

Meeting – Community Seed Bank Lead Farmers, Dodoma Agricultural Seed Producers Association (DASPA) and Kibaigwa Flour Supplies Company (KFC) –

Venue: Mlali Ward office

Date: 26-February-2020

Table 1: Members present

SN	Name	Where from / Village	Title of attending farmer
1	Gerald Lendaliye	Mlali	Secretary - Men Group
2	Raphael Mwinuka	Mlali	Chairman - Men Group
3	Melea Mtyani	Mlali	Chairperson - Women group
4	Rose Makome	Moleti	Chairperson - Women group
5	Michael Mnyandwa	Moleti	Secretary - Youth Group
6	Vaileth Sikunyingi	Laikala	Chairperson - Women group
7	Mwajabu Sefu	Laikala	Secretary - Women Group
8	Alphonse Lumolwa	Moleti	Secretary - Men Group
9	Charles S. Mfundo	Laikala	Secretary - Men Group
10	Abisay Chijendi	Laikala	Chairman - Men Group
11	Aithan Chaula	DASPA, Dodoma	Director (DASPA)
12	Egla Magayo	Mlali	Secretary - Men Group
13	Marcus Wongo	Mlali	Agricultural Field Officer
14	Sebastian Msola	Kibaigwa Agro-processing Firm	Director
15	Peter Ngowi	ICRISAT (AR), Dodoma	ICRISAT- Research Associate

Agenda

1. Africa RISING project briefing & Introduction of CSBs farmer groups established under Africa RISING initiative to scale out under-invested seed technologies (pigeonpea, sorghum & pearl millets).
2. Partnerships for linkage to reliable markets (input and output).
3. Agenda 3: Way forward and action points.

Agenda 1.1 Introducing Africa RISING

The Africa RISING team presented the project to all participants especially to the potential partners Mr Sebastian Msola (KFC Director) and Mr Aithan Chaula (DASPA Director). In the briefing the team presented the Africa RISING activities in both Districts and highlighted the work at Babati. Key areas covered included: (i) Project objective and oversight, (ii) The project set up including partners involved and their respective roles, (iii) ICRISAT's role in the project, (iv) Status of the project, from evaluation or technology development to release and scaling up of validated technologies where development partners such as DASPA and KFC play a very important big role.

Agenda 1.2 Introducing Community Seed Banks

The directors were introduced to leaders of 6 community seed bank groups (men & women from Laikala, Mlali & Moleti villages) involved in pigeon pea, pearl millet & sorghum production out of 17 CSBs established in 2016 / 2017 cropping season (Table 2). They were also briefed on the how the seed banks operate.

On behalf of ICRISAT Mr Ngowi thanked the two directors for their great enthusiasm and interest to work with CSB farmers to scale out crop seed technologies under Africa RISING project for the betterment of

their livelihoods as well as dissemination new crop technologies beyond Kongwa district. Farmers introduced their groups (Table 2).

Table 2: Community Seed Banks (CSBs) under Africa RISING

SN	Name of Village	Community Seed Bank	Chairman / Chairperson	Secretary	Fields / Farms Inspector
1	Laikala	Wanaume	Abisai Chijendi	Charles Mfundo	Samuel Mjoweni
2	Laikala	Wanawake	Vaileth Sikunyingi	Mwajabu Sefu	Salama Lemunje
3	Njoro	Wanaume	Juma Omary Mjimbi	Khalid H. Katumbo	Ayubu Hussein Imbili
4	Njoro	Wanawake	Hadija Juma Mgeni	Zuhura Juma	Zubeda China
5	Manyusi	Wanaume	Simon Mao	Elia Pissa	Safari Hamisi
6	Manyusi	Wanawake	Nehemiana P. Pissa	Kezia Mbuko	Teresia Z. Mao
7	Chitego	Wanaume	Amsi Cheni	Samson Chanzi	Martin Samuel
8	Chitego	Wanawake	Joyce Ndahani	Joyce Mbumi	Magreth Bochela
9	Chitego	Vijana	Jeremiah Muhimbano	Salha Saidi	Andrea Jackson
10	Moleti	Wanaume	Jailosi Maunya	Alphonse Lumolwa	Grayson Sijiah
11	Moleti	Wanawake	Rose Makome	Edna Chilongola	Ruth Mtipa
12	Moleti	Vijana	Piason Mgonjwa	Michael Mnyandwa	Gilbert Chitela
				0768 396 338	
13	Mlali	Wanaume	Rafael Mwinuka	Gerald A. Lendaliye	Michael Daudi
14	Mlali	Wanawake	Melea Mtyani	Egra Magayo	Christina Mkoi
15	Mlali	Vijana	Elieza Emmanuel Rashid	Winnifrida Jackson	Theresia Jonas

Agenda 2. Partnerships for linkage to reliable markets (input and output)

