



**Mtandao wa Vikundi vya Wakulima Tanzania**

**Annual Report**

**January – December 2015**

## Table of Contents

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 1. General Introduction .....   | 3  |
| 1.1. Background of MVIWATA .....  | 3  |
| 1.2. Approach and Methodology .....   | 3  |
| 1.3. The Partners .....   | 3  |
| 1.4. Implemented Activities .....   | 5  |
| 2. Progress of Activities .....   | 6  |
| 2.1 To organise farmers into strong groups and networks .....   | 6  |
| 2.2 Strengthening advocacy capacity of farmers to influence policy<br>process .....   | 17 |
| 2.3 Small-scale farmers are linked to the market access with better<br>price of their produce .....   | 32 |
| 2.3.1 Support development of various value chains relevant to small<br>scale farmers .....  | 33 |
| 2.3.2 Provide technical support to rural markets constructed by<br>MVIWATA on management systems, business know how and<br>accountability ..... | 38 |
| 2.3.3 Promote formation of cereal banks among small scale farmers .....   | 40 |
| 2.3.4 Rural Tourism Initiative .....  | 44 |
| 2.3.5 Small-scale farmers have better access to financial services .....  | 45 |
| 2.4 Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS, Gender and Climate Change in MVIWATA<br>activities .....  | 47 |
| a) Mainstreaming HIV/AID in MVIWATA activities .....  | 47 |
| b) Mainstreaming Gender in MVIWATA activities .....   | 48 |
| c) Mainstreaming Climate Change in MVIWATA activities .....   | 49 |
| 3. Challenges .....   | 52 |
| 4. Way forward .....  | 52 |

## **1. General 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 their challenges such as lack of a strong organisation of small scale farmers in the country, exclusion of small scale farmers from decision making processes 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

Since MVIWATA is in the process of developing its new strategic plan, the existing SP priorities were used in 2015 work plan.

**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 in 2015, major achievements attained, lessons learnt and challenges encountered along the implementation process of MVIWATA programmes.

### **1.2. Approach and Methodology**

MVIWATA as per its tradition has used participatory approaches that basically target capacity development of small holder farmers. Farmer-to-farmer approach mainly through the use of voluntary unpaid farmer-promoters is a core approach of MVIWATA in order to internalise interventions and processes, to facilitate ownership, sustain interventions and also enable a multiplier effects at local level. That is in addition to the facilitation by MVIWATA technical team, leaders and other invited professionals.

The methods used include forums and dialogues, campaigns, village based training, centre-based residential training, exchange visits and use of communication tools such as newsletters and radio. There has been substantial media engagement, engagement with policy makers and grassroots forums for public awareness.

Information on successful stories and events were shared among members and other stakeholders through a weekly radio programs at Radio Maria namely Sauti ya Wakulima, MVIWATA website and social media. Additionally, various public media such as radio, television and newspapers were used to disseminate key advocacy messages to the public to influence change and ensure conducive policy environment for smallholder farmers.

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

The primary beneficiaries of MVIWATA interventions are smallholder farmers.

### **1.3. The Partners**

The partners that have worked with MVIWATA in 2016 are Irish Aid, Swedish Cooperative Centre - We Effect, TRIAS, European Union, Alliance for Green Revolution (AGRA), Agrinatura, ACDI/VOCA, EAFF, Agriterria, Trans SEC and McKnight Foundation. The Government of Tanzania provided in-kind support to MVIWATA through tax exemption. The table

below shows the focus of partnership of various organisations working with MVIWATA.

**Table 1: MVIWATA Partners in 2015 and their focus**

|     | <b>Partner</b> | <b>Project</b>  | <b>Thematic Area under MVIWATA SP</b> | <b>Location</b>                           |
|-----|----------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1.  | Irish Aid      | MVIWATA Strategic Plan 2010/2014  | SO1,2,3,4&5                           | Nationwide                                |
| 2.  | We Effect      | Lake Nyasa Ecosystem and Livelihood Project   | SO3,4&5                               | Kyela and Ludewa Districts                |
| 3.  | We Effect      | Agricultural and Livestock Marketing Improvement Project (ALMIP)  | SO1,2,3,4&5                           | Arusha Region                             |
| 4.  | We Effect      | Strengthening Farmers' Networks for Improved Farm Incomes (SFANIFI)   | SO1,2,3,4&5                           | Kilimanjaro Region                        |
| 5.  | TRIAS Tz       | DGD: Building Assets, Farmers Voice   | SO1,2&3                               | Arusha and Manyara                        |
| 6.  | TRIAS Tz       | Synergy Project (Mradi wa Maliasili na Maendeleo – MMM)   | SO1,2,3,4&5                           | Monduli District (Arusha)                 |
| 7.  | TRIAS Tz       | BFFS (Maisha Bora - MB)   | SO1,2,3,4&5                           | Longido District (Arusha)                 |
| 8.  | AGRA           | Enhancing the skills of Farmer Organizations under MVIWATA network for improved market opportunities, increased income and improved livelihoods | SO1,2,3&5                             | Kiteto, Kongwa, Njombe, Mbarali, Mvomero  |
| 9.  | ACDI/VOCA      | NAFAKA Project  | SO3                                   | Mvomero district                          |
| 10. | EAFF/EU        | Strengthening Farmer Organizations in Africa Programme  | SO2,3&5                               | Nation wide                               |
| 11. | Agriterra      | Strengthening Entrepreneurship Skills of Producer Groups  | SO3                                   | Kilimanjaro, Morogoro & Shinyanga Regions |
| 12. | ESAFF/EU       | Involving small scale farmers in policy dialogue and monitoring for improved food   | SO3                                   | East African Countries                    |

|     |                            |   |          |                                    |
|-----|----------------------------|---|----------|------------------------------------|
|     |                            | security in the East African Region.  |          |                                    |
| 13. | ZALF (German Universities) | Trans SEC: Innovating Strategies to safeguard Food Security using Technology and Knowledge Transfer: A people-centred Approach  | SO1, SO3 | Kilosa and Chamwino district       |
| 14. | Agrinatura/EU              | Farm Risk Management for Africa project   | SO3      | Nationwide                         |
| 15. | Trust Africa               | Building an Effective Advocacy Movement for Sustainable and Equitable Agricultural Development in Africa  | SO 4     | Nation wide                        |
| 16. | EU                         | Improving production and marketing of high value horticultural produce for smallholder farmers in Uluguru mountains and Ruaha river basin through increased know-how and market-support services (Malimbichi Project) | SO3      | Uluguru Mountains and Ruaha Valley |

With the exception of Irish Aid which is funding MVIWATA strategic plan all other partners have specific fields of cooperation with MVIWATA and in specific geographic locations.

#### **1.4. Implemented Activities**

Generally activities that were implemented by MVIWATA fall under the following groups:

- 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, study visit and facilitating exchange of information through participation in local, national, regional and international forums.
- Facilitating market access through developing entrepreneurship skills, market linkage interventions, operating a market information system (MAMIS).
- Facilitating farmers' access to financial services through strengthening of rural microfinance institutions owned by smallholder farmers and provision of technical support.
- Facilitating mainstreaming of cross cutting issues such as HIV/AIDS, gender equity and climate change into MVIWATA activities

through sensitisation meetings and workshops for awareness creation.

- Alliance building, networking and partnership building between MVIWATA and other stakeholders to advocate on issues of farmers' interests at all levels.
- Monitoring and evaluating organizational capacity and the progress of MVIWATA programmes.

The implemented activities aimed at building capacity of small-scale farmers to influence local, national, regional and international policies and effectively participate in decision making on issues of their welfare and improve their livelihood and economic activities. In general, the activities have resulted into better organization of farmers, capacity development in terms of ability to address their own challenges as identified in savings and credit interventions, improved production and marketing, and increased capacity on advocacy.

## **2. Progress of Activities**

### ***2.1 To organise farmers into strong groups and networks***

#### **2.1.1 Strengthen capacities of MVIWATA middle level networks to enhance service delivery to members**

As a first step towards strengthening middle level networks, capacity performance indicators were developed. The performance indicators are compiled in the Capacity Assessment Tool for MVIWATA groups and networks which aim at tracking changes at the middle levels in terms of planning, leadership, decision making, communication, financial management and governance. The tool was being used in all trainings conducted to the farmers at different levels.

Strengthening capacity of farmers' networks at middle and primary networks, were done through sensitization meetings and trainings conducted to 115 local networks and 10 middle level networks in Iringa/Njombe, Mbeya, Kagera, Kilimanjaro, Mara, Ruvuma, Morogoro, Manyara, Mwanza, Zanzibar and Arusha regions. 690 (304 women and 386 men) local networks leaders 66 (37 men and 29 women) Middle Level Networks leaders were trained.

In addition to that training were conducted to 263 (119 women and 144 men) from 39 district networks, the topics covered were on leadership, lobbying and advocacy, communication as well as the concept of farmers groups and networks. The district covered were Wanging'ombe, Mufindi, Njombe, Kilolo and Ludewa (in Njombe/Iringa regions); Newala , (in Mtwara region); Serengeti, Bunda, Butiama, Rorya and Tarime districts (in Mara region); Hai, Rombo, Same, Moshi and Mwanza (in Kilimanjaro region). Others are; Ngara, Muleba, Karagwe, Bukoba and Misenyi (in Kagera region); Kyela (Mbeya region); Karatu, Meru, Arusha, Longido and Monduli

(in Arusha region); Babati, Kiteto and Mbulu (Manyara region); Mvomero, Kilombero, Morogoro, Kilosa, Gairo and Ulanga (Morogoro region); Liwale in Lindi region; Chamwino and Kongwa in Dodoma, and Kasulu and Uvinza in Kigoma and Misungwi and Ukerewe in Mwanza region.



