WEHUBIT

Project name

IMAP4CSA

Country

Tanzania

Implemented by

Kilimo Trust
regional solutions to local problems

rikolto
VREDESEILANDEN

Budget

350,000 €

Duration

06/2019 – 06/2021

Contribution to SDGs

2 ZERO HUNGER

13 CLIMATE ACTION

Implemented by

Enabel

Financed by

Belgium
partner in development

CHALLENGES

Smallholder rice farmers in Tanzania are confronted with many difficulties, such as:

1)Climate change challenges like floods and drought.

2)Inefficient use of water.

3)Limited knowledge of Good Agronomic practices.

4)Farming remains subsistence, as smallholder farmers lack access to capital from financial institution to be able to adopt improved farming technologies, buy improved seeds, fertilizer, agrochemicals and cover cost of their farming operations such as plowing, transplanting, weeding, bird scaring and harvesting.

5)Limited access to timely and accurate information for better farming decisions making i.e. plot size.

DIGITAL SOCIAL INNOVATION

The digital solution had two components:

1)Digital profiling of farmers: involved collection of bio-data from farmers, measuring their plot sizes with GPS technology and harvested volumes. Farmers were provided with their plot size information via SMS along with recommendations to apply good agricultural practices based on the data collected.

2)SRP data: consisted in gauging the progress of farmers in attaining the SRP (sustainable rice production) global standards for rice production, using the KOBO App.

The project also promoted the use of the digital solution to link smallholder farmers and farmer groups to collective trading platforms and systems to increase market connectivity.

WEHUBIT EFFECT

SCALING-UP DIGITAL INTERVENTIONS

The project was able to scale-up digital knowledge and information services from the SIKIA project to more than 10,000 rice farmers in Iringa region.

LEARNING AND REPLICATING

In its new programme, Rikolto will scale-up several of the technologies and lessons learned of the project to Mbeya region and elsewhere in Tanzania and East Africa.

RESULTS ACHIEVED

The project mapped 10,119 plots mapped 6 districts, covering 4,242 hectares and 7,552 farmers.

A total of 11,565 farmers were trained on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in line with the 46 requirements of the Sustainable Rice Practices (SRP) Standard. As a result, GHG emissions were reduced by 30% because of farmers adopting climate-smart rice production practices like such as Alternate Wetting and Drying, which avoid methane emissions from the decomposition of rice straw.

2,350 HA UNDER SUSTAINABLE RICE PRODUCTION

3,935 FARMERS RECEIVED DIGITAL INFORMATION VIA THEIR MOBILE PHONES

LESSONS LEARNED

The use of Village Based Advisors (VBAs) and lead farmers through Training of Trainers (ToT) has a multiplier effect in disseminating agricultural technologies to many farmers.

More generally, developing a strong commitment to the SRP process is important before proceeding with actual implementation. This can be encouraged by having farmers do plot measurements themselves (guided by VBAs) and afterwards show and discuss results with them.

Compliance to GAP and SRP comes at a cost hence a need to design market arrangements that will offset the costs. Therefore, the project integrated market linkages into its interventions and set up a certification and reward system for adoption of SRP standards by farmers to act as signals for premium prices for their produce.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW MORE?

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