

RiceMAPP FLASH

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Enhance Productivity &
Save Water!

Dissemination of WSRC, a key technology of RiceMAPP, has been adopted by more than 20% of MIS farmers!

RiceMAPP has developed a technical package called “Water Saving Rice Culture” (WSRC), which it has been promoting since 2014 short rainy season, through “Core Farmer” approach. In order to upscale WSRC for improved farmers’ income, the project came up with a strategy of harmonized extension system with key stakeholders such as IWUA and SCAO. In total, the project has trained 115 Core Farmers, 414 Unit Leaders/Line Leaders and 171 double cropping Trial farmers on WSRC. The trained farmers were able to recruit 1,263 Follower Farmers, who have been learning and experiencing from on-farm demonstrations. In August 2016, the project conducted a survey on adoption of WSRC technology. It was found that more than 20% of the farmers have so far adopted WSRC. The results were achieved with the support of Unit leaders, Line Leaders, Core Farmers and Follower Farmers. It is expected that rice production in MIS will continue to increase further as more farmers continue to adopt WSRC.



Collaborate farmers of RiceMAPP the new RiceMAPP office

Mr. Willy Bett, the Cabinet Secretary of Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, visited RiceMAPP office

On 14th July 2016, The CS, MOALF—Mr. Willy Bett, together with a delegation from the Ministry headquarters, visited and inaugurated RiceMAPP new office. During the visit, the Project Manager, Eng. D. Njogu, made a presentation to them on the project objectives, outputs, WSRC technical package and achievements. The team subsequently visited the research fields, where they were able to practically witness organized trials and confirm the results of various RiceMAPP activities. They were



Mr. Bett's Inauguration for the new RiceMAPP office



Mr. Bett's and Eng. Njogu in the field

delighted, and have admired and expressed satisfaction with the performance of the project.

We are confident that the CS's deep insight will help promote passing down of the RiceMAPP legacy to the next stages in terms of rice cultivation.

RiceMAPP PCC meeting and PTC meeting took place to share its progress with various stakeholders both in Nairobi and Mwea

The project coordinating Committee (PCC) meeting was held on 12th July 2016 at MIAD. In attendance were participants from the institutions within MIAD (Chairman), Sub-county Agricultural Officers- Mwea West and East, KARLO- Mwea and MOALF/JICA. Subsequent to this, the PTC was also held in Nairobi on 11th August 2016. The meeting was attended by the Unit leader of PCU, representative of MoWI, NIB, RIPU, and JICA. Presentations focused on the current status of WSRC and trials on alternative methods of land preparation. It was confirmed that indeed, farmers are practicing WSRC and that the increase in yields is noticeable. The proposed method of land preparation was also appreciated since it saves on both time and up to 40 % water. The project will continue to make progress on its activities towards its final term and to offer fruitful outcomes to the stakeholders.



Guidelines of key technologies presented by project chief advisor

Certain findings for sequential crop production in MIS were obtained through field experiment at MIAD



Yield survey of tomato

The project has been implementing experiments to find out suitable drainage systems for sequential crop cultivation in MIS and to identify suitable tomato varieties with the aim of increasing farmers' income. Firstly, experiments on the effect of different drainage system showed that the system proposed by RiceMAPP works well. The yields of Tomato (Rambo) and green grams (N26) under the system were higher than the conventional method by 316% and 163% respectively. Secondly, suitable varieties were identified. Of the four varieties used (namely Rambo, Kilele, Oxly, and Rio Grande), Rambo F1, followed by Kelele F1 were the best in terms of yield. Net revenues from the other two varieties were negative. Results therefore suggested that Rambo and Kelele should be the recommended varieties for sequential tomato cropping in MIS.

Workshop on cost benefit analysis of alternative land preparation and mechanical paddy harvesting takes place.

On 16th August 2016, RiceMAPP in collaboration with Dr. Kunihiro TOKIDA, a short term expert on mechanization from JICA headquarters, organized a workshop on Machinery cost benefit analysis at Nice Digital City. Thirty (30) delegates including MRGM, Private Tractor/combine owners, Financial Institutions and RiceMAPP staff attended. The objective of the workshop was to share with the stakeholders on the Harvesters business model of cost benefit analysis. It was noted that more than 100 units of combine harvester are currently in MIS. Dr. TOKIDA extensively explained the annual costs and sales. Participants gained knowledge and we hope they will be able to apply it to their business.



Dr. Tokida's Presentation