

# EVENT REPORT

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e.V.

## TANZANIA

STEFANIE BRINKEL  
CORINNA GRABOWSKI

SEPTEMBER 2017

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## Climate Change in Tanzania and Germany

DISCUSSION WITH PAMOJA ON CHALLENGES, OPPORTUNITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF YOUNG CITIZENS

**On 13<sup>th</sup> of September 2017, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) Tanzania invited PAMOJA, an intercultural exchange program between Tanzanian and German students, to jointly discuss the topic of climate change in Tanzania and Germany. In the premises of KAS in Dar es Salaam, 14 students from the Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial Academy (MNMA) and the Westfälische Wilhelms-University Münster (WWU) discussed for several hours the challenges, opportunities, and responsibilities of young citizens in both countries. The event was facilitated by KAS programme coordinator Richard Shaba and KAS project manager Stefanie Brinkel.**

The participants of the workshop form the 5<sup>th</sup> cohort of the PAMOJA-exchange program which formally links students from Tanzania and Germany and includes mutual visits in the two countries. After a round of introduction of the participants, Richard Shaba gave welcome remarks on behalf of KAS and presented the foundation, its history and the office's tasks in Tanzania. He pointed out that "democrats are not born, they are created", underlining the importance of KAS' work in the field of civic education as well as supporting a multi-party system. Subsequently, the Tanzanian and German leaders of the PAMOJA group delivered their greetings.

Afterwards, Stefanie Brinkel introduced several key elements pertaining to the topic,

such as the difference between climate and weather, the theoretical background of natural and anthropogenic climate change, as well as mitigation and adaptation options. Many students actively contributed to the lively presentation by sharing their knowledge, e.g., about greenhouse gases.

The strong interest in this topic was especially visible during the subsequent group work about the impacts, challenges as well as opportunities of climate change in Tanzania and Germany.



*Students working in small groups*

After debating in their small groups, the students presented their findings to the audience. Stefanie Brinkel facilitated the respective discussion. By differentiating between direct and indirect exposure, the students pointed out that effects such as extreme weather events and the loss of biodiversity conquer already our daily lives. Germany faced a number of heavy rainfalls, floods and storms in the recent past years. Moreover, the country is experiencing changing consumption patterns as well as

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the introduction of a variety of environmental regulations and mechanisms such as emissions-trading, which additionally may trigger new business models and innovation. Tanzania has witnessed, among other impacts, a dramatic loss of Mount Kilimanjaro's ice cover as well as erosions at the Zanzibar archipelago and severe droughts. Additionally, rising food prices exacerbate poverty. These are just a few examples that show the severity of man-made climate change, especially in Africa. Although opportunities of climate change, such as the creation of jobs and new technologies, were presented, the students instantly agreed that the challenges of climate change heavily outweigh the opportunities.



*Group photo with PAMOJA students and Stefanie Brinkel (KAS)*



*Open discussion about challenges and opportunities with regard to climate change*



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Altogether, the participants worked out responsibilities that can eventually mitigate climate change and contribute to the adaptation to its impacts. Suggestions referred to the political, economic, societal and technological sphere. Besides establishing tighter policies and strengthening negotiation capacities, the issue of burden sharing and common but differentiated responsibilities was addressed. The participants also advocated for a- and reforestation measures and discussed options of technology transfers. Educating today's youth about climate change was presented as another responsibility. Addressing questions of lifestyle, another student pointed out the severe environmental effects of meat consumption, especially beef, due to its high water, food and land consumption.

The event was closed by a vote of thanks from PAMOJA.