



Commercial Village Stores [CVS] Establishment

Quarter 5 Progress Report

Institution: Farm Concern International and USAID/COMPETE
Project: Commercial Village Stores Establishment
Reporting period: Quarter 5 progress updates (October - December 2010)
Project period: Pilot phase; 2009 - 2011
Region: Jinja (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 has continued to benefit under the project. During the fifth quarter under review, there were concerted efforts to capacity build farmers on good agricultural practice and linkages to input suppliers for access of inputs, for farmers to achieve better quality yields, inputs and technical support in crop management are important. The use of field demonstrations was used as a way of training farmers on crop management. Input suppliers like Farmchem Ltd, Osho chemicals, Mburugu Farmers' Centre and Meru Farmers' Centre were linked and enabled the access of materials by farmers. This has ensured farmers were able to purchase certified seeds and quality fertilizers.

The establishment of the Commercial Village Stores in Jinja Uganda has taken shape with over 1100 farmers mobilized and recruited for storage of grains. The project has established in three sub counties (Butagaya, Busede and Buyengo). Two sites in Butagaya and Buyengo have been identified for the setting up of the cocoons; the two sub counties were selected based on the number of farmers already registered with the project, the potential output by the farmers and the logistical issues. Farmers in Jinja are preparing land for planting and harvests are not expected until June 2011. The farmers are also being introduced to household based storage technologies and transitional stores for their grain.

In the last quarter, over 6000 bags of maize were stored by communities and approximately 4000 bags stored collectively in stores established in villages. 79

COTeFs were trained on post harvest handling and quality standards, collective marketing and storage pest management. Over 4500 farmers were trained by store personnel with farmers embracing the new strategy on household storage and transitional stores concept. The transitional stores have served a cost saving way of transacting business by farmers where grain is stored for the period it's needed for bulking thus reducing greatly the costs involved in running the stores. Enhanced household post harvest handling and storage has helped improve the quality of grains produced by farmers thus reducing the incidences of aflatoxin infestations.

More buyers have been linked to the farmers and greater opportunities for farmers have emerged with farmers being able to source for new markets and negotiate for better prices.

One of the greatest setbacks during this quarter was the massive crop failure experienced by farmers in the project areas. Most of the farmers were not able to realize the anticipated outputs with yields slumping to a paltry 20%. The eastern province region has been declared a food insufficient region by the Red Cross and the government. Communities are gearing up for long dry spell before the onset of rains in March. Plans for the distribution of relief food are being put in place in these regions by the government. This has disrupted the bulking and marketing plans that had been put in place by the commercial villages and traders.

Activity	Deliverables	Achievements	Remarks
1. Selection of commercial village stores <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Stores identification and negotiation ◆ Stores branding 	Stores established	1. Five stores established in Tigania East (Mikinduri region) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Mlango area under AKAIGA Giant CV & stored 407 (90 kg)bags of maize ◆ Two stores in Marega commercial village. ◆ Cocoon with 223 (90 kg) bags of maize. ◆ One store with 320 bags of maize. ◆ One store in Kiriene commercial village with 287 bags of maize. ◆ One store in Mulika commercial village with 380 bags of pigeon peas. 2. 30 individual farmers stores are established 3. Two sites identified in Jinja for establishment of the cocoons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Storage structures continue to be a big challenge within the community and initiatives have been taken to help the farmers adopt affordable household storage technologies. The metallic silo is a suitable technology and farmers are adopting it since the cocoons were expensive for smallholder farmers.
5. Capacity building and training of store personnel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Development of training materials outline ◆ Hiring resource person ◆ Training 	Practical implementation of skills acquired	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Demonstrations on using sampling spear, weighing machine scales, chemical application and moisture meter have been performed. ◆ Officer from NCPB have trained FCI staff. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Skills useful to the community. ◆ FCI staff needs to be trained on M&E.
6. EAC simplified grain standards materials for producers and traders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Repackage the EAC Maize standards in simple and local languages ◆ TOTs for EAC maize standards 	Simplified EAC maize standards handbooks Maize standard training material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Interpretation of the materials has been done verbally through encounter in field days & trainings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Materials are used in the field to train farmers and reference

