



Mtandao wa Vikundi vya Wakulima

Annual Report 2013



P.O.Box 3220, Morogoro -Tanzania
Tel/Fax: + 255 23 2614184
Email: info@mviwata.org
Website: www.mviwata.org



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(MVIWATA)

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List of Abbreviations

AGM	Annual General Meeting
AGRA	Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa
DC	District Commissioner
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
FARMAF	Farm Risk Management in Africa Project
LEAT	Lawyers Environmental Action Team
LHRC	Legal and Human Rights Centre
MAMIS	MVIWATA Market Information System
MOMFISECO	Morogoro rural and Mvomero Districts Financial Services Cooperatives
MSAWAKI	Mtandao wa SACCOS za Wakulima Kilimanjaro

Foreword from the Chairperson



Mr. Habibu Simbambuti,

My foreword in 2013 will be the last as the Chairperson of MVIWATA since in this year, 2014 a new Chairperson will be elected. Looking back in 2013 it was our pleasure for us small holder farmers from across all parts of the country to pass in front of the Vice President of United Republic of Tanzania Dr Mohamed Gharib Bilal to give our message of hope, while celebrating 20 years since the formation of MVIWATA. For me 20 years of MVIWATA have been a success in spite of many emerging challenges ahead.

The 2013 Annual Report will give a you glimpse of activities and achievements in 2013, which in my view have moved some steps ahead members of MVIWATA and smallholder farmers at large.

I would like to thank our partners for supporting activities in 2013 but also for walking with us for the last 20 years of the existence of MVIWATA.



Members of Board of Directors of MVIWATA in a group photo with the Vice President of United Republic of Tanzania, Hon. Dr Mohamed Gharib Bilal during the 20th Anniversary Celebration of MVIWATA

Foreword from the Executive Director



Mr. Stephen Ruvuga

In 2013 MVIWATA celebrated its 20th Anniversary. This was therefore an important year for reflecting where smallholder farmers are after 20 years of MVIWATA and whether the 20 years journey has created changes for smallholder farmers in Tanzania. Looking at achievements and challenges of the 20 years journey, definitely there are some progress and milestones achieved.

2013 Annual Report highlights some interventions and achievements for 2013 with a little perspective of 20 years life of MVIWATA. The report will give you an overview of diverse activities that MVIWATA was engaged in, achievements, partnerships and where we go from here.



MVIWATA Staff in a group photo with the Vice President of United Republic of Tanzania, Hon. Dr Mohamed Gharib Bilal during the 20th Anniversary Celebration of MVIWATA,

I. Introduction

1.1 Background of MVIWATA

Mtandao wa Vikundi vya Wakulima Tanzania (MVIWATA) is the 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 in Tanzania. 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.

MVIWATA was formed by smallholder farmers themselves 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 provides a comprehensive overview of MVIWATA activities that were implemented from January to December 2013, 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. 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. There are currently 20 middle level networks, namely; Arusha (Monduli, Arumeru, Longido Districts), Dodoma, Iringa (and Njombe), Kagera, Kigoma, Kilimanjaro, Liwale District, Manyara, Masasi District, Mbeya, Mkuranga District, Morogoro, Shinyanga, Singida, Tabora, Ruvuma and Zanzibar (Unguja and Pemba), Mwanza and Mara. Networks such as Liwale, Mara, Mwanza, Mkuranga, Masasi and Singida are in early development stages.

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, exposure visits and the use of farmer to farmer were among the most commonly used methods.

There has been substantial media engagement, engagement with policy makers and grassroots forums for public awareness. Studies on identified issues were conducted by MVIWATA for the purpose of advocacy.

Activities have been facilitated by MVIWATA team of staff, leaders and farmers-promoters (farmers who are trained to train other farmers). The use of voluntary unpaid farmer-promoters is a core approach of MVIWATA for three reasons;

- To internalize interventions and processes,
- to facilitate ownership and sustain interventions at local level
- To enable a multiplier effects at local level

Documentation of experiences, events and successful stories was done and shared among members and the public through video, popular media (newspapers, radio and television), in-house MVIWATA communication tools namely, the quarterly *Pambazuko* newsletter; MVIWATA News monthly bulletin, weekly radio programs at Radio Maria namely *Sauti ya Wakulima*; and MVIWATA website.

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 smallholder farmers, 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. MVIWATA's partners in 2013

In 2013 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, VECO Tanzania, Agriterra, McKnight Foundation and Rural Livelihood Development Company (RLDC). 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. Implemented Activities and Achievements in 2013

4.1 Overview of Implementation

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 2013. In general these activities can be summed up in the following clusters;

- Facilitating formation and strengthening of farmers' groups and networks through sensitization 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 sensitization 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.
- Organisational development activities

4.2 Highlight of Achievements

One of the major achievements in 2013 was the 20th anniversary of MVIWATA which was celebrated in 23 - 26 July which reached its climax with the presence of Hon Dr Mohamed Gharib Bilal, the Vice President of United Republic of Tanzania. The event which was attended by about 2000 persons, members of MVIWATA and invited guests, was a huge event in which the farmers conveyed achievements of the last 20 years, challenges and vision of farmers for their nation.

Furthermore 2013 was the beginning of engagement of MVIWATA in national constitution matters, as it was for many other civil society organisations. It was the process that culminated in the appointment of two MVIWATA members in the constitutional assembly. This was perceived to be an important opportunity for inclusion of issues of smallholder farmers in the national constitution.

Another milestone relates to land. Mvomero District in Morogoro Region has been facing increasing and numerous land conflicts, particularly between pastoralists and farmers. In 2013 alone, at least 7 people were killed, others injured, farms and houses burnt as a result of rivalry between the two camps of producers.



Responding to this problem, and at the request of farmers, MVIWATA, accompanied by media, conducted visits and meetings to establish the facts, magnitude of the problem and find the way to reach a peaceful agreement.

Several consultations with the farmers, pastoralists, leaders and law enforcers were done to find a solution in which MVIWATA was part of the consultations. For instance, the District Police



Commander for Mvomero visited MVIWATA office in Morogoro to get the views of MVIWATA with regards to the conflict in Mvomero. Furthermore, MVIWATA was invited to an advisory group in Mvomero in an effort to manage the problem.

The consultations culminated in a meeting of producers in Mvomero District in September 2013 and the visit of various Ministries to discuss the land conflicts and find the way of resolving them. MVIWATA was part and parcel of the consultations and organisations of the meetings.

The meetings resulted in a number of resolutions, the main ones being:

1. To organise demarcation of land according to the uses
2. To demarcate village boundaries
3. Amend and reinforce bylaws.

Following these resolutions by the end of the year preparations were underway for the earmarked activities. By the time this report was being written 10 villages were in the process of demarcation. This is important milestone towards relieving the villagers from endemic land conflicts, which MVIWATA was associated with.

In **economic empowerment**, the following achievements were

- **Increase in productivity:** 2252 farmers (1112 women and 1140 men) were trained on crop husbandry, especially in maize and rice, through farmer to farmer approach in which 293 farmers (128 women and 165 men) trained other farmers. Increased maize yield of maize production rise from an average of 3.0 tons per hectare to about 8.0 tons per hectare and increased rice production from 3.9 tons per hectare to 9.0 tons per hectare amongst farmers who participated in this initiative.
- **Price change:** There has been increase of produce price amongst farmers that resulted from training and market linkage initiatives of MVIWATA such as use of promotion of MAMIS. For example, the price of different market areas rose from an average T Shs 350/kg to Tshs 530/kg. Through an arrangement between MVIWATA and NFRA, 4996 tons of maize with the value of Tshs 2,648,000,000/- were sold to NFRA by 89 groups comprising of 712 small holder farmers from Kalambo, Handeni, Kiteto, Kongwa, Mvomero and Njombe districts. In MVIWATA constructed markets, 74,768 tons of cereals worth Tshs 39.627 billion were sold by farmers in five markets of Kibaigwa, Mkata, Matai, Igurusi and Igagala markets.
- **Increase farmers access to finance: Through MVIWATA supported SACCOS, following training** on management of farmers financial institutions, there have been an improvement in internal control systems of the SACCOS. There has been improvement in record keeping and loan disbursements. For example in Kilimanjaro there been an increase in shares/capital in 9 SACCOS forming MSAWAKI (Mtandao wa SACCOS za Wakulima Kilimanjaro) from T Shs 198,433,886/= in 2012 to Tshs 254,160,033/= in 2013 and also an increase in loan given to members from Tshs 576,421,000/= in 2012 to Tshs 675,936,000/= in 2013.

In HIV/AIDS, 101 persons (45 women and 56 men) performed voluntary HIV/AIDS counseling and testing in VCT sessions arranged by MVIWATA. Furthermore, farmers living with HIV/AIDS were linked with the local government from which they received a financial support to enable them establish their own

economic enterprises. The groups have focus on agricultural based enterprises especially production and marketing of cassava and orange flesh sweet potatoes. 43 members of MVIWATA (31 women 12 men) were involved in the initiative.

In climate change adaptations, there have been efforts on planting trees, application of soil and water management practices with the purpose of conserving moisture and soil fertility.

In terms of **organisational development**, there has been improvement of systems; including Human Resources procedures which have resulted from improved human resource manual basing on national and international labor laws and asset management which resulted from introduction of an electronic fixed asset register (soft ware).

Internal audits have facilitated early identification of financial management challenges which lead to prompt actions to address financial management challenges in time. There has been improvement in internal controls and accuracy of financial reports.

Internal audits have also helped to earmark management challenges in institutions affiliated to MVIWATA such as market boards such that increased revenue due to better controls were reported;

Tawa Rural Market: 3% from 2011 (14,134,500.00) to 2013 (14,575,500)

Tandai: 34% (2011: 20,030,450.00, 2012: 26,877,300, 2013: 26,680,350

Nyandira : 2011 : 42,630,508 , 2012: 53,205,005, 2013: 53,267,850

Improved organisational financial management systems: Updated Sage Accpac System has helped in timely submission of financial reports and easy preparation of Consolidated Mviwata financial statements which comprises all donors financial reports.

In terms of external audits MVIWATA managed to obtain a clear and unqualified audit report which has helped build the trust of partners and reputation of the organisation.

4.3 Progress of implementation

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

a) Facilitating formation and strengthening of farmers' groups and networks

MVIWATA conducted field activities with the purpose of strengthening capacities of leadership of groups and networks with the view to engage effectively in social and agricultural policy issues, at local to national levels.

Village based activities including training workshops, meetings and follow up visits

were widely conducted in middle level networks of Kagera, Iringa, Masasi, Mbeya, Zanzibar, Mwanza, Manyara, Mara, Arusha, Morogoro, Singida and Ruvuma. 14,054 members, (5,877 men and 8,474 women) participated in training sessions 2013. The purpose of these activities ranged from awareness creation on farmers movements, training sessions and sensitisation on group actions.

