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UPCOMING EVENT

AAPC – Dodoma, Tanzania April 13th & 14th, 2023

NANE NANE; 1st to 8th August, 2023- Mbeya,

Mwakangale Grounds

The AGRF, Africa's Food Systems Summit, Dar es

Salaam- Tanzania

September, 5th – 8th 2023

EU-TZ BUSINESS FORUM

On 23rd and 24th February 2023, the European Union Embassy to Tanzania with its partnership organized the first ever two-day EU-TZ Business Forum held at Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre (JNICC). The forum was organized to boost trade and investment between member states of the European Union (EU) and Tanzania. The two-day high-level event brought together distinguished business and investment stakeholders from the EU and their counterparts in Tanzania. The EU-TZ Business Forum is ‘The Window to Doing Business with Europe’ promoting trade and investment flows between Tanzania and Europe. The high-level business forum was officiated by Vice President Dr. Philip I. Mpango. He assured EU investors of Tanzania’s commitment to improving the business environment for both.



The Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania Dr. Philip I. Mpango delivers opening remarks at the EU-TZ business forum, Dar es Salaam

The event brought together over 400 exhibitors and 700 participants from Tanzania's mainland, Zanzibar and the European Union. Tanzania's investment opportunities and comparative advantages were highlighted during the business forum. The forum also provided a platform for Private-Public dialogue to further improve the business environment such as regulatory framework and facilitate Business-to-Business meetings (B2B) and networking in view of possible partnerships between Tanzanians and Europeans. TPSF, ACT, TAHA, CTI, TCCIA, TWCC were part of the organizing committee, while the public sector tallied with TIC, MoA, MLF, etc... ACT was represented by Mr. Timoth Mmbaga (Executive Director), Chairperson, Dr. Jacqueline Mkindi and its members.



THE NATIONAL TAX DIALOGUE

On January 21st 2023, the Ministry of Finance and Planning organized a National Tax dialogue at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre (JNICC), Dar es Salaam. The high level tax dialogue themed on, “Policy reforms for people’s development” and brought together key industry captains such as Tanzania Private Sector Foundation, (TPSF) Confederation of Tanzania Industries, Tanzania Confederation of Tourism (TCT) , Agricultural Council of Tanzania (ACT), Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA), Tanzania Chamber of Commerce Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA) and other business community in the country. The guest of honour, Finance and Planning Minister Dr. Mwigulu Nchemba reiterated the commitment made by the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania in establishing conducive tax administration policies to enhance compliance in tax payment and eventually boost revenues to the Treasury coffers.



The Minister of Finance and Planning, Dr. Mwigulu Nchemba clarifies tax issues during the National Tax Dialogue in Dar es Salaam.

Dr. Nchemba argued “There is a very close link between favourable tax policies on the one hand and growth of businesses and development of the country on the other.” He stressed; “President Samia Suluhu Hassan has on several occasions directed us to continue improving our tax policies by incorporating views from stakeholders through these tax dialogues.” The Minister elaborated on the need to harness collections of revenues and at the same time nurture businesses to grow so as to enable the government to collect more taxes. He also pointed to the importance of widening the tax base to reduce the burden, which is borne by the existing few registered taxpayers. In a nutshell, Dr Nchemba highlighted the importance of a thriving private sector in the economy towards the creation of jobs and increased revenues for the government. “Over one million fresh graduates enter the labour market each year. All these graduates cannot be absorbed by the government. Therefore, a strong private sector is needed to create jobs for these recently graduated. The dialogue saw the need for the Government and Private Sector to collaborate in enhancing voluntary tax compliance. Also, members of the business community outlined several tax-related issues that they want the government to work on to improve Tanzania’s business environment to boost economic growth