<p>7. Develop training materials for trainers, farmers and buyers</p> <p>1. Commercial village training materials</p>	<p>Training modules</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Translation of the visual aids from the DVD video ◆ Trained farmers from Kiriene & Marega commercial village by use of the visual Aids projected. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ DVD video produced. ◆ A stronger campaign on the food security needs to be emphasised among farmers.
<p>8. Conduct trainings on; Collective Marketing; Post harvest and Quality management (Marketing sub-committees, Commercial Village sub-committees and Warehouse management committees)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Organize workshops and training forums 	<p>Farmers attendance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Farmers in the following CV are trained on the subject and forums held on the same note. Marega, Kiriene, Mulika, Igarii, Mlango, Kunati, Athwana & Riiru. ◆ 439 farmers from CPGs in the project area have been trained on storage and quality control ◆ Demonstrations on using sampling spear, weighing machine scales, chemical application and moisture meter have been performed to these farmers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Farmers' attendance on the trainings has been highly overwhelming.
<p>Community technical farmers (COTEFs) capacity building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Conduct training workshops 	<p>COTEFs attendance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Training meetings have been held and are usually well attended and 79 COTEFs have been trained in partnership with the MOA in the last quarter. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆
<p>9. Grain traders workshops on grain standards, specification and handling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Organize and conduct workshops 	<p>Number of traders attending</p>	<p>The traders have held buyer seller forums with farmers in the commercial villages</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆
<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 	<p>Key buyers identified and linked to commercial villages</p>	<p>Several bulk buyers have been brought on board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Nkubu Consolata Hospital ◆ Meru Multipurpose Maize Millers ◆ Nkubu St Pius X Seminary ◆ Mr Denis - Trader. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Mrs Kiambati, Linguli and Mohammed purchased from two commercial villages. ◆ The traders are in contact with the

parameters between commercial village farmers and key identified buyers		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ NCPB -Meru depart. ◆ Meru multipurpose maize millers. ◆ Ali Mohamed - Trader ◆ Mrs Linguli - Trader ◆ Mrs Kiambati - Trader ◆ Maisha Millers (Nyeri) ◆ Daiga Millers (Nanyuki) 	farmers and there is continued communication on purchase of grains, although the current crop failure has greatly affected the anticipated sales by farmers and traders.
8. Link input suppliers with commercial village producers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Hold field days ◆ Collective sourcing for inputs 	Number of input suppliers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Osho chemicals. ◆ Mburugu Farmers Centre ◆ Meru farmers centre. ◆ NCPB ◆ Farmers centre agro dealer have been linked to commercial village producers. ◆ Farmchem Company has held demonstrations organized by FCI for farmers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Farmers are working closely with the input suppliers to acquire farm inputs in bulk and cost effectively.
10. Grow awareness on storage infrastructures services provided by FCI and COMPETE and benefits of utilizing this infrastructures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Courtesy calls [MOA, Provincial administration/Counties, Local NGOs, Group reps] ◆ Hold community forums / barazas and focused village meetings 	Number of attendants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Over 6000 Farmers in Meru and 1100 farmers in Jinja - Uganda, mobilised and are aware of the infrastructure and interventions provided by FCI & COMPETE ◆ MOA and Provincial administration have been involved in all the meeting carried out with the farmers. ◆ FCI belong to the district farmers' stakeholder forum which is chaired by the ministry of agriculture. ◆ 111 (Meru) and 16 (Jinja) community barazas held for training and to create awareness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Mobilization and recruitment of farmers into the project has continued and more farmers are joining the project.
11. Collection, bulking cleaning, sorting, drying, storage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Collective bulking, sorting and quality 	Inventory records and grain banking passbooks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Farmer and group leaders have been trained on record keeping. ◆ The subject activities are usually carried in the five storage sites ◆ 1351 bags were stored in 2 stores 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Communities are adopting the household storage and the transitional stores strategy.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Increase sales ♦ Increase grain collectively bulked and stored ♦ Enhance record keeping ♦ Training on village stores management 	<p>Quantity of grain sold / stored</p> <p>Transactional documents (invoices, receipts, delivery notes)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ 904 farmers were able to store their grains in household storage in good condition after capacity building was carried out. ♦ 117 tons of maize was sold through two commercial village stores to two different traders. 	
<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"> ♦ The training has not been carried out yet. 	♦

