

1. TASAF operations steadily approaching set targets

The implementation support mission by the World Bank team to TASAF which took place from March 23rd to April 04th concluded that TASAF II implementation is successful and moving towards achieving the set targets, providing assurance that the TASAF objective to improve access of beneficiary households to enhanced socio-economic services and income generating opportunities will be realised.

In a similar mission in October 2008, the level of justifications was at 43%, and in March 2009, the justification rates had risen to 70%. This is not only commendable but also a clear demonstration that targets would be achieved. TASAF targets to have supported 5,950 sub projects by December 2009 when the second phase of the project will come to an end.

In March 15th 2009, TASAF recorded to have funded 6,048 sub projects valued at TZS 134,682,119,923. NVF allocation to local government authorities amounts to TZS 145,134,538,142 of which 116,124,930,674 have been disbursed by March 2009 leaving a balance of TZS 29,009,607,467.

The achievement of set targets is challenged though by low justifications, low completion rates and low absorption rates in some cases caused in part by weak village governments in mobilizing community contributions, interferences to Community Management Committees (CMCs) in making competitive procurements, as well as lack of skills and capacity by Village Fund Justification Assistants (VFJAs) to train CMCs in keeping up-to-date cashbooks which facilitate preparation of justification reports. It is worth mentioning that some of the LGAs have finished their allocations but are still left with unmet demands. Rufiji district council for example reported to have no problem with absorption as they have funded all sub projects and are remained with 49 million TZS which is retention money. This amount will be used to fund on going sub projects to cover for costs increases due to price fluctuations. Such is also the case with Unguja and Pemba. The issue of concern has always been low justifications and completion rates. Despite some progress made, by March 2009 justifications were reported to be at 50%, while completion rates are at 77.6 % (3,115 subprojects completed against 4,012 which are 12 months old and should have been completed).

Experience on the ground

During a one day workshop to assess implementation progress, invited representatives from Kilombero District Council, Rufiji District Council, Tanga City Council and Ilala Municipal Council as well as the Islands of Pemba and Unguja made brief presentations highlighting on implementation status in the field and challenges faced in completion, justification, absorption as well as in addressing environment and social safeguards.

The big picture from the presentations revealed the following:

Low absorptions of sub project funds is mainly caused by untimely starting of sub project implementation due to low community participation and community contribution from the onset of the sub project. In Tanga for instance it was reported that many people will show up during sensitization meetings but as days go by their attendance to community work goes down and so is their contribution, in which case funds will remain in their bank accounts for a long time without being used. Sensitization meetings involving leadership have been conducted but little progress has been made. It is believed that strong village governments are the main success factors in mobilizing the required community contributions.

On low justifications, it was reported that since it is the responsibility of community management committees to justify 70% of the first tranche disbursed when applying for the second tranche, this process is delayed due to poor documentation by CMC in keeping up to date cash books for receipts and payments, and maintaining appropriate filing of the supporting documents. No justification report is completed without relevant supporting documents therefore uncompleted justifications cannot be submitted to TMU hence a delay. It was also reported that on one hand, some CMC take long to justify expenditure due to their low capacity and on the other, justification assistants are too overwhelmed with duties to assist all CMCs with justifications because of being involved in other council duties apart from TASAF responsibilities.

There is inadequate community participation and contribution in sub project activities. This has been a major challenge resulting in low completion rates. With few people participating in sub project activities it is obvious that there will be time overrun in completing a certain activity, which in turn increases sub project cost given price fluctuations upwards at the time when there is low community participation and especially when the CMC is yet to purchase some of the materials needed.

What completion entails

In the TASAF context, a completed sub project is the one that has received a completion certificate after having submitted completion report, full justification of all funds disbursed, and a certification by sector expert that the sub project is completed as per sector standards. Gauged against these criteria, the number of completed sub projects is very few as compared to funded sub projects – 6,048 against 3,115 as of March 2009. However, representatives from LGAs claim that there are more completed sub projects on the ground than those reported are only based on TASAF ‘completion’ definition. It is said that many of the funded sub projects are completed and currently in use but village fund coordinators cannot apply for certificates because they have not been certified by external sector experts. It is claimed that LGAs are failing to meet costs of hiring an external sector expert to evaluate and certify completed sub projects.

Adherence to safeguards

There was an appreciation from the World Bank representative on improved measures taken on environmental and social safeguards notably in Ilala Municipal council. Very uniquely Ilala Municipal Council has implemented four (4) subprojects for environmental protection in four communities for solid waste management. Each implemented subproject entails capacity building on solid waste management. It was reported that where there were signs of soil erosion as a result of construction, diversion trenches and rainwater drainage channels were constructed and trees were planted alongside the roads to prevent further erosion. In dairy cattle subproject a sewage canal and decomposition pit was constructed for collection of animal waste put to dry and later used as farmyard manure.

Garnering support for addressing challenges

Through discussions, solutions to the challenges were identified. On justifications and certification of completed sub projects, Village Fund Coordinators and Justification Assistants have been asked to ensure that they support communities to account for all disbursed funds and source external sector experts to evaluate and certify completed sub projects as per sector norms and standards. Through this action, it is expected that the number of completed sub projects will rise considerably.

Continued sensitization to communities for their participation in sub project implementation was re emphasized so that assets are created and used to address their felt needs as identified during project appraisal. LGA representatives were also asked to work hand in hand with leadership including councilors who have an upper hand in community mobilization so that sub projects are completed in time. For LGAs with low absorption, it was agreed that community sensitization will continue but if no improvement is recorded, TMU will take stern measures including reallocating un-committed balances to other LGAs that have completed their allocations but still with approved and unfunded sub projects.

