

Annex 9



THE MILLENNIUM VILLAGES PROJECT

P O Box 841, Zomba. Tel 01527144/301 Fax 01527 066



I. Copied from powerpoint presentation presented by Chaterine Mfitilodze at the 2nd Technical OFSP Meeting held on 7 and 8 October 2011 in Blantyre, Malawi

Resume of the project activities from 1st October 2010 to 30 Sep 2011

The Millennium Villages

- Located in Traditional Authority (T/A) Mlumbe, Zomba around Thondwe area
- Working with a population of 35000+ (7000 households)
- The project is aimed at pilot testing various interventions that can be adopted and scaled up in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals
- Interventions are centred on the following; Agriculture, Health, Infrastructure and water development, Business, Enterprise and Cooperatives development, gender, education and community development.

Capacity Building

- In partnership with CIP, MVP has managed to encourage more women to join OFSP utilization and processing groups which are enhancing their skills on meal preparation and it has also become a means for income generating as they are producing various products.
- 628 “students” have been trained and each trained 5 more women
- The women groups have had the chance to display their products at various for a such as the National Agriculture Fair, IFPRI conference, world food day, field days which has given them a platform to exchange knowledge with others
- Nutrition education on the importance of OFSP in the diet has been on going
- Recorded 9 radio programs on various recipes with emphasis on infant and young child feeding (Wednesdays on MBC Radio 1)
- Had 6 different groups from Chikwawa, Phalombe, Mangochi and Dedza to learn about processing and utilization
- 7 sensitization campaigns on the use of OFSP were carried out where the YONECO drama and dance troupe relayed messages on OFSP production, harvesting, processing, utilization and storage messages were given.
- 16 groups on vine multiplication comprising of 112 men and 198 women
- 2.5 hectares of nurseries and
- 18000kgs of vines distributed to 4500 farmers covering 45 hectares
- 2 schools Dindi and Katete received 300kgs of vines
- 350 farmers trained on vine multiplication, root storage, pest and disease control
- 3 field days on OFSP interplanted with maize at Nambande, Katete and Msamba clusters

- 2 field tours to Bvumbwe Research Station
- OFSP vine multiplication and sales has generated income for the farmers noticeable by one club that made K350,000 from sales last season which has enabled them to buy iron sheets, bicycles and some have built houses.



Fig. 1. During vine dissemination



Fig. 2. A display during one of field days

Equipment

- 7 double drum ovens have been procured by the MVP own project and 3 have been distributed to 3 groups who have also been trained on bakery management with emphasis on the OFSP products.
- 7 solar dryers were also distributed to the women groups for preserving the chips/grates. These were bought by the MVP project.
- A deep fryer received from the Rooting out Hunger project (CIP) and it has been using by women groups for frying OFSP chips in the training of utilization of OFSP roots.
- CIP procured 1 motorised chipper and 2 manual chip cutters for supporting the training of the trainers.

Challenges

- No Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials on OFSP production, utilization, processing and storage
- Increase in women groups has increased the equipment requirement e.g. the solar dryers
- An overwhelming demand for the OFSP vines is due to the awareness campaigns however there is not enough seed to meet the demand
- No post harvest technologies for storage of the roots

Opportunities

- Develop IEC material on production, post harvest handling and nutrition
- Research on storage of roots
- Increase the land of all vine multipliers to meet demand
- Buy more solar dryers or source material to make some locally
- Conduct more awareness and sensitization on the OFSP
- Roll out OFSP utilization to the 4 remaining clusters

II. Quarterly Report from 1st April to 30 June 2011

PREPARED BY Agriculture Facilitator Timothy Kamulingeni

SECTOR: AGRICULTURE

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE QUARTER

- The 12 Secondary vine multipliers were established in the past growing season 2010 to 2011 season and a total area of 1.5 ha was grown to vines which supplied vines to 4500 beneficiaries
- Four farmers were selected for trials for Orange Flesh Sweet Potato and carried OFSP trials successfully
- MVP distributed 4500 vouchers to 4500 beneficiaries in all the seven clusters 2900 were women and 1100 were men
- Trained 12 vine multipliers on management of nurseries which included planting and watering
- Made 28 demonstrations on planting Orange Flesh Sweet Potato for production in all the seven clusters which included spacing of ridges and planting stations
- 50 farmers have been trained in storage of sweetpotato
- Conducted 7 campaigns on the use of Zondeni because it has more Vitamin A which is very vital for young children under the age five and also for adults
- Conducted 4 trainings on processing and food products that can be made from Orange Flesh Sweet potato and 120 women attended
- MVP hosted visitors from Kenya Margaret the Nutritionist and Dr Putri from Bvumbwe Research station who visited nurseries production fields and saw some products from orange flesh sweet potato and stayed in Zomba for 4 working days

Important stories from Vine Multipliers

The vine multipliers have made significant achievements especially that group from Majawa Village in Msamba clusters in Thondwe EPA, the group is composed of 8

women and 2 men and in total it is 10 members. It is encouraging to note that the group grew vines from 0.3 Ha they realized a profit of MK230, 000 from their sales of vines, the group has known that this business is more profitable than growing maize and tobacco

In addition to that Rose Makaka has cemented the floor her house ,Moses Jonas has bought a new bicycle ,Loveness Jonas has bought iron sheets and Sitiano Masauso bought iron sheets ,burnt bricks and he is about to construct the house and all these have been made because they were engaged in the business of vine multiplication