Sensitization meetings in Kilimanjaro and Arusha (above) and residential training to local network leaders in Kyela-Mbeya (below).

As reported under 2.1.5, strengthening of the middle level networks on financial management and governance was done by conducting training on financial management and conducting internal audits to middle level networks.

### **Results:**

Following a series of training and sensitization conducted:

- There have been improvements in leadership, governance, advocacy capacity at the local and middle level networks. This has created a trust and credibility of the networks by members and other partners.
- Internal audits and financial management trainings has facilitated improvement on internal control of human and financial resources and systems at the middle levels.



- Eight (8) new district networks were formed in Serengeti and Bunda in Mara region, Ngara in Kagera region and Wanging'ombe, Mufindi, Ludewa, Kilolo and Njombe in Iringa/Njombe regions.

## **2.1.2 Conduct Leadership Training for Farmers' Leaders**

### **2.1.2.1 Development of curriculum for Leadership Training for Farmers' Leaders**

In order to improve trainings to leaders, MVIWATA came out with an idea of developing a curriculum for leadership training so as to improve the training modules. In developing such curriculum, a number of activities were done including development of terms of reference and selection of the consultant. As one method of collecting views in developing the curriculum a workshop involving experienced staff and farmer leaders (promoters) was conducted, the workshop was held on 23rd July 2015 in Morogoro and was attended by 15 (10 men and 5 women) people. By December 2015 a draft of the curriculum was developed by the consultant and shared to MVIWATA for review and comments before the completion of the work. The final document is expected to be ready in the first quarter of 2016.

### **2.1.2.2 Conduct Leadership Training for Farmers' Leaders**

#### **• Training of Local and Middle Level network Leaders**

The training on leadership was conducted to local and middle level leaders in two sessions, 66 (37 Men, 29 Women) leaders from eight (8) middle level networks of Mara, Ruvuma, Iringa/Njombe, Mwanza, Kilimanjaro, Tabora, Masasi (Mtwara), and Morogoro participated. The first session was conducted from 14th to 18th September 2015 and involved 34 (20 male, 14 female) leaders while the second session took place from 21st to 26th September 2015 and attended by 32 (17 male and 15 female) leaders.

The topics covered during the trainings were MVIWATA history and its philosophy, groups and networks as fundamental foundation of MVIWATA, leadership of farmers' networks, concept of lobbying and advocacy, planning, monitoring and evaluation.



Middle level network leaders training at MVIWATA Training Centre in Tawa

- **Promoters training**

Training for new promoters was conducted at Kinole Training Centre in Morogoro whereby 67 (37 men, 30 women) attended. The training was conducted in two sessions where the first was from 14th to 26th September 2015 involved 38 (19 men, 19 women) participants, and the second was attended by 29 (11 women and 18 men) participants and started 30th November to 12th December 2015. Participants were from Kagera, Mara, Mwanza, Ruvuma, Njombe, Shinyanga, Ludewa, Kyela, Kilimanjaro and Morogoro which were the selected areas of priority for the year 2015. Other participants were from Kigoma, Zanzibar, Mtwara, Tabora, Tanga, Arusha, Mkuranga, Dodoma and Manyara.

The topics covered during the training were MVIWATA's history and its philosophy, the concept of farmers' groups and networks, The concept of leadership in farmers' groups and networks, The concept of lobbying and advocacy, Importance of communication in building strong farmers' groups and networks, Facilitation skills, Planning, monitoring and evaluation.



Promoters in different appearance during the training session

- **Dissemination of training materials**

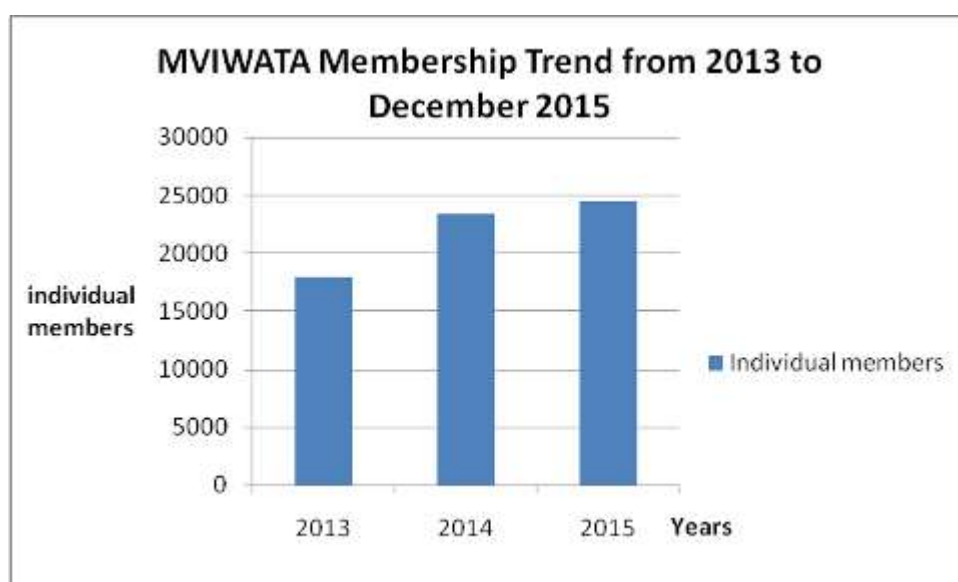
To enable promoters to perform their duties efficiently, 203 copies of developed training materials were disseminated to promoters, namely; concept of farmers' groups, concept of farmers' networks, concept of leadership, planning, monitoring and evaluation, facilitation skills and communication skills.

### **2.1.3 Management of MVIWATA membership database**

MVIWATA continued to work on membership database by collecting members' information and feed in the database. By December 2015 MVIWATA had recorded in the database 1781 groups organised in 275 local networks comprising of 24,481 members. In comparison with 2014 data, this is an increase of 55 groups, 15 local networks and 1,101 individual members.

Table 1: Trend of membership records in the database from 2013 to 2015

| Year   | December 2013 | December 2014 | December 2015 |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Individual Membership recorded in the Database | 17,963        | 23,380        | 24,481        |



#### **2.1.4 Internal system review and upgrading-Human Resource, Financial Systems, Information Technology, Monitoring and Evaluation, Database and Market Information System**

##### **Information Technology**

From January to December 2015 MVIWATA facilitated installation of local area network and intercom systems in the new office building.

##### **Upgrading-Human Resource and Financial Systems**

This was mainly done through the organisational strengthening support from the Swiss Development Agency (SDC). During this period development of the terms of reference and selection of the consultant were accomplished.

##### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Comprehensive development of monitoring and evaluation will be done upon completion of the new strategic plan. However, with the support of MVIWATA M&E Officer, M&E framework has been developed. The framework is composed with the following:

- Result Framework with Organization Strategic Objectives and indicators to be monitored
- Components of result based monitoring and evaluation framework and development process,

- Data Collection Process highlighting appropriate methods for data collection for the organization SP and respective projects across all levels of networks
- Reporting highlights what and how to report and who is responsible.

Previously, in 2014, under the partnership with Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), a consultancy firm, Development Pioneer Consultant (DCP) was hired which developed a baseline for the M&E systems.

#### **2.1.5 Facilitate internal audit for MVIWATA national, market boards and middle level networks**

An internal audit was conducted at the national level, middle level networks and to the market boards managed by MVIWATA, at the National level an internal audit was conducted from 3rd -11<sup>th</sup> Nov 2015. Internal audit was conducted to 6 middle level networks of Kilimanjaro, Arusha, Manyara, Shinyanga, Morogoro and Ruvuma from 13<sup>th</sup> April – 5<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

In addition to that, 5 Internal audits were conducted for market boards of Kibaigwa, Igurusi, Igagala, Matai and Kasanga on the dates as indicated below:

- Kibaigwa: 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> April 2015
- Igurusi: 26<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> Aug. 2015
- Igagala: 28<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> Aug. 2015
- Matai : 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2015
- Kasanga: 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2015

#### **Results:**

Internal audits facilitated improvement of internal controls, financial management and governance at all levels and the economic ventures such as market companies under MVIWATA.

#### **2.1.6 Conduct external and project audits of MVIWATA**

MVIWATA conducted an organisational external audit from 9<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> March 2015, the audit was conducted by Deloitte and Touche Company and MVIWATA got unqualified report.

External audits were also conducted for three projects, namely The VI Agroforestry, We effect and Malimbichi, The Audit for We Effect was done by PWC from 26<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> January 2015 and another from 31<sup>st</sup> August – 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015. An external Audit for Malimbichi project was conducted by Deloitte from 9<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> November 2015. In all audits MVIWATA obtained unqualified reports.

#### **2.1.7 Support costs to Programme staffs and office operations costs including procurements**

In 2015, MVIWATA continued supporting human resource cost for 45 staff (16 women and 29 men) at national level, middle level networks and in the



field. Usual operational costs were also supported through core funds and project funds.

#### **2.1.8 Support development of resource centre**

This activity entails supporting of infrastructure, equipment and materials at the headquarters of MVIWATA for learning and dissemination of information to members. A section of the resource centre is shown in the photo below.



MVIWATA Human resource centre building

#### **2.5.4 Organisational Strengthening Backstopping Mandate**

Organisational strengthening backstopping mandate commenced by agreeing the areas for improvement and the modality of implementing this process. The terms of reference were developed, shared and agreed and the process to procure the consultant started. Major part of the process was expected to be undertaken in 2016.

