

RiceMAPP FLASH

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Dissemination of WSRC, key technology of RiceMAPP, in 2016 SR season has been fully launched by organizing farmers trainings!

RiceMAPP Extension department adopted the 'Core Farmer' Approach in a bid to reach out to MIS rice farmers while promoting the Water Saving Rice Culture technology.

In the month of June, the department organized a training program targeting fifty (50) newly selected Core Farmers (CF's) from sixteen (16) MIS units. Earlier on in the year, twenty eight (28) New Core Farmers had been selected from three (3) Mwea units involved in the Double Cropping trials.

The seventy eight (78) New Core Farmers joins a strong Sixty seven (67) existing 2014/2015 selected Senior Core farmers to help disseminate WSRC message to all the MIS farmer fraternity during the 2016 short rains season.

Each Core Farmer is expected to participate in the On Farm Demonstrations (OFD's) which are usually held at an agreed selected farmer field. On average, each CF is expected to invite at least five follower farmers from his neighborhood to attend each OFD. At the end of this cropping season, the department aims to have reached out to hundreds of farmers.



Lecture on key technologies



Field demo on Healthy Seedling



Guidelines & Certificates for farmers

Stakeholders W/Shop on irrigation users guidelines booklet editing has been organized!

The above mentioned, has been organized by RiceMAPP Water Management section. The workshop was held on National Irrigation Board, Guest House in presence of NIB Staffs, MIAD Staff, IWUA officials, WARMA representative and Kirinyaga County office staff among others. The main purpose of the workshop was to edit the water users' guideline book by the help of different stakeholders that use water together with the Mwea Irrigation Scheme.



Group work on modification

The draft was written by the RiceMAPP staff in water management with the collaboration of NIB staffs and IWUA. It was edited by all members who attended the workshop, whereby experts from different technical field raised pertinent issues but with different stakeholders who had attended the workshop,

different solutions raised and the best was later adapted. The book is in the final editing stage by the RiceMAPP editorial team to incorporate the remarks from the workshop, and it will be ready in the next one week, and all stakeholders will be provided with a copy each. The book will be used by different water users in Mwea scheme and also in other parts of the country and the world in general.

Gender Activities in MIS have been undertaken in collaboration with PEGRES!

Rice MAPP has been collaborating with a sister project called PEGRESS to carry out gender awareness activities in MIS.

Upon completion of Training of trainers (TOT) in early March, 2016, the trainers embarked on mobilization for training of 16 farmer groups that were identified in the upstream areas of Mwea Tebere & Ndekia sections.



Session at Kangiciri PCEA church

The trainings targeted core & follower rice farmers, with the aim of changing gender relations and levels of power among household members involved in rice farming. This was mainly to be achieved through trainings to create awareness, interest, behaviour and attitude change on how gender issues among household members affect their productivity, incomes and family welfare. The group trainings were done April, May, and early June, 2016. The trainers were able to conduct gender awareness and family budgeting trainings for farmers and developed action plans to address identified gender issues. Some issues identified included;

- Women are generally overloaded by the reproductive roles thereby having little time to participate in productive activities on rice.
- Men and male youth dominate the productive roles of rice and would wish the status quo to remain

The project together with SCAO staff is making monthly follow ups to the groups to assess and backstop on the progress made on the action plans.

Nation interviewed RiceMAPP and will report on project activities and outputs!

Because of the upcoming TICAD6 (Tokyo International Conference for African Development) on August 2016, Kenya is going to gather peoples' interest from all over the world. In advance of the conference, RiceMAPP has decided to deliver an article regarding the projects' activities and outputs on Saturday nation in order to make the project known to people in Kenya.

The reporter had interviews with project members and a collaborate farmer. During the interview, they were very eager to introduce on the history of JICA's aide from 1990s upto now, the strong points of the project, the importance of the project for agricultural development in Kenya, the actualities of extension approach and the experience on WSRC and IRaP practice. The article appeared on 26th June.



Interview with Chief advisor



Interview with Project Manager



With Extension Exp. & Core Farmer