

Maendeleo ya TIP

10th Edition, 2007

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TIP propels for Empowerment and Sustainability

Introduction

Registered in Tanzania since August 1999, TIP is an NGO that build on and institutionalize experiences and achievements of the former 1988 – 2000 TIP programme to assist farmers improve smallholder irrigation practices based on sustainable use of land and water resources. TIP implements this through:

- i. Strengthening the organizational capacity of Water User Groups (WUGs) for them to participate effectively in irrigation improvement;
- ii. Improving land management practices;
- iii. Improving traditional irrigation systems, as well as,
- iv. Assisting smallholder irrigation farmers in market access and agro-enterprise development.

TIP cover selected traditional irrigation areas in four districts; Lushoto (Tanga region), Same and

Mwanga (Kilimanjaro region), as well as, Arumeru (Arusha region) North East Tanzania. TIP operates elsewhere on contracts and assignments. The efforts of TIP are aimed at contributing to food security and poverty reduction to

smallholder irrigation farmers in the areas parallel to the National Strategy for growth and Reduction of Poverty (MKUKUTA) and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

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Village Technicians from Mwanga in group work during the training.

Exposure to new insights is the key to improved farming

Learning visit has brought remarkable changes for farmers in Nganjoni Village Irrigation Project. As part of training activities aimed to impart improved knowledge in irrigation practices, 30 farmers from Nganjoni village visited Kwamlombola and Kwamjwi WUGs on the 14th February 2007.

What impressed these farmers most was how small amounts of water flows from night storage ponds could produce various crops for food and income generation.

The visiting farmers saw how storage of water in small ponds was important to enhance water distribution among WUG members especially when water was scarce. Also the production of "grain amaranthus" caught the attention of the visitors. Some farmers bought amaranthus as well as improved bean seeds from the village technician of Kwa mlombola WUG Mr Nzinyangwa.

One visitor expressed his views that Nganjoni village was rich due to water and farmland availability.

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Farmer empowerment

TIP inherited and for quite long has been using the districts to deliver its products and services through Water User Groups – WUGs. Apparently, TIP has managed to institute a group of village technicians (VTs) at village level. VTs have been trained in all the components of TIP package and they have been a great force in

prompt and cost effective delivery of TIP products and services.

TIP is currently running a special program aimed at upgrading a few selected VTs to enable them acquire new insights and be able to examine and deliver knowledge on irrigation improvement in different perspectives. This move is further

intended to build a strong and reliable group of associates that will allow TIP to deliver its products and services to farmers promptly and cost effectively.

Sustainability

Capacity building for VTs is necessary for them to be able to match with the changing environment of irrigation improvement including water use efficiency and water productivity. Also, in land management, marketing as well as the drastically changing frameworks of national policies that guide irrigation, land management and marketing in the country. About 97% of the VTs selected for upgrading by TIP found the move to be promising, plausible and more reliable for sustainability of TIP interventions. However, TIP will continue using district staff for backstopping and quality control of VTs works.

Prospects

Upgrading and use of VTs in TIP interventions opens a self-employment opportunity window for local communities and forms a grassroots level human resource base for irrigation improvement in the country. It also supports significantly the financial, economic, institutional, social and cultural sustainability of TIP interventions in irrigation improvement. Generally, this move is a smooth transition to private sector development in the agriculture sector in the country.

AMSDP ARUMERU DISTRICT STAKEHOLDERS WORKSHOP GOLDEN-ROSE HOTEL ARUSHA 15, February 2007

TIP in collaboration with Arumeru district council and producers, processors and traders organized a stakeholders meeting on 15th February 2007 at Golden Rose Hotel, Arusha.

The meeting was attended by representatives from AMSDP supported groups in Arumeru district, Tanzania Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA), MVIWATA (*Mtandao wa Vikundi vya Wakulima wadogo Tanzania*) and extension agents.

The objective of the meeting was to identify and discuss in depth opportunities for sustainability of AMSDP activities in Arumeru district especially component two: **Producer empowerment and Market linkages**, when TIP completes its contract in the district.

The following papers were presented during the meeting:

1. AMSDP development in Arumeru District
2. Importance of SACCOS
3. TCCIA activities and how farmers can benefit on it.
4. Collection and dissemination of market information
5. MVIWATA activities and how farmers can be linked with it.

In the meeting participants discussed the achievements, challenges and sustainability of

the programme component two, as summarized as follows:

Achievements:

- i) Groups are strong in leadership and gender sensitive as a result of training
- ii) Groups were able to prepare their action plans
- iii) SACCOS training made groups to prepare constitutions, open bank account and they are in the process of being registered as SACCOS
- iv) Groups have network with institutions and other groups for sharing of experiences and knowledge
- v) Groups conduct market research at Kikatiti, Arusha, Kilombero markets and Masobe, Shoprite supermarkets and sell produces at a profitable price
- vi) Groups obtain market information through mobile phone and market information board that gives them indicative price of various products
- vii) Exchange visits enabled groups to learn new skills in production, warehouse receipt systems, SACCOS and processing of vegetables.

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Exposure to new insights....

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Two weeks after the exchange visit, Nganjoni village farmers have diversified not only vegetable production but also adopted in a new attitude soil and water conservation practices.

District News

Same

HEIKEYU farmers requests

TIP have assisted Heikeyu WUG in SWC, construction of Ndiva and installment of 1000 m of pipe conveyance system. As a result, the group has succeeded in production of vegetables, round potatoes and fruit. Since the increased in production, Heikeyu farmers have requested training in Market Access and Agroenterprise Development in order to identify profitable markets for these produces.

