ACT Newsletter ISSUE NO.44 (July - Dec 2022) We Unite, Dialogue and Advocate



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Inside Issues

ACT at the National Farmers week

The 10th National SPS Committee Meeting

SRI Training

SACAU Study Tour

EABC-TMEA Regional Meeting

Farmers Meeting with off-takers

International Young Farmers
Summit

Aceli- Technical Assistance Program

ACT at the AgriTech East Africa
Exhibition

Private Sector Day

Prime Minister Launches Building a Better Tomorrow:

A youth initiative for Agribusiness



UPCOMING EVENT

FRUIT LOGISTICA - Messes, Berlin Feb 8-10, 2023

(For more details, contact TAHA at +255 763 718 849)

ACT AT THE NATIONAL FARMERS WEEK

The National Agricultural Exhibition Show popularly known as Nane Nane, is a one-week (usually from the 1st to the 8th of August) annual event that aims at showcasing cutting-edge technologies, developments in farming, and discoveries, and highlighting best practices and alternate solutions that will help to improve the agricultural sector. It also brings farmers, traders, and associations/ cooperatives together to celebrate and recognize their substantial contributions to the national Tanzanian economy. The National Agricultural Show takes place in seven zones throughout the country i.e. the Eastern zone (Morogoro), Northern zone (Arusha), Western zone (Tabora), Southern zone (Lindi), Central zone (Dodoma), Southern Highlands zone (Mbeya), and West Lake zone (Mwanza). This year's exhibition theme was titled "Agenda 10/30: Farming is a Business: Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries for National Economic Development". At the national level, the event was held at John Mwakangale grounds in Mbeya Region and officially opened by the Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Hon. Dr. Philip I. Mpango. The Vice President urged local banks to provide more borrowing opportunities for farmers, fisheries, and livestock keepers. This will increase investment and productivity to address the challenge of unemployment in the country.

On the 3rd of August, Prime Minister Hon. Kassim M. Kassim launched a youth-based programme dubbed *Building a Better Tomorrow-Youth Initiative for Agribusiness (BBT-YIA)* as an initiative geared to empower the young generation in the sector. The programme is aimed at providing youth with employment through agriculture and was launched alongside Farm Clinic, a joint initiative by the government, Mwananchi Communications Limited, and Vodacom Tanzania. The *Farm Clinic* is a platform for farmers to register and learn about their total population in the country. This will help the government to solve and identify various challenges that farmers are facing.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa launched the Building a Better Tomorrow (BBT) initiative at the Farmers Week exhibition in Mbeya. On Mr. Majaliwa's right is the Speaker of the National Assembly, Dr. Tulia Ackson, who is also Mbeya Urban MP. Others are Agriculture deputy minister Anthony Mavunde (left) and Mbeya RC Juma Homera

Together with other partners, ACT participated in Nane Nane 2022 under the pavilion "SAGCOT SQUARE". The rationale for ACT to participate in the 2022 agricultural show exhibition is to showcase its contributions to addressing policy reforms that distort competitiveness in the agricultural sector and to provide an opportunity for farmers from Mkindo and Dakawa to explore, learn and be linked with service providers such as YARA, Raphael Group Limited (RGL) with regards to improving their social and economic activities. The ACT pavilion attracted many visitors. Some of them made enquiries about the latest products and technologies, and others were eager to conclude business deals.



The Executive Director of the Agricultural Council of Tanzania (ACT), Mr. Timoth Mmbaga (In the middle) with FO4ACP beneficiaries during the National Farmers Agricultural Show in Mbeya



The show reached its peak on the 8th of August 2022. Speaking while officiating at the climax of this year's event (at Mwakangale grounds), The President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Hon. Samia H. Suluhu said that "We have already discussed with local banks to see how they can offer soft loans to youths". She added that regarding the market, the President assured youths that the Government has secured a reliable market abroad. In addition, the government has prepared an enabling environment to empower them to produce commercially. Nevertheless, President Samia Suluhu Hassan launched the subsidy system that will enable farmers to get fertilizer at an affordable price for the farming season 2022/23. The system will be coordinated by the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) through the Tanzania Fertilizer Regulatory Authority (TFRA) and commence on August 15th this year.