One of the results of these activities was increased spirit of group actions, for example:

In August 2013, MVIWATA members in Mvomero organised a village exhibition to coincide with agricultural show week. Over 800 farmers participated in the exhibition, learn from one another, establish links with other actors in agriculture sector and share experiences on agricultural production and other related

skills. To facilitate this event, farmers contributed cash of T Sh 2,317,000/- to finance the show.

MVIWATA members in Mvomero district raised Tshs 2,100,000 in cash to organise a forum held on 4th September 2013 to discuss land issues while Tsh 630,000 was contributed by MVIWATA members to support their local network leaders to undertake fundraising visits to financial institutions (namely, CRDB, ASA, District councils).

To support 20th Anniversary of MVIWATA which was celebrated in Morogoro from 23rd to 26th of July 2013 MVIWATA members contributed in form of their own travel costs estimated at Tsh 50 million which is about 20% of the total cost of the anniversary cost.

Generally, this activity resulted in improved leadership, improved governance of the groups and networks, recruitment of new MVIWATA members, groups and networks and increase in contributions.

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

i. Training for Middle Level Network Leaders

To strengthen the leadership skills of the middle level network leaders MVIWATA conducted 5 days long leadership training for 90 leaders (54 men and 36 women) from 12 regions from 10th to 28th June, 2013.

Dates	Total	Women	Men	Location where leaders came from
10 th to 14 th June 2013	30	12	18	Iringa, Zanzibar, Singida and Mkuranga
17 th to 21 st June 2013	31	12	19	Mwanza, Kilimanjaro, Ruvuma and Kagera
24 th to 28 th June 2013	29	12	17	Arusha, Tabora, Dodoma, and Lindi

In addition to the training conducted at the training centre of MVIWATA two other leadership training sessions were held for leaders of local networks and groups were conducted on 20th - 21st September 2013 in Njombe where 45 leaders (25 women and 20 men) from Welela, Itunduma, Sovi, and Mtwango (Njombe District) Igagala, Ulembwe and Ng'anda (Wanging'ombe district) were trained.

The overall objective of the trainings was; to enhance capacity of Local and Middle Level Networks' leaders on leadership and advocacy, while specific objectives were:-

1. To strengthen leadership capacity of MLNs' leaders,
2. To update MLNs' leaders on MVIWATA philosophy, and lobbying and advocacy skills,
3. To clarify roles of MLNs' Steering Committees in nurturing and supporting local networks, and
4. To enhance capacity of MLNs' leaders on planning, monitoring and evaluation.



Mr Hassira Zahoro, a farmer leader, facilitating Leadership Training at Tawa Training Centre.

ii. Promoters' Training

Training for promoters was conducted at Nyandira Training Centre on 3rd to 14th June 2013 and on 18th-29th June 2013 in which 58 farmers (23 women and 35 men) were trained. The training was conducted in two batches; of 30 farmers (11 women and 19 men) in the first batch and 28 farmers (12 women and 16 men) in the second batch.

The overall objective of the training for promoters was to improve the capacity of experienced promoters so as to enable them to provide appropriate services to farmers' groups and networks, while specific objectives were; to update experienced promoters' with knowledge and skills so as to suit current organizational needs, to facilitate an opportunity to promoters to share knowledge and experience among themselves (networking), and to explore and find solutions to the challenges they face.



Promoters in groups' discussion during their training at Nyandira Training Centre.

Nambari Nabak: case of a Woman Promoter.



Nambari Nabak (43), is a Maasai woman from Kimokowa village with six (6) children. She is a member of MVIWATA with card number 10779, from Ereto Manyata Group in Longido District and a trained farmer promoter. After training she has been very active to sensitise farmers from her village by walking on foot miles from one group to another in Longido district. Through her efforts she has been able to recruit 421 (81 men, 340 women). She contributed a lot in motivating Maasai women to engage in jewellery and honey production, which resulted to social and economic development of the Maasai women in Longido district. MVIWATA Arusha called her a woman of the year 2013.

c) Management of MVIWATA membership database

Since 2012 MVIWATA embarked on updating membership records in order to validate the members.

By December 2012, 13,656 individual members, 715 groups, and 60 local networks were recorded in the database.

By December 2013, information of 17,963 individual members grouped into 1,445 farmer groups, 210 local networks and 22 middle level networks have been recorded in the database and the exercise continues.

Following the improvement of MVIWATA membership database, membership fees collected from members raised from T. Sh 9,981,500 in 2012 to T. Sh 13,553,500 in 2013 which is shared between the national office, middle level networks and local networks.

d) Refining the current leadership training programme

MVIWATA leadership training programme has been continuously being refined and has been used in leadership and promoters training. Similarly, refining of training materials is in progress. Engagement of a person to thoroughly review the training programme and redesign is planned.

4.3.2 Strengthening advocacy capacity of farmers to influence policy process

a) Conducting research studies and fact finding missions on key advocacy issues

Two studies were commissioned by MVIWATA and undertaken during the reporting period, namely;

1. Assessment of CAADP implementation, involvement of small and its impact to smallholder farmers:
2. Assessing Impact of Biofuel Investments on Local Livelihoods in Tanzania: A case of Kisarawe, Bagamoyo and Kilwa Districts
3. Assessment of impact of MVIWATA Markets

These studies have helped MVIWATA to attain the following;

- Firstly, to equip members of MVIWATA with facts based on these two studies
- Secondly to use the studies in advocacy forums for presenting demands for policy changes. These

forums include; the annual general meeting of MVIWATA, the forums to discuss policies and in meetings with policy makers. Although the desired changes were not observed, the studies have helped to put facts on record.

Studies in Brief:

Assessment of CAADP implementation and its impact to smallholder farmers

Objectives of the Study

1. To review the state of implementation of CAADP in Tanzania in the context of on-going multiple development initiatives
2. To identify and analyse gaps on policies and frameworks related to CAADP implementation
3. To make objective analysis of commitment of the Government of Tanzania to 2003 Maputo Declaration;
4. To assess engagement of small scale farmers in CAADP process in Tanzania

Key Findings

1. CAADP and Multiple Agricultural Development Initiatives in Tanzania:

Implementation of CAADP is supposed to be achieved through local agricultural interventions for respective countries. Tanzania has had a multitude of interventions for promoting agriculture sector embedded in Vision 2025 and MKUKUTA. There has been a chain of overlapping multiple development initiatives in agriculture that run parallel without clear complementarity among them, and without clear positive impact on the livelihood of smallholder farmers.

2. Synergy between CAADP and other agricultural development initiatives:

Clarification on the linkages between the multitudes of agricultural development initiatives is usually given by politicians and technocrats. Nonetheless authentic and convincing linkage is hard to come by. It is evident that the initiatives are running parallel to each other.

3. Policy Gaps in CAADP implementation Framework (Challenges):

The CAADP framework is intended to be complementary to existing national agriculture strategies and frameworks and to focus on the overall development of the sector by providing complimentary and supplementary inputs to bridge gaps identified in the sector policies, strategies as well as supporting scaling-up successful initiatives in the sector. Some argued that 'TAFSIP is a piece of paper on the shelf. This could have been due to its introduction in spite of so many pre existed policies with similar goals. How TAFSIP was developed in relation to pre-existing agricultural strategies and policies, remain an amazing story, because of the presence of a long list of potentially relevant official policy initiatives influencing agriculture.

4. CAADP focus:

CAADP focuses on financial and technical issues without addressing socio-economic issues and meeting the needs of rural people, in particular the needs of women. CAADP promotes the reform of African agriculture through the adoption of modern or improved technologies associated with the Green Revolution. African farmers do not need "advanced technologies" that will make them loose control of their traditional seeds and will make them dependent on inputs supplied and controlled by large multinationals and foreign suppliers. We believe that small-scale farmers traditional production methods based on traditional seeds and local inputs must instead be enhanced through research and technologies based on agro ecological principles that can ensure that they remain independent and autonomous producers.

- 5. Operational programmes** of CAADP in Tanzania have been numerous with little or no coherence. Apart from political statements, there is no economic evidence that agricultural development programmes that are implemented in Tanzania are clearly linked to the Maputo Declaration and to each other. All in all, Tanzania has missed both targets of CAADP.
- 6. Tanzania Government Commitment to 2003 Maputo Declaration:** Since 2001/02 the agricultural budget in Tanzania has generally been increasing gradually in nominal terms. When adjustment for inflation is made, the difference between nominal and real budget ranges between 4.9 percent in 2002 and 49.1 percent in 2011. While Tanzania is struggling to reach the 10% CAADP target. CAADP target of 10%, the 6% annual growth rate in agriculture has not been achieved. Because of weaker performance of agriculture Tanzania has not been able to achieve significant reductions in poverty or shown some improvements in nutritional status.
- 7. Engagement of Small Scale Farmers in CAADP Process in Tanzania:** Engagement of smallholder farmers in the CAADP process is implied in the TAFSIP document as it is claimed that the process was broad based. Interview with knowledgeable informants indicated that smallholder farmers were represented by civil society organisations. It was also argued that the Ministry of Agriculture sent officers in the regions to sensitize and create awareness among farmers on the new initiative. Whether smallholders are benefiting from TAFSIP stakeholders observed that it too early to tell; but it will depend on a number of factors like infrastructures, government commitment, land law reforms to protect farmers' land from land grabbing.

Recommendations

1. Government ministries, departments and agencies should put in place clear rules to fully and transparently involve civil society networks in policy processes and dialogue. In doing so the government should recognise the difference between instrumental and symbolic involvement of stakeholders. Instrumental participation is where participation is active whereas in symbolic participation stakeholders are passive participants of the process. Instead of inviting representatives of stakeholders, it is recommended that the draft plans should be sent to the stakeholders and be given ample time to discuss within their circles and submit comments/ views to the planners.
2. The government should fulfill its international commitment of allocating 10% of the national budget to the agriculture sector without excuses.
3. The multitude of agricultural development programs in Tanzania should be rationalised and harmonised into one comprehensive initiative for the sake of efficiency and effectiveness.
4. Political will and prioritization of agriculture is one thing, and implementation is entirely a different thing. Planning has never been a problem in this country. Tanzania has very good plans probably better than TAFSIP, but the problem has always been on the implement side. It is recommended that agricultural development programmes that are underway should be implemented in the framework of the newly composed institution, the Presidential Delivery Bureau (PDB) and the Agricultural Delivery Agency when created.



Dr. Damian Gabagambi presenting a research report on CAADP at the AGM of MVIWATA (right).

