

COMPETE PROGRESS REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2011

Highlights

The major highlight of the month of November was the joint grain aggregation, uplift and selling of produce to a variety of buyers. A ToT on records keeping was conducted in Kongwa where 15 participants (10 being women) were trained. Other outreach activities and meetings are also reported.

Details of accomplishments

1. Joint Produce Consolidation and Selling

In Kongwa, the two stores Pandambili and Lenjulu registered with the Tanzania Warehouse Licensing Board (TWLB) have started operating the Warehouse Receipting System. The farmers were mobilized to bring maize to the stores and by the end of this reporting period Pandambili had bulked 269MT and Lenjulu 72MT awaiting any potential buyer.

The heavy down pour being experienced in Kenya has continued to pose challenges to cereal marketing and in Trans Mara, this has slowed the re-bagging and uplifts of the cereal commodities by WFP and other buyers. Despite that, the farmers were able to jointly bulk 288.34MT of maize in November bringing the cumulative total bulked to 744.75MT. Out of this tonnage 133.38MT of maize were sold to WFP at US\$ 55,855 while 82.17MT was sold to a number of traders at US \$ 30,724 and 99.27MT sold to NCPB from Angata and Oldonyo Orok buying centers valued US 36,765. A further 41.5MT of beans worth US\$ 26,360 were delivered to WFP leaving a balance of 28MT to be uplifted.

Summary of joint bulking and selling during the month of November 2011

COMMODITY	REGION	BULKED (MT)	SOLD (MT)	BUYER	VALUE (US\$)	AVAILABLE STOCKS (MT)
Maize	Trans Mara	744.75	133.38	WFP	55,855	429.93
			99.27	NCPB	36,765	
			82.17	Traders	30,724	
	Kongwa	341	-	Any buyer	-	341
Beans	Trans Mara	73.26	41.5	WFP	26,360	31.76
TOTAL		1,159.01	356.32		149,704	802.69

(Exchange rate of USD 1= KES 90 and TZS 1,500)

2. Strengthening the capacity of FBOs

One (1) ToT on Records keeping and management was conducted in Kongwa. This training was a follow up of a one day training done earlier on July 2011. The two days training was conducted on 22nd to 23rd November 2011 in which 15 participants (10 female and 5 male) drawn from members of the stores management committees from Kibaigwa, Pandambili, Lenjulu and Hogolo attended. This training was facilitated by Ndaro Magoti Jandwa one of the listed trainers CGA trainers.

3. Other Outreach Activities

Meeting with District Agriculture and Livestock Development Officer (DALDO) - Kongwa

The meeting was a follow up of the recommendations given by the farmers from Trans Mara to Kongwa farmers. The advice was to contact and discuss with the agricultural experts on how to improve productivity from 5 bags to at least 15 bags per acre. The agenda was to involve ward extension officers to identify the best certified and approved seeds for the particular area within Kongwa district. It was agreed that DALDO was to instruct ward extension officers to advise farmers the varieties of hybrid seeds they should be planting in their respective agro – ecological zones. Kilosa seed multiplier agreed to supply seeds on credit but on condition that CGoK was registered as an Agri-Inputs Agent. The way forward is to meet with Tanzania Seed Agency and discuss the pre conditions of registration.

Cereal Growers of Kongwa's 1st AGM

We are reporting on this event because it is the result of the intervention of the CGA / COMPETE project. The meeting was meant to conduct wider election which will bring up representatives of the executive committee from the whole of Kongwa district and also to discuss the performance and future plans of the organization. There were representatives from WFP and United States and African Development Foundation (USADF). The performance report was read and discussed. The major recommendation given was to enhance mobilizations of farmers to join CGoK and the MoSS project especially the Southern Kongwa which is now incorporated in the project area since they produced much beans and pigeon peas. CGoK will assist the Southern Kongwa farmers to market these commodities since they have been included in the list of suppliers by WFP – P4P to supply Pulses.

The election was conducted under the supervision of the African Institute for Social and Economic Development where Jeremiah Maina was elected as the Chairperson.

The future plan of CGoK is to mobilize more farmers to join the organization.

Activities for December 2011

- Continued implementation of the FDC contract in Trans Mara and WRS in Kongwa
- Capacity building through trainings
- Registration of FOs into Umbrella groups as WFP vendors continued
- Continued monitoring in stores construction effort
- Implementation of a soft tender to be issued to Trans Mara FOs
- Mobilization of farmers to join CGoK in Southern Kongwa
- Follow up on hybrid Seed joint procurement by farmers in Kongwa