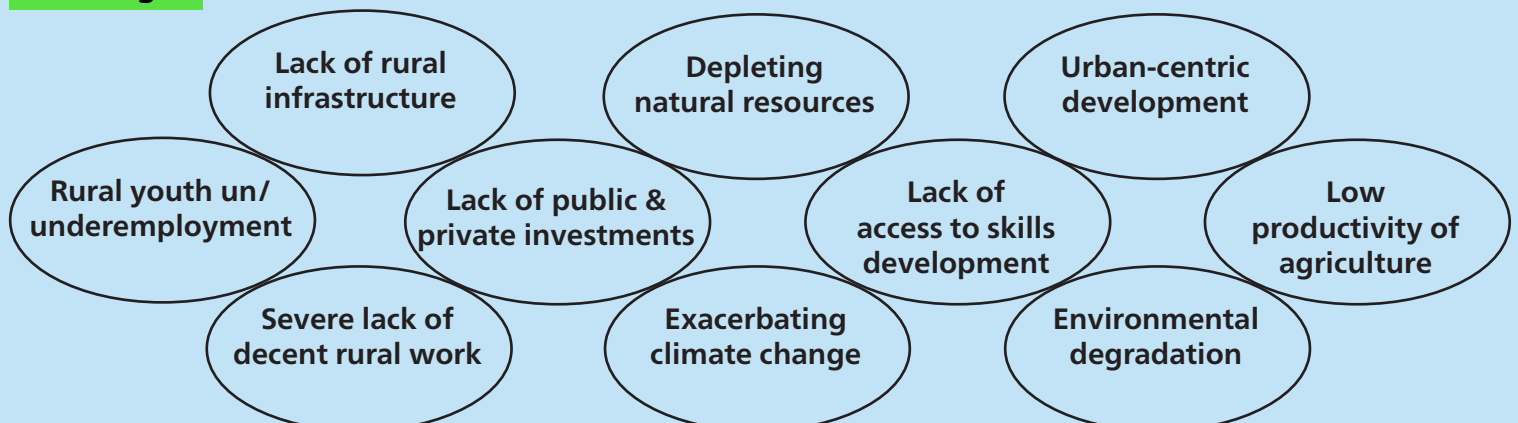
- **Project duration:** 54 months (4.5 years), from December 2019 to June 2024
- **Budget:** 6 000 000 USD
- **Funding organization:** Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)
- **Target countries:** Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe, Timor-Leste

Highlights

- Youth-led problem identification and solving.
- Youth participants: 20% urban/college graduates and 80% rural youth for rural-urban linkage.
- Local partnership with training centres, educational institutions, local/national government.
- Policy mainstreaming of the best practices through national development strategy.
- Skills development and green jobs (employment, entrepreneurship) opportunities provided in tandem.

Theory of change

Challenges



Green jobs for youth employment

Assessment and enabling environment

- value chain identified;
- legal and administrative barriers to green business addressed;
- green potential evidence generated;
- private sector involved for youth project selection and advisory group.

Green skills development and green jobs

- soft, transferrable skills (business planning, financial literacy, communication skills);
- sector-specific skills (agri-food sector, bionergy, other rural economic sectors).

- Green Public Employment Programmes (PEPs) provided for rural infrastructure/entry level green jobs;
- youth-led green startups (with investments and mentoring from private sector partners).

Government awareness, capacity, strategy development

- government capacity building in sustainable agri-food systems, climate change, and green economy;
- green jobs and youth employment mainstreamed in national development strategies.

Results

1. Rural youth skills developed and decent work opportunity provided

- reduced rural youth under and unemployment, skills gap, career aspiration gap;
- conducive environment for green business established;
- green rural infrastructure provided.

2. Contribution to addressing the climate change and environmental issues through green solutions

- agricultural adaptation and mitigations to climate change;
- depletion and degradation of natural resources by agricultural activities addressed.

3. Sustainable agri-food systems and resilient rural economy through value chains development

- green agri-food value chain identified and developed;
- other non-farm rural economic sectors 'greened' (energy, waste management).

4. Government capacity developed and green development strategies mainstreamed

- contribution made to National Adaptation Programmes of Actions (NAPAs) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for climate change;
- developmental potential of the green economy successfully seized.

Goal

Reduction of rural poverty through sustainable rural youth employment, climate actions, agri-food systems, and resilient rural economy with green employment and enterprises

Beneficiaries

Local youth in rural and peri-urban areas

- At least 600 young people (200 per country) will be trained on green jobs across rural economic sectors.
- At least 150 young people will be supported up to 2 years, for youth-led green business projects.
- At least 150 young people will be hired under 2-year public green employment scheme.

Local institutions

- At least one local organization in each country will be trained on the green economy.

Government ministry officials

- At least 100 government officials will receive capacity development and policy support.

Indirect beneficiaries

- 9 000 non-direct participating youth trained by the partnering local organizations.

Outcomes and outputs

Outcome 1: Provide green jobs in rural areas and agricultural sectors for youth.

- **Output 1.** Young people are trained, and their capacities built to address local issues through green jobs solutions.
- **Output 2.** Youth-led (decent) green employment/entrepreneurship created in agricultural sectors and rural areas.

Outcome 2: Assist governments in their transition to the Green Economy by fully utilizing the developmental potential of rural areas and agricultural sectors.

- **Output 1.** Green jobs and youth employment mainstreamed in national policies and strategies.
- **Output 2.** Contribute to achieving NDCs and building sustainable food systems.