- 3.1 CSB lead farmers presented their challenges on poor market for pigeonpea in 2016/2017 crop and sales season. They noted that the CBS improved access to seed and enabled them produce large volumes for repay to the seed bank and sale the extra grain. However, market failure that year, (Indian market), lead to a sharp price reduction from TSh 3,000 per Kg to TSh 250 - 300 per kg. This affected the interest to grow the crop.
- 3.2 Mr Sebastian Msola informed the farmers that pigeonpea market is not a problem as long as farmers adhere to growing specific market demanded-varieties of improved pigeonpea i.e., (large seeded type such as Mali), widely grown in Babati. While the Indian market was bad (in 2016/2017 cropping season) KAF had a reliable market for large seeded pigeon in Ethiopia and Sudan where it sold about 800 tons.
 - 3.2.1 He also noted that his firm is ready to engage CSBs farmers in Laikala, Mlali and Moleti in contract pigeonpea farming on condition that farmers groups in Laikala, Mlali and Moleti (i.e. Men, Women and Youths) create larger groups for ease of management. These groups develop its constitution and be registered by Kongwa district authorities.
 - 3.2.2 Once three legally registered groups have been formed, one each in Laikala, Mlali and Moleti, He would assist them link to crop insurance schemes and formal banking support. Based on the kind of premiums the crops they grow have.
 - 3.2.3 Farmers were urged to identify an isolated land where they could conduct block farming as a group. Lead farmers present at the meeting confirmed that block farming is possible in all three villages (Laikala, Mlali and Moleti), and that they will discuss this with village leadership and request for such land.
- 3.3 DASPA director (Mr Aithan Chaula) who is also a trained seed inspector and a former employee of TOSCI now retired and actively involved in seed quality control as well as building capacity of seed producers said that he is willing to manage the new registered groups to be formed.
 - 3.3.1 Lead farmers in collaboration with village leaders would designate a warehouse where all harvested crop produce will be kept and also act as a sales point to buyers. Weighing scales would be placed in the designated warehouses! Farmers were urged to stop selling their crop produce by use of buckets / tins to middle men to avoid being cheated.

- 3.3.2 DASPA director (Mr Aithan Chaula) told the farmers that Kongwa district had good soils for groundnut production from colonial times, when the defunct Kongwa Groundnut Scheme was created. There are improved groundnut varieties with high oil content, so farmers should grow improved varieties instead of sunflower which does not grow well in the Kongwa soils. Mr Chaula urged that ICRISAT introduce an oil pressing machine for groundnut with high oil content.
- 3.4 The Kibaigwa Agro-processing firm director (Mr Sebastian Msola) in collaboration with village authorities of Laikala, Mlali & Moletu agreed to provide prevailing market prices to farmers of produce at Kibaigwa pulses and cereal grains market.
- 3.5 KAF director told the meeting that green gram seems to be doing well under Kongwa soils. He recently grew green gram in his bigger plot along the highway to Dodoma at Kibaigwa and the crop is mature already. He will be harvesting and has asked the AFOs from the 3 villages to select 10 farmers who are willing to take green gram seeds to grow with the March 2020 rains.
- 3.6 KFC director has advised that should funds allow, ICRISAT should make effort to organize a field tour to Babati by CSB lead farmers from Laikala, Mlali & Moletu. Such tours will be key to enhanced pigeon pea productivity in the semi-arid areas of Dodoma.

Agenda 3: Way forward and action points

- 3.1 Creation of large farmer groups. KFC is eager and ready to engage CSBs farmers in Laikala, Mlali and Moletu for contract pigeonpea production on condition that they form three groups one each in Laikala, Mlali and Moletu. These groups should formally register with the district authorities of Kongwa district's authorities.
- 3.2 Farmer groups in Laikala, Mlali and Moletu will be assisted by Agricultural Field Officers (Maafisa Ugani). Specifically, in the respective villages each Group develop Constitutions and the first draft be shared with Peter Ngowi (ICRISAT), Aithan Chaula (DASPA) and Sebastian Msola (KAF) for review.
 - 3.2.1 Mr Marcus Wongo will be responsible for Mlali, Mr Mwambungu for Laikala and Mr Dotto Masato for Moletu and the constitution drafts should be ready by 15th March 2020.
 - 3.2.2 KFC director will support expedited registration of Farmers' groups by Kongwa District. Once there are three groups with Constitutions and duly registered, one each for Laikala, Mlali and Moletu Community Seed Banks, KFC will support linkage to finance and insurance institutions. Sebastian Msola will support this endeavor.
- 3.3 Land for production. CSB lead Farmers will land for production to be located in each village working with Village Executive. Once established KFC will contract the Registered Farmer Groups to grow pigeonpea (ICEAP00040 /Mali) in 2020/2021 cropping season. These groups will also receive seed on credit.
- 3.4 Warehousing. Lead farmers in collaboration with village leadership will designate a warehouse for storage and sales of the crop produce. These will be fitted with weighing scales supported by KFC. Once established, KFC in collaboration with village authorities of Laikala, Mlali and Moletu will ensure that farmers are informed of prevailing crops produce at Kibaigwa pulses and cereal grain market.

AOB

KFC I interested to multiply **ICEAP00040 /Mali** seed from a foundation seed source to cover about **60 acres (about 200 Kgs of ICEAP00040 seed)** and requested ICRISAT to support their access. This would be produced under irrigation.