#### **2.1.9 Facilitate institutional and constitutional meetings of MVIWATA**

##### **i. AGM -National and Middle Level Networks (MLN)**

Annual General Meeting were conducted at National level and in different middle level networks as shown below:

At the national level, an AGM was conducted on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at Jordan University in Morogoro. 348 participants (221 men and 127 women) attended the AGM including:

- Members 215(138 men and 77 women)
- Partner organisations 20(12 men 8 women)

- Staff 48 (32 men 16 women)
- Dancers 31 (18 men 13 women,)
- Media 25 persons (16 men 9 women)
- Board members 9 (5 men 4 women)

The Agenda of the AGM included was receiving implementation report for 2014, 2014 audit report, appointment of external auditor, approval of 2016 annual plan and budget.



AGMs were also conducted at middle level networks as follows:

- MVIWATA Iringa held an AGM on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2015 in Njombe region and was attended by 179 persons (94 men 85 women).
- MVIWATA Morogoro held an AGM on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2015 with 69 persons (40 men 29 women) attended.
- MVIWATA Kilimanjaro the AGM held on 30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> July 2015 attended by 61 persons (30 men and 31 women)
- MVIWATA Manyara AGM held on 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> August 2015 involved 90 persons, 37 women and 53 men.
- MVIWATA Arusha AGM organized and held on 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> September 2015 where 155 persons (79 women and 76 men) attended.
- MVIWATA Kagera held its AGM on 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> December 2015 attended by 85 persons (51 men and 34 women)



Njombe Regional Commissioner Dr Rehema Nchimbi (left) addressing during the AGM in Njombe





Leaders and members during AGM at Kilimanjaro middle level



MVIWATA Kagera (left) and Arusha (right) during the AGMs

## ii. Council meetings

One council meeting was held on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2015 and attended by 59(39 men, 20 women) members. Apart from discussion of its regular agenda (assessing progress of the organisation at all levels), the council meeting focused on amending MVIWATA constitution as demanded by members in the past meetings. Recommendations of the council were presented to the annual general meeting for approval.



### **iii. Board meetings**

Three board meetings were conducted on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2015, 7<sup>th</sup> August 2015 and 10<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

### **iv. Quarterly Technical meetings**

For planning and monitoring implementation of activities in 2015, different technical meetings were conducted as follows:

- From 20<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> January, a technical meeting involving Executive Director and all team leaders were conducted at MVIWATA conference room. The outcome of this meeting was improved annual plan for 2015 which indicated all activities to be implemented, its deliverables and the timeline for each activity.
- On 5<sup>th</sup> February, a coordination meeting under Involve project was conducted to review project implementation. Participants of the meeting were project partners, namely, ESAFF, Gret and MVIWATA.
- On 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015, a project coordination meeting for a project supported by AGRA/FOSCA was held as part of project monitoring, 22(14 men 8 women) staff and leaders from Morogoro, Manyara, Dodoma, Njombe and Mbeya attended the meeting.



- On 4<sup>th</sup> May 2015 and from 21<sup>st</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> August 2015, a meeting involving MVIWATA management team was conducted to discuss implementation of activities under each thematic areas.
- A technical meeting on Lake Nyasa project was conducted on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> June 2015 and later from 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> October 2015. The meeting



facilitated review of implementation progress, planning and reporting of activities. It was also used for training on the new Project Monitoring System (PME) developed by We Effect.

- On 19 and 19 May 2015, a steering committee meeting involving MVIWATA (MALIMBICHI Project team, small holder farmers representatives and board members), Gret, was conducted at Sarvoy Hotel Morogoro. The meeting facilitated review of implementation progress, planning and reporting of activities.

#### **v. Annual and Semi-annual planning and review**

A staff meeting was conducted on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> March 2015 to share and creating common understanding on 2015 work plan, 19 (14 men 5 women) staff attended the meeting. During this meeting, the following was done:

- Presentation and discussion of the 2015 annual plan for all staff to understand activities to be implemented in 2015 and results to be achieved.
- Presentation and discussion on the new developed Monitoring Framework in order to be used by all staff as a tool of tracking results.
- Discussion on financial management and human resource issues



#### **2.1.8 Conduct Organisational assessment, basing on results of 2010 – 2014**

MVIWATA evaluation was conducted by ALINE company between 15th August 2015 and 30th October 2015. The evaluation was done reviewing various organisation documents, organising workshop with representatives of MVIWATA at different levels and conducting fieldwork. The evaluation focused on reviewing the delivery of MVIWATA's 2010-2015 Strategic Plan

and assessing the approach to working with farmers, with a particular emphasis on analysing its approach to Farmer Voice. The evaluation paid particular attention to MVIWATA's work on organising and empowering farmers at all levels, work on partnerships, lobbying and advocacy, and efforts to strengthen its own institutional capacity – particularly in terms of staffing and internal systems.

The final report of the study was been submitted to MVIWATA, the study facilitated identification of areas of MVIWATA strengths and weakness, and recommendations were given by the consultants on areas of improvements. Results of the study will be used as guide during development of the new strategic plan for 2016-2020.

### **2.1.9 Preparation of new strategic plan 2016 – 2020**

Preparation of the new strategic plan commenced towards the end of 2015. Reflection on the process of developing the strategy was done. By the end of the year the process was at the beginning, especially terms of reference for development of theory of change and the context analysis.

## **2.2 *Strengthening advocacy capacity of farmers to influence policy process***

### **2.2.1 Conduct research studies and fact - finding missions on key advocacy issues**

In 2015 five studies was conducted, namely:

- Assessment of coffee marketing system in Kagera Region
- Identification of the State of affairs regarding genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in Tanzania.
- Land conflicts in Tanzania: causes and solutions
- The seed policy and legal frameworks in Tanzania conducted
- Analysis of food and agriculture related policies in Tanzania.

MVIWATA intends to use findings of those studies as advocacy tools to policy makers for the interests of smallholder farmers once completed.

Study on coffee marketing system in Kagera Region was conducted at the request of farmers in Kagera in order to establish reasons for failure of coffee market and propose practical solutions for effective marketing system and suggest advocacy strategies to revamp coffee production and enhance coffee market in the region that has been dwindling for several decades.

All studies were presented to the members of MVIWATA for validation. Findings of coffee study in particular were shared during the regional workshop organized by MVIWATA Kagera held on 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> December 2015 where members had the opportunity to receive, discuss and provide their opinions regarding the study.

### **2.2.2 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**

- **Facilitate participation of MVIWATA members in CAADP national dialogue;**

A dialogue with government officials on implementation of CAADP and its impact to smallholder farmers was organised jointly by ESAFF and MVIWATA in Dar es Salaam on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2015. The event was attended by 60 (37 men, 23 women) participants including farmers, senior government officials from the Ministry of Agriculture, councilors from Muleba and Kilosa districts and representatives of different media house. MVIWATA was represented by 42 members. The dialogue was centred on Tanzania status towards implementation of Maputo, the Malabo Declaration and experience of farmers in implementing PETS in Kilosa and Muleba districts. Basing on this experience it was agreed that regular dialogue/meetings between MVIWATA members and government at the Ministry level should be held especially at the early stages of national budget process. The dialogue itself was able to create awareness to farmers on the budgetary process and the commitment of the country in supporting agriculture in terms of budget.

- **National symposium to commemorate international peasants' day:**

One day national symposium was organised and conducted as part of the commemoration of International Day of Peasants' Struggle which is celebrated annually by members of La Via Campesina on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2015 but for MVIWATA it was celebrated on 08<sup>th</sup> May 2015 in which 106 farmers (60 men 46 women) attended. The issues on commitment of Tanzania government in implementing CAADP, implication of Transnational Corporations to farmers' welfare and WTO were discussed during this forum. One of the resolution in this forum is that MVIWATA members agreed to strengthen solidarity among themselves and with other smallholder producers nationally and internationally to fight for their political, socio-economic rights.



- **Workshop on FACT Lessons**

Workshops on FACT (advocacy tool that was tested in Tanzania) lessons were organised at two levels, namely district level in Monduli, Hai and Simanjiro districts from 23rd February to 4th March 2015 involving 72(40 men, 32 women) MVIWATA members and at the national level was held on 17th March 2015 involving 30 (19 men, 11 women) person, the result was institutionalising FACT within MVIWATA. The main purpose was to learn from the tool and assess its application for wide scale.

- **Organize a dialogue forum between smallholder farmers and policy makers:**

MVIWATA in collaboration with Eastern and Southern Africa Farmers Forum (ESAFF) and Agricultural Non-State Actors Forum (ANSAF) organised a dialogue with the Parliament Committee for Agriculture, Livestock and Water to discuss smallholder farmers' priorities towards 2015/2016 agricultural budget. The dialogue was held on 22nd May 2015 in Dodoma and involved 60 participants among them 30 members of MVIWATA (15 women, 15 men), 12 MPs and 10 staff from MVIWATA, ESAFF and ANSAF.

It was observed that the budget allocation for agricultural development has not exceeded 5% which is lower than the agreed minimum of 10% as revealed in Maputo and Malabo Declarations, there are issues on mismanagement of allocated funds and poor participation of farmers in the processes of formulating and implementing policies. Other issues were that the agricultural budget and funds disbursement for agricultural sector is inconsistent with the reality and importance of the industry itself to the national development, the need to have policies and programmes that promote smallholder farmers and the right to conserve and use local seeds.

