



Mtandao wa Vikundi vya Wakulima

Annual Report 2012



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Foreword by the MVIWATA Chairperson

I am privileged to present to you this report, which gives an insight of activities executed by Mtandao wa Vikundi vya Wakulima (MVIWATA) in the course of the year 2012.

Year 2012 MVIWATA continued with implementation of activities in accordance with our strategic plan. We had a number of programmes on capacity building of our members as well on economic empowerment interventions. The completion of Food crops whole sale market project that was funded by our partner European Union paved the way for more activities that targeted strengthening market interventions in the newly constructed markets.

In terms of advocacy we continued to work on land rights issues which remained pertinent as others such as markets for produce, engagement of farmers in policies and access to inputs remained on the agenda as well.

Our staff strength kept on growing both at national office and in our branches. A good combination of disciplines in our work team have been important in improving our delivery capacity.

Our membership has been growing and we have enjoyed vast support from members at all levels, which poses huge challenge in terms of meeting their expectations. We owe our thanks to our members for their commitment to their institution.

Gender aspects, youth involvement and addressing HIV/AIDS issues have been part of our interventions this year.

Finally, we thank all our partners for their tireless efforts to make MVIWATA grow and become credible.

Habibu Simbamkuti
MVIWATA Chairperson



Foreword by Executive Director



I am humbled to share with you our annual report 2012. The report outlines the main achievements of the institution with the year and our aspirations for the next year. MVIWATA team has never stopped putting their efforts to make sure that we achieve the best. We recognise and thank our partners, friends and supporters for their contribution towards progress of MVIWATA. I hope the report will provide you with highlights of our achievements and where we want to go.

Stephen Ruvuga
Executive Director - MVIWATA

1. Introduction

1.1 Background of MVIWATA

Mtandao wa Vikundi vya Wakulima Tanzania (MVIWATA) is a national farmers organisation which brings together small holder farmers from all regions of Tanzania in order to have a common voice to defend economic, social, cultural and political interests of smallholder farmers. Founded in 1993, MVIWATA aspires to empower smallholder farmers economically and socially through capacity building and undertake lobbying and advocacy interventions by strengthening their groups and networks to ensure smallholder farmers inclusiveness and participation, facilitating communication and learning so that they are capable of defending their interests.

Generally, MVIWATA was formed by smallholder farmers to address challenges facing smallholder farmers such as lack of a strong organisation of small scale farmers in the country, exclusion of small scale farmers from decision making process on matters that touch the welfare of small scale farmers and under-representation or complete lack of representation of small scale farmers in decision making bodies, low prices of agricultural produce, unreliable markets and lack of access to financial services. To address these challenges, MVIWATA has been implementing various interventions focusing on lobbying and advocacy and economic empowerment of small-scale farmers. These interventions are based on five strategic objectives defined in the five years Strategic Plan of MVIWATA (2010 – 2014), namely;

- SO1 Organising farmers into strong groups and networks to have common voice to advocate for their interests;
- SO2 Strengthening lobbying and advocacy capacity of farmers to influence policy process;
- SO3 Empowering farmers economically through initiatives such as saving and credit (microfinance), market linkage, and development of entrepreneurship skills;
- SO4 Building capacity of MVIWATA members, leaders and staff on cross cutting issues (HIV/AIDS, gender and climate change); and
- SO5 Strengthening institutional development of MVIWATA

The mission of MVIWATA is to strengthen farmers' groups and networks, facilitate communication and learning through exchange visits among farmers for the purpose of defending the interests of small scale farmers

The vision of MVIWATA is to become a strong farmers' organisation that will guarantee small-scale farmers' participation and representation in socio-economic and policy dialogue process at various levels through learning, initiating, implementing and monitoring social and economic development processes.

This report therefore, provides a comprehensive overview of MVIWATA activities that were implemented from January to December 2012, major achievements attained, lessons learnt and challenges encountered along the implementation process of MVIWATA programmes.

1.2 MVIWATA Organisational Structure

The structure of MVIWATA provides for four different categories:

- Annual General Meeting (AGM)
- The Council which comprises of representatives from leaders of middle level networks and members of board of directors
- Board of Directors constituted by 9 members who are elected by the Annual General Meeting (AGM) every after three years
- Management Team headed by the Executive Director.

In terms of networking, MVIWATA is structured into local networks (grassroots networks of farmers groups at village and ward levels), middle level networks (at district and regional levels) and national level. So far, MVIWATA has established middle level networks in all regions and some districts of Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar although they differ in terms of organisational development, memberships and leadership capacities.

2. Approach and methodology

The main approach of MVIWATA as per its tradition has been farmer-led participatory approaches that aspire to ensure capacity development of farmers. Such methods and tools as forums, village workshops, centre-based residential trainings, awareness creation meetings and exposure visits were among the most commonly used methods.

There has been substantial media engagement, engagement with policy makers and grassroots forums for public awareness.

Essentially, activities have been facilitated by MVIWATA team of staff, leaders and farmers-promoters (farmers who are trained to train other farmers). Farmers' exchanges and farmer-to-farmer trainings were at the heart of the approach to reach members and for sustained impact on the ground.

Through various documentation that were carried by MVIWATA, successful stories were shared among members and the public through quarterly newsletters of MVIWATA, namely *Pambazuko*; weekly radio programs at Radio Maria namely *Sauti ya Wakulima*; MVIWATA website and a monthly bulletin on key events conducted or participated by MVIWATA. Additionally, various public media such as radio, television and newspapers were used to disseminate key lobbying and advocacy messages to the public to influence change to ensure conducive policy environment for smallholder farmers.

To ensure ownership and sustainability of activities and programmes, MVIWATA members from various groups and networks were directly involved in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of activities. Collaboration and partnerships with other development partners, local government authorities and allies was strengthened and for some specific activities, they were directly involved in planning and implementation process.

The main beneficiaries of MVIWATA activities were, as per our mandate are smallholder farmers generally, although some activities specifically targeted the members, leaders and staff of MVIWATA. Other beneficiaries are stakeholders involved in various value chain development for commodities being promoted by MVIWATA such as traders, processors, cargo porters, middlemen local government, and other actors in commodity value chains operating in and around MVIWATA constructed markets.

3. Partners of MVIWATA in 2012

In 2012 MVIWATA worked in partnership with various partners through the national office and branches (middle level networks). These partners include Irish Aid, Swedish Cooperative Centre - VI (SCC-VI), Trias Alliance for Green Revolution (AGRA), Agrinatura, ACDI/VOCA, FAO-SHFS, EAFF, VECO Tanzania, Agriterria, McKnight Foundation and Rural Livelihood Development Company (RLDC) and Misereor. The Government of Tanzania provided in-kind support to MVIWATA through exemption of some taxes and provision of office space particularly in Kyela and Ludewa Districts.

4. Activities and Achievements in 2012

This section presents a detailed account of activities that were implemented under the five thematic areas of MVIWATA strategic plan and associated results in the period of January to December 2012. In general these activities can be summed up in the following clusters;

- Facilitating formation and strengthening of farmers' groups and networks through sensitisation meetings, exchange visits and leadership training.
- Strengthening advocacy skills of farmers through training, farmers' forums, coalition building, execution of studies and facilitating exchange of information through participation in local, national, regional and international forums.
- Facilitating market access through developing entrepreneurship skills, market linkage interventions, operating a market information system (MAMIS).
- Facilitating farmers' access to financial services through strengthening of rural microfinance institutions owned by smallholder farmers and provision of technical support.
- Facilitating mainstreaming of cross cutting issues such as HIV/AIDS, gender equity and climate change into MVIWATA activities through sensitisation meetings and workshops for awareness creation.
- Alliance building, networking and partnership building between MVIWATA and other stakeholders to advocate on issues of farmers' interests at all levels
- Monitoring and evaluation of organizational capacity and the progress of MVIWATA programmes

All these interventions aimed at building the capacity of small-scale farmers to influence local, national, regional and international policies and effectively participate in decision making on issues of their welfare and improve their livelihood and economic activities.

Activities that were implemented in 2012 and associated achievements and challenges are discussed in the section below.

4.1 To organise farmers into strong groups and networks to have common voice to advocate for their interests

a) Strengthening of farmers' groups and networks

To strengthen governance of groups and networks so that they become active and able to engage in local development and policy issues, MVIWATA conducted training workshops and follow up visits to were conducted by technical personnel and promoters. The focus of training has been on leadership and governance. The training workshops and follow up visits were particularly carried out intensively in middle level networks of Arusha, Manyara, Morogoro and Ruvuma. The table below summaries the reach and milestones reached in strengthening farmers group and networks.

Location	Groups/local networks trained	Individuals Reached	Milestones
Mviwata Manyara	Muungano, Upendo, Songambe, Record, Faraja, Mshikamano, Amani, Mwembeni, Mwegea, Twiga, Okoa, Zinduka, Haragasi, Mshikamano, Ayamango SACCOs, Amani, Mkombozi and Jiendeleze	122 leaders (70 women and 52 men)	Improved governance as manifested in improved systems; creation of group by-laws and conducting elections. All 19 groups prepared their by-laws and 7 groups conducted elections. Regular meetings were also held as manifested in the minutes. New members joined MVIWATA
Mviwata Arusha	UUWANO, MVIWABU, MVIWAME, MVIWAKO, MVIWATU, MVIWAMBI, MVIWANGO networks	243 leaders (122 women and 111 men)	MVIWATA Karatu district network was formed. 3 new local networks namely MVIWAENGO, MVIWAMA and MVIWAEMBI were formed. MVIWATA Arusha itself was created in 2012 from district networks of Arumeru, Monduli and Longido.
Mviwata Kilimanjaro	33 groups in Hai district 31 groups in Mwanga district	330 members (227 women and 103 men) 310 members (140 women and 170 men)	Improved governance as manifested in improved systems such as creating of group by laws and conducting elections.
Mviwata Ruvuma	Ward networks in Songea and Namtumbo districts: 7 ward networks, namely; Subira, Mpitimbi, Lilambo, Ruhuwiko, Mtangimbole, and Mpandangindo	287 participants (159 women and 128 men)	Recruitment of 102 (62 female and 40 male) new members.
Mviwata Morogoro	Kiroka, Kikundi, Mikese in Morogoro Rural Lubungo and Langali in Mvomero District	39 farmers groups (12 groups from Kiroka, 20 groups from Kikundi and 7 groups from Lubungo) reached	New networks formed in Kiroka, Kikundi and Lubungo 30 individuals acquired individual membership cards of MVIWATA
Mviwata Singida	Kisemwa group at Msemembo village in Manyoni	45 (19 women and 26 men)	Recruitment of new members of MVIWATA

From the above table 1337 individuals (737 women and 600 men) were reached through village workshops and follow up visits.

The significance of this activity is to forge stronger groups and networks that have capacity to engage in local development and policy issues including improving local accountability.

Overall results in this activity are improved leadership, governance of the groups and networks and recruitment of new MVIWATA members.