Assessing Impact of Biofuel Investments on Local Livelihoods in Tanzania: Case of Kisarawe, Bagamoyo and Kilwa Districts

The broad objective of the study was to assess the impacts of biofuel investments in local livelihood systems and local economy. Specifically the study had the following objectives:

1. To assess the procedures used by investors to acquire land and determine whether they adhered to regulations governing biofuels investment.
2. To describe the practices of biofuel investments in the study area
3. To assess the socio-economic and environmental impact of biofuels investments in the study areas.
4. To assess delivery of promises by investors for local development
5. To assess perceptions of smallholder farmers on biofuel investments in their localities
6. To develop recommendations based on whether the local population have benefited from the biofuel investments in their locality

Key findings

1. Despite existing large potential of biofuel production in Tanzania; the country lacks an enabling environment to support co-existence between smallholder farmers and large scale farmers to create win – win situation that foster mutual benefits.
2. The regulatory environment governing land tenure in Tanzania is weak and does not ensure security of smallholder farmers' land rights.
3. To date, there have been a range of problems associated with the process of land acquisition; especially when investors are directly involved in the process of negotiation of land deals with the local community.
4. The regulation requires land owners who give land to investors to receive compensation from investors before land is transferred from village land to general land that subsequently qualify for an investor to be offered with a "derivative right". However, the practice in Kisarawe District was different; the land transfer was done before villages and some individuals received compensation.
5. While one of the objectives for promoting biofuels investment in Tanzania is to ensure energy security; Tanzania has no blending targets of biofuels to create local demands that will trigger

local market for the biofuel products and substitute export of fossil fuels. In the absence of local demands the biofuels are likely to be for export which may not account for energy security as expected.

6. The formal system available for resolving land disputes between smallholder farmers and investors is apparently seen not to be effective enough to give justice on time. Given the fact that there are several community members in Kisarawe and villages which offered land to investors they never received compensation to date.
7. The incentives granted to investors (i.e. tax waiver for export of agricultural products and imports of capital goods) create attractive environment for investors to export biofuel products rather than selling the products for local consumption.
8. Fiscal policy that allows transfer of unlimited amount of proceeds through banks does not favor the government's objective to increase foreign currency reserve since most investors will prefer to transfer the profit to their own countries and only retain the working capital.
9. Also the study observed flaws on the land evaluation and compensation procedures that some individuals and village land has not received compensation moreover, those received compensation were not informed of the land size and the value of properties deserved compensation.
10. In the process the communities were exposed to investors who are highly experienced to carryout international negotiations without legal assistance. Understanding the weak position of local community, investors used catchy but empty promises as weapon to win consent of the local community that subsequently were submitted to higher authority to obtain derivative rights.
11. The costs that community pays for the failed biofuel projects have not been adequately addressed. In villages where the community relied on the natural resources and agriculture to support more than 95% of their livelihood, the losses of land, and jobs cause significant impact on their livelihood. The foregone livelihood opportunities for not accessing the common pool resources are particularly disturbing given the fact that the loss of jobs that substituted income from loss of common pool resources has no other immediate alternatives.
12. The biofuel projects have resulted in significant environmental degradation, especially from the clearing of natural forests to make way for plantations. Both the BioShape and Sun Biofuels estates included critical ecosystems such as coastal forests, wetlands, and Miombo woodlands. These areas harbored unique biodiversity and provided important ecosystem services for local villagers, including fuel woods, medicinal plants, weaving materials, clay soil for pottery and pasture for livestock. BioShape and Sun Biofuels did not clear all of their concession areas before pulling out, but the land that was cleared degraded the local environment and is no longer accessible to community to access common pool resources.
13. Much as this study acknowledges and support efforts of the government to promote large scale investment in biofuel sub sector this study is in the opinion that the government has not created an enabling environment to support co-existence between smallholder farmers and large scale farmers to enhance a win – win situation that fosters mutual benefits.

Recommendations

1. With the understanding that direct involvement of investors to negotiate land has caused several disputes with the community, this study recommends that investors should only secure land through TIC land bank that grant derivative right to avoid land disputes.
2. The government should improve regulatory environment governing land tenure in Tanzania to safeguard smallholder farmers' land rights.
3. With the understanding that Tanzania has no blending targets of biofuels to create local demands that will trigger local market for the biofuel products and substitute export of fossil fuels. Based on this, the study recommends the government to create mandatory local blending targets to create local demand.
4. The regulation requires land owners who give land to investors to receive compensation from investors before land is transferred from village land to general land that subsequently qualify for an investor to be offered with a "derivative right". In view of the violation of this regulation by some investors the government should be keen in the process of granting derivative rights before investors fulfill the requirements of land acquisition.
5. With the understanding that investors used promises to lure community when in the process of land acquisition without legal contracts which may hold them accountable. This study recommends that whenever necessary when communities are to be engaged in negotiations of any kind that requires legal attention the government through local authority should provide legal support.
6. The government needs to review the procedure through which the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is carried out by assigning own consultant instead of relying on investors EIA reports that might be biased and may not necessarily warrant objective judgment.
7. The government also should revise the investment incentives to promote local consumptions of biofuel products and meet its objective of increasing foreign currency reserve.

An assessment on the impacts of rural markets constructed by MVIWATA

The study was conducted by a consortium of experts from Sokoine University of Agriculture. Results of the study indicate that there have been notable changes in resource allocation at farm level with consequential increase in crop outputs for areas of influence of the respective markets. Stakeholders at all the visited markets acknowledged increase in farm income since the time markets were constructed. Cash income received from sale of products at the markets have tremendously increased money circulation in the areas around the markets. As a result, the areas have attracted people from various places in the country who have now settled in these places. The study also indicated that the markets have been contributing significantly to the Local Government Authorities budgets.

On the other side, the study identified that the population growth has been more rapidly than the ability of the township to provide surveyed plots with infrastructure and utilities. As a result, unplanned settlements have become a common sight. In addition, high rate of people immigrating into the areas has increased the spread of sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS. Another impact of the market was observed on pupils' abscondment from schools especially during the marketing periods. It was also reported that cases of single mothers have increased in the visited areas.



Policy Advocacy Officer of MVIWATA making a presentation to the Constitution Review Commission at Karimjee Hall –Dar es Salaam

b) Facilitate consultation forums, public debates/dialogues and media conferences/events with farmers, legislators, media and government officials for lobbying and advocacy on issues affecting SHFs

i. Participation in constitutional review process

In 2013 Tanzania commenced the process of national constitution review. MVIWATA being an association which represented the largest stakeholder in the country participated actively in the process by implementing by doing the following:

- Convene forums to read and understand the existing national constitution of 1977.

Collect and compile the views of the members of MVIWATA on the gaps in the current constitution and what need to be included in the new constitution

- Endorse the view of the members in the Annual General Meeting, submit and present them to the Constitutional Review Commission. The endorsement was done at the annual general meeting on 25th July 2013 with the participation of nearly 2000 members of MVIWATA. The second forum involving a smaller working group to fine tune the views was held on 26th -27th September, 2013 at Stepping Stone Hotel in Morogoro and it was attended by 53 (22 women and 31 men)
- MVIWATA applied to Constitutional Review Commission to sit as a constitutional council to review the first draft of the constitution. MVIWATA reviewed first draft constitution and submitted the views and comments to the Constitutional Review Commission.



- As we write this report a number of issues that were recommended by MVIWATA, most significantly the issue of land rights has been incorporated to the constitution.
- Further to that 43 farmers affiliated with MVIWATA (19 women and 24 men) are known to have been nominated to take part in district constitutional councils.

- Towards the end of December 2013, MVIWATA nominated 9 members and submitted the names to the Presidential Office for appointment to the constitutional assembly. Subsequently, two members, both women, **Veronica Sophu**, Vice Chairperson of MVIWATA and **Catherine Gabriel** a member from Tarime District were appointed by the President to sit at the constitutional assembly amongst 20 representatives of producers.

- From the beginning MVIWATA had put emphasis on land issues and rights of farmers as priority issues in the constitution. The views of MVIWATA also on governance.

ii. Participation in giving views on the new formed Agricultural Land Bill of 2013

In consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture Food Security and Cooperatives, MVIWATA invited the Directorate of Land use to a forum to present and elaborate the new Agricultural Land Management Bill of 2013 to enable the members of MVIWATA contribute to the bill.

A number of issues were seen to be unfavourable to farmers:

- there was too much control of land in the hands of the Ministry to the extent that almost the ownership of land by farmers is transferred to the ministry
- too many conditions for owning, using and cultivating land.
- too much bureaucratic structure that all is on top of a land owner with limitless powers
- there was worry that the bill was not harmonious with other existing laws: it appears that it is parallel to all other land laws.

The views were written and presented to the Ministry of Agriculture as part of MVIWATA engagement to the bill.

To ensure that farmers' views are incorporated in the new national constitution and in the agricultural land management Act, MVIWATA through local, middle level and national networks organized a series of forums with the aim to collect members' views on the two documents.

A Case of Catherine Gabriel Sibuti



Ms. Catherine Gabriel, is a member and promoter of MVIWATA since 2009, she lives in Rebu village in Tarime district. Due to capacity enhanced to her by MVIWATA on gender, land rights and civic education through the review of new constitution and leadership training she was elected a member of District's Constitution Council in Tarime district. Different from other contributions which based on union matters and status of the president, her distinguished contributions on socio-economic issues related to the constitution during the constitution review meeting in Tarime on 31st August, 2013. She was subsequently appointed to the Constitutional Assembly.

iii. Reflection on 2013/2014 agricultural budget

To enable farmers understand and reflect on 2013/2014 agricultural budget MVIWATA convened forum on 16th -17th May, 2013 in Morogoro in which and farmer leaders attended by 85 (57 men and 28 women) participants. Embezzlement of public funds allocated for agricultural development, annual dropping of the agricultural budget, delay in disbursing funds to local authorities, and lack of clear definition of smallholder farmer were among the discussed issues. Public statement was given by farmers' leaders on the budget and suggested ways for better budget in the future. Amongst the issues which were observed is low budget allocation, low quality of extension services and input supply and lack of transparency on the expenditure once funds allocated at local government level.





Right, MVIWATA's council meeting members during budget discussion and left is one of coverage in local newspapers concerning the discussion.

iv. Forum on GMOs

MVIWATA in collaboration with 23 representatives of civil society under Agriculture Non-State Actors Forum (ANSAF) and Tanzania Alliance for Biodiversity (TABIO), held meetings in Dodoma with Members of Parliament on 20th June and 8th November 2013, to discuss on Genetic Modified Organisms (GMOs) specifically its impact on the livelihood of smallholder farmers in view of limiting or banning introduction of GMOs in Tanzania. 75 parliamentarians attended both forums. This is part of civil society efforts to have better control on GMOs in Tanzania.



The forum helped to create more awareness to the lawmakers on GMOs and need for strict regulation. The most important element was to enable the legislators understand the meaning of **“Strict liability”** element in the current legislation which makes firms and persons involved with GMO crops in the country to take full responsibility of negative effects of the actions related to GMOs. The forum was very important to ensure retaining this important clause which is facing a lot of pressure from the multinational companies to get it removed from the law.

v. International Women's Day

As part of commemoration of International Women's Day which is celebrated annually from on 7th March 2013, MVIWATA organised a public dialogue to discuss land rights issues on gender perspective at Mvomero district in Morogoro. The dialogue was facilitated by the Coordinator of Tanzania Land Alliance (TALA), Adv: Joseph Chiombola in which at least 300 people from Hembeti, Dihombo and Mvomero villages participated. District leadership including the District Commissioner, Mr. Antony Mtaka attended. The dialogue underlined the need of education on rights and legal issues for farmers. Further, District Commissioner invited MVIWATA to be part of land conflicts advisory group in Mvomero District.



