



Investment Phase:

Annual Narrative Report

United Republic of Tanzania

Year 2


Systematic Observations
Financing Facility

**Weather
and climate
data for
resilience**





General Information

Country	United Republic of Tanzania	
Implementing Entity	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	
Agreement effectiveness date	20 May 2024	
Duration	42 months	
Anticipated end date	20 November 2027	
Reporting period	From: 01 January 2025	To: 31 December 2025
Approved amount	Total: USD 9,067,503.87 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP: USD 8,437,337 • WMO: USD 630,166.87 	
Disbursed amount	Total: USD 5,272,436.82 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP: USD 5,062,402.20 • WMO: USD 210,034.62 	
Signature of Implementing Entity		



Summary

The SOFF Investment Phase in the United Republic of Tanzania became effective in May 2024, with implementation commencing in July 2024. The initiative seeks to close key gaps in the national meteorological observation system by strengthening institutional capacities and building the infrastructure required to meet Global Basic Observing Network (GBON) standards. The 2025 Annual Work Plan focused on progress towards achieving two core outcomes:

1. Outcome 1: GBON institutional and human capacity developed;
2. Outcome 2: GBON infrastructure in place.

Outcome 1: GBON institutional and human capacity developed

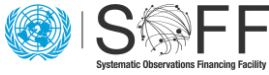
The investment phase was officially launched on 21 January 2025 in a high-level event officiated by Hon. Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa, bringing together senior leadership from the Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA), the Danish Meteorological Institute (DMI), UNDP, government ministries, and development partners. Following the launch, the second Project Technical Coordination Committee meeting on 14 March 2025 focused on preparing the Annual Work Plan, which was subsequently reviewed and approved during the National Steering Committee meeting on 10 April 2025.

Later in the year, the third PTCC meeting was convened in Dodoma from 27 to 29 August 2025 to review progress on workplan implementation, financial performance, construction milestones, procurement processes, environmental assessments, and follow-up from the DMI technical familiarisation mission. To reinforce implementation oversight, the committee agreed to institutionalise monthly online follow-up meetings.

The project also actively involved regional and international collaboration to support knowledge exchange and alignment with GBON standards. A Tanzanian representation participated in the SOFF Africa Regional Workshop held in Casablanca in early October 2025, where it shared national progress, challenges, and lessons learned, and contributed to regional resolutions.

TMA teams also joined the ClimAfrica Forum in Rabat in September 2025, the Meteorological Technology World Expo in Vienna in mid-October, and the Extraordinary Session of the World Meteorological Congress in Geneva later that month. The latter participation included discussions on the Early Warnings for All initiative, where Tanzania highlighted the role of SOFF in strengthening national early warning capacities.

In addition, bilateral outreach was undertaken to 21 African SOFF-implementing countries to foster collaboration, peer learning, and exchange of experience on GBON infrastructure and capacity development.



Institutional capacity building remained a central component of 2025 activities. Training was conducted in Morogoro in September for twelve TMA staff members on the Tanzania Revenue Authority's tax exemption systems to facilitate the importation of GBON equipment. Later, in December, senior management received training at the Institute of Accountancy Arusha on project management for large-scale meteorological capital investments, enhancing leadership capacity to plan, implement, and sustain GBON-aligned infrastructure.

Project monitoring and communication efforts also intensified. A bi-annual monitoring mission from 23 November to 2 December 2025 included field assessments at the Mwanza, Kilimanjaro International Airport, and Songwe upper-air stations to verify progress and inform Steering Committee decision-making. During this same period, field visits were conducted to document the socio-economic benefits of the new upper-air stations, generating material for documentaries and communication products aimed at enhancing the visibility of SOFF-supported GBON investments.

Finally, international technical collaboration was further strengthened through a familiarisation visit by a Tanzanian delegation to the Danish Meteorological Institute (DMI) from 20 to 30 June 2025. The visit was undertaken as part of DMI's Peer Advisory role under the SOFF project, with the objective of exposing TMA and UNDP technical staff to DMI's advanced expertise in areas relevant to Global Basic Observing Network (GBON) compliance, including observation systems, ICT infrastructure, maintenance, fabrication, and calibration of meteorological equipment.