Village workshops in pastoralists community Mundarara village, Longido (left) and Engutoto Arusha (right).

b) Training on leadership for national, middle and grassroots level networks

In 2012, 225 farmers leaders (110 women and 115 men) attended training on leadership organised at the national office and at the middle level networks (regional and districts networks). The training sessions covered leadership, governance of farmers' organisations, communication and policy advocacy.

- 69 farmers' leaders (27 women and 42 men) attended 2 short training sessions that were conducted in Morogoro from 16-18th May 2012 and 30th May – 1st June 2012 involving
- 50 farmers' leaders (22 women and 28 men) attended a training that was conducted in Zanzibar involving from 29 – 30 May 2012
- 30 newly elected members of the MVIWATA Monduli Steering Committee and its sub-committees were trained on group dynamics and leadership skills.
- 26 leaders (11 women 15 men) of MVIWATA middle level steering committees of Kilimanjaro, Morogoro, and Shinyanga attended training on leadership, resource management and organisational leadership.
- 80 leaders (50 women and 30 men) of local networks in Daudi Division in Mbulu District attended training on leadership skills and group dynamics.

c) Developing MVIWATA training programme

MVIWATA training programme was reviewed and shared in the technical staff meeting and with leaders and members. The training programme has been developed and shared among technical staff. The new programme will be used for Farmers' Leadership Training in 2013. Complementary training materials have been reviewed. The training materials that were reviewed include Leadership, Entrepreneurship, Farmers' Networks and Groups Management and Advocacy and Lobbying. Further training materials will be developed in 2013.

d) Maintaining MVIWATA membership database

To monitor the activeness and growth of MVIWATA memberships in terms of individual, groups and networks, MVIWATA continued to update its database with membership information that will provide statistics of all members served by the organization.

The baseline information done by end of 2011 indicates that MVIWATA has a membership estimated to more than 100,000 individual members drawn from over 4,000 groups grouped into 15 middle level networks members of MVIWATA. Until December 2012, 14,391 card holder members, 1,267 groups and 195 local networks was in the database. By December 2012, MVIWATA membership has increased to 103,647 individual members grouped into 4,084 groups from all regions of Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar. Database updating is an on-going exercise that will continue intensively next year.

e) Facilitating exchange visits to members

76 farmers (45 women and 39 men) members of MVIWATA participated in local exchanges in the spirit of facilitating communication, learning and exchanges among farmers the following exchanges visits were conducted.

Kyela and Ludewa districts: A five days study visit to learn collective marketing was organised for farmers from Kyela and Ludewa to producers and marketing groups in Dodoma and Morogoro regions. The visit was conducted from 19th to 23rd March 2012. 22 farmers (6 women and 16 men) participated.

As result from these exchanges Uwate group in Tenende village at Mwaya ward in Kyela District, embarked on collective marketing and succeeded to sell 7 tons of cocoa collectively at a price of T Shs 4,000/= per kg, which is above the usual price of T Shs 2500/kg commonly offered to farmers who sold cocoa individually in the same season.

Manyara and Zanzibar: A delegation of 10 farmers (4 women and 6 men) from Zanzibar participated in exchange visit in Manyara from 3rd to 5th June 2012 to share experiences on advocacy strategy, partnerships and best agricultural practices on sunflower, pigeon peas and milk production. In return, 5 farmers (2 women and 3 men) from Manyara visited Zanzibar on 27th – 29th June 2012 with the aim of learning farming practices in Zanzibar agricultural activities.

Monduli, Arusha: 21 farmers (16 women and 5 men) from Manyara visited Monduli and Arusha, from 22nd to 25 August 2012 to learn granary construction and operations.

MVIWATA Arusha also organised an exchange programme on irrigation for 17 farmers (8 women and 9 men).

15 farmers (9 women + 6 men) from MVIWAKO, MVIWABU, MVIWAMAKI and UUWANO local networks visited Kilacha poultry unit and agro-forestry farming in Kilimanjaro on 23rd September 2012.

An international exchange visit was facilitated by La Via Campesina Africa in which 5 farmers (3 from Mozambique and 2 from Zimbabwe) visited MVIWATA in Morogoro to share experience on farmers' practices on agro-ecology.

4.2 Strengthening advocacy capacity of farmers to influence policy process

a) Building capacities of smallholder farmers on lobbying and advocacy

- a. To ensure that the media is more engaged in land advocacy a one day training workshop was organised by MVIWATA in collaboration with TALA on 11th May 2012. 30 journalists from various media houses who report from six regions namely; Morogoro, Mbeya, Ruvuma, Arusha, Manyara, and Dar es Salaam participated. The purpose of the training was to strengthen understanding of journalists on investigative journalism as related to smallholder farmers. The forum was used to outline further strategies for collaboration with media including organising at least once per year a similar event; inviting media to participate in field activities for them to understand and report better issues of small scale farmers.
 - Training on land rights was conducted for 30 farmers' leaders from Mbeya, Morogoro, Mara and Manyara where land conflicts are high attended a five day training on land rights and gender equality. The farmers upon receiving the training organised feedback meetings and educated others on land right issues (Box 1, below).
 - Kilosa and Mvomero districts are among areas of Morogoro with endemic land conflicts. To build capacities of farmers on land rights, human rights and the role of smallholder farmers

in defending their interests, MVIWATA organised three village based meetings in Msowero/ Mambegwa-Kilosa (20 January 2012); Lubungo, Mvomero (20 February 2012) and Mateteni/ Mbigiri-Kilosa (28 February 2012). Follow up meetings were conducted in Mateteni and Msowero to assess the actions taken by smallholder farmers to defend their rights. About 200 villagers participated in these village forums.

Box 1: Case of Catherine Zacharia and Monica Samuel, farmer trainers

Ms Catherine Zacharia is a farmer from Rebu village and Ms Monica Samuel is a farmer from Kenyamanyori village, both in Tarime District. The two female farmers attended a training on land conflict that was conducted by MVIWATA on 28th May – 1st June 2012. Upon arriving in their village and feeling empowered, they went on to organise village meetings in Turwa, Kitare, Bingi, Manga, Ganyange, Komasa, Nyalelo, Mriba, Kibaso, Itirrio, Nyanungu, Sirari, Pemba and Nyamaraga wards to give feedback of the training that they attended. In this way they were able to reach at least 900 villagers that attended the feedback meetings.

Seeing the impact of the feedback meetings that were conducted by the Tarime District Council were inspired by the work done by the two farmers in education other farmers and provided the local network T.Shs 4,800,000/- to facilitate similar meetings in other villages.



b) Building alliances for lobbying and advocacy

In collaboration with other members of ANSAF, MVIWATA participated in one day meeting with parliamentarians on 21st April, 2012. The meeting involved 15 members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, and Water and representatives from MVIWATA and ANSAF. The aim of the meeting was to present to the committee research findings and recommendations on issues related land and smallholder agriculture and the need for the government to increase budget allocation for agriculture sector as well as the impact of export bans on small scale farmers.



Farmers representative, left in a session with parliamentarians. Right; a session with parliamentarians in progress in Dodoma.

Likewise MVIWATA in collaboration with other members of the Tanzania Land Alliance (TALA) participated in a day meeting on 08th June 2012 with the Commissioner for Lands at the Ministry of Land and Human Settlement Development in Dar es Salaam. The aim of the meeting was to discuss the challenges on land tenure system for small holder farmers, specifically the impact of the amendment of the Village Land act of 1997 to allocate more land for large scale investment in agriculture.

c) Studies on advocacy issues

One study and one fact finding mission were conducted in 2012.

- **Study on impact of large scale investment in agriculture on land availability to small holder farmers:** MVIWATA in collaboration with Haki-Ardhi conducted a study on impact of large scale investment in agriculture on land availability to small holder farmers. The study was conducted in November – December 2012 in 5 districts namely, Mvomero, Kilosa, Mbarali, Babati and Kiteto. The objectives of the study were to assess the impact of huge land acquisition by foreign and local investors to smallholder producers. The study revealed a lot of malpractices in land acquisition, violations of village land act, accumulation of huge lands that are not used by investors and instead sublet at higher prices to local producers and finally aggravated land pressure due to acquisition of large lands by large scale investors. Increased conflicts between livestock keepers and farmers have been revealed to be aggravated by land pressure after huge lands have been taken by investors who in turn barely use the land. The study recommends cancellation of title deeds and redistribution of land to the landless in the studied areas. The study further recommends to re-look at laws governing acquisition of village or general land in order to protect the local land users.
- **Fact finding mission to investigate allegations of murder of smallholder farmers in Ulanga district:** MVIWATA and other human rights organisations including Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC), Lawyers Environmental Action Team (LEAT), Women Legal Aid Centre (WLAC) and HAKIARDHI accompanied by media conducted a fact finding mission on 26 – 31 March 2012 in Ulanga district to investigate allegations of murder of smallholder farmers perpetrated by military. The murders apparently were committed after protest by smallholder farmers who were evicted from their land to pave the way for an investor. The mission revealed that 5 farmers were illegally murdered and 3 others injured by the military. A statement was made public by the organisations in which they demanded that the perpetrators be brought to court of law to answer charges of murder. The statement demanded immediate halt to systematic murder of villagers who demand their rights. (Statement is annexed to this report). The noise helped the perpetrators to be taken to the court.





Journalists conducting interviews during the fact finding mission. Above left, perpetrators of Ulanga killings under police escort after arrests.

- **Campaigns and farmers forums on key issues and challenges facing small-scale farmers**

Commemoration of International Peasants Day: On 17th April 2012, MVIWATA organised a one day national symposium to commemorate the International Peasants' Day which was attended by 101 participants (53 females and 48 males) mainly MVIWATA members. The objective of the symposium was to raise public awareness on land grabbing and develop strategies to halt it. The event was widely covered by local and international media and had effect in informing the public on land grabbing issues.



17 April 2012: Commemoration of International day of peasants' struggle

One Network march: On 1st of March 2012, about 100 farmers from different African countries organised a march to the State House in Dar es Salaam to handle to Hon. Dr. Jakaya M. Kikwete, the President of the United Republic of Tanzania a petition that calls for all Heads of African States to fulfill their commitment of increasing their agricultural budget to at least 10% of the nation budget as agreed in Maputo Declaration of 2003. The petition was signed by six thousand (6,000) farmers from different countries in Africa. MVIWATA was represented by 20 farmers from Morogoro, Dodoma and Coastal regions.



MVIWATA used this opportunity to link the 20 farmers to

meet the President of the United Republic of Tanzania to present their complaints on their eviction from their land and demolition of their houses by the police. The case in question was in Mbigiri village, Kilosa District. As result of that meeting, the President instructed his assistants to get all facts and take action accordingly. As a follow up to the presidential order, the farmers were invited to the State House the following day (02/03/2012) to have audience with the state house staff. By December 2012, under the instructions from the state house, Kilosa District Commissioner ordered redistribution of the land in favour of the villagers of Mbigiri.



