

Name of project: Tanzania Agriculture Productivity Programme

Donor: USAID

Implementing organization: Fintrac Inc.

M&E organization:

Fintrac has their own M & E system CIRIS (Client Impact and Results Information System) which all field staff use to enter daily records of events, trainings, technical assistance. The data collected is disaggregated by gender and age of participants in order that youth numbers can be identified and all beneficiaries have base line data entered into CIRIS in order to track impact.

Independent audits are conducted on all Fintrac projects to verify the accuracy of the field entered data and separate audits are conducted by USAID. Donors can access the CIRIS system at all times to obtain data which is updated daily.

Project start date: October 2009

Project end date: October 2014

Geographic coverage: Tanzania

Status of impact assessment (when are/were baselines to be conducted, what quantitative or qualitative assessments have been done, etc.)

TAPP has commenced work with over 200 farmer groups since the inception of the program. Each group is identified by GPS coordinates and for each group of farmers baseline data has been collected on the following indicators:

Crop area, Yield, Sales, Income, markets, and production costs (CoP) that can establish a gross margin.

Data is collected every month on sales and income and the CoP is again calculated. From each group, random farmers are selected and all crop areas are defined and income for the farm calculated quarterly.

To what extent is the project targeted to women?

Greater than 40% of beneficiaries are planned to be women, CIRIS data showed that at the end of year 1 this target had been exceeded and 55% of persons assisted were women.

TAPP has conducted a specific needs assessment for women farmers and has published a Gender Policy Strategy for the program that is the basis for staff and partner training.

Does this project aim to directly build assets, or would increases in assets be a secondary effect (e.g. project aims to increase incomes, but people might then invest in assets)?

The aim of the project as stated below is to increase rural incomes. This then leads to asset accumulation and CIRIS tracks all co-investment of beneficiaries in order to quantify impact.

What kinds of assets might have observable changes (for men or women)?

- **Natural capital (e.g. land, water):**

Land ownership is a complex issue in Tanzania and land ownership cannot be easily changed or even ratified. TAPP is focused on appropriate stewardship of natural resources and has an intensive program to demonstrate the benefits of considerate use of water through drip irrigation technology and manual pumping of water rather than flood irrigation.

- **Physical capital (e.g. housing, equipment, cell phones):**

Farming equipment purchases are tracked in CIRIS but other manifestations of improved wealth status are not specifically identified. We are however considering partnering with an organisation that will be able to measure non-farm improvements in family wealth such as personal possessions and increased education standards.

- **Financial capital (savings, credit, remittances):**

We are partnering with an organisation to specifically create VICOBA groups (informal village banking) with a target of 6000 individual members which experience has shown will be 80% women. TAPP is also investigating methods by which smallholder farmers can access credit which is a recognized constraint to wealth creation in Tanzania.

- **Social capital (e.g. group membership, connections, either within communities or with outsiders):**

TAPP has targets to create farmer groups and we work with partners to organise such units. We also endeavour to connect farmer groups to markets and encourage farmers to organise collective marketing in order that they might create a critical mass of product and become price setters rather than price takers. A typical intervention targets a commodity product currently sold to regional buyers on an ad-hoc basis by individual farmers; the TAPP project aims to store the product to take peak supply off the market, grade to specified standards and then sell regionally at fixed prices. We are also creating marketing hubs with coolstore facilities and refrigerated transport to encourage farmers to market collectively into high-end markets and the hospitality trade.

- **Human capital (e.g. education, skills, health, nutritional status):**

Knowledge transfer is a very large segment of the TAPP program and all crops being promoted will have growing guides developed for them at two educative levels – scientific and farmer/user level. Each growing guide contains both nutritional information and a gross margin analysis that is being created from demonstration plots in all areas of program activity throughout Tanzania. TAPP has a Health and Nutrition Manager who is active in promoting specific crops for their nutritional benefits and who is closely working with women's groups, industries and social institutions to establish "Positive Kitchen Gardens".

Considerable program emphasis is placed on using horticultural activities as a educative tool and is active in school programs to promote entrepreneurship and business skills. This is in part direct involvement through program initiatives and indirectly through partnerships with organisations such as 4-H. The intention of these activities is both direct education of children and upward education of their parents.

TAPP also has a program segment funded by PEPFAR resources. The program has taken the position that income generation for those affected by the disease is the preferred approach and assistance is afforded to

those groups identified as having been formed for mutual support reasons due to their HIV status. These interventions are specifically oriented towards activities appropriate for those with reduced energy levels and emphasize nutritional benefits of the crops being grown.

Peer education is also an important component of the HIV/AIDS program and 5200 people have been trained in appropriate social skills.

Brief abstract about the project—what is it trying to achieve, what is the strategy being used for integrating gender into project implementation and in M&E/impact evaluation? (max 1 page)

USAID have requested Fintrac Inc to implement a 5 year program from October 2009 through 2014. Although the ceiling for this contract will be approximately \$35.5 million, it is anticipated that funding for the first two years will be approximately \$2.1 million and \$3.4 million respectively. Activities for this period will focus on scalable pilot programs. After year two, USAID will conduct a mid-term review prior to scaling up both programmatically and financially; anticipated annual budgets for the out years will average \$10 million. TAPP will contribute to the economic growth strategic framework objective of USAID in three program areas, namely: Agriculture; Trade and Investment; and Private Sector Competitiveness and will assist other USAID funded programs in environmental conservation and HIV/AIDS awareness.

The livelihoods of rural and urban households across Tanzania are vulnerable to food insecurity as a third of all households live below the national poverty line where food accounts for two-thirds of household expenditure. Although Tanzania is considered to be relatively self-sufficient compared to other countries in the region, households' access to food is limited by low purchasing power which is exacerbated by poor infrastructure and the lack of income diversification (agriculture employs 80% of workforce). Because of these factors, households have limited resilience to shocks such as drought, pestilence, and price surges. Lack of access to food is evident in the high incidence of malnutrition among under-five children where 38 percent of children are chronically malnourished (stunted) and 22 percent are underweight. To address and advance the USAID Mission's Food Security and Nutrition Objectives through TAPP, Fintrac shall promote horticulture as a source of nutritious food and a source of income. Gender activities encouraging access and control of income for men and women (with special emphasis to women as an affirmative action), encouraging equal participation of men and women on leadership and decision making in associations, with special emphasis to encourage women and youth participation are all part of the program's initiatives.

Given the very broad mandate outlined above, TAPP has developed a work plan to address the issues facing the smallholder farmers and institutions of Tanzania to develop the horticulture industry. The most critical component of our program is to show all those involved in the industry that horticulture can be a profitable business enterprise and should not be regarded as merely a means of achieving food security for rural families. TAPP has placed strong emphasis on the development of youth enterprise skills as we believe that horticulture offers the opportunity for young Tanzanians to develop income generating, sustainable businesses. High youth unemployment potentially has serious social consequences for the nation and TAPP will be developing economic models that will provide land-based business opportunities for young men and women. Complementing this will be an integrated social training program designed by TAPP's Health and Nutrition program manager who will also be working with the TAPP agronomy team assisting groups of those affected by HIV/AIDS to generate income using technologies appropriate for those with lowered energy levels such as low cost greenhouse vegetable production and drip irrigation systems.