



CARITAS KITUI ANNUAL REPORT
2015
Integral Human Development

5/29/2015
Diocese of Kitui

INTRODUCTION

Caritas Kitui, the social and development arm of the Catholic Diocese of Kitui aims at integral human development and social transformation. We advocate for a more just society and welcome the participation of those affected. All our actions and activities are geared towards Sustenance, Innovation and Transformation.

Caritas Kitui, working with over thirteen partners has continued to fulfill her vision of *a self-sustained community of persons transformed through integral development in witness of Christ* and her Mission of *promoting collaborative, impartial and integral development to achieve a self-sustainable community of persons in witness of Christ*.

Some of the partners that Caritas Kitui is working with are CAFOD East Africa, Trocaire East Africa, World Food Programme, Land O'Lakes, Misereor, Aphia plus Kamili, Fastenopfer, Diakonia, HIVOS, Caritas Korea, Making All Voices Count, Brooke East Africa, St. Paul Minneapolis, UNICEF and The Institute of Social Accountability (TISA) among others.

Projects which Caritas Kitui implemented in 2015 include,

1. Animal Welfare Project (Mtunze Punda.Daima)
2. ASAL Resilience Project
3. Carbon Offset Project,

4. Climate Resilient Agriculture: transforming the livelihoods of 32,800 Vulnerable women, men and children in Kitui County,
5. Enhancing women participation in devolved governance,
6. Governance and Human Rights Project (Enhancing Youth Participation in devolved Governance in Kitui Central, Kitui West and Mwingi Central sub counties)
7. The innovation Project,
8. Integrated Risk Reduction project for Rural Communities in Kitui County,
9. Institutionalizing Social Accountability under County Governments
10. Kenya Semi-Arid & Livestock Enhancement Support Project (K-SALES),
11. Kitui Integrated Food Security Project- KEN 696,
12. Lenten Campaign 2015.
13. Madini Yetu, Wajibu wetu Project
14. Muvitha / Kathemboni watershed project,
15. Partnership quick impact project,
16. Protracted Relief and Recovery operations (PRRO) programme 200736 and
17. Stingless bee project.

ASAL RESILIENCE PROJECT (ARP)

This project is funded by Trocaire.

The project period is five years.

Target areas are, Kitui East, Mwingi Central and Mwingi North sub counties. With a total number of 1,818 households.

GOAL

Resilient and Sustainable pastoral and agro-pastoral livelihoods in Kitui County within three divisions – Nguni, Ngomeni and Mwitika.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Objective 1: To improve livelihood security of targeted vulnerable households through increased income, food and diversified strategies.



Figure 1: Maize grown under zai pits technique

Objective 2: To ensure that vulnerable pastoralist, agro-pastoralist and marginal mixed farmers have secure access to natural resources, particularly water and land, which are managed sustainably

Objective 3: To enable 1840 households in Nguni, Syou & Kimela to mitigate risk, prepare for and respond to humanitarian crisis and other shocks by 2017.

Objective 4: To ensure target communities benefit from the achievement of the programme objectives through improved programme management.



Fig 2: Harvesting of Kales irrigated from Kimela Borehole.

ACTIVITIES

- Training on community banking for IGAs groups and formation of CBOs.
- Sensitization for marketing of green grams and sorghum
- Training community on water treatment and hygiene in Kimela, Nguni and Endau.
- Climate change awareness forums
- Accountability forums and information sharing with beneficiaries
- Child protection sensitization

OUTCOMES

- Three groups (15 – 25) members have accessed formal government loans through Uwezo, women Enterprise Fund and Kenya Women Trust Fund
- 300 bags, (90kg) of green grams sold collectively at Ksh 6,300 per bag
- Communities have knowledge on water treatment using water guard or aqua tabs and also boiling.
- 30 % respondents from the three sites showed change on point of use water treatment.
- No livestock deaths and destocking cases reported unlike previous years
- Target households are utilizing natural resources such as water, trees and sand sustainably.
- Clearer knowledge on project objectives and program terms
- Targeted beneficiaries of Ikisaya have proper linkage to government extension officers and other diocesan program to ensure sustainability.

- Cases of school drop outs and absenteeism are minimal.

LESSONS LEARNT

- ARP invested massively on water structures in the marginalized areas of Kitui County and this impacted positively to the target households and their neighboring wards.
- The involvement of National and County government line ministries is strategic in that it offers avenue for technical support as well as create platform for project sustainability.



Fig: 3 Farm Pond

- The project strived to gender mainstream its activities by intentional and purposely targeting men who have been conspicuously missing in rural development work, leaving women to do intensive works like terrace laying and farm pond construction.

CARBON OFFSET PROJECT

This project is funded by Fastenopfer (Swiss Lenten Fund). Other partners are My climate and Gold Standards.

The project period is 8 years, from 2013 to 2021.

Target areas are Kitui Rural, Kitui Central, Kitui West and Kitui South.

Target number is 15,000 cook stoves.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Ensured financial sustainability of the project through the sale of carbon credits to the international market
- Increased use of quality affordable cook stoves by communities
- Increased local market for new technology on a self-sustaining demand
- Increased awareness of causes and effects of climate change in the project area.



Fig 1: StellaMarris Mulaeh (Country Programme Manager) addressing artisans during Carbon project relaunch at pastoral Centre in August, 2016

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Registration of Carbon project with Gold standards as a Carbon Project
- Relaunch of the Carbon Offset Project (Artisan and Lead Artisan Meeting)
- Usage and Monitoring Survey.



Fig 2: Benson (Data Monitoring officer) monitoring the quality of the cook stove in Mutune Parish-Judith Muli's Kitchen.

CATHOLIC JUSTICE AND PEACE COMMISSION (CJPC)

The CJPC or Governance and Human Rights program works within Caritas Kitui to promote good governance, transparency and accountability and at the same time ensuring that human rights are protected.

The programme,

- ❖ Promotes research, public education and civic organizing for governance
- ❖ Empower citizens through training, advocacy, networking and linkages on constitution and constitutionalism
- ❖ To promote peace and respect of human rights and equitable distribution, use and development of natural and other resources.

PROJECTS

1. Women Project – Making All Voices Count
2. Youth Project – Trocaire HRP
3. Institutionalizing social Accountability Under County Governments – TISA
4. Haki Madini – Diakonia
5. Lenten Campaign & Access to Justice

MAKING ALL VOICES COUNT

The project title was: *Enhancing women participation of women in devolved Governance.*

The project targeted women of Kitui West and Mwingi West.