Farmers and other activists in procession (left) and right handling the signed petition to His Excellency, President J. M. Kikwete on behalf of other African farmers.

Views on new constitution: On 15th -16th August 2012, MVIWATA organised a national workshop that was followed by its AGM in Morogoro. The workshop provided an avenue for MVIWATA members to consolidate their views and submit to the Constitutional Commission which has the task of writing the new constitution. Members of MVIWATA ultimately developed a document to be presented to the Constitutional Commission.

This process enabled MVIWATA members to participate actively in the process of giving views on new constitution. MVIWATA was able to monitor participation of members in a few locations such as Manyara, Kagera and Morogoro to cite a few examples. In Kiteto, for instance, MVIWATA members convened to prepare their common position which was used to give their views on the new constitution.



Mr. Joseph Butiku, a member of the Constitution Commission and Executive Secretary of Mwalimu Nyerere Foundation addressing MVIWATA members (right) during its 17th AGM

Public forum on land rights: Knowing the need for smallholder farmers to understand their rights, MVIWATA

in collaboration with HAKIARDHI conducted a public debate that was held in Dumila, Kilosa on 12 May 2012. The debate drew about 500 persons from Dumila and surrounding villages such as Mfuru and Msowero. The main discussion was on laws governing land and the law process in case of grievances related to land. During the debate a legal aid team was providing services to the villagers who had needs. Dumila was deliberately selected because of a lot of land disputes, on one hand between smallholder farmers and large scale farmers, and on the other hand between farmers and pastoralists. The debate drew a lot of interests from farmers who called for similar events again in order to build their understanding on legal aspects of land rights.



Proceedings of the public debate in Dumila, Kilosa. Clockwise, above legal aid to the land rights victims, some of the victims of land conflicts waiting for counselling and presentation on land rights a during a public forum.

Meeting between farmers and Kilosa District Commissioner:

On 30th August 2012 MVIWATA arranged a meeting between farmers and District Commissioner (DC) to resolve a long time land conflict. The conflict involved Mambegwa, Mbigiri, Msowelo, and Mfuru villages against an unlawful creation of Mabwegere village which in turn was divided among eleven private investors. Eight farmers, two MVIWATA staff and a journalist participated in the meeting. In spite of promises however, no action was taken by the DC leading to eruption of demonstration in Dumila. The demonstrations in turn led to the intervention of the Regional Commissioner of Morogoro to address the matter. By the end of the year that matter was being handled administratively and judicially in the court.

Box 2: Kilosa farmers protest against increased land conflicts.

Kilosa district, in Morogoro region is one of the areas that have endemic land conflicts. To express their concern, On 27th January 2012, about 1500 -1700 MVIWATA members and other community members from Mambegwa, Mfuru, Mabwegere, Kitete, Dumila, Mkundi and Msowero villages organised a demonstration to protest against on-going impunity on crimes committed to farmers by pastoralists. The objective of the demonstration was to push for government action on land conflicts which have led to persistent fights between crop producers and pastoralists and destruction of lives and properties. For example, in these conflicts 50 houses were torched and a farmer was murdered. The demonstration which was held in Dumila and lasted one day necessitated the District Commissioner of Kilosa, at that time Ms Halima Dendegu to intervene in support of farmers and agreed to look at the matter and find solutions. Since then there have been a number of consultations between the District Commissioner, the farmers and MVIWATA to address the concerns of farmers. The farmers were impressed by the will of the DC to intervene in order to resolve the matter.



Left; a police officer attempting to manage protesting farmers. Right Ms Halima Dendegu, Kilosa District Commissioner addressing the farmers.

Knowledge management and communication

To ensure that the media is effectively engaged in land advocacy, a one day training workshop was organised by MVIWATA in collaboration with TALA in Morogoro on 11th May 2012. 30 journalists from various local media houses in Morogoro, Mbeya, Ruvuma, Arusha, Manyara, and Dar es Salaam participated in the training. The purpose of the workshop was to strengthen their understanding on investigative journalism to air out issues that affect the welfare of smallholder farmers. The forum was used to outline further strategies for collaboration

with media. It was agreed that such kind of forum shall take place at least once every year. Field trips shall be organised to enable media people to capture and publicise best practice and issues of small scale farmers.

During 2012, MVIWATA produced and disseminated of three issues of *Pambazuko* newsletter (numbers 38, 39 and 40). A total of 7,500 copies were produced and disseminated to farmers. The issues covered themes on national budget and how it benefits small scale farmers; access to information for farmers and the destiny of Small-scale farmers after 50 years of independence of Tanzania. Twenty two (22) weekly radio programs (*Sauti ya Wakulima*) were produced and aired through Radio Maria. Programs that were aired covered topics on 50 years of Tanzania Independence and the destiny of Small-scale farmers, Farming as Business; Small holder farmers engagement in lobbying and advocacy specifically in Chamkoroma ward in Kongwa district; benefits for farmers using MVIWATA markets; and the Commemoration of International Peasants Day and effect of land disputes to small-scale farmers in Tanzania.

Other publicity materials including 3,000 calendars, 30 wheel covers were produced and shared to increase MVIWATA visibility.



MVIWATA news into different news papers



MVIWATA Publications

Between January and December 2012, various news and issues on MVIWATA were covered by 19 TV programmes, 9 local radio programs while 66 articles on MVIWATA issues were covered by local newspapers. Issues covered include movements and campaigns that were organised by small holder farmers, land right issues, public debates, farmers' forums and activities that were implemented by MVIWATA.

Live media

- MVIWATA participated in a weekly live interview programme 'Kipima Joto' at ITV on 3 August 2012. The theme of the discussion was **"Whether farmers have anything to celebrate during the Farmers Week"**. The panel dwelt more on policy issues and how they affect farmers. Mr Stephen Ruvuga and Mr Thomas Laiser from MVIWATA were among the panelists. This was the third time in succession for MVIWATA to participate in the live interviews at Kipima Joto Programme during farmers week.
- Similarly on 21 December 2012, MVIWATA was invited to ITV *"Kipima Joto"*, theme; **Kushamiri kwa migogoro ya ardhi nchini nini kifanyike?** i.e. Increasing land conflicts in the country, what needs to be done?



Above, left: panelists at the live interview TV programme at ITV station.

Above right: Mr Thomas Laiser, Policy Advocacy Officer of MVIWATA.

Left: Mr Stephen Ruvuga, Executive Director of MVIWATA
Theme: Whether farmers have anything to celebrate during the Farmers Week.

Date: 3rd August 2012.

Box 3: Case of land conflicts in Mambegwa village, Kilosa District

Members of MVIWATA in Mambegwa village, Msowero Ward, Kilosa District have been victims of endemic land conflicts. They have been slammed between two conflicts; one side between farmers and pastoralists and one the other side between farmers and investors. In training on land rights conducted by MVIWATA in 2011 some representatives of Mambegwa village attended and got inspiration and motivation to address their conflict.

In January 2012, the farmers visited MVIWATA to seek advice on how to address the on-going land conflicts in their village. Allegedly, over half of the village land has been taken by local investors, depriving the villagers of their land for cultivation, hence aggravating land conflicts.

At the request of the farmers MVIWATA visited the village for consultations. At this consultation MVIWATA and the farmers looked at various options to address the matter, but initially the farmers were advised to meet the District Commissioner to express their concerns as the first step.

Since MVIWATA invited media, strategically to unearth and make the conflict known by the public and leaders at all level, there was a lot of coverage on the conflict.

Unfortunately, since no government official met the farmers, they decided to go to the streets, on 27th January 2012 blocking Kilosa – Morogoro road. It was at this stage that the District Commissioner came to listen to the farmers. After this stage, MVIWATA facilitated a meeting with Morogoro Regional Commissioners' Office to seek interventions. In turn the Regional Commissioner instructed the District Commissioner to resolve the issue by looking at the core of the conflict.

To understand better the case, MVIWATA included the area in the study that was conducted at the end of the year to establish the nature of land conflicts in 5 districts of Tanzania. The study confirmed that over half of the village land is occupied by investors from outside the village leaving only a small portion to share amongst the villagers and pastoralists, which is a precursor for endemic conflicts between the two land users. The study results will provide more tools for MVIWATA and the villagers to seek further interventions that can address the conflict permanently.

Although the villagers needed long lasting peace, and the conflicts had not been resolved, the interventions of MVIWATA helped the farmers know their rights, take action and seek for more justice.

A similar case developed in Mateteni hamlet in Mbigiri village Kilosa District. Following a long term land conflict between smallholder farmers and an investor, 50 houses belonging to farmers were unlawfully demolished by an investor who claimed that his land has been encroached by the said farmers.

The land in question has been abandoned for the past 22 years and the villagers had moved to the village 6 years earlier at the instructions of the government having been victims of floods that happened in 2006 in Kilosa.

MVIWATA, having been informed by its members in Kilosa, proceeded to the scene in company of 12 media members. Ironically, there has been an intention to cover up the matter. MVIWATA intended to find facts and use media to make the findings publically known. The media coverage helped the case to be known better in public.

When MVIWATA was invited to attend a One Network March at the State House in 1st March 2012, MVIWATA used the opportunity strategically to pick 20 farmers, amongst them victims of the demolition from Mateteni. The objective was to enable the farmers meet the President to express their concern on their grievances. The farmers met the President who instructed his assistants to look at the matter and resolve it. This action triggered the investor surrendered half of the land (600 acres) that is now used by the villagers.

4.3 Empowering smallholder farmers economically through market access interventions and promoting rural saving and credits

4.3.1 Support development of value chains relevant to smallholder farmers

In pursuit of more profitable farm enterprises for its members, MVIWATA is implemented various value chain initiatives through a number of projects in Mvomero, Monduli, Ludewa and Kyela Districts; Kilimanjaro, Morogoro and Shinyanga Regions, targeting mainly maize, rice and tomatoes. Some initiatives started in 2012 while others have been on-going work from previous year.

a) Training on improved agronomic practices

To improve agronomic techniques leading and increase agricultural productivity, MVIWATA facilitated a series of training sessions to farmers' leaders (promoters) from different villages. The objective of the training, which was conducted mainly in Morogoro, Kilimanjaro and Shinyanga regions was to enable farmers' leaders have skills on improved agronomic techniques and train other farmers especially through farmer field schools (FFS).

Under this initiative 49 farmers' leaders (21 women and 28 men) were trained on agronomic practices in order to train other farmers. Three crops were targeted in this programme, namely, maize, rice and tomatoes.

The training was conducted in phases at Mkindo Farmers Training Centre for two weeks from 3rd to 17th May 2012; at Kilimanjaro Agricultural Training Centre (KATC) from 9th – 22nd September 2012, at MUCCoBS centre in Shinyanga from 13th to 23rd September 2012 and at Kinole training centre in Morogoro from 3rd to 9th September 2012.



