



Commercial Village Stores [CVS] Establishment

Progress Report

Institution:	Farm Concern International and USAID/COMPETE
Project:	Commercial Village Stores Establishment
Reporting period:	Quarter 4 Report (April – June 2010)
Project period:	Pilot phase; 2009 - 2011
Region:	Bushenyi (Uganda) and Meru (Kenya)

Progress Table

Introduction

The CVS project funded by USAID COMPETE and implemented in Kenya, Meru region in Eastern Province and Western Uganda Bushenyi district is offering the target communities the post harvest solutions at the village level. Quarter 3 had the Meru sites harvest and storage at the village level was starting to take shape with over 10000 farmers in Igoji Division, Tigania East, Tigania West and Tharaka benefiting from USAID COMPETE grant. 8 new stores were initiated through community and FCI effort and FCI facilitated through COMPETE grant to refurbish these stores and construction of dunnages.

During this period over 10000 bags of maize was stored by communities at improved storage condition and close to 7000 bags stored collectively in stores established in villages. FCI in quarter 3 trained over 60 CoTeFs on CV stores, EA standards, grain handling and coding, collective marketing and storage pest management. Over 3000 farmers were trained by store personnel and 60 trained COTeFs on post harvest management since the quarter coincided with storage and handling period.

Bulk buyers such as PISU AND CO. LTD, ETC, NCPB, Afya Millers, Unga Ltd (Meru) and Bolax Enterprise, Unga 2000 (Bushenyi) were linked to Commercial Villages. Sales of over Ksh.3 Million were made to local buyers while NCPB is engaged to buy grain worth over Ksh.7 Million by early quarter 4 (July 2010). Bushenyi site in Uganda has not been as effectively adopting the storage solution offered by FCI and COMPETE as anticipated due to community wanting to sell before drying and also the areas being wet most of the time partly due to climate change. FCI has facilitated a number of sales in the region and community appreciated but infrastructure set which was the target of the grant has had low adopting rate, it is in this regard that FCI

requested relocating the Uganda site to Eastern Uganda which has been found to be more appropriate for the intervention.

Aflatoxin outbreak

During this quarter (quarter 3), there was aflatoxin outbreak that was occasioned by extended rains in Eastern Province and coast province leading government blacklisting the region as a source of grain to any market. Though FCI facilitated stores had all maize well dried up before storage, no buyer including the above identified buyers who were just about to lift consignment could buy grain from these stores due to government prohibition due to aflatoxin outbreak. FCI has engaged NCPB to purchase all grain stored in over 15 stores in Meru region.

FCI in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health National Laboratories has helped farmers carry out the aflatoxin level tests for the grains stored. The government mechanism and process is rather taking too long due to unavailability of other cheaper options both for the samples taken to the national laboratories and field aflatoxin kits which are very few thus holding the whole process at ransom. This will allow the bulked maize to be moved to buyers without the risk of consignment following the quarantine on maize in Eastern Province.

Despite the aflatoxin challenges the established commercial villages still maintain high confidence in FCI and COMPETE believes that this challenge will be fully addressed. Government institutions such as MOA, Public health ministry staff and Provincial Administration have been very supportive though their support comes a little late due to unavailability of necessary resources and equipments.

The next harvest for most of grains is expected in the month of August in quarter 4 where a bumper harvest for maize, pigeon peas, green grams sorghum among others is expected and FCI has already set mechanism in place to facilitate storage and marketing of the expected grains.