BAYER SUPPORT BEFEED UP

The Agricultural Council of Tanzania (ACT) is implementing a Maize Demonstration Project (MDP), a partnership project with Bayer Ag, an international manufacturer and supplier of maize seeds and agrochemicals. In the current 2022/23 cropping season, the partnership mainly focused on promoting uptake of improved agricultural inputs in 14 pre-selected districts of mainland Tanzania (Wanging'ombe DC, Ludewa DC, Songea DC, Mbinga DC, Hai, Siha, Monduli, Meru, Moshi DC, Babati, Kiteto, Kondo, Kilindi and Handeni) targeted to reach 90,300 smallholder farmers through a Farmer to Farmers (F2Fs) extension approach and establishment of maize demonstration plots. The MDP project stems from the successful implementation of "Better Farms Better Lives (BFBL)", which was concluded in July 2021 with the remarkable achievement of reaching out to 115,000 smallholder farmers in 29 districts. The project aims to improve smallholder farmers' production and productivity by utilizing modern agricultural technologies. The project trains farmers to act as anchors for demonstration plots. In addition, they will use Village-Based Agricultural Advisors (VBAs) to provide supplementary extension services. The initiative is targeting to train 4 VBAs, 5 Agro-dealers, and 150 (up to 180) Lead farmers who will help to reach out to at least 5,250 (and maximum 6,300) smallholder farmers per district. Other partners considered in this initiative are: key actors along the maize value chain, local Government Authorities at district/village levels and other input supplying companies. In the week between the 3rd and 11th of January, the ACT team led by Mr. Mark Magila introduced the project and paid a courtesy call to the District Agricultural & Livestock District Officers (DALDOs) and District Executive Directors (DEDs) in their respective districts to introduce the project. Each district has assigned a crop officer who will coordinate and communicate at district level on matters related to project implementation. ACT coordinates the overall planning, implementation and monitoring of project activities and facilitates strategic stakeholders to fulfil their roles and responsibilities. Bayer provides funding, maize seeds and other inputs, and technical support.



ACT Director of Programmes (Mr. Mark Magila), ACT-zonal coordinator (Mr. Richard Masandika) with Mr. Kabula, DALFO during introduction of the Project in Monduli District



ACT Team and Mr. Stephano Msuya from MVIWAKI, with Mrs. Bertha Urrio, District Agricultural Officer during the introduction of the Project in Moshi DC.

FARMERS TRAINING ON GAP

From February 19th to 23rd March 2023, ACT conducted training on Good Agricultural Practices and the safe use of agro chemicals for VBA's, Lead Farmers and Agro-dealers in fourteen districts of Wangi'ngombe , Ludewa , Songea DC, Mbinga DC, Moshi DC, Hai, Siha, Babati, Meru, Kiteto, Kondoa, Monduli, Handeni and Kilindi. The ACT team comprised of five Technical Officers (Mr. Khalid Ngassa, Mr. Obed Abraham, Mrs. Agnes Ngondo, Mrs. Susan Masagasi, and Ms. Avelina Kuliwabu) and six Area Coordinators Mrs. Mwajuma Sizya (Njombe- Wangingo'mbe & Ludewa), Mr. Enoch Ndunguru (Ruvuma-Songea na Mbinga DC), Mr. Edgar Lyakurwa (Manyara-Kiteto & Babati, Dodoma-Kondoa), Mr. Richard Masandika (Arusha-Monduli & Meru) Mr. Stephano Msuya (Moshi- Siha, Moshi DC & Hai) and Mr. Seif Sempanga (Tanga- Kilindi & Handeni) facilitated and provided the training. The training sessions helped to strengthen extension services by quickly reaching out to a relatively large number of farmers through technically capacitated VBAs and Key Lead Farmers who act as distribution pathways for agro-inputs and GAPs knowledge on leveraging social networks (VBAs and Lead Farmers) for last-mile information delivery. The training was officiated by Mr. Khalid Ngassa (ACT Membership Services Manager) and Mr. Obed Abraham (ACT Project Officer) who welcomed the participants by providing a general overview of the Bayer Ag project focus on driving demand for BAYER products in particular DEKALB seed and CP (Belt and AUXO)



Mr. Khalid Ngassa, provided brief information about the project during the GAP training in Babati.



Mr. Thomas Magamba, BAYER Field Officer responded to questions posed by participants during GAP training in Kiteto

In a nutshell, the GAP training focuses on driving demand for BAYER Ag agricultural inputs among smallholder farmers in the targeted 14 districts. This is done through training VBAs, agro-dealers, and leading farmers on GAPs. The team provided intensive training on good agricultural practices, including both theoretical and practical sessions. The topics covered included i.) proper land preparation, ii) selection of improved/appropriated seed and seed planting, iii) use/application of fertilizer iv) safe and effective use of pesticides (herbicides, insecticides and fungicides) and v) post-harvest losses management. A total of 577 out of 660 participants attended the training. This is equivalent to 87.4%. As part of the training, ACT technical staff visited 16 demo plots to witness the performance of the crop (maize) distributed early January in 14 districts.



