



E-COBSI participated in Provincial Agricultural & Commercial Show!



Above: Guest of honors touring E-COBSI stands. Mr. Mumbi (SHO) introduced E-COBSI project (Copperbelt Province).
 Left: Interview with the farmers from Mufulira District. This interview was broadcast live (Copperbelt Province).
 Right: Farmers from Mungwi and Mbala District introducing their produces to attendees (Northern Province).

The Agricultural and Commercial Show has not been held in the last two years due to the covid-19 pandemic. However, the show returns back and was held this year. E-COBSI Team participated in its exhibitions in Copperbelt Province and Northern Province which were held in June. E-COBSI Team invited both male and female farmers from the district model sites which is the center of dissemination for E-COBSI technics and knowledge in order to make a link between the farmers and market stakeholders who attend the show.

16th-19th June in Copperbelt Province

The show was held from 16th to 19th June in Kitwe in Copperbelt Province. E-COBSI Team joined as a stand of the Ministry of Agriculture in Copperbelt Province. The show’s theme this year was “Innovation through Technology - Technology transforms Business”. In total, four male and four female farmers were invited from district model sites on 18th and 19th June (18th: Mufulira, Mpongwe, 19th: Masaiti, Kalulushi) by E-COBSI to make a linkage with market stakeholders. The project team prepared farmers’ profile cards including basic information about themselves and their farming information such as crop varieties, harvesting seasons, and advantages to accelerate their business talk. Many attendees were interested in the technical know-how of E-COBSI such as the construction of simple weirs and canals and compost making, and then the farmers explained these activities by themselves based on their

experiences in the model sites. Fortunately, a local radio broadcasting station, called Icengelo Radio, visited our booth and interviewed the farmers from Mufulira and Mpongwe districts. The invited farmers also said that they got good opportunities to know the latest information about agricultural suppliers like seed companies.

24th-25th June in Northern Province

The show was held from 24th to 25th June in Kasama in Northern Province. E-COBSI Team invited eight farmers from district model sites as well as we did in Copperbelt Province (24th: Mungwi, Luwingu, 25th: Mbala, Mporokoso). In addition to the invitation of the farmers, Ms. Elizabeth Nakamanga, Nutrition officer of the CPU member of Northern provincial, proposed the project to exhibit for the Nutrition Improvement things. In the stands, we encouraged nutrition improvement and behavior change in nutrition by showing various foods which belong to

different food groups. An extension material for promoting nutrition improvement, “*Tebakari Eiyouchou*” (Hand scale to serve food daily), was also introduced to many visitors.



Explanation of Nutrition Improvement activities by Mr. Shohei Okamura, a member of E-COBSI Team (Northern Province).

Monitoring of permanent weir construction

Three permanent weirs are under construction in Mufulira District, Kasempa District and Mukusi District. An E-COBSI Team member, Dr. Sagawa, visited Mufulira District from 29th June to 1st July for monitoring the progress. The district team and farmers started preparing for excavation to construct under dry conditions. This work was supported by the two master trainers from Northern province, Mr. Mbewe and Mr. Simkoko, who experienced the permanent weir construction during T-COBSI.



Farmers putting sandbags to make a temporary cofferdam (Mufulira District).

Monitoring of District Model Site was conducted in Copperbelt Province.

Two E-COBSI team members, Ms. Shohei Okamura and Mr. Hiroki Mizuno conducted monitoring of E-COBSI district model sites in four districts. It was the second monitoring to see not only the current condition of the sites but also the progress based on road maps in 2022 which were shared after the last monitoring. They found that some sites didn't work on issues, but others have already started to solve them. For instance, the model site in Kalulushi

District made a sub-group and a By-law which included a member list and rule of water allocation based on the road map in 2022. The E-COBSI team will continue this second monitoring of all the district model sites.

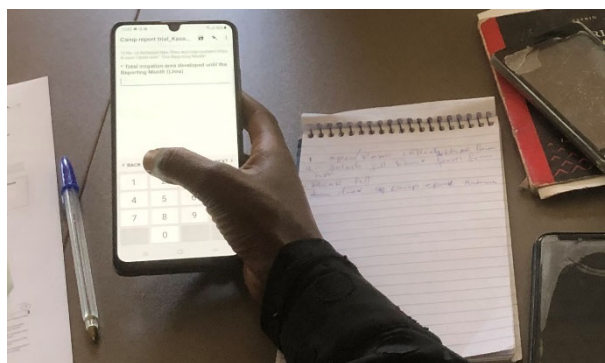
Trial of Online Reporting System in Copperbelt Province and Northern Province

E-COBSI Team is trying to use “KoBoToolbox” which allows users to input data by smartphone without an internet connection. So, CEOs/BEOs can make and submit the camp report to the district office even under poor network conditions such as in rural areas.



Image of Online Reporting System by using “KoBoToolbox”.

In Copperbelt Province and Northern Province, Mr. Okamura, an E-COBSI Team member gave training to provincial and district officers who attended KOT 2022 for explaining how to use this application as a trial. In this training, CEOs learned how to input data with the application and gave some feedback to the project team. The trial will be conducted at each site CEOs in charge after this training, and the team will follow up the trial through the WhatsApp group.



CEO using “KoBoToolbox” in the training (Northern Province)