

The Bi- Monthly News-flash for AICAD Tanzania

1. MESSAGE FROM THE COUNTRY DIRECTOR

Once again I have the pleasure to brief you on the progress in implementing our activities through this fourth issue of bi-monthly news flash. We present progress on past activities of Research & Development, Training & Extension as well as Information Networking and Documentation. We also share the outline of planned activities for the period (September-October) 2008. In this issue, you will read on the implementation of activities outlined in the 3rd issue which include Progress on New Rice for Africa (NERICA) Project in Zanzibar, Dissemination of Low Cost Housing Project, Monitoring and Evaluation of the 2nd In-Country Training Course on Value Addition (ICT2-VA) and participation in the farmers show (Nanenane). While we appreciate the positive comments and feedback from some stakeholders, we believe there is more to be done to improve subsequent issues; and your valuable comments are always welcome.



Prof. Bendantunguka P. M. Tiisekwa, Country Director

2. RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

2.1 Low Cost Housing Dissemination Project Signing.



Dr Masahiko Murakami exchanges a contract with Prof. Burton Mwamila at CoET. Centre is Dr John Stephen, Assistant Country Director

On 10th July 2008, the Country Office signed a contract with the Researchers at the College of Engineering and Technology (CoET) of the University of Dar es salaam (UDSM) for implementation of the Dissemination Project on Low-cost Housing Technology. **Dr Masahiko Murakami**, Country Advisor signed on behalf of the Country Office with the Principal Researcher **Prof. Burton Mwamila** on behalf of research team members. The signing took place at CoET offices; whereby researchers agreed to compile comparative data on low cost component of the technology when compared with the conventional ones.

The Country Office has been coordinating dissemination of the low cost housing technology with respect to interlocking bricks. The project which generated this output was supported during AICAD's Pilot call project completed in 2005 and approved for dissemination in Tanzania. The research project was led by **Professor Burton Mwamila** in collaboration with **Dr. John K Makunza** both from CoET of the University of Dar es salaam (UDSM). The low cost housing technology has saving potential in machine, time, quality control and shuttering.

2.2 NERICA Project Signing

On 23rd August 2008 the Country Office signed a contract with Kizimbani Agriculture Research and Training Station (KARTS) of Zanzibar for NERICA trial plans for short rains seasons (August-October 2008). The signing which took place at JICA Tanzania Offices was done between **Dr. Masahiko Murakami** for AICAD Tanzania and **Ms. Subira Maslah Makame** for KARTS. Main activities under the contract include preparation of the inception report, site selection, land preparation, nursery preparation, field layout, sowing/transplanting and final activity report. AICAD is facilitating the project on promotion of New Rice for Africa NERICA which aims to improve the livelihood of local communities and revitalize them through dissemination of recommended (NERICA) varieties.

In Tanzania, the country office is coordinating adaptability trials in Zanzibar. Scientific research revealed that African rice species proliferate like weeds, but are low yielding. Asian rice species, brought to Africa 450 years ago, are high yielding, but cannot compete with weeds. In this regard, scientists at West Africa Rice Development Association (WARDA) succeeded in crossing the two to produce "new rice for Africa", or "NERICA", that combines the ruggedness of local African rice species with the high productivity of the Asian rice.

3. TRAINING & EXTENSION

3.1 Monitoring and Evaluation of the ICT2- VA

The Monitoring and Evaluation of the 2nd In-Country Training Course (ICT2- VA) started on 25th August 2008 and will cover 10 days of data collection and 35 days of analysis and reporting. Two experts on value addition have teamed up with the Country Officer Training Assistant **Mr. Walter Mbaula** and an Internship student **Mr. Jumanne Habibu** for data collection in Morogoro and Kibaha where course participants were picked. The In-country Training Course on value addition (ICT2-VA) was held at the Institute of Continuing Education and various premises, SUA Morogoro from 22nd January to 2nd February 2007. The Course involved 30 participants including farmers and small business persons from Morogoro Municipality, Morogoro Rural District in Morogoro Region and Kibaha District in Coast Region in Tanzania. These were trained on processing of cereals and legumes, fruits and vegetables, roots and tubers, milk, nuts and oil.

