

Maendeleo ya TIP

7th Edition August 2005

Do you have a strong water user group?

1. Leaders are committed and democratically chosen.
2. Allocate specific tasks to individual members.
3. Keep accurate record books.
4. Conduct regular meetings.
5. Develop relationship with traders and credit providers.
6. Make use of available market information.
7. Learn how to negotiate with produce buyers.
8. Make regular group contributions and savings.
9. Use constitution and by-laws.

The Key to Strength

A young boy was struggling unsuccessfully to move a heavy rock. His father stood nearby and finally asked why he wasn't using all his strength. The boy assured his dad that he was. "But why aren't you asking me to help?" said the father. Successful people use all their strength. That means they ask for help when they need it. The key to leadership is getting others around you involved - making them know their efforts are important to the common goal. The more you inspire them to do their part, the better things will turn out for all of you.

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Building Sustainability through Village Technicians

The objective of TIP as a development organization is to work with a select number of farmer groups, strengthen their organizational capacity, and empower them to build sustainable livelihoods. An effective way of empowering farmers is through Village Technicians (VTs). They are given advanced training in organizational and gender aspects including business awareness, land management, irrigation improvement, and market access and agro-enterprise development. The village technicians spread the knowledge and skills to their fellow farmers.

As a service provider, TIP empowers farmers by guiding them through logically

sequenced steps that enable communities to find solutions. After a certain amount of time TIP needs to leave the group and help other farmers. This is called an exit strategy. Research shows that long-term provision of free assets leads to dependency and negative incentives. For TIP to build sustainability, village technicians will be taking a more active role in the future. In March, TIP provided 17 Arumeru VTs with a two-week refresher-training course. It is a pilot project that will be rolled out to other partner districts. With updated skills the VTs can train other farmers in the village and beyond.

Urban Population is Changing the Market Place

Sub-Saharan Africa's traditionally rural-based society is changing, with more than half its people expected to move to urban areas by 2030, the United Nations said in a recent 'State of the world's cities' report. The movement of people away from rural to urban areas means that more consumers need to buy food since they cannot grow it themselves. In Africa, population is increasing 2-3% each year. This represents another opportunity for selling more goods.

In most cities and towns people's incomes are rising. With more income, people tend to spend a lower percentage of their total earnings on food. Consequently, these consumers can afford better quality food. Organically grown products are an emerging market that is produced without the input of chemical fertilizers, pesticides or herbicides. A certain number of customers want organic products and are willing to pay more to satisfy their needs.

In general, a wider range of products in terms of type, quality and quantity are in demand in larger cities. This demand

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Obituary

Mr. Raphael Burra, who was instrumental in initiating the TIP Programme in the 1980s, passed away on 20th April 2005. TIP's performance under Burra's leadership was so impressive that it won the Dutch Award on Environment and Development in 1991. He left the programme in 1998 to join the UDSM for further studies and later joined PAMOJA Trust. Raphael will be remembered for his honesty, passion for the programme and collegiality. May he rest in peace.



Mr. Burra Raphael (left) receiving the Dutch Award on Environmental Development



Ginger Health Tip

Ginger is rich in calcium, phosphorus, iron, vitamin C and small amounts of vitamin B Complex.

TIP Enhances Capacity in Agro-enterprise Development

TIP has been nominated Lead Partner Agency for Agricultural Marketing Systems Development Programme (AMSDP). In June, TIP organized a training in agro-enterprise development for its headquarter and Arumeru district council staff. The training focused on ways of identifying market opportunities for smallholder producers and strategies to improve the competitiveness of market chains for smallholder producers. The purpose of the training is to prepare TIP as it readies itself to embark on capacity building for the 16 Partner Agencies working in

twenty districts in eight regions under AMSDP.