It ran for one year

Objectives

To empower the vulnerable and marginalized women to voice their concerns and demands

To empower the county government accountability and responsiveness

ACHIEVEMENTS

- i. Comprehensive Survey validated in March 2015 detailing on the context of women and governance, availability and uptake of technology by women
- ii. 320 Women trained and gained/increased knowledge on devolved governance, budget process, their rights and opportunities that exist for them
- iii. Composed, recorded, produced in video and audio CDs 3 songs and 2 poems to amplify women their voice on the need respect women gains and spaces under constitution and devolved governance as well as improve service delivery and budget transparency
- iv. Songs and poems played on Syokimau Radio and shared with County FM for regular playing on air
- v. 12 Radio sessions held in 2 different local stations (County FM and Syokimau FM) with women confidently taking the leading role to articulate their issues through radio
- vi. Women vibrantly embrace and use of technology through the SMS platform which improved women interest in sharing and access to information.
- vii. Carried out 23 ward forums and increased women knowledge of devolution and need to engage and take action in local governance.

CHALLENGES

- The SMS platform experienced a challenge as it was run from Nairobi which also affected monitoring and responding to text messages.
- Some numbers given by the women were also out of service in most times. Constant updating of the phone numbers helped tackle this challenge.

- Interface meetings with duty bearers remained a big challenge as most of them kept away citing other commitments. We engaged those who were willing but we continued to influence more duty bearers by updating them constantly on the project activities as well as progress made.
- Low levels of education among women affected the project for instance however the concepts we delivered in a highly simplified form
- The uptake of Face book remained low as most women don't use smart phones and they cannot also afford internet bundles to effectively engage in the platform. However this was amplified through the SMS platform.



Fig 1: Songs recording in Kyome, Thaana

Key lessons

- i. The MAVC project should be undertaken for a longer period like 3 years continuously two years of serious work and final year as exit and also in 2 more sub-counties to make the women's voices stronger and their advocacy action sustainable.
- ii. Devolution is still a new system which is still gaining root; more training and capacity building activities are needed in the model of Community ToTs
- iii. Need for sustained civic education through different approaches such as sensitization at ward level, communication through social media, Radio programmes, SMS platforms among others
- iv. The survey report has provided evidence based entry point as well as a strong basis of measuring interventions enhancing women participation in governance in Kitui. The report should be published for reference and easy sharing with stakeholders, partners and county government
- v. SMS platform has proven being effective for information sharing given that majority of women have and use mobile phones.
- vi. It is necessary to integrate younger women in the project given their great capacity to inspire action and synergy on issues of concern
- vii. The women demonstrated ability to audit service delivery in their communities but access to information held by the county government was a big hindrance to this



Fig 2: Deputy Governor for Kitui County Hon. Peninah Malonza give a speech during the project Launch

TROCAIRE HRP

The project title was: *Enhancing Youth Participation in devolved Governance in Kitui Central, Kitui West and Mwingi Central sub-counties by 2015.*

The target areas were, Kitui Central and Kitui West.

Target beneficiaries were the youth with a budget of Ksh 2.2 Millions and ran for one year.

Objectives

1. Conceptualization of citizen participation under devolved government

2. Build capacity of youths to participate in and budget process for accountability
3. Develop a youth structure for continued engagement of county government

ACHIEVEMENTS

- i. Youth trained on foundations of citizen participation, county planning and County Budget Process with an emphasis on the County Integrated Development Plan(CIDP)
- ii. Critical Policy analysis and engagement by 70, 73 and 40 youth in Kitui Central, Kitui West and Mwingi Central (CIDP, County Fiscal Strategy Paper(CFSP), Budget Estimates and Finance Act)
- iii. Publication of the CIDP on the County websites after youth demanded for the release of CIDP
- iv. Youth joined with business community to challenge high rates of the Finance Act 2014/15 which was quashed by the court.
- v. Petitioned the county assembly on the CFSP 2015/16 that it was passed without engaging the public. The youth received a comprehensive written feedback dated 24th March 2015 that CFSP was sufficiently subjected to public participation through County Budget Economic Forum(CBEF)
- vi. Social audit by youth in Mwingi targeting 3 dispensaries Mwambui, Mutwang'ombe and Musukini which previously had complaints leading to quick installation of a service charter at Musukini Dispensary
- vii. Facilitated 3 audit debates bringing the youth and duty bearers to promote good relations between the duty bearers and youth while discussing development and governance concerns
- viii. Conducted 2 exit meetings discussing exit strategy the youth can use for continued engagement beyond the Trocaire project

- ix. Documented in a 20 minutes video documentary the success stories of Trocaire interventions

CHALLENGES

- i. Demanding accountability from government most of the time is seen as incitement, however the law was used as the basis of all engagements
- ii. Threat issues to Caritas governance staff and the vocal youth in the project. We used various tactics to spread the risk and avoiding over exposure
- iii. Difficulty in accessing information held by the government was a challenge and we used various ways including formal request and using friends in government to access information
- iv. The youth are so dynamic sometime making unrealistic demands affecting consistency

LESSONS

- i. There is increasing appreciation and use of the law as the key guidance in governance processes.
- ii. More interest is building among the youth to access and act based on accurate or factual information
- iii. Increasing demand from duty bearers to be part of our activities
- iv. Debates are proving to be a better way of bringing on board leaders to discuss development agenda with the citizens



Fig 1: Youth articulating issues on budget estimates for 2015/16 to give their views on it

THE INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY (TISA)

Project title was: *Institutionalizing Social Accountability under County Governments*

The project target areas were, Kitui Central and Kitui West.

The project ran for seven months at a budget of Ksh 2.5 Millions.