Farmers in practical training

In 2011, 21 farmers' leaders (7 women and 14 men) were trained. Adding to the 49 leaders trained in 2012, it brings the number of trained farmers to 70 (35 women and 35 men).

Content of training: included seed selection, nursery preparation, transplanting, water management, fertilizer application and general crop husbandry.

b) Establishment of demonstration plots

To facilitate practical training on improved agronomic techniques, MVIWATA facilitated establishment of farmer managed demonstration plots. Each demonstration plot comprised of 25 to 30 farmers who managed and learnt from a demonstration plot. The demonstration included practices such as the use of improved seed varieties, nursery preparation, sowing, spacing, manuring, watering, conservation of moisture, weed and pest control and harvesting.

Overall, 113 demonstration plots were established in 2012 and between 2825 and 3390 farmers were reached in various locations as follows;

- 14 paddy demonstration plots of $\frac{1}{4}$ an acre were established and managed by farmers themselves in Wami Dakawa, Wami Luhindo, Dihombo, Mvomero, Hembeti and Milama villages of Mvomero district.
- 16 demonstration plots of paddy and 15 of maize, each one acre, were established in Shinyanga and Kilimanjaro
- 14 demonstration plots of tomato, $\frac{1}{4}$ an acre each, were established in Morogoro.
- 20 demonstration plots; 10 demos of paddy in Kyela; and 10 demos of Irish potatoes, maize and sunflower in Ludewa district.
- 30 maize demonstration plots of $\frac{1}{4}$ acre each in Monduli
- 4 demonstration plots on sunflower production were established in Engutoto Ward (MVIWAKO) and Mtowambu, Selela and Engaruka Wards (MVIWABU).
- To introduce small stock keeping for income generation and improving nutrition, MVIWATA Monduli introduced a chicken keeping initiative in 2 wards of Engaruka and Songoro where 4 demonstrations of improved chicken sheds were constructed. The demonstrations were coupled with training on natural hatching of chicks, feeding chicken and chicken husbandry generally involving 95 farmers (52 women, 43 men). By the end of the year 120 farmers have attained a chicken stock of at least 50 each, which is a milestone in household income generation and nutrition improvement.



Farmers managing their demo plot



Field visit at tomato and rice demonstration plots in Morogoro and Kyela respectively.

Box 4: Farmer to farmer training

Farmer to farmer training is one of the approaches that is commonly used by MVIWATA in reaching its members and the farmers in general. Reports from the networks adds up to around 9,000 farmers (males and female) in Mbeya, Rukwa, Iringa and Ruvuma regions who were trained by other farmers who are recipients of promoters' training conducted by MVIWATA.

Laurent Mgove (+255 787 106 356) is an example of hard working promoter who has been very busy training other farmers. He resides in Boma la Ngo'mbe village in Kilolo District. He received training on entrepreneurship in 2010. After training he embarked on training other farmers. In 2012 he was able to train over 600 farmers in Boma la ngombe, Masisiwe, Ukumbi, Mtitu, Mahenge and Dabaga, Ng'uluhe wards where he is very well respected.

A rapid assessment was conducted in Igunga (Tabora), Manyoni (Singida), Babati (Manyara) and Mvomero (Morogoro) districts to establish effectiveness of farmer to farmer training. The assessment showed that farmer promoters disseminated the knowledge they acquired on agronomic practices to other farmers. Each farmer reached an average of 49 other farmers, which was amazing results. Through farmer to farmer in the four surveyed districts, 1,029 (574 M, 455 F) follow farmers were reached. This depicts that farmer to farmer approach is still valid and should be encouraged.

The survey further showed that demonstration plots in farmer field schools (FFS) were the effective way of reaching farmers. Out of 21 demonstration plots of rice established in the 4 districts assessment, 2,822 paddy growers benefited (731 farmers in Babati, 1,607 in Igunga, 164 in Manyoni and 270 in Mvomero districts).

In Babati, for instance a yield increase from 2200 kgs per acre to 3500 kgs paer acre was noted amongst the participating farmers. Likewise, in Igunga yield increase from 2000 kgs per acre to 50 kg per acre was observed and in Mvomero a yield increase of 1700 kgs per acre to 2800 kgs per was recorded.

The combination of training promoters and demonstration plots helped farmers learn effectively and increase their yield.

Results of the Training:

- Improvement of husbandry practices such as spacing, manuring and weeding. The farmers have also learnt and started to practise record keeping of the enterprises.
- Increased crop yield to ranging from 30% - over 100% above the normal farmers' practices for farmers who were involved in training and demonstration plots. For example in Kilimanjaro, maize production has increased from 540 per acre to 1440 kg. In Morogoro, tomatoes production increased from an average of 9,000 Kg to 11,000 Kg per acre.

c) Training on post-harvest handling and value addition

- 236 farmers (102 women and 134 men) from 20 wards of Kyela and Ludewa were trained on post harvest handling with the purpose of reducing post harvest losses, improving crop quality and adding value. The training lasted a week; in Kyela the training was conducted from 30th April to 05th May 2012 while in Ludewa the training was conducted from 31th May 2012 - 8th June 2012 for small scale farmers from 10 wards in district.



Field training for farmers in progress

A 5 day training on construction of granaries was conducted in Monduli from 6th May 2012 involving 66 farmers (30 women and 36 men). 45 new granaries were constructed after this training with a capacity of storing 10 - 15 bags of maize each. With improved storage, the training has a contribution at improving food security at micro level.

- One day training on packaging was conducted by SIDO to 33 farmers (15 women and 18 men) at the request of MVIWATA. The training focused on selection of packaging materials, packaging process, packaging and labeling and labeling process. The training resulted in improved packaging of produce, the same was exhibited during the agricultural show (Nane nane) in 2012 in Morogoro.



A manager from SIDO training farmers on packaging and labeling

d) Entrepreneurship and business skills development

As a way of building entrepreneurship and agribusiness skills of farmers, MVIWATA conducted a series of training on entrepreneurship and business skills to 588 farmers (278 women and 310 men) leaders of farmers. The training included topics such as business start up, marketing, business planning and price determination, record keeping, agricultural financing and facilitation skills. The entrepreneurship training was mostly complementary to training on agronomic practices. Nearly half of the trainees were the same that participated in training on agronomic practices.

Southern highlands:

422 farmers (190 women and 232 men) were trained in a programme that was conducted in four phases, simultaneously in Mbeya and Songea. The training was conducted with support of Southern Highlands Food Systems Project of Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) and comprised of farmers from Iringa Region (Rural, Kilolo, Mufindi, Ludewa, (Njombe and Makete districts now Njombe Region)), Mbeya (Mbeya Rural, Kyela, Rungwe, Mbarali, Mbozi, Chunya and Ileje districts), Rukwa (Sumbawanga rural, Sumbawanga Municipal, Nkasi and Mpanda districts) and Ruvuma regions (Namtumbo, Tunduru, Songea Rural, Songea Urban and Mbinga districts).

Each training lasted at least 5 days, spread from January to August.

The objective of the training was to enable farmer leaders have skills and knowledge on agri-business that can transform their farms to become more profitable enterprises.

Mvomero:

28 farmers (18 women and 10 men) from six villages of Mvomero were trained on entrepreneurship from 03rd to 5th July 2012.



Mr. Ledis Kigala facilitating a session during the training at Mbeya centre



A training participant making her point during the training



A working group (left) and a plenary right discussion



Farmers during the training at Nyandira training centre

Morogoro, Kilimanjaro and Shinyanga:

131 farmers (69 women and 62 men) from Kilimanjaro, Morogoro and Shinyanga regions attended entrepreneurship training that was held separately in Kilimanjaro, Morogoro and Shinyanga. The training on entrepreneurship is a continuum to and complements training on agronomic skills and establishment of demonstration plots reported under 4.3.1 a) and b) above. The training sessions were conducted between September and December 2012 at residential centres at Kinole Rural Training Centre, MUCCoBS Kizumbi in Shinyanga and E.M Motel centre in Kilimanjaro.



Promoter during the training in Morogoro (left) and Shinyanga (right)



Farmers during the training on entrepreneurship

Arusha:

To promote diversification, MVIWATA Monduli introduced farmers to beekeeping and enabled at least 50 farmers to acquire modern beehives. 7 farmers (a woman and 6 men) were trained to train and support technically other farmers. The focus of the training was on processing and marketing honey products. With processed honey a farmer get a margin of Tshs 1,000/- per litre which can make huge impact for large amounts. So far, 32 farmers (19 women and 13 men) sold over 13,400 kilograms of honey at the price of TShs 8000 per kg making a revenue of T Shs 107 million which is a huge milestone for income of farmers.

Box 5: Putting in practice entrepreneurship skills

Mrs. Pili Syete, is a coffee farmer from Isanjiro village in Rungwe district. Her annual income from coffee averages TShs 900,000/- from an average yield of 300Kg of coffee. In March 2012, after a training on entrepreneurship that was actually conducted by another farmer who attended a residential training on farming as a business, she embarked on tomato production in a small portion of her farm (less than $\frac{1}{4}$ an acre). Within three months, from March to May 2012, she harvested 35 buckets of tomatoes earning T. Shs 12,000/= earning a TShs 420,000/= for three months. Having realised that tomato production is more profitable enterprise the farmer increased a tomato farm to $\frac{1}{2}$ an acre while still growing coffee. In this way the farmer has been able to diversify and add more household income; which is he objective of the training.

Likewise, **Mr Gideon Nkondya** is a rice farmer from Kabanga village in Kyela. He attests that having attended training on entrepreneurship he and other farmers started production of watermelon, an emerging commodity in the context of Kyela district. Each farmer allocated at least an acre for watermelon as a new enterprise. 1,000 pieces of watermelon sold at Tshs 1,200 earned him Tsh 1,200,000 within a short growing season.

These two cases of diversification depict results of entrepreneurship training whose purpose was to serve as eye opener to farmers and help them make farming as profitable as possible.

4.3.2 Farmers participation in agricultural shows and trade exhibitions

179 farmers participated, mainly as exhibitors at the agricultural shows that are normally held in 1-8 August every year. The table below summarises the farmers that were facilitated by MVIWATA to participate in agricultural show in various zones in the country.

Table 2: Participants in agricultural show

Location of show	Participants in agricultural shows		
	Women	Men	Total
Eastern Zone in Morogoro	15	18	33
Northern Zone in Arusha	34	28	62
Ruvuma	52	32	84
Total	101	78	179

The participants at Mwalimu Nyerere grounds in Morogoro came from Morogoro, Dodoma, Mbeya, Shinyanga, Zanzibar, Rukwa , Pwani, Iringa, Tanga, Singida, Songea, Tabora, Kagera, Ruvuma and Mara regions. In Arusha, participants came from Arusha and Kilimanjaro while in Ruvuma participants came from within the region. The commodities exhibited included plants at the garden, rice, groundnuts, honey, cassava, beans, vegetables, fruits, local chicken, dairy goats; processed products such as sunflower oil and cassava flour. The exhibition enabled farmers to enhance learning between and among farmers, with traders and learnt from the other exhibitors.

At the pavilion of MVIWATA in Morogoro, 775 visitors (303 women and 472 men) registered in MVIWATA visitors' book.



MVIWATA pavilion at Nane nane grounds in Morogoro

The following results were attained,

- **Short term result:** Direct sales of produce and products at the pavilion, at higher price, up to 100% more than the usual price. For example, a kg of rice was sold at Tshs 2,000 compared to Tshs 1000/kg that farmers normally get in Kyela and Kahama districts. Honey from Tabora was sold at that is sold at Tshs 10,000/- per litre compared to Tshs 5,000/litre which is a normal price in Tabora. This gave a gross income of about Tsh 200,000/- per rice farmer and Tshs 500.000/- for bee keepers.
- **Long term result:**
 - » Each farmer managed to establish contacts with an average of 15 traders for future business links.
 - » Sharing of knowledge, skills and new information amongst the farmers..

MVIWATA pavilions in Morogoro and Arusha, each, won the first prize for non-governmental organisations category.



Exhibitors at MVIWATA pavilion in Morogoro.

MVIWATA exhibition at Mvomero:

To enable farmers who could not attend or participate at the agricultural exhibition at *Nane nane* ground in Morogoro MVIWATA at its own initiative organised an exhibition in Mvomero village. During the exhibition farmers exhibited particularly paddy and maize production while various service providers such as financial service providers (NMB, CRDB banks, SACCOS) and input suppliers exhibited their products and services. The exhibitions provided opportunity for farmers to get services and establish links with service providers. Over 100 farmers opened bank accounts while 50 farmers bought various farm inputs including pedal water pumps from Superagro Agency and Kickstart which is an agent of money marker.

Over 1000 persons mainly farmers participated in a very colourful event that had no government budget except for farmers' initiatives themselves. The photographs below depict scenes of the show in Mvomero.



Publicising the shows



MVIWATA Chairperson addressing the farmers



Participants listening to some speeches



Visitors of the show



Exhibitors show the crops



Exhibitors show produce to a government official

4.3.3 Facilitating formation of Production and Marketing Groups (PMG) and associations

Four (4) production and marketing associations namely Milama, Dihombo, Hembeti and Mvomero with a total of 873 rice farmers (481 women and 412 men) were formed by farmers after continuous capacity building initiatives including training and backstopping. Currently, MVIWATA is in the process to finalise legal registration.

In other parts of Morogoro, 38 producers' groups with 456 tomato farmers (297 women and 159 men) were formed while 10 groups of 256 rice and maize farmers (108 women and 148 men) were formed in Kilimanjaro region.

4.3.4 Developing and promoting marketing information system in MVIWATA

Since 2010, MVIWATA developed its sms based MIS. The objective of the system is to enable more transparency on commodity prices and enable both farmers and traders make rational decisions basing on MIS data.

In 2012, there were 34800 sms requests from the MAMIS. An average of 2900 sms requests were sent to the MAMIS and the monthly sms requests ranged from 2500 to 3000. In a survey to establish the MAMIS users and their source of information it was established that on average 11,500 users in 230 surveyed villages of Dodoma and Manyara accessed price information via blackboards while an average of 34800 users subscribed to MAMIS SMS. The users of the MAMIS are gradually increasing yearly, suggesting that it is a service that has value to farmers and traders.

In 2011/2012 at least 10,464 tonnes of different commodities were sold through the MAMIS, 85% of which was maize.

a) Promotion and sensitisation:

To promote the system, promotional and sensitisation meetings were held in various potential villages. In villages around Morogoro Rural and Mvomero 168 persons (100 women and 68 men) attended. In villages of Kongwa, Babati, Igunga, Manyoni and Shinyanga districts, reaching roughly 4500 – 5400 persons from 90 villages were reached.

The meetings enable farmers to know better MAMIS and use the it for getting commodity prices. 1000 posters on MAMIS were distributed to farmers and traders in Shinyanga, Kyela, Ludewa and Igunga districts.

b) Increasing data sources:

Field visits and sensitisation meetings were organised to map potential traders. The mapping was conducted in crop markets, warehouses and processing industries in Dodoma, Morogoro, and Shinyanga regions.

c) Information collectors meetings:

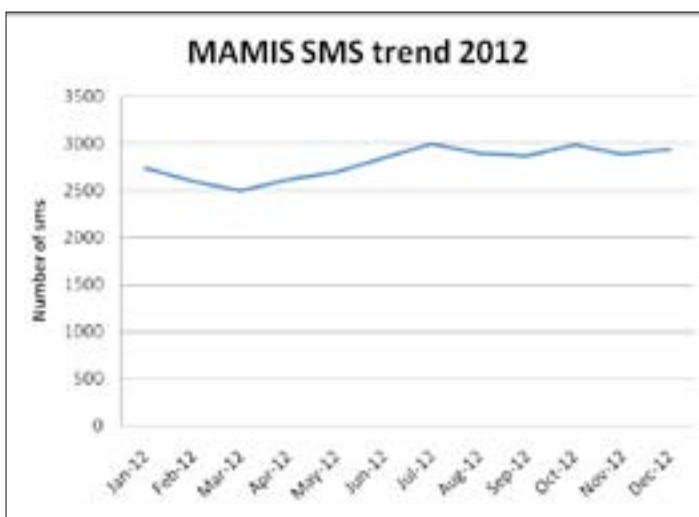
Meetings with information collectors and market leaders were conducted in markets linked to MAMIS in order to motivate and understand their constraints if any.



Farmers and local traders during market information sensitisation meetings



Promotion of MAMIS at Nanenane Agricultural Show in Morogoro



MAMIS monthly SMS trend in 2012

No	Phone Number	Frequency	Date
1	077320411674	2400	1/10/2012
2	07604101017	500	1/10/2012
3	07702023003	70	1/10/2012
4	07702024774	77	1/10/2012
5	07602110100	100	1/10/2012
6	0777746205	104	1/10/2012
7	07702025240	50	1/10/2012
8	07604054012	50	1/10/2012

Frequencies in SMS requests

d) Linking farmers and traders:

A meeting to ring together farmers and traders was held on 8-9/10/2012 in which 43 (14F, 29M) farmers from Mwomero and 13 (2 F, 11M) traders from Dar es salaam markets met in Dakawa. The aim of the meeting was to facilitate trade between the two parties. The links developed from the meeting enabled farmers to trade directly with traders at higher margin of TShs 15,000/- more per 100kg.



Traders sharing experience on trading with farmers in Mwomero



A sample form of Sales agreement between traders and farmers

Box 6. Facilitating links between farmers and traders

A five days study visit was organised by MVIWATA in March 2012 for 22 farmers (6 women and 16 men) from Kyela and Ludewa to the marketing groups in Dodoma and Morogoro regions to learn collecting marketing. Uwate group in Tenende village in Kyela embarked on collective cocoa marketing in which they were able to get better price of TShs 4,000/- from Tsh 2,500 per and by June 2012 had sold 7 tons of Cocoa earning TShs 28,000,000/- making a margin of Tshs 10,500,000/= over the normal price for farmers who sold their cocoa individually.

Likewise, Ng'anda SACCOS sold 50 tons of maize to the traders from Dar es Salaam at Tshs 280/kg while the price in the village was Tshs 200/Kg after negotiating collectively with traders.

In Morogoro, UWAMATAMU fruits producers association from Kinole met Mohamed Enterprises, Beravu processing industry and Bonite Bottles Ltd in Dar es salaam to negotiate price of pineapple. From the meeting, farmers and companies' representatives agreed to uplift the price of pineapple from TSh 80/- normally offered to individual farmers to TShs 200/- per kg. In 2012 UWAMATAMU managed to sell collectively 247 tons with the value of T Shs 49,400,000/- of pineapple getting a margin of nearly 150% more than farmers who sold pineapples individually.

MVIWATA Arusha brokered an agreement between Masai women groups who are members of MVIWATA in Monduli with buyers in Stockholm, Sweden in which the Masai women agreed to supply handicraft products for an agreed price better than local price. Following this agreement 14 women groups with 66 members sold handicrafts worth TShs. 75,000,000/- to women association in Sweden. The women have used proceeds from this deal to construct new and improved houses in Eorendeke, Namanga and Makuyuni villages; construct new 12 rain water harvesting tanks and 4 granaries for storing cereals.

These case studies suggest how market linkage can have a far reaching effect.

Challenges and way forward in MAMIS:

MAMIS face challenges related to limited system capacity, power backup and space for operational space. These challenges limit its expansion and reach.

To address these challenges, MVIWATA is in negotiation with mobile companies to build partnership for promotion of the service to reach more people in a wider coverage and commercialise the system.

4.3.5 Capacity building of markets management in rural markets constructed by MVIWATA**a) Training activities**

To ensure MVIWATA constructed markets have effective and efficient management and leadership so that they deliver quality services MVIWATA conducted a capacity building programme comprising frequent training for board members and staff. There are currently nine markets namely Kibaigwa, Nyandira, Tawa, Kinole, Igagala and Mkata as well as the new ones of Igurusi, Kasanga and Matai. These markets are managed in partnership between MVIWATA and District council through jointly established and registered companies known as Market Boards. The spirit behind formation of partnership companies is to promote autonomy and public-private partnership in running and operating the markets, the model that MVIWATA promotes.

Technical training focused on using books of accounts, using computer applications, financial management

and reporting, business management. Training on leadership and governance was also provided to board members.

- Kibaigwa Market: held training on 26th January 2012, 14th - 15th February 2012 and 2nd - 4th April 2012. 84 persons (14 women and 70 men) including boards members, cargo porters and staff.
- Nyandira, Tawa and Tandai markets conducted training for its staff and board members on 9th - 10th July 2012.

A meeting for exchange of experience between the markets boards from Nyandira, Tawa, Tandai, Kibaigwa, Mkata and Igagala markets was held once on 11th - 12th October 2012 in Morogoro and attended by 23 leaders and staff of markets (8 women 15 men).

Internal audits for all markets were also conducted semi-annually and were used a basis for improving financial management of the markets.

160 persons (47 women and 113 men) comprising of MVIWATA members, market boards, community members and district council representatives participated in various training activities.



Market stakeholders meetings

b) Promotion of market activities and strengthening partnership

Partnership meetings

A meeting to convene millers around Igurusi Market was conducted on 16th July 2012 by MVIWATA to plan how to start business at the new market. 14 millers attended the meeting that aimed at mobilising rice millers to complete construction of their building and shift to the market premises. Similar meetings with more stakeholders were held on September 9th and 24th September 2012 comprising of 101 stakeholders (24 men and 77 women) to work out strategies for operations of the market.

At Kasanga and Matai markets, four meetings were held on 6th, 8th, 9th and 10th August 2012 drawing at least 98 market stakeholders including community members, market board members, MVIWATA representatives, National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA), cargo porters, Rukwa regional commissioner to work out plans to ensure the markets are functional and sustainable.

To develop common understanding between major stakeholder of Kibaigwa a consultative meeting comprising of councilors and management team of Kongwa District Council, representatives of MVIWATA and Kibaigwa market board members and staff was held on 7th - 8th June 2012 with the participation of 49 persons.



A meeting convening MVIWATA, Rukwa Regional Commissioner, Sumbawanga District Council and representatives of communities from Kasanga and Matai.

Facilitating contracts between market boards and district councils

Under a memorandum between MVIWATA and District Councils, market boards, which are partnership companies that are owned by district councils and MVIWATA, are required to sign contracts with district councils to manage the markets and collect revenue on behalf of the district councils.

To facilitate that MVIWATA, district councils and market board held consultative meetings to enable signing of the contracts.

- Matai and Kasanga market boards signed contracts with Sumbawanga District Council on 29th September 2012.
- Mbarali district council and Igurusi signed contracts on 18th June 2012.

As said earlier the spirit here is to promote autonomy and public-private partnership in running and operating the markets.



Chairpersons from Matai market board (left photo) and Kasanga market board (right photo) receiving signed contracts from Sumbawanga district council



Mbarali Acting District Director signing a contract with Igurusi Market Board. Right; Mbarali District Chairperson handing over a signed contract to Igurusi Market Board Chairperson.

Results

- There has been substantial improvement in partnership and collaboration between Kongwa District Council and MVIWATA in managing Kibaigwa market. This resulted into agreement on common tools for instituting better governance and accountability at Kibaigwa Market. Improved MoU between Kongwa District Council and MVIWATA is planned for 2013.
- Improved management systems at markets including; better human resource systems, planning meetings which are held at least monthly and quarterly, planning and budgeting and record keeping.
- There is increase in income generated at markets due to improved management. In Tandai market, the average price for one basket (20kgs) of ripe banana increased from Tsh 6,000 in 2011 to Tshs 8 000 in 2012. The number of bunches of banana sold at the markets increased by 30% on average.
- At Tawa market, the numbers of traders buying commodities at the market increased from 9 to 12 traders per month on average while the price of banana increased from Tsh 5,000 to Tsh 8,000/ basket (20kgs), from Tsh 100 to Tsh 120 per mango, and from Tsh 30 to Tshs 50 per orange. At Nyandira market the unit price increased from Tshs 500 to 1,000 per kg of tomato while the price of pigeon pee increased from Tsh 250 to 500/kg. The existence of MVIWATA market has led to improvement in social services such as building of primary schools, transport, health centres and police stations to improve security. A total of Tsh 850,000 was contributed by Tawa and Nyandira markets to improve such services.
- Farmers and traders started to gradually use Matai market. Between June and December 2012, 95 tons of maize were bought at the market. With the use of market there has been gradual increase in maize price from Tshs 350/kg to 500/kg.
- At Kasanga fish market traded an average of 2 tons of fish per day were marketed to Zambia through the market while the other 2 tons per day were marketed to Sumbawanga during the fishing season.

4.3.6 Promoting farmers on the formation and strengthening of cereal banks

To ensure food security and access to better price for cereal crops, MVIWATA has been promoting establishment of cereal banks in rural areas. Promotional activities on cereal banks was done through capacity building workshops, exchange visits and sensitisation meeting organised for farmers members of MVIWATA, leaders of farmers groups and networks, SACCOS members, MVIWATA market board members, traders and crop processors from cereals growing areas and areas around MVIWATA markets. These activities were organised by MVIWATA in Morogoro rural, Mvomero, Kyela and Ludewa districts.

Training on principles, operations and practices of crop banking was conducted by MVIWATA in Milama,

Mvomero, Dihombo, Hembeti, Wami Luhindo and Wami Dakawa from 29th May to 12th June 2012. 189 farmers (99 women 90 men) attended the training. This training resulted from a quick reconnaissance that was conducted in March 2012 to map the existing groups, farmers practices in production, storage and marketing. By the end of the year 77 farmers (16 women and 61 men) in Dihombo had mobilised 100 tons of paddy in the form of crop banks using existing SACCOS.

4.3.7 Facilitating Small-scale farmers access to better financial services

a) Formation and strengthening of rural savings and credit groups, associations and cooperatives

Meetings to provide technical assistance to farmer owned SACCOS that are affiliated to MVIWATA were conducted to 21 SACCOS in Dodoma, Manyara, Kagera, Mbeya, Njombe, Iringa, Tanga regions and Zanzibar.

3345 (1316 women and 1900 men) farmers members of MVIWATA supported rural financial institutions were facilitated to access loan for different use. T Shs 627,218,506/= of loans was given to farmers by farmer owned SACCOS.

- In Arusha two local networks of Monduli district namely MVIWABU SACCOS and Komolonik SACCOS provided a loan amounting to TShs 20,000,000.00 (TShs 10 million for each SACCOS) to 32 members to invest in chicken husbandry.
- In Kyela 8 groups with 385 members (168 men and 217 women) mobilised T.Shs 23,370,500/- savings to establish savings and credit.
- In Ludewa 9 groups with 357 members (231 men and 126 women) mobilised TShs 12,586,710/-.

b) Building capacities of SACCOS networks in Morogoro, Dodoma and Kilimanjaro regions.

A training for leaders of Mtandao wa SACCOS za Wakulima wa Kilimanjaro (MSAWAKI) was conducted on 13th – 15th September 2012 and 5th – 6th November 2012 which attended by a total of 48 SACCOS leaders (25 women and 23 men). The training aimed at improving governance of credit fund managed by MSAWAKI.



Some leaders and members of MSAWAKI and MOMFISECO SACCOS Networks during the trainings

Box 7. Case of MSAWAKI

Mtandao wa SACCOS za Wakulima Kilimanjaro (MSAWAKI) was established by MVIWATA in 2006 with the purpose of creating a platform for farmers SACCOS in Kilimanjaro. The network started gradually with 5 SACCOS as members and gradually increased the membership to 8. It comprises of 8,752 members altogether, majority of whom are MVIWATA members. The table below portrays its state of affairs by October 2012.

Name of SACCOS	CAPITAL by August 2012	Loan in hand by August 2012	Loan recovery by October 2012	Change in loan recovery
MANUSHI SINDE	5,783,986	4,066,986	2,300,000	1,766,986
MKALONGO SACCOS	5,350,000	22,000,000	8,700,000	12,300,000
NANJARA REHA	52,937,000	15,987,987	6,340,000	9,647,987
KINDI SACCOS	29,330,000	133,796,409	17,200,000	116,596,409
WAHEE	11,507,800	2,670,000	1,680,000	990,000
SHIMBILI	15,096,000	8,398,000	4,560,000	3,838,000
SAME KAYA	64,000,000	4,560,700	2,980,000	1,580,700
JITEGEMEE	14,429,100	3,600,000	2,900,000	700,000
Cumulative figure	198,433,886	195,080,082	46,660,000	147,420,082

***loans include sources other than MVIWATA credit fund**

c) Linking farmer owned SACCOS with financial institutions

MVIWATA organised meetings for farmer SACCOS from Morogoro region with Private Agricultural Sector Support (PASS) and TIB in Morogoro and Dar es salaam respectively. Mlali SACCOS and Wanyamakazi SACCOS secured agricultural loans amounting to Tsh 120,000,000/- and Tsh 100,000,000/- respectively from from TIB.

n November 2012, MVIWATA Kilimanjaro facilitated a meeting between leaders of MSAWAKI and Kilimanjaro Cooperative Bank Limited (KCBL) and PASS resulting in PASS supporting Manushi Sinde and Jitegemee SACCOS business plan to CRDB Bank for loan application amounting Tshs 60,000,000. On other hand, KCBL started the process of providing agricultural equipments e.g. tractors to members of SHIMBILI SACCOS which had deposited T. Shs 1,000,000/- to KCBL as collateral for its members.

d) Facilitating formation of national farmers financial institutional.

The activity is in progress with consultations going on and feasibility in progress.

Box 8: "SACCOS changed my life" – Juma Lukengele

Juma Lukengele (65) is a smallholder farmer who resides in Kinole, Morogoro District. Over years, Juma Lukengele and other farmers have been growing pineapple, banana, cassava and cocoyams. However, production of these crops was hampered by poor transport and roads. It used to take ten days from Kinole to Dar es Salaam, which was too long to ensure that the crops arrive fresh.

The coming of Kinole Rural market and savings and credit (SACCOS) things changed a lot; which include construction of roads which facilitated marketing of our produce.

Juma Lukengele is pineapple farmer and a member of Kinole SACCOS. Initially I was hesitating to take loan from my SACCOS. However, the SACCOS advised me to take loan to enable me purchase a truck. In the beginning I took a loan of Sh 13 million which I used to purchase a truck. When I completed repayment, I took another loan of Sh 20 million and buy a second truck. Two years later I applied for another loan of Sh 30 million which I also used to purchase a truck.

Juma Lukengele says, 'The trucks helped me transport not only his own produce but also the produce of other farmers. He has recently obtained a loan of Shs 45 million from Kinole SACCOS and plans to procure another truck anytime soon.

The farmer uses his trucks to transport his own produce and of other farmers to send produce to Dodoma, Iringa and Dar es Salaam. On return normally trucks bring consignments to local shops.

In his words, Juma sums up “These are huge changes not only to me but to the whole community in Kinole where smallholder farmers get loans and use them to expand their farms, shops and trade. In fact, the financial services brought a lot of changes in my life and the life of the people of Kinole”



4.3.8 Studies

- A study on collateral management was conducted to review the state of collateral management services in Tanzania and propose actions which can position the industry to play an important role in the evolution of modern marketing and finance systems in the country. The study intended to describe in detail, the state of the collateral management industry in Tanzania, types of services provided and beneficiaries; to describe typical collateral management transactions in Tanzania and propose possible actions needed to enhance role of industry in structured finance and trade in Tanzania. This study revealed that various types of collateral management services are provided depending on the financiers requirements which are based on the risk associated with the underlying transactions. Such services range from full control to inspection services such as audits.
- An impact assessment of MVIWATA rural markets was conducted to establish the extent of impact of markets. Social, economic and environmental impacts were assessed. Generally the study revealed huge impact on local economy, growth of commerce, expansion of the population and increase in crop value. Overall, there has been a lot of positive impact. also changes in social structure in many locations where the markets exist.
- A study on collective actions was conducted to assess the status and use of collective actions to manage farm risks. It helped to capture experience of MVIWATA and other stakeholders on the use of collective actions as a way to manage farm risks. For instance, by bulking agricultural produce, farmers can improve access to markets, negotiate a better price, reducing the costs of storage by shared warehouses. Through collective action, farmers can improve access to credit, reduce risk of default to bank and reduce investment cost that can be incurred by an individual farmer and improve availability of inputs by collectively purchasing fertilizers. The study there focused on assessing the benefits that are realised by smallholder farmers and members of MVIWATA through promotion of rural savings and credits associations (SACCOS), village savings and lending associations (VSLAs) and any other form of financial institutions being piloted by farmers. It also looked and the benefits and challenges of collective marketing by farmers and its possible link to the warehouse receipt systems.