Adv. Joseph Chiombola (right) making a presentation in the public dialogue to discuss land rights issues at Mvomero-Morogoro

In line with the dialogue on land, in September 2013, MVIWATA members in Mvomero district organized a one day forum to discuss on the sustainable solutions to handle the existing land conflicts. The forum was held in Mkindo village and attended by at least 620 farmers, livestock keepers and government officials including Mvomero District Commissioner. The main resolution was for each village to establish and reinforce by laws to guide the proper land use as a way to address land disputes. In reality however, the land disputes in the district have continued to prevail and further actions need to be in place.

10 meetings were subsequently held between local MVIWATA leadership and government representatives to discuss possible modalities for addressing the issues to come up with more sustainable solutions

Case of water shortage in Magungu Village, Kiteto District Manyara Region.

Magungu is a village in Kiteto District, Manyara region where MVIWATA local network has been very active in advocacy. The village has had serious water shortage and efforts to alleviate the problem by the local government deemed insufficient. On 14th August, 2013, through the local farmers network action and with support of media the local network organised a village meeting to discuss the problem of water in the area. Following this action, the local government immediately acted to resolve water problem in the village by repairing an abandoned water pump to the relief of villagers in terms of water supply.

This action is testimony of the ability and power of farmers to tackle not only agricultural issues but other socio-economic issue as the case in question here.

vi. To conduct campaign, lobbying and advocacy on identified policy issues

One of the key policy issues that MVIWATA worked on in 2013 is land rights. Apart from interventions reported in previous sections of this report conducted the following:

1. Conducted forums following a study on impact on biofuel investments.
2. MVIWATA facilitated farmers to participate in media programmes to air their views on land issues;
 - a. On 31st January 2013, 9 (4 men and 5 women) MVIWATA members from Msowero, Mfuru, Mambegwa, and Dumila villages in Kilosa-Morogoro were facilitated to participate in a radio programme “*Haba na Haba*” which was recorded and aired by BBC Swahili. The issue under discussion was the land disputes between peasants and pastoralists in Morogoro region.
 - b. Likewise, on the same day 15 (7 men and 8 women) MVIWATA members from Kilosa, participated

in a live TV programme “*Malumbano ya Hoja*” organized and aired by ITV in Dar es Salaam.

- c. Farmers representatives were facilitated to participate in Kipima Joto live programme of ITV on land issues. Ms Margret Pantaleo, a farmer from Mvomero district participated in the programme.



Left is Ms Margret Pantaleo participating in a live TV program “Kipima Joto” and right is one of the victims on frequent land conflicts between farmers and pastoralists during the public meeting at Mvomero district.

Results:

Following MVIWATA’s interventions that started in 2012 to support smallholder farmers in Kilosa district in addressing land conflicts three results were attained:

- Increased government engagement to ending a long term land conflict between farmers and investor in Mateteni village.
- Increased awareness on land rights on the part of farmers
- Recovery of part of land from an investor. About 1,200 ha were returned to the villagers and redistributed following the interventions of the government under pressure from farmers.
- In Mvomero district the credibility and visible role of MVIWATA in addressing farmers concerns including land conflicts in the areas increased hope for farmers and participation in meetings and other development activities that are geared towards addressing their challenges on voluntary basis.

vii. To facilitate networking and participate in national, regional and international events on advocacy

In 2013, MVIWATA participated in regional activities, notably. On 18th to 25th June 2013, MVIWATA representatives, Mr. Haji Ussi Haji, Ms Cosma Bullu and Ms Janeth George participated in an event organized by La Via Campesina in Harare, Zimbabwe with the aim of discussing the progress of La Via Campesina in Africa. While there, Cosma and Janeth also participated in the meeting which involved youth and women from members’ organizations. In that meeting, Ms Cosma Bullu was chosen a women representative in La Via Campesina council.

On 20th to 22nd February 2013, Mr. Stanford Chabonga and Mr. Projestus Ishekanyoro represented MVIWATA in the regional workshop organized by the Eastern and Southern African Farmers Forum (ESAFF) in Nairobi, Kenya. Seed rights to small scale farmers and accountability for public expenditure were the key issues under discussion. Thereafter, MVIWATA implemented a small project to capacitate farmers on Public Expenditure Tracking Survey (PETS) in Kilosa district, Morogoro and in Muleba district, Kagera. The farmers are expected to start applying the skills by actually tracking public expenditure in their areas.

On 5th to 13th June 2013 Ms Anna Koiri, youth representative and Ms Cosma Bullu, women representative

represented MVIWATA in the International Conference of Peasants' Organizations organized by La Via Campesina in Jakarta-Indonesia for discussing issues related to smallholder farmers' rights.



Right, third from left is Ms Cosma Bullu, MVIWATA representative with other participants in the La Via Campesina meeting in Harare, Zimbabwe.

In April 2013, at the invitation of the Irish Aid, Mr Stephen Ruvuga, the Executive Director of MVIWATA was part of Tanzanian delegation that attended the conference on Hunger and Climate Justice that was co-organised by Mary Robinson Foundation. The conference, attempted to bring local experiences to the international level and come with strategies to address global climate issues.

In December 2013 as a way of sharing experiences on markets experience, Mr Stephen A. Ruvuga, The Executive Director of MVIWATA was invited at panel discussion that was organised by a French organisation called FARM on "Feeding the Cities" and held at OECD in Paris France. The role of primary production and marketing in



feeding large cities was discussed. to a symposium. The event was a recognition of the work and experiences of MVIWATA on market access in Tanzania.

c) To enhance lobbying and advocacy capacity of small-scale farmers

i. To organize awareness creation and capacity building events for farmers on key identified issues that affect small scale farmers

Violation of human rights and smallholder farmers rights in particular, poor involvement of farmers in decision making processes, national and international agricultural related policies and their impacts to

small scale farmers and farmers' participation in the new Tanzania constitution review process were key advocacy issues that were presented and discussed during the 18th Annual General Meeting of MVIWATA on 23rd to 24 July, 2013 in Morogoro.

In brief the following discussions were discussed;

Human rights in smallholder farmers' perspective: this topic was facilitated by Adv: Harold Sungusia from Legal and Human Right Centre (LHRC). In his presentation, he explained human rights in political, social, economic as well as cultural perspectives and its relation to smallholder farmers. He pointed out that implementation of investment policy where by investors are given high priority in land ownership by the government authorities compared to local farmers is where farmers' human/land rights are deprived. It was agreed that lack of social security services for farmers, export bans on produce, inadequate and poor quality of agricultural services and inputs, poor infrastructure in countryside are among the fundamental rights that farmers need to raise their voices for.

Involvement of farmers in decision making processes: topics related to this subject were presented by Prof. Amon Matee of Sokoine University of Agriculture and Hon. Daniel Ole Njoolay, the former Rukwa Regional Commissioner (and now Ambassador of Tanzania in Nigeria), Mr. Bashiru Ally and Mr. Sabatho Nyamsenda, both lecturers at the University Dar es Salaam. Exclusion of farmers in decision making processes even to the policies and strategies of their interests was the main point of discussion. Upon the discussion, it was agreed that MVIWATA members at all levels through their farmers' networks they should stand to demand participation and representation of farmers in decision making processes at different levels, provision of sufficient and quality agricultural extension services and inputs is the government's responsibility. One of the issues which came up very clearly is the failure of the current voucher system which in the view of farmers needs to be replaced by a subsidy system. Also, participating farmers agreed to strengthen solidarity among themselves in defending their rights and interests against any form of exploitation and oppression, and in ending frequent land disputes between peasants and pastoralists caused by weak systems.

National and international agricultural related policies and their impacts to small scale farmers: presentations and discussions in this area focused on CAADP's implementation and implementation of Tanzania; investment policy through large scale investments in bio-fuel agriculture. Presenters were Dr. Damian Gabagambi and Dr. Kenneth Bengesi, both from Sokoine University of Agriculture, and Mr. Yefred Myenzi from Haki-Ardhi. The presentations pointed the followings;

- Having lots of policies and land laws may cause confusion to farmers if they are not well involved in formulating them
- Unmonitored investments in agricultural sector is among the factors that influence land grabbing and this affects smallholder farmers
- The government is not active in providing title deeds to small scale farmers and this cause most of them to lose their land by lacking security.
- Lack of proper land use plans is the main cause of increasing land disputes between smallholder producers and investors as well as among peasants and pastoralists
- There is need for the government to review and terminate title deeds of some investors who have proven to misuse the land by hiring it to smallholder farmers
- The country might fall into trouble and chronic conflicts if the appropriate measures to increasing land crisis across the country will not be taken

ii. To conduct capacity building programmes on lobbying and advocacy to leaders, members and staff of MVIWATA

Advocacy is one of the main topics in leadership and promoters' training that has been reported under section 4.1 b) above.

In addition to that, training on Public Expenditure Tracking Survey (PETS) was conducted in Kilosa District in Morogoro and Muleba District in Kagera on 28th - 29th of May 2013 and on 29th - 30th May 2013 respectively training 60 farmers (27 women and 33 men). 18 village leaders (9 in each district) were also involved. The idea behind the training was to capacitate the farmers to be able to conduct tracking of the public agricultural programs in their locations.

Farmers in Nyakabango, Gwanseli and Mubunda wards in Muleba district formed PETS committees and started conducting PETS in their villages. In spite of resistance, and with support of the District Commissioner who encouraged the farmers, public funded programmes were followed up and realigned them to the welfare of the people.



Participants in PETS training, Kilosa (left) and Muleba (right)

iii. To organize exchange visits for farmers, leaders and staff

A number of exchange visits in which 59 (35 men and 24 women) farmers participated. The exchange visits were on various learning areas such as land demarcation exercise in Ruvuma Region, climate smart agriculture in Kilosa District and sharing experience on group management.



Left is MVIWATA and MJUMITA staffs visiting a group demo plot of beans at Kisongwe village in Kilosa and right is MVIWATA Ruvuma participants in an exchange visit at Msindo ward.

e) Knowledge management and communication

MVIWATA through the KMC unit produced a *video documentary* for showcasing the MVIWATA rich history, its philosophy, challenges and achievements the organization went through during the past 20 years of its existence. The one-hour film was launched during the celebration of 20th Anniversary of MVIWATA and the 18th AGM to remind and educate members and partners on MVIWATA trajectory, its origin, pillars and achievements realized over 20 years of existence.



Left, members keenly watching the NDOTO: Safari ya MVIWATA documentary as it was launched at the recent AGM. Right, the MVIWATA Executive Director Steven Ruvuga showing Pambazuko to the Morogoro Regional Commissioner Dr Joel Bendera during MVIWATA 20th anniversary

Four e-Bulletins were produced and shared. One of the bulletins covered MVIWATA 20th anniversary and AGM celebrations.