Implementation support mission: impressive, mixed interventions on the ground

Meanwhile, as part of implementation support mission, the WB team led by TASAF Task Team Leader Ms. Ida Manjolo visited selected sub projects in Pemba, Morogoro, Rufiji and Mkuranga. The team paid courtesy calls to District Commissioners, District Executive Directors and District Council Chairpersons and held discussions that focused on supporting communities to complete and sustain achievements realized as a result of implementing sub projects intended to improve their livelihood and access to social economic services.

In Morogoro, the team visited five supported sub projects namely (i) Construction of OPD/MCH at Kizinga Dispensary, (ii) Rehabilitation of Teachers' house, 2 classrooms, teachers' office and toilets at Muhunga Mkola Primary School, (iii) a Tailoring sub project, (iv) a Bee Keeping sub project, and (v) Vegetable Farming sub project.

All visited sub projects are at varying stages of implementation, some completed and others approaching completion. A general feature that was noted in all the sub projects was the remarkable workmanship of the structures and adherence to sector norms and standards. Small nurtured trees were visible surrounding the project sites reflecting adherence to environmental and social safeguards.

One of the two subprojects in Morogoro that was eye catching was a tailoring sub project whose beneficiaries are ten people living with HIV/AIDS. With TZS 6.5 million, the group managed to purchase 10 sewing machines, 1 embroidery machine, 1 machine for buttons, 25 rolls of cloths, 5 scissors, 5 charcoal irons, 10 chairs, 10 tape measures and 10 boxes of sewing threads and managed to attend a 3 months tailoring course through NVF support.

Currently the group is operating at a temporary shed outside one of the beneficiaries' home pending allocation of land for construction of a permanent structure as promised by LGA authorities and has savings amounting to TZS 176,000. The group is constrained by lack of skills to use the embroidery machine of which they are optimistic that once in use, and with application of effective marketing skills, the machine would increase their income.

The second visited sub project with potential of recording remarkable success is a horticulture sub project whose beneficiaries are 16 elderly people. The group started by growing tomatoes and later changed to growing maize and sunflower. The harvest has always been promising but for this season due to unfavorable weather conditions it is possible production would be affected. However, the group is positive that they would have enough harvest. The group narrated to have accrued TZS 1,044,000 as income from their sales since they started operating. The group plans to use some of the funds to buy improved farming inputs to enhance productivity and competitiveness and look into the possibility of introducing an irrigation scheme into their garden with a view to increase production.

Another site visit was in Pemba Island where the team accompanied by TASAF staff, government and community leaders and technical staff visited a number of community sub projects. The first sub project was Weni irrigation scheme which covers 16 hectares with

primary canals of 3,600 meters long. The scheme beneficiaries are 85 farmers of which 55 are male and 30 female. The scheme's remarkable achievement is demonstrated by increased production from 1.5 to 4.0 tones per ha, with every individual taking home 4 to 5 bags of paddy (a bag is 100 kg) in each of the two harvesting seasons per year. During low season beneficiaries cultivate onions, green pepper, tomatoes and other vegetables. The Government is providing subsidies in agricultural inputs like fertilizers.

Despite achievements, Weni irrigation canal faces two main challenges, low capacity of farmers to purchase fertilizers despite government efforts to subsidize agricultural inputs and management of water due to steep slope in the area of production. The subproject beneficiaries lose a lot of water which, could otherwise have been used in irrigation.

Another sub project that was visited is Kizimbani Primary school. TASAF has supported construction of 4 classrooms that form part of classrooms in the school. Due to high demand of classrooms, it took communities only four months to complete the sub project. Kizimbani Primary school can be one of the best examples in environmental safeguards. More the 20 trees were planted during implementation of sub project. Although not all trees survived, the school environment committee vows to plant more trees during favorable season.

Income generating activities are a common sight in sub projects supported by TASAF. The most common types of income generation activities are poultry farming, cattle keeping, tailoring and food vending. In Pemba, the team visited Mzambarao poultry farming sub project whose beneficiaries are eighteen orphans. The project is managed by a group of 10 adults, six women and 4 men. The project has 297 chicks. The group has been trained on simple book keeping, procurement procedures and specialized skills in poultry farming. The group is yet to be trained in business management skills and use of business plans.

During a wrap up meeting with authorities in Pemba, community leaders and staff in Pemba, the World Bank team that visited sub projects appreciated community efforts demonstrated by sub projects that have changed peoples lives and support by leadership in making communities move a step forward towards poverty reduction. Ms. Manjolo concluded her farewell remarks in Pemba by urging technical and sector experts to orient beneficiaries in drawing up business plans to help them move forward. "It is time we help beneficiaries move from receiving grants to expanding business opportunities". She concluded.

These are some of the many sub projects demonstrating beneficiaries' determination to improving their lives. More efforts are, however, needed into assisting communities to sustain their achievements so that such efforts can be expanded and replicated.

2. TASAF II TO GET ADDITIONAL FINANCING FOR FOOD INSECURE HOUSEHOLDS AND VULNERABLE GROUPS

Context

Tanzania is one of 22 countries particularly vulnerable and threatened by current global food crisis caused by insufficient rains. The vulnerable households are prone to being affected seriously if no intervention is taken.

The Ministry of Agriculture Food Security and Cooperatives preliminary food crop production forecast for 2007/08 indicates that nine (9) regions (Kilimanjaro, Arusha, Mwanza, Shinyanga, Coast, Mara, Tabora, Singida, and Dar es Salaam) will have food shortages and other six (6) additional regions (Morogoro, Dodoma, Manyara, Lindi, Ruvuma and Mtwara) bear pockets of food shortages. Excluding Dar es Salaam, which is largely non-agricultural, the fourteen (14) regions bear a total of twenty five (42) districts. Food insecurity in the country is both

transitory and chronic in nature. Causes of food insecurity include environmental degradation, shortage of rainfall, lack of sustainable irrigation schemes and inappropriate use of farm inputs, tools and equipment to maximize productivity per acre per person, drought, water table running low, and changing natural resources base. The number of people expected to be affected and the severity of the food insecurity has been established through the Tanzania Preliminary Food Crop Production Forecast for 2007/08 (June 2008). Malnutrition is also a common problem in the country with 44% of children suffering from chronic protein and energy malnutrition (stunting), a pointer to existence of chronic food insecurity.