4.3.9 Stakeholders' mobilisation meetings

From 5th - 6th of December 2012, MVIWATA conducted a national stakeholders mobilisation workshop in Dar es Salaam for key actors in agriculture sector to share experience on existing tool for managing farm risks. This is a new initiative being supported by European Commission through the so called Farm Risks Management in Africa Project (FARMAF). The workshop brought together about 60 stakeholders from different

backgrounds including farmers, traders, Local Government Authority officials, researchers, representatives from the central government, government parastatals, NGOs and media houses. The aim of the workshop was to share with national stakeholders FARMAF the concepts and proposed project intervention strategy, tools for implementing FARMAF project and to get their inputs and agree on roles of various actors in its implementation. The project will therefore address issues related market access, capacity building for farmers and enhancing better understanding of the FARMAF tools and also to give their views on the tools and the proposed implementation strategy.

The overall feeling of the participants was more of an approval of the proposed risk management tools to be used in implementing the project. However, they were more concerned with the scope and efficiency of these tools in reaching out to more farmers. This therefore justified the multi-stakeholder approach that has been taken by Agrinatura and MVIWATA in the proposed intervention strategy. One of the outputs of the workshop was the establishment of a multi-stakeholder platform instead of an advisory committee that shall provide guidance and advise on the implementation of the project. It was agreed that the national platform shall involve stakeholders from diverse backgrounds who would meet periodically to discuss pertinent issues. A number of organizations that were proposed to be part of the initial platform include National Food Reserve Agency, Warehouse Receipt Licensing Board, Cereals and Mixed Crop Board, WFP, Tanzania Investment Bank, Private Agricultural Sector Support, CRDB Bank, NMB Bank, LGAs, Ministry of Agriculture Food Security and Cooperatives, Ministry of Industry and MVIWATA.

While the workshop allowed stakeholders to share FARMAF tools and get a buy in from key stakeholders in the country, it was evident that the importance of FARMAF tools has been ascertained by key stakeholders. Collective markets, crop insurance, warehouse receipt systems to mention a few have been so much discussed and given credit to improve small holder farmers product value addition and consequently increase market share and income per house hold. However, there are some key challenges to be addressed before the tools can work smoothly and therefore a need for multi-stakeholder joint efforts to arrive to that. Government policies and regulations need to be harmonized to the system and clear understanding of the tools across the country need be addressed. The multi-stakeholder platform initiated shall therefore be charged with the task to make sure that they task key stakeholders to perform for the benefit of the system. The participation of stakeholders from different private and public sector bodies was a true demonstration of their willingness to support the FARMAF project. The stakeholders have promised MVIWATA their continued support and it is expected that the initiatives by the stakeholders will complement the project activities.

Farmers showed a huge interest in weather index insurance as a farm risk management tool and challenged the presenters to widen their coverage both geographical and the crop variety base. As much as the farmers are well conversant with warehouse receipt systems, it was noticed that there is need for the government to increase the capacity of storage facilities to reach more farmers and the capacity of organ charged with administration and regulation of the system. Commodity exchange systems perceived to be a new phenomenon to the farmers and more education is needed on the same.

5. Mainstreaming Gender, HIV/AIDS and Climate Change

Crosscutting issues such as HIV/AIDS, gender and climate change mainstreaming constitute one of the five strategic intervention areas of MVIWATA. To address challenges related to the above issues, MVIWATA implemented a number of awareness creation and mobilization activities to ensure that staff, leaders and members are aware of the impact of gender inequality, HIV/AIDS and climate change on development in general.

5.1 Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS in MVIWATA activities

Building capacities of MVIWATA members, leaders and staff on HIV/AIDS

Presentations and discussions on HIV/AIDS were held in various regular forums of MVIWATA, in particular staff meetings and members' meetings. Specific training on HIV/AIDS mitigation was conducted by MVIWATA Arusha to create awareness on HIV/AIDS for 93 farmers (43 women 50 men) from Ekenywa, Mtowambu, and Karatu.

Providing support to people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA)

Social centres in Igurusi, Matai and Kasanga markets were opened in 2012 and agreement reached with The Olive Branch for Children (TOBC) and SHIDEPHA to provide social services at the centre for market stakeholders, mainly HIV/AIDS voluntary testing and counseling, treatment and care.

To assist people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), MVIWATA capacitated them to initiate economic activities as way to address their economic and nutrition challenges in Kinole and Nyandira areas Morogoro rural districts and Mvomero respectively. The economic activities include production of cassava and vegetables for marketing. To support these initiatives Mvomero and Morogoro Rural district councils provided financial support of Tsh 9,000,000/=; T.Sh 5,000,000/= was given to three groups in Mgeta ward in Mvomero district to invest in chicken projects, TSh 4,000,000/= was given to PLWHA groups from Tawa, Konde, Mtombozi and Kinole villages in Morogoro rural district to support small loans scheme.



Members of PLWHA groups at Kinole village in Morogoro rural planting cassava in thier collective farm.

Likewise, Kongwa District Council gave TSh 3,000,000/= to PLWHA group to buy food for children, elderly and orphans.

5.2 Mainstreaming Gender into MVIWATA activities

Generally, MVIWATA continued to promote gender equality by ensuring that men, women and youth are equally represented and benefiting from its interventions. To ensure that women are equally represented in MVIWATA organized activities, there has been always emphasis on gender consideration its activities.

To raise awareness on gender issues, short presentations and discussions on gender were in various forums that were held by MVIWATA.

Locally, in Arusha MVIWATA members participated in the celebration of the World Women Day that was organised by Monduli District Council in Mtowambu. As reported earlier in this report women groups from Masai ethnic group, at the facilitation of MVIWATA signed a business agreement with a women association

from Sweden to sell handicrafts in Stockholm, Sweden. In 2012 alone, Masai Women Groups sold handicrafts in the tune of T. Shs 150,000,000/- resulting in raised income for the women and improving the livelihood. A youth wing of MVIWATA Monduli teamed up with youth from Belgium to start a business project of Euro 50,000 that will support the Tanzanian youth.

5.3 Mainstreaming climate change into MVIWATA activities

- MVIWATA was invited to participate in the National Technical Working Group on Climate Change formed under the Ministry of Agriculture Food Security and Cooperatives (MAFC) to contribute views of small holder farmers on climate change actions. The technical group is responsible for preparation of the National Agricultural Sector Climate Change Strategic Interventions and Action Plan that will guide stakeholders in agriculture sector to mainstream climate smart agricultural practices in their undertakings. This strategy is expected to be accomplished and ready for implementation by mid 2013.
- MVIWATA started to work with Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG), Tanzania Organic Agriculture Movement (TOAM), Action Aid and Mjumita on an initiative aiming at promoting climate smart agriculture, in Kilosa district which will serve as a pilot area.
- At local level, MVIWATA conducted training on climate change in 4 wards of Ludewa district and 10 wards of Kyela district reaching at least 50 farmers per ward. The training and interventions focused on promoting farmer innovations and practices that are environmental friendly used by farmers to mitigate the effects of climate change. Interventions such as Agroforestry and tree plantation created an avenue for farmers earn in future more money from investment in forestry industry and cocoa business. In 2012, 92,716 trees of different varieties were transplanted by farmers while 113,852 were in nurseries waiting for transplantation in the farm fields. Previously, in 2011, 18 farmers groups in Ludewa district have planted 935,576 timber trees as a way to mitigate the impact of climate changes while in Kyela district, 43,672 seedlings of cocoa were planted by 870 farmers not only as way to conserve the environment but also as source of income in the near future.



Some of tree nurseries and trees that have been planted through this project

6. Strengthening institutional development of MVIWATA

To ensure that MVIWATA has sufficient human and financial capacities to implement its programmes and satisfy the needs of its members, capacity building programmes were organised for MVIWATA leaders and staff at all levels to strengthen their capacities on leadership and financial management. These trainings targeted MVIWATA Board of Directors, middle level network leaders, market board members and technical staff from national and middle level networks.

6.1 Building capacities of Board of Directors

One day training on financial management covering such topics as analysis of financial reports; budget preparations and internal controls was conducted to MVIWATA board of directors and attended by all 9 members (4 women and 5 men). The aim of the training was to sharpen the skills of board members in Financial Management.

6.2 Building capacities leaders of MVIWATA Middle level networks

Two short training sessions on financial management training were conducted to 30 leaders of (14 women and 16 men) leaders of MVIWATA middle level networks of Morogoro, Shinyanga and Kilimanjaro on 11 - 12/9/2012 and 25th November 2012. The training focused on essentials of financial management, budgeting and controls.

6.3 Review of MVIWATA financial and human resource manuals

To ensure that MVIWATA has up to date financial and human resources manuals and guidelines, an independent consultant was hired in 2011 to review and update MVIWATA financial manual to match with current organizational needs. The reviewed manual was presented and shared with MVIWATA staff and leaders in 2011 for more inputs, validation and approval. In July 2012, the final version was shared with all MVIWATA staff during a staff retreat held on 23th – 27th July 2012 at Glonency Hotel, Morogoro for sharing and operationalisation.



6.4 MVIWATA Annual General Meeting (AGM)

On 16th August 2012; MVIWATA conducted its 17th Annual General Meeting. The AGM of MVIWATA was preceded by the annual national workshop of MVIWATA on 15th August 2012. A total of 221 (132 male, 89 female) participants including 172 delegates of MVIWATA, 15 representatives from development partners, representatives from different Ministries and local government authorities collaborating with MVIWATA, 17 staff of MVIWATA, 14 intern students and 3 representatives from different local media attended the AGM. The AGM reflected on progress of the organisation, received the audited financial report and annual plan of MVIWATA.

Likewise, on different occasions, MVIWATA middle level networks conducted their annual general meetings as one of the obligations stipulated in MVIWATA constitution. Middle level networks that conducted their AGM include MVIWATA Arusha, MVIWATA Monduli (MVIWAMO), MVIWATA Manyara and Mbinga district network.

- MVIWATA Manyara held its meeting on 19 October 2012 attended by 87 delegates (40 women and 47 men) out of whom 72 were MVIWATA members and 15 invitees.
- MVIWATA Monduli held an AGM on 14 May 2012 attended by 112 members (women 44 and 68 men).
- MVIWATA Arusha held its meeting on 27 November 2012 and attended by 120 (women 72 and 48 men) members.



6.5 Board meetings

Three meetings of MVIWATA Board of Directors were organised to discuss progress of the organisation. Project and networks reports were presented and shared to provide an insight of the implementation status, key achievements realised and some challenges faced by implementers for comments and directions. Among issues that appeared almost for discussion in all meetings include improvement and harmonization of MVIWATA training programme for leaders, staff and members, commemoration of MVIWATA 20th anniversary as well upgrading MVIWATA membership database. During board meetings, follow up and backstopping missions were also conducted to oversee the progress on implementation of various MVIWATA activities.

