

ACT Newsletter

ISSUE NO. 40 | MAY–AUGUST 2021

We Unite. Dialogue. Advocate



Advocacy Issues

Multiple Regulations in Tanzanian Agriculture.

Effective Regulation of the Cotton Industry in Tanzania.

The fate of fake Agricultural inputs to farmers' Productivity and Incomes.

The need to adopt of Commodity Investment Plans (CIP) approach in Agricultural Development Planning processes

Inside issues:

Private Sector Awareness Workshop

ACT was Visible at Farmers Field Day

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PAG meeting with the Parliamentary Committee in Agriculture

THIS IS PFS

PRIVATE SECTOR AWARENESS WORKSHOP

ACT participated in the private sector awareness workshop on "Food Safety and Standards" focusing on the Maize Value Chain. The workshop was organized by the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) and held on 21st May 2021 in Mbeya City. It was attended by a cross-section of stakeholders, including farmers, agricultural traders, companies, and experts. The key focus was on the negative impact of aflatoxin on the well-being of communities. Ms. Laetitia William, a Policy Officer from ACT presented a paper on the challenges caused by aflatoxin in Tanzania. She outlined its prevalence, damage to the agricultural industry, and recommended measures to reduce the destruction.

The event was a continuation of the existing partnership between ACT and TPSF mandated to initiate strategies to heighten awareness of this problem and recommend a scientific approach to contain it. It is expected by this initiative, farmers will produce aflatoxin free maize, which is in high demand in the local and regional markets.

ACT WAS VISIBLE AT FARMER'S FIELD DAY

On 2nd July 2021, the ACT delegation led by the Director of Programmes, Mr. Mark Magila, participated in Farmers Field Day in Arusha. This event was facilitated and coordinated by Lonagro and Seedco jointly. The venue was Oljoro Plantation Farm Ltd. The objective was to showcase new technologies appropriate in farming, such as the combine harvester that is used in Conservation Agriculture for maize value chain.

ACT

NEWSLETTER
Special Edition

UNFSS FARMERS' DIALOGUE - TANZANIA

On 7th June 2021, the Agricultural Council of Tanzania facilitated a consultation workshop in Morogoro Municipality to discuss and deliberate on issues related to food production enough to feed the growing population, while adhering to quality, safety, nutritional standards, and environmental safeguards. The theme of the workshop was: Global Food Demand vs Food Safety and Protection of Natural Environment: How should Farmers / Food Producers respond? The workshop was attended by stakeholders from all works of life. The participation was interactive focusing on the ongoing global dialogue of the United Nations Food Systems. The organizers brought to the attention of the participants that demand for food and other agricultural products are projected to increase up to 50 percent by the year 2050. At the same time, the population is expected to reach 9 billion.

The dialogue enabled the stakeholders to come up with recommendations that will be presented at the United Nations Food Systems Summit, in November 2021.



A group photo of the participants who attended the workshop

SUNFLOWER STAKEHOLDERS MET IN MOROGORO

On 9th June 2021, Sunflower stakeholders met in Morogoro to deliberate and amplify the ongoing initiatives aimed at ensuring the country produces enough sunflower oil to meet the demand of domestic consumers, and export the surplus. The workshop was facilitated jointly by ACT and Agricultural Marketing Development Trust - AMDT. Its theme was: "Repositioning the contribution of sunflower oil to the national edible oil demand".

The participants highlighted efforts taken by tripartite partners: the Government, the Private Sector, and Development Partners to address challenges faced by the edible oil industry along its value chain. At the end of the workshop, the take-away message was; specific: To protect the local industry, the Government should continue imposing tariff(s) on imported edible oil.



ACT
**MKUTANO WA WADAU WA ALIZETI, FLOMI HOTEL ,
MOROGORO 9 JUNI 2021**

MAVUNO FESTIVAL DAY

ACT Officials comprising (Ms. Edna Theonas, Ms. Jacqueline Edmond, and Mr. Obed Abraham) attended a two-day event in Sumbawanga, Rukwa Region which was themed "*Mavuno Festival*". The event which was organized by Bayer Crop-Science Co. was held on 13th - 14th June 2021 and was attended by stakeholders from the public and private sectors.

