



Approved All the Demo Plot Plan/Preparing for Monthly Online Report

In July, the JICA project team finalized compiling all the E-COBSI demonstration plot plan submitted by the 45 target districts. The approved funds had been transferred to all the respective districts. In addition, the JICA project team has commenced preparations for Monthly Online Report. Please enjoy reading our activities for this month.

Preparation of Demonstration Plot

Establishment of Demonstration (Demo) Plot is planned in 2nd phase activity of E-COBSI to reinforce all the district model sites as dissemination base of COBSI approach.

Proposals of all the demo plots have been submitted to the JICA project team from provincial CPU by this month. In this proposal, following contents are described; size of plots, selected crops by SHEP approach, concept of demo plots, Map of plots and budget estimates. Submitted proposals have been checked in detail and finalized by the JICA Project team. Thereafter, the necessary approved funds have been transferred to each implementing district.

In some proposed concept, not only irrigation method or SHEP approach but also cultivation method or nutrition improvement have been integrated. Here is example of interesting proposal; 1) holding field day, 2) utilize for capacity building of horticulture farmers.

Though proposed plot size varied among districts, the upper limit was set as 1 Lima to mitigate the variation of plot size. So far as mentioned, all the target districts have received the approved funds and all the receipts will be collected during the 2021 MTT. Thus, the JICA project team strongly ask all the district offices to keep the receipts safely and hand them over during the incoming MTT. **Note: this time, address of the receipts should be “JICA PROJECT TEAM”.**

Example of Plan of Demonstration Plot

Province	District	Concept of Demo Plot	Target crops	Planned Map
Northern	Lupososhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Apply cover crop, green manure and “Bokashi” for both purpose; 1) to mitigate effect of soaring inputs price, 2) to increase productivity in the long run by improving soil ✓ Practice furrow irrigation appropriately ✓ Contribute to nutrition improvement by cultivate nutrient rich crops including local variety ✓ Hold Field day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Potato ✓ Onion ✓ Tomato 	
Copper Belt	Ndola	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Utilize the plot as leaning space to increase farmers’ knowledge about SHEP, farm management (nursery bed making ~ harvest), gravity irrigation, and group organization. ✓ Purpose of Demo Plot is to enhance productivity and nutrition security by improving farmers’ skill of SHEP and other COBSI activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Maize ✓ Green Pepper ✓ Cabbage 	

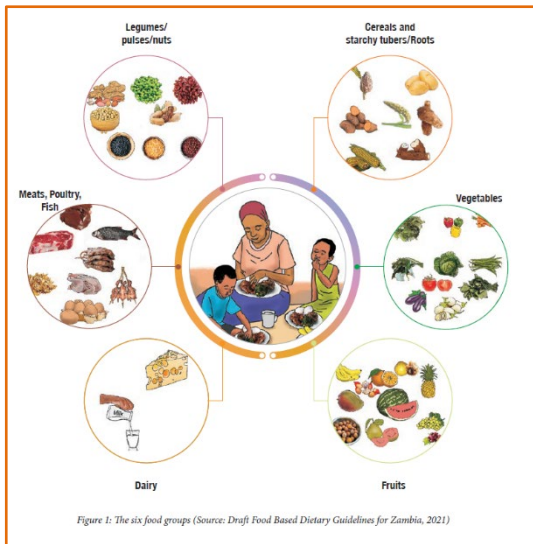
Preparation for MTT

Main topics for the scheduled MTT are ; cultivation technics and nutrition improvement. The planned training period is three days for both FU and New target provinces.

To revise existing training materials of nutrition improvement, the JICA project team has discussed with Senior Nutrition Officer (SNO) in Copperbelt province and nutrition officer in Head Quarter of Ministry of Agriculture. The materials will be revised by the JICA project team first based on feedback from MoA. Thereafter, it will be finalized together with CPU.

Followings are main comments from SNO and HQ MoA; 1) to reduce the number of slides as much as possible by combining same topics, 2) to reduce the volume of text and put more photos and pictures, 3) to consider to introduce and distribute “Operational Guidelines on Food and Nutrition Interventions in the Agricultural Sector (MoA, September 2021)”, 4) to correct terminology, etc.

On the other hand, as for cultivation materials, contents of organic input will be revised considering soaring price of agriculture inputs. When the COVID-19 health guidelines with regard to gatherings are eased, MTT preparation meeting shall be held with CPU.



The six food groups (Source: Draft Food Based Dietary Guidelines for Zambia, 2021)

Online monthly report coming soon!

In this project, provincial CPU, district office, BEO/CEO are making and submitting monthly report for the purpose of sharing progress, good practice and challenges among project members.


So far, paper-based reports have been submitted. However, because the target area is very large, sometimes it was difficult to sharing information timely, and collect the reports. Thus, the JICA project team is trying to develop online monthly reporting system using PC and tablets provided to each province and district office in this 2nd phase. Specific, reporting format will be formulated by google form so that project members can check the reports on-time.

Screen shot of monthly online district report


In July, existing report format for district office, Site visit and BEO/CEO have been reflected to google form. Then, points need to be improved in the questionnaire were found out by the JICA project team through test-answer so that all the officers can have same understanding on the questionnaire. The next step is revision of the questionnaire and coordination of access authorization will be done. Then, it will be put in practice by all the officers after MTT.

Waza E-COBSI !

In this column, we introduce field activities reported by officers in this month. We'd love to hear your active performance in the field!



Monitoring by provincial CPU in Kavuu camp, Ndola district, Copperbelt province



Weir construction in Mtundu camp, Mufulira district, Copperbelt province