



Fondation Eagle : Report on Tanzanian Agriculture grants project Oct 2022

Donor Name: Fondation Eagle

Name of Charity and Project: Mondo Foundation, Supporting HIV+ women to support themselves and their families by generating income through small scale farming and animal husbandry

Reference number: FF 0623

Date grant accepted: 05/04/2022

Amount: £ 11,407

Number of beneficiaries : 40 families (approximately 200 beneficiaries)

Location of project: Arusha suburbs of Sambasha and Ilkidinga, Moshi suburbs of Masaranga and Pasua, Tanzania

Period of Project : April to October 2022, with six months continued support and follow up to March 2023

Six month progress report

Activities:

The project's aim is to provide training and small grants of around £140 to women living with HIV, most of them widows, who have children and other dependents in their care. Groups of women are trained together and given the skills and ongoing mentoring to ensure they can set up a successful business. The current project works with women in the semi-rural areas surrounding Arusha and Moshi where there is opportunity for small scale farming and for marketing of produce in local markets.

In the last six months, four groups of women were selected and trained. The women were identified by our local community volunteers, through their connections with churches, clinics and women's group. The women selected were HIV+, living in poverty, with two or more dependents and an interest in setting up or expanding a small farming business. The farming projects of the women are summarised below:

Location	Date of initial training and grant	Number of beneficiaries	Type of Project
Ilkidinga	May 2022	10	Vegetable farming (6 potatoes, 2 cabbage, 1 onions, 1 maize)
Pasua	May 2022	10	10 rice farming
Sambasha	June 2022	10	Vegetable farming (2 potatoes, 3 cabbage, 2 maize, 1 carrot, 1 greens, 1 onions)
Pasua	June 2022	10	10 rice farming

A two day training was conducted for each group. Mondo facilitators provided advice on business start-up including how to plan the venture, calculate profit and save. Extension workers from the local government office then facilitated training specific to the needs of the group including crop selection and rotation, planting, control of pests, and irrigation. Following the training, the women were supported to use their grants to provide the items needed to start up : seeds, fertilizers, pesticides and in some cases rent of land. No women chose to do animal husbandry this year – the land in Moshi is particularly suited to rice farming having irrigation channels already installed. Many of the women in the Arusha suburbs already had some experience of growing vegetables and felt more confident in this type of business. After the purchasing of farming inputs, Mondo staff also supported the women to visit their local health centre and obtain health insurance.



The women have then been visited every month by the extension workers who conducted the training, together with Mondo staff, to reinforce the training and help to solve any ongoing problems. The extension workers also provided contact numbers to the women so they could be consulted between visits if necessary.

(picture shows Masaranga women purchasing rice seed)

Outcomes:

Follow up interviews were recently conducted with the women who received their grants in May and June, to understand the impact of the project on their income and food security, and the knowledge gained from the ongoing technical support. Most of these women are still awaiting the harvest, so it is not yet possible to collect data on the profit they have earned, but they updated us on their progress and what they had learned from the training and support of the extension workers.

Vegetable Farmers: In Ilkidinga the potato farmers are awaiting their first crop. All had planted between a quarter and half an acre of potatoes and were expecting a good harvest. For example, Winnie who planted $\frac{1}{4}$ acre reported that she was expecting 8 sacks at harvest time while before the training and use of fertilizers she used to collect only 2 sacks; similarly Nailamo expected to increase her harvest from 5 sacks to 10 on her farm. In Sambasha, the women had planted their crops at different times depending on the advice received. All are waiting for the harvest but seem optimistic for example Martha (pictured below) is soon to harvest her onion crop and is expecting a profit of around £450.

The women valued the original training and the ongoing support from the extension workers. In particular they mentioned the support in using fertilisers and in crop spacing. Several reported that prior to the project they had been unable to buy inputs for the farm, so had to borrow funds from others who then took a part of the profit and harvest time. They valued being able to work independently now and hoped to better support their families with the increased the income they

received.



Emmanuel Onna, the trainer and extension worker who has been visiting the beneficiaries is pleased with the progress of the project. He writes *“Sambasha is a good area located near Mount Meru where there is moisture almost the whole year. It is the good area for agriculture for the whole year because there is a water source which can be used for irrigation. The client has to work hard and use what they learned in the training and I will continue advising them when we pay a visit so that they reach their goals and become independent. We wish the organization will continue supporting more clients in our community”*.

Martha with onion crop

Rice farmers



The 20 women who received training and inputs for rice farming will not harvest until November/December 2022. However, most crops appear to be growing well although there are some small signs of disease on some farms which the extension worker is helping the farmers to deal with. Asked what they had learned from the training and support, the women gave a variety of answers including how to prepare seeds/ set up the nursery beds, the importance of removing grass and other weeds, how to use 'boosters', how to identify signs of disease, and the importance of clearing pathways to reduce danger of snakes. A number of the women also reported helping their neighbours by passing on what they had learnt. The main challenge faced was the weather: this summer was unusually cold for almost a month which may have delayed growth. The other main problem faced is the increase in prices for agriculture inputs, particularly fertilisers.

Joyce, weeding her rice crop

Remaining activities

Extension workers and Mondo staff will continue to visit all the women over the next six months. A final impact study will be carried out in March, to assess the women's improvement in agricultural yield and income, knowledge gained from the training and to attain stakeholders' views on the project and recommendations for the future.

Expenditure :

Item	Budget	Expenditure	Remaining
Agricultural grants	£5,600	£5,537	£63
Initial training	£1,400	£1,727	-£327
Follow up visits extension workers	£1,920	£1,109	£811
Ongoing supervision Mondo staff	£1,050	£525	£525
Health insurance for beneficiaries	£400	£414	-£14
10% management	£1,037	£518	£519
total	£11,407	£9,830	£1,577

Notes:

There has been an overspend on the cost of training, largely due to increased costs of transport (which we cover for beneficiaries/trainers) and venue hire. Other costs are in line with our original budget estimate. The exchange rate for transfer of funds to Tanzania was 2,880 Tz shs to £ in May and 2,900 Tz shs to £ in June.