Newsletter of the Traditional Irrigation & Environmental Development Organization (TIP)

Maendeleo ya TIP

6th Edition July 2004

PARTICIPATORY MONITORING AND EVALUATION IN TIP

"By Eva Kassara"

Since 1987/88 the Traditional Irrigation and Environmental Development Organization (known by its acronym TIP) had no defined mechanism of participatory monitoring and evaluation to the beneficiaries. It is in this respect, TIP developed a Participatory monitoring and evaluation system for smallholder farmers. TIP piloted a PM&E system in Kileo Irrigation Scheme located in Kileo village in Mwanga District. The scheme received infrastructure improvement support from TIP in 1993. The scheme abstracts water from Ghona River and is at the tail end. There are three other schemes upstream. Areas covered by those schemes are lowlands of Marangu, Himo, Mbuyuni and Chekereni.

Map drawn by the members representatives, shows that farming plots that access water from the scheme are almost all located in Kileo Village. However, owners of the plots are residents of Kileo, Kituri, Kifaru and Kivulini Villages. Estimates (1998) of Kileo Village Government indicate that the total area under irrigation is 425 hectares, which is 25% of the total village area. Same office estimates that 450 – 600 farmers of which are beneficiaries of the scheme.

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HOW GENDER MAINSTREAMING SKILLS HAS SUCCESSFUL ENABLED WATER USERS GROUP TO ALLEVIATE POVERTY AND FOOD SECURITY IN TIPs AREA OF OPERATIONS

"By Shangwe Kiluvia"

In many areas of Traditional Irrigation where TIP has intervened, most of the WUGs faced several problems which slowed down their irrigation development activities. One of the pressing problem was unequal gender relationship (caused by traditions and customs) of which in the past construction of traditional irrigation structures at the water sources were associated with traditional norms/taboos. The norms and taboos restricted women to participate in or control any irrigation activities as follows;

- Women were not allowed to open the traditional night water storage except a men or a young boys. If it would happen for a woman to do so it was believed that the night water storage could crack and a woman life will be at risk.
- Women were not allowed to construct the traditional structures which denied their sense of ownership and control. Their role was to collect banana trashes carry them near the site and call man to take them to the construction site.
- Women were taught that for them be descent they should not speak in front of men especially in the meetings or during any discussion involving men and therefore meetings on water discussion were carried out at the intake or night water storage.
- There were no women leader in the water user groups. Because women were not born to be leaders.

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PM & E IN TIP.....From page 1

There are two main farming season; the long rain season that starts in January up to May and sometimes June and dry season starting July – December. It is during the dry season when farmers apply irrigation and this has enabled them to plant and harvest twice per year. The main crops that are usually planted are maize, beans and paddy but recently various types of vegetables have been introduced.

TIP support, entailed construction of the intake, main canal and distribution canals in which division boxes were constructed. As of 2003, there were 45 distribution boxes that farmers call them branches and five main distribution canals. Those are Mashariki ya Mbali na Kati, Mvuleni, Kati, langa'ta and magharibi.

Performance assessment:

The rationale for performance assessment is derived from the need to ensure that the core activities are executed and thus deliver the intended benefits. To some extent mechanisms for performance assessment are available in TIP areas of intervention but fall short of producing the intended results. To facilitate the process of performance analysis, TIP has built a system within the functions that will generate the necessary information that can be used continuously to measure the progress towards attainment of the benefits. Setting a system that is appropriate and that practically can be used requires the users to take active role in designing, implementing and reviewing the system as needs arises.

The system is broadly designed to track down all activities and benefits occurring periodically. The system in its totality is referred to as Participatory monitoring and Evaluation.

TIP would like to thank the Co-operative College for their technical support, leaders of Kileo Water Users Group, team of facilitators and all those who made the preparation of the PM&E Guideline for farmers and participated in institutionalization of the system.

The success of gathering information would not have been possible without members and other villagers who voluntary agreed to participate in the focus group discussions. Similarly, the village leaders provided very useful information. To them we feel obliged to express our appreciation.

It is our hope that this Guideline will contribute in strengthening the capacity of members and leaders to use the irrigation facility to enhance their socio-economic positions.

Leaders of Kileo WUG (facilitators) gathering information from WUG members of Kileo Irrigation Scheme for PM&E process to their scheme

DRIP IRRIGATION SYSTEM

"By Eng. A.L. Maro"

Drip irrigation system is a special type of application method in that water is applied at a point or over a very limited fraction of the total surface of a field. This is achieved by using miniature sprinklers called micro-jets (emitters) placed close to the soil surface.

Drip irrigation system applies water directly in the vicinity of the root zone, wetting a limited amount of surface area and depth of soil.

Advantages

i) A major advantage of drip irrigation system is that the close balance between applied water

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

TIP would like to express its Gratitude for funding recently received from NOVIB,RNE, EOJ and UNDP for implementing various projects proposed by the communities where TIP intervenes

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TIP Box 8909 Moshi, Kilimanjaro

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and crop evapotranspiration reduced surface run off and deep percolation to a minimum.

ii) The fact that limited portions of the field surface are moistened tends to reduce need growth which would otherwise consume irrigation water.

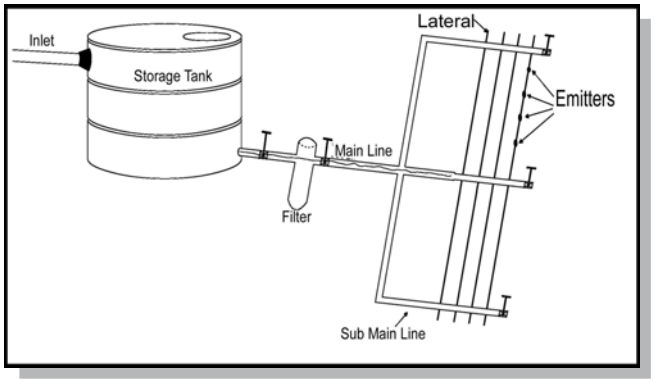
iii) There is evidence that drip irrigation generally produce a higher ratio of yield per unit area and yield per unit volume of water than surface irrigation method.