AICAD Tanzania conducts M & E with practical focus on gathering useful information for planning future interventions as well as developing success stories from our past interventions. The overall goal is community empowerment through identification of opportunities, gaps and challenges for development through assessing the effects of the training in terms of changes in the quality of life and other aspects. Thus M & E exercises assess the effects of the training in terms of changes in the quality of life and other aspects. Emphasis is on following up on knowledge practice, identification of resources and constraints to knowledge adoption, technology requirements and gaps, potential themes for AICAD Directed Researches, success stories from the intervention; and identifying needs for further training interventions.

4. INFORMATION NETWORKING & DOCUMENTATION

4.1 Country Office Participation in Nanenane



Hon. Celina Kombani, Minister in the PMO-RALG flanked by the SUA-VC as they arrive at AICAD section within SUA pavilion

The Country Office Participated for the first time in the Annual Farmers' show (Nanenane) in accordance with the plan of activities for the 2nd quarter (July-September). The overall objective was to improve organization visibility through participation in relevant fairs and exhibitions. Specifically, the country office aimed at sharing with visitors, other exhibitors and the general public on the AICAD vision, mission and activities in the members States and Tanzania in particular; informing the general public on the AICAD's core mandate of poverty alleviation through human capacity development and the strategies used by the organization to fulfil its mandate. It also created an opportunity for sharing with the public key accomplishments in the areas of research and training for its period of existence; expand the network through sharing relevant information about current and future AICAD activities. Participation also availed the opportunity for the country office to answer frequently asked questions (FAQ) by members of the public regarding activities and functions of AICAD.

Participation involved all country office staffs and selected beneficiaries of AICAD support through research and trainings. AICAD staffs made presentation on the vision, mission, objectives, activities and accomplishments of AICAD through face to face explanations and sharing various publications. Four ex-trainees from ICT1-VA ICT2- ED, ICT2- VA were qualified to participate in the exhibition having met the minimum requirements set by the country office. One researcher, Dr Safari Mafu out of 3 targeted researchers was available for half day presentation on the role of AICAD in supporting research activities and results of his on-going research on *Rehabilitation of Degraded Water sheds to Improve Food Security in Baray and Mang'ola wards, Eyasi Division in Karatu District*; the presentation which was aired by SUA- TV on 8th August 2008.



AICAD ex-trainees who participated in the exhibition under AICAD

5. ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

5.1 Internship Programmes

The internship Programme for Mr Jumanne Habibu ended in 31st August 2008. Mr. Habibu, a 2nd year student pursuing a Bachelors Degree in Regional Development Planning Programme with Institute of Rural Development Planning (IRDP) **Dodoma** reported to the Country Office on 23rd June 2008 and was assigned duties mostly related to training activities. He was actively involved during the 3rd In country Training Course on Value Addition and during the AICAD's participation in the farmers shows (Nanenane) 1st-8th August 2008. The country office wishes him the best of luck and hopefully he stays networked with AICAD.





Ms. E. Kiwale

The country office has welcomed a new student from Mzumbe University for the internship programme. Ms. Elizabeth Kiwale, a 2nd year student from **Mzumbe University** pursuing a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration (Entrepreneurship); reported to the country office on 1st September 2008. She will be assigned various duties related to preparation for the 6th In country Training Course on Irrigation and Water Resources Management (ICT6-IWRM) Monitoring and Evaluation for the period September 2008 to January 2009

5.2 Departures

Dr. John Stephen who was the first Assistant Country Director tendered his resignation and will part with AICAD on 31st August. The Country Office team wish him all the best in his new responsibilities



Dr. John Stephen

6. UPCOMING EVENTS

- 6th In-Country Training course on Irrigation and Water Resources Management (ICT6-IWRM) – October 2008
- Compilation of data and preparation of Dissemination materials for the Low- Cost Housing Project
- Releasing the 5th issue of the newflash (31st October 2008)

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Member Universities: Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), Mzumbe University, Open University of Tanzania (OUT), University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), University of Dodoma (UDOM) and the State University of Zanzibar (SUZA).

Participating Ministries: Ministry of Education and Vocational Training and
Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs