Possible futures for rural East Africa under a changing climate

The impacts of climate change will vary across the region according to a range of local factors. Which of these impacts could be felt in your community in these three different climates?

FUTURE 1
Much wetter, large increase in heavy rainfall and hotter

FUTURE 2
Increase in extreme rainfall and hotter

FUTURE 3
Much hotter and drier with more erratic rainy seasons

Examples of Climate Change Impacts

- Changes in the nature of livestock disease
- Potential opportunity to grow perennial crops such as pigeon peas, bananas and sugar cane.
- A different range of fruit and veg can be grown
- Changing nutrition levels with resulting health impacts
- Greater dependency on external markets (increased prices affects disposable income)
- Rural communities seek alternative livelihoods
- Migration increased substantially
- Change in yields of staple crops such as maize and sweet potato
- Variations in farmer incomes
- Shifting patterns of diseases such as cholera and malaria
- Examples of Climate Change Impacts
  - Shifting patterns of diseases such as cholera and malaria
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Adaptation Options

- Investment in veterinary services and infrastructure
- Increase social investment: improve teacher training and update school curricula to include conflict resolution, common property management, human rights and citizenship
- Reduce crop loss: invest in postharvest storage, pest control technologies and breeding for diversification
- Deepen extension and knowledge exchange: provide climate information services relevant to local livelihoods through dialogues with farmers
- Enhance capacity for emergency response to disease pandemics
- Diversify the rural economy beyond agriculture
- Implement a coherent investment strategy at the national level

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