This is part of series of training for its staff that International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) will be offering to TIP. CIAT is based in Uganda and has collaborated with TIP for the past four years. International Centre for Tropical Agriculture has developed rural innovations over the past 10 years, which have been successfully used in Latin America, Asia and Africa. Innovations help communities build sustainable livelihoods through competitive agriculture.

Nane Nane Agricultural Shows

August 1-10, 2005

Themis Showground, Arusha

Theme: Improved agriculture is the best tool to alleviate poverty.

Urban Population is Changing the Market Place

Continued from page 1.

is helping fuel an increase in supermarkets. When selling to supermarkets, farmers are required to meet their strict quality and price structures.

Elsewhere in the world, there have been cases of mass illness and deaths caused by bad food supplies. For example, incidents such as peanuts contaminated with aflatoxin, or coffee containing mycotoxin have created awareness for higher food safety standards. In Kenya in 2004, more than 100 people died of poisoning in maize that was not stored well. Products are tested at the point of arrival and departure to be sure that food is as safe as possible for the public.

What does urbanization mean to the smallholder producers and their ability to sell goods to the marketplace? Farmer groups need to find innovative ways of using their labour, resources and skills to take advantage of new business opportunities. A good example is the Mamba Myamba farmers in Same district who market ginger to Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar. In 2004 the crop fetched 250 Tsh per kg. Small-scale producers need to know the market, be organized, adopt new strategies, find ways to make their production more competitive, add value to goods and build trader relationships.

PEOPLE

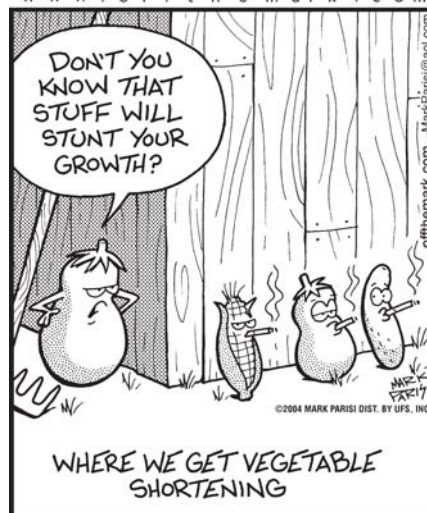
Visions in Action volunteer from USA

TIP is currently enjoying the services of Ms Melanie Haske as a volunteer from the United States of America. She grew up in a rural town in the state of Michigan. Melanie enjoys living in Moshi and the warm welcome of Tanzanians. She is a specialist in institutional development and is helping with organizational strengthening activities. Melanie was brought to TIP by an NGO known as Visions in Action based in Washington DC. She will stay with TIP for one year (i.e. up to December 2005).

University students in Arumeru district

Students from Sokoine University of Agriculture are doing field practicals in Arumeru for five weeks. Kalista Maganga and Modesta John will assess progress of Agricultural Marketing Systems Development Programme at Nduruma Catchment, while Ronald Swai conducts an environmental impact assessment at Kikuletwa River basin.

off the mark by Mark Parisi
www.offthemark.com



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HIV/AIDS Quiz

Source: UNICEF

Answers are on page 4.

- AIDS is:**
 - an illness.
 - a bacteria.
 - a type of medicine.
- AIDS is caused by:**
 - a virus.
 - pollution in the environment.
 - dirty latrines.
- What does the immune system do?**
 - It helps the body fight illnesses, such as colds, influenza or pneumonia.
 - It improves eyesight.
 - It builds strong muscles.
- HIV, the virus that causes AIDS:**
 - can be controlled with vaccines.
 - can be passed from one person to another.
 - cannot be passed from one person to another.
- As soon as a person is infected with HIV, he or she develops AIDS.**
 - True
 - False
- All people who have AIDS have the same symptoms.**
 - True
 - False
- New drugs are now available that can cure HIV/AIDS.**
 - True
 - False
- Without drugs that help people with AIDS live longer, a person who develops AIDS will usually die in:**
 - 6 months to 2 years.
 - 1 to 2 weeks.
 - 5 to 10 years.
- HIV can be passed by**
 - sitting next to an AIDS-infected person on the dala dala.
 - hugging a person with AIDS.
 - having sex with an infected person without using a condom correctly.
- HIV can be passed to people by mosquitoes.**
 - True
 - False