It was agreed that for effective communication and collaboration between MPs and farmers, the joint committee will be formed (involving both parties) after national general elections to facilitate regular consultation meetings between farmers organisations and legislators, at least three sessions per year between farmers' organisations and parliamentarians.





MVIWATA Chairperson Ms Veronica Sophu shakes hands with Hon. Prof. Peter Msola, the Chairperson of the Parliament Standing Committee for Agriculture to officiate the forum, and right is Mr. Paulo Joseph, MVIWATA Board member commenting during the session with Parliamentarians.



Left: Hon. Dr. Christine Ishengoma and Hon. Meshak Opulukwa (right); members of the Parliament Committee commenting during the session between farmers and parliamentarians.

- **Organise district dialogue forums to provide feedback on PETS findings:**

Two district *fora* were organised; one in Muleba district on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2015 and another in Kilosa on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2015 where findings on implementation of PETS were presented and discussed. The forum in Muleba was attended by 143 (36 women 107 men) stakeholders including MVIWATA members, village leaders, five councillors and member of Parliament. In Kilosa district, the forum involved 60 (23 women, 37 men) participants involving district government leaders and small scale farmers; members of MVIWATA. The *fora* helped to present the situation of expenditure in respective districts and agree on methods to make regular follow up on expenditure for 2015/2016 financial year. The discussion from those two forum revealed that;

- a. Funds allocated for development activities in agricultural sector were too little compared with those allocated for recurrent expenditure
- b. Poor community participation in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of government projects on agriculture. For instance it was found that Mvumi irrigation scheme (in Kilosa district) is implemented directly by the central government without involvement of the local people.
- c. Incomplete development projects implemented by the government.
- d. Mismanagement of public expenditure.

Through implementation of PETS in Kilosa district, there has been an improvement in transparency whereby the community's management committees in Rudewa and Mvumi wards have been involving in planning and management of construction of irrigation schemes project implementing in their areas. Moreover, awareness gained through

implementation of PETS empowered MVIWATA members in Berega and Kibedya wards to claim the right to be provided with DAP fertilizer instead of “Minjingu” fertilizer which was not suitable for them.



Muleba District Administrative Officer Ms Anitha Kajungu (left) speaks during the district forum on PETS.

- **Dialogue forum on food related policies**

MVIWATA organised a forum for sharing findings from research works on policy related issues. The forum brought together 43 (19 women, 24 men) stakeholders, research organizations, civil society organizations, media, MVIWATA members and government entities. During the workshop presentations and discussion were made on findings from studies on food related policies, genetically Modified Organisms, land based conflicts in relation to food production, seed battle/legal and policy frameworks.



One of the presenters, Mr. Isakwisa Lameck (left) delivering his presentation on the status of GMOs in Tanzania during the food policy meeting held on November 26, 2015.

The dialogue offered an opportunity for MVIWATA members to understand various food related policies and how they affect their agricultural activities. The platform also offered an opportunity for presenters to develop policy papers on the topics presented. Four paper have been developed on GMOs,

seed laws, the effects of land conflicts in relation to food production and the food policies (analysis), all of which will be used as advocacy tools for MVIWATA.

- **Dialogue on international trade towards 10<sup>th</sup> WTO Ministerial Conference**

A one day national forum to discuss international trade issues was organized and conducted in Morogoro on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2015. The dialogue was attended by 65 (47 men, 18 women). The aim was to enable MVIWATA members and other invited stakeholders to discuss pertinent issues related to agricultural and food security towards 10<sup>th</sup> World Trade Organization (WTO) Ministerial Conference (MC) held in Nairobi. The key message of the dialogue was presented by Assistant Director from the Ministry of Industry and Trade with the assistance of co-facilitator from Forum for Climate Change (Forum-CC). The event was reported by different media including TVs for dissemination of the message. Furthermore, the dialogue was also used to make a petition which was presented to the government as a position of smallholder farmers towards 10<sup>th</sup> MC of WTO. The following were some conclusions of the dialogue:

- Global trade policy must be evaluated on whether it contributes to global goals such as food security and food sovereignty, sustainable development, environmental conservation, financial stability, expanded access to quality public services, the creation of good jobs, and the reduction of poverty and inequality.
- Members of WTO need to immediately agree to a permanent solution on food security, by allowing public stockholding programs for resource-poor farmers to be allowed in the 'Green Box.' WTO members must move beyond the outrageous blockage by the United States of the proposal to allow the developing countries to engage in public stockholding programs to support impoverished agricultural producers as well as ensure food security for their hungry populations. Members must urgently agree to remove this WTO obstacle to the Right to Food."
- Members must urgently negotiate to change the current rules on trade in agriculture, and in particular to address long-standing concerns about the existing trade-distorting subsidies that developed countries agreed years ago to curtail or eliminate. Damaging subsidies on exported agricultural exports must be urgently terminated; and countries should not be permitted in the WTO to damage each other's markets.
- Developing countries must protect their domestic production





Participants of the national dialogue towards 10th MC of WTO



Cuttings from media house

### • National workshop towards Tanzania General Election

Towards Tanzania general election held on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2015, MVIWATA organized a one day national workshop under the theme “*General Election 2015: What is the Destiny of Smallholder Farmers?*” The workshop was attended by 348 (221men, 127 women). The workshop was facilitated, alongside the annual general meeting of MVIWATA to equip and enable MVIWATA members to have common understanding on the farmers’ agenda and how their rights were emerging and addressing in political parties campaigns. Two main topic were presented;

- a) General Election 2015: what is the future of smallholder farmers? That topic was presented by Mr Deus Kibamba who is the Chairperson of Tanzania Constitutional Forum.
- b) “Election process and politics; is it a liberation to smallholder farmers?” this was presented by Dr Ngw’anza Kamata from the University of Dar es Salaam.

In both presentations, presenters emphasized on the importance of MVIWATA members to use their unity and influence to elect honest and responsible leaders who will cooperate with them to accelerate national development and fighting corruption.



That event was also used to launch a smallholder farmers' manifesto which was prepared and distributed to local networks since May 2015 with the aim of strengthening awareness of MVIWATA members regarding their fundamental rights on different matters as smallholder farmers. It was agreed to use that manifesto as an advocacy tool in demanding farmers' rights at different levels and not only during the campaign process.



Dr Ngw'anza Kamata (above) and Mr Deus Kibamba (below) in presentation during the national workshop

- **Policy engagement on warehouse receipt system for cashew in Mtwara and Lindi**

As was reported in 2014 annual report, MVIWATA organised a consultative forum in Mtwara to discuss challenges of cashew marketing. As a follow up, a stakeholder's workshop was organised in Mtwara on 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2015 to assess implementation of the agreed actions during stakeholder's workshop in 2014, identify gaps and challenges that still exist in cashew nut marketing, agree on strategies. A total of 23 (Men17, Women6) people including farmers, representatives from primary cooperatives, Masasi, Liwale, Lindi, Mtwara, Liwale, Tandahimba, representative for secretariat of Cashew Board, TWLB, district council, Union participated.



Participants contributing during cashew-nut stakeholders'

The following were considered major achievements in the initiatives;

- There has been an increase in transparency on trade and price as before selling their crops representatives of farmers witnesses during the auction and information are shared to unions' leaders.
- There have been awareness of farmers on operation of WRS following the trainings conducted by cashew board and district council
- The shrinkage rate agreed both by TWLB and CBT is 0.5% for the cashew sold, this address the previous challenges where there were no transparency on the shrinkage rate.

### 2.2.3 Participate in networking and advocacy at national, regional and international events

MVIWATA participated in a regional multi- stakeholder workshop held on 23rd January 2015 in Arusha to present and validate issues and solution gathered by the EA countries on food security governance and establish a regional move on the subject matter.

Apart from the above events, in 2015 MVIWATA participated in different advocacy initiatives as indicated in the table below:

**Table 2: Advocacy events participated by MVIWATA**

| Date   | Participant(s)  | Location              | Theme of the event  | Organizer                 |
|--|---|-----------------------|---|---------------------------|
| 16 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup><br>Feb 2015 | 1. Veronica Sophu<br>2. Charles Ndugulile<br>3. Lina Andrew<br>4. Eliud Akyoo | Maputo,<br>Mozambique | Trans-National Companies (TNCs) in Southern African countries and its impacts to small scale farmers. | La Campesina Africa-1 Via |
| 22 Feb - 04<br>Mar 2015                        | Emanuel Mandike   | Nyeleni, Mali         | Agro-ecology global forum   | La Campesina (Int) Via    |

|   |   |                       |  |   |
|---|---|-----------------------|--|---|
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> -23 <sup>rd</sup><br>March 2015      | Martin Pius   | Tunis,<br>Tunisia     | Global Strategy Meeting: Removing World Trade Organization (WTO) Obstacles to Food Security: A Strategy Meeting towards the Upcoming WTO Ministerial     | Our World Is Not For Sale (OWINFS)  |
| 24 Mar- 03<br>May 2015                                | Lina Andrew   | Sao-Paulo,<br>Brazil  | Political training for political educators   | MST/ La Via Campesina   |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> -24 <sup>th</sup><br>April 2015      | Thomas Laiser   | Lusaka,<br>Zambia     | Southern and Eastern African Agro-ecology Knowledge and Skills Sharing   | Third World Network, African Centre for Bio-safety  |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup><br>May 2015        | Thomas Laiser   | Dakar,<br>Senegal     | Global Land Forum and Assembly of Members of International Land Coalition  | International Land Coalition  |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> May<br>2015                          | 5 MVIWATA members from Muleba                                 | Entebbe,<br>Uganda    | "Increasing Government Investment in Agricultural Sector and Empowering Small Holder Women Farmers for Shared Growth and Development toward Agenda 2003" | ESAFF Uganda  |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> July<br>2015                         | Stanslaus Nyembea and other two members formed PETS in Kilosa | Dar es Salaam         | Budget Analysis Meeting  | Agricultural Council of Tanzania (ACT)  |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> August<br>2015                       | Stanslaus Nyembea   | Dar es Salaam         | Workshop on "Access to Land for Agriculture in Tanzania"   | Ministry of Agriculture in collaboration with Michigan State University                   |
| 30 Sept-<br>02 <sup>nd</sup> Oct<br>2015              | Stanslaus Nyembea and 10 MVIWATA members (all women)          | Dar es Salaam         | National Gender Festival   | Tanzania Gender Network Programme   |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> Oct-<br>03 <sup>rd</sup> Nov<br>2015 | Lina Andrew   | Chamarajanagar, India | Zero budget natural farming workshop   | International Center for Sustainable Development- La Via Campesina School of Agro-ecology |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> Oct-<br>12 <sup>th</sup> Dec<br>2015 | Jennifer Lugeye   | Sao-Paulo,<br>Brazil  | Political training for political educators   | MST/ La Via Campesina   |