Objectives

1. Promote the Establishment of social accountability mechanisms in Kitui County
2. Assist the county government to implement an effective public participation and accountability framework in the planning and budget process
3. Establish effective dialogue and public engagement frameworks through supply and demand side strengthening, intervention and joint programs

ACHIEVEMENTS

- i. Coordinated and strengthened Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) forum bringing together various CSOs periodically to synergize, discuss and take position on issues in the County
- ii. Undertaken critical analyses on County Budget Review Outlook Paper (CBROP), County Fiscal Strategic Plan (CFSP), Budget Estimates and Finance Bill 2014/15 and presented memos/petitions accordingly resulting into a review of Kitui CIDP and increased allocation for the youth from 15million to 40 million in 2014/15 budget estimates
- iii. Project participant mobilized over 7,000 signatures and petitioned the county assembly on 7th May 2015 to pass the public participation law.
- iv. The youth from Kitui central and Kitui West enabled to carryout social audits on Constituency Development Fund (CDF) and County government projects and produced and disseminated a comprehensive report to duty bearers and citizens
- v. Analyzed the CIDP, summarized and produced a simplified and user friendly version of Kitui CIDP for dissemination

- vi. Together with TISA convened a meeting with county officials and developed public participation guidelines already adopted by county executive
- vii. Jihusishe SMS platform enabling information sharing and notifications

CHALLENGES

- i. The project period was too short (7months) to establish strong roots. However, we integrated most participants on the project into other relevant governance projects with more period
- ii. Low or lack of commitment by duty bearers to work with us, suspicion but we kept them updated on what we are doing

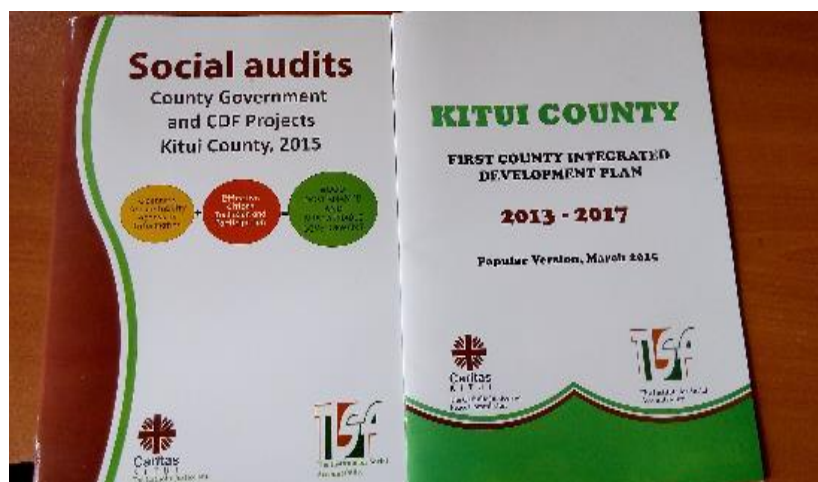


Fig 1: Social audits booklets and popular versions of Kitui CIDP produced and disseminated



Fig 2: Section of CSO forum giving media brief after presentation of PP Bill petition containing over 7000 signatures

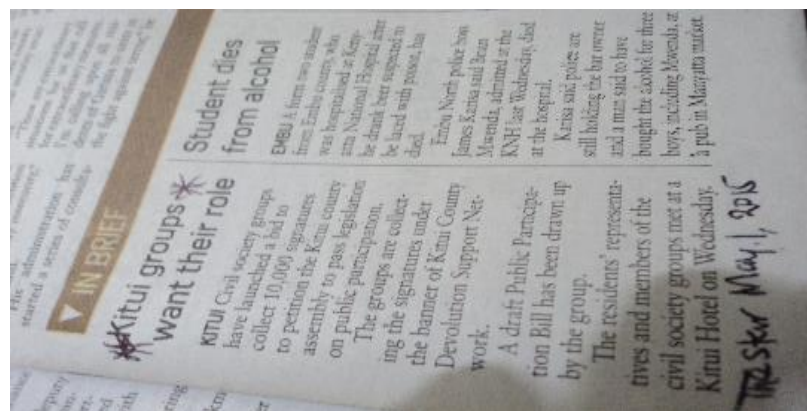


Fig 2: One of the Media Highlights on Signature Collection exercise

LESSONS LEARNT

- More interest is building among the citizens to take part in the decisions taken in the county
- Increasing demand from duty bearers to be direct beneficiaries of Caritas activities

HAKEI MADINI KENYA

Project title: *Madini Yetu, Wajibu Wetu Project*.

The project target areas were Mui basin and Kanziku Simisi Ward.

Target beneficiaries were citizens residing in the mining areas working with a budget of KES 2.7 Millions

Objectives

1. To strengthen the Hakei Madini coalition at community, county and national levels and increase its regional and global engagement
2. To enhance the capacity of communities affected by the extractives sector projects to engage and influence processes and decisions that concern them
3. To influence relevant policies and legislation at national and county levels

ACHIEVEMENTS

- ❖ Trained and enhanced the understanding of 33 Community champions (Trainer of Trainers) ToTs on extractive industry policies and community participation to actively engage and support the mapping process and civic education
- ❖ Carried out 15 radio forums for civic education reaching out to target area.

- ❖ Used Jihushe SMS platform to mobilize (3000 subscription in Mui and Kanziko) to listen to radio program on County and Athiani FM
- ❖ Subscribed a total of 1,286 community members into Jihushe SMS platform actively sending and accessing civic education material on coal as well as other relevant information posted.
- ❖ Carried out a media stakeholders meeting bringing together 16 media houses towards enabling active media engagement in informing communities about coal mining, the need to organize as well as using their respective media to influence relevant policies and legislations.
- ❖ Sensitized 26 Catholic clergy and 118 other faith leaders (A-10; B-14; C-87; C-17) civic education guide to use the information to reach out within their platforms
- ❖ Produced comprehensive civic education guide on coal mining processes

CHALLENGES

- Suspicion and lack of political support from the Government, we constantly updated and engaged the government on our work.
- Lack/difficulty to access information that can help community to organize and engage, the coalition used varied means to access information including using allies in the government
- Low capacity among the coalition partners on the technical aspects of extractive work, the members embraced internal learning to raise capacity
- Mistrust and relation difficulties between some coalition partners, we developed operational framework to guide institutional relations in the coalition

LESSONS LEARNT

- There is need to link the extractive project with basics of governance
- Use the local community resource persons in undertaking community interventions including civic education activities
- The need carryout community meetings at the community in the lowest level possible
- The area of extractive is a rapidly changing field thus require high flexibility in planning and financing
- Working as partners is a better way to work since it allows synergy at both technical and support levels and spreads risk

COORDINATION OF LENTEN CAMPAIGN 2015

The theme was, *“Today’s seeds tomorrow’s Harvest.”*

Contribution for the year totaled to KES 671,944 up from KES 560,456 in 2014.