The mission included field visits to observation stations and installations between Copenhagen and Viborg, as well as detailed technical sessions at the DMI workshop and headquarters. These covered key thematic areas such as calibration facilities, data communication systems, forecasting operations, high-performance computing infrastructure, and station design and configuration. The delegation also engaged in discussions with DMI leadership, including the Director General, who emphasized the high cost and socio-economic value of meteorological data and the importance of sustained investment and stakeholder awareness.

In addition, the visit provided an opportunity to review progress on procurement of meteorological infrastructure with UNDP at the UN City in Copenhagen, and to agree on measures to strengthen coordination and technical input in the evaluation process. Importantly, the mission facilitated the identification of priority areas for capacity development at TMA, including fabrication of equipment (e.g. tiltable masts and AWS enclosures), sensor calibration, station installation approaches, data management systems, and maintenance practices.

These engagements strengthened TMA's understanding of GBON requirements and provided useful exposure to international practices in observation systems, data management, and station design.



Outcome 2: GBON infrastructure in place

Progress on the development of GBON-compliant infrastructure advanced steadily throughout the reporting period, with notable achievements in environmental compliance, construction, procurement, and technical verification. Environmental Impact Assessments for the new upper-air stations were completed in line with the Environmental Management Act (2004) for the sites at Songwe, Mwanza, and Kilimanjaro International Airport.

Despite some delays related to implementation and coordination factors across multiple sites, including mobilisation timelines and sequencing of works, civil works for the construction of upper-air station buildings across the three sites neared completion. This progress was supported by detailed service designs covering water supply and electrical installations prepared by TMA and UNDP technical teams. Construction quality and adherence to technical standards were continually monitored through regular site visits undertaken by Clerks of Works, TMA and UNDP specialists, and PTCC leadership, alongside enhanced coordination, strengthened site supervision, and continuous engagement with the contractor to support timely completion.

The project also finalised the technical specifications for both new and upgraded GBON stations, for both the surface and upper-air observation systems, providing a comprehensive foundation for procurement and implementation. Procurement activities progressed well across multiple components. Safety equipment and work tools for land-based GBON stations were procured, delivered, and processed through TMA's internal systems. The acquisition of five operational vehicles to support station functions was completed. Procurement contracts were signed and initiated for the delivery of nine new Automatic Weather Stations and the upgrading of seven existing stations.

As well, technical evaluations for the Universal Data Collection and Dissemination System, the equipment packages for the three new upper-air stations, and the upgrade of the upper-air station at Julius Nyerere International Airport were completed. Financial negotiations with suppliers are in progress, with contract awards expected in the next phase of implementation. Tender evaluations for upgrading seven land-based stations and bid evaluations for the supply, installation, and commissioning of data collection, storage, and dissemination systems were completed, with the related purchase orders having been already issued.

Overall, the reporting period demonstrated strong progress in establishing the physical, technical, and operational foundations required for GBON-aligned upper-air and surface observation infrastructure in Tanzania, supported by coordinated environmental compliance, rigorous construction oversight, and substantial advancement of procurement pipelines.

Progress of implementation

Output	Indicator	Target					Actual					Status	Milestones achieved	Challenges and risks	
		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5				
1. GBON institutional and human capacity developed															
1.1 National consultations , including with CSOs and other relevant stakeholders conducted	Number of workshops with stakeholders	1	1	1	0		0	0				Not yet started		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No challenge, the activity for this indicator is scheduled to take place during Q3 2026; Mitigation measures for the identified risks associated with this activity are being adhered to. 	
	Percentage of women participating in SOFF consultations with CSOs and the private sector	50%	50%	50%	NA		NA	NA				Not yet started		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No challenge, the activity for this indicator is scheduled to take place during Q3 2026; Mitigation measures for the identified risks associated with this activity are being adhered to. 	
1.2 NMHS institutional capacity required to operate the GBON network developed	Number of TMA Senior Management trained	0	10	0	0		0	32				Achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training for 32 TMA Senior Management (8 women, 24 men) Staff on Project Management for Capital Expenditure (CapEx) was successfully conducted at the Institute of Accountancy Arusha from 15–19 December 2025. 		



