

MASI PAWO PROGRAM

ANNUAL REPORT

1ST JULY, 2006 – 30TH MAY, 2007

PREPARED BY:

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1. ANNUAL OBJECTIVES BY SECTOR

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL LIVELIHOOD (SARL)

During this year three objectives were set as follows:

- Crops
It was set out that number of farmers adopting appropriate crop production technologies and draught tolerant crop varieties increases during this year.
- Livestock.
improved livestock breeds especially dairy goats introduced in Singida rural.
- Complementary activities
increased peoples' income through diversification of income generating activities including value addition, livestock products and engagement in other livelihood options.

COMMUNITY AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH (C/RH) INCLUDING HIV/AIDS.

During this year two objectives were set as follows:

- Use of water from clean sources and treatment/purification before taking in was set during this year.
- Change from risky to safer sexual behaviour for program participants and support to persons living with HIV/AIDS by community members.

COMMUNITY BASED NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (CBNRM)

Program participants adopt environmental conservation measures and practice sound and sustainable conservation techniques.

COMMUNITY/LOCAL CAPACITY BUILDING (C/LCB)

Emergence of strong program committees that are capable of facilitating community interventions in participatory and democratic means.

2. ACTIVITIES PER SECTOR, IMPLEMENTING STRATEGIES AND OUTCOME INDICATORS

Sector	Planned activities	Implementation strategies	Outcome indicators
SARL	Identify farmer experimenters and train them in experimentation process and set up on farm trials	<p>34 farmers from two villages were selected and assisted to experiment agricultural technology suitable to weather and soil characteristics in Singida to enable other farmers in the community learn from their experiences.</p> <p>Education sessions were organized by community educators and facilitators in five wards of Singida rural to promote farmers understanding on appropriate agricultural technologies.</p>	121 farmers adopted the technology that was practiced by the farmer experimenters.
	Bulking and distribution of draught tolerant seeds	4 farmers were selected among the 34 experimenters to cultivate four types of drought tolerant crops (cassava, millet, "uwele" and mbaazi)	Increased draught tolerant seeds in the program area
	Farmers training on the operation of savings and credit scheme and provision of loan to the farmer groups	Farmers meetings were organized in which different types of loans offered by WEGCC savings and credit scheme and key issues about agriculture loan were discussed.	41 farmers obtained loans with which to by/meet agricultural requirements.

	Training of vulnerable women on the operation of the savings and credit scheme	60 women who are sole bread earners of the family, with very little income were identified by others in Singida rural and urban and encouraged to access WEGCC scheme services.	48 women of this category got loans.
	Collection of different varieties of food to the store	Grain bank funds kept in the bank was used to buy food from farmers during the last harvest season.	30 and 17 bags of sorghum and millet stored at Mtinko and Ilongero wards respectively.
	Procurement of diary goat	<p>Conditions, eligibility and procedures for dairy goats were set in participatory manner between farmers and WEGCC management.</p> <p>With advise from livestock department, Singida district, Mpwapwa livestock research Institute in Dodoma region which has similar climatic conditions as the program area was visited to supply the dairy goats. (Anglo-nubia breed)</p> <p>15 diary goats were ordered but could not be delivered due to animal transportation ban</p>	

		<p>following the outbreak of rift valley fever in the country.</p> <p>10 goats will be distributed in Mtiko and 5 in Ilongero ward.</p>	
	Rehabilitation of grain store at Mtinko	WEGCC building at Mtinko was modified to create space for grain storage for food safety.	Unlike the previous store, the food is in a safer place.
	Finalize review of savings and credit scheme	<p>Recommendations of the savings and credit scheme business plan were discussed by the different stakeholders who ordered formation of a task force to incorporate the appropriate changes in the guidelines of the scheme.</p> <p>The general meeting of savings and credit scheme members was conducted to endorse the revised guidelines.</p>	Scheme members have increased income through small economic activities after accessing loans

LCB	Formation of program management committee (PMC)	<p>Program Management Committee (PMC) was formed at Singida rural comprising of 6 members from farmer experimenters, facilitators, community educators, WEGCC district committee, savings and credit committee, TBAs.</p> <p>Terms of reference for the PMC was defined and communicated to the sectoral committees who were then asked to nominate one person with capacity to represent them PMC.</p>	An organ responsible to coordinate program activities in Singida rural is in place.
	Training of program management committee (PMC) for Singida Rural on Program management	Training program was developed and implemented	PMC action plan to facilitate program planning, monitoring of activities and reporting is in place.
	Stakeholders workshop to revisit the administrative structure for the program and orientation of the actors	12 people representing farmer experimenters, facilitators, community educators, WEGCC district committee, savings and credit committee, TBAs and grain bank participated in a workshop to discuss the structure of MASIPAWO and position of each actor.	