NO	PARISH NAME	CONTRIBUTION IN KES
1.	Migwani	35,000
2.	Kabati	41,209
3.	Kavisuni	15,211
4.	Kyuso	12,000
5.	Ikanga	
6.	Mutune	32,649
7.	Kamuwongo	13,260
8.	Nuu	13,550
9.	Kiio	4,000
10.	Nguni	3,000
11.	Nguutani	39,956
12.	Mutomo	54,100
13.	Mwingi	18,000
14.	Kimangao	6,110
15.	Muthale	40,000

16.	Mulutu	10,800
17.	Boma	70,000
18.	Mbitini	9,120
19.	Ikutha	
20.	Miambani	20,000
21.	Zombe	10,000
22.	Mutito	9,000
23.	Museve	10,000
24.	Endau	5,100
25.	Mbondoni	10,000
26.	Kanyangi	9,600
	TOTAL	491,665

NO	INSTITUTION NAME	CONTRIBUTION IN KES
1.	St.Augustine Secretariat	34,400
2.	St.Michael’s Boarding Pri. Sch.	94,560
3.	St.Patrick Boarding Pri.Kyuso	11,300
4.	Matinyani Boys’ Sec.Sch	2,500
5.	Nyumbani Chaplaincy	2,000
6.	Matinyani Mixed Sec.Sch	133
7.	St.Patrick Sec.Sch	532
8.	Katheu Sec.Sch	667
9.	Mutulu Sec.School	183
10.	St. Ursula Girls’ Sec. Sch	6,800
11.	St.Charles Lwanga	5,204
12.	St.Patrick’s Mixed Boarding	2,000
13.	St.Josephine Bakhita Boarding	10,000
14.	St.Gabriel’s Boarding Pri.Sch	10,000
	TOTAL	180,279

GRAND TOTAL

671,944



Fig 1



Fig 2

Fig 1 & 2: Procession ahead of Lenten Campaign Launch at Our Lady of Protection Museve Parish.

CHALLENGES

- There are too many collections in churches even during Lent that hinder better collections for Lenten Campaigns
- Most priests are less concerned about Lenten Campaigns despite the fact that they are the prime movers of this activity
- Most parishes have no commissioners and in case they are there, they are never sent to attend the planning meetings. Most available commissioners are also too old with less energy and interest to move Justice and Peace issues

LESSONS LEARNT

- Christians believe and have great trust in the bishop and priests, the bishop and priests should take their prime responsibility to remind Christians and talk about Lenten campaigns all the time
- The diocesan CJPC should have direct contact to Commissioners instead of relying on priest who are sometime non responsive. Each parish should elect commissioners and forward the names and contact to diocesan executive secretary

CLIMATE RESILIENT AGRICULTURE: TRANSFORMING THE LIVELIHOODS OF 32,800 VULNERABLE WOMEN, MEN AND CHILDREN IN KITUI COUNTY.

The project is funded by UK DFID and CAFOD.

Target areas are Kitui Central, Kitui Rural, Kitui West, Kitui East, Mwingi Central and Mwingi West Sub counties.

The project funding period is July 2015 to June 2018.

Project goal

To achieve improved livelihoods security for poor women, men and children from hazard prone and/or marginalized rural communities in Kitui County through integrated approach.

Objectives

Increased productivity and resilience agricultural systems

Increased access to markets and diversified income generation

Strengthened adaptation to climate change

Increased ability of local, small, scale food producers to access services and influence development practices.

Project Outputs

The Project has four outputs that will contribute towards the overall outcome;

1. Small holder farmers are using sustainable and agro-ecological practices
2. Small holder farmers are engaging in local markets
3. Communities have increased capacity to manage risks
4. Learning and best practices captured and used to inform and influence climate resilient development policy and practices

Small holder farmers are using sustainable and agro-ecological practices

1. Establishment of 36 farmer field schools (40 per FFS).- 5 ongoing

2. Facilitate 114 super farmers within farmer field schools – resource persons trained. To be equipped with kits.
3. Mobilize and support small holder farmers into groups to construct Zai pits, terraces, Negarims on their farms in Kitui County
4. Mobilize and form 20 irrigation groups in Kitui
5. Organize annual exchange visits for 45 farmers in Kitui

Sustainable and diversified Income Growth

- Initiate commercial production of local chicken-81 women groups
- Form and train 18 groups on improved bee keeping, bee processing and value addition Baraka Agriculture college
- Train 135 artisans (local carpenters) on how to make improved bee hives in Kitui (5 carpenters per ward).
- Form and train 81 youth groups on operation and maintenance of commercial tree nurseries.
- Construction of 2 weirs -after mobilizing local communities and tree nursery groups for community contribution.
- Form and train 81 internal savings and lending groups for women-SILC;8 women groups selling and renting of commercial solar lamps and train them on marketing and business management

- Initiate 540 women as artisans (30 in year 1) on fabrication of energy saving jikos as an income generating activity
- Facilitate 1 Farmer field day and exhibition per sub-county

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

- In collaboration with SEKU undertake a research on comparative analysis of traditional and scientific early warning systems in collaboration with CMDRR groups in Kitui
- Establish 5 Bio gas systems for production of fuel for cooking in secondary boarding schools to reduce consumption of wood fuel.
- Support 3 schools with bio-gas systems to undertake school-based awareness raising activities on renewable and sustainable energy

D. Advocacy and Learning

1. Celebration of international days related to climate change;
 - World Disaster Risk Reduction day marked on the 13th of October,
 - World Environment day marked on the 5th of June,
 - World Water day marked on the 22nd March,
 - World Day to combat Desertification marked on the 17th June

- World Food day marked on the 16th of October through local radio programs in local dialect in collaboration with County committee.

2. Participate in influencing policy within the county.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Grant start up work shop held in Aug 2015
- Staff recruitment and equipping- between Aug and Dec 2015
- Program launch- staff induction and stakeholders meetings- in Sept 2015
- Baseline survey- in Sept 2015
- Community mobilization and targeting which was done between September and October.
- Staff meetings; planning and progress updates
- Data clean up and beneficiary registration- November and December 2015.
- Sub county project steering group meetings- in December 2015
- Celebrated world food day in October 2015 by awareness creation over radio

INTEGRATED RISK REDUCTION PROJECT FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES IN KITUI COUNTY

The project is funded by Misereor – The German Catholic Bishops' Organization for Development Cooperation.

The project period is 1st August 2014 to 31st July 2017.

Target area is Kyome/Thaana ward in Mwingi West Sub county in Kitui county targeting 3,000 households.

