

Climate-Smart
Agriculture for
Climate-Resilient
Livelihoods (CSARL)

Eswatini

Resilient Food Systems is one of the three Integrated Approach Pilots funded by the Global Environment Facility. Implementation is led by the International Fund for Agricultural Development, in collaboration with 12 African countries and several regional partners. The five-year programme is committed to **fostering sustainability and resilience for food security in sub-Saharan Africa.**

As an integral part of this regional initiative, the Climate-Smart Agriculture for Climate-Resilient Livelihoods (CSARL) project in Eswatini is contributing to the collective impact of the Resilient Food Systems Programme.



Swaziland Agricultural Development Programme (SADP)

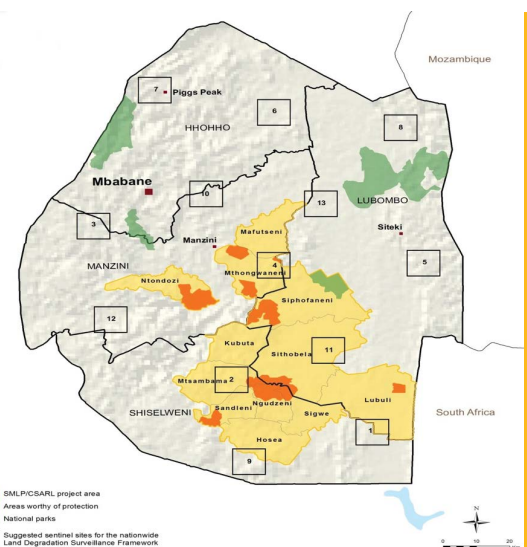
Context

The main drivers of degradation in Eswatini are increasing human population, soil nutrient mining within farmlands, growing livestock populations on communally grazed rangelands, land tenure arrangements, deforestation and climate change. This has led to undermining of the resource base, loss of biodiversity and reduction in ecosystem services that are fundamental to improved production, thereby contributing to impoverished rural livelihoods.

To address the interconnected challenges of rural poverty, food insecurity and environmental degradation, the Government of Eswatini through the Resilient Food Systems programme aims to introduce a paradigm shift toward integrated, multi-stakeholder development planning at the local level. This planning approach aims to ensure land, water and other natural resources are sustainably managed and harnessed as a key driver of growth. The CSARL project is closely associated with IFAD's Smallholder Market-Led Program (SMLP), which strengthens market linkages and promotes the scaling-up of the resilient and sustainable agricultural production practices and approaches introduced through GEF financing.

Objective

The CSARL project aims to enhance the food and nutrition security, as well as promote the livelihoods of smallholder farmers through diversified, climate-resilient agricultural production practices and associated market linkages.




SMLP/CSARL project area
Areas worthy of protection
National parks
Suggested sentinel sites for the nationwide
Land Degradation Surveillance Framework

Project area for Eswatini

Global Environmental Benefits GEBs

 30,000 (ha)
land under integrated and
sustainable management

 1,300,000 (MtCO₂e)
GHG emissions avoided or
reduced

Key components

The project is structured around three principal components, seeking to:

1. Promote integrated, multi-stakeholder development planning processes in 37 chiefdoms;
2. Scale-up sustainable land and water management practices; and
3. Strengthen capacities at the national and sub-national levels to monitor ecosystem services and resilience, and to carry out associated knowledge sharing and reporting activities.

Cross-cutting aspects related to value chains, capacity building and knowledge management are further strengthened through direct support from the Regional Hub project.

Expected impacts



Chiefdom Development Planning process institutionalised in three of the four regions in the project area:

- 37 Community Development Plans created.
- Chiefdom human, water and land resources allocated to planned development activities.



Sustainable land management applied at multiple scales across 37 Chiefdoms in three regions:

- 31,450 hectares of rehabilitated land with functioning ecosystem services.
- 12,000 households supported in coping with the effect of climate change.



National Capacity to monitor and refine sustainable land management policies and programmes for achieving convention targets.

- 98 professionals trained by the project in Sustainable Land and Water Management (SLWM) monitoring and planning or SLWM techniques.

Climate-Smart Agriculture for Climate-Resilient Livelihoods (CSARL)

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Resilient Food Systems

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Innovation

The project draws on IFAD's experience of similar projects in Eswatini. Significant investments in the direct implementation of sustainable land and water management, as well as the monitoring of ecosystem services and resilience in agricultural production systems and the wider landscapes, will ensure the project contributes to the evidence base for integrated approaches to addressing food security nationally.


Stakeholders engaged

The Ministry of Finance provides oversight and liaises with IFAD and GEF throughout implementation.

Major stakeholders at national and chiefdom level include:

- Ministry of Agriculture
- Eswatini Water and Agriculture Development Enterprise
- Eswatini Environment Authority and the Eswatini Meteorological Service
- Rural Development Areas (RDAs)
- Local NGOs
- The Inkhundla (Parliamentary Constituency)

Target Beneficiaries
Engagement increase

 90,000
people