With regard to the Tunis and Maputo events, participants reflected on the current movements of the TNCs and WTO to African countries and their impact to small scale farmers as well as finding out the possible solutions of solving out those effects. MVIWATA on its part organised a feedback session, already reported above, during the commemoration of International Day of Peasants' Struggle on (08<sup>th</sup> May 2015) where issues related with effects of WTO and TNCs' movement were discussed.

The forum in Nyeleni, Mali and training in Lusaka, Zambia focused on agro-ecology with intentions to strengthen synergies and share knowledge and skills on agro-ecology practices among smallholder farmers' organizations on agro-ecology practices versus industrial agriculture.

### **A case study of Elifrida Laiser**

*Ms. Elifrida Laiser is one of MVIWATA Arusha members who lives in Engurdoto village, Muandet ward in Arusha District. She was one among 15 MVIWATA members attended a four days National Gender Festival held in Dar es Salaam in September 2013. The knowledge acquired through presentations and various publications distributed as well as special side event organized by MVIWATA where the delegation was able to meet lawyers from Women Legal Aid Centre (WLAC), inspired her to study aspects of human rights and especially to rural women. Once she returned home after the festival, she started to facilitate and inspire other women in her community to know their socio-economic rights.*

*Ngooya Sakaya (a widow who lives in Engurtoto village) is one of the women who have benefited from the efforts done Ms Elifrida. Once she lost her husband early in 2013, one of her in-laws decided to take half of her land by force. By realizing Elifrida's capacity in assisting her fellow women, she decided to find consultation where they filed a civil suit in Ward Land Tribunal and the land was returned to the widow. Even when her opponent appealed to the District Land Tribunal, Ngooya yet acquired the right to become the legal owner of the land ( She restored her farm).*

*As part of recognition to her efforts in community mobilization, communities in Engurtoto, Engalaoni, Imbibya and Loosikito villages selected Elifrida Laiser to be a Chairperson of Ward Land Tribunal from 2014 to date.*

### **2.2.4 Provision of legal support on human rights and land issues for farmers for small scale farmers**

To implement this activity MVIWATA recruited a lawyer. The lawyer started working with MVIWATA on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015. Since then, three legal aid services have been provided to farmers. Other activities that have been implemented are awareness creation on the process of acquiring title deeds, training of paralegals and development of aid policy for MVIWATA to guide its legal aid operation though the policy is yet to be approved.

- **Awareness creation on the process of Acquiring Title deeds**

Sensitization and awareness creation was conducted to farmers on the process of acquiring Title Deeds. 239 (215 men 24 women) farmers took part in the training.

- **Training of Paralegals**

The training engaged 14 (7 men, 7women) paralegals from two districts of Mvomero and Kilosa in Morogoro region. It was conducted from 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>

November, 2015 at Kinole training centre. This training aimed at equipping paralegals with soft skills on various laws so as to enable them to offer legal aid services to their fellow small scale farmers in their respective areas. The topics covered are sources of law, human rights, law of marriage, land laws, gender based violence and environment law.

**Results:** After the training paralegals offered legal aid to 46 (38Men, 8 women) fellow farmers on issues related to land, labour, criminal, marriage and family.

- **Legal Aid services at MVIWATA head office**

MVIWATA national office received six cases/issues from farmers: two on land, one on contract, one for criminal and one for *tort*. MVIWATA members have been experiencing land related conflicts over the decade; there was a case which started earlier before MVIWATA started offering legal aid service<sup>1</sup>. The case above was later filed under MVIWATA's legal aid service and the case is still pending before the court of law in Dodoma under the lawyer hired by MVIWATA to represent its member in the legal battle.

- **Cases before the Court of law**

Currently, there are two pending cases before the courts of law: criminal case against four members of MVIWATA from Kilosa<sup>2</sup> and civil in Dodoma<sup>3</sup>. The last case is waiting for hearing. The four members of MVIWATA (from Kilosa) were 'wrongly sentenced' by the district magistrate at Kilosa as the alleged offence involve would have waited for a disputed land to be determined in the first place before the alleged 'trespass on land crimes' to be determined. The case was supposed to be directed to the land tribunal for land dispute determination. Surprisingly, the learned magistrate determined the case before the real owner of the disputed land was legally determined, MVIWATA appealed verdict.

### **2.2.5 Organise media tours to inform the public on achievements, challenges and opportunities for smallholder farmers**

A media tour was organised by MVIWATA in Kiteto and Kongwa in which six journalists from Clouds media, Abood TV and radio, The Guardian and Mwananchi communication participated. The tour focussed on issues related to production and marketing. Successful cases were covered by the media. For example, case of Hussein Mngia who has increased maize production from 500 kgs/acre to 1000kgs/acre and got higher price of TZS 520/kg compared to the usual TZS 220-280/kg after they were linked to the National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA). Stories on the farmers visited were aired by ITV, Abood TV and Clouds TV. Also publicized on The Guardian and Nipashe.

---

<sup>1</sup> Agatha Mhindila and Samsoni Mgainje vs CHAMTUMA SACCOS (2015)

<sup>2</sup> Athumani Kadoro, Sharif Katema, Emmanuel Selemani and Amir Sakumu Makeve . The case is under advocate Godfrey Gabriel Mwansoho (0787001005 or 0713652795), from GEEM Attorneys.

<sup>3</sup> Agatha Mhindila and Samsoni Mgainje vs CHAMTUMA SACCOS (2015), under advocate Kidumanga 0755278293





Cuttings of the newspapers after the media tour

## 2.2.6 Develop and disseminate newsletters, Monthly bulletins, organisational promotional materials, annual report

- In the year 2015 no newsletter were printed but development of Pambazuko article No. 45 continued. During this period a total of 11,813 materials were developed and disseminated, they include 2,033 walls and desk calendar, 180 MVIWATA Annual report for the year 2011, 2012 and 2013, 3000 MVIWATA workshop reports for the year 2011, 2012 and 2014, two MVIWATA flag, five banners, 1550 business cards, 43 MVIWATA staff and Board members identity cards and 5000 swahili brochures.



## 2.2.7 Media engagement and relations

In 2015, 190 stories on issues related to MVIWATA interventions were covered in media through various engagements to enable public awareness. Media engagement was embedded with various events such as International Women's Day, workshops, AGM, trainings and dialogues. The media channels included local TV channels, newspapers and radio stations.





Cuttings covering media engagement

### • Organize media training:

A two days training for journalists was conducted in Morogoro from 6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> May 2015. The training was attended by 30 journalists (20 men 10 women) from various media houses which are The Guardian, Mwananchi, The Citizen, Tanzania Daima, Nipashe, Jambo Leo, Mtanzania, BBC, ITV, TBC, RFA/Star TV, Channel ten, Clouds TV, Azam TV, Abood TV, Radio France International, Farm Radio International, Radio Faraja, Zenji FM, Radio Tumaini, Radio Iman, JET, TAJF, BBC Action Media. The training facilitated establishing and strengthening alliance with media on agricultural related policies that have been affecting smallholder farmers' livelihood as well as to intensify campaign on agricultural budget through media. The training also facilitated familiarising journalists with global issues that affect the welfare of smallholder farmers.



Participants during a Journalists' training in Morogoro

### 2.2.8 To produce MVIWATA radio programmes

In 2015, 40 *radio program* (SAUTI YA MVIWATA) were produced and aired through Radio Maria in Dar Es Salaam. The theme of programs based on Proposed Constitution, GMO, Land issues, CAADP, PETS, EPA, WTO, improved Production practices, Farmers exhibition, African Child day, and



all speeches presented at AGM. The theme paves a way to listeners to know/learn a lot about the proposed constitution especially by knowing exactly the weakness and strengths of proposed constitution.

#### **2.2.9 Exchange visits on advocacy issues and networking**

During this period, two exchange visits were reported, a two day exchange visit was done from 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> May 2015 in which MVIWATA hosted a delegation of two persons from União Nacional de Camponeses de Moçambique (UNAC) aimed at learning MVIWATA's experience on farmers' markets and financial institutions.

Five MVIWATA members (all men) from Zanzibar visited their fellow members of MVIWATA Arusha where they used that opportunity to establish collaboration and exchange knowledge and skills on networking, advocacy and entrepreneurship issues.



