

# Chadema set to revise manifesto

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TAMBWE

THE wheels to incorporate consequences of climate change, plans and strategies into Chama cha Demokrasia na Maendeleo's (Chadema) manifesto have begun to turn.

The Chadema Central Committee yesterday convened in Dar es Salaam in a workshop on climate change, with the aim to later produce a policy document after all levels of the party have

been sensitised.

The party's Secretary General, Dr Wilbrod Slaa said that good life for every Tanzanian would not be attained by political rallies, but rather with sound strategies and policies.

"It may appear to be too soon for us to be talking about what to include in our manifesto but good things shouldn't wait until the last minute," he said.

Dr Slaa said that yesterday's workshop was just the start and that in the coming months more

sessions would be organized at different levels of leadership and a machinery would be in place to ensure that the plans reached the people.

He said that over the years, numerous plans had been made but none had been implemented. The failure caused climate change mostly in rural areas, which were hardest hit.

"Mitigating the effects of climate change is a heavy task, there is need for commitment and everyone needs to be responsible

if good life is to reach all Tanzanians," he said.

The workshop was organized by Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS), a Germany foundation that has been associated with Chadema for many years, offering it expertise. The KAS also supports it with councilor trainings to strengthen the party basis.

Dr Slaa said there was a need to stop idle politicking and concentrate on issues like climate change, whose effects like reduction of water, increased

floods and drought, were already visible.

"Our friends accuse us of getting funds from donor countries and using it to hold demonstrations. I would like to say in front of our supporter that we haven't received a single cent for that and are only benefiting from workshops like these," he said.

The KAS Resident Representative, Mr Stefan Reith echoed the words of Dr Slaa, saying that there was a number of German foundations working

in the country with political parties like CCM and CUF, but they were never allowed to do direct party funding.

Mr Reith said that opposition parties needed to have a political agenda on climate change because UN studies showed that the EAC region belonged to the most heavily affected region by climate change. He added that the government did not appear to attend to the problem and only sent huge delegations to international meetings, taking whopping

amount of travel allowances but with close to zero results.

Other reasons cited include the question of a stable and sustainable energy supply and food security isn't being taken seriously by the government. International donor money will be more and more concentrated on climate change in the future and new technologies especially with respect to renewable energies have big potential and could boost the economy.