	Program review and planning	A two days workshop with stakeholders from various groups of MASIPAWO program actors and 3 people from the government authorities conducted discuss the implementation of activities, achievement, challenges and lessons learned in the ending year and priorities for the coming year.	Implementation status for 2006/2007 was established and priorities for year 2007/08 determined
CBNRM	Facilitate training of communities in agro forestry practices	Training on agro forestry was organised in collaboration with government to promote communities understanding on agro forest issues.	Tree nurseries have increased in Singida rural. Demand for tree seedlings has raised.
	Facilitate diversification of tree crops in the program area	Tree nursery operators were identified, trained and needs to improve their activities determined and support tree provided	
C/RH	Health education sessions in the community	RHA and the trained community educators/ facilitators and TBAs communicated RH messages and information to community members through meetings, mobile clinics sessions, schools Health issues discussed during the	Number of household using mosquito bed nets has increased Few households

		<p>session were malaria, water and environmental sanitation, nutrition, maternal and child health care, Female Genital Mutilation, family planning HIV/AIDS and care and STIs. 13,383 people were reached during the RH and HIV/AIDS sessions out of 26,770 target. 12 out of 17 primary schools were visited in Singida rural.</p>	<p>have started boiling the drinking water</p> <p>Positive attitude towards PLWA has been noted</p> <p>Positive attitude towards PLWA has been noted</p>
	<p>Seminar for youth and women to raise prevention of HIV/AIDS and care for people living with HIV/AIDS in the community</p>	<p>251 women and 250 youths from 5 wards of the program with capacity to communicate message to their peers were selected and attend to the seminar sessions organized at the ward level. Focus was on HIV/AIDS, STIs and home based care</p>	<p>Reduced stigma on the PLWA</p> <p>Decreased risky behaviours such as unprotected sex practices.</p>
	<p>Establishment and operation of AIDS clubs in schools and youth groups</p>	<p>AIDS clubs were established in primary schools at Mtinko ward with members from standard iv – vi.</p> <p>They meet for 40 minutes twice a week from 3.20 – 4.00 pm. At the end of every session they propose theme for the next meeting.</p>	

		RH adviser visit them twice a month for support and clarification of technical issues	
	Religious leaders seminar to promote collaboration in dissemination of knowledge on reproductive health and HIV/AIDS	Meetings to discuss how religious leaders can cooperate to disseminate RH knowledge	
	Production of guide (manual used in education session) for community educators	Draft materials for the manual were gathered by the RH advisor and communicated to WN health coordinator.	
	Training of community educators on RH (FGM, Malaria etc), HIV/AIDS and their duties	Training needs were identified with involvement of the target groups and facilitators	

5. PROGRESS DURING THE YEAR

Achievement, Challenges, how addressed and the lessons learnt

SARL

Achievement

i) Use of appropriate agricultural technologies

In the past season (2005/06) 34 contact farmers were selected from two villages out of 17 to experiment different techniques in agriculture. The contact farmers were trained in theories and practices of agriculture whose farms would be reference for the neighbouring farmers. In this exercise, the contact farmers experimented three technologies that is land tillage, selection of seed variety (improved seeds) and fertilizers (industrial/manure). Along with these technologies the contact farmers were asked to have a control plot in which they applied the traditional farming technology so that they could see the difference. These technologies were applied in cultivation of three crops i.e maize, sorghum and sunflower. The experiment was very successful as there was obvious difference between the experiment plots and the other farms in terms of crop growth and yield per unit area. Farmers got excited with performance of crops in the experiment plots, leading to close contacts with experimenters and field visits. In August 2006 when the nation celebrates farmers day contact farmers demonstrated appropriate agricultural technologies which had a lot of inspiration to farmers. In this season 121 farmers adopted the technologies that were practiced by the contact farmers. Yield increase and adoption of appropriate technology are the achievement of the program.

During this season 4 out of 34 contact farmers apart from extending the previous season technology to a wider plot, they continued with experimentation on draught resistant varieties namely cassava, millet "uwele" and "mbaazi". The program provided all the necessary support to these farmers for good performance so as to generate seeds for more farmers.

ii) Provision of agriculture loan.

Since agriculture is the main economic activity in the program area, ways of facilitating farmers to increase production are being devised. During this year 41 farmers were provided with of loans for agricultural activities such as procurement of

improved seed varieties, fertilizers and pesticides. These are among 121 farmers who have adopted the technologies learnt from the trained contact farmers. With this facility (agriculture loan) many farmers will be able to practice the appropriate agriculture technologies. Review of WEGCC savings and credit operating rules and policies was done during this year to facilitate effective management and operation of this component (agriculture loan). Agriculture loan is therefore among the products of the scheme.

iii) Diversification of livelihood options.

