

**REPORT ON POST HARVEST ACTIVITIES IN KIBOGA DISTRICT- DFID  
MAIZE MARKETING IN KIBIGA AND NSAMBYA SUBCOUNTIES**

**Selection and Sensitization of farmers groups**

Activities began with the introduction of the project to farmers groups with meetings taking place in the subcounties of Kibiga and Nsambya. At these meetings farmers elected a subcounty committee to coordinate their activities and represent their views as a group i.e Kibiga subcounty farmers association (KSFA) and Nsambya improvement of maize marketing association (NIMMA).

18 farmers groups were identified in subcounties; 10 from Kibiga and 8 from Nsambya. 11 of these were selected to take part in project activities with at least one group per parish and each of these groups had to be involved in activities run by BUCADEF. 10 groups have so far been met in both Nsambya and Kibiga. A total of 204 farmers including 82 women and 122 men have been trained on Group dynamics, Group Storage, Record keeping and Group finances.

**Table 1: Farmers Groups Trained in Kibiga and Nsambya Subcounties**

<b>Farmers Group</b>	<b>Subcounty</b>	<b>Parish</b>	<b>No of Women</b>	<b>No of Men</b>
Balikyewunya Farmers Group	Kibiga	Kibiga	10	5
Basooka Kwavula Womens Group	Kibiga	Kibaale	11	9
Nkumbi Eyamba Commercial Farmers	Kibiga	Kizinga	4	14
Kusakimu Degeya Devt Farmers Association	Kibiga	Degeya	5	8
Tukola Community Based Organisation	Kibiga	Kajjere	7	15
Basooka Kuteesa Farmers Group	Nsambya	Mujjunza	15	19
Katwezimbe Farmers Group	Nsambya	Kigando	10	14
Singo Development Foundation	Nsambya	Ntunda	10	12
Kyebajjakobonna Womens Group	Nsambya	Bananywa	10	18
Kyakabuga Farmers Group	Nsambya	Kyakabuga	0	8
<b>Total</b>			<b>82</b>	<b>122</b>

## **Issues Arising from Sensitization Meetings**

- There is still limited exposure to improved post harvest technologies, Quality of maize has not been given much priority
- There is much enthusiasm for the project and the farmers groups have a clear understanding on the project activities and the benefits that it is geared to achieving for the farmer. There is general willingness to store as a group
- Women involvement in group activities is still low
- Some groups are still new, acreage under maize production is low and still targeted at home consumption especially in Kibiga. Nsambya on the other hand has high maize production especially in Kigando, Mujjunza, Ntunda and Bananywa Parishes.
- Group dynamics requires more attention because leadership, retention of members and coordination of group activities is still poor
- No existing stores in Nsambya and only one store in Kibiga, need for construction of a store in Nsambya and renovation of Kibiga store or hire of another store.
- Communities in Nsambya willing to make contribution towards construction of a store in Nsambya. Three sites have been identified; 2 in Kigando, 1 in Ntunda and one on Kabaka's land, LCs in Kigando willing to forego the money that comes to them as 25% of locally raised revenue towards construction of the store.
- Distance to the stores
- Fears on restriction of a buyer i.e Afrokai
- The need to involve middlemen in the partnership

## **Meetings with Subcounty Councils, District Production Committee and Farmers Representatives of KSFA and NIMMA**

A meeting was held with each of the subcounty councils and the district production committee to officially introduce the project. This also involved reports on the activities so far carried with farmers groups. The partners (Farmers, BUCADEF and Department of

Agriculture) sought for their support for and involvement in project activities and since the financial year was coming to an end, budgets approved by the council should at least involve the component of post harvest. The district committee and both councils pledged their support and involvement in project activities.

### **Issues Arising**

#### *Nsambya*

- Need for involvement of groups in other parishes
- Distance to the stores in the suggested locations too big
- Transport of produce to the stores
- Labour at the stores
- Security for their produce
- Location of the store: it was agreed that the Kabaka's land was the best option since it was for free and once given would have no disputes.
- Fundraising towards construction of store suggested and LCIII council pledge to provide some materials to the foundation of the store
- More sensitization on the project to be carried out by NIMMA executive in all parishes

#### *Kibiga*

- Use of existing store in Kizinga parish agreed upon and suggested hire of another store in Seeta at a later stage
- Distance to Kizinga store
- transport of produce to the store
- Involvement of other groups not under BUCADEF
- Contribution from the subcounty towards project activities
- More sensitization on the project with emphasis on Nkandwa parish since they have no participating group despite the fact they produce a relatively high amount of maize.

## **CONSTRAINTS**

- Low attendance of meetings
- Limited cooperation from some groups e.g Nkandwa
- Few or no existing stores
- Ownership of stores
- Too many non functional groups interested in the project and other groups not under BUCADEF
- Men not willing to have their wives involved in group activities and meetings
- Some groups like Kyakabuga located in the cattle corridor, characterised by very low maize production therefore not viable under the project
- Poor roads especially in Nsambya resulted in meetings starting late

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- ❑ Training of farmers on improved post harvest technologies to be done
- ❑ Need for more training on group dynamics, group storage and group finances
- ❑ Inclusion of middlemen in the partnership
- ❑ Renovation of Kizinga store be done while another store for hire be considered for Kibiga
- ❑ Mobilisation of construction materials from the farmers groups to begin in Nsambya