District News

Arumeru

Group supplies cheese

Ikunda Dairy Farmers Association (IDAFASO), a group in Nkoaranga ward, has secured cheese contracts with Ndiyo Supermarket and Livingston Hotel. They also supply 10kg of cheese per week to ViaVia restaurant. With the guidance of TIP in partnership with Agricultural Marketing System Development Programme (AMSDP), the group has diversified its product line. They sell milk, butter, yogurt and cheese. The group is well organized and continue to grow in their business.

Higher crop yield with SWC

In 1997, TIP started working with Maroroi WUG in Nduruma ward. The farmers were trained in soil and water conservation (SWC). TIP facilitated a study tour to Lushoto. Upon returning, the farmers formed an environmental task force to share the information with others. Mr. Meivashi, the Maroroi Environmental Chairperson, said, "The farmers who adopted the SWC techniques have benefited a lot". For example, there is reduced soil erosion, farmers have more fodder for their livestock, and there is an increased crop yield. Before TIP intervention, farmers received 3-4 bags of maize per acre and 1 bag of beans per acre. Currently, farmers receive 9-12 bags per acre and 4-5 bags per acre of maize and beans respectively.

Lushoto

Night storage pond improvement

Dule WUG members have improved their lives after the improvement of their night water storage pond. The pond capacity has increased from 5 – 70 cubic meters. Harvested water is used not only for irrigation but also for domestic purposes. Following improvement of the pond, area under irrigation has increased from 3 – 10 hectares. Production has also increased from 4 – 8 bags of Irish potatoes per ¼ acre per season. Currently production is carried out all the year through resulting in food security and increased income.



Mrs. Massawe (left) with IDAFASO group in Arumeru district displays milk products. Second left is Manager of CIAT agro-enterprise development project, Shaun Ferris.

Mwanga

Neighbors copy innovations

Members of Kwa Mlombola WUG move from subsistence to cash crop farmers. The change was possible because they combined innovative production techniques with marketing skills. Farmers used low-pressure sprinklers and drip irrigation system to increase water use efficiency. The result is that from a quarter of an acre a farmer receives Tshs 200,000 per season from tomatoes or green peppers. Neighbors copied the innovations since they saw a change in people's livelihoods. One farmer, Eliakimu Mrutu, from Kijiwe sub-village improvised the drip irrigation system by using bamboo trees on his 2-acre farm.

Women have equal voice

Following improvement of irrigation infrastructure, water flows in Chunguli WUG have increased from 18 l/s to 120 l/s. After group strengthening training, women have equal access to irrigation water. Previously, there were no women members in the WUG; now they represent 45% of the group. With women participation, the cultivated area has increased from 15 to 24 acres. In addition, production levels have increased as a result of training in improved farming practices.

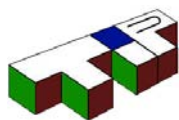
Same

Farmers cultivate ginger

TIP informed Mamba Catchment farmers in 1989 about the successes of Chome Catchment. After a field visit, they decided to build terraces. In 1994, one Mamba farmer visited Lushoto farms that grew ginger. He came back with some tubers of ginger and planted them on the terraces. It was a successful crop and the next season many neighbors copied the idea. Msaada Rabson, a farmer in Nondo WUG said that there are several advantages of this crop. Ginger can be intercropped with other plants, there is a market locally and outside the country, and the price per kg is between Tshs 300 – 500.

