



Provincial agriculture show has kicked off!

This month of May has witnessed the Provincial Agriculture show in the E-COBSI area, specifically in Copperbelt Province. E-COBSI extends its commitment to all the target provinces this year to publicize the activities in larger area. Other provinces will hold it in June and July. Then, representatives of each province will display the E-COBSI activities in National show at Lusaka in August.



Eng. Mwenya Sampule, Senior Irrigation Engineer in Copperbelt Province, made the miniature weir and displayed it during the show as a first attempt.

E-COBSI has participated in Agriculture show since last year with several purposes, such as 1) publicizing the project, 2) creating business chance for the project farmers. This month, Copperbelt Province held Provincial agriculture show at Chingola district from 26th to 28th May.

1) Publicizing the project activities

The project has been publicizing its activities through many channels such as Demo field, Field day, TV, radio to spread the effect to more people. In this sense, Agriculture show is a good opportunity in terms of the number and variety of the participants and visitors. Thus, the project prepares its own booth in the PACO's office stand displaying the banners and the posters of SHEP, Tebakari-Eiyouhou, and weirs. Also, the project farmers participate in the booth to explain their activities to the visitors showing their harvested crops.

2) Creating business chance for the project farmers

The project promotes market-oriented agriculture through SHEP approach. According to the concept, showing a business opportunity to farmers and establishing business linkages lead to raising farmers' awareness in opportunities and potential of horticultural farming. Agriculture show could be an opportunity to achieve those objectives. To encourage the participating farmers to achieve the said objective, the farmers prepare their Profile Card, and communicate with visitors using the card.

As a new attempt this year, Eng. Mwenya Sampule, Senior Irrigation Engineer in Copperbelt Province, displayed the hand-made miniature weir. It attracted many visitors and promoted publicity. The good practice was shared with other provinces and headquarter in Lusaka.



The interview of the project farmers in Kalulushi district and Mufulira district were broadcasted on the radio. (Copperbelt Province)

1: Agricultural products

1.1. Crop	1.2. Crop
1.3. Variety	1.4. Production Quantity
1.5. Date of Harvest	1.6. Date of Sale
1.7. Price	1.8. Price per Unit
1.9. Other Details	1.10. Other Details

2: Personal information and other details

- Name, Gender, Address and Telephone are pre-filled and requested printing to the extent of space.
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- Crop, CBR and Major are pre-filled and requested to the extent of space.
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3: Calendar of crop production

Month	Planting	Harvesting	Marketing
Jan			
Feb			
Mar			
Apr			
May			
Jun			
Jul			
Aug			
Sep			
Oct			
Nov			
Dec			

The profile card shows general information, cultivating crop and the calendar of the district model site. (Copperbelt Province)

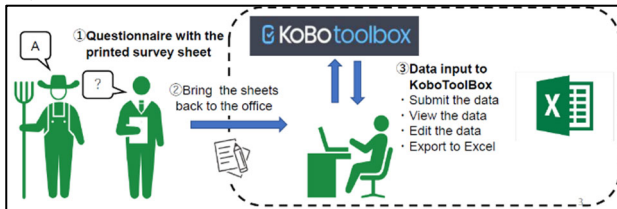


Eng. Sampule explains COBSI weir to the permanent secretary of Copperbelt Province, showing the miniature weir. (Copperbelt Province)

Endline Survey

1) Progress of E-COBSI Endline Survey

The provincial CPU, the district offices, and the extension officers are implementing Endline Survey, which assesses the impact of the E-COBSI. Now, provincial CPU is inputting the submitted data using Kobo Toolbox, which is a free open-source tool for data collection, as well as excel sheet. Kobo Toolbox hinders data inputters from mis typing and typing load. Also, it enables a data manager to check the results at any time.



Flow from field survey to data submission by Kobo toolbox

2) Trial for Endline Survey of Nutrition Improvement

The project plans to assess the project's impact on nutrition improvement of beneficiary households. The project is now designing the survey method to assess the age-related nutrition indicators properly. In May, the project did trial survey in Kalulushi district and Mufulira district in Copperbelt Province targeting the five mothers and children who are surveyed in 2019. The project will finalize the survey method considering the findings and challenges identified in the trial. Also, the project attempts to complement the anthropometric results by interviewing dietary and behavior change of the households.



Children's height and weight measured in the Baseline survey were re-measured at the time of the trial. The height of the well-grown children exceeded the height scale at the time of trial! (Copperbelt Province)

Visiting of Vice President of JICA

Mr. Osamu Kubota, Vice President of JICA HQ, Keita Izumi, Senior Representative of JICA Zambia Office,

and Ms. Yuko Sugawara, an officer in JICA HQ, visited E-COBSI Sites in Copperbelt Province on 30th and 31st May. They observed gravity irrigation from a simple weir and fish ponds using the COBSI irrigation water in Kalulushi district. They also visited a permanent weir construction site in Mufulira district.



Dr. Sagawa from E-COBSI team, explained design of the permanent weir and the progress of construction. (Mufulira district, Copperbelt Province)

COBSI Research

The target districts of COBSI research start the activities in the sites from April after the KOT. In May, the project team visited each site to confirm following points:

- A) Natural conditions : Water flow, geographic conditions (hilly or *dambo*)
- B) Simple weir : Type, length and water-level differences
- C) Furrow : Length, direction and depth
- D) Characteristics, challenges and irrigation conditions

The project team found deep furrows of which depth is more than 1m. Digging the furrows straight from the weirs to irrigation plots may have caused it. The project team recommended to dig furrows along contour.



Mr. Chibale Justine, TSB in Kapiri Mposhi, demonstrated Water flow measurement to farmers. (Kapiri Mposhi district, Northwestern Province)