PROJECT GOAL

To contribute to sustainable food security and livelihoods for the population in the diocese of Kitui.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- To reduce risk of crop/livestock production failure.
- To secure production in a sustainable way
- To reduce pre and post harvest losses
- To add value to production

ACTIVITIES

Project monitoring and Evaluation; The project had two project monitoring. One was intended to capture group progress and the other was a follow up on the impacts of the project activities and how they are delivered as well as a follow up on green gram distribution, planting and growth progress.



Fig 1 & 2: Monitoring team visited some groups in Thokoa and Ndaluni who were undertaking their project activities.

Child protection; the exercise was carried out in two different areas where 56 TOTs – 20 participants from Migwani (7 males and 13 females), 36 participants from Kwa Muthusi (10 males and 26 females) were taken through sessions on child protection.

The aim was to take the participants through issues regarding rights and responsibilities of children in the society and child abuse and the procedure to follow in case of abuse or violation of child rights. This training was an eye opener to the beneficiaries who appreciated the importance of the knowledge they had acquired and promised to put in into use.



Fig 3: Diocesan Child Officer taking participants through sessions on child protection

Gender and Empowerment Training; 560 women, men and youth from Kyome/Thaana ward were trained (193 Males and 367 females) were reached in form of Barazas. The training aimed at empowering both men and women realize their full potential, rights, duties and responsibilities but most importantly women and the girl child who have been victimized by their societies, traditions and cultural backgrounds through job opportunities, leadership, development projects and land ownership among others.

HIV /AIDS Inclusion in the project implementation; Awareness sessions were held in the 14 sub locations with 576 (202 males and 374 females) turning up for the sessions. The participants were also reminded on how to live positively with the infected to avoid stigmatization and discrimination.



Fig 4: HIV/AIDS awareness session in progress At Winzyeei Sub-Location

Producer Marketing /collective Marketing Training; this was a three day training which drew participants from the 98 groups with each group having one representative (36 males and 62 females).The 98 were trained as TOTs.



Fig 5: Mr Masau-Officer from Ministry of Agriculture taking participants through a session on formation of a producer market group

KENYA SEMI – ARID & LIVESTOCK ENHANCEMENT SUPPORT PROJECT (K-SALES)

The project was funded by Land O'Lakes and ran from October 2014 to June 2015.

Target areas were seven sub counties of the Kitui County namely, Mwingi Central, Kitui Central, Kitui East, South, West, Rural and Mwingi West.

The project targeted 2,500 beneficiaries directly and 17,597 indirectly.

PROJECT GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

Goal – To develop water infrastructure through rehabilitation and capacity building of water user committees with two specific objectives:

- ❖ Increase Agricultural production through enhancing access to clean and adequate water for human and livestock consumption
- ❖ Expand trade of agricultural production at domestic, regional and international level capacity building, post harvest handling and off farm infrastructure.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Training Needs Assessment (TNA) conducted to 15 Water User Committees. (WUCs)
- Capacity Building was done to the 15 WUCs on management skills, group formation, leadership, bookkeeping, governance, operation and maintenance of water supplies.

- 15 groups formed and fully registered with K-SALES tools based on water Users in every communal water point.
- 15 water points rehabilitated and all operational
- Identification and mapping of 15 water points was achieved.



Fig 1(a) Mumbuni shallow well before rehabilitation



Fig 2(a) Cattle trough before rehabilitation.



Fig 1(a): After rehabilitation



Fig 2(a): Cattle trough after rehabilitation.

KITUI INTEGRATED FOOD SECURITY PROJECT (IFSP)

The project is funded by CAFOD.

The target areas are Yatta/Kwa Vonza and Nguutani wards targeting 1,150 households.

The project funding is KES 29,420,000 and runs from July 2014 to June 2017.

Overall Objective: To improve food security and resilience to climatic shocks for target communities in the targeted areas.

Specific Objective: To improve access and income for targeted beneficiaries through sustainable natural resource management, good agricultural practices and diversification of livelihoods.

PROJECT OUTCOMES

- **Outcome 1:** Improved capacity of local community to manage and protect natural resources sustainably through preparedness and mitigation against the effects of Natural calamities.
- **Outcome 2:** Improved crop and livestock management practices characterized by quality and quantity production, preservation, access, preparation and utilization.
- **Outcome 3:** Increased access to portable water for both domestic and agricultural use and improved hygiene and sanitation in Nguutani ward
- **Outcome 4:** Improved service delivery and access to information by communities through engaging government systems

ACTIVITIES

- Promotion of agro forestry tree species such as fruit trees, nitrogenous and multipurpose trees
- Training and equipping 30 terrace markers in each ward with terrace marking kits
- Construction of a cumulative 207 KM of terrace in the two wards in 1150 HH farms
- Procurement and distribution of 2.39 DTC seeds to 1150 HHs in the two wards
- Form and train DRR group of 30 members in each ward on CMDRR, HVCA and EWS

- Conducting 6 climate change awareness sessions
- Train 30 artisans per ward on fabrication of energy saving jikos
- Setting up and training of 2 cohorts of 30 members on good agricultural practices in FFS and post harvest management
- Formation and training of 2 PMGs of 15 members each on post harvest management
- Promotion of seed banking by use of traditional methods
- Training and promotion of green grams value addition
- Procurement and distribution of 6 drip kits and 2 solar irrigation generators for open field irrigation
- Training 2 groups of 40 members each on open field irrigation
- Procurement and distribution of 400 galla bucks and 575 kenbro cockerels for local breeds improvement
- Train 80 TOTs on livestock management
- Organizing annual excursion visit for farmers to learn best farming practices
- Organize agricultural field day for farmers to learn best farming practices
- Drilling and equipping of one borehole in Nguutani ward to provide residents with clean water

- Establishment of a water management committee to oversee the operations of the borehole
- Sensitizing the community on hygiene and sanitation through CLTS approach. Train 25 community health volunteers in each ward
- Conduct quarterly policy briefs in collaboration with CSOs
- Accountability trainings: Land rights and environmental stewardship, child rights, HIV/AIDS, gender, Complain handling & feedback mechanisms



Fig 1: Ministry of Agriculture officer training PMG group members on PHM and collective marketing-Yatta