Collective marketing raises ginger price

TIP conducted training in business awareness to farmers of Myamba ward in 2004. Through Gross Margin Analysis, farmers of Myamba ward decided to cultivate ginger as their agroenterprise. Since then, they decided to sell their products collectively in order to maintain price. They have established two market collection centres at Myamba and Goha since 2005. The centres enables them to maintain price for ginger which is 500/= per kg in this year. Before that the price was 250/= per kg.

Arumeru

Letter from Sakaya VTs

We VTs from Sakaya WUG, we would like to thank TIP for upgrading our skills as VTs in TIP package. These trainings have been helpful to us as VTs and we have been providing these skills and knowledge we have got to our fellow farmers of Sakaya.

We have trained our fellow farmers in gross margin analysis that led them to grow profitable crops such as water melon, cucumbers, tomatoes and green papers. Sakaya farmers have been trained in soil and water conservation and record keeping. They have understood the importance of practicing records keeping. Apart from these, we have managed to provide training in soil and water conversation to farmers from neighboring village of Manyire in Mlangarini ward.

Farmers engaged in contract farming

Farmers from OVEGRO group in Oldonyosambu ward and ENDAVUKAI group from Mwandet ward have engaged to contract farming. TIP provided training in contract farming to these groups. They have signed a contract to cultivate artimisia with a company known as AAF and multi flowers companies in Arusha They currently benefiting from these contracts "In a one season, I earned a total of 1.6 million from artimisia planted in 1 hectare". said Gasper, OVEGRO group member.

SACCOS registration

Group registration is done to have legal entities that perform development activities in an

organized and sustainable manner. Ten groups have been registered as pre Savings and Credit Cooperative Society (Pre-SACCOS). These groups are OVEGRO, PAMAMA, Endavukai, Eng'arunoto, Aranga, Huduma, UWAM, Kimnyaki, MUWAKAKALE and MUVIKITA.

The pre-SACCOS groups will be under supervision of the Arumeru District Cooperative Officer (DCO) for three years. During this period the groups will be observed whether they are operating according to their bylaws and if there are indicators for fulfilling their objectives. At the end of the three years, when DCO is satisfied, the groups will be registered as SACCOS.

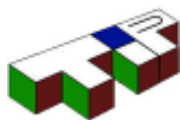
Mwanga

Grain amaranthus

Farmers from Kwamlombola, Kwamjwi and Msangai water users groups have started benefiting from a new crop called grain amaranthus. The crop takes 75 days to mature ready to be harvested. It does not require much water as other crops. In 1 acre farmer can harvest up to 1200 kg of amaranthus grains, which fetches 1600 Tsh per kg. "It is a crop that paying well" Emanuel Juael, Kwamlombola farmer.



Farmer of Nganjoni Irrigation Project in Moshi rural participating in a practical training in soil and water conservation conducted in February 2007.



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. Irrigation Improvement
4. Market Access & Agro-enterprise Development

Working Days/hours

TIP office is opened from

Monday - Friday

0080 hrs - 0013 hrs

0014 hrs - 0017 hrs.

TIP office is not opened on Week ends and public holidays

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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Coping with water scarcity

"Challenge of the 21st century"

The Ministry of Water observed Maji Week commemoration at Mashujaa grounds in Moshi for the second time (the first Maji Week in Moshi was held in the year 1988).

The main objective of Maji Week commemoration (16th – 22nd March 2007) was to sensitize the public on water sector plans, reforms and importance of their participation in environmental protection and water supply programs.

TIP was invited to participate in the Maji Week exhibitions to commemorate World Water Day. It was an opportunity for TIP to demonstrate how the organization was responding to water scarcity issues in its programs. There were 50 participants in three categories, namely:

- a) Mobilization and Training
- b) Business and Suppliers of water related equipments/machinery
- c) Public Service.

On the climax day commemorating World Water Day 22 March, His

Excellency the President of the United Republic of Tanzania Mr Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete visited all the pavilions at Mashujaa grounds. He was curious about River Basin Game at TIP pavilion, regarding what the river basin game meant. In his speech he remarked in Kiswahili, *"Kuna mahali nimeonyeshwa katika banda moja, wale watu wa ukanda wa chini watapigana ngumi kwa sababu ya kukosa maji"*.

As the exhibitions were subjected to a competition based on criteria such as focus on the theme, articulation in explaining water scarcity issues, attractiveness etc, the overall winner was Maji Moshi District, runner- up were Maji Ubungo and second runner – up were Pangani Basin Water authority. In the mobilization and training category TIP emerged winner, clinching a trophy as a Second Runner–up after National Trachoma (Winner) and WAHECO –Temeke (First runner-up). All participants received a certificate of participation.



H. E. President Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete looks on as Eng Maro explains with demonstration assisted by Fokas Makauki the River Basin Game, as a tool to stimulate dialogue between downstream and upstream water users in a water scarce scenario

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Challenges:

- i) Late registration of SACCOS leads to group failure to access loan from financial institutions
- ii) Some traders are not ready to sign or bleach contract with produces
- iii) Inadequate storage facilities
- ii) Implementation of groups action plan as planned
- iii) Maintaining network with government institutions, financial institutions and all groups and NGOs that are working with producers, traders and processors.

Sustainability strategy:

- i) Continuing with market research within and outside Arumeru district