Onion crops are a success

In 1988, before TIP intervention in Chome Catchment, the cash crops were mainly coffee and sugar cane. Now, onion is the leading commercial crop. After soil and water conservation training, farmers improved their land with terraces. Richard Daniel Msuya, a farmer, said, "The soil and climate of Chome allows our onions to be top quality compared to onions grown in other parts of Tanzania". The crop can be harvested after three or four months and other crops can be grown after harvesting the onion. Richard also mentioned that this crop has increased household income; farmers can afford to pay school fees and build houses.



TIP stands for the Traditional Irrigation and Environmental Development Organization. TIP was registered as an NGO in 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.

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.

TIP package components:

1. Organizational Development & Gender
2. Participatory Land Use Planning
3. Market Access & Agro-enterprise Development
4. Irrigation Improvement

Thank You

TIP would like to express its gratitude for funding received from NOVIB, RNE, EOJ and UNDP, which implemented many projects.

Your Mail Box

Have your suggestions, comments, stories and ideas printed. Send them to TIP with your full name and address.

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Answers of HIV/AIDS Quiz

(from page 2)

1. A. AIDS stands for 'Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome'. A person who has AIDS has a very weak immune system.
2. A. AIDS is caused by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). This virus destroys or weakens the cells of the body's immune system. When this happens, the body can no longer fight off infections.
3. A. Your body has an immune system that works to protect against infections. When you get an infection, your immune system produces cells called 'antibodies' that fight the infection. HIV is dangerous because it weakens or destroys parts of the immune system.
4. B. HIV can be passed from one person to another through having unprotected sex (sex without a condom), sharing needles or receiving infected blood transfusions. It can also be passed from mother to child during pregnancy and delivery, or through breastfeeding. There is no vaccine against HIV at this time.
5. False. Once a person is infected with HIV, he or she may become sick within 6 months or not for 10 years or more.
6. False. HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, weakens and finally destroys the body's ability to protect itself from infections and cancers. So people with AIDS can get many different diseases and may have many different symptoms. These symptoms may include: (a) major loss of weight.
7. False. There are drugs that allow people with HIV/AIDS to live longer, but they do not cure HIV/AIDS and are very expensive.
8. A. People with AIDS often die from infections because their immune systems are too weak to protect them.
9. C. HIV can be passed from one person to another through unprotected sex (sex without a condom). When condoms are used correctly and consistently every time you have sex, they are nearly 100% effective in protecting you and your partner against HIV. But the only 100% sure way to avoid getting HIV by sexual activity is to not have sex at all (abstinence).
10. False. The amount of the virus carried in a mosquito who has bitten someone with HIV is too small to infect someone else.

Moshi Demonstration Plot

Donors, partners, researchers, Government officials and farmers often visit TIP's main office in Moshi to learn about its innovations. Until now, TIP had two options to present its knowledge: first to take visitors to the field, which is costly, or secondly to prepare exhibition at the office. The office presentation is not nearly as effective as seeing an irrigation scheme in action. TIP decided to construct a demonstration plot on its premises. The area has stone and sand terraces, which are irrigated with overhead sprinklers. The display will be used as a training area and visitor showcase.



Kiwale weeds onions at TIP demo plot.

The Obstacle in Our Path

In ancient times, a king had a big stone placed on a roadway. Then he hid himself and watched to see if anyone would remove the huge rock. Some of the king's wealthiest merchants came by and simply walked around it. Many loudly blamed the king for not keeping the roads clear, but none did anything about getting the stone out of the way. Then a peasant came along carrying a load of vegetables. Upon approaching the huge rock, the peasant laid down his burden and tried to move the stone to the side of the road. After much pushing and straining, he finally succeeded. After the peasant picked up his load of vegetables, he noticed a purse (pochi) laying in the road where the stone had been. The purse contained many gold coins and a note from the king indicating that the gold was for the person who removed the stone from the roadway. The peasant learned what many of us never understand. Every obstacle presents an opportunity to improve our condition.

Benefits of Failure

1. If you do fail, you learn what doesn't work.
2. Failure gives you an opportunity to try a new approach.

Roger Van Oech