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COMPETE
The Competitiveness and Trade Expansion Program

QUARTERLY TECHNICAL REPORT

QUARTER 1

(JANUARY – MARCH 2010)

BY



KENYA TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION

FOR THE USAID-COMPETE

**GRANT ACTIVITY TITLE: KENYA TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION
CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVE**

GRANT AGREEMENT NO.: KTA-STA-010-011

GRANT PERIOD: JAN 1ST 2010 - DEC 31ST 2010



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Kenya Transport Association (KTA) is an association of road transporters and is registered under the Societies Act in the Kenyan laws. It seeks to instill safety, discipline and professionalism in trucking.

The COMPETE grant to KTA is intended to strengthen the institutional capacity of KTA to transform it into a strong, effective and self-sustaining association that would strongly advocate for better policies in the transport industry, enhance road safety, reduce unreasonable transport barriers and campaign for ethical business practices, leading to the development and growth of a safe, reliable, professional and environmentally friendly trucking industry hence reduced cost of living in the region.

2.0 OBJECTIVE

As a result of COMPETE'S grant, KTA will improve its capacity and administrative structures to be able to advocate for efficient, better transport policies, reduced costs and fair competition in road transport. KTA will create an efficient secretariat that will improve services to members, instill professionalism, and increase participation of small and upcoming transporters in the transport business by linking them to existing and new networks of transport businesses within the region.



3.0 NARRATIVE REPORT

3.1 INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

JOB DESCRIPTION AND RESTRUCTURING

Executive Committee retreat to discuss the Secretariat's Job Description and Restructuring was held on 27 -28/2/2010 in Kilifi as per the KTA Strategic Plan document.

Status: Ongoing, consultant was engagement to take KTA through the process.

Challenge: Lack of distinct structure creates conflict of roles between the Executive Committee and the Secretariat.

KTA MAGAZINE



This is a quarterly magazine of the Association. Previously



there has been delay in production due to financial constraint. However we are pleased report that with COMPETE's assistance we are now on course.

Status: A consultant has been engaged to compile market and print the KTA Magazine.

SECRETARIAT STAFF CAPACITY BUILDING



KTA Secretariat staff attended training on Public Relations and Customer Care with the Paragon Business Training Institute.

Status: KTA Secretariat was now equipped with skills on how to respond to members' issues and how to handle any difficult situations arising.



3.2 MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

KTA E-NEWSLETTER

This is edited, published and circulated by the Secretariat. Each edition covers specific pillar activities so as to create awareness on the industry.

Status: Ongoing, has increased member appreciation of KTA services.

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT

Increased membership and retention of existing members which is attributed to increased service and awareness creation.

Status: 64 retained members, 9 new members compared to 76 paid-up members in 2009.

3.3 ADVOCACY

In a bid to meet its objective, KTA held several meetings with stakeholders as listed below;

INSURANCE REGULATORY AUTHORITY (IRA)

Meeting held on 3/3/2010 to discuss new guidelines on insurance rates that increased by up to 100% for third party covers. This increment would increase the cost of transportation in the Northern Corridor.



Status: Achieved reviewed insurance rates and commitment to hold awareness workshops targeting members.

MOMBASA TOWN CLERK & PROVINCIAL POLICE OFFICER



The meeting was held on 12/1/2010 to discuss Road Levy Fees introduced by the Municipal Council of Mombasa for every truck accessing Mombasa at KES 1,700 per truck per trip.

Status: KTA sought a reprieve from MCM until a justification was made on the charges. Member harassment ceased and the road levy was dropped.

KENYA URBAN ROADS AUTHORITY – KURA

KURA paid a courtesy call on the Executive Committee of KTA on 1/2/2010 at the Secretariat. Road Levy Fee by the Municipal Council of Mombasa was discussed and advised that the MCM should not collect road levy fees on Urban Roads.

Status: Justification of our request for reprieve confirmed.

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON AXLE LOAD CONTROL



KTA is represented in the above captioned committee. Two meetings have been held by the committee which is chaired by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Roads. Its objective is to oversee the implementation of Axle Control measures incorporating all key stakeholders.

Status: Ongoing, working towards achieving common ground on overloading and agreed on publication of repeat offenders in local dailies.



ONE STOP BORDER POST ON LEGAL FRAMEWORK FORMULATION



Three sittings of the one-stop-boarder-post to come up with the legal framework guiding seamless boarder procedures.

Status: Ongoing, achieved inclusion of facilitation agents in the OSBP steering committees.

EA CORRIDOR DIAGNOSTIC STUDY

Workshop held on 24 - 25/2/2010 in a bid to reduce cost of transportation through understanding current processes and procedures.



PORT OPERATIONS MEETINGS



Weekly meetings have been held to streamline Port operations.

Status: Ongoing, Achieved 24 hr operations at empty container depots.

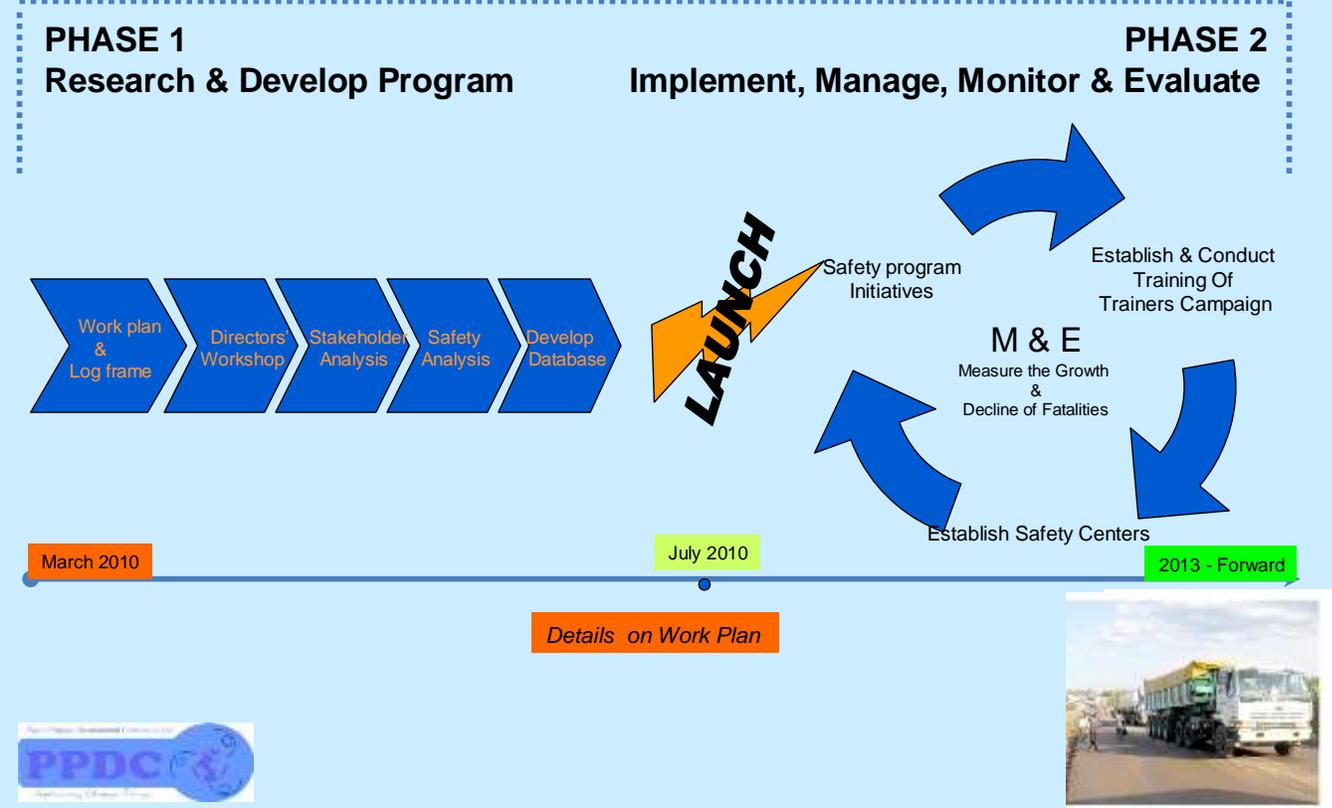
3.4 CERTIFICATION & STANDARDS

The Certification & Standards committee has met twice and is in the process of engaging a Safety Consultant Ms Beatrice Gambo of Pwani Projects Development Consultants Ltd. Below is an overview of the terms of engagement.

Status: Ongoing, expected achievement includes wholesome industry training and workshops along the Northern Corridor.



Solution Approach & Methodology



CODE OF CONDUCT

A retreat for the Executive Committee was held on 27- 28/3/2010 in Kilifi to improve on the draft code of conduct in a bid to attain self regulation.

Status: Ongoing, consultant engaged to come up with the final draft by end of April 2010.



3.5 MEMBERS SERVICES

MEMBERS MEETINGS



KTA has held two member meetings held on 19/2/2010 and 29/3/2010.

Status: Ongoing, achieved cohesion creation among members.



NORTH STAR FOUNDATION



KTA is working with the North Star Foundation which has established Wellness Centers along the Northern Corridor for support and treatment of minor ailments, STI's and HIV/AIDS specifically for truck drivers.

Challenge: KTA would like to take up the management of these centers for the wellness of our employees in the next phase of the Grant implementation.

EAFCA EXHIBITION

KTA participated in the EAFCA exhibition on 11 – 13/2/2010 where stakeholders learnt more about KTA's role in the transport sector.

Managerial Challenge: The Secretariat mobilized members to provide contacts to facilitate publication of the Transporters' Directory. However the Executive Committee did not approve of it due to lack of funds.