MVIWATA Zanzibar delegation during the exchange visit in Arusha

#### **2.2.10 Produce documents on various MVIWATA experiences in supporting smallholder farmers.**

Documentation was done to farmers managed microfinance, the aim of the documentary is to facilitate sharing of experience among farmers in management of local microfinance.

#### **2.2.11 Manage MVIWATA website**

MVIWATA continued to manage and update its website. The number of visitors in website reached to 51, 262.

The social media i.e. twitter and face book accounts of MVIWATA operated normally. The Face book was followed by 6,739 people, twitter followed by 150 people. Static shows, per each event posted in face book from January to December 2015, the lowest number of people who liked and comment are 10 people while the highest number is 2500 people.

### **2.3 *Small-scale farmers are linked to the market access with better price of their produce***

### **2.3.1 Support development of various value chains relevant to small scale farmers**

#### **i. Facilitate Baseline on Agricultural practices and marketing**

A baseline study was carried out in Uluguru Mountains and Ruaha river basin areas to earmark high value horticultural crops, conduct assessment of production and marketing situation, constraints and opportunities. Results of the baseline indicated that production of some of the crops in the project sites are characterized by poor agronomic practices; farmers have very poor bargaining power and thus in most cases sell based on prices at low prices, lack of quality control systems. Feedback meetings were done and site specific recommendations done. This study was part of Malimbichi project implementation.

#### **ii. Facilitate trainings on agricultural production**

In facilitating training on agricultural production, trainings were first conducted to farmer's leaders who later trained others in their group through demonstrations. The value chains covered were rice, maize, sunflower, horticultural crops and animal husbandry (mainly chicken, pigs and cow).

##### **• Training farmers leaders**

94 (62 women, 32 men) farmer leaders were trained on improved agronomic practices. The Good Agronomical Practices (GAP) training focused on conservation farming, land preparation, nursery establishment, appropriate use input, seed selection, use of improved/certified seeds, spacing, pest management, soil fertility management, moisture conservation and general field management.





Farmer leaders transplanting paddy in the field



*Farmer leader's practicing rice weeding and application of manure*

- **Training to farmers on agricultural production**

2186 (1086men, 1100women) farmers were trained on agronomic practices in various value chain projects. Training focused on conservation farming, land preparation and bund making, nursery establishment, appropriate use input, seed selection, pest management, soil fertility management, moisture conservation and general field management

- **Training farmers on animal husbandry**

208 farmers (83 men, 125 women) were trained as paravet on different practices of handling animals. The training covered animal husbandry (feeding, vaccination, solar hatching). The focus was mainly on chicken, pigs and cows. The trained farmer leader's in collaboration with extension officers facilitated training to other farmers on animal husbandry. An assessment conducted to trained farmers indicated that 578 (307 men, 271 women) are keeping an average of 40 poultry and 6 pigs. This activity was part of Manyara Middle level activities.





*Poultry project owned by Maria Sanga from Mavala village, after use the knowledge she got from the Livestock training.*

Furthermore, 120 farmers (74 men 46 women) were trained on bee keeping in Manyara. To facilitate bee keeping 136 beehives top bars, were constructed and given to farmers. It is expected that after six month farmers will harvest 3000 kgs from these beehives and will be in position to earn Tshs 30,000,000/=



One of the farmers smearing wax to the bee hive

- **Investment in Irrigation infrastructures**

To support production, MVIWATA in Manyara facilitated construction of irrigation channel in 4 village in Babati and Arusha regions, 2567metres of irrigation canal have been constructed with 24 division boxes and 10 Aqueduct and Calvert.



One of the division box constructed by MVIWATA

**iii. Establish and manage demonstration plots and FFS for selected commodities at ward level: sustainable production and land management**

To facilitate practical learning 143 demonstration plots were developed. Of these, 49 were maize demonstration plots, 37 rice demonstration plots and 57 demonstrations for horticultural crops (tomatoes, onion). The practices demonstrated include nursery establishment, proper spacing, soil fertility management, pest and disease management, water management.



Farmers demonstrating appropriate spacing

***Results of application improved production techniques:***

- An assessment conducted to 606 farmers (420 men, 186 women) in Kongwa, Kiteto, Njombe, Mvomero and Mbarali showed an increased average production of maize from 1171kg/acre in 2013 to 1916Kg/acre equivalent to 38% increase.
- An assessment conducted to 115 (60men,55women) indicated an increase in tomatoes production from 1100kg per acre to 2500kg per acre in 2015





*Farmers from Peco village after harvesting their tomatoes*

**Case of Mr. Hamza Ally (21 years old) from Dosidosi village in Kiteto District.**

*"I started growing maize in 2011 from 1 acre farm. I harvested 400Kgs/acre (4 bags). In 2013 I followed the agricultural production training organised by MVIWATA and participated in the early activities of the demonstration plot. I tried in my farm what I learnt in demonstration plots especially the use of improved seeds, spacing, weeding, appropriate fertilizer application. I managed to harvest to triple up to 900Kgs (9 bags) in 2014 from the same plot. Tin this year I cultivated 7 acres where I harvested 4.5 tons of maize. I sold 4 tons to the National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) which earned me USD 1,270. I used the money to purchase a plot for house my construction".*

**iv. Facilitate formation of production and marketing groups and associations**

To facilitate formation of production and Marketing groups MVIWATA conducted sensitization meetings in Mbarali and Mbozi districts of Mbeya. 20 production and marketing groups of 3354 farmers (1543 women and 1811 men) were formed. The groups were linked to various value chain stakeholders to facilitate access to important services such as access to inputs, productivity knowledge and skills, collective storage and collective selling of maize and rice for better access to market.

**v. Build capacities of producer groups and associations on business skills and price bargaining**

As a way of improving farmers innovations, capacity building training were conducted to farmers on entrepreneurship development to a total of 3085 (1351 men, 1734 women) farmers. The training facilitated farmers sharing experience on aspects such as adding value to crops (paddy and maize), cost-profit analysis, collective selling, better ways of keeping records. Following the training conducted to farmers on entrepreneurship skills, farming as a



business, value addition and collective selling 520 (203 women and 317 men) farmers processed their paddy and sold rice collectively. By adding value to the crop and selling large volume of rice collectively, it has helped the farmers increase negotiation power to traders as well as forcing buyer to use standardized weighing scales. As a results they managed to increase price of the product by 41% from Tsh 1000 to 1700/kg whereby a total volume of 48.36 tons of rice were sold facilitating earning of Tsh. 82,212,000/=.

Likewise, 87 farmers groups with 1740 members (983 men and 757 women) collected their paddy stored it collectively while maintain quality of the produce hence increase selling price from Tsh 650 to 750/Kg. 326.25 tons of paddy were sold at Tsh 750/= amounting to Tsh 244,687,500/= as revenue to farmers.

### **2.3.2 Manage and promote marketing information system (MIS) in MVIWATA**

Information on prices was collected from 27 markets and uploaded in the MAMIS system. 3302 SMS requests were received from 1355 users from January to June 2015. The number of users declined because of challenges in communication flow from the data collection points. This challenge was addressed by conducting meetings with data collectors.

### **2.3.3 Provide technical support to rural markets constructed by MVIWATA on management systems, business know how and accountability**

In supporting management and operation of rural markets constructed by MVIWATA, the following was done:

- **Development and review of business plan for 9 markets.**

MVIWATA continues to provide guidance and support to the 9 markets that have been constructed by MVIWATA since 2000s. At the beginning of the year, annual plans and budgets from the market companies were submitted for review and improvement. This is the way to contribute in the management of markets and monitoring their performance.

- **Conducting internal audit for the markets**

As reported in 2.1.5 above, internal audits were conducted for market boards of Kibaigwa, Igurusi, Igagala, Matai and Kasanga. Following the series of internal audits conducted to market board there have been improving in some areas in line with rules and procedures governing market operations.

- **Conducting training to staff and leaders of the market board**

Two trainings were conducted at different time for Igurusi, Matai, Kasanga, Nyandira, Tawa and Tandai market boards and staff, where 33 staff (20 men and 11 women) were trained. The topics covered included management, business skills, operation and service delivery at the market.

A learning visit for sharing experiences in managing the markets was held in Igurusi from 22<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> April 2015 in which 32 market leaders and staff (21 men 11 women) from Matai, Igurusi, Igagala, Mkata, Kibaigwa, Nyandira, Tawa, and Tandai market participated. During this visits members discussed on progress, achievements and challenges in each market.



Members of market boards during meetings

Tawa and Tandai managers participated in a study visit to Zanzibar on 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> September to learn on spice post-harvest handling while staff of Nyandira market participated in a study visit to Arusha at Homeveg to learn on how to improve selling of vegetable especially on the introduction of refrigeration service.

Tawa and Kinole Market board and management participated in the business skills training conducted by Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TANTRADE) on trade logistics and requirements for local and export market on 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> November 2015 where 12 (9 men and 3 women) attended. They also participated in training of spices quality and standard conducted by Tanzania Bureau of Standard (TBS) from 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2015 where 12 (9 men and 3 women) participated.

#### • **Meetings with district councils**

For monitoring implementation of activities in the markets, at different time meetings were conducted between MVIWATA with Kongwa, Kalambo,

- a) Mbarali and Mvomero district councils as follows:
- b) Kongwa district council 9<sup>th</sup> February 2015
- c) Mvomero district council 13<sup>rd</sup> May 2015
- d) Morogoro district council 30<sup>th</sup>/06/2015
- e) Kalambo and Mbarali districts on 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> September 2015

The market boards presented reports on activities implemented, achievements and challenges encountered.