To address the food crisis the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania is implementing an Accelerated Food Security Program (AFSP), one component of which covers “Additional Financing for the Tanzania Social Action Fund II (TASAF).

Why TASAF has been chosen

The selection of TASAF to receive additional financing is justified by TASAF satisfactory performance in supporting community initiatives and more so the food insecure households most of which comprise of young children and women. In March 2009, TASAF recorded to have funded 6,103 sub projects out of 7,423 applications approved. The additional financing will be used to finance two types of beneficiary groups namely the Food Insecure households (FI) and Vulnerable Group (VG). The FI work to increase income to meet their basic needs through TASAF financed public works programme and environmental conservation. The VG sub-component targets vulnerable individuals including orphans, elderly, widows/widowers, affected/infected by HIV and AIDS, unemployed youths, people with disabilities and single parents. Vulnerable groups implement interventions on income generating activities such as poultry, horticulture, animal keeping, sewing etc., and assist communities to come up with subprojects which help to combat HIV and AIDS.

Demand for funds to implement sub projects for vulnerable groups and food insecure is still high, notwithstanding the slow start at the beginning. While 2,026 subprojects have been funded with a value of US\$ 23,392,893; there is a total of 63,485 SPIFs that have not been processed due to limitation of funds. This means that only 5% of the community demand on FI and VG sub-projects interventions has been funded.

What role for additional financing?

The additional finance will support vulnerable individuals and food insecure households to absorb food insecurity shocks and reduce their vulnerability. With additional financing TASAF will be able to transfer cash into the hands of the food insecure households to help them cope with both food shortage and food prices emergency through implementation of subprojects. The Vulnerable Groups will be supported to implement small scale economic sub projects which will generate income to enhance the ability of the affected individuals cope with the food shortage crisis.

Hand in hand with funding targeted beneficiaries, there is an element of capacity building to Community Management Committees (CMC) and Village Councils (VC) in areas of sub-project management and monitoring, book-keeping and procurement. This training is done prior to sub-project implementation and during implementation to ensure compliance to TASAF procedures and enhance speedy completion of community sub-projects. Technical backstopping is done by staff at the LGA level, which requires some support as well to ensure communities’ are properly guided and subprojects are implemented at the expected standard and quality.

How is targeting done

Targeting for Food insecure beneficiaries is done at two levels. First, intra-district targeting based on the Wards and on the following criteria: Remoteness, inaccessibility, deprivation, environment degradation, relatively poorer than neighborhood, low cash income, high unemployment, and inadequate labor availability at household level due to excessive rural-urban migration. The second level is at individual household. This is done through a participatory, community-based, process. The community in the targeted area identifies the vulnerable persons/groups using wealth ranking tool. Wage rate for the beneficiaries is 10% below the prevailing daily wage in the districts or locality. This criterion was deliberately set so as attract only the needy. Female-headed households and youth groups are deliberately targeted.

Targeting for VG beneficiaries is based on the inability to meet basic needs. Vulnerable persons to be supported include: orphans, chronically ill persons, persons infected and affected with HIV and AIDS, the elderly, people with disabilities, malnourished children, children-headed households, other vulnerable children such as abandoned children, street children, widows and widowers, unemployed youths (ex-primary school), and single mothers.

4. COLLABORATION WITH OTHER PROJECTS

Implementation through Tanzania Poverty Reduction Project (TPRP)

TASAF II provides a window for other Projects to have their funds Ring-fenced and channeled to communities through TASAF principles and procedures. Under this arrangement, TASAF is currently collaborating with: (i) Marine and Coastal Environment Management Project (MACEMP), Participatory Forest Management (PFM), a sub component under Tanzania Forest Conservation and Management Project, (iii) Community AIDS Response Fund (CARF) sub component under Zanzibar AIDS Commission (ZAC), (iv) Community AIDS Response Fund (CARF) sub component of Tanzania AIDS Commission (TACAIDS), and (v) Tanzania Poverty Reduction Project (TPRP) under Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is contributing to Tanzania's poverty reduction efforts through mainstreaming its activities into Local Government Authorities of Lindi and Mtwara particularly in nine (9) selected district councils, namely Kilwa, Lindi, Ruangwa, Liwale and Nachingwea in Lindi region and Masasi, Mtwara, Newala and Tandahimba in Mtwara region. The activities are aimed at improving socio-economic infrastructure, enhancing capacity and skills among rural and peri-urban communities involved in the project development. The project components which facilitate the achievement of the project outputs are outreach and monitoring, support to community development initiatives, proper management, and coordination of activities.

To date OPEC has funded a total of 380 sub projects. The number of sub projects and beneficiary group by LGA is shown in the following table.

Number of sub projects and beneficiary group by LGA

Region	LGA	Service Poor (SP)	Vulnerable Groups (VG)	Food Insecure (FI)	Total sub projects
Lindi	Nachingwea	23	12	2	37
	Lindi TC	13	1	1	15
	Ruangwa	47	3	7	57
	Liwale	32	0	1	33
	Lindi DC	47	3	8	58
	Sub Total - Lindi		162	19	19
Mtwara	Newala	44	0	0	44
	Mtwara DC	63	0	0	63
	Masasi	40	1	7	48
	Tandahimba	22	1	2	25
	Sub Total - Mtwara		169	2	9

Cumulatively to date, US \$ 8,330,324.20 has been utilized to fund Community Development Initiatives leaving a small balance of US \$ 9,675.80 which is too small to fund any more sub projects. Effective Information, Education and Communication (IEC) program, capacity building initiatives, community participation coupled with clear principles are the main pillars that facilitated communities to plan and implement sub projects, while technical staff at the LGA level provided guidance during participatory supervision and monitoring of sub projects.