ANNEX 1: Capacity Building

Program Name: Farmer Capacity Building

Component Leader: Humphrey Malova

EVENT NAME	EVENT DATE	TARGETTED COMMUNITIES	GENDER DISAGREGATION			ORGANISATION DISAGREGATION		
			MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	PRIVATE	PUBLIC	DONOR /NGO's
Community mobilization forums	7/9/2010	Miathene	123	163	286		285	1
Farmers Field day	13/9/2010	Mitatane	25	45	70	4	65	1
Collective marketing training	21/9/2010	Murimi Muriti	5	32	37		36	1
Baraza for community mobilization	28/9/2010	Mbaranga	174	124	198		197	1
Collective marketing training	29/9/2010	Irotia	11	15	26		25	1

Collective marketing training	30/9/2010	Kaimenyi Women	0	27	27		26	1
Store management training	5/10/2010	Kailikia	4	29	33		32	1
Collective marketing training	12/10/2010	Kiremu	13	17	30		29	1
Farmers stakeholders meeting	18/10/2010	Tigania West	13	3	16	3	12	1
Training on record keeping	26/10/2010	Laichithuria	5	20	25		24	1
Collective marketing training	2/11/2010	Mwiciria	12	23	25		24	1
Collective marketing training	3/11/2010	Kuani East	16	27	43		42	1
Baraza for community mobilization	4/11/2010	Nairumu	25	67	92		91	1
Collective marketing training	5/11/2010	Kierie Group	0	25	25		24	1
Farmers Field day	6/11/2010	Kagaene	32	43	76		75	1
Farmers stakeholders meeting	7/11/2010	Tigania East	11	6	17	2	10	5
Collective marketing training	9/11/2010	Mutethia	13	16	29		28	1
Collective marketing training	12/11/2010	Ithamara	14	12	26		25	1
COTEFs Training	15/11/2010	Miathene & Kianjai	12	14	26		25	1
COTEFs Training	17/11/2010	Mbeu	7	8	15		14	1
COTEFs Training	18/11/2010	Akithi	15	17	32		31	1
Post harvest management training	19/11/2010	mwanika	12	23	35		34	1
Collective marketing training	22/11/2010	Thaabira women	0	23	23		22	1
Collective marketing training	23/11/2010	Mbuya	9	13	32		31	1

training								
Collective marketing training	25/11/2010	Mwenda group	11	13	24		23	1
Collective marketing training	26/11/2010	Mutumwari	9	13	21		20	1
Collective marketing training	29/11/2010	Mwendwa	0	23	23		22	1
Collective marketing training	30/11/2010	Murithi Women	0	24	24		23	1
Household Store management training	1/12/2010	Kamutunda	11	17	28		27	1
Household Store management training	2/12/2010	Uruu Women	0	25	25		24	1
Household Store management training	3/12/2010	Mutumwari	13	15	38		37	1
Training on record keeping	7/12/2010	Kaonyo ka ruria	17	23	40		39	1
Collective marketing training	9/12/2010	Hunduma	0	23	23		22	1
Household Store management training	10/12/2010	Miathene	9	13	22		21	1
Baraza for community mobilization	14/12/2010	Nchoru	113	187	300		299	1
Farmers stakeholders meeting	16/12/2010	Tigania East	8	7	15	2	9	4
Commercial village leaders meeting	17/12/2010	Twale	12	8	20		19	1

