



Success stories of E-COBSI

It has been almost 4 years since E-COBSI launched and has conducted 4 project cycles so far. During this period, many success stories have been made on many project sites. Here is a part of the stories that tell you the impacts of E-COBSI and the achievement of all your daily efforts. We look forward to hearing more success stories from you during the remaining period of E-COBSI.



Field day at Kapanda Camp, Kasama District in Northern Province

By the initiative of farmers in Musanda irrigation scheme and Ms. Habamba Barbra (CEO), a field day was held on 3rd November 2022 with participation of surrounding farmers, a seed company (Seed-Co), and the district officers. During the event, cultivation technics of watermelon and the characteristics of various seed types were shared by farmers and Seed Co.

At the end of the event, all the ripe fruits were harvested, and the profit was calculated by them based on each standard size to demonstrate profitability of watermelon.



**Mr. Kalambo Charles
Mushindamo District, Northwestern Province**

He is a member of Kimasaka Irrigation scheme under E-COBSI. First, they visited the Kipushi Zambia-Congo market for market survey. Then, they selected profitable crops, tomato, cabbage, and Eggplants.

Cabbage has grown very well with medium to big head formation, approximately 10,000 heads of it were harvested and sold. The sales were above K 25,000 It enabled him to build a two-bedroom house, bought fertilizer and other inputs for the continuity.



**Ms. Albertina Kasani
Kalulushi District, Copperbelt Province**

She is a member of Zaffico A Irrigation scheme under E-COBSI. She has a daughter who had just completed grade 12 in 2018, was a challenge to the family as they looked for the expenses of college fee's. However, as a result of E-COBSI activities, they managed to pay all the expenses and the daughter has even graduated a college in 2022. The family also managed to complete a 4-bedroom house and purchased other house materials.

The crowning achievement is that they bought a 3-ton canter truck of which price was K60,000 to be used for transporting produce to the market. This has helped other farmers in the area as they hire the truck to take farm products to the market.



Sensitization of nutrition improvement in Northwestern Province

Provincial officers in Northwestern Province (SFNO, SIE and SMDO), district FNO, CEO and Ms. Ai Nagino, a Japanese expert of E-COBSI, had sensitization meetings for nutrition improvement in three district model sites in Mushindamo, Kalumbila and Kasempa from 2nd November to 4th November. The content of the sensitization was to introduce the hand scale (*Tebakari Eiyouhou*) for serving food per day in Zambia and have a cooking demonstration. The hand scale lessons were centered on six food groups and use of hands to serve food based on Food-based Dietary Guidelines (FBDGs), while the cooking demonstration focused on promoting the utilization of locally available foods, with minimum nutrient loss during cooking. The other lesson was food safety during food handling and preparation to avoid contamination.

As a lesson learnt, the involvement of male members in the cooking demonstration was poor in some districts. Thus, lessons for gender issues should be promoted. On the other hand, farmers in Mushindamo district were impressed with lessons on the hand scale (*Tebakari Eiyouhou*), a concept of serving food and they requested to continue the program regularly.



Ms. Ai Nagino and farmers are demonstrating Hand Scale Method "Tebakari Eiyouho" (Northwestern province).

Cooperation with GIZ in Luapula Province

GIZ and JICA E-COBSI undertake cooperation on each activity in Luapula Province. In November, Mr. Mayson Saila, a SIE in Luapula province, introduced COBSI through a radio program of a GIZ project called "Fish for Food (F4F)". The radio program is made for farmers about the management of fishponds and broadcasted 3 times per week.

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BACKNUMBER: <https://www.jica.go.jp/project/zambia/020/newsletter/index.html> (JAPANESE SITE)

Besides, the radio producer visited a COBSI site and learned simple weir and furrow construction, and their water management. Also, the male farmers and the female farmers were interviewed and shared experiences of E-COBSI activities. Since the radio program will be continued until June 2023, E-COBSI keeps on cooperating by request base.



Mr. Mayson Saila, a SIE in Luapula province is recording the radio program of Fish for Food project (Luapula province).

A Team Mozambique visited COBSI sites in Northern Province

A Team Mozambique composed of officers in its Ministry of Agriculture, JICA Mozambique office visited COBSI sites (2 simple weir sites and 2 permanent weir sites) in Northern Province to see the real COBSI activities. E-COBSI farmers explained the COBSI activities to them and exchanged ideas. The project team emphasized that the COBSI approach is a comprehensive approach covering both engineering (weir, furrow construction, etc.) and other components (cultivation, nutrition, etc.). Also, E-COBSI team emphasized that a combination of community-based smallholder irrigation and SHEP makes a synergy effect that contributes to farmers' income generation.



Mr. Delfim, a director of irrigation department in Mozambique (a third person from the left) and a team Zambia (Mr. Songiso from HQ of MoA and Mr. Sifaya, a SIE in Northern Province etc.) are discussing (Musonda site in Kasama district in Northern province).