Farmer group activity reports for the DFID Crop Protection Programme (CPP) Bean IPM Promotion Project in eastern and southern Africa.

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For distribution to Village Information Centres (VICs) in bean growing areas in eastern, central and southern Africa
Introduction

The Director General (DG) of the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), Dr Joachim Voss visited bean IPM farmer groups and communities in Hai district, Kilimanjaro region in northern Tanzania on 3rd November 2003. He teamed up with his Executive Assistant, Dr Alexandra Walter and the CIAT Africa Coordinator, Dr Roger Kirkby. On the ground were different stakeholders including the Hai District Agriculture and Livestock Development Officer (Dr Edward Ulicky), Eastern and Central Africa Bean Research Network Coordinator (Dr Mukishi Pyndji), National bean research coordinator (Mr Festo Ngullu), other research and extension personnel, a representative from Farm Africa in Babati, farmer group representatives from Mbeya (3 women, 1 man), Lushoto (2 men 2 women), Arumeru - Makiba (3 men, 2 women), hosting farmer groups with their local leaders and the bean IPM project leader (Dr Eli Minja).
Objective
To familiarize with bean IPM farmer group activities and progress for the DFID/CPP Project on technology promotion among bean farming communities at the Hai district project site.

Activities
The CIAT DG shared information with farmer groups at four village sites in the district (Kwasadala, Kyeeri, Shari and Sanya Juu). Kwasadala, Kyeeri and Shari presented group reports in Kiswahili (Appendices), songs and drama on IPM. Sanya Juu village was reached last in the evening just before dark and the groups quickly presented a song and drama that were followed by discussion.

1. Kwasadala village
The IPM farmer groups at this location were the first to set up a village information centre (VIC). Fourteen farmers (including the village chairman)
and the village extension officer (Ms Flaviana Bureta) represented the 2 bean IPM farmer groups in hosting the visit. They were keen to share their knowledge and exchange experiences in bean IPM project activities with the DG and the other visiting participants and stakeholders.

The village chairman indicated that the community has benefited from the VIC in that it is easily accessible and the materials have increased the scope of knowledge of the village community. The number of farmers visiting the library has gradually been increasing. There are demands for more reading materials in various fields of agriculture, health and education. The VIC is situated in the village office at a market centre where there are also offices for the
Visit to Hai Bean IPM farmers by CIAT Director General

November 2003
village government and national ruling party. Kwasadala farmer groups sensitised their village authority for the provision of space for the VIC and in 2002 the space was allocated for use until the time when the groups will establish their own permanent premises. The village has allocated a plot of land for the construction of a proper village library and farmer group office. The IPM groups have planned to team up with other development groups at the village (Education, Health, Youth Movement, Traders, etc.) and other volunteers to start the construction of the VIC.

2. Kyeeri village

This village borders the forest belt on Mount Kilimanjaro at an altitude of 1700 - 1800 metres. Crops include coffee, beans, maize, potato, different vegetables, temperate fruits, marginal banana production and livestock at zero grazing. Farmers used to rely on coffee for their needs but the recent low coffee prices and increases in input
prices have discouraged farmers from attending coffee bushes. They have diverted to beans, livestock and vegetable production. Farmers take beans as a cash and food crop. Climbing beans perform better at the high altitude than bush beans and each household had established few stands of a locally available climbing bean cultivar. Farmers indicated that the major constraints to increased production are quality seed, reliable markets, land shortage, infertile soils, unreliable rainfall, pests and expensive farm inputs (fertilizers and pesticides).

Forty five community members including the village chairman (man), ward secretary (woman), ward executive (man) and village extension officer (man) participated in the discussions. The newly formed
(June 2003) bean IPM group in the village had established an IPM demonstration plot for both climbing and bush beans. The group was experimenting with wood ash, earthing-up and animal manure for stem maggots and aphid control and for soil fertility management. The crop was not very healthy because it was planted late (due to unreliable moisture) in a partially shaded area (land shortage is common). Bean stem maggots and aphid infestations were observed on some of the bean plants and farmers were advised to use different locally available botanicals and cow urine in addition to the above management strategies.
In the course of discussions, farmers asked why the DG was visiting and whether CIAT could provide financial assistance to farmer groups. The DG responded by informing farmers that CIAT hosts 35,000 bean genotypes and was keen to know those types that are preferred and are suitable for farmers in different parts of the world. He advised farmers to experiment with more bean genotypes to enable them select several (3-5 and not just 1 or 2) that suit their local conditions. He further encouraged farmers to organize themselves into agribusiness groups (e.g. seed production) to enable them access to funding institutions.

Lushoto and Mbeya farmer representatives shared their experiences with the use of locally available botanicals as sources of insecticides (crude leaf extracts) and fertilizers (solid and liquid manures). Makiba farmer representatives also shared their knowledge on bean genotype experimentation with researchers and selection for food and markets.
3. Shari village

This village is in the intensively dense coffee/banana belt at an altitude of 1400 - 1600 metres. Farms are predominantly established with coffee and bananas and have very little space for other crops (vegetables, fruits, maize and beans). Farmers also keep livestock at zero grazing.