6.6 MVIWATA Council Meetings

In 2012 MVIWATA organised one council meeting which was held on 15th March 2012 and attended by 75 leaders (24 women and 51 men). The meeting provides a platform for MVIWATA leaders from national and middle level networks to share challenges and achievements at each middle level network and also reflect on progress of MVIWATA in a consultative manner.

6.7 Staff reflection and technical meetings

Two MVIWATA staff reflections meetings were held to reflect on the implementation status of MVIWATA activities, achievements realised and challenges. The first one on 13th – 17th February 2012 which involved 37 staff.

The second meeting was held from 23rd to 28th July 2012 and involved 45 staff (35 men and 10 women). MVIWATA Chairperson Mr. Habibu Simbamkuti and Mr. Yazid Makame, the former Chairperson attended too.

The first two days were used to discuss the Tanzania national constitution to help MVIWATA identify areas in the current constitution that need to be changed or improved to enhance smallholder farmers participation in policy formulation and decision making processes at all levels. The discussion on the constitution generated a number of recommendations that were later presented to MVIWATA AGM for improvement and approval before final submission to the National Constitutional Commission MVIWATA.

Other issues that were discussed include MVIWATA annual work plan for 2012, semi-annual report for January to June 2012; preparation of MVIWATA Annual General Meeting 2012 and MVIWATA plan and budget for 2013 and 2014.

In addition to that, various other monthly management meetings, general staff meetings and technical meetings were held to discuss the progress of MVIWATA.



MVIWATA Chairperson and the Executive Director making remarks at staff retreat.

6.8 Financial Control and Audit for MVIWATA accounts

MVIWATA conducted an external audit in May 2012. The audit which was conducted by Trion and Company indicated that MVIWATA has been complying with the required sound financial management system. MVIWATA obtained an unqualified Audit report.

6.9 Audit for MVIWATA Market Boards and Middle level Networks

As part of capacity building programme on financial management and control, MVIWATA conducted a series of internal audits for Market Boards of Tawa on 7/9/2012, Nyandira on 24/8/2012 and Tandai on 22/8/2012 and Kibaigwa on 3 - 6/9/2012. The audit process was followed by capacity building trainings to market board members and staff following the number of identified gaps to ensure better financial control for MVIWATA markets.

The common gaps that were identified include mixing of capital and recurrent expenditures that leads to overstate of expenses and understate of assets and profit, lack of contract between market boards and service providers, poor book keeping and accounting records poor or lack of bank reconciliation and preparation of month reports. It was also observed that there were no regular Board as indicated in the market boards constitutions due to poor leadership skills. While some market showed improvement on financial management, there was increased accumulation of losses of capital at Tawa and Nyandira markets and misuse of resources at Kibaigwa market. Therefore, the trainings were designed based on the above weaknesses to improve the control mechanisms.

MVIWATA also conducted internal audits for its middle level networks in Kilimanjaro, Shinyanga, Arusha and Manyara. During the auditing, in spite of numerous strengths minor weaknesses mainly on compliance were noted and discussed with teams. These include;

- Irregularity in conduction Annual General Meetings
- Delay in NSSF and PAYE deductions and remittance

Based on identified gaps revealed by the internal audit, the audit team conducted professional trainings immediately after to address those challenges. This technical support was provided to improve professionalism of staff and leadership capacities of leaders of audited middle level networks on financial management and control.

6.10 Valuation of MVIWATA fixed Assets

The exercise involved physical verification and identification of the existing assets as listed in the MVIWATA assets register. The tasks carried out include assessing of condition and status of each individual asset, assigning the code reference numbers of all assets and carry out valuation of all assets at current market value. The physical asset valuation, verification and inspection were carried out from October 2012 to November 2012.

7. Others

In September 2012, in recognition of the work that MVIWATA does in terms of policy advocacy, FANR-PAN awarded MVIWATA a 2012 Civil Society award for Policy Shakers and Movers at a ceremony held in Dar es Salaam.

8. Way forward

The way forward for MVIWATA entails the following areas;

- To prepare for the next strategic plan 2015 - 2019
- To strengthen monitoring and evaluation framework of MVIWATA
- To strengthen the policy advocacy to match with the changing environment for small scale farmers
- To document properly experiences and successful case studies.



Farmers' network receives regional 'movers and shakers' award

By Guardian Reporter

The small scale farmers' network in Tanzania (MVIWATA) has been awarded the 2012 FANRPAN Civil Society Movers and Shakers Award, which recognises contributions of mobilising small-scale farmers in Tanzania.

A statement issued by the network yesterday said the award was announced recently at the FANRPAN Annual Regional Policy Dialogue held in Dar es Salaam.

Speaking soon after receiving the award, MVIWATA Executive Director Stephen Ravuga expressed gratitude for FANRPAN for recognition of the network's efforts in mobilising small-scale farmers who are majority in this country and play a big role in food security and the wider economy.

The agricultural sector in Tanzania employs close to 80 percent of the country's population that is now estimated at 45 million.

Founded in 1993, the network aspires

to empower smallholders economically and socially through capacity building. It similarly undertakes lobbying and advocacy by strengthening the group and other networks, facilitating communication and learning to defend farmers' interests effectively.

The NGO was formed to address challenges facing smallholder farmers such as lack of a strong organisation of small scale farmers in the country to combat exclusion of small scale farmers from the decision making process. It also sought to reduce under-representation in decision making bodies, work on low prices of agricultural produce, unreliable markets and lack of access to financial services, the director explained.

To address the challenges, he said MVIWATA has been implementing various interventions focusing on lobbying and advocacy, capacity building and economic empowerment of small-scale farmers in which objectives have been achieved and can be testified through individual experiences.

The organisation has been facilitating

the formation and strengthening of production and marketing groups and link them with extension service providers to increase productivity, he said.

The vision of the NGO is to become a strong farmers' organisation that will guarantee small-scale farmers' participation and representation in the socio-economic and policy dialogue process at various levels. That will be achieved through learning, initiating, implementing and monitoring social and economic development processes, he further noted.

Reflecting on the award, the director said the NGO has registered a number of achievements such as an increased number of farmers who raised awareness on the importance of joining together. "This gives them one common and strong voice to advocate for the interest of farmers, while at the same time other stakeholders have increased their understanding about the work of MVIWATA and its mission to advocate the farmers' interests and improve their livelihoods."

MTANDAO WA VIKUNDI VYA WAKULIMA TANZANIA
(Network of Farmers' Group in Tanzania)
(MVIWATA)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of Mtandao wa Vikundi vya Wakulima Tanzania (MVIWATA), which comprise the statement of Financial Position at 31 December 2012, statement of Comprehensive Income, statement of changes in Equity and the statement of Cash Flow for the year then ended, and the notes to the financial statements, which include a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes as set out on page 13.

Board of Directors' responsibilities for the Financial Statements

The Organizations' board of directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these Financial Statement in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and for such internal controls as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statement that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' responsibilities

Our responsibilities as Auditors, is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conduct our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing, Organization's terms of reference and the specific terms of reference given by the Donors. Those standards required that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amount and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making these risks assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluation the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

In addition to testing the Organization's system of Internal Control, Financial and Recording Procedures, the following tests were carried out during our audit:

1. Separate and proper Books of Account, the Receipts and Payments Cash Books for the Association's Current Bank Accounts, and the Petty Cash Books, as is considered necessary for the audit, were seen to have been opened and are maintained.
2. As at 31st December, 2012, separate Bank Accounts for the Donors' funds have been opened per the Donors' requirements and the Bank Balances confirmation Certificates obtained.
3. Performance of monthly Bank and Cash reconciliation and the Cash and Bank Balances were verified. The cash count certificate as at 31 December 2012 and the Bank Certificates of Bank Balances confirmation seen.
4. Authorization procedures for Bank and Cash payments, the proper maintenance of Cash Books and other Books of Account were verified and found to be inline with the Organization's Financial Regulations. All of the payment vouchers were found to be attached with the necessary support documents such as payments requisitions, acknowledgement receipt vouchers and contract documents.
5. Reconciliation between funds received by MVIWATA and those disbursed by Donors. The disbursement fund were verified and found to be in line with donor's requirements. The expenditure related to the projects are fully documented and included in the income statement on page 10, of the report and separately reported on page 25 of the report.
6. As at 31st December 2012, MVIWATA owned Assets of various descriptions. The Assets, which were revalued in November 2012, were in existence and all of them found to be in good conditions. The Net Value of these Assets is shown in NOTE 4 of the attached Financial Statements.
7. No differences between the financial reports related to the contracts with the donors as at 31 December, 2012 and the financial reports sent to them.

In forming our opinion, we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the Financial Statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, proper books of account have been kept and the financial statements, which are in agreement there with, give true and fair view of the state of affairs of Mtandao wa Vikundi vya Wakulima Tanzania (MVIWATA) at 31 December 2012, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the donors' requirements.

DODOMA
18 May 2013


CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANT PUBLIC
IN PUBLIC PRACTICE


MTANDAO WA VIKUNDI VYA WAKULIMA TANZANIA
(Network of Farmers' Group in Tanzania)
(MVIWATA)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2012

	Notes	2012 TZS	2011 TZS
ASSETS			
Non- current assets			
Net Non-Current assets	4(a)	593,275,960	373,093,497
Intangible Assets	4(b)	19,776,308	-
Investment in Region Credit Funds	5	258,485,272	225,224,091
Investment in Office Building Construction	6	39,122,500	39,122,500
		<u>910,660,040</u>	<u>637,440,088</u>
Current assets			
Accounts Receivable	7	54,450,900	473,778,052
Prepayment	8	-	5,070,000
Cash and bank balances	9	1,396,836,370	932,264,375
		<u>1,451,287,270</u>	<u>1,411,112,427</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>2,361,947,310</u>	<u>2,048,552,515</u>
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
Equity			
Members Contributions		850,000	850,000
Capital Reserve/Grants	10	424,980,031	391,718,850
Revaluation Reserve		238,439,555	-
Accumulated Surplus		328,785,502	352,291,174
		<u>993,055,088</u>	<u>744,860,024</u>
Current liabilities			
Accounts Payable	11	29,455,080	600,092,591
Differed Grants	12	1,269,752,307	649,138,253
Other Liabilities	13	69,684,835	54,461,647
		<u>1,368,892,222</u>	<u>1,303,692,491</u>
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		<u>2,361,947,310</u>	<u>2,048,552,515</u>

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS – PAGES 7 AND 8

NOTES 1 TO 22 FORM PART OF THESE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

.....
Mr. Habibu Simbamkuti - Chairperson

Date.....13/5/.....2013

.....
Mr. Stephen A Ruvuga - Executive Director

Date.....13/5/.....2013



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