THE 10th NATIONAL SPS COMMITTEE MEETING

The Ministry of Investment, Industry, and Trade (MIIT) organized the 10th National Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures Committee Meeting, with the support of Trade Mark East (TMEA). The meeting was held from 10th to 12th August 2022 at Nashera Hotel in the Morogoro Region. The consultative meeting comprised members from the Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI), Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS), Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Ministry of Investment, Industry, and Trade (MIIT), Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF), Agricultural Council Tanzania (ACT), Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA), Zanzibar Bureau of Standards (ZBS), Zanzibar Chamber of Commerce (ZCC), Tanzania Consumers Association (T-CAS), Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries Zanzibar, Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources- Zanzibar, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Marketing - Zanzibar, Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TANTRADE), TAHA-Green Cert provided feedback and discussed issues that emerged during the project. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Ombeni N. Mwasha - Director of International Trade (Integration) and supported by the Vice-chair Mr. Lazaro Msasalaga - Director of Quality Control, from the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS). Members of the committee had the opportunity to discuss and analyze standards components such as quality, biosecurity, and sanitary and phytosanitary. ACT is a permanent member and was represented by Mr. Khalid Ngassa, Membership Services Manager. He presented ACT's implementation progress of SPS measures for a period of six months. TMEA is implementing a three-year project in Tanzania (July 2021 to July 2024) focused on SPS and SQI. Trade Mark (Trade and Markets) East Africa is an aid-for-trade organization established in 2010 to grow prosperity in East Africa through increased trade. TMEA works closely with regional intergovernmental organizations, including the African Union (AU), East Africa Community (EAC), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA), Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), national governments, the private sector, and civil society organizations



10-12 AGOSTI 2022

NASHERA HOTEL

MOROGORO

FARMERS TRAINING ON SRI TECHNOLOGY

From 24th to 27th October 2022 ACT-Project Officers, Mr. Obedi Abraham, & Agnes Ngondo conducted four-day training on "Climate change, Crop Diversification and Deepening System of Rice Intensification (SRI)" for farmers from Dakawa and Mkindo Irrigation Schemes in Mvomero district, Morogoro Region. The purpose of the training was to equip farmers with effective farming technologies to promote irrigation agriculture in particular, as it improves water and resource use efficiency (WUE) hence increasing production and productivity in a changing climate. The training was attended by 34 attendees, including extension officers, lead farmers, input suppliers, etc. This is the activity under the FO4ACP project (2019- 2023) funded by SACAU and targeted to reach at least 16,000 smallholder farmers including women and youth in the Mvomero district by offering climate smart-practices training (System of Rice Intensification and other Good Agricultural Practices-use of agrochemicals). The project reaches 19000 smallholder farmers in Mkindo and Dakawa. It is anticipated that in the final year of implementation the total number of beneficiaries will increase to 24000.



Group photograph of SRI training participants, Mvomero

SACAU STUDY TOUR - GERMANY

The Andreas Hermes Akademie (AHA International) partnered with the Southern Africa Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU) to organize a week-long study tour in East Germany (Bernburg City) from 8th to 15th October 2022 for SACAU member countries (Malawi, Lesotho, Zimbabwe, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Namibia, E-Swatin, Tanzania, and South Africa). The tour was part of the SACAU regional project on strengthening the capacity of its members in climate resilience and knowledge sharing; AgriKontakte International facilitated the sessions and shared experiences regarding climate resilience innovations. ACT being a Community of Practices (Cop) member, was represented by Mr. Obed Abraham and Ms. Avelina Bernard, ACT Project Officers who had an opportunity to visit the University of Gottingen, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK), and Augustenberg Agricultural Technology Centre as part of learning. The Germany trip was a powerful experience for the Tanzanian team as they acquired practical hands-on experience from experts and farmers with regard to climate change (mitigation and adaptation). In the brief, the lesson learned was that SADC countries should develop strategies related to climate resilience that suit our African context. In addition, they should invest in climate digitization as the world moves to a more advanced level



CoP member in a group photo after a farm visit in Bernburg, Saxony-Anhalt, Germany

EABC-TMEA SPS REGIONAL WORKSHOP

The East Africa Business Council (EABC) and Trademark East Africa (TMEA) organized a regional consultative meeting to sensitize stakeholders from the private and public sectors on the implementation of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) in East Africa Countries (EAC). The event was held on 26th & 27th October 2022, at the Panari Hotel- Nairobi Kenya. The workshop discussions centered on improving the implementation of the regional SPS framework through the development of policy briefs based on engagements on SPS constraints.



