



The Bi- Monthly Newsflash from AICAD Tanzania Country Office



Prof. Bendantunguka Tiisekwa,
Country Director.

FROM THE DESK OF COUNTRY DIRECTOR

Welcome once again to this 15th Issue of our Bi-Monthly Newsflash covering country office activities in the months of May and June 2010. Efforts to disseminate low-cost-housing technology that was discovered by the University of Dar es Salaam continued. Community Empowerment Programme for food processors at Kibaha Urban is also progressing well. There are other stories evolving around AICAD's three strategic functional divisions of Research and Development, Training and Extension and Information, Networking and Documentation. Enjoy!

1. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (R&D)

KTDP: Low Cost Housing Technology Dissemination

Dr. Makunza of UDSM and Mr. Tweve of NHBRA had discussed a joint proposal for conducting a workshop and a demo for Dissemination of LCH technology. However, Mr. Tweve resigned from the NHBRA on June 1, 2010. Progress might slightly be retarded but more preparations will be made with a replacement of Mr. Tweve.

2. MID-TERM REVIEW FOR AICAD/JICA PROJECT

A short-term expert from JICA, Mr. Shinichi Mori, arrived at the country office on 10th May 2010, to conduct a mid-term review of phase III of the project, which started in September 2007 and expected to end in June 2012. In the company of the Assistant Country Director - Mr. Ayub A. Matumbo, the expert visited and held talks for two consecutive days, with ILO offices in Dar es Salaam, SIDO HQs, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Dar es Salaam, as well as the District Development Directors of Kibaha Rural, Morogoro Municipal and Morogoro Rural. Later in the week, on 14th May 2010 in Dar es Salaam, Mr. Mori met the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Communications, Science and technology, in the presence of AICAD Executive Director – Prof. Andrew Gidamis, Deputy Executive Director – Professor Philip Kutima and Tanzania Country Director – Prof. Bendantunguka Tiisekwa.

3. PREPARATORY MEETINGS WITH SIDO MOROGORO FOR GRASSROOTS TRAINING ON VALUE ADDITION

According to Private Agricultural Sector Support (2002), Tanzania has potential to produce 2,000,000 fruits annually worth approximately one million US Dollars. However, due to poor marketing infrastructure and unavailability of processing facilities, post-harvesting losses amount to 40-60%. Less than 5% of the harvested fruits are processed for value addition.

On 17th May 2010, SIDO Morogoro Business Development Officers, Ms Joan Stephen and Evaclotilda Kapinga, visited AICAD TCO and met AICAD staff. Proposals for grassroots training on food processing and Value addition were discussed and agreed. With SIDO coordination, ex-trainees of past AICAD In-Country Training Courses were the resource persons in two-week grassroots training for their fellow entrepreneurs in and around Morogoro Municipal. AICAD TCO supported the training as it was in line with its mandate and preferences.

4. IDENTIFICATION OF SUCCESS STORIES (ISS): MR. HASSAN MCHECHU, AN EX-TRAINEE OF ICT7 – IWRM

On 19th May 2010, AICAD TCO officers made a visit to Mlandizi to learn how an ex-trainee of ICT7 – IWRM, Mr. Mchechu Hassan was making a wonderful contribution to poverty reduction by conducting grassroots training on his own initiative. He had managed to organize four groups and had taught more than 150 farmers in his Ward. One of the groups he taught was able to attract assistance from an NGO in Arusha, which promised to build an irrigation infrastructure for them in their five-acre piece of land. Mchechu's efforts had even been recognized and praised by the Mlandizi Ward Councilor, who made in-kind contributions so enable continuation of training to other small-scale farmers in the area.



AICAD TCO staff looking at vegetable plots owned by Tija group during the identification of a success stories. Tija group is headed by AICAD's ex-trainee of ICT7 – IWRM in Mlandizi.



From right is Dr. Masahiko Murakami (AICAD TCO-Advisor), followed by Mr. Hassan Mchechu (AICAD ex-trainee of ICT7-IWRM). Extreme left, is Mr. Ayub Matumbo (AICAD TCO -ACD), speaking to a group of farmers at Mlandizi.

5. COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME (CEP)

5.1. Market Research Consultation for Community Empowerment Programme

AICAD TCO, in collaboration with Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) intends to carry out market research for agro-processed products in Coast region and environs. The main objective of the study is to evaluate the feasibility of increasing market access for the women groups under the Community Empowerment Programme. AICAD TCO has been providing interventions through capacity development for nearly eight years now. Market access has been a perpetual constraint and to a large extent a necessary condition for the success of other development. AICAD TCO has now realized that in order for small holder farmers to benefit from positive impacts resulting from the programmes, they have to know and access the markets and increase their sales. Therefore on 20th May 2010, AICAD TCO consulted Prof. Emmanuel Mbiha from the department of Agriculture Economics of SUA on the market study. The professor had submitted his proposed solution for further TCO to deliberate on.

5.2. Community Empowerment Action Planning Workshop at Kibaha-Mlandizi 24th – 28th May 2010

AICAD TCO conducted a series of Action Planning Workshops from 24th – 28th May 2010 involving five selected women groups under the community empowerment programme. The workshops were intended to empower members of the groups to prepare sound Action Plans to guide their daily activities for the next two years. Problem analysis (cause and effect) technique was used during the workshop sessions. The approach leads the participants to speak out problems facing their groups and their direct causes, which enabled them to develop a problem-trees & objective-tress which were used to finally identify activities for Action Plans for each of the women groups.



Mr. Ayub Matumbo (ACD –TCO) developing problem tree using problem analysis technique during the action plan workshop with women groups in Kibaha district



Mr. Richard Bruno (Programme Officer – AICAD TCO) explaining how to prepare action plan to women groups engaged in agro-processed products.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

6.1. Interview of Internship Students

AICAD TCO normally received internships students from Various Universities/Institutes who want to learn and gain experience in Capacity development in our Institute. This year AICAD TCO received four applications from students who want to conduct their internship studies in our Office. Because we are committed in offering the best practices, we conducted the interview on 1st April 2010 to select the intern who will match with our work ethics of commitment, integrity and deliverance. The interviewee panel selected M's Kinyau from Sokoine University of Agriculture.

6.2. Arrival of New Administrative Assistant

The new Administrative Assistant, Ms. Anita John Ngaga, has started working at Tanzania Country Office on the 3rd May 2010.



Ms. Anita John Ngaga, the new Administrative Assistant at TCO.

7. UPCOMING EVENTS

- 12th – 23rd July: Grassroots Training on Food Processing
- 1st – 8th August: Participation in Farmers Agricultural Exhibition known as NaneNane
- 9th -13th August: Community Empowerment Programme Stakeholders Forum in Kibaha
- 23rd – 27th August: Monitoring & Evaluation of ICT1-ET at Bagamoyo and Dar es Salaam
- Further preparations of Low Cost Housing Technology Dissemination with the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) and the National Housing and Building Research Agency (NHBRA)
- Preparation of the 16th Issue of Newsflash

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Participating Ministries: Ministry of Communication, Science and Technology & Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs