

PD-ART-101
107955

**Lutheran World Relief/
Lutheran World Federation (DWS)**

**REHABILITATION OF LIBERIA FOOD
PRODUCTION CAPACITY PROJECT
(669-CA-00-99-00303)**

**QUARTERLY REPORT
(October 1 – December 31, 2000)**

1.0 General Overview Of Project Activities

Project activities for the quarter is summarized as follows:

- Construction of storage (kitchen) by CBOs for harvested rice
- Harvesting of rice (upland and lowland) by CBOS and seed multiplication site
- Routine field maintenance exercises in vegetable paddy fields and root/tuber sites
- Completion of transplanting cocoa and coffee seedlings
- Procurement of construction materials for blacksmith workshops in Tappita
- Maintenance of tree crop nurseries
- Field assessment of community micro Development projects in Tappita
- Animation/mobilization of CBOs for livestock
- Site selection for paddock construction in Tappita
- Leadership training for CBOs in Klay and Dewoin Districts
- Orientation workshop for CUSD management team and technician
- Technical field visit to WARDA in La Cote D'Ivoire
- Construction of blacksmith workshop in Bomi County

2.0 Project Achievement by objective

The following gives details of project activities under each of the four (4) project objectives namely:

1. Improved seed/planting materials multiplication and food processing
2. Livestock multiplication
3. Tree crop plantation rehabilitation and nursery establishment
4. Micro community development project.

.1 Improved seeds/planting materials multiplication

A total of twenty-two (22) CBOs (10 in Nimba and 12 in Bomi) have completed harvesting. About thirty (30) metric tons of rice (26.7) and legumes (3.3) were produced. Two CBOs engaged in local vegetable seed production in Bomi County (Zelekai and Trust in God) completed the harvesting of peanuts totaling sixteen (16) bags (180kg). In the Tappita area, one CBO (Largon Agriculture Project) planted assorted vegetables (mungbeans, cowpeas and peppers) totaling 0.24 hectares.

Harvesting of root/tuber crops planted this year has not started in most of the project areas. However, two yam sites in Kbarblee clan, Tappita District, Nimba County, commenced harvesting. A total of 100kg of tuber was harvested and is being processed for further multiplication.

LWF/WS Seed/Planting material multiplication site (Tubmanburg)

The 4.0 hectares of swamp cleared by the project and cultivated with improved rice varieties was harvested during this quarter. A total of 4,839 kg (908kg Rok-3 and 3,931kg Wita-1) was harvested from 60 of 86 plots. The remaining 26 plots will be harvested and processed in early January. Routine field maintenance exercises continue in the

root/tuber field planted with improved cassava and yams. The harvesting of mung beans also planted on the fringes of the swamp is ongoing.

.2 Food Processing

The project took receipt of two (2) additional rice-processing units. These mills will be installed and used by a consortium of CBOs in Gbear and Gblor clans, Tappita District (Nimba County). Each of the identified CBOs has already elected a management team to be responsible for the daily operations of the mill. The team comprises of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, who are answerable to an elected Board and members of the CBOs.

.3 Livestock Multiplication

Thirty-five (35) communities (25 in Bomi and 10 in Tappita District) were targeted for restocking with small ruminants and chickens for the year 2000. The project has begun identifying specific communities and holding meetings with family groups in preparation for receipt of animals next season. Three (3) community paddock sites were selected in the Gbi and Kpeaplay clans in Nimba County and collection of local materials for the construction of these paddocks has begun. Identification and training of community animators for the livestock multiplication is planned in the next two quarters.

.4 Tree crop plantation rehabilitation and nursery establishment

During this quarter seventeen (17) tree crop farmers completed rehabilitation of their farms. A total of 8,550 seedlings (7,000 cocoa and 1,550 coffee) were used to replace non-productive trees and fill gaps. Of the 17.1 hectares rehabilitated, 14.0 ha were cocoa and 3.1 ha coffee.

Nursery establishment

The transplanting of cocoa and coffee seedlings in the ten nurseries throughout the project area was concluded during the quarter. Seven (7) nursery groups with balance 62259 coffee seedlings were asked to maintain their seedlings for the next planting season. A total of thirteen thousand, one hundred and ninety two (13,192) seedling (9,447 cocoa and 3,715 coffee) were transplanted during the quarter. This figure now brings the total seedlings planted to 93,910 (7,6521 cocoa and 17,389 coffee) out of 13,8975 seedlings counted ready for planting as of July 2000.

.5 Community Micro Development Project

Six (6) CBOs identified for the blacksmith workshop activities in Tappita (Nimba County) were during the quarter animated and encouraged to organize proper leadership. Construction materials for these workshops were procured. One (1) blacksmith workshop was constructed and turned over to a CBO in Levekai, Suehn/Mecca District (Bomi County). A package of production tools was provided for the group to begin production.

Awareness campaign for the maintenance of a 35.2 Kilometer farm to market road in Quillah clan (Tappita District) was finalized. Side brushing of this road was completed by members of the community. Rehabilitation of damaged log bridges is expected to begin during the dry season.

3.0 Statistical Summary of Achievement

.1 Crops harvested by CBOs engaged in Food crops

| Project/Region | # of CBOs | YIELD OF CROPS HARVESTED KG | | | | |
|----------------|-----------|-----------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|------------|
| | | Rice | Cowpeas | Peanuts | Mungbeans | Cumulative |
| Bomi County | 12 | 2,115 | 7 | 2250 | - | 4372 |
| Seedmult site | - | 4,839 | - | - | - | 4839 |
| Nimba County | 10 | 19,754 | 132 | 1058 | 253 | 21,197 |
| Total | 22 | 26,708 | 139 | 3308 | 253 | 30,408 |

.1 Number of Cocoa and Coffee Seedlings Planted In This Period

| Region | Number of nurseries | Product | Total as of July 2000 | Seedlings ready as of July 2000 | Seedlings planted previous quarters | Seedlings planted this quarter | Total planted | Seedlings discarded (insects damage, mortality, etc.) | Balance in nursery |
|--------|---------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|---|--------------------|
| Bomi | 7 | Coffee | 69500 | 10425 | 8589 | 300 | 8889 | 208 | 60403 |
| | | Cocoa | 88100 | 88100 | 43423 | 4342 | 47765 | 3524 | 36811 |
| Nimba | 3 | Coffee | 10500 | 7200 | 5085 | 3415 | 8500 | 144 | 1856 |
| | | Cocoa | 33250 | 33250 | 23621 | 5135 | 28756 | 1330 | 3164 |
| Total | 10 | Coffee | 80000 | 17625 | 13674 | 3715 | 17389 | 352 | 62259 |
| | | Cocoa | 121350 | 121350 | 67044 | 9477 | 76521 | 4854 | 39975 |

NOTE: a) Coffee seedlings were originally intended to be transplanted in project year two (2001)

b) After the seedling count of July 2000, the number of matured seedlings increased with growth

.1 Summary of Training Workshop held during the quarter

| REGION | Farmers trained last quarter | | | Farmers trained this quarter | | | Total farmers trained |
|--------|------------------------------|--------|-------|------------------------------|--------|-------|-----------------------|
| | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total | |
| Bomi | 277 | 118 | 395 | 20 | 2 | 22 | 417 |
| Nimba | 140 | 63 | 203 | 9 | 0 | 9 | 212 |
| Total | 417 | 181 | 598 | 29 | 2 | 31 | 629 |

1.0 Administration

The Project Manager during this quarter visited Tappita and conducted a one-day orientation workshop for the management and staff of the Community Union for Sustainable Development (CUSD), which was selected as implementing partner in the Tappita District, Nimba County. The workshop brought together sixteen (16) field staff from CUSD and LWF/WS to review project activities in Tappita District. This was intended for CUSD to understand the project goal and objectives. It was followed by field visits to project sites where the IP Technicians would be assigned.

A three-day project review and planning session was held at the project headquarters in Tubmanburg, Bomi County during the quarter under review. This meeting brought together CBO representatives, implementing partners (the Concerned Christian Community and the Community Union for Sustainable Development) and LWF/WS staff to review the activities of the project for the past year and develop plans for the following year. A new work plan and a budget for implementation in 2001 were drafted. The Project Management Team along with LWF/WS program unit discussed the persistent requests from farmers, especially Tappita, to include oil palm in the tree crop program. A decision to forward the request to USAID for possible consideration in the next project year was reached.

.1 CBO Leadership Training

A week-long leadership-training workshop was held in Sasstown, Klay District, for ten (10) CBOs operating in Klay and Dewoin Districts. A total of 22 farmers (20 males and 2 females) participated. A Regional Training Team comprising of Project staff and other trained in DELTA techniques facilitated the workshop and it was participatory in nature. Some topics discussed at the workshop included:

- Development
- Gender Awareness (Women in Development)
- Clarifying vision
- CBO life cycle and characteristic
- Leadership skills
- General record keeping
- Financial Record keeping

- Action planning
- Project Evaluation

Similar workshop is also planned for the other Districts under the project.

4.2 Technical Training and visit

The Project Manager, R. Jarsiah Weedor, and one Technical Field Supervisor, Isaac W. Seward, paid a two-week technical field visit to the West African Rice Development Association (WARDA) headquarters in La Cote D'Ivoire. The two staff were exposed to new methods in seed-rice multiplication and seed management, food processing, participatory varietal selection and farming system practices. Several agro-ecological zones were visited in Cote D' Ivoire and discussions held with some farming groups especially women. WARDA also provided some newly released inter specific rice varieties to be tested/screened at the LWF/WS seed multiplication and other sites for future distribution to farmers in the project area.

Eight (8) project staff completed the last phase of the DELTA Training in Gbarnga (Central Liberia) through the sponsorship of LWF/WS and ACT Netherlands. This brings to twenty (20) the number of project staff that have benefited from such training opportunities in recent times.