Shari farming community (35 participants including village chairman and extension officer) were very keen to share information with the visitors despite our late arrival and an unexpected shower that soaked all participants as we ran for shelter in a nearby Lutheran Church. Upendo Utafiti Group (Upendo Research Group) was founded in June 2002 by 12 farmers (10 women, 2 men) and at the time of the visit the group had 30 members (25 women, 5 men). Within this group there are farmers who are also members
of a coffee pest management group. In 2002 the group experimented with 3 bean genotypes, cow urine, kerosene, planting dates and appropriate spacings. In 2003 they experimented with 12 bean genotypes including bush and climbing types, maize, botanicals as fertilizers and insecticides, NPK, planting date, kerosene, appropriate spacing and wood ash. The farmer group had successfully organised a field day in October that was attended by more than 150 participants. The field results were very encouraging and farmers are keen to continue experimentation and application of results in their individual fields. Farmers are grateful to the DALDO, CIAT and SARI for the exposure to different technologies and requested to continue
with the collaboration to enable them select the suitable bean genotypes from the 35,000 that are available with CIAT.

4. Sanya Juu village

Sanya Juu village was the last to be visited before dark. It is in the maize, beans and livestock drier belt at about 1300 metres above sea level. Sanya Juu is the founder village for the bean IPM project. Farmers from this village sought for help from the Hai district agriculture office to solve Ootheca pest problem on beans in 1998. The farmers’ demand for and teamed up to participate in studies on pest biology, ecology and management. The positive results of their work led them to further demand to be facilitated to disseminate their research results to other bean farming communities. Hence the evolvement of the DFID CPP bean IPM promotion project. The village has two bean IPM farmer groups (Mwamko and Mshikamano).
Felix Mosha (farmer and member of Mshikamano group) is the chairman for the two groups. He summarised the activities of the two groups during the brief discussions that were attended by 27 farmers including the village extension officer/farmer - Ms Amanda Koola. The two groups form the learning centre for the rest of the 52 bean IPM farmer groups that were gradually formed in Hai district since 2001 following field days, radio messages and extension materials prepared in collaboration with the two groups. The main crops grown in the area are maize and beans. Mixed cropping (maize and beans) and livestock zero grazing is quite common and as land pressure is increasing, intensified mixed cropping is slowly been adapted by the IPM farmers. Some farmers and the majority of neighbouring Maasai herders keep livestock on free range grazing system. Mr Mosha pointed out the benefits that the groups have gained from the project to include: new knowledge on crop
and livestock pests and management (from CIAT, SARI and other partners), enabling environment to disseminate information in different forms (meetings, field demonstrations, field days, cross visits, radio messages, TV captions, magazines e.g. Ukulima wa Kisasa, poems, drama, etc.), formal and informal training on pest management, access to improved high yielding crop variety seeds and other inputs. The project has also facilitated exposure to other stakeholders (World Vision, TechnoServe, Armyworm IPM, Other CIAT staff for information on bean networks, markets, seeds, socio-economics, and exchange of information with farmers from Babati, Mbeya, Lushoto, Makiba and Kisii). The
short discussions that followed were centred on how to improve and intensify the search for solutions to crop pests, diseases, soil fertility management, reliable markets, intensification of agriculture on small pieces of land, production of quality seed, funding opportunities through formation of savings and credits accounts, etc. A farmer from Mbeya and a representative from Farm Africa in Babati explained the processing and utilization of soybean for farm family nutrition. Hai district authority is promoting the cultivation of soybean for nutrition to farm families, the old and the sickly, as well as a cash crop.

Appendices (Hai Bean IPM Farmer group reports from 3 sites)

1. Ofisi ya Kijiji Kwasadala

JAMHURI YA MUUNGANO WA TANZANIA
HALMASHAURI YA WILAYA YA HAI
OFISI YA KIJJI KWASADALA
Ndugu Mgeni/Mfadhili

YAH: MAKTABA YA KIJJI

Kwa muda mrefu pamekuwepo na haja kubwa ya Maktaba hapa kijijini Kwasadala. Hii ni kwa sababu ya kijumla ya Kitaifa kuongeza Elimu ya Vijana na watu Wazima pia. Ili kuonyesha arizi hii tumefungua Maktaba ndogo ndani ya ofisi ya Kijiji.

LENGO:
Kuamsha, kuendeleza na kudumisha arizi ya usomaji katika jamii ya Kijiji ili kuinua kiwango cha Elimu ya jamii. Kuwawezesha Wanakijiji kupata Elimu na maarifa juu ya shughuli zao za kila siku, hususa ni shughuli za Kilimo, Ufugaji, Biashara and shughuli nyingine za Kijamii.
MATOKEO:


SHUGHULI:

Kujenga chumba chenye ukubwa wa mita 5x7 na kuweka samani za ki-maktaba. Mbinu za kufanikisha Mradi huu ni Kijiji kutafuta Mfadhili au Wafadhili pamoja na kuwashirikisha Wanakijiji kikamilifu katika kazi za mikono na michango ya fedha.
MAHITAJI:
Mahitaji mengine yatakuwa Vitabu vya fani mbalimbali, Majarida, Vipeperushi na Luninga (Video).