Activity	Deliverables	Achievements	Remarks
1. Selection of commercial village stores ♦ Stores identification and negotiation ♦ Stores branding	Stores established	♦ 8 stores established in Meru sites during the harvesting season ♦ Community sensitized on home storage. ♦ 2 new store in Meru Tigania West branded ♦ Dunnages have been constructed in the hired stores in 4 stores ♦ 4 stores were refurbished by painting and repairing	♦ Community adopting collective storages after learning from USAID funded stores
2. Procurement of drying / quality control equipment and hermetic cocoons	Sieves, sampling spears and stores handling gears	♦ Over 8 sieves built and distributed to communities in Meru region ♦ 22 sampling spears purchased and distributed to community	♦ Hermetic storage technology under pilot testing ♦ New technologies are being tested
5. Capacity building and training of store personnel ♦ Development of training materials outline ♦ Hiring resource person ♦ Training	Practical implementation of skills acquired	♦ 8 personnel implemented storage facilitation	♦ Shared experience in review meeting with advisors and NCPB in Meru ♦ Bushenyi team exchanged with the Meru team on lessons learnt on collective storages and aflatoxin challenges
6. EAC simplified grain standards materials for producers and traders ♦ Repackage the EAC Maize standards in simple and local languages ♦ TOTs for EAC maize standards	Simplified EAC maize standards handbooks Maize standard training material	♦ Forum for development of simplified EAC maize standards held on April, 2010	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Other buyers engaged are Afya maize millers St pius x seminary 	
<p>10. Linking producers with buyers; Buyer seller forums</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Organize and hold buyer seller business forums to ◆ Negotiation on trade parameters between commercial village farmers and key identified buyers 	<p>Key buyers identified and linked to commercial villages</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ NCPB engaged to buy the over 4500 bags currently in villages stores due to black listed ◆ KARI seed unit purchases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Partnership agreements have been discussed with key buyers
<p>8. Link input suppliers with commercial village producers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Hold field days ◆ Collective sourcing for inputs 	<p>Number of input suppliers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Osho Chemicals linked to supply dusting chemicals to over 2000 farmers in Meru region site getting dusting chemicals at over 20% quantity discount ◆ Ministry of Agriculture in target sites uses commercial villages established to distribute subsidized and free seeds and fertilizers in partnership with NCPB 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Currently
<p>10. Grow awareness on storage infrastructures services provided by FCI and COMPETE and benefits of utilizing this infrastructures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Courtesy calls [MOA, Provincial administration/Counties, Local NGOs, Group reps] ◆ Hold community forums / barazas and focused village meetings 	<p>Number of attendants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOA has been used from(Provincial Director of Agriculture) PDA, DAO and local extension staff for awareness creation on post harvest management of grain • FCI partnering with District Agricultural (made of government ministries) on creating awareness on disposal and buyout of aflotoxin infested maize 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Aflatoxin challenge is real in the region and this has greatly affected community collective storage.

<p>11. Collection, bulking, cleaning, sorting, drying, storage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Collective bulking, sorting and quality control ♦ Increase sales ♦ Increase grain collectively bulked and stored ♦ Enhance record keeping ♦ Training on village stores management 	<p>Inventory records and grain banking passbooks</p> <p>Quantity of grain sold / stored</p> <p>Transactional documents (invoices, receipts, delivery notes)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Over 4500 grain stored in Meru region ♦ Harvesting for beans in Bushenyi currently under way ♦ Stores and bulking to be undertaken in quarter 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Extended rain in target sites affected grain drying leading to AFLATOXIN attack on grain in farmers stores ♦ Grain stored collectively was well dried below 13.5 and thus no case recorded from FCI/COMPETE facilitated stores
<p>12. Build M& E capacity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Training on M&E 	<p>M&E Tools List of attendants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ FCI field staff trained on data capturing with USAID/COMPETE data capturing tool and events' participation tool being applied ♦ 30 COTEFs ; introduced to data capturing tools during training workshops while the rest 36 scheduled to be trained further in quarter 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ This a continuous activity throughout the CVS lifecycle

CVs Training Report

Meru (Kenya)

AREA OF TRAINING	Date of Training	NO OF CVS /GROUP TRAINED	NO. OF TRAINEES	GENDER		OTHER PARTNERS INVOLVED	PUBLIC/ PRIVATE
				MALE	FEMALE		
Group Leaders/sub committees Training on Group dynamics and leadership skills	14/4/2010	6	Mworoga CPG 20	11	9	M.O.A	public
	23/4/2010		Ntakani CPG 16	10	6		
	8/4/2010		Kithangene CPG 23	12	11		
	3/5/2010		Gaikiki CPG 18	8	10		
	11/5/2010		Mujuju CPG 15	10	5		
	5/4/2010		Amani CPG 16	9	7		
Buyer seller forums and enhancement of EA maize standards, Grain Market dynamics to CV leaders	28/4/2010	5 CVs Mwegiki CV Nkumari CV Nkungugu CV Maraa CV Mitunguu CV	18	8	10	Afya maize millers Chief St pius x seminary MOA N.C.P.B	Private Public private Public public
	10/4/2010		26	14	12		
Group Quality and post harvest management	17/4/2010	5 CVs Mwegiki CV Nkumari CV Nkungugu CV Maraa CV Mitunguu CV	1500	650	850	MOA Kwa mburugu agro dealers Osho chemicals.	Public private
Credits and group savings Account openings	3/5/2010	5	750	325	425	MOA Equity bank	Public Bank institution
Stakeholders forum	14/5/2010	4 Farmer reps 5 MOA reps 3 input suppliers	2 5 4	1 4 4	1 1 0	MOA Osho chemicals Farmchem Mburugu farmers agro dealers	Public Private private
COTEFS and store management committee training on -quality and post harvest management -Leadership skills. -Store management	22/5/2010	5CVs	45	30	15	MOA	Public

Store management subcommittee training on storage management,	26/5/2010	6 CPGs five members from each Kithangene CPG Gaikiki CPG Ntakani CPG Mworoga CPG Mujuju CPG Amani CPG	30	13	17	M.O.A Osho chemicals	Public private
Cotefs training on EA maize standards, post harvest handling, market dynamics	30/4/2010	24 CoTeFs from the five CVs	24	14	10	m.o.a osho chemicals	Public private
Store training management	31/5/2010	Kuani CV. MOA, NCPB, FCI	22	10	12	MOA, NCPB	Public Public
Buyer seller forum	15/5/2010	NCPB, maisha millers	30	13	7	maisha millers	Private
Banking products training	7/5/2010	Equity bank, FCI. Kuani CV	135	40	95	Equity bank,	Private
Store management training	20/5/2010	Kamutune CV MOA, NCPB, FCI	66	20	46	MOA, NCPB	Public Public
COTEFs training	31/3/2010	FCI. Kuani CV	5	2	3		
Banking products training	8/6/2010	Equity bank, FCI. Kamutune CV	66	20	46	Equity bank	Private
Store training management	5/6/2010	Kuani CV. MOA, NCPB, FCI	115	32	83	MOA, NCPB	Public Public
COTEFs training	29/5/2010	FCI, Kamutune CV	5	3	2		
Store training management	17/5/2010	Maburwa CV. MOA, NCPB, FCI	63	27	36	MOA, NCPB	Public Public
Buyer seller forum	6/5/2010	NCPB, Daiga millers	11	7	4	NCPB, Daiga millers	Public Private
Banking products training	21/5/2010	Equity bank, FCI. Maburwa CV	72	27	45	Equity bank	Private
Store management training	4/6/2010	Lanyiro, MOA, NCPB, FCI	102	35	67	MOA, NCPB	Public Public

COTEFs training	8/5/2010	FCI.	5	3	2		Private
Aflatoxin awareness	12/5/2010	Lailuba CV, MOA, NCPB, FCI	80	27	53	MOA, NCPB	Public Public
Aflatoxin awareness	29/4/2010	Kuani, MOA, NCPB, FCI	80	23	57	MOA, NCPB	Public Public
COTEFs training	7/6/2010	FCI.	5	3	2		Private
Aflatoxin awareness	10/5/2010	Kamutune CV, MOA, NCPB, FCI	68	23	65	MOA, NCPB	Public Public

Bushenyi (Uganda)

Date of Training	Organisation	Represented by (Participants)	Gender disaggregation		Organisation disaggregation				
			Male	Female	Private	Public	Association	Women focused	Areas of Training
6/5/2010	Kamashenge CV	Group members	32	27			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Post Harvest Handling of Grains
11/5/2010	Karungu parish Local Government Representative NAADS	CPG Representatives	10	30		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mobilisation and sensitisation meeting on CVS
14/5/2010	kyeizooba secondary school (Bushenyi)	Tenderer	1		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	market Development
21/5/2010	Valley College school (Bushenyi)	Proprietors	1	1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	market Development
3/6/2010	Unga 2000 (mbarara)	Accountant & Secretary	1	1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	market Development

7/6/2010	Burunga millers (mbarara)	proprietor		1	✓ <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	market Developm ent
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