ANNEX 2: Capacity Building

Program Name: Farmer Capacity Building

Component Leader: Eliud Mutembei

ACTIVITY	Approach Used /Inputs	Areas covered	villages covered	Observable Indicator
1. Farmers training on quality maintenance	farmers mobilisation	proper use of farm inputs	Kiriene,thangatha,Kunati	increased use of fertilizer
	use of visual Aids	post harvest handling	Marega,Igurune,Mlango,Athwana	Improved handling of cereals after harvest
	use of technical personnel (MOA)	weed control	Mulika	Timely weed control
2. Farmers Training on savings (village banking system)	Farmers mobilisation	Group training on savings	Marega cv,Kiriene cv,Igarii cv,	following groups are conducting village banking system
	collaboration with technical personnel	Training on inter group lending	kiolo cv,mulika cv,	kaibange,igurune youth,kiriene mutua mbaya,marega mutwiri
	(CDC, Equity Bank)			kiguchwa karimi.Athwana & Mlango.
3. Linkage with input dealers	Bargaining, Negotiation, visit to:	training on common input purchase	Kiriene,Marega,Igarii ,Kunati,Athwana	Farmers purchased from NCPB in the following cv
	(NCPB,FARMERS CENTRE)		Mulika,	Kiriene,Marega,Athwana,
	Farmers Sensitization	training on common input purchase	Igurune ,Kamujine,Mlango	
4. Buyer Linkages	Visiting & bargaining with major buyers	buyer seller forum	kiriene,marega,mlango,athwana.	farmers commonly bulking in commercial village stores in:
	Afya millers, Major traders,			Mlango,Marega,Mulika,Athwana.

5. Farmers training on good Agronomic	use of visual aids, collaboration with .	proper crop management at the field	marega, kiriene, mulika, Igarai, Kunati	Increased desire for trainings.
	(MOA, Bayer East Africa, Osho chemicals) Diversification in farming practice		mlango, thuuri, athwana	strong desire for soy a crop we are introducing
6. Farmers training on food security maintenance	collaboration with : MOA,	Hunger aversion/	Mulika, Kiriene, Kunati, Igarai,	farmers training at KAGURU FTC
	KAGURU FTC, MICHII MIKURU FACTORY	need for security food crop	thuuri.	farmers purchased sweet potato vines from Kaguru FTC
	Farmers sensitization			farmers purchased sweet potato vines from Michii mikuru factory
				one seed multiplication at Kaibange SHG
				one seed multiplication at Igurune for sweet potatoes & cassava
				Common purchase of vines & cuttings for Igarai farmers.
				Agreement with farmers to have food security crops in farms.
Summary of the CVS project Tigania East District				
Commercial Villages	location	number of farmers mobilised		
Kiriene	Mikinduri West	300		
Marega	"	200		

Mulika	"	200		
Athwana	Mikinduri east	150		
Mlango	"	200		
Thuuri	"	250		
Kamujine	Ankamia	120		
Igurune	"	100		
Thangatha	Thangatha	330		
Kunati	"	150		
Igarii	"	200		

ANNEX 3: Capacity Building

Program Name: Farmer Capacity Building

Component Leader: Milton Maingi

Major activity	Inputs	Output	Constraints & comments
1. Sale of stored maize	-Taking samples for aflatoxin tests -linkages to traders -Trainings on post harvest and aflatoxin matters	-1200 bags of maize sold to a traders from Mandera @1050 per 90kg bag -	Aflatoxin and weevil attack was a major set back
2. Linkages to BDS and other service providers	-Organizing community fora -negotiations on sale of inputs -Actual linkages to agro dealers and other benefiting projects	-Common purchase on inputs as a community -more use of certified seed and fertilizers. -2000 more farmers in the CVs benefited from NAAIAP and NJAA marufuku projects	-farmers benefited from the reduced prices of inputs due to purchasing at bulk prices
3. Farmer training on food security crops and other	-Community fora -collaborations with MOA	-600 farmers benefited from the orphaned seed project currently being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture	-Limited seed for the farmers

orphaned crops		-25 groups trained on orphaned crops -6 CVs purchased sweet potato tubers from the ATC -more farmers indulged in the traditional crops	
4. Farmer mobilization and stores establishment	-Stores identification -community fora -collaboration with MOA	8 storage facilities identified though not yet upgraded -1600 more farmers mobilised -1600 farmers benefited with seed from MOA driven projects	Many stores are not up to standard since they are old shops and coffee stores hence they need renovation.

DIVISION	VILLAGE	NO OF FARMERS	BY GENDER
nkuene	ndamene	100	64M -36F
	muungu	84	55M-29F
	nkumari	96	61M-35F
	kirogine	121	38m-83F
Abogeeta east	nkachie	278	101M-177F
	maraa	198	112M-86F
igoji	Kathigu	80	34M-46F
	kiathathi	78	50M-28F
	ntakani	112	61M-51F