Output	Indicator	Target					Actual					Status	Milestones achieved	Challenges and risks
		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5			
	Number of Team members trained in project Management	5	0	0	0		0	5				Achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 Team members (2 women, 3 men) participated in the Project Management for Capital Expenditure (CapEx) training held at the Institute of Accountancy Arusha from 15-19 December 2025. The training strengthened project management capacity within TMA. 	
1.3 NMHS human capacity required to operate the GBON network developed	Number of TMA Engineers and ICT staff Trained	15	0	10	0		0	0				Not yet started	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No training activities for TMA engineers and ICT staff were implemented during the reporting period, as the training is planned to take place after procurement and delivery of the relevant GBON equipment, in order to ensure hands-on, operationally focused capacity building. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This activity awaited the delivery of procured equipment. This is now expected to take place in Q3 2026. Mitigation measures for identified risks associated with this activity are being adhered to.



Output	Indicator	Target					Actual					Status	Milestones achieved	Challenges and risks	
		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5				
2. GBON infrastructure in place															
2.1 New land-based stations and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of new stations installed as per the GBON National Contribution Plan	0	9	0	0		0	0				On-track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase Order has been issued for 9 new land-based stations. Delivery is expected in May 2026, with installation following thereafter. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No challenge; • Mitigation measures for identified risks associated with this activity are being adhered to. 	
2.2 Improved land-based stations and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of stations improved as per the GBON National Contribution Plan	0	7	0	0		0	0				On-track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PO has been issued for 7 improved land-based stations. Delivery is expected in May 2026, with installation following thereafter. • Procurement of safety gears and working tools for land-based stations has been completed, with items delivered to TMA. • Evaluation of Tenders for procurement (supply, install and commissioning) of the data collection system, data storage and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No challenge; • Mitigation measures for the identified risks associated with this activity are being adhered to. 	



Output	Indicator	Target					Actual					Status	Milestones achieved	Challenges and risks	
		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5				
														dissemination system has been completed. Financial negotiation with supplier is ongoing.	
2.3 New upper air stations and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of new stations installed as per the GBON National Contribution Plan	0	3	0	0		0	0				On-track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the sites where new upper air stations will be installed has been issued. Construction of buildings for the new upper air stations for all three sites is at final stages; Technical evaluation for upper air station equipment has been completed. Financial negotiations ongoing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No challenge; Mitigation measures for the identified risks associated with this activity are being adhered to. 	
2.4 Improved upper air stations and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of stations improved as per the GBON National Contribution Plan	0	1	0	0		0	0				On-track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procurement of materials and related services for upgrading the upper air station at Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA) is at negotiation phase. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No challenge; Mitigation measures for the identified risks associated with this activity are being adhered to. 	



Output	Indicator	Target					Actual					Status	Milestones achieved	Challenges and risks	
		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5				
														<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procurement of dedicated internet and Network devices 	
3. Sustained compliance with GBON															
3.1 GBON land-based stations' commissioning period completed, country-specific standard cost for operations and maintenance established, and data sharing verified by WMO Technical Authority	# of stations commissioned as per the GBON National Contribution Plan	0	0	0	27		0	0					Not yet started		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No challenge, the activity for this indicator is scheduled to take place later in Q4 2026; Mitigation measures for the identified risks associated with this activity are being adhered to.
3.2 GBON upper air stations' commissioning period completed, country-specific standard cost for operations and maintenance established, and data sharing verified by WMO Technical Authority	# of stations commissioned as per the GBON National Contribution Plan	0	0	0	5		0	0					Not yet started		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No challenge, the activity for this indicator is scheduled to take place in Q4 2026. Mitigation measures for identified risks associated with this activity are being adhered to.