These meetings are in the spirit of partnership between the districts councils and MVIWATA.

#### **Results:**

- Different services are being offered and utilised at the markets as planned i.e. the use of weighbridge, drying slabs, cleaning equipment.



This has attracted more traders from different areas coming at the market and increasing the price of crops due to increased demand.

- For example, in the newly developed market of Igurusi, traders coming at the market have increased from 84 reported last year to 270 for the year 2015. The crops traded at the market have increased from 5406 tons of rice reported last year to 9940 tons of rice in 2015.
- The markets have continued to serve as one income earners for their district councils.

#### **2.3.4 Promote formation of cereal banks among small scale farmers.**

Couching and support on management of crop banks were given to members of Dihombo, Wami Dakawa, Lukenge and Mkindo crop banks. As a result 246 tons of paddy were stored by these crop banks of Dihombo, Wami Dakawa, Lukenge and Mkindo by 68 farmers (31 men and 37 women). The stock was sold in February at Tshs 1,300 to 1,500/= per Kg of rice, which is higher than the price during harvest season which was about Tshs 625 to 800/= per kg. This was an increase of 87.5 to 100% in price, thanks to the cereal banking.

**Crop banking Training:** The training on crop banking and grain quality control were implemented to 520 farmers (312 men and 208 women) in 35 villages from Mvomero, Mbarali and Mbozi districts. The training focused on building capacities of maize and rice associations with knowledge and skills on principles, practices and operations of crop banking. As result a total of 1946 tons (206.5 t rice and 1739.5t maize) with value of Tshs 980,785,000 were stored and sold by 29 farmers associations composed of 1010 members (427women 583 men) from Mvomero, Mbarali and Mbozi Districts.



On the left is MVIWATA (MFO) facilitating crop banking training (right) Paddy bags stored in a warehouse as result of training in Mbarali.

- **Facilitate strengthening operation of Warehouse receipt system in Tanzania**

As a follow up to an earlier study on warehouse receipt system conducted in 2013 under farm risk management project operation a meeting to review various recommendations of the study and proposed regulations was conducted on 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> November 2015 by involving cashew stakeholders.

MVIWATA further conducted a training to 19 (men 15 and women 29) board members and staff of Tanzania Warehouse Licensing Board (TWLB) who are responsible for implementation of the regulations on 24<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

### **2.3.5 Facilitating market linkages: stakeholders meetings for farmers and buyers**

- **Facilitating market linkages: stakeholders meetings for farmers and buyers**

MVIWATA held meetings with National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) to arrange purchase of cereals from members of MVIWATA on 23<sup>rd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> April 2015 in which 11 (10 men and 1 woman) farmers' representatives attended. 270.197 tons of maize worth Tshs 14,3204,410/- were sold by 18 (12 male, 6 female) farmers at Matai. The agreement was for NFRA to buy 29,018 tons of cereals (maize and paddy from members of MVIWATA in different area like Dodoma, Tanga and Morogoro but this was not successful following the low harvest of farmers due to bad weather condition in this year.

In Arusha, farmers were linked to cabbage buyers, in which a group of 10 farmers (7 men and 3 women) sold 21 tons per week, at price of 500 per piece, making a total supply of 84 tons in three month season of 2015 with a value of Tshs 15,000,000/-.

Farmers were also linked to banana and tomato buyers, in which four groups of 100 farmers (61men and 29 women) from Arusha supplied 350 tons of tomato at an average of T shs 15,000/= per box to earn Tshs 187,500,000/=.

213 Maasai women from 10 groups continued to supply handicrafts worth Tshs 87,850,000/= to Sweden market.

Income from these linkages enabled the beneficiaries to improve their livelihood.

- **Facilitate farmers participation in national agricultural shows / exhibitions**

MVIWATA facilitated farmers to participate in Agricultural exhibition. The agricultural exhibition was facilitated as follows:

- A demonstration on conservation agriculture i.e. nutrients management and moisture conservation was set up at Nane Nane exhibitaion grounds in Morogoro where farmers visited and learned on these practices. 133 persons visited the plots.



Farmers learning in the demonstrations at Nane nane in Morogoro

- Farmer-managed exhibitions were organised at village level in Mvomero where farmers demonstrated various practices such as spacing during farming, use of quality seeds, preparation of bio fertilisers and other botanicals which are used in rice farming. Service providers such as banks, inputs suppliers and traders also participated in these “farmer-managed” exhibitions. 311 farmers (180 men and 131 women) from 24 village farmers’ associations participated in the exhibitions.



- 60 farmers (32 men and 28 women) participated in the exhibit their products at the agricultural show for 9 days at Mwalimu Nyerere



grounds in Morogoro (31 farmers (21 men and 10 women) and Arusha 29 farmers (18 women and 11 men) in Arusha.



Farmers displaying their crops during Nane nane

#### Results:

- MVIWATA won the first prize in non - governmental organisation category.
- Farmers directly sold their produce and products worths Tshs 2.5 million in Morogoro and Arusha pavilions.
- An evaluation at the end of the exhibition revealed that each participant learned at least one practice from the exhibition.

#### • **Facilitate contract negotiations between producers and buyers**

70 (35men, 35 women) tomatoes producers from Morogoro entered into contract with a private company (Frumency Company Limited) to supply 3 tons of tomatoes per week for six month from July to December 2015. By the end of December 2015 farmers have supplied 24.4 tons of tomatoes earning the revenue of Tshs 36,600,000/=

#### • **Construction, upgrading and procure infrastructure needed in Mviwata Markets and storage facilities**

In implementation of Malimbichi a plan was developed for upgrading infrastructures at Nyandira, Tandai, Tawa and Malolo markets. To facilitate this, a participatory assessment of equipment needed in each market was conducted and the following are the results:

- For Nyandira: Specifications for equipment of the quality centre (sorting, grading and packing tables, washing unit and pre-cooling unit) have been identified. Suppliers for cold chamber have been identified and contacted. The concept of the cold chamber has been done and agreed with stakeholders at the market level for facilitating storage of vegetable as a strategy towards controlling supply and main better price to farmers.
- For Tawa and Kinole markets in Morogoro: Equipment and their specifications have been identified (2 moisture meters for 2 markets, grading tables, trolley, weighing scale, pallets) and suppliers of the equipment have been identified. Locations have been identified in collaboration with existing rural markets in Tawa and Kinole for set up of demonstration centres for processing and quality management of produce (spices). i.e. Tawa is setting up the



quality centre for cloves while Kinole is setting setup the quality centre for black pepper.

- iii. For Malolo: after the assessment and discussion with farmers groups, it was decided to establish an onions collection centre that will be linked to onion market at Ruaha Mbuyuni which is located along Morogoro-Iringa high way. This market is very important as it facilitates easy transportation to potential markets in Dar es Salaam and Mbeya. To do that: meetings have been held with farmers and leaders, site has been selected and the first meetings with the local government have been made.

By December 2015, renovations for establishment of quality control units were done for each of the markets while procurement of equipment for the unit will be done in the next quarter.

- **Training on post harvest handling, processing (harvesting containers, harvesting tools, field packing and packaging**

Marketing of tomato has been a challenge mostly affected by poor packaging materials resulting in cracking of tomatoes. To address this challenge an exposure visit to learn the type and systems of transport packaging for tomato (fresh and perishable produce) was conducted for 24 farmers (12 men and 12 women) from Nyandira market to Asian Vegetable Research and Development Centre (AVRDC). During this visit plastic crates were identified from the tour to be the most suitable for tomato packaging during transportation and therefore MVIWATA has introduced them at Nyandira market.

### **2.3.6 Rural Tourism Initiative**

Since 2014, MVIWATA in partnership on a rural tourism initiative with a French organisation called Tamadi to help small scale farmers economically and socially. This is the second year of partnership.

In 2015, 43 (22 men 21 women) travellers from Belgium and France visited the villages of Tanzania and lived with farmers.



Travelers and host families in the villages performing agricultural and home activities in Tchenzema village –Morogoro



Travellers participating in domestic and farming activities in Shirimatunda village Moshi and Kwaley village LushotoTanga during a tour

### **Economic benefits**

#### **(i) At family's level.**

At host family's level, the programme was useful in strengthening the family's income and livelihood. In 2015 total income received by host families were Tshs 13.5 million.

#### **(ii) Farmers network level**

At network level, six local networks earned Tshs 4million.

#### **(iii) At National level**

At MVIWATA national level a total of Tshs 36,821,952 was obtained as revenue of which Tshs 7,177,300/= was used to cover training costs to host families, Tshs 2,692,000.00 was used to support host families to purchase accommodation and housing equipments for travellers, and Tshs 10,112,150.00 was use to cover office expenses. T Shs 16,840,502/= was income to MVIWATA.

### **Social benefits**

In socially aspect the programme beneficiated largely the host families and farmers networks exchange of cultural traditions like food, farming activities, songs and language between the travelers and host families and famer's network members in rural environments.

## **2.3.7 Small-scale farmers have better access to financial services**

### **2.3.7.1 Conduct capacity assessment of MVIWATA supported SACCOS to identify existing capacity gaps**

An assessment was conducted to 13 SACCOS and 2 VICOBA in Mbarali and Mbozi districts of Mbeya region, Mvomero and Morogoro rural districts in Morogoro region and at Ruaha basin in Iringa region. The assessment had the objective to identify the progress and gaps for each of the assessed MFIs. Capacity building on book keeping, accounting, credit management and MFI governance were identified to be the needs that have to be addressed.

