

**Women Participation in Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation in Tanzania
A Case of Smallholder Maize Farmers in Hai District**

By

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The study on which this dissertation is based aimed at investigating the participation of women smallholder maize farmers in climate change mitigation and adaptation in Hai District. Specifically, attention was devoted to assess awareness levels among women maize smallholder farmers on the climate change challenge; examine the perceived effects of climate change on maize farming activities among women smallholder maize farmers; analyse mitigation and adaptation measures in place among women smallholder maize farmers to reduce the impact of climate change and assess community behaviours on climate change adaptation and mitigation in Hai district. The data were collected through individual surveys. A questionnaire was administered to a sample of 99 farming women who were selected randomly in five villages from Hai District. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics using a Likert scale, a paired samples t- test and multiple response analysis with the aid of IBM SPSS and Microsoft Excel. The results confirm that women smallholder maize farmers are quite aware of climate change and they adopt adaptation and mitigation measures. Drought, unpredictable rainfall, an increase in temperature, floods and high winds were the most observable indicators of climate change to most of women. Crop rotation, use of inorganic fertilizers, pesticides use, micro-irrigation. crop diversification, planting early maturing maize varieties and timing of farm operations were the major farm-coping strategies. The study found out that education level, owned land size, training, perception on adaptation and mitigation strategies and age of respondents were the major factors which influenced adoption of adaptation strategies among women.