ACHIEVEMENTS

- A cumulative of 115kms of terraces properly marked and constructed in 1150 HH farms which have increased production due to soil and water conservation
- Over 5000 fruit and multipurpose trees planted by beneficiaries with a target of at least 5 trees in each of 1150 households
- 4 climate change awareness sessions conducted in collaboration with NEMA reaching out to 440 community members
- 2 PMG of 15 members each formed and trained on collective marketing, green gram value addition and post harvest management
- 92 galla bucks and 575 Kenbro cockerels procured and distributed to beneficiaries for local breed improvement
- 2 community sensitization forums held on seed banking and post harvest management

1,150

total households targeted



Fig 2: Distribution of Kenbro cockerels to project beneficiaries at Kwa kilui market

- 50 community health volunteers trained on hygiene and sanitation through CLTS approach to trigger the community to observe hygiene and sanitation practices
- 30 community leaders in each ward trained on Land rights and environmental stewardship to solve land related issues at community level and promote environmental conservation within project areas
- 26 best farmers taken for an excursion visit to learn modern dry land farming methods
- 60 beneficiaries sensitized on existing Natural Resource Management policies by FAN

- 56 project management committee members trained on leadership skills, record keeping and conflict resolutions among beneficiaries
- 2 farmer's cohorts of 30 members each formed and trained on good agricultural practices and FFS operations
- 2 DRR groups of 30 members each formed and trained on HVCA, CMDRR and collection and dissemination of EWS information to farmers
- 1 borehole management committee of 25 members formed and trained to oversee smooth operations of the borehole to be drilled in Nguutani ward



Fig 3: Distribution of galla bucks to project beneficiaries in Yatta ward



Fig 4: Farm Field School (FFS) members display tools received from the project for use in the demo farm

MTUNZE PUNDA. DAIMA

This is a donkey welfare project funded by The Brooke East Africa and targets 35,000 donkeys. The target area is Kitui.

The project focuses on Enhancing welfare of donkey as an investment for sustainable rural livelihood.

ACTIVITIES

Service Provision: Clinical quality monitoring of the local service providers, training and mentoring them during one on one case visit.

Community Engagement: Training of the donkey owners and users on good donkey welfare practices. Introducing new group members and mentoring the old members to take up roles of teachers.

Advocacy: Liaising with the county government officials, policy actors, policy influencers and the general public on development of welfare friendly policies that will be able to advocate for the plight of the Donkeys in Kitui County.



Fig 1: Caritas Kitui vet attends to donkey

ACHIEVEMENTS

- ❖ Improved participation and involvement of donkey owners/users on donkey welfare project: Groupings and attitude towards donkeys, service seeking behavior
- ❖ Involvement of the County Government in Animal welfare bill formulation: Discussion forums/workshops on animal welfare bill and inclusion of equine welfare policy in county

strategy and resource allocation leading to the formation of a taskforce to oversee the process.

- ❖ Clinical Quality Monitoring to the Local Service Providers in the areas: Monitoring and mentoring LSPs using CQM tool improved LSPs response and attendance to donkey cases.
- ❖ Improved stakeholder Relationships and involvement in the donkey welfare activities: Local administration, county administrators, chiefs, assistant chiefs and village elders training on donkey welfare – this was to create more linkages and understanding with the county administration. Caritas Kitui organized for trainings for them to act as point men and women in matters related to the public.
- ❖ Organized and participated during National Donkey day celebrations.
- ❖ Did radio shows in Radio Thome and County FM to introduce the Mtuze Punda.Daima project in Kitui County.



Fig 2: Training on good donkey welfare practices

CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNT

LSPs reporting on number of cases attended – Development of a reporting system where reports are received from the service providers on the number and type of cases attended to.

Stakeholder meetings: This was started by the Caritas team to see how well projects can be complimented to avoid duplication and clashing

Need to report on the number of cases and donkeys reached

Uptake in terms of donkey reached and the number of owners and users trained.

MUVITHA /KATHEMBONI WATER SHED MANAGEMENT PROJECT

The project is funded by CAFOD and target area is Kitui County, Yatta/Kwa vonza sub county, Nthongoni Location.

Match fund Muvitha/Kathemboni water shed management project is aimed at restoration of the catchment which has been degraded over time due poor land use and management. Cultivation in steep slopes is evident which would have otherwise been left undisturbed with only trees growing to intercept rainwater and allow time for it to percolate into the soil and build up of humus. Conservation efforts have been attempted but only when the hills were productive but now signs of neglect have manifested. At the foot of the hills are

farms which are still being tilled and whose conservation needs to be strengthened.

Within the catchment is an earth dam named Musosya that was constructed in the year 2003(by DANIDA) and has silted up due to poor land use. Back then, there was a perennial flowing stream of water in the main gully that feeds the dam. The situation has since changed and the stream no longer flows with water except during the rainy season. Over the years there has been widening of the gullies owing to slumping of the banks and many more gully tributaries have emerged.

Sand has accumulated in the main stream and a tributary indicating sign of mature water course. The silt trap pond that had been constructed just before the inlet of the dam has been filled with sand like wise to the inlet of the earth dam and part of the reservoir while the other portion is filled with silt.

It is worth noting that the targeted catchment is comprised of many individually owned parcels of land posing its unique challenge in implementation since everyone is not part of the implementing beneficiaries unlike in Tamera (Portugal) where the land is community owned through purchase and worked on by the community on voluntary basis without incentives.

The Water Shed Management project is thus based on the concept of Water Retention Landscape from Tamera that advocates for total retention of storm water within a water shed and if any water leaves the catchment then it should be in form of a spring.

The objective of this project is therefore, to minimize on runoff and increase water percolation into earth body through creation of water retention landscapes by use of various technologies in a bid to restore the degraded catchment owing to poor land use and land management.