The system is applicable and can be cost-effective in areas not well suited surface or pressurized sprinkler irrigation.

Disadvantage

i) The capital costs are high because of higher level of technology sophistication

ii) The application system requires limited fluctuations of pressure at the point of water application (tight tolerances of pressure variations)



Last year 2003 TIP introduced the system in the Mchali WUG in Mwanga district. This year 2004, TIP plans to install the system in Kwa Mlombola WUG. The objective is to train alternative water application suited to areas that have potential for production of high value crops.

The components of drip system are storage tank (to maintain constant pressure), filter, mainline lateral (drip lines).

HOW GENDER MAINSTREAMING SKILLS..... *from page 1*

- Women were therefore nor involved in the decisions making process. There were hence not recognized by community.

The oppression of women by men was consequently characterized by:

- Lack of control over resources by women e.g. irrigation water, traditional structures, traditional irrigation benefits (cash, land, trees)
- Unequal division of labour hence heavy workload to women.
- Unequal division of wealth.
- Women have no equal right as men in land inheritance due to the existing customary land laws which favored men.
- No marriage right

This situation prolonged for more than 200 years ago. The negative results were produced poverty and food in security at household level because there was no joint effort in sharing traditional irrigation and production on activities and there was no equal sharing benefits occurring from tradition activities. As a result poverty perpetuate year after year.

TIP success in poverty alleviation and food security was realized by using several approaches and tools which has been designed to ensure effective gender mainstreaming in the implementation process of the TIP package.

The results are:

- Gender awareness has been raised among male and female water users on the division of labour and wealth, land and water right, self image of women and there is good/strong communication between men and women from 5%-45%
- Women are represented in leadership committee from 0 – 4 members
- Improve women's access to and control over land, water, trees, crops and family income and decision making process
- Poverty reduction in TIP's area of operation is about 20% i.e from former 80% - 60% from prefeasibility studies.
- Capacity building at district level on gender issues
- Women and men participate equally in benefits accrued from all TIP activities including OD & Gender, Land Use Management, Irrigation Improvement & Market Access and Agro-enterprise Development

TIP stands for the Traditional Irrigation and Environmental Development Organization. TIP has been registered as an NGO in Tanzania since August 1999. The NGO was established to institutionalize the achievements and experiences of the previous TIP programme (1988-2000) and to ensure the continuation and quality of its integrated approach– the TIP Package. TIP provides services to farmers through Water User Groups, NGOs, and donor-funded projects to achieve the improvement of traditional and small-holder irrigation based on sustainable use of land and water resources.

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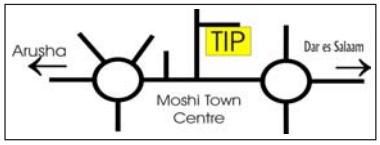
The objective of the organization is to improve the standard of living of the community in traditional irrigated areas in Tanzania using a gender balanced perspective in the context of sustainable development of catchments with regard to irrigation, natural resource management, soil and water conservation, afforestation and organizational development.

The target group of TIP is the small-scale farmer (female and male) living in the catchment areas of the traditional irrigation systems in Tanzania.

The TIP package consists of four main components:

- Organizational Development and Gender
- Participatory Land Use Planning
- Market Access & Agro-enterprise Development
- Irrigation Improvement



For further information,
please contact us at our
office in Moshi

P.O. Box 8909, Moshi - Kilimanjaro
Tel : 027 53025/54232
Fax: 027 51124
E-mail: tip@tiptz.org
Website: www.tiptz.org

AGRICULTURAL MARKET & MARKETING DEVELOPMENT

"By Loyce Kaitira"

Agriculture marketing has evolved from trade among tribes, mostly through barter trade. But what is a market? Market is a regular gathering where people buy and sell goods.

Marketing is a process whereby performance of business activities that direct the flow of goods and services from producer to consumer is done. Therefore the point of production is the basic source of supply. The marketing process being at that point and continues until a consumer buys the product at the retail counter or until it is purchased as a raw material for another production phase.

Since marketing also includes the production process, in this case then marketing consist of those efforts that effect transfer of ownership and that create time, place and form utility (quality of being useful) to commodities.

Time utility is added to agricultural commodities by storage. Place utility is added to agricultural commodities through transportation services. Finally form utility is added to the commodity through the processing function. By the creation of these utilities marketers are productive and add value to raw agricultural commodities that consumer want.

Because consumption is the purpose and end result of production and marketing activities, it is necessary for those who are producing and marketing agricultural commodities to focus their activities toward satisfying consumer wants and needs. However, it is difficult to successfully market something consumers do not desire, even with massive promotion endeavors. Therefore proper agronomic skills and post harvest handling techniques are important ingredients to quality agricultural products.

In developing agricultural marketing systems, investments in basic transportation & storage infrastructure, provision of credits, technical assistance and training are effected. Thanks to the Government of Tanzania through the Agriculture Marketing System Development Programme (AMSDP) in Arumeru District & other parts of Tanzania.

The programme is expected to improve basic transportation & storage infrastructures, provide credits, empower producers and link them with reliable markets and improve marketing policy in Tanzania. Through improvement of Agricultural marketing systems time, place and form utilities to agricultural commodities will be enhanced. This will consequently increase income and alleviate poverty to the rural community of Tanzania.