



**Annual Evaluation Workshop held in 6 provinces**

The Project Team have been conducted the Annual Evaluation Workshop (AEW) in the 6 target provinces. During the AEW, each target district shared their progress, challenges, and lessons learnt in the implementation of E-COBSI 2019 target activities through presentations and group work. Besides, the action plan and cost estimation of the implementation of E-COBSI activities for 2020 were proposed. Also, several issues such as customization of SHEP approach for Zambia, improvement of COBSI Training Package, and collection of water fees for permanent weirs were discussed. This newsletter will share the overviews of AEW.

**Looking back at Annual Evaluation Workshop (AEW)**

**Module 1. Program Orientation**

AEW started with opening remarks by PACO or PAO of each province. They enlightened about the current situation, expected activities and outcomes of the province, then clarified purpose of AEW.

Subsequently, necessary documents such as receipt of fuel provisioned, Monthly reports, Baseline survey, and Inventory survey sheet of existing COBSI sites, were collected with the cooperation of district offices.

**Module 2. Overview of AEW**

Objectives of AEW was explained by CPU (COBSI Promotion Unit) members. In addition, findings from the monitoring and Baseline Survey were highlighted, some of which were published in newsletter No.9 were also shared with attendants.

**Module 3. 2019 Annual Report, Action Plan and Cost Estimation for the Year 2020 Activities**

Progress of series of E-COBSI activities were reported by each district using the presentation template which was prepared by the project team. It includes number of weirs constructed, expanded canal length, irrigated land, fishpond, activities done, number of participants of each activity. District officers finalized the presentation files with some pictures.



District officers finalized the presentation slides on the district activities and progress of model sites. (AEW in Northern Province)



Each district presented their achievement of COBSI activities in 2019, major findings, action plan and cost estimation by showing data and pictures. (AEW in Northern Province)

In addition, each district presented the proposed action plan and cost estimation for next year’s activities in each site based on the findings, challenges and countermeasures taken in 2019. Planned activities, e.g. cultivation technique, monitoring of construction, organization of farmers and so on, and that scales were different by the site. After each presentation by target district, attendants gave comments regarding data-handling, consistency of data, and interpretation of reporting format.

**Module 4. Presentation on the progress report of District Model Site including Future Plan**

Presentation on the progress of each district model site was conducted in Module 4. In this presentation, site profiles and COBSI activities done were reported with some photos by district TSB officers. Moreover, annual future plan until 2024 (termination year of E-COBSI), cost estimation for 2020, and “catch-phrase” of the sites which is the goal of the site were reported. The model sites are expected to be the center of the COBSI activities in the district to disseminate COBSI in the district. COBSI activities were carried out in most of the Model sites, correctly.

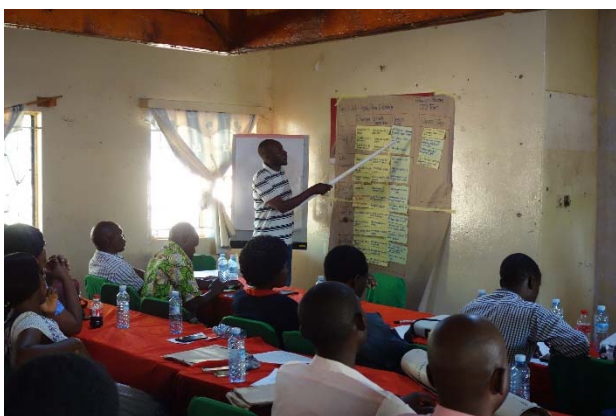
## Module 5. Group discussion

Group discussion was conducted by two types of groups. One group consisted of CEOs and shared lessons, findings, challenges, countermeasures of COBSI activities under facilitation by CPU members. Second group comprised of district officers such as SAO, TSB, DMDO, FNO and other management positions. This team shared ideas about participation of the provincial CPU members, involvement of the JICA team, and the monthly report format.



Group was consisted of different district and they exchanged their opinions. This enabled them to come up with new ideas and solutions. (AEW in Muchinga Province)

In all provinces, many groups mentioned that the long distance between the irrigation site to the marketplace was one of the challenges in connecting the farmers and markets. Another major comment was the shortage of fuel for implementation of the COBSI activities which was provided by both the government and E-COBSI project because of the large command area. Moreover, even the fuel station is not located in the target district and they needed to spend some fuels for collecting monthly fuels from the nearest district fuel stations.



Every group made a presentation on what they discussed. Ideas of each issue was summarized on the brown papers. (AEW in Muchinga Province)

In new target provinces, since COBSI activities were totally new for these target provinces, the volume of COBSI activities was one of the challenges of the implementation. The project team will consider all

opinions from the participants for improving the project implementation starting next year.

## Module 6. Discussion on SHEP, COBSI Training Package and Collection of Water Fees for Permanent weirs

In this module, attendants discussed on three issues; (1) customization of SHEP approach for Zambia, (2) COBSI Training Package, (3) Collection of Water fees for Permanent Weirs.

Regarding SHEP, many officers realized positive response from farmers, also some difficulties or challenges were found. For example, the long distance to main markets for conducting market survey, the low literacy level of farmers, inadequate facilitation skills of extension officers, the low realization of farmers towards gross margins, and land disputes. Countermeasures for each challenge was also discussed. Based on the result of the discussions, the Project team will consider it in the training package and contents starting next year.

## Module 7. Achievement Test

To review the training contents this year, and check the understanding level of officers, attendants were subjected to an achievement test. The result of test will be utilized for designing the trainings for next year. CPU members and the project team hope that all attendants acquired knowledge and skills from a series of COBSI training (TOT, KOT, MTT, and AEW) and disseminate it to farmers in the target sites.



At the end of the program, all participants had an achievement test (AEW in Northern Province)

## Activities in December

In the middle of December, the 1<sup>st</sup> National CPU meeting and 2<sup>nd</sup> JCC (Joint Coordination Committee) meeting will be held in Lusaka. In these meetings, COBSI activities implemented this year will be reviewed, and implementation plan for next year will be discussed.

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