The festival focused on imparting knowledge and skills to farmers who are the major beneficiaries. The event witnessed a promising maize seed called DEKALB. The festival was a befitting result of the networking initiatives. (Better Farm, Better Life Initiative)- BFBL



ACT HOSTED THE NORWEGIAN EMBASSY OFFICIALS

On 7th June 2021, Norwegian Embassy Officials led by Ms. Ingvild Langhus (The Counsellor, Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resources) visited the ACT Secretariat to discuss developmental issues, in particular, the implementation phase of the ongoing project versus expected results. Norway is supporting a three years project (2020 - 2023) called Partnership for Scale (PFS).

This project coordinates and facilitates a number of value chain actors and stakeholders based on the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) arrangement. The PFS project is implemented in 16 regions: Katavi, Rukwa, Mbeya, Songwe, Njombe, Iringa, Ruvuma, Lindi, Mtwara, Morogoro, Dodoma, Manyara, Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Shinyanga and Simiyu. PFS activities are coordinated by the Agricultural Council of Tanzania.



Norwegian Embassy- Tanzanian officials in a group photo on 7th June 2021 with some of the ACT Secretariat staff

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POLICY ANALYSTS MEETING WITH THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE IN AGRICULTURE

On 28th June 2021, the Policy Analysis Group - PAG composed of ACT, SAGCOT, ANSAF, AMDT, DALBERG, and ASPIRES held a meeting with the Parliamentary Committee in Agriculture in Dodoma. The Committee was led by its Chairperson, Hon. Dr. Christine Ishengoma (MP). The event was in response to a resolution made at its preceding meeting held in Morogoro on 9th June 2021 to introduce itself to the Committee, and take advantage of the occasion to discuss major challenges in the sunflower industry along its value chain.

The mission was led by Mr. Timoth Mmbaga, ACT Executive Director, who introduced his team to the Committee Members and reviled the recommendations that came out of the Morogoro meeting.

- i. To urge the Parliamentary Committee to back up the Government's decision to perpetuate import tariff on imported edible oils to protect the local industry.
- ii. To support the PAG's request regarding the introduction of Contract Farming in the areas where sunflower production is predominant.



PAG Members in a group photo with Parliamentary Committee in Agriculture, Dodoma

PICTURE OF THE DAY



ACT Chairperson (Dr. Jacqueline Mkindi) in conversation with the Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania (Hon. Majaliwa K. Majaliwa)



ACT Executive Director delivering the welcome remarks

Mission and Vision

MISSION

To advocate, coordinate and provide support for a competitive and sustainable agribusiness.

VISION

A vibrant and prosperous sustainable agricultural sector which is competitive and ensures food and nutrition security; and is private sector driven.

ACT Strategic Objectives

- ❖ To advocate for improved agri-business environment.
- ❖ To strengthen the technical and managerial competencies of ACT members so that they can improve service delivery to their respective members.
- ❖ To provide and receive relevant information from and to ACT Members and other stakeholders for development of the agricultural sector in Tanzania.
- ❖ To support and strengthen the Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) at national and district level.
- ❖ To coordinate the Public and private sector initiatives towards the development of agribusiness in Tanzania.

Editorials Board

1. **Mr. Timoth Mmbaga - Board Chair**
2. **Mr. Mark Magila- Member**
3. **Ms. Laetitia William - Member**
4. **Mr. Khalid Ngassa- Member**
5. **Mrs. Susan Masagasi- Member**

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This is PFS

Partnership for Scale project, coordinates and facilitates different value chain actors and stakeholders under a Public Private Partnership (PPP)> The project intends to complement and upscale achievements made during the previous phase (popularly known as TAP II). TAP II (October 2014-October 2019) thrived to stimulate agricultural growth in Tanzania through commercially oriented interventions and investments. The project is being implemented for 3 years i.e., from October 2020 to September 2023. It is managed by the Agricultural Council of Tanzania.

PFS Goal

The PFS goal is: Improved Food & Nutrition Security and Poverty Reduction. Income poverty is expected to be reduced by 17 percent and child malnutrition decreased by 5 percent.

Approaches

The TAP program, since its inception, has focused on working through partnerships that greatly contributed to its success in the preceding phases. PFS will adopt a similar approach where the key mode of operation will be guided by partnership building. The PFS Management, under ACT, will coordinate and assume a more facilitative role with minimal direct field presence to ensure that these partnerships are strengthened and desired outcomes are delivered.

For details, contact:

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PFS is responsible to ACT Board of Directors