PRINCIPLES /OBJECTIVES WATER SHED PROJECT

- Reduce rain water runoff and allow infiltration into the soil
- Recharge ground aquifers
- Minimize soil erosion and recreate a layer of fertile top soil
- Enable cultivation of fruits and vegetables around the water retention spaces (irrigation)
- Increase biodiversity
- Prepare ground for reforestation.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

- The following were earmarked as project activities to address the set objectives:
- Construction of terraces, sand dams and stone check dams
- Construction of off take wells and solar pumping systems

- Construction of stone gabions
- Rehabilitation of Musosya earth dam, 98 % silted up and construction of a VIP latrine at the dam site
- Establishment of demonstration farm to utilize the earth dam's water once rehabilitated
- Tree growing (To address Environmental & Climate change challenges)
- Project visibility
- Farmers exposure visit
- Capacity building:
 - ❖ Train terrace markers' assistants and equip them with marking kits
 - ❖ Train community Health workers and connect them to the ministry of health and sanitation
 - ❖ Train Trains of Trainees (ToTs) on good agronomic practices.
 - ❖ Train project management committee on group dynamics and operation/maintenance of water structures
 - ❖ Train Producer Marketing Groups (PMGs)
 - ❖ Formation and training of an environmental club at Muvitha Primary School
- Cross cutting issues:
 - ❖ Child protection and human rights

- ❖ Complaint handling and
- ❖ Climate change awareness

ACHIEVEMENTS

- 96 ha of land conserved through terrace construction. The activity to be continued beyond project life span
- Six earth dams constructed surpassing the target of 4. This will help in controlling the rate of sedimentation to the dam and also storage of water that is recharging the dam reservoir.
- 815 stone check dams buttressed with plant cuttings downstream. This was made easy by the availability of stones.
- 13 gabions constructed across the galleys
- Two cattle troughs constructed
- Pipeline and Solar pumping system have been installed at one of the off take wells (Kwa David). A communal draw off point has been constructed at the well and a 5M³ storage tank installed.
- A drip kit with 10,000M³ reservoir tank has been installed at the demo farm. The community has been trained on Good Agronomic Practice and modern farming/irrigation technologies. Vegetables such kales, spinach, tomatoes and onions have been planted.

- 13,629 trees have been planted both at the dam site and household level. The varieties planted include, Acacia, gerrardii, Croton, megalocarpus, Neem trees, Senna Siamea and Melia species



Fig 1: Beneficiaries taking part in a tree planting activity at the dam site

- Musosya Earthdam rehabilitated and a concrete hump 0.5 m high was constructed at the mouth of the spill way so as to raise the volume of water retained.
- 42 beneficiaries trained on terrace marking, 30 of them were issued with terrace marking kits.

- Training of ToT's on Good Agronomic Practices (zai pit construction, grafting, road water harvesting and farm ponds practice) was done with 30 of them getting the training. They were also trained on seed selection, planting, manure application and post harvest management.
- 30 new pit latrines were constructed.
- Exposure visit: 20 beneficiaries (17 females and 3 males) were taken for an exposure visit to OMO (Operation Mwolyo Out) project at Matuu. The purpose of the visit was to expose the farmers to proper dry land farming techniques.
- A project management committee on Operation and Maintenance of water structure was trained.
- Training of project committee on project management and group dynamics was also done.
- Training and formation of producer marketing groups was done. 30 participants trained. 3 groups formed namely: Uimi Museo, Mbumye Vu, Nthongoni Environmental conservation self help groups with 40, 31, and 20 members respectively. The groups hold registration certificates
- Child protection training was done. Training saw parents cease to send children to participate in voucher for work at the expense of going to school.



Fig 2: Peter, a farmer from OMO Matuu explaining to farmers on the benefits of having a farm pond

PARTNERSHIP QUICK IMPACT PROJECT

The project is funded by Archdiocese of St. Paul Minneapolis.

Target areas, Kyuso, Kimangao, Kamuwongo, Nguni, Nu, Mwingi and Nguutani parishes.

Project period; September 2015 to February 2016.

Target beneficiaries; 9,000 school going children.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

To provide sustainable access to safe drinking water for the targeted beneficiaries

Improve adoption of proper hygiene and sanitation practices for better health

To improve capacity of School Management Committees (SMCs)/Board Of Management (BOM) to manage WASH facilities in school sustainably.



Fig 1: Pupil washing hands at Mwingi special school

ACTIVITIES

Sustainable access to safe drinking water for 9,000 school children in 30 schools.

- Installation of 60 roof water harvesting systems (Tanks each 10,000lts cap) in 30 schools

Adoption of proper Hygiene and sanitation practices

- Hygiene education for school going children in 30 schools
- Hygiene/sanitation sensitization meetings for parents

Sustainable management of WASH facilities in schools

- Capacity building for maintenance of water supply systems in schools for SMC/BOM

ACHIEVEMENTS

- 40 Roof water harvesting systems fully installed in 21 schools benefitting 7,800 pupils.
- Hygiene Education for school children in 21 schools reaching 840 pupils in health clubs
- School Management Committees in 15 schools trained on maintenance of WASH facilities.



Fig 2: Pupils accessing clean water after installation of tanks at Kandwia primary school in Kimangao parish

PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS (PRRO) KEN 200736

The project is funded by World Food Programme (WFP)

The project target areas; Kitui rural, Kitui East and Kitui South sub counties, 16 wards namely, Kwa-Vonza /Yatta, Kanyangi, Zombe/Mwitika, Mutitu/Kaliku, Voo/Kyamatu, Endau/Malani, Ikanga/Kyatune, Mutomo, Mutha, Ikutha, Kanziko and Athi.

The number of targeted households is 16,356 and 98,136 beneficiaries.

PRRO is a food security strategy aimed at saving lives of many vulnerable households by meeting immediate food requirements

while creating valuable assets for the community to ensure food security.

The programme started as Emergency Operations programme (EMOP) in 2004 which involved general food distribution to vulnerable households. In 2005 it changed to Food for Work (FFW) and in September 2009 to protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) as Food for Assets and Cash for Assets (FFA/CFA). Since 2013 Kitui has been under purely Cash for Assets (CFA) interventions.

Project goal: To enhance the ability of the targeted households to withstand food security shock related to recurrent droughts

Breakdown of targeted Beneficiaries.

	Males	Females	total
Workers	2,567	10,944	13,511
Non Workers	517	2,206	2,723
Totals	3,084	13,150	16,234

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- ❖ To enable communities access water at reduced distance
- ❖ To improve diversification of food sources
- ❖ To improve pasture and browse production
- ❖ To reduce environmental degradation
- ❖ To improve access to markets and other sources of food
- ❖ To enable the households to become food secure

OUTCOMES

1. Improved diversification of food and income sources for food & nutrition security.
2. Improved production and preservation of pasture and fodder
3. Improved access to water for livestock and human consumption
4. Increased environmental conservation and management
5. Improved capacity of community and staff to implement and sustain food security activities

Improved diversification of food and income sources for food & nutrition security

- ✓ Training Good Agronomic Practices
- ✓ Zai pits and Terrace Construction
- ✓ Nutrition Sensitive Programming.
- ✓ Construction of lining farm ponds
- ✓ Promotion of drought tolerant and perennial crops
- ✓ Small scale irrigation
- ✓ 309 ha of land conserved with zai pits against a yearly target of 196 ha

- ✓ 1,701 ha of land conserved with terraces, yearly target is 1658 ha
- ✓ 15,598 Metric Tons of compost produced.
- ✓ 234 ha of land irrigated against 326 ha using sunken beds, deep furrows and tied ridges
- ✓ 166 ha of land irrigated with water from farm ponds against yearly target of 24,408 ha



Fig 1: Mbaki Nzano a farmer from Masimba FDP in his irrigated farm

Improved production and preservation of pasture and fodder

- Pasture and fodder production and preservation.
- Reseeding on terrace embankments, pasture lands enclosures
- Bailing of pasture and storage of fodder.
- 7,769 Metric Tonnes against 3,787 Metric Tonnes target of hay and fodder conserved.