Group photo of training participants (VBA, LFs) in Meru DC



Group photo of training participants (VBA, LFs & Agro-dealers) in Songea DC



Mr. Alfred Michael Haule, a Lead Farmer couldn't contain his excitement while showing off his maize demo plot in Mkako village, Mbinga district. Seed Variety: DK 777



Mr. Charles Osmand Ngonyani, a Lead Farmer from Lyagwene village in Songea rural district standing in his demo plot Seed Variety: DK 777

YOUNG LEADERS INCUBATION PROGRAMME

The Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU) in partnership with Andreas Hermes Akademie (AHA- International) offers the “Young Leader Incubation Programme - YLIP” for young agripreneurs across the SADC region. Since the YLIP launch in 2022, 20 participants have participated. The YLIP is aimed at developing self-efficacy among young agripreneurs to prepare them for agriculture's future. It seeks to support an emerging generation of leaders in the agriculture sector and in farmers' organizations that are “fit for purpose”. The YLIP Cohort 2 had 19 participants drawn from 8 countries including Tanzania, Lesotho, Eswatini, Botswana, Namibia, Malawi, Madagascar and Zimbabwe. This was to ensure a multi-national cohort/team of leaders is built over time. High level training is delivered in person and hybrid, divided into two modules. The first module was held from 21st to 28th February 2023 at Kopanong Hotel and Conference Centre where participants had opportunities to interact with other fellow youth from Germany who are also taking part in YLIP programme, and learning sessions with the former President of Pan African Farmers Organization (PAFO) Dr. Theo De Jager who advised youth to take a driver seat in pushing the agricultural agenda in their respective countries and took part in policy reforms. From 24th April to May 1st 2023, the second in-person course (module 2) will be delivered. Tanzania was represented by Mr. Sospeter Mtenda from the rice processing and selling company Mtenda Kyela Rice Supply located in Mbeya. Mr. Gabriel Mlay works for a company engaged in the production and sale of chicken and its by-products (VONKAVY COMPANY LIMITED) based in Morogoro



A group photo of YLIP participants, Johannesburg, South Africa



EAFF MISSION TO TANZANIA

On 9th February 2023, the Eastern African Farmers Federation (EAFF) conducted a one-day workshop at Seychelles Millennium Hotel in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The workshop was attended by ACT Board of Directors and Secretariat and officiated by the President of Pan African Farmers Organization (PAFO) and EAFF Mrs. Elizabeth Nsimadala.



Mrs. Elizabeth Nsimadala EAFF & PAFO President, gave the opening remarks during the OCA Workshop in Dar es Salaam.

She called upon EAFF members to start offering demand driven and innovative services to benefit the farming and business community in the region. The overall aim of the meeting was to discuss the Organization Capacity Assessment (OCA) with EAFF national member organizations in Tanzania (ACT, TFC, MVIWATA and CUZA-from Zanzibar). The OCA workshop served as a platform for strategic missions to serve farmers' interests at the national and regional levels (Eastern African Community).



Participants in a group photo during the OCA session in Dar es Salaam

SACAU STUDY TOUR, ZAMBIA

The Andreas Hermes Akademie (AHA International) partnered with the Southern Africa Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU) to organize a week-long study tour in Zambia (Lusaka and Katete district) from 5th to 12th March 2023 for SACAU COP members (Malawi, Lesotho, Zimbabwe, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Namibia, E-Swatin, Tanzania, and South Africa). The study tour was the second in a series after the one held in Germany last October. It aimed at continuously building COP members' capacity to acquire knowledge and skills directly from farmers and other experts on climate change related issues, mitigation and adaptation measures. In a nutshell the study tour was designed to address the capacity development needs of COP members by contributing to the development of individual and national farmers' organizational capacities to gain knowledge and skills in the application of the best and most effective climate resilience practices to improve agricultural productivity and sustainable environment management. ACT being a Community of Practices (COP) member, was represented by Ms. Avelina Bernard - ACT Policy Officer. She visited the Zambian-German Agricultural Knowledge & Training Centre (AKTC) in Lusaka and later visited the Farmers Training Centre (FTC) in Katete district (North-western Zambia) for learning purposes. The tour was organized to respond to growing concerns in the SADC region to rethink land use mechanisms. