African Institute for Capacity Development AICAD Tanzania Country Office



The Bi- Monthly Newsflash from AICAD Tanzania Country Office

FROM THE DESK OF COUNTRY DIRECTOR

Dear stakeholders and readers, you are welcome to our 17th Issue of the Bi-Monthly Newsflash from Tanzania Country Office. Activity coverage is for the months of September and October, 2010. Community Empowerment Activities featured prominently during those two months. Under Training and Extension, we have had one Monitoring and Evaluation exercise in the Model Area of Kibaha Rural District and some preparations for Enterprise Development and Value Addition to be conducted later at our extended Model Area of Morogoro Municipality and Rural District. We are also reporting on the University Outreach Symposium that the Country Office participated at AICAD Headquarters, Nairobi.



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Date: October 31, 2010

Prof. Bendantunguka Tiisekwa, Country Director.

1. TRAINING AND EXTENSION

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) for ICT7 – Irrigation and Water Resources Management The Seventh In-country Training Course on Irrigation and Water Resources Management for Smallholder Farmers (ICT7-IWRM) had the aim of imparting knowledge and skills to farmers so that they can improve productivity through irrigation farming, adopt irrigation technologies and management of the related resources. AICAD TCO executed the M&E exercise from 11th to 15th October 2010 in Kibaha districts to assess the impact of this training to the ex-trainees and community around them.



Above pictures show some of the farmers' plots visited during the M&E of ICT7-IWRM.

All respondents indicated that they had gained from adopting and putting into practice, the improved technologies and farming techniques that they had learnt during the training. Some of the changes mentioned include, expansion of area under irrigation, cropping system, introduction of new crops, irrigation methods and soil improvement techniques. The adoption of improved practices from the training had tremendous positive effects on production and income generation. Findings show that farmers who cultivated paddy using improved methods, selected seeds, recommended plant-spacing and fertilizers, obtained twice as much yields with estimated income raised by more than 200 percent. The most remarkable improvement has been made in the production of amaranth with records showing more than 500% increase in earnings. The other vegetables that had shown improvements were water melon, sweet potatoes and spinach.

2. TRAINING AND EXTENSION (T&E)

Presentation to Morogoro Municipal Heads of Departments

On 16th September 2010, the Assistant Country Director and Programme Officer made a follow up visit to Morogoro Municipal Office to make a formal presentation on AICAD and the areas which AICAD wished to collaborate with Municipal Council. This was done in the municipal hall, where all heads of departments had assembled. During the introductions, the two AICAD officers used the opportunity to meet and familiarize themselves with the various heads of departments of Morogoro Municipal Council. A 45-minute PowerPoint presentation was then given, followed by a discussion. The general response thereafter was so positive that AICAD was promised with venues for conducting its trainings at the cost of the Municipal Council. This would be real collaboration and the future prospects seemed to be high too.

Preparations for the fourth In-Country Training on Enterprise Development (ICT4-ED)

Preparations for ICT4-ED started on 19th October 2010, when AICAD Officers met the Municipal Welfare and Community Development Officers, Mrs. Monica Lindi and Mrs. Florah Ngowi. Arrangements for selection of participants were discussed and decided. Participants had to apply for the training to the Municipal Director and deadlines were set. Advertisements for the same were to reach Morogoro residents through Ward Executive Officers and Street Chairpersons, an exercise supervised by the municipal community development officers, on behalf of the Municipal Director.

Symposium of Universities' Outreach Activities at AICAD Headquarters, Juja-Nairobi

From 18th – 19th October 2010, AICAD Country Director, Professor Bendantunguka Tiisekwa was in Nairobi taking an active part in the symposium of universities' outreach activities. The purpose of the symposium was to find out how knowledge and technology could be used in order to reduce poverty. The traditional roles of the university were teaching, research and extension. However, being the hubs of knowledge and technology, universities needed to take active part in linking relevant knowledge to application within communities in Africa in order to reduce poverty. The symposium was attended by 50 representatives from AICAD member universities in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, Permanet Secretaries (Finance and Higher Education) from the three countries, as well as delegates from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), representing the government of Japan.



Symposium of Universities' Outreach Activities at AICAD Headquarters, Juja-Nairobi Kenya 18th - 19th October 2010

3. COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME (CEP)

AICAD TCO Visit to Food Processors in Dar-Es-Salaam (DSM)

On 17th September 2010, AICAD TCO staff visited entrepreneurs engaged in food processing in Dar-es-salaam. The aim of the visit was to learn how the Dar es Salaam groups had managed to establish processing units and how they were able to obtain certification from Tanzania Food and Drug Authority (TFDA) and Tanzania Bureau of Standard (TBS). In the past the Dar es Salaam groups received training on food processing from SIDO and Plan International NGO and were now in fully fledged business. AICAD TCO carried out this visit while implementing CEP involving Kibaha women groups engaged in food processing. The group's greatest need was to have a processing unit where they could process their products and be able to register with TBS, a requirement for better access to local markets.



Left pic: Dr. Masahiko Murakami "roasting" Soya beans. Middle pic: AICAD staff inspecting the different products produced by the BELHAMA Group of Kongowe-Mkulanga, while the picture on the right shows some of their products ready for sale

CEP Progress Meeting

On 5th of October 2010, AICAD TCO held a meeting with women groups under Community Empowerment Programme at Kibaha. The meeting was aimed at giving feedback on the progress reached with regards to the decisions made on the previous meeting. It was also aimed at prioritizing upcoming CEP activities and setting deadlines for acquiring a building for a processing unit. AICAD TCO shall provide demand driven trainings and provision of small-scale machines to the women groups after they have succeeded in getting a processing unit building.

This meeting was preceded by an earlier stakeholders meeting, where SIDO committed itself to manage the groups and make sure they acquired TFDA and TBS certificates.



Pictures showing CEP women groups and some of their products during the CEP Progress meeting held at Misugusugu in Kibaha on 5th October, 2010

Second Visit to Food Processors in Dar-es-salaam

On 6th October 2010 AICAD TCO made more visits to various food processors Dar-es-salaam who owned food processing units that had managed to get TBS/TFDA certificates for their products. Three individuals were visited, namely, Anepa Food Production, Rocky Food Production and Asilia Winery Production. Rocky Food Production had remarkably succeeded in business and has enough experiences in this sub sector both locally and internationally. Rocky deals with production of various spices and she has gained substantial market share in the region. Anepa Food production is also experienced especially in honey and pea nut butter production while Asilia Winery produces only wine from banana. Rocky and Anepa were identified as places where CEP women groups could visit and learn from practice.



From left in Mrs. Rocky with her products, at the middle is Winery industry called Asilia Winery production and lastly is Anepa Food production specialized in honey and Peanut butter production.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

AICAD TCO Receives a Visitor from JICA Headquarters Japan

On 19th September 2010, AICAD TCO was honoured to be visited by M's Amaike Mayumi, the Assistant Director, Law and Justice Division/Public Administration Division, Governance Group, Public Policy Department from JICA Headquarters Tokyo. Amaike-san was in the country for a short stay to attend the 7th AICAD Governing Board Meeting in Dar es Salaam. AICAD TCO ACD Mr. Ayub Matumbo narrated the progress of AICAD/JICA Project activities in Tanzania and the challenges encountered in the course of implementation, especially the Community Empowerment Programme (CEP) at Kibaha Urban District.



TCO staff posing with M's Amaike Mayumi outside AICAD offices at Sokoine University of Agriculture, Morogoro

New Accounts Assistant Joins AICAD

Mr. Mboka Kibale, a holder of an Advanced Diploma in Accountancy from the Institute of Accountancy Arusha and a former teacher of Kwiro Secondary School, Ulanga District, became the new Accounts Assistant at AICAD TCO with effect from the 1st day of September, 2010.



Accounts Assistant

5. UPCOMING EVENTS

- Preparations for ICT4-VA that is to be conducted in collaboration with Morogoro Rural District
- 22nd November 3rd December: Implementation of ICT4-ED at Morogoro Municipality
- 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 18th Issue of Newsflash

Editorial Team

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