- Improved Milk production
- Improved income from sale of livestock and livestock products



Fig 2



Fig 3

Figs 2&3: Musyoka Kasikila inspecting Napier grass –Kamutei FDP (Final Distribution Point)

Improved access to water for livestock and human consumption

- Mechanism of three earth dams
- Rehabilitation and expansion of six earth pans
- Formation /strengthening and training of water management committees
- Pipeline extension at Endau
- Rock catchment development
- 67 dams/pans have helped reduce distances to water points
- Improved animal health leading to improved production
- Farmers have more free time for other productive household activities

Increased environmental conservation and management

- Tree growing/agro forestry
- Environmental conservation and management forums
- Formation of 15 commercial tree nursery groups
- Establishment of tree wood lots
- Water catchment protection
- Formation of Farmer Field School for tree seedlings and fruit orchard trees production
- 410,649 trees planted against a yearly target of 273,480 trees
- 7 commercial nurseries being a source of tree seedlings

Improved capacity of community and staff to implement and sustain food security activities

- Organize and support field days
- Farmer exchange visits
- Participate in trade fairs
- Community training/forums on cross cutting issues
- Training of organized farmer groups

- Support staff training
- Beneficiaries have been capacity build on Good Agronomic Practices.
- Farmers trained on collective marketing and Post Harvest Management.
- Formation of 625 groups
- Improved Saving culture due to financial literacy

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

- Increased soil fertility leading to increased productivity and increased income levels
- A total of 142,962,613M of money was disbursed to beneficiaries for 4 months (M/S/O/N)
- Managed to host four (4) high profile missions hosted by Kitui CFA with Caritas Kitui taking the lead
- Managed to host three Studies successfully conducted in Kitui
- Successfully carried out Annual Outcome Monitoring (ACOM) which tool was pretested in Kitui and adopted by all CFA implementing CPs
- Successfully carried out two Food Security Outcome Monitoring (FSOM)

CHALLENGES

- Insecurity tensions along Tana River county boundary in Endau Malalani ward affecting achievement of work norms.
- Timely response of Government officers to human-wild life conflicts e.g. Quiller birds.
- Over 70% of beneficiaries lack title deeds hence land lease agreements to groups and individuals is limited.
- Low uptake of technologies
- Erratic and poorly distributed rains
- Inadequate funds to support all vulnerable levels

SUSTAINABILITY

- Linkage with other departments/projects; Retirement Benefits Authority (RBA) and Agricultural Market Access Linkages (AMAL)
- Involvement of each line ministries
- Continuous capacity building
- Group Formations

LESSONS LEARNT

- The programme has fostered beneficiary cohesion and community leadership and participation in addressing food security challenges. This has led to formation and registration of self help groups which receives support from other organizations in form of funding and/or training.

- Enhancement of Income Generating activities e.g. table banking, irrigation farming, brick making among others (since water sources are closer).
- The beneficiaries are willing to change their attitude on relief dependency and work towards breaking the vicious cycle of poverty.
- Beneficiaries are interested in projects that are Household based as these have a direct impact on enhancing food security of the household e.g. planting fruit trees, local goats and chicken production, zai-pits and terrace construction among others



Fig 4: Kwa Lucia Kinywa farm pond, an example of High Impact Project

STINGLESS BEE PROJECT

The project is implemented under Match Fund 1 round 2, Muvitha/Kathemboni watershed project.

The project is funded under ICIPE (International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology) and CAFOD partnership.

The project targets farmers who benefitted from works initially executed under Muvitha/Kathemboni project. The main focus of the project was provision of adequate water for domestic and farming which was achieved through rehabilitation of Musosya earth dam.

Target beneficiaries, 20 bee farmers, 15 females and 5 males.

Project goal: The overall goal of the project is to improve the livelihoods of people in Muvitha.

Project Objective: To improve the livelihoods of farmers through income generating activity, this will be attained through organic honey production.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

- Distribution of 100 modern /langstroth (jumbo) bee hives to 20 farmers
- Take farmers for learning exposure to SEKU in Kwa Vonza and Kwa Munyoki in Mwingi
- Training the farmers on hive, colony and apiary management in addition to bee keeping process which will concentrate on procedures of honey harvesting.
- Training five identical local artisans from Muvitha on repair and modification of more modern hives for scaling up the beneficiaries future

- Provision of honey processors



Fig 1: Beneficiaries being shown how honey processing equipment works

- The farmers were taken for an exposure/exchange visit to SEKU in Kwa Vonza and Kwa Munyoki farm in Waita - Mwingi .The objective of this training was to equip the farmers with relevant knowledge and skills in all the activities which are involved in bee keeping like :cleaning of hives, care of insects, importance of bee products like wax, organic honeybee pennon(“UMUA”),tapping and selling of bee colony and queen, procedure for hanging the hives into a tree, difference between modern and traditional hives among others.
- Distribution of 100 modern hives was done to 20 bee farmers with each farmer getting 5 complete set if langstroth hives
- An onsite training on apiary, fencing/care and apiary management upon receipt of the hives was conducted to the entire group
- 80% of the hives distributed after monitoring were found to be colonized and have combs of brood bees

LESSONS LEARNT

Honey harvesting using honey exhauster makes it easy for bees to come again faster into the same have in comparison to harvesting manually and this makes it easy for the farmer to harvest after every 3-4 weeks thus making money.

Bees require a lot of water through out.

PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS

WAY FORWARD

There is need to do more follow ups to the farmers to monitor the progress of the ongoing activities in addition to linking the farmers with ICIPE for marketing of the products, provision of bee suits, smokers and honey harvesters.