The assets created through community development initiatives apart from improving the scenery of the rural areas are also providing social services to communities within localities. During a field visit in Masasi, female beneficiaries explained that it is now possible to see pregnant women attending ante natal clinic and children going to school in the village something which was rare in the past as services were far from their village. Small market places are among the Safety net assets that have increased agricultural production, improved employment opportunities and income to both women and men in the locality.

During implementation of subprojects, Community Management Committees are facilitated to maintain proper documentation, writing and submission of implementation reports to Local Government Authority. The implementation speed is however slow and therefore some sub projects face budget deficits due to price fluctuations.

One of the main challenges facing support to communities is the shortage of funds to meet community demands. There are 77 new subproject applications submitted valued at US \$ 1,925,000 that cannot be funded because the community initiative component is exhausted. A request for additional financing and project extension has been submitted so as to accommodate funding of new applications and allowing sufficient time for implementation of the sub project.

In the meantime, technical supervision by LGAs and TASAF Management Unit continue to be provided with emphasis placed on improving completion of subprojects and justification rates. By the next review meeting which is scheduled to take place in May, more sub projects will be completed and issued with certificates.

5. CDD approach: Its power as demonstrated by TASAF support

TASAF Project development objective is to improve access of communities to enhanced socio-economic services and income generating opportunities. Through community driven development, TASAF is moving towards meeting that objective and the indicators that will show that the objectives have been met among others are the improved access to basic socio-economic services, reduction in time taken to and from facilities such as water sources, schools, health facilities and improved quality of basic services and increased population satisfied with as provided for in delivery of basic social services.

What CCD approach is all about

In supporting communities, TASAF advocates community driven development (CDD) which is an approach that supports participatory decision making and community control of resources. Through the Community-Driven Development (CDD) approach communities have direct control over key project decisions, including management of investment funds. The CDD approach is a mechanism, therefore, for enhancing sustainability, improving efficiency and effectiveness, allowing poverty reduction efforts to be taken to scale, making development more inclusive, empowering poor people, building social capital, strengthening governance, and complementing market and public sector activities.

CDD recognizes that with access to information on principles and procedures, and support from local government authorities, poor communities are prime actors in the development process. TASAF directly funds small community managed projects and allow poor people to become actively involved in the development of their communities by facilitating them to identify their own priorities, implement their own sub projects while managing project funds. The main pillars of this approach are community empowerment, decentralized decision making, accountability, and transparency.

The CDD approach builds capacity and empowers the poor women and minorities in the poorest villages to assess their needs and priorities, and to plan, manage and implement their own public investments in a decentralised and transparent manner. The priorities are demand driven, based on the request from communities. They include areas like water supply, transport (access roads), education, health, irrigation and agriculture, income generation and environmental activities.

Through a participatory process, LGA staff and selected villagers act as facilitators and trainers guiding communities in preparation and operation of the projects that will address their defined priorities.

Through this approach many more community investment has been created through TASAF. Notable achievements are in areas of water supply, construction of schools and health facilities, building of access roads and support to individuals into implementing income generating activities.

This is a clear demonstration that poor communities have great capacity than generally recognized and can make good use of resources targeting at poverty reduction once given the opportunity and adequate support. Unlike waiting for government funding at hundred percent, communities form part of the process in creating the assets.

Demonstration effect for CDD acceptance

When TASAF began its operation through a pilot program in 1999, in eight districts of Tanzania mainland, there were some doubts if the approach would work. In some of the areas there was reluctance in community participation and contribution as this was a new phenomena. Some questioned the legitimacy of the system while others asked what happened to government commitment to care and provide for its citizens. Such doubts came about because people referred to history. In the past, the local authorities decided for the communities in the rural areas on what is good for them. Firms would be given

contracts to put up construction structures such as of schools and dispensaries while communities stayed at the receiving end.

Gradually the system was adopted and accepted by communities. The project design provided the opportunity for rural communities to learn by doing. They took part in meetings to discuss their felt needs and how they can contribute into addressing them. Opportunities then unfolded for women. Their involvement and participation in decision making was enhanced not by design but by choice to address conditions they persevered for a long time.

CDD effect felt on the ground, gender issues high on the agenda

By the end of TASAF I enthusiasm was high, not only from LGAs that were not in TASAF I but also from communities that could not get any funding due to limited funds. At the end of TASAF I, 1704 sub projects were completed under the following categories: community development initiatives (CDI) 1,338, public work program (PWP) 305 and social support projects (SSP) 61. These sub projects had created 7,212 assets including classrooms, health facilities, staff houses (teachers and medical personnel) dormitories incinerators, shallow wells and secondary school laboratories to name but a few.

Under public works program 113,646 beneficiaries were reached under this program whose objective is cash and skills transfer to the poorest of the poor in respective communities. Regarding gender, there was a demonstrable women empowerment. Their participation in decision making and leadership was increased to an average of 50%. Women had started coming forward and compete with men in leadership positions in community management committees. It was provided for in the operational manual that women would form 50% of sub project implementation committee and 50% of signatories to their project bank accounts. However, with confidence they gained while implementing sub projects, in some sub projects these benchmarks were surpassed with women in big numbers.