Gender

- **Gender Representation in Governance Structures:** Women are represented in project governance, with 5 out of 13 members (38%) in the Project Technical Coordination Committee (PTCC) and 2 out of 9 members (22%) in the Project Steering Committee (PSC), contributing to inclusive decision-making processes.
- **Gender Participation in Capacity Building:** In 2025, women represented 8 out of 32 participants (25%) in the Project Management for Capital Expenditure (CapEx) training conducted in Arusha.
- While progress has been made, increasing women's participation remains challenging due to the historically low representation of women in technical and engineering roles within the meteorological and related sectors.
- The project is committed to strengthening gender inclusion across implementation. Collection and reporting of sex-disaggregated data, as well as targeted efforts to enhance women's participation in governance and technical training activities, will be further strengthened in 2026 in line with the UNDP Gender Equality Strategy.

Social and environmental safeguards

Environmental and social safeguards were observed through the following measures:

- **Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA):** EIAs were conducted at sites for new upper-air stations (e.g., Songwe, Mwanza, and Kilimanjaro airports) to ensure compliance with Tanzania's Environmental Management Act (2004).
- **Labour rights and standards:** The project team monitored compliance with labour rights and standards during construction, including safety measures.



Civil society and private sector participation

- **Governance and stakeholder engagement:** Civil society is represented in project governance through the participation of the Tanzania Red Cross Society as a member of the Project Steering Committee, ensuring that community and humanitarian perspectives inform implementation. The high-level launch of the SOFF project on 21 January 2025 also included representatives from CSOs, academia, and private sector stakeholders to foster collaboration.
- **Private Sector Involvement:** Contractors and vendors from the private sector were engaged for construction activities, such as building upper-air stations facilities, and the procurement of MET Enclosure Materials, safety gears and meeting venues.

Complementary financing and leverage

- Of the \$13.9 million budget, \$9 million was provided by MPTF, with additional funding from the Government of Tanzania.
- SOFF serves as a foundational element and delivery vehicle for the UN Secretary-General's EW4All initiative, which aims to ensure that every person on Earth is protected by early warning systems by 2027. In 2025, TMA launched the EW4ALL with direct complementarity to SOFF.
- SOFF is positioning Tanzania as a credible investment platform for scaling Early Warnings for All (EW4All) by establishing the foundational observational infrastructure and institutional capacity required for effective early warning systems. By strengthening GBON compliance, data systems, and technical capabilities at TMA, the programme creates a strong basis for mobilizing additional financing from development partners and climate funds to expand forecasting, risk information, and last-mile early warning services in subsequent phases.

Implementation of grievance redress mechanism

In the event of any issues or concerns, the UNDP grievance redress mechanisms are in place to ensure they are effectively addressed. These mechanisms include the Social and Environmental Standards (SES) Grievance Mechanism, the Complaint Handling Mechanism, and the Whistleblower Protection Policy, among others. These systems are designed to handle complaints and concerns raised by stakeholders, ensuring transparency, fairness, and timely resolution. In addition, individuals can also access the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services for conflict resolution, and the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) can receive feedback related to project



performance. These grievance redress options are part of UNDP's commitment to accountability and maintaining open lines of communication with all stakeholders.

Claims were raised by the contractor in the implementations of constructions of Upper Air Stations for Mwanza, Songwe and Kilimanjaro International Airports. UNDP has been addressing the claims through its mechanisms, and the contractor is continuing the works and is expected to handover the sites by July 2026.

All issues raised, including contractor-related claims, are being addressed through established UNDP mechanisms and are under active resolution.

Success stories

Tanzania's SOFF Y1 implementation is gaining significant national and international recognition, showcasing the country's commitment to modernising meteorological infrastructure and improving early warning systems. These accomplishments not only bolster technical capabilities but also raise Tanzania's profile, strengthen partnerships, and establish the country as an emerging regional leader in climate services and early warning systems.

<https://un-soff.org/news/launch-of-the-systematic-observations-financing-facility-soff-project-in-tanzania/>

<https://dailynews.co.tz/investments-uplift-meteorology/>

<https://www.meteo.go.tz/news/first-meeting-of-project-steering-committee-for-the-soff-implementation-in-tanzania>

<https://www.undp.org/tanzania/news/building-climate-resilience-tanzania-launches-soff-project>