37 Radio programmes were produced and broadcasted on Radio Maria. The programmes covered topics such as a series of history of MVIWATA, challenges and success as it was preparing to celebrate its 20th MVIWATA Anniversary and 18th AGM and different debates raised during the ceremony.

6000 copies of *Pambazuko* no. 41 and 42 were produced and disseminated to various stakeholders, mainly farmers.

Website and socio-network accounts: Following completion of redesigning the MVIWATA website was redesigned with brand new look. MVIWATA social network accounts are up and running and they are continuing to get more followers.



In 2013, Media relation and coverage for the organisation has improved significantly with over 77 news and articles related to MVIWATA published.

During the 20th MVIWATA anniversary that was held on 23rd to 26th July, 2013, 41 copies of news-stories and feature stories about the event were published in Mwananchi newspaper, The Citizen, The Guardian, Daily news, Nipashe, Majira, Tanzania Daima, Mtanzania and Habari Leo.



Some cuttings of MVIWATA stories covered by different newspapers

Television channels and radio stations including BBC and Radio France widely covered activities and events of MVIWATA on topics such as land conflicts among farmers and pastoralists, land right issues, small scale farmers' engagement in new constitution and agricultural policy issues. The events that were covered include the following:

- 7th of August, 2013 where ITV television aired story on Farmer's Day as MVIWATA emerged the winner of the best pavilion among private sector exhibitors.
- A farmers' day organised by MVIWATA members in Mvomero on 12th of August
- MVIWATA made a media tour in Magungu, Kiteto on 13th of August, 2013 to discuss challenges facing them especially inadequate of water supply in their village hence led human being to share with animals the same source of water.
- MVIWATA forum to discuss constitution draft on 26th of August, 2013.
- Farmers' Forum on 4th of September, 2013 which was organised by members in Mvomero district aiming to address farmers and pastoralists' conflicts.

On 17th and 18th of December, 2013, 7 MVIWATA members participated in a programme called *Haba na Haba* organised by BBC Media action held in Morogoro to talk about ongoing famers and pastoralists land conflicts.



Haba na Haba radio programme recording in progress at Morogoro Hotel.

Achievements

- Visibility of the organisation was enhanced and its interventions were increasingly known to different stakeholders through engagement of various media channel including radio, television, online and publications. Also the organisation has received attention whereby its members were invited to participate in different forum organised by media eg. *Kipima Joto* of ITV, *Haba na Haba* of BBC.
- Relationship between the organisation, local, national and international media houses and the public has been enhanced.
- Through media engagement, website and social networks, the stance of MVIWATA on various policy related and other debatable issues of small farmers' interests has clearly been known. The firm stance has been aired on new constitution, large scale agriculture and land grabbing, GMOs, crop export ban, etc.
- Lobbying and advocacy activities carried by the organisation were executed effectively by involving media outlets, that enabled smallholder farmers to voice out their grievances toward relevant authorities. The grievances include land grabbing and land conflicts, lack of markets for crops and lack or high prices of farm inputs, etc.
- Through MVIWATA radio programmes, monthly bulletins, documentaries, and news/articles published lead to awareness creation and experience sharing among smallholder farmers on various development agenda and key national processes. This has helped them to make informed decisions as well as encouraged farmers to participate fully in entrepreneurial activities, policy amendment and constitutional review processes.
- By exposing problems facing farmers in their areas through media tours organised by MVIWATA, immediate solutions have been obtained by relevant authorities there after; e.g lack of water infrastructure in Magungu village in Kiteto district was dealt with by local government which built a well just few days after the matter was reported by main media outlets that visited the area in August, 2013.

4.3.3 To facilitate economic empowerment of small-scale farmers

a) Supporting development of various value chains relevant to small scale farmers

Baseline survey on agricultural and marketing practices was conducted in Kongwa, Kiteto, Mvomero, Njombe and Mbarali districts to understand the actual situation on production and marketing in the selected districts and design intervention strategies. 1558 farmers (890 men and 668 women) were involved in the assessment.

The baseline information on crops produced by farmers, number of farmer groups, actors in agricultural chain, production level, price of crops, sales volume and training needs of farmers in each area were identified.

Subsequent to that 293 farmer promoters (128 women and 165 men) were trained at Mkindo Agricultural training colleges, Kilimanjaro Agricultural Training College (KATC) on rice agronomic practices. Earlier in 2012, 49 promoters who were trained on rice agronomy too. The purpose of trainin the promoters is to facilitate farmer to farmer training.



Farmers during field practical training at Mkindo Agricultural College

To enable learning by practice MVIWATA facilitated establishment of 147 demonstration plots; 66 maize demo plots in Njombe, Mbeya, Kilimanjaro and Morogoro; 40 paddy demo plots in Shinyanga, Morogoro and Mbeya; 11 tomato demo plots in Morogoro; 27 maize demo plots in Mto wa Mbu, Arusha and 3 sunflower demo plots in three wards of Engutoto, Selela and Engaruka.



Tomato demo plot in Kiroka village, Morogoro

Demonstration plot were used as training ground in which 2252 farmers (1112 women and 1140 men) were trained, mainly on rice and maize agronomy. Out of the given number above, 397 farmers (220 men and 177 women) were trained on tomato production in Morogoro while 61 farmers (41 women and 20 men) farmers were trained on sunflower production.

Exchange visits were also conducted to complement training. 627 farmers (322 women and 305 men) participated in exchange visits.



Farmers visiting a maize demo plot, left and right paddy plot.

To apply what has been learnt during exchange visits; 312 farmers (139 women and 173 men) who participated in a visit established 10 demo plots in Mvomero.

Farmers from Mgongola in Mvomero who participated in visits to KATC and Mombo irrigation schemes facilitated formation of water user associations which has now reached 742 members (319 women and 423 men) with the purpose of managing better the irrigation infrastructures at their disposal. The association has so far collected Tshs 3,710,000/- being membership fee which has been deposited to Tuli SACCOS.

There have been indications of increased production as a result of application of improved agronomic practices from demonstration plots to the farmers' fields.

- An assessment conducted to a sample of 120 farmers (44 women and 76 men) in Masumbwe and Itwangi wards in Bukombe and Shinyanga rural districts indicate that production of maize increased from 400 to 900 kg per acre (1000 to 2250 kg per hectare). In rice production there was an increase from 350 to 1000 kg per acre (875 to 2500 kg per hectare) signifying over 100 percent increase.
- An assessment conducted in a sample of 178 farmers (60 women and 118 men) farmers in Hai district in Kilimanjaro indicated that production of maize increased from 540 to 1800 kg per acre (1350 to 4500 kg per hectare).
- An assessment conducted in a sample of 67 farmers (26 women and 41 men) in two wards of Ludewa district in Njombe indicated that maize production increased from 500 to 1000 kg per acre (1250 to 2500 per hectare) and from a sample of 33 farmers (14 women and 19 men) indicated increase in production of round potatoes from 2800 to 3500 kg per acre (7000 to 8750 kg per hectare).
- An assessment conducted in 10 wards of Kyela district in Mbeya indicated that production of paddy increased from 800 kg to 2000 kg per acre.
- An assessment conducted to a sample of 356 farmers (198 women and 158 men) in seven wards of Mvomero district in Morogoro indicated that production of paddy increased from 720 to 1400 kg per acre (1800 to 3500 kg per hectare).
- An assessment to 229 farmers (124 women and 105 men) in Mvomero indicated that maize production increased from 500 to 1200 kg per acre.
- An assessment conducted to 342 tomato producers in Morogoro indicated that tomato production has increased from 39 tons to 53 tons per acre (97.5 to 1325 kg per hectare).

Case of Anthony Mwamatenge

Mr. Anthon Mwamatenge, a farmer from Makwale village/ward upon attending several trainings on crop production organised by MVIWATA he planted maize and beans in the same piece of land as taught during the training. Previously he was producing paddy only. In his words; "I cultivated one acre of paddy and one acre of maize and beans. I harvested 1000 kgs of beans, 600 kgs of maize and 2000 kgs of paddy after applying improved seed varieties, transplanting on time, planting in rows and application of manure in the field. Initially I was harvesting 300 Kgs of beans, 200 Kgs of maize and 800 Kgs of paddy and therefore my yield increased more than twice. I sold the crops by market price, that is Tsh 1500/kg for beans, Tshs 500/kg for paddy and Tshs 350/kg for maize and I earned Tsh 2,710,000/= which was higher than my earlier income which was Tshs.920,000/=. The increase in income enabled me buy a brand new motorcycle which simplifies my work. I also plan to take my two children to a good private school.



Case study of Christina Ipaja



Christina Ipaja, a farmer from Itope village in Bujonde ward, learnt some agronomic practices she acquired in training conducted by MVIWATA. She started using manure and she used recommended spacing in her rice field. Her paddy production increased from 600 to 2400 kg per acre. From this yield she sold 1500 Kgs of rice which she sold at Tshs 1100/kg and earned a total of Tshs 1,650,000.

Others:

Mr. Michael Msompola, is a farmer from Mwanzo mgumu group in Shenda Village, Masumbwe ward in Bukombe, Shinyanga. He has been farming for more than 10 years and harvesting 1 to 3 bags of maize. After training he started using manure, proper spacing and use inorganic fertilizers. In 2013, the farmer harvested 26 bags of maize of 100Kg from two acres.

Osca from Bamba village, cultivated 1 acre and harvested 2933 kgs of tomatoes, a kilo was sold at Tshs 750, so he managed to earn a total of Tshs 2,200,000/= in three months.

George Banzi from Kiroka village, Morogoro Rural cultivated half an acre and harvested 1013 kgs of tomatoes and he earned Tshs 760,00. Similarly, Adamu Ustazi from the same village earned a total of Tshs 1,600,000 after harvesting 2133 kgs of tomatoes from an acre.

To facilitate reduction of post harvest losses, 38 household granaries were constructed in Mbulu district for demonstration and thus 38 families are now preserving their maize in granaries. This initiative was done through a project called Pot of Gold that was implemented in Mbulu District. During the process 21 farmers (16 women and 5 men) were trained on granary construction.

b) Conducting trainings on entrepreneurship and business skills to small scale farmers

In 2013, trainings on entrepreneurship and business skills were conducted to 822 farmers (381 women and 441 men) in Mbeya, Rukwa, Iringa, Ruvuma, Shinyanga, Morogoro, Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions.

The training aimed at building capacities of farmers on farming as business and on entrepreneurship development.



Photographs; Training sessions and group discussion in progress

The training on entrepreneurship has enabled farmers to embark on processing their crops, sell value added crops at relatively higher prices and collective marketing. For example, 91 farmers (32 women 59 men) farmers in Kyela district who used to sell paddy to traders, milled 91,160 kg of paddy into 45,580 kg of rice which they sold at Tsh 1100/- kg instead of Tshs 400/- kg per kg of paddy. The farmers got T.shs 50,138,000/= from the sales of rice which made the margin of T Sh 13,674,000/- over paddy i.e. a margin of Tshs 700/- per kg.