The coming in of TASAF II, much impact

TASAF II succeeded TASAF I and it became effective in October 2005. The operational procedures for TASAF II were not so different from TASAF but with additional procedures. There was an introduction to sub project interest forms which any interested community is required to fill as a first step to getting TASAF support, at the LGA level, the LGCDG access criteria applies when disbursing funds to LGAs. LGAs who have met LGCDG access criteria will receive NVF resources where as non-LGCDG Councils, TASAF access criteria for Village Council (VCs) to channel resource to communities would apply, and introduction of a 'ring fenced' window where other partners could support communities through channeling their funds to TASAF.

The new procedures were meant to ensure that there are no loose ends to jeopardize community initiatives that are targeted to poverty reduction. Following sensitization meetings, 105,000 interest forms submitted, each one expressing needs by a certain group/community. In 2006, communities started to receive funds. Sub projects were implemented and completed and communities are now getting services from created assets. So far there is a significant achievement in responding to community needs and at

the same time building capacities of communities by providing knowledge, skills in various aspects including leadership, financial management and gender. To date , records show that more 7,690 sub projects *Education 2,734 Water 560,Health 792,Road 545, forest 479, fisheries 456, irrigation 57, food security 123, Livestock 1,229 Cooperative 3, Mining and Environment 17, Social welfare 309, Marketing 119* have been implemented in remote villages giving access to children to get education and hundreds of kilometres of access roads have been built or upgraded thus linking different villages and in other areas the road have linked villages with urban areas. This has measurably improved access to essential services, for example reducing time needed to reach schools, health services or market places. As communities gain confidence are defining bigger projects with women requesting support for a variety of income generating activities

Sustainability challenges and widened scope for opportunities

With these achievements, the main challenge is sustaining achievements made by improving operation and maintenance schemes. Although beneficiary communities have set up operation and maintenance committees, capacities of these committees is still weak and obviously additional efforts by local governments is needed to ensure that village leadership is facilitated with technical support so that created assets remain in good order and functional.

Capacity building in other spheres of development has to be re emphasized. Although this takes time and consumes resources, it has to be recognized that it is an essential investment that needs to be built for future development. With community facilitators in place, communities will be able to mobilize themselves into making a difference in their lives.

Opportunities for income generation activities have extended from groups to household levels. As a strategy for development and poverty reduction, communities need to be provided with necessary support including business management skills so as to run interventions that in the end will improve living conditions of rural populations.

By closure of TASAF II in December 2009, the following outcomes are expected

- Strengthened community empowerment
- Improved availability of basic infrastructure
- Enhanced livelihood of beneficiary households
- Increased inclusion
- Enhanced enabling environment to support vulnerable groups more effectively (Institutional level)
- Increased individuals participating in community savings and investment schemes

More emphasis on effective community engagement

It is obvious that these outcomes will be met by the end of the project provided that communities are fully supported to deliver. One expectation though that will not be met by many communities is not being reached by TASAF support. It has been proven elsewhere that CDD interventions are limited by funds due to many demands coming from communities. Joint efforts are needed to finance community interventions. With deficits in meeting demands, LGAs need to give additional resources when required to support communities in order not to lose the momentum so far activated at the

community level. Partnership arrangements should also be initiated to attract other financiers, including the private sector, inviting them to actively support community initiatives.

6. Dedication to our Departed Colleague Mr. Ephraim Hossea

It was the morning of Wednesday 8th April 2009 when the TASAF family received with shock and disbelief the news that Mr. Ephraim Hossea was no more. Mr. Hossea had been in the office the previous day until late putting final touches for the meeting which was to take place the following day. Little had he known that he would not live to attend the meeting. Words could not express the loss and sadness each and every one of us felt. Only silence and painful tears prevailed.

The day that started brightly turned out to be gloomy and sour. For a while, it seemed the world was at a standstill at TASAF. But life had to carry on. In his honor, a very important meeting that was to take place that same morning, to wrap up the Mission that he actively participated, was postponed to allow us mourn our dear colleague. May God rest his soul in eternal peace. Amen.

News of his death was communicated to other TASAF staff in the districts through telephone calls, sms, and emails. In no time everyone in TASAF and our colleagues at LGAs had known that Hossea had departed to join his fore fathers in the land of eternity. Condolence messages from staff and those who had worked with Hossea started to flow...

*God saw him getting tired and a cure was not to be. So he put his arms around him and whispered "come to me." With tearful eyes we watched him, and saw him pass away. Although we loved him dearly, we could not make him stay. A golden heart stopped beating, hardworking hands at rest. God broke our hearts to prove to us, He only takes the best. **Kwaheri Hosea. Mungu ailaze roho yake mahala pema peponi. Amina.***

Hamis Kikwappe - Songea

Hosea Hosea
You are promoted to heaven
Hosea you saved us all
Hosea you were readily available
Hosea you could not mince words
Hosea you never sat on the fence
Hosea Hosea

Hosea Hosea
Hosea will you be there when we party?
Hosea will you be there when we train?
Hosea will you be there when needed?

Oh! Hosea Hosea Hosea

Hosea Hosea

A man of urbanity and witty

A man with no hesitation

A man of courage

A man who could stand up

Hosea Hosea Hosea

WE ALL MISS YOU IN THE TASAF FAMILY

May God extend courage to his family

May God lead his family

Amen

Barnabas Mkumbo - Ngara

It is such untimely death which has left us with pains and shock.

May the almighty God console his family and TASAF family as a whole.

Rachel

R.I.P Mr. E. Hossea

Mmbaga

So sudden.

We are quite shocked.

At the time we thought we needed him most.

May the ALMIGHTY avail perfect peace and consolation to the bereaved

We are just reminded that no time is inadequate to QUIT.

Mike Kyande

May the almighty God rest his soul in peace.

E.Machume

Tulimpenda, lakini Muumba amempenda zaidi.

