



**Protecting the global climate is one of the major challenges of the 21st century.** The UN climate agreement reached in Paris at the end of 2015 sets the international target of keeping the increase in global temperature well below 2°C. If this target is not met there will be an increased risk of irreversible climate changes, and the scope for people and ecosystems to adapt to climate change will be reduced. SDG 13 relies on international cooperation to combat the global threat of climate change.

## ACT LOCAL TO ACHIEVE THIS GLOBAL GOAL

### ➔ WHAT ARE THE ACTIVITIES ALL ABOUT?

Since 2011 Potsdam (capital city of the federal state of Brandenburg) and Zanzibar City have been linked through a climate partnership. As part of the Service Agency's 'Municipal Climate Partnerships' project the two partner cities shared ideas and expertise at regular intervals and drew up a joint programme of action for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

### ➔ WHAT HAS BEEN DONE SO FAR?

In Zanzibar City there is a public square which is badly affected by flooding. To counteract this the World Bank financed drainage measures. To complement this Potsdam and Zanzibar planted trees. The partnership addresses appropriate waste management. Solar-powered lamps are being financed and education projects are being initiated. The universities of Potsdam and Zanzibar City also maintain a partnership, as do two primary schools.

### ➔ HOW WAS THIS IMPLEMENTED?

Since 2008 the municipality of Potsdam has had a coordinator for climate action. When the Service Agency launched the pilot phase of the project '50 Municipal Climate Partnerships by 2015' in 2011, the City of Potsdam took part. It already had links with Zanzibar. There are now a number of projects through which Potsdam and Zanzibar are making a contribution to global climate action.

### ➔ WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

In Zanzibar City there is a housing development which the GDR built there in the 1960s. Here, as part of the climate partnership there are plans to modernise the grounds of the old GDR buildings. In Potsdam a similar rehabilitation project has succeeded in making the Gartenstadt Drewitz estate more socially sound and energy-efficient.



## Potsdam ➔ Brandenburg



Population:  
**170,000**



Mayor:  
**Jann Jakobs**





## JOINING FORCES FOR CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION

The rise in global temperature must be contained. At the same time measures must be taken to adapt to climate change. To achieve SDG 13, as well as joint international efforts it will also be necessary to incorporate measures to mitigate climate change into national policy-making. This is why the Service Agency initiated the project 'Municipal Climate Partnerships' and is now supporting some 60 climate partnerships worldwide. One of these is between Potsdam and Zanzibar City.

Since 2008 Potsdam has had a 'coordinator for climate action'. When Potsdam and Zanzibar City entered into a climate partnership in 2011 the coordinator also assumed responsibility for coordinating its activities. The partnership began with representatives of the two municipalities meeting in order to identify starting points for cooperation. They asked the questions: What do we have in common? And how can we support each other? 'At the municipal level people quickly get round to issues of infrastructure, resources and money', says Cordine Lippert, coordinator for climate action in Potsdam. 'In these areas we can help each other a great deal and share lessons learned.' At the same time Potsdam can also prompt infrastructure projects in Zanzibar City. Under the 'Partnership projects for sustainable local development' (Nakopa) programme, the Service Agency has delivered 60,000 euros to fund implementation of the jointly developed programme of action. This has enabled Potsdam to support Zanzibar City with a major challenge. Mnazi Mmoja Grounds, a centrally located public square, is regularly hit by flooding. The World Bank provided support to fund drainage measures. To complement this, Nakopa funds were used to plant 50 trees around the public square to serve as protection and at the same time provide shade for children playing and sportspersons. Twenty benches and 20 waste bins were also put up and twelve solar-powered lamps were installed to make the square attractive again.

Alongside the infrastructure projects there are also a number of programmes designed to create awareness of climate change. For instance there is a partnership between the primary schools in Potsdam and in Zanzibar City. Environmental teams have been formed at the two schools, and the children write letters to each other to find out what everyday



Solar panels in Zanzibar – this African city has a climate partnership with Potsdam. (Photo: Koordinierungsstelle Klimaschutz LHP)

life is like 12,000 kilometres away. Potsdam also succeeded in getting the Chamber of Industry and Commerce on board as a supporter. The Chamber has entered into an education partnership with Zanzibar City. Through train the trainer programmes, this partnership aims to improve the theoretical foundations underpinning vocational training. The University of Potsdam and Zanzibar are also partnering for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Since 2006 preparatory work has been under way on another urban development project. Zanzibar City is home to a prefabricated housing estate, Kikwajuni, which was built by the GDR in the 1960s. There the two sides plan to improve the infrastructure, and on the Kilmani estate they plan to reactivate the former botanical garden. Another aim is to remove the illegal rubbish tip that has grown up there and revitalise the green spaces in its place. The Gartenstadt Drewitz estate in Potsdam will serve as a model for this. Today, this once dilapidated prefabricated housing estate is now an attractive residential area. Can the lessons learned here be transferred to Zanzibar? This was a question that four students – two from Germany and two from Zanzibar – spent six months thinking about. Their work was supported by the ASA Municipal programme, in which the Service Agency works with the ASA training programme to enable young people to develop their skills in a development setting. Zanzibar City and Potsdam intend to continue their joint engagement. Since 28 April 2017 they have been partnering not only to combat climate change. The two cities have now also entered into an official twinning arrangement, which focuses on both economic cooperation and civil society exchange.

### INTERNET ADDRESS

<http://en.potsdam.de>