### **2.3.7.2 Conduct training programmes to strengthen capacities of MVIWATA supported SACCOS.**

In 2015, 1081 farmers (536 men, 545 women) from 20 SACCOS and 7 Villages Community Banks (VICOBA) participated in training organised by MVIWATA. The trainees were board members, staff and members from Mvomero, Hembeti, Wanyamakazi, Turiani, Dihinda, Langali, Kindi, Nanjarareha, Muungano, Tawa, Ng'anda, Malolo, Mungano, Chimala, Msisi and Mbozi SACCOS. The topics covered were on good governance, responsibility to members as appearing in new Cooperative Act No 6 2013, management of MFIs, members training on rights and obligations, Loan management and record keeping

In addition to training, MVIWATA has been monitoring progress and coaching SACCOS that are affiliated to MVIWATA. The table below indicate the progress of 9 SACCOS in Morogoro and Kilimanjaro.

**Table 3: Trend of the growth for SACCOS in Morogoro in terms of members, capital and amount of loan provided to members**

| <b>Year</b> | <b>No of members</b> | <b>Capital</b> | <b>Amount of Loans in TShs</b> |
|-------------|----------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| 2013        | 4328                 | 1,900,482,900  | 843,704,399                    |
| 2014        | 4816                 | 2,380,037,045  | 1,192,765,353                  |
| 2015        | 5531                 | 2,732,927,494  | 883,702,073                    |

**Table 4: Trend of the growth for 8 SACCOS in Kilimanjaro in terms of members, capital and amount of loan provided to members.**

| <b>Year</b> | <b>No of members</b> | <b>Capital</b> | <b>Amount of Loans in TShs</b> |
|-------------|----------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| 2013        | 8752                 | 198,433,886    | 576,421,000                    |
| 2014        | 9512                 | 254,160,033    | 675,936,000                    |
| 2015        | 9,630                | 259,853,555    | 732,213,400                    |

The interventions of strengthening VICOBA on financial literacy have facilitated an increase in the number of farmers accessing loan and the amount of loan accessed by farmers as follows:

- In Kyela up to December 2015 the number of VICOBA increased from 45 in the year 2014 to 75 at the end of 2015, members increased from 475 (187 women and 288 men) to 1875 (748 women and 1127 men) members and the capital increased from Tsh 81,000,000/= in 2014 to 206,250,000/= in 2015. This savings helped farmers to take loan during production season to buy inputs and for farm management practises, Tshs 205,200,000 was given as loan to 513 farmers (211 women and 302 men).
- In Ludewa the number of groups engaged in finance services (VICOBA) increased from 14 in 2014 to 20 groups in 2015, their members also increased from 357 members (231 men and 126 women) in 2014 to 469 members (264 men and 205 women) by December 2015. These groups have increased their capital from Tshs 50,007,500/= to 59,875,080/=: where a total Tshs 53,935,000 was provided as loan for crop production, pigs and poultry projects.

- In Morogoro 223 farmers (104 men, 119 women) received loans of Tshs 68, 145,010 from 10 VICOBA which have a capital of T Shs 85, 515,650/=

### **2.3.7.3 Provision of technical support to SACCOS networks initiated by MVIWATA**

For the purpose of strengthening individual SACCOS MVIWATA facilitated establishment of a network of farmers' SACCOS, two networks which are MSAWAKI in Kilimanjaro and MOMFISECO in Morogoro. The role of this network is to provide support for operation of member SACCOS and support them in terms of capitals using the revolving funds.

In 2015 regular coaching was done to MOMFISECO and MSAWAKI on areas of financial management and operation of the credit fund.

MSAWAKI provided loan to 9 SACCOS amounting to Tsh.54,760,000/= has been issued to the SACCOS which benefited a total number of 113 (50 men and 63 women) members, the loans was for agricultural activities as well as for business.

MOMFISECO provided Tshs 13,500,000/= agricultural loans to two SACCOS in Morogoro.

## **2.4 Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS, Gender and Climate Change in MVIWATA activities**

### **a) Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS in MVIWATA activities**

Training on HIV related issues was conducted to 271 persons (193 women, 78 men). Sensitisation to members on issues related to HIV was also conducted parallel to trainings and workshop conducted.

- Social centres in the markets constructed by MVIWATA continue to provide VCT services. 50 farmers (27 men 23 women) received Voluntary Counselling and Test (VCT) services, 3 persons (1 man 2 women) tested HIV +ve and were linked to health centres for further support.
- During the Annual General Meeting, MVIWATA facilitated availability of VCT and cervical cancer services to participants. A medical doctor was given 30 minutes to make presentation on HIV/AIDS. 92 persons (38 men, 54 women) tested for HIV where 2 (1man and 1 woman) tested HIV+ve and linked to health centres for further support. 32 female tested for cervical cancers and 2 found with early symptoms were referred for medication.







Left photo: Demonstration on proper use of condom during HIV/AIDS training. Right photo: voluntary HIV testing during MVIWATA Kagera AGM.

## **b) Mainstreaming Gender in MVIWATA activities**

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

This activity was integrated with ongoing village activities and forums where the issue of equal participation of male, female and youth was emphasized. Specific training on leadership was conducted to female members in Babati region where 60 farmers (49 adult women and 11 female youth) attended. The topics covered during this training were on leadership, lobbying and advocacy and good communication.

### **ii. Participation in events or forums on gender issues**

MVIWATA organised a celebration during the International World Women's Day on 6<sup>th</sup> March at Mkindo village in Mvomero district in which over 1000 farmers participated. 5 media houses (Abood TV, Star TV, Clauds TV, Nipashe and Majira newspapers) were present. The forum focused on land ownership and land conflicts and their impact to women and children. Celebration of International World Women's was also conducted in Arusha where 20 MVIWATA members (10 men and 12 women) participated at World Women Day 2015 organized by the Monduli District Council.



Participants of International women day in different photos

- **Participation in national gender festival**

MVIWATA participated in 12<sup>th</sup> National Gender Festival organized by Tanzania Gender Network Programme (TGNP) held in Dar es Salaam from 02<sup>nd</sup> to 05<sup>th</sup> September 2015. Nine members (all women) from Tabora, Mtwara, Morogoro, Dodoma, Arusha and Manyara and one staff represented MVIWATA. Apart from participation in various workshops and seminars during the festival, MVIWATA was able to present a topic titled “reforms on investment in agri-business and its impacts to small holder producers: what should be done?” From the reflections made, participants came up with recommendations for government to act on, including:

- Land, livestock, wildlife and minerals must be amended to include equal distribution of resources and benefits for all,
- Reduction of land surveying and titling costs,
- Cancellation of title deeds for irresponsible investors
- Compensation to be fair for land acquired and harm caused by irresponsible investors and the government should work on all previous reports by various commissions/bodies on land questions.

**c) Mainstreaming Climate Change in MVIWATA activities**

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

To ensure environment conservation for improving production, sensitisation to farmers was done on environment conservation practices such as tree planting, use of animal manure, mulching, use of cover crops and terraces.

- **Tree planting**

As a result of the sensitization and trainings 419,137 trees were planted;

- 264,120 timber trees were planted by 391 farmers (219 men and 172 women) in Ludewa.
- 131,017 cocoa trees were planted by 639 farmers (277 women and 362 men) in Kyela). Apart from conserving the environment after three years farmers in Kyela expect to earn Tsh 1,047,600,000/= while in Ludewa after 10 years, a total of Tshs 2,641,200,000 will be earned from these pine tree (an average of Tshs 6,700,000 per farmer) after ten years basing on today's price where one tree is sold at Tsh 10,000/= per tree.
- 23,500 trees were planted by 120 farmers (62 men and 58 women) in Babati. In addition to conserving the environment, the trees will be used for beekeeping which will be source of income to groups members.





*At left tree Nurseries from Lufumbu village while at right some of trees planted by farmers on mountain areas.*



Tree Nurseries established in Babati

- **Use of animals manure**

488 farmers (227 men and 161women) were recorded to apply animal manure on their farms in two districts of Ludewa and Kyela district.

- **Mulching**

606 farmers (255 men and 241women) applied mulching in their farms.







- **Use of terraces**

Training on the use of terraces were conducted, 476 farmers (265 men and 211 women) applied terrace in their farms in two districts of Kyela and Ludewa districts.



**ii. Facilitating Exchange visits**

MVIWATA facilitated a learning event for 30 farmers (21 men and 9 women) from Morogoro rural, Mvomero and Ludewa districts. The event involved field visit to a fellow farmer in Morogoro who practises climate smart agriculture including tree planting, mixed cropping, use of organic manures and the use of ridges and contours.







### **iii. Develop demonstration plots on climate-friendly agriculture**

Five demonstration plots on climate smart agriculture were established in Mgeta and Kinole villages and at Nane Nane exhibition ground in Morogoro. The practices include residual management (Mulching, Compositing, Use of manure), the use of cover crops and nitrogen fixing crops, use of bio-fertilisers, Ridges, tillage and natural pest and disease management.



## **3. Challenges**

There are still challenges in collection of information and monitoring results of MVIWATA work especially at local networks under the initiative of farmers themselves and some under the framework of projects. Completion of the comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system with efficient and practical data collection system will help alleviate this challenge.

## **4. Way forward**

MVIWATA will continue with implementation of activities according to the 2016 annual plan, and special emphasis will be given to:

- To finalise organisational assessment:
- To commence and accomplish the new strategic plan for 2017 – 2021.