RASILIMALI:
Rasilimali iliyoko Kijijini ni ardhi (Kiwanja) kwa ajili ya kujengea. Pia kuna Vikundi vya Kilimo, Mifugo, Biashara na Senta ya Vijana (Youth Centre) ambayo ni mtandao wa Maendeleo ya Vijana Wilayani. Kituo hiki kitaweza kusaidia kupata Vitabu na Vipeperushi.

Kutokana na fursa hizi gharama za Maktaba zitaweza kuwa ndogo lakini kwa ufanisi mkubwa.

SHUKRANI:
Shukrani nyingi ziende Idara ya Kilimo/Mifugo Wilaya ya Hai, Selian pamoja na Watafiti waliotushauri na kutusaidia Vitabu, Vipeperushi, na Majarida mbalimbali.
OMBI:
Tunaomba Uongozi wa Wilaya ya Hai, Selian and Watafiti msichoke kutusaidia na kututafutia Watafiti.

Azizi A Urassa
Mwenyekiti wa Kijiji
Kwasadala

2. Kijiji cha Kyeeri

RISALA FUPI TOKA KATA YA MACHAME MAGHARIBI KWA WAGENI/WATAALAMU WA ZAO LA MAHARAGE

ya Machame Magharibi kuwakaribisheni sana katika kata hii na hapa Kijijini Kyeeri, mjisikie mko nyumbani na mko na wenyeji wenu. Karibuni sana.


Pamoja na wataalam wa Kilimo Wilaya ya hai kushughulika sana na kutafuta ni nini kifanyike ili kuinua hali ya uchumi wakabaini kuwa ardhi ya Kata hii inafaa kwa kilimo cha maharage mbalimbali. Leo hii tupo hapa kwa ajili hiyo ili tuweze kupambana na Umasikini kwa kilimo cha maharage.
Tunatoa pongezi nyingi kwa wageni wote waliokubaliana na WAZO la Wataalam wa Wilaya yetu ya Hai kutuletea aina nyingi ya maharage yanayostawi sehemu hii ya Kata yetu.


Waheshimiwa Wataalam wetu, kazi hii inaweza kuinua kwa haraka hali ya Uchumi katika Kata hii na kuondokana na UMASIKINI, kama Wakulima watapatiwa njia za kupata pembejeo kama mbolea za chumvichumvi, dawa za kuulia wadudu waharibifu, na soko la kuuzia maharage. Kwa kuwa tuna mifereji ya kumwagilia tunaweza kulima mwaka mzima.

19
Waheshimiwa Wataalam wetu Wageni, tunayo imani kubwa sana na Wataalam wa Wilaya yetu hii. Ushauri wenu kwao au cho chote kile toka kwenu tutafikishiwa mara.

Hapa tupo tayari kungojea USHAURI wenu na tuko imara kufuata. Uongozi wa Kata uko macho kwa kila njia kushirikiana na Wakulima wetu ili kumpiga adui UMASIKINI.

AHSANTENI SANA

KATIBU KATA
MACHAME MAGHARIBI

3. Kijiji cha Shari

RISALA FUPI YA KIKUNDI CHA “UPENDO UTAFITI GROUP”

Mwanzoni tuliotesha aina tatu tu za maharage yaani Nkanamna, Soya and Kimburumburu.
Hakika tunayo kila sababu ya kumshukuru Mwenyezi Mungu kuwepo siku hii ya leo.

Jina la kikundi chetu ni "UPENDO UTAFITI GROUP". Kilianza mnamo Juni 2002 kikiwa na jumla ya watu wapatao 12 (wanaume 2 na wanawake 10). Kwa sasa wako wanakikundi 30 (wanaume 5, wanawake 25).

Kwenye ploti ya Uraa tuliotesha maharage pamoja na mahindi. Tulitumia madawa ya asili mfano mfori, mkojo wa ng’ombe na mafuta ya taa.

Kwa kuua inzi wa maharage tulivundika udongo kwenye mimea. Aidha tulitumia mbolea za asili mfano maghughu, majivu na NPK kama mbolea ya kiwandani kwenye mahindi.

Mafanikio: Mafanikio yaliyojitokeza ni kwa wanakikundi kujifunza kutumia mbolea na dawa za asili pamoja na kuotesha kwa kutumia vipimo na
kwa wakati unaotakiwa kwa maharage na mahindi.

Matatizo: Matatizo yaliyoko ni juu ya uwezo wetu mfano hali halisi ya ukame uliokithiri kitendo kilichofanya mifereji kukauka. Pia ufinyu wa ardhi ya kututosha.

Mgeni rasmi tunakutakia kila la heri urudipo makwenu utufikirie kuhusu mbegu za kisasa zilizopo za mahindi na maharage.

AHSANTE

"UPENDO UTAFITI GROUP"
The Report on Visit to Hai IPM farmers by CIAT Director General is produced by the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)

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