Livestock keeping is one of livelihood options in a dry area like Singida. However, breed variety is an important factor in order to make an effective impact. Introduction of dairy goats was planned for this year. Implementation modalities were formulated whereby passing on gifts concept (sharing and scalling up) is applied. This concept was perceived well by the communities. For example community members contributed highly in formulating the criteria for distribution of dairy goats. They selected 15 farmers with qualities to be given the first goats. Those farmers have prepared good shades for the goats and stock of fodder as advised by the livestock technologist. 15 dairy goats (Anglonubia breed). Have been ordered from Mpwapwa livestock research Institute in Dodoma region which has similar climatic conditions as the program area.

15 diary goats were ordered but could not be delivered due to animal transportation ban following the outbreak of rift valley fever in the country.

iv) Engagement in income generating activities for vulnerable women.

In the program area both in rural and urban areas of Singida, there are women with very little income earning yet obliged to provide for household basic requirements like food. Such women have limited opportunities to generate reasonable income. Through savings and credit scheme, women falling in this situation are identified and encouraged to seek credit under special conditions. During this year 48 women got loans with which to run small income generating activities. Main business of these women is trading in food staffs. All of them are performing very well with their business with indicators of income increase.

- v) Food granary.
During this year food storage was done in Mtinko and Ilongerero grain stores. Due to poor harvest in the past season, members could not contribute food for community granary. Instead money from the past sale kept in the bank account was drawn to buy the food. Forty eight bags of sorghum was bought from outside the program area and it is still in the store.

Challenges

- i) Unstable weather condition
At the time of seed planting there was heavy rains which retarded germination of the improved sorghum variety (wahi). Unfortunately these rains were shorter though heavy, thus crops did not perform as expected. Due to shorter rains also sweet potatoes and cover crops fetched from outside Tanzania could not be planted.
- ii) Insects and pests
There was emergence of insects which attacked the plants at the early stage. Control of pests is still a problem as they invade the food early before it is ready for harvest.
- iii) Violation of loan agreement rules
Due to delay in funds disbursement loans for agriculture were not provided given according to the agreed arrangement. To ensure intended use of agriculture loan it was agreed with farmers that it should be given in form of materials (farm inputs) which would be closely monitored instead of money. If repeated it will become a habit which will be difficult to change into the agreed terms.
- iv) Outbreak of animal diseases.
At the beginning of 2007 outbreak of rift valley fever was reported in different parts of the country leading to banning of animal movement between different areas. Dairy goats that had been ordered from Dodoma region to be delivered in March could not be released leading to impatience.

How the challenges were addressed

- i) Unstable weather condition.
Farmers will continue to be sensitized and on the agricultural technologies appropriate for the prevailing weather condition.

- ii) Insects and pests
For the insects farmers were advised to apply insecticides and others encouraged to re-plant. On the other hand farmers are still being insisted to take all possible precautions to avoid careless handling of the food.
- iii) Violation of loan agreement rules
It was discussed with farmers and agreed that efforts should be made to make sure that loans are processed and issued in time. More education sessions shall be conducted to sensitize farmers further on the agriculture loan.
- iv) Outbreak of animal diseases
Farmers were sensitized on the disease (transmission, effects and preventive measures). It was insisted to them that we should be patient and abide to the government regulations in order to avoid other problems like transmission of the disease that kills animals and people to their community.

Lessons

- i) Practical training is an effective tool for inspiration to farmers. Farmers have been motivated to adapt the agricultural technologies that were practiced by farmer experimenters in the demonstration plots after seen the results. From 34 farmers that practiced appropriate technologies in the previous season there has been an increase up to 121 farmers (equal to 255%) in the present season. Efforts will be made to mobilize farmers to learn on the practices of the ones practicing appropriate technologies so as to increase the adoption rate.

C/RH

Achievement

- i) Change on health practices.
Knowledge and awareness on health issues have raised among communities hence change on health practices. In Singida rural many households are currently using mosquito bed nets to prevent transmission of malaria. It has also been noted that every household has a pit latrine and majority habitants are using it. Boiling of drinking water has started in some families. Due to knowledge/awareness raising more people especially women are demanding for family planning methods and increasingly attending the MCH services.