Bwana awatulize familia yake na sisi wa TASAF

Mawazo Masenga

The heart breaking news has come as a blow, May the departed soul rest in peace, time alone will heal our wounds.

M.Malebo

Mola amlaze pema peponi. AMEN

Alfred Malambugi

At such a hard time like this, lets join
Job who said "the LORD gave and the LORD has taken away: blessed be the
name of the LORD" Job 1 v'se21.
Kimweri

May the ALMIGHTY rest him in peace
T.MWARUKA

Maandishi yanatueleza kuwa "Tujiweke tayari wakati wote kwani
hakuna ajuaye saa wala siku atakapokuja kutuchukua". Ni jana tu tulikuwa
naye na asubuhi ya leo hatunaye.
Tuiombe familia izidi kupata nguvu kushinda yote yaliyo mbele yake.

May God rest his soul in eternal life. Amen
Nkwera

Eternal rest Grant Unto Hosea, O Lord, and Let Perpetual Light Shine Up on him.
May he rest in Peace
Graceana

'God Strengthen His Family During This Very Tough Moment, Amen!
A.Bimbiga

Hosea! umetutangulia rafiki mbele za haki!
Mwakalebela.

Let the Almighty give us and his family the necessary strength to overcome this tragedy.
J.Nyamko

"Maombi yangu kuwa, Mungu awatie nguvu na faraja wafiwa wanapoanza ukurasa mpya
katika maisha" Mungu ailaze mahali pema peponi roho ya Hosea. Amina.
E.Kimola

It is really very sad to lose our lovely comrade and brother.
We loved him but God has shown that he loved him much and called for him.
May God guide us all in this very difficult period and give his family all necessary
strength to cope with this event. Amen,

Alphonse Muro

At the end of it all, Hosea was laid to rest in his home village in Arusha. Staff who managed, attended the funeral in their own capacity and others were represented by a special delegation. When they returned, there was this note at the notice board.

Wafanyakazi wote,

Nachukua nafasi hii kuwajulisha kuwa shughuli ya mazishi ya mpendwa wetu Marehemu Ephraim Hossea yalifanyika nyumbani kwake Arusha siku ya tarehe 13/04/2009 kuanzia saa sita mchana na kumalizika jioni saa kumi na moja kamili kwa usalama na amani.

Ibada ya mazishi iliongozwa na mwakilishi wa Askofu na wachungaji wa kijijini kwa marehemu na ilikuwa na nyimbo na mahubiri ya kufariji. Ofisi yetu iliwakilishwa na ujumbe maalum pamoja na baadhi ya wafanyakazi walioweza kuhudhuria.

Familia ya marehemu imetuma salamu nyingi za shukrani kwa Mkurugenzi Mtendaji, uongozi wa TASAF na kwa wafanyakazi wote kwa ujumla. Naomba kuziwakilisha.

Mimi binafsi niwashukuru sana wale wote walioweza kujitoa kwa moyo kusaidia katika shughuli nzima ya mazishi. Pia niwawashukuru sana wale walioweza kujumuika na familia ya marehemu katika ibada ya kuaga mwili wa marehemu siku ya Pasaka nyumbani kwa marehemu. Shukrani za pekee niziwakilisha kwa Mkurugenzi Mtendaji na uongozi wote kwa msaada na ushauri tangu siku tulipopata msiba huu hadi tulipokamilisha taratibu zote na hatimaye kwenda kwenye mazishi ya mfanyakazi mwenzetu Epharain Hossea.

Mungu ametoa Mungu ametwaa jina la bwana libarikiwe.

7.

OBITUARY

MR. EPHRAEM HOSSEA,

It is still a fresh memory when I recall that voice from our driver Mr. Allen Swai. He said: “Good morning HRM (Human Resources Manager) It’s me Swai!!” I replied “Yes, Swai I can hear you.”

Then I heard Swai’s trembling voice: “I went to pick up Mr. Hossea this morning, he was not feeling well. I took him to a dispensary at Kimara for the first aid but could not get any help. Then we moved to University of Dar es Salaam hospital. But by the time we arrived Mr. Hossea had already died.” I was traumatized, distressed and shocked.

I went back to my office and called Mr. Swai again. “Swai what did you say?” He repeated, ‘Hossea amefariki...’ So I did hear him right. Hossea was no more. I was devastated. I then phoned the Chief Executive, Dr. Likwelile and shared the news with him, he was devastated. I can assure you it was shocking to learn about the sudden untimely and premature death of our colleague Mr. Hossea. It was hard to believe, comprehend or digest the news. The previous day around 4:30 pm we agreed that he will be coming earlier the following morning to cover transport arrangements to the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs ready for the Wrap up meeting with the World Bank. Not knowing that God had his own plan and the time for him to depart was ready. Not a word of farewell!

The late Mr. Hossea joined TASAF in December 1st 2000 as Administrative Officer. He was a remarkable person and will always be remembered by all his friends and colleagues. He will be greatly missed.

For sure whoever came into contact with him was impressed by his business acumen, integrity and honesty. He was a source of strength and inspiration to our Administration Department at TASAF for the past eight years, three months and nine days. In his remarkable achievements, in such a short span of time, one can indeed speak of his creditable performance and dedication to his work. On the other hand, worth mentioning is the fact that he was a real great personality not only in business but also in social activities. He was indeed a good Master of Ceremony. His gap at TASAF will be difficult to fill.

The late Hossea had 33 years of working experience in administration at various capacities since 1978. He worked with Regional culture office in Arusha(1978), University of Dar es Salaam (1988), Tanganyika Dyeing and Weaving Mills (1993), Tanzania Development Fuel Company (1998) and since 2000 to his death, was an Administrative Officer with Tanzania Social Action Fund.

May the Soul of Hossea Rest in Peace, Amen.