A group of photograph of EABC Regional Workshop, Nairobi-Kenya

The regional workshop had the following objectives: -

- 1. Sensitizing the public and private sectors to the status of the implementation of the SPS protocol in the EAC.
- 2. Improving the application of the regional SPS framework, and
- 3. Identifying SPS requirements and related gaps, exploring the challenges faced by the business community and devising ways of addressing them in line with the EAC SPS Protocol.

Participants at the regional workshop included manufacturers from Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan and Tanzania, as well as representatives from Ministries of Agriculture, Livestock, and Cooperatives, Ministry of Investment, Industry, and Trade, Bureau of Standards, Chambers of Commerce, Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF), Poultry Associations, members of EABC, Tanzania Women Chambers of Commerce (TWCC), service providers in food safety and conformity assessment, and the media. In a nutshell, participants aired their pivotal role in the implementation of the EAC SPS protocol mentioning a few;

- 1. Harmonization of standards at regional and national levels such as grain quality; hermetic technologies; animal feeds; and insect-based feeds.
- 2. Support services to value chain stakeholders for example aflatoxin decontamination machines in Uganda and Kenya; warehouse certificate services; capacity buildinforto farmers on post-harvest management; development of a Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) plan for processors; organizing annual events such as Annual Poultry Shows in Tanzania; and providing evidence-based information to developers.
- 3. Enhancing the capacity of the value chain stakeholders to implement self-regulation on compliance for example testing grain at source; training of graders; sensitisation of informal cross-border trade; and providing farmers with aflatoxin decontamination machines.

The Agricultural Council of Tanzania (ACT) was represented by Laetitia William, Director of Policy, Planning and Advocacy who shared her experience of the implementation of SPS measures by citing best practices from Tanzania.

LINKAGE MEETING

On 28th & 29th October 2022 ACT held a two-day workshop on "business linkages" for farmers from Dakawa and Mkindo Irrigation Schemes in Mvomero district, Morogoro Region. The overall objective of the workshop was to facilitate and support business linkages between off-takers/processors and smallholder farmers. The linkage meeting was attended by 96 participants including lead farmers, traders, agro-dealers, and extension officers both from Mkindo and Dakawa. At the meeting, participants discussed prices, payment procedures, product conditions, and any other issues that may contribute to a win-win business environment. The linkage meeting was part of the negotiation training offered to leading farmers through the FO4ACP project (2019-2023) funded by the Southern Africa Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU). The linkage was facilitated by Mr. Obedd Abraham, Ms. Agnes Ngodo from ACT Secretariat, and Mr. Hoziel Foya - ACT contact person in Mvomero.



Murzah Wilmar - zonal sales manager, Mr. Nuruel provide briefings about the quality and standard of rice as per company's requirements at Mkindo village.

INTERNATIONAL YOUNG FARMERS SUMMIT

The Pan African Farmers Organization (PAFO), with the support of its financial and technical partners, organized the International Young Farmers Summit that was held from 24th to 29th of October 2022 at Lemigo Hotel-Kigali Rwanda. The International Young Farmers Summit was themed "Youth in Agricultural Transformation through Innovation". Young farmers from five continents participated in the summit to exchange ideas and offer solutions to the issues confronting young agripreneurs. The summit was the opportunity for launching the African Agribusiness Youth Strategy, an initiative of the African Union aimed at empowering young Agripreneurs to participate in policy development and decision-making in the agribusiness sector as well as to build and grow their agribusiness. Mr. Omary Mwaimu, ACT Board Member and CEO of AMSHA Institute of Rural Entrepreneurship was among the invitees. Mr. Mwaimu shared his perspectives on factors that discourage youth involvement in the agriculture sector including mindset, entrepreneurship skills and hands-on experience. Mr. Mwaimu shed more light by citing an example from Tanzania, a pilot incubation program targeting successful agribusinesses owned by the youth. The incubation program lasted for 10 months; an initiative supported by the F.A.O Tanzania office, and delivered by AMSHA and Local Government Authorities in Rufiji, Kibiti and Mkuranga DC. AMSHA has hosted 30 youth entrepreneurs since its inception



Mr. Omary Mwaimu at the International Young Farmers Summit (right), Kigali, Rwanda