27 farmers in Kyela district processed 12960 kgs (81 bags) of sunflower seeds from their farms to 2700 litres of oil. The oil was sold at 3000/litre earning Tshs 8,100,000/-. Additionally, they obtained 576 kgs (36 bags) of seed cakes which was sold at Tshs 50,000/- each earning Tshs 1,800,000/=. The price of raw sunflower seeds being T Shs 250/- per kilogramme the farmers additional T. Shs 6,700,000/- over price of total income of T Shs. 3,200,000/- from sales of sunflower seeds.

Furahini group from Shirinjoro village in Kilimanjaro with 30 farmers (27 female and 3 men) embarked on production of fortified flour (mixture of maize, groundnuts and soyabeans). From April to August 2013 they sold 320 kgs at T.Shs 2500/- kg. to earn TShs 800,000/-.

Bee keeping project as income earner

To facilitate farmers increase their income, promotion of bee keeping project was designed in Babati. 6 beekeeping groups namely Mwika Timu, Mbuyu, Haidadonga, Finday Kantsi, Laganga A and Laganga B with 90 farmers (35 women and 55 men) were involved. The following training activities were done:

Training on bee-keeping technology, equipment and construction of hives was done to 52 members (24

women and 28 men). Training on tree species that favors honey productions, feeding bees and looking after colonies was also conducted to 30 farmers (16 women and 14 men). Other topics included modern harvesting, processing, packaging and labeling.

891 kgs of honey was harvested, processed and sold at Tshs 10,000/- per kg earning Tshs 8,910,000/=. Comparing to the price of Tshs 4,000 to Tshs 6,000/kg for unprocessed honey the margin was remarkable, ranging from 40 – 60% more. The groups have increased honey production from 267 kgs in 2012 to 891 kgs in 2013.

c) To promote and facilitate formation of production and marketing groups and associations

In the spirit of fostering bargaining power for smallscale farmers MVIWATA facilitated formation of production and marketing groups and associations in various locations.



In Mvomero, 10 maize and paddy producers associations with 1364 farmers (557 women and 807 men) were formed. Together with the existing associations, it makes 24 producer associations with 3146 farmers (1417 women and 1729 men) in Mvomero. Through group action 108 farmers (46 women and 62 men) in 9 associations collected and later sold 324 tons of maize and 216 tons of rice.

Similar actions were done in other places where MVIWATA has activities. One of the groups which have remarkable achievements is a group involved in watermelons production. The group has 15 members (6 women and 9 men). In one season in 2013 the group produced 6,500 watermelons and sold through group action to earn Tshs 7,800,000/- at the price of Tshs 1200 each instead of Tshs 800/- normally sold when buyers go to the fields. The ambition of the group is to expand watermelons cultivation and marketing through the lessons taken in one season. income has

In Ludewa district, there are 3 producer and marketing groups of 57 farmers (23 women and 34 men) in Ligumbiro, Lusala and Mavala villages village, sold together 49 tons of maize with margin of Tshs 50/- per kg as compared to farmers who sell at farmgate. The groups earned TShs 22,050,000/- in a season for a price of Tshs 450/- per kg.

d) Promotion of marketing information system in MVIWATA

MVIWATA Agricultural Marketing Information System (MAMIS) has been in place since 2010. The objective of the system is to improve market transparency and assist farmers in making decisions. The following activities were conducted:-

i. Improving capacity of the system

New equipment was procured to increase capacity of MAMIS. To replace the old devices, a server with 3.1GHz/4-core processor, 4GB RAM and 2000 GB hard drive storage were procured. MAMIS is still under development to cater for the increasing demand and currently we are establishing the link with mobile partner.



The new MAMIS hardware with a server

ii. Finalising commercialization process

MVIWATA has agreed with Airtel to link MAMIS to its database so as to commercialise it and make it sustainable. The contract between MVIWATA and Airtel was officially signed on September, 2013 though the linkage is not yet established. The linkage will expand MAMIS operations and reach more users through extensive network of the mobile company.

iii. To promote the use of MAMIS nation-wide

Developing promotional materials and sensitization on MAMIS: 3000 posters and were produced and disseminated during sensitisation. Sensitisation meetings on the usage of market information were conducted on 19th -23rd August, 2013 in Kyela, 28-31st August, 2013 in Ludewa, 23rd September -05th October, 2013 in Kongwa, Kiteto, Mvomero, Njombe and Mbarali where by a total of 937 farmers (516 women 421 men) were informed of MAMIS.



Meetings with farmers to present MAMIS. Right a banner publishing MAMIS.

iv. Buyers' identification/mapping

To establish buyers and farmers relationship, meetings were conducted with cereal traders in different markets and processing companies from 25th- 28th August, 2013 in Mbeya and Makambako, and from 2nd -5th October, 2013 in Kibagwa and Dodoma. The aim was to identify and collect potential buyers' information which would later be fed into the MAMIS database so as to be accessed by farmers who have stocks to sell.

Mobile numbers, names, locations and purchasing capacity of such buyers were collected. 75 cereals buyers (29 women 46 men) were identified and their information were fed into the MAMIS database.

v. Organise meetings between farmers and the identified buyers

MVIWATA brokered meetings between farmers and traders to discuss how they could exchange information on stocks and prices as well as understanding all the necessary trading requirements via MAMIS. These meetings were held on 27th -31st August, 2013 in Kyela and Ludewa and on 25th -31st September, 2013 in Kongwa, Mvomero, Njombe and Mbarali. 180 farmers (107 women and 73 men) and 60 traders (25 women and 35 men) attended these meetings.



Sensitisation meetings on MAMIS.

These interventions resulted in increase in requests in MAMIS from 34,800 in 2012 to 38,400 in 2013. The volume of trade facilitated through MAMIS was 312 tons of maize and rice worth TZS 219,000,000 which was remarkable contribution by MAMIS in commodity trade.

e) Provide technical support to rural markets constructed by MVIWATA on management systems, business know how and accountability

In supporting rural markets constructed by MVIWATA, MVIWATA team implemented activities include supporting development of business plan for each market, assess capacity gaps and training of market boards, organizing meetings with districts council for the purpose of strengthening operation of activities at markets, conducting internal audits of the markets, conducting sensitization meetings for promoting the use of the markets and linking the markets with different stakeholders like traders and service providers. Following the trainings conducted to staff and directors of the market boards there has been an improvement in markets management systems including; human resource, planning and budgeting, and record keeping systems. The focus has been on improvement of services at the markets, reviewing strategies to promote marketing activities in each market and assessing financial management and controls at the markets.

Meetings were also held with District Councils in Mvomero, Morogoro, Kongwa, Handeni, Njombe, Mbarali and Sumbawanga district councils to discuss progress of markets.

To link the farmers around Mkata, Igagala and Matai markets, MVIWATA negotiated with the National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) which later agreed to purchase cereals from MVIWATA markets. Through this arrangement 4996 tons of maize with the value of Tshs 2,648,000,000/- were sold to NFRA by 89 groups comprising of 712 small holder farmers from Kalambo, Handeni, Kiteto, Kongwa, Mvomero and Njombe districts.

In Igurusi, the market stakeholders organised an open market day on 29th of May 2013 to promote the use of Igurusi market. MVIWATA participated alongside other close to 1200 stakeholders with a total of 1200 participants. Farmers, traders, representatives from service provider institutions like NMB and TCCIA, farmers organizations, district council and media participated in the event.



Igurusi market day to promote the market

These interventions resulted in increased trade activities in Mkata, Matai, Igagala and Igurusi markets.

In Mkata market: 1860 tons of maize worth nearly Tsh 1.0 billion were sold at the market at the price ranging from Tshs 500 to 530/kg while outside the markets the price was Tshs 440/kg. An average of 40 people per day from the local community were employed at the market for cleaning the maize, bagging, loading and off-loading the maize from the trucks earning an average income of Tshs 1,500 per day.



Market scene at Mkata market



Cleaning and bagging activities at Mkata market, ready for sale.

Matai market: 2511 tons of maize worth approximately T Shs 1.3 billion was traded from July to September, 2013. Tshs 65 million were collected as crop levies, 60% of it was paid to the district council and the remaining 40% remained for supporting operations at the market.



Market activities at Matai market

Igagala Market: 530 tons of maize with the value of Tshs 265 million was traded at Igagala market. The price at market was Tshs 500/kg while the price at farm gate was Tshs 300/kg. An average of Tshs 400,000/- per month have been earned by the market from different services offered at the market.

Igurusi market: 4000 tons of paddy worth and 2003 tons of rice worth Tshs 2,403,600,000/- have been sold at the market and revenues amounting to Tshs 23,736,850/- have been collected at the market for May and June of 2013 and Tshs 4,282,500/- paid as levy to the district council during the period.

3 millers installed their machines at the market premises and their machines are now operating. Others are finalising construction of their buildings while others are in the process of shifting from residential areas to the market, which is a very crucial milestone for Igurusi market growth.

Source of revenue to the district councils: The markets continued to be important source of revenue to the district councils. From January to December 2013, Tshs 314,404,055/- were paid to Kongwa district council by Kibagwa market, Tshs 9,600,000/- have been paid to Mvomero district council by Nyandira market and Tshs 9,000,000/- have been paid to Morogoro district council by Tawa and Kinole markets.

Contributing for social services: The markets also contribute to different social activities around the markets, example Kinole market contributed Tshs 700,000/- for maintenance of school furniture and Kibaigwa market has contributed Tshs 2,000,000/- for construction of female hostel at Kibaigwa.

f) Promote formation of cereal banks among small scale farmers

An assessment on the existing crop banks was conducted on 25th April, 2013 in Mvomero, 8th May, 2013 in Igagala and from 24th -25th May, 2013 in Moshi. The objective of this assessment was to examine the status of the existing crop banks so as to improve their performance. The crop banks that were assessed are Mvomero and Dihombo in Mvomero, Ng'anda in Igagala, Jitegemee and Umoja crop banks in Moshi.

The assessment indicated that there have been increases in selling price for all stored crops. For example, the selling price of paddy soon after harvesting was Tshs 75,000/- per bag of 90 kg while the price of the stored paddy was T Shs 105,000/- per bag of 90 kg in Mvomero. The price of maize soon after harvesting was T Shs 60,000/- per bag while the price of the stored maize was T Shs 85,000/- per bag. However the challenges identified include poor record keeping, poor skills on management of crops while in the warehouse and lack of enough capital.

Following the assessment training interventions were conducted to members of each crop bank. 425 farmers (193 women 232 men) in Igagala, Mkata and Mvomero were trained on crop banking.