Thecla Tarimo - Makundi
Human Resources Manager

8. TASAF STRENGTHENS DISTRICT COMMUNICATION TEAMS

The Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) has been undertaking a nation-wide training effort to equip Local Government Authorities (LGAs) with competent and effective development communication teams for mobilizing community decision making and participation in implementation of development initiatives.

Already over two hundred members of information, education and communication (IEC) teams from various districts created under the TASAF umbrella have attended training workshops organized at zonal levels. The latest workshop was held at Arusha in March this year covering the northern zone comprising LGAs in Manyara, Singida, Kilimanjaro, and Arusha regions.

Most of the communication teams had not received orientation on their roles and responsibilities. The workshops gave them opportunity to review the current status and chart out the way forward in LGAs implementation of TASAF supported subprojects with focus on communication gaps that need to be addressed.

What training was all about

The workshops covered the entire media development process from collection of information to dissemination of information through the print media. The training was aimed at giving the communication teams sufficient technical skills to enable them collect, write, edit and create products that are not only attractive but shows impact of TASAF work.

During field work teams from different LGA were mixed and worked together in small groups so as to build on skills learnt in theory. In plenary session, each group had to present its work while facilitators and other participants listened critically to the outputs created. In so doing, an opportunity was created for each team to learn from their counterparts. Specific issues were addressed from professional to human mistakes that could be avoided in media productions. Participants visited a variety of subprojects including water supply, school laboratory and classrooms construction, road construction and a tailoring shop.

IEC teams have also been reminded to document their work so as to create TASAF visibility, share their successes and promote change. The Regional newsletter is expected to be an information sharing as well as a learning platform where LGAs will show case their work and learn from one another as they give details on what works and what don't.

Effect on production of regional Newsletters

Since the decision to have regional newsletters was passed, Zanzibar and ten regions of Tanzania Mainland namely Kagera, Mwanza, Shinyanga, Tabora, Tanga, Morogoro, Mara, Pwani, Kigoma and Dodoma have managed to produce their newsletters covering implementation activities of TASAF supported initiatives in their respective districts for the period July – December 2008.

The next round of regional newsletters for the period January – June 2009 will be that of Ruvuma, Mbeya, Iringa, Rukwa, Manyara, Kilimanjaro, Arusha, Lindi and Mtwara

regions. Similar orientation sessions for these LGAs will be held in Mid May to enable them produce their first regional newsletter for the period January – June 2009.

9. Preliminary findings of TASAF Impact Evaluation

Interventions by Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) target three main beneficiary groups: service poor (SP) communities (which are supported to improve social services to improve access), able bodied but food insecure (FI) households (public works programs where beneficiaries receive cash for work), and vulnerable groups (VG), such as the elderly, people with disabilities, widows, orphans, and those living with HIV/AIDS (income generation projects such as animal husbandry, tailoring, milling, vegetable growing, etc). The Project is currently evaluating the impact of providing income generating projects to vulnerable groups in a demand driven manner on various outcomes, including health, nutrition, education, poverty, and consumption in an experimental manner.

What constitutes the study

The study includes a random assignment of villages into treatment and control groups, where the villages in the control group receive their projects with a delay of 12 months. The study will collect panel information on the sampled households in the treatment and control villages for three years. The study has a sample of approximately 2,100 households (half treatment and half control) in 100 villages in five districts. The study looks at what types of people benefit the most from TASAF. Finally, the study will track some individual outcomes in health, and education to examine whether the targeted vulnerable individuals (orphans, elderly, those living with HIV) benefit from the interventions as opposed to their households as a whole.

The household survey for Impact Evaluation started in April 2008 for selected 5 LGAs of Lushoto, Kwimba, Nzega, Moshi and Makete and aims to assess targeting effectiveness and impact of Vulnerable Groups interventions. Field work to collect baseline data has been completed in all five LGAs participating in the exercise.

What preliminary results tell us

Preliminary findings indicate that, using TASAF's definition of vulnerability, approximately 1 in 5 households are vulnerable. TASAF Vulnerable Groups projects in the study villages support approximately 10% of these vulnerable households. Vulnerable households are worse off than others in their villages in a variety of diverse dimensions (education, assets, access to services, connectedness, etc.). Vulnerable individuals are more likely to be self-employed in agriculture, less likely to be in non-agriculture and more likely to be sick or incapacitated.

The preliminary results further indicate that, group leaders, while also seemingly needy, are younger, more educated, more connected to village leaders, more likely to hold local office, and have more assets than other vulnerable individuals. This holds true even in comparison to non-vulnerable households in their villages. These may be characteristics necessary to lead an income generating group activity. Consumption deficit suggests that they may have joined due to temporary shocks.

Future focus of the study

The study continues and is currently focusing on the impact of VG interventions. The impacts are examined at the village, group, household, or individual level. The key question is whether the intervention has (sustainable) impact on the health, education, and nutrition of the beneficiaries (on average and distribution) and whether there is variation in impact, what explains it: is it type of group, type of project, training, prime movers, or others?

