

Annex 4

REPORT FROM KACHELE CLUB REPORT IN SALIMA DISTRICT

Reported by Sam K. Phiri, contact farmer, 4th June 2012

Kachele Club is one of farmers' groups in Salima District. This group is interested in working with CIP to promote Orange Fleshed Sweet Potato in Salima District. Since we joined with CIP in September 2011, many things happened e.g., they gave us two bags of vines each bag having two bundles of 300 cuttings each. We managed to make five nursery beds of one by twenty metres each. After two months we had enough cuttings to make five more nursery beds from the old beds.



Out of those ten beds, we have managed to sell 40 bundles each bundle having 300 cuttings at a very good price of 600MK per bundle to FAO.



After selling these vines to FAO we had more left overs and the Club decided to share the remaining vines to all the members two bundles each to grow on their garden.



After sharing to the Club members we also shared the vines to hundred house holds within the communities around Kachele Club. Because of the drought the vines did not do well as we were expected. Therefore we decided to mobilise the Chiefs around the community to share the importance of this zondeni type of Sweet Potato our aim was to converse them to have a Village nursery in every village. We had ten chiefs and some leaders of the communities on that meeting. After sharing the news to all the chiefs and community leaders, their agreed to have each village a nursery beds led for next year's farming season. The Kachele Club has agreed to give each village two bags of two bundles each so that they can multiply for next season.

Our plans is that by the end of July our sweet potato will be totally matured and we are going to use those sweet potatoes to train people how to make different food items out of sweet potatoes.

We have also started to prepare the big land for the nursery beds. Our plan is to have two acres of vines by the beginning of next year's farming season. These vines plus the ones multiplied by the Villages will be enough to share to 1500 house holds freely and to sell some remaining to our partners.

We have discussed to 20 Primary Schools in Salima and agreed to start the programme of selling chips at a reasonable price for the children. we are starting this programme very soon.

Because of the campaigns that we had with the Chiefs and local leaders, more people are coming to ask when are we starting selling the Sweet Potato so that they can buy which shows that we will have more customers.