

COMPETE PROGRESS REPORT FOR APRIL 2011

1. Introduction

The project activities planned for this reporting period were recruitment of three store assistants, to conduct workshop on leadership and management skills to group leaders in Tanzania and to attend other project related issues. Apart from late payments from WFP for the 200MT already and the delays of the uplift of 202MT of maize and 28MT of beans from Transmara farmers in Kenya, the project has shown a lot of interest for small scale producers and is attracting more to join. Not only farmers but there are a competition of financial institution to sign contract with CGOK in Tanzania.

2. Recruitment

Three vacancies for Store Assistants were announced for Pandambili, Lenjulu and Hogolo. Six applicants were invited for interview. The following were selected to fill the vacancies:

- Mesiak Looshari (a certificate of agriculture holder with vast experience working with farmers). He will be working at Lenjulu.
- Gilbert Simon (a diploma in agriculture holder worked with World Vision for 6 year as a community facilitator).He will be working both at Hogolo and Songambebe.
- Luis Ibrahim (a diploma in international relationship and journalism holder worked as journalist and credit facilitator to small entrepreneurs with Boy Port Finances). He is placed at Panda Mbili.
- Janet Naasicho to be based in Nkararo, Trans Mara

3. Training Workshop

The training on Leadership and Management Skills to group leaders was conducted from 27th - 29th April, 2011. The participants were 40 out of which 14 or 35% were women and 26 men. The participants were invited from village authorities and group leaders. The facilitator was Mr. Harun Kalineza from Moshi University College of Business Studies. The workshop was very useful to the participants in guiding to institute good leadership for the benefit of the farmers. From the training CGOK called for leaders' election as the current one was a project committee. The detailed workshop report will be captured in the quarterly report.

There was also training for CGA Field staff at Nakuru on monitoring and Evaluation. The training was facilitated by Desmond Boi and M & E specialist and Anthony Kioko, CGA Programme Manager. There were 10 participants. This training was meant to horn reporting skills for the field staff in improving their reporting. COMPETE team was represented By George Mabuka, the Stores Manager Transmara.

4. Cereal Bulking and Uplifts

The uplift of the 202MT of maize in Tanzania and 28 MT of beans in Kenya is expected in the 1st week of May 2011 by WFP and 80% payment will be processed immediately as uplift is in progress. The delays have been caused by the long logistics at the WFP end while in Tanzania there have been delayed payments and which are expected to be paid in the month of May 2011.

5. May 2011 Plans

For the month of May 2011 the following are planned to be done:

- In Tanzania, introduction of the Stores Assistants to the authorities where they are to work. The same event will be used to agree on the tenancy agreement and signing.
- Evaluation of the trainings that have been carried out and requests for other trainings for instance entrepreneurship and negotiation skills in Tanzania. Training on Post harvest management was postponed from the previous months to Months of May and June as it will be useful since the harvest is from June/July for both Tanzania and Kenya respectively.
- Meeting with WFP for further tendering in Tanzania and Implementation of the Forward Delivery Contracts in Kenya.