Other aspects of the impact assessment are on sustainability of the group enterprises whereby an inquiry is on what kinds of groups will succeed? And whether business skills training become part and parcel of similar TASAF interventions in the future

9. NANI KAMA TASAF

1. **TASAF TASAF TASAF
NCHI NZIMA TASAF
UNGUJA TASAF TASAF
PEMBA TASAF TASAF
MAFIA TASAF TASAF
UKEREWE TASAF TASAF
BAGAMOYO NAKO TASAF TASAF
JAMANI NANI KAMA TASAF**

2. **WADAU WAULIZA TASAF
TACAIDS WAJA TASAF
MACEMP WAKO TASAF
OPEC WANAISHI TASAF
BENKI YA DUNIA KWAO TASAF
SERIKALI MLEZI WA TASAF
JAMANI NANI KAMA TASAF**

3. **WENYE ULEMAVU WALILIA TASAF
WAJANE WAOMBA TASAF
WAGANE WASEMA TASAF
YATIMA WAIMBA TASAF
VIJANA WAULIZA TASAF
WAATHIRIKA WAITA TASAF
JAMANI NANI KAMA TASAF**

4. **KIKWETE ALONGA TASAF
WABUNGE WAONA TASAF
WA NANYUMBU AITA TASAF
WA MURONGO ASEMA TASAF**

- WA ILEJE ATAMBA TASAF
WA DODOMA AIMBA TASAF
JAMANI NANI KAMA TASAF**
- 5. WILAYA ZARINDIMA TASAF
KATA ZATAFUTA TASAF
VIJIJI VYAIMBA TASAF
VITONGOJI WANENA TASAF
MITAA NAYO TASAF
KAYA ZAITA TASAF
JAMANI NANI KAMATASAF**
- 6. KAMBA ZA USUMBA TASAF
NGOMBE NA MAZIWA TASAF
BARABARA VIJIJINI TASAF
MASHINE ZA KUSAGA TASAF
BUSTANI ZA MBOGA TASAF
MBUZI WA KISASA TASAF
JAMANI NANI KAMATASAF**
- 7. WAKURUGENZI KOTE TASAF
WASHAURI NCHINI WOTE TASAF
WAHASIBU WILAYANI TASAF
WALENGWA WOTE TASAF
KAMATI ZOTE TASAF
ZINGATIENI MIFUMO YA TASAF
JAMANI HAKUNA KAMA TASAF**
- 8. JAMANI SHIME TASAF
WILAYANI SHIME TASAF
KAMILISHENI MIRADI TASAF
OMBENI VYETI TASAF
WAKAGUZI MIFUMO TASAF
HIMIZENI FAFANUENI TASAF
JAMANI HAKUNA KAMA TASAF**
- 9. WAKURUGENZI WOTE TASAF
DUMISHENI UMOJA TASAF**

**WATUMISHI WOTE TASAF
JUHUDI KAZINI TASAF
TUITANGAZE TASAF
IENDELEE KUWEPO TASAF
JAMANI HAKUNA KAMA TASAF**

“JUHUDI KATIKA KAZI NDIYO SILAHA YETU TASAF”

***Barnabas Mkumbo
Mkaguzi wa Mifumo
Kanda ya Ziwa-Ngara***

10. MKURANGA WAGES WAR AGAINST FOREST DESTRUCTION

People in Mkuranga district close to Dar es Salaam city have finally decided to end rampant deforestation and destruction of natural vegetation by embarking on a forest reserve management programme covering thousands of hectares. Already communities in 15 villages are implementing Participatory Forest Management (PFM) subprojects earmarked to cost a total of TZS 155 million.

Situated on the southern borders of Dar es Salaam, Mkuranga which is among the six districts of the Coast Region, covers an area of 51,000 hectares of which 43,120 is public land forests. For decades now, the district has been the main source of ever-growing demand for fuelwood and charcoal for domestic use by Dar es Salaam city residents.

The uncontrolled exploitation, coupled with tree felling for timber and poles makes the area threatened by deforestation to the extent that vast landscapes have now been left bare with scanty shrubs. There has also been growing demand for farmland by Dar es Salaam people who want to establish fruit and food crops farms as well as livestock husbandry.

Recognizing the impediments caused by forest destruction, the villagers which have embarked on this participatory forest reserve management programme are Mvuleni, Mkiu, Kibesa, Mpafu, Kifumangao, Mkuruwili, Kibudi, Kibuyuni and Chamgoi. Others are Vianzi, Nyamato, Kirekese, Mbezi Mlungwana, Kilamba and Misasa. The projects cover a total area of 16,200 hectares.

Among many other benefits, the initiative has created a sense of community ownership of the natural forest and will promote sustainable utilization of forest resources in their areas.

In March 2009, a two-member team of the World Bank (WB) Supervisory Mission for Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) visited two participatory forest management projects in Mvuleni and Mbezi-Mlungwana villages. Mvuleni village is situated 45 kilometers south of the district headquarters along Kilwa Road.

The WB officials Mr. David Mulongo and Ms. Elizabeth Sakaya were highly impressed by the villagers' commitment and aspirations in safeguarding forest land and spearheading sustainable utilization of forest resources.

The Mvuleni natural forest conservation subproject covers 800 hectares while that of Mbezi-Mlungwana covers 1,000 hectares. Implementation of both subprojects began in July last year.

Members of Community Management Committees of the two subprojects briefed the visiting officials on the work that had already been done. That includes forest land survey and installation of beacons to mark the forest reserve boundaries. This had been carried out with facilitation from the district land officials.

They said that the subproject would eventually improve the forest condition and limit or significantly reduce uncontrolled exploitation in order to ensure that the forest resources would continue to benefit the villagers, their children and future generations. They emphasized the need for by-laws to ensure that the community through their village government had legal control over the reserve forest resource. The by-laws would empower the village authorities to police forest resource uses.

Already arrangements were being made to start income generating activities in the forests such as bee-keeping and fish farming. Mkuranga district authorities were making arrangements to assign experts to the villages to train the villagers and supervise the initial stages of such ventures.

Speaking to Mbezi Mlungwana villagers, the World Bank official, Ms. Elizabeth Sakaya commended the villagers for their decision to implement a participatory forest management subproject which would enable them to conserve their natural resource heritage. She said that the bee-keeping initiatives would certainly earn the villagers good income and help them fight poverty. That would help them improve their welfare and enable them to provide good education for their children.

~~11. article on CCT—yet to be submitted~~