

Monthly Update – September 2010

## Tanzania Agriculture Productivity Program

### GLOBALGAP TRAINING IN KILIMANJARO

On September 14 USAID-TAPP organized a two-day interactive workshop for farmers growing peas and French beans for export in the Kilimanjaro area. More than 93 farmers from 12 farmer groups attended. The workshop was led by Sandy Roberts, an agribusiness consultant from Zimbabwe, and covered GLOBALGAP standards, focusing on postharvest handling, the safe use and storage of pesticides and how to apply agrochemicals. The farmers are managed by our partner Floresta.

### USAID-TAPP REVIVES ARUSHA BLOOMS

Arusha Blooms, Ltd. used to grow roses in its large greenhouses, but two years ago the company was forced to stop production because of financial difficulties. Now a USAID-TAPP intervention has helped the farm become a vegetable production and export hub. Arusha Blooms began planting again in July and have already exported almost 16 tons of beans to Kenya. Because of this USAID-TAPP intervention, 100 jobs for women were created and many more will be open in the near future.

The farm already had an established infrastructure that included a coolstore, a grading shed, more than 11 hectares of greenhouses, a drip irrigation system and a rain water harvesting system. USAID-TAPP has linked them to European and South African markets and the company should start exporting through Kilimanjaro International Airport in 2011. Plans are also underway to establish a collection and grading hub on the farm.

### MEET OUR NEW PARTNER – AVRDC: THE WORLD VEGETABLE CENTRE

USAID-TAPP has signed a partner fund award with AVRDC, an international agriculture institute based in Arusha. AVRDC has experience successfully training vegetable growers in best business practices and linking them to markets in Tanzania and Kenya.

With USAID-TAPP support, youths from the suburban areas of Arusha will form farmer groups and receive training on vegetable seed production, processing, utilization and marketing. This partnership will empower more than 800 youths to produce vegetable seeds to sell, increasing their incomes and giving them a sustainable livelihood that is otherwise unimaginable.



*Fintrac photo by Christina Chacha.*

**Program client Arusha Blooms grew roses in greenhouses until two years ago, when they were forced to shut down. USAID-TAPP is now helping the company grow beans for export, which is creating jobs for more than 100 women.**

### Tanzania Agriculture Productivity Program

“Increased food security through enhanced productivity”

TAPP is a 5-year program designed to increase smallholder farmer incomes through enhanced productivity, crop diversification and improved market access.

Visit [www.tanzania-agric.org](http://www.tanzania-agric.org) for more information on upcoming activities and to receive copies of monthly bulletins and success stories.

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## TOMATO FARMERS FIND NEW MARKET

Many farmers in the Kilimanjaro region grow tomatoes, and at certain times of the year this produces oversupply in the market. Prices fall so dramatically that often growers will just stop selling their produce. This year USAID-TAPP linked growers to Darsh Industries, a tomato processor that bought almost 90 tons of tomatoes from struggling farmers. USAID-TAPP provided 800 crates for harvesting and packing the tomatoes, and arranged their transport to the processors. Darsh is now looking to establish a more permanent arrangement with smallholders, ensuring that the farmers always have a market for their produce.

## PESTICIDE REVIEW COMPLETE

The USAID-TAPP PERSUAP has been submitted to program partners for review and has been presented to USAID-TAPP agronomists so they can assimilate it into their work programs. It was prepared by Environmental Specialist Dr. Richard Pluke and local Crop Protection Specialist Wilfred Mushobozi. The PERSUAP looks at the list of registered pesticides in the country with a keen focus on health and environment. The report recommended 142 insecticides, 127 fungicides, 76 herbicides, six rodenticides and 14 biorational (of natural origin) pesticides for use by USAID-TAPP. It also included extensive information on integrated pest management (IPM) and how to ensure pesticide safety.

## HIV/AIDS PEER EDUCATORS REACH THOUSANDS

In May, USAID-TAPP trained more than 67 peer educators in collaboration with the Lushoto Youth Development Network. On September 22, the program's Health and Nutrition Manager Dorothy Magesse held a review meeting to gauge the outcome of the training and identify continuing successes and challenges facing the peer educators. She learned that from July to September the educators reached 3,122 people, including 2,356 school children, but nutrition information and gender education are two issues that need more attention in the community and will be addressed in ongoing activities.

## USAID-TAPP WORKS WITH THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ON PEMBA ISLAND

USAID-TAPP met with Saleh Mbarouk Amour, the officer in charge of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Environment on Pemba Island to introduce him to the program and earn the ministry's support. The program will establish a demonstration plot for a number of new crops and technologies in coordination with the ministry under the auspices of the Commission of Agriculture, Research and Extension. USAID-TAPP will also sponsor field days with the help of the ministry to transfer knowledge to farmers on the island.



*Fintrac photos by Christina Chacha.*  
**A woman applies fertilizer by hand in Moshi.**



**USAID-TAPP consultant Sandy Roberts (right) leads a GLOBALGAP workshop in Kilimanjaro.**



**At the GLOBALGAP workshop farmers learned about postharvest handling, how to apply agrochemicals, and how to use pesticides safely.**