ACELI PROGRAM IN TANZANIA

On 3rd Nov 2022, Aceli Africa and ACT held a Kick-off event for the Agribusiness Survive and Thrive Program (Cohort 1) at Sea Cliff Hotel-Dar es Salaam. A seven-month journey will equip 30 Agri-SMEs from Tanzania with the skills required to manage and expand their business portfolio as well as link them with financial institutions to access loans for expansion. The African Management Institute (AMI), WYLDE International from Kenya and TAPBDS from Tanzania facilitated the session. The AMI will be offering training while WYLDE International and TAPBDS will play a mentorship role to enrolled SMEs. Mr. Khalid Ngassa, Membership Services Manager, argues participants should use the program to acquire tangible skills needed in the business sector. The application window for Cohort 2&3 will open in January 2023 when 60 Agri-SME will benefit from the program.



A group photograph of participants during the kick off session of the Agribusiness Survive and Thrive Program, Dar es Salaam

ACT AT THE AGRI-TECH EAST AFRICA EXHIBITION

Agro-Food East Africa and Food-Pack Tech Tanzania have partnered to hold Agritech East Africa, a three-day event "Agri-tech Exhibition and Trade show" taking place from 21st to 23rd of November 2022 at the Diamond Jubilee Hall - Dar es Salaam. Food technologists and solution providers from across the continent meet at Agritech East Africa to showcase cutting-edge farming technologies and discoveries. They also discussed farming best practices and alternative solutions to tackle pertinent challenges in the food and agriculture industry. The AgriTech exhibition and trade show was officiated by Dr. Stephen E. Ngailo, TFRA Executive Director. In his opening remarks, he argued for international companies to invest in technology that is geared to advance the agricultural sector



ACT team, and farmers from Mvomero at the AgriTech East Africa Exhibition, Dar es Salaam.

The agri-tech attracted about 700 exhibitors with over 1000 visitors across the continent, to mention a few; India, Russia, Egypt, Turkey, Spain, Nigeria, South Africa, the United Kingdom, Italy, and East Africa Community (Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda). The exhibition was organized with the endorsement of Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TanTrade, Tanzanian government agency responsible for promoting trade) and, with the support of the Agricultural Council of Tanzania (ACT), Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF), Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA), Tanzania Women's Chamber of Commerce (TWCC), Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI) and Rice Council of Tanzania (RCT). The outcome of the Agritech Exhibition includes successful business deals during the trade show and post-show business.

AgriTech East Africa is an annual exhibition and marketing platform for manufacturers and suppliers of everything involved in agriculture, including agrochemicals, tractors, parts, implements, fertilizers, irrigation pipes, pump motors, etc., to meet, introduce and discuss their updated products, offers and innovations with the East African Agriculture and Agribusiness community.

TANZANIA PRIVATE SECTOR DAY (TPSD)

On 2nd December 2022, the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) with its partners organized the *National Private Sector Day* at the Superdome Arena, Masaki - Dar es Salaam to discuss the achievements and challenges in the country's business environment. This year's theme for the high-profile event was "*Enhancing Private Sector Competitiveness*". The event was officiated by Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania Dr. Philipp I. Mpango. In his remarks, Vice President Mpango raised concern over the slow pace of implementation of the blueprint for regulatory reforms to further improve the business environment. The Blueprint for Regulatory Reforms was released by the Ministry of Industry, Trade, and Investment in April 2018. Dr. Mpango said that the execution of the Blueprint, which started in July 2019, had only reached 13% of its implementation. He instructed Dr. Kijaji to ensure at least 50% implementation by the end of next year and take measures against institutions that impede implementation. He also stressed that the involvement of the private sector in Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) was not encouraging and directed the Ministry of Finance and Planning to zoom into the issues that are hindering the private sector's participation. The TPSD event was nourished with awards conferred on private sector entities in the categories of *Private Sector Environmental Sustainability, Private Sector Outstanding CSR Award and Award for Startup with Outstanding Innovation*. ACT won the top prize in the influence of budget increases category (agriculture).



ACT Chairperson, Dr. Jacqueline Mkindi (at the centre) poses for a picture with ACT Secretariat during the TPSD, Dar es Salaam.



Tanzania's Vice President at the Tanzania Private Sector Day

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 nutritional security; and is private sector driven.

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. SusanMasagasi-Member

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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.

This is PFS

artnership 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.

Official ACT Social Media Accounts:

LinkedIn @barazalakilimo

Twitter @act_tz

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