Reduced stigma and myths about HIV/AIDS has been noted. In some places within the program area in Singida rural, people now days have courage to discuss or ask about HIV/AIDS related issues as opposed to 2 years before. Attitude towards PLWA has also changed in a positive manner. Before it was difficult to admit HIV/AIDS death cases, but now people can cite some cases. This can also be justified by the increase in the number of people going for HIV voluntary test from 323 last year to 695 this year.

Further more, undesired and risky practices such as FGM and unprotected sex are decreasing. For instance in this year there was no FGM case reported which was not the case previously. All this information was revealed during household visiting, interviews during education sessions/seminar for youths and women and data from health units in the program area.

This achievement is a result of education program conducted by the RH advisor, community facilitators/educators, TBAs, religious leaders and youth activities in/out of schools.

Challenges

- i) Conflicting facts about religion and RH.
Almost all people in the program area are religious followers. The fact that some religions have restrictions on some of the RH aspects the followers find themselves in hard times in making a choice on RH issues like use of contraceptives and prevention against HIV transmission.
- ii) Voluntary HIV test centers are far from community
Just like for the expectant mothers, people in need of HIV test have to walk long distances to access the services. This has been taken as excuse for couples or individuals who are required to undergo HIV test.
- iii) Inadequate coverage of RH and HIV/AIDS topics in schools.
According to the current syllabus of education especially for the primary school, RH and HIV/AIDS issues are not adequately covered. This is dangerous as the school leavers who are approaching tender stage of adolescence find themselves in a vulnerable situation due to lack of knowledge and weak negotiation power. The RH advisor has been

conducting RH education sessions in some of the schools in the program area but sometimes the school programs/priorities such as exams, visitors, holidays, etc interfere with her plans.

How challenges were addressed

- i) Conflicting facts about religion and RH
Program workers have been emphasizing on the aspects that religious leaders do not.
- ii) Voluntary HIV test centers are far from community
The issue has been communicated to the government authority
- iii) Inadequate coverage of RH and HIV/AIDS topics in schools
The issue has been communicated to the government authority

Lessons

- i) Division of audience gender wise and age group is an effective tool to influence free discussions on RH and HIV/AIDS issues. For sensitive information/issues it is recommended that the audience have to be divided.
- ii) AIDS clubs is an alternative to forum to disseminate HIV/AIDS messages to youths in schools. Efforts to sustain them have to be made so as to reach many youths and consolidate knowledge among them.
- iii) Religious leaders are powerful message communicators to the communities. Collaboration with them is still important besides their limits in RH and HIV/AIDS aspects.

CBNRM

Achievement

There has been increased tree nurseries and tree crops in Singida rural as influenced by the increasing demand for tree seedlings.

L/LCB

Achievement

- i) Formation of program management committee (PMC)
The major task of this committee is to coordinate the program activities in Singida rural. This coordination will mainly involve approving the plans of different actors of the program, monitoring of activity implementation, to ensure publicity of the program components among the stakeholders, developing mechanisms to strengthen the interventions in the program area. PMC has developed the plan of action for the next year.

4. CHANGES IN STRATEGY / METHODOLOGY

Any modification in strategy: - why and with what results?
Program management committee (PMC) was formed in Singida rural to complement WEGCC district committee. Reason for having this organ is to promote efficiency in the general coordination of the program and to device mechanisms of strengthening the program. WEGCC district coordinating committee concentrates mostly on members issues. Since MASIPAWO targets WEGCC members and non members, need for having other organ that will deal with all community members was realised. Duties and responsibilities for PMC were defined and induction done. PMC will start with receiving activity plans for different sectors, discussing and approve them, it will also follow up the implementation and reports. Following the introduction of PMC, the structure of MASIPAWO was revisited and stakeholders made clear of it.

5. GENDER

- Seminar for women on HIV/AIDS
The women seminar was conducted in Singida rural in which 251 women participated. The seminar was facilitated by RHA and one facilitator from the district council – nurse from Ilongero health center. This seminar targeted women as they are they are mostly involved in taking care for the sick family members, hence need for having knowledge and skills about home based care. The main objectives of these seminar was to raise awareness on HIV/AIDS including STIs and improved care for people living with HIV/ AIDS (PLWHA).
- Credit services for vulnerable women
These are those women whose living standard is very poorer. As a result these women can't fulfill the regular conditions of the ordinary savings and credit scheme. A special arrangement was

made to help them to get small loan from the scheme for small income generating activities. During this year 48 women of this carder were identified and linked to credit services.

6. OUTREACH DATA

NO OF COMMUNITIES	NO OF HOUSE HOLDS	NO OF PARTICIPANTS	NO OF BENEFICIARIES	NO OF VOLUNTEERS
26,770	12,278	13,466	712	43