Furthermore, ten (10) new crop banks with 1364 (557 women 807 men) were formed in ten(10) villages of Mvomero district. To start, the crop banks stored and sold 12 tons of paddy at an increased price of Tshs 130,000 per bag which gave the margin of Tshs 50,000/- per bag.

g) Facilitate farmers' participation in national agricultural shows/exhibitions

As a way of linking farmers with markets and other service providers in agricultural marketing chain, MVIWATA facilitated farmers to participate in agricultural exhibition (popularly known as *Nane nane* shows) in three ways:

- i) Facilitate farmers to exhibit the produce at pavilions of MVIWATA in Morogoro, Mbeya and Arusha.
- ii) To bring the farmers to visit the agricultural show
- iii) MVIWATA members held exhibitions in villages

Facilitating farmers to exhibit produce at agricultural shows:

- 32 (15 women and 17 men) from various regions such as Morogoro, Dodoma, Mbeya, Shinyanga, Zanzibar, Rukwa, Pwani, Iringa, Tanga, Singida, Tabora, Kagera were facilitated to participate at MVIWATA pavilion in agricultural show in Morogoro that was held from 1st August to 9th August.
- An estimated 2000 people visited MVIWATA pavilion in Morogoro although only 833 visitors registered in the visitors' book.
- MVIWATA facilitated farmers from Kilimanjaro, Manyara and Arusha to participate at agricultural show at MVIWATA pavilion in Arusha.



To bring the farmers to visit the agricultural show

MVIWATA facilitated 170 farmers (75 women and 95 men) from 28 villages of Morogoro, Mvomero and Kilosa districts to visit agricultural shows as part of learning.



MVIWATA members held exhibitions in villages

On their own initiative and their own financial contributions MVIWATA members in Mvomero organised their own agricultural show on 12th of August, 2013 in which about 1500 farmers from 13 villages of Mvomero district attended. The organisers were able to register 476 farmers (252 women and 224 men) in the attendance sheets and became overwhelmed.

Traders from Dodoma and Dar es salaam grain markets, microfinance institutions, officers from Mvomero district council and media were part of the visitors. Mvomero District Executive Director was the guest of honour. The exhibited products included rice seedlings of different varieties, maize, horticultural produce and livestock products.



Farmers at exhibition in Mvomero district.

Achievements from agricultural shows;

- Business contacts with traders were established to facilitate further link for marketing purpose.
- Farmers used the exhibitions to sell their produce, generally, at higher price due to high number of buyers.
- Exchanges between farmers and lessons on technology and innovations.





District Commissioner Ahmad Kipozi visiting MVIWATA pavilion at Morogoro grounds.



Mviwata representative receiving an award for the first prize in NGOs group

Facilitating small scale farmers' access to better financial services

i. Conduct capacity assessment of MVIWATA supported SACCOSs to identify existing capacity gaps

An assessment to MVIWATA supported Micro-Finance Institutions (MFIs') was conducted to 39 SACCOS in Morogoro (19 SACCOS), Dodoma (9 SACCOS), Manyara (1 SACCOS), Tanga (1 SACCOS) and Kilimanjaro (9 SACCOS). The assessment was conducted from 23 April to 27th May 2013.

The aim of this assessment was to identify performance gaps in MFIs and needed improvements to deliver quality financial services to its members. SACCOS' Board members as well as respective community members were involved during the study. The study employed a developed assessment tool.

A number of gaps were identified including: leadership and governance, accountability, operation, access to advisory services, reporting and compliance as well as in knowledge and skills of running the SACCOS, poor loan and credit management, lack of financial education to members, limited product to MFIs members (depending on traditional product: loan and savings), lack of credit and improved loan policies, loan collateral challenges, limited capital loan fund to members, less members' commitments, and unskilled MFIs' staff and leaders.

After identification of these challenges a training plan was developed basing on the gaps of each SACCOS and subsequent training conducted.

ii. Develop a database of all MVIWATA supported SACCOSs

To have an inventory of farmers SACCOS, MVIWATA decided to develop a database for farmers SACCOS. The initial stages for determining requirements of the data base have been done. A consultant to develop the data base have been identified, terms of reference were developed and sent to the consultant. Information on membership, loans, saving and capital which are required to be filled in the data base have already been collected and once the data base is ready the information will be filled in.

iii. Conduct training programmes to strengthen capacities of MVIWATA supported SACCOSs

In line with the assessment reported above, training was conducted to members and leaders of SACCOS in Morogoro, Kilimanjaro, Shinyanga, Ludewa, Kyela, Dodoma and Tanga. The training covered areas such as financial management in the savings and credit societies, internal control, internal auditing, financial record keeping and reports, leadership and management and loan repayments.



Achieved Results;

- There have been an improvement in internal control systems of the SACCOS', different documents/ forms used by SACCOSs in record keeping as well as in loan disbursements have been improved.
- The trainings have facilitated an increase of farmers joining SACCOS so as to access loan, example in Kilimanjaro there is an increase in members to the 8 SACCOSs which are under MSAWAKI from 8,752 members in 2012 to 9,512 members in 2013. There has been an increase in shares/capital from Tshs 198,433,886 in 2012 to Tshs 254,160,033 in 2013 and also an increase in loan given to members from Tshs 576,421,000 in 2012 to Tshs 675,936,000 in 2013.
- 330 farmers have joined to form 11 VICOBA. The farmers in the established VICOBA are now saving and buying shares.
- Two SACCOS in Kyela have increased their membership and loan capacities. Mwamko SACCOS with 46 members (18 women 28 men) had a capital of T.Shs 1,752,000/- before the MVIWATA's interventions with maximum allowable loans of T.Shs 400,000/- for six months. After MVIWATA's interventions their capital increased to Tshs 5,195,000 and members are now allowed to borrow up to Tshs 1,000,000 for six months.
- Fourteen financial groups (VICOBA) in ten villages of Ludewa District with 357 members (126 women and 231 men) were established, their capital have increased from TShs 12,586,700/- in 2012 to TShs

40,153,940/- in 2013, also their loan capacities increased from the average of Tshs 50,000/- per month per person to the average of Tshs 700,000/-.

- Members of Kiroka SACCOS in Morogoro have increased from 401 (121 women and 280 men) to 450 (125 women and 325 men). The SACCOS' capital has increased from Tshs 211,157,773/- in 2012 to Tshs 233,801,830/- in 2013. Shares have also increased from Tshs 35,175,250/- in 2012 to Tshs 46,122,650/- in 2013 and savings from Tshs 115,990,460/- in 2012 to Tshs 126,760,180/- in 2013.



VICOPA members at Bamba village, Morogoro rural contributing their weekly shares

4.3.4 Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS, Gender and Climate Change in MVIWATA activities

a) Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS in MVIWATA activities

i. Organize and participate in events / forums on HIV/AIDS issues

101 persons (45 women and 56 men) performed voluntary HIV/AIDS counseling and testing during the VCT session arranged by MVIWATA during the 18th MVIWATA AGM and the 20th Anniversary on (26th July 2013).

ii. Facilitate an establishment and strengthening of economic enterprises for PLWHA

Groups of PLWHA in Morogoro rural have been linked with the local government in which they have been received a financial support to enable them establish their own economic enterprises. The groups have focus on agricultural based enterprises especially production and marketing of cassava and sweet potatoes. 43 members of MVIWATA (31 women 12 men) were involved in the initiative.

MVIWATA provided orange flesh sweet potatoes propagation materials obtained from Kibaha Agricultural Research Institute to groups of PLWHA in Morogoro rural district with the purpose improving income and nutrition from orange flesh sweet potatoes.

b) Mainstreaming Gender in MVIWATA activities

i. Develop and implement gender policy for MVIWATA

Gender aspect was considered and mainstreamed in all the organizational activities by making sure that there is at least 30% representation and participation of men and women in all the activities.

i. Conduct training on gender to MVIWATA members, leaders and staff

Gender has been part of training topics in all training sessions, particularly on leadership and promoters training. In 2013 58 farmers (23 women and 35 men) were trained on gender

as part of broad leadership training programme. This has often led to women taking more active roles in community leadership as well as network activities. The appointment of two women by the President of United Republic of Tanzania to represent MVIWATA to the Constitutional Assembly as reported earlier is the example in this case.

At middle level network, the similar training have been conducted. For example, on 13th of April, 2013, MVIWATA Manyara in Mbulu district organised training on human and constitutional rights to 80 female members of MVIWATA. As a result of the training, 18 women contested in District Constitutional Councils “*Mabaraza ya Katiba*” at ward level and 5 of them were elected to be members.

i. Participate in events or forums on gender issues

The main gender event in which MVIWATA participated in 2013 was the International Women’s Day on 7th March 2013. MVIWATA organised a public dialogue to discuss land issues on gender perspective in Mvomero district. This dialogue was arranged to respond to the inherent land conflicts in Morogoro Region. Estimated 300 persons attended the dialogue which had the purpose to raise awareness on gender perspectives of land rights participants. The event was fully covered by media and there was full participation of government leaders including the District Commissioner of Mvomero.

Likewise, MVIWATA members in Ruvuma, Arusha and Manyara organised similar events to mark the International Women’s Day with estimated participation of 750 persons.



Left, Mr. Stanford Chabonga, chairman of MVIWATA Morogoro addressing a meeting at Mvomero, and right is MVIWATA Ruvuma members demonstrating during the commemoration of International Women Day on 07th of March, 2013.

Economic wise, to enable women increase their income MVIWATA Arusha commenced engagement of Masai women in 2011 in view of promoting the handicrafts business and link them with buyers from overseas. The Masai women were linked to Swedish associations and started business links. In 2013 Association of Maasai Jewellery Makers (MAJEE) with 177 members organised in 14 groups sold the jewelry worth earned a total of T Shs 82,352,819/= in 2013. The women have improved their social and economic wellbeing; they are now able to construct improved houses, they can afford sending kids to school.

Another intervention to women is promotion of chicken production and beekeeping. 211 current members of SHIWANYUMO (Association of Bee-keepers) sold honey of Tshs 11,560,000/= while 189 members of SHIWAKUMO (Association of Chicken producers) earned Tshs 9,670,000/= from the sales of chicken in 2013.

Since 2008, MVIWATA Monduli has been working on a project that can enable youth to become more active in agriculture. The project ultimately resulted in building of a business centre at Namanga. Through this initiative which now involves 737 young farmers (530 female and 207 male), produce worth Tshs 36,857,000/= comprising of 40.1 tons of maize flour, 497 litres of honey, 1869 litres of sunflower oil and 177 kgs of beans were sold in 2013. The venture is one of approaches to reach out to the youth.

c) Mainstreaming Climate Change in MVIWATA activities

i. Conduct training on Climate Change to MVIWATA members, leaders and staff

Climate change is one of key issues affecting crop productivity. To address this issue MVIWATA has conducted interventions to promote climate smart techniques such as mulching, use of terraces in sloping land and tree planting. The techniques have generally focused on nutrient and water conservation.

Use of animals manure

Farmers in Ludewa have been advised and trained on the use of animal manure. 203 farmers (106 women and 97 men) applied organic manure (animals manure) in Ludewa as the way of improving soil fertility. Farmers who applied animals manure together with other good agriculture practices succeeded to increase the production of maize from the average three to five bags of 100kgs 2011 to average of ten to fifteen bags of 100kgs 2013.



Use of terraces

Use of terraces in sloping land is one of preferable methods of conservation. MVIWATA has been training farmers to use terraces and live contour bands in steep slopes for as a measure to managing moisture and reducing soil erosion. 165 farmers (92 women and 73 men) are currently using this technique in their farms.



Mulching

Mulching is technique promoted at farmers level to help conserve moisture in farms. This has been mainly practiced in Kilosa and Ludewa where there are specific interventions to promote climate change activities.

Tree planting

Tree planting is another practice promoted to cope with climate change, and has a number of benefits, namely: economic benefits, carbon dioxide trapping, may improve soil fertility and control erosion. By end of December 2013 146 farmers (51 women and 93 men) in Ludewa District planted 3,786,486 trees of different types while on other side ten network groups had planted a total of 108,027 trees.



A tree nursery (left) owned by Okoa mazingira group of Lusala village. Right, a group working in a tree farm in Ligumbiro village, Ludewa.

In the same spirit farmers in Kyela have planted 267,104 cocoa tree seedlings mainly for economic purpose.



MVIWATA in partnership with MJUMITA is implementing a Climate Change, Agriculture and Poverty Alleviation (CCAP) project in Kilosa district. Through this project two training for leaders were organised. Both training sessions had the objective of making leaders understand well climate change concepts including conservation agriculture, climate smart methods in agriculture and REDD. The training were conducted on 15th to 17th April 2013) to staff and on 18th to 21st April, 2013 to leaders, mainly the board members.



MVIWATA and MJUMITA Board members during the training at Kilosa

As reported earlier in this report, during agricultural show of 2013, 30 farmers (15 women and 15 men) from Lunenzi, Kisongwe and Ibingu villages in Kilosa district visited climate change exhibition that was part of MVIWATA activities at Morogoro agricultural show grounds.

Case study

Climate smart agriculture is a combination of techniques that aim at conserving water and nutrients in order to get higher yield in crops but at the same time reducing impact from climate change. This concept was introduced in Kilosa in the beginning of 2013 through a Climate Change Agriculture and Poverty Alleviation, a partnership project between MVIWATA and other four organisations. Amongst the principles introduced was reduced tillage by using improved hoe (chaka hoe), double digging and mulching strips (line strips).

One of the farmers who had tried this concept right from the beginning is Mr. Pantaleo Michael from Kisongwe village who grows beans. The farmer has clearly testified that in his 0.5 acre plot the yield of beans has doubled from 100 kgs to 200 kgs in the same area. He now plans to use the methods on a bigger farm.

Mr. Pantaleo is one of 100 farmers that are part of the project aiming at disseminating climate smart agriculture.



Mr. Pantaleo Michael in a traditional bean farm left. Right is a farm that he applied climate smart techniques



i. Participate in advocacy work related to climate change

MVIWATA Manyara prepared a dialogue and exchange session among leaders On June, 2013 to dialogue effects of environmental change to small scale farmers whereby 63 women and 17 men participated in the event. 5 district officials participated to clarify some of the issues.

4.3.5 Organizational development of MVIWATA

a) Building capacities of leaders of MVIWATA Middle Level Networks

Leadership training for middle level networks leaders was conducted by MVIWATA national office from 10th to 28th June 2013 and involved 90 (54 men and 36 women) leaders from 12 regions. The training was conducted in three batches to leaders from Iringa, Zanzibar, Singida, Mkuranga, Mwanza, Kilimanjaro, Ruvuma, Kagera, Arusha, Tabora, Dodoma and Lindi.

Likewise, a residential leadership training for local networks and groups were conducted on 20th - 21st September 2013 in Njombe for 45 participants.

b) MVIWATA Annual General Meeting (AGM)

18th MVIWATA Annual General Meeting was held on From 25th July 2013 in conjunction with celebrations to commemorate the 20th anniversary of MVIWATA. About 2,000 members of MVIWATA, partners representatives and invited guests attended the meeting. The AGM reflected on progress of the organisation, received the audited financial reports, organisational annual report for 2012 and annual plan for 2014.



The celebrations were officially opened by the former Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania Mr. Frederic Sumaye. At peak of celebrations on 26th July 2013 His Excellency the Vice Presidents of the United Republic of Tanzania Dr. Mohamed Ghalib Bilali was the guest of honour and addressed the MVIWATA rally at city stadium. Morogoro regional commissioner Mr. Joel Bendera and representatives from diplomatic institutions were amongst the guests at the celebrations.

Other AGM at the middle level network were held in

- MVIWATA Manyara held its meeting on 19 October 2012 attended by 87 delegates (40 women and 47 men) out 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.
- Morogoro Middle level network on 22 July 2013 and Kagera Regions.



Former Prime Minister Hon Frederik Sumaye Opening the AGM of MVIWATA.



Some of AGM delegates in a group photo



A section of AGM of MVIWATA



Procession of 20 years in progress



Members seated, during the anniversary at Jamhuri Stadium in Morogoro



Vice President of United Republic of Tanzania, Dr Mohamed Gharib Bilal receiving the procession of MVIWATA members

c) Board meetings

Four meetings of MVIWATA Board of Directors were organised to discuss progress of the organisation, progress of implementation of activities, plans, staff issues and finance reports. The meetings were combined with site visits for monitoring of field activities.

d) MVIWATA Council Meetings

In 2013 MVIWATA organised one council meeting was held on 16th and 17th of May, 2013 and attended by 85 (57 men and 28 women) participants in Morogoro. 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. The issues on national budget and specifically agricultural budget for 2013/2014 were presented and discussed during the council meeting.

e) Staff reflection and technical meetings

In 2013, one MVIWATA staff reflection meeting was held to reflect on the implementation status of MVIWATA activities, achievements realized and challenges, MVIWATA annual work plan for 2013, annual report for 2012, financial and human resource manuals and MVIWATA plan and budget for 2013. The meeting was conducted from 8th to 13th of April 2013 and was attended by 50 staff from MVIWATA head office and middle level networks. MVIWATA Chairperson Mr. Habibu Simbamkuti opened the meeting. Additionally, various management meetings, general staff meetings and technical meetings were held to discuss the progress of MVIWATA activities.

f) 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.



g) 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 Kibagwa on 3 - 6/9/2012. The audit process was followed by capacity building training 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 meetings 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 Kibagwa 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 comp;licance 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.

h) 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.

i) Improvement of the organisational monitoring and evaluation system

In 2013 MVIWATA commenced to work towards the improvement of the M+E system. To do that, two things were done; the first was to recruit the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer and the second one was to work towards consulting a firm to improve the M+E system. This process was envisaged to be done in 2014.

5. Way forward

The way forward for MVIWATA entails the following areas;

- To prepare for the next strategic plan 2015 – 2019. The current strategic plan is the period of 2010 – 2014. As a way of preparation of the new strategic plan two steps are expected; first to conduct an evaluation of the current strategic plan and secondly to develop the strategic plan its self. Both the evaluation of the current strategic plan and development of the new one is expected to be led by an external consultant. The strategic plan is expected to be used as from 2015 or beginning of 2016.
- To strengthen monitoring and evaluation framework of MVIWATA. For a reasonable time MVIWATA has realised the need to have a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system in order to track changes that result from its interventions. In 2013 an Officer was hired to work on the M&E system but it was realised that a consultants support is needed develop the system. This was planned to take place in 2014.
- To strengthen the policy advocacy to match with the changing environment for small scale farmers. Strengthening of advocacy can be done through attaining skilled staff to meet the current needs of follow up of policy issues, conducting analysis and training of farmers on advocacy. Currently, the policy advocacy team is understaffed.
- To document properly experiences and successful case studies

6. Challenges

- a) One of the main challenges so far is to collect information and monitor results of MVIWATA work especially at local networks under the initiative of farmers themselves and some under the framework of projects. This challenge is coupled with the problem of obtaining correct and timely information of members. This problem has resulted from the rapid expansion of MVIWATA throughout the country. Effective monitoring and evaluation system with efficient and practical data collection system will help address this challenge.
- b) There is still a challenge to raise internal revenue through contributions, fees and subscriptions by members. There is still huge potential for MVIWATA to raise its own income through membership fees but the current level of revenue from fees is far below the potential. An efficient system of membership data collection and stratification of services from MVIWATA according to commitment of members can help to address this challenge
- c) In MVIWATA constructed markets there are a lot of partnership challenges with district councils in management of the markets. Typical case is Kibaigwa Market where there are frequent deviations of thinking between MVIWATA and Kongwa District Council on the way of managing Kibaigwa market.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Report on the financial statements

We have audited the annual financial statements of MVIWATA, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2013, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement 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 pages 15 to 31.

Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Organization's directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk 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 an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating 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.

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

Opinion

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of MVIWATA as at 31 December 2013, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, and in the manner required by the NGO's Act of Tanzania.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

MVIWATA, for donor reporting purposes, maintains its general ledger on cash basis. For general reporting purposes, the Organization maintains some of its account balances off the general ledger in excel files. To prepare general purposes financial statements (report) such as this, the general ledger and off general ledger records are synchronized.

In our opinion, except for any effects that may be caused for not having a full-fledged general ledger, proper accounting records have been kept by the Organization and the financial statements referred to in the preceding paragraph are in an agreement with the accounting records.

ABA Alliance
Certified Public Accountants (T)


Signed by: William G. Kihigwa
Dar es Salaam

14 August 2014

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

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION


AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2013

	Notes	2013 TZS	2012 TZS
ASSETS			
Non- current assets			
Land, property and equipments	4	636,227,119	593,275,960
Intangible Assets	5	26,166,535	19,776,308
Revolving Regional Credit Funds	6	262,185,272	258,485,272
Office Building Construction	7	109,471,500	39,122,500
		<u>1,034,100,426</u>	<u>910,660,040</u>
Current assets			
Accounts Receivable	8	190,398,030	54,450,900
Cash and bank balances	9	1,206,212,969	1,396,836,370
		<u>1,396,610,999</u>	<u>1,451,287,270</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>2,430,711,425</u>	<u>2,361,947,310</u>
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
Equity			
Members Contributions		850,000	850,000
Capital Reserve/Grants	10	428,680,031	424,980,031
Revaluation Reserve	11	181,374,341	238,439,555
Accumulated Surplus		464,058,554	328,785,502
		<u>1,074,962,926</u>	<u>993,055,088</u>
Current liabilities			
Accounts Payable	12	101,115,773	69,684,835
Other Liabilities	13	39,845,573	29,455,080
Differed Grants	14	1,214,787,153	1,269,752,307
		<u>1,355,748,499</u>	<u>1,368,892,222</u>
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		<u>2,430,711,425</u>	<u>2,361,947,310</u>

The financial statements on page 11 to 31 were approved by the Board of Directors on 14/08/2014 2014 and signed on behalf by:


.....
Mr. Habibu Simbamkuti – Chairperson

14/8/2014
.....
Date


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

14/8/2014
.....
Date

The notes on pages 15 to 31 are integral part of these financial statements.

Report of the Auditors – Pages 9 and 10.



P.O.Box 3220, Morogoro -Tanzania
Tel/fax: + 255 23 2614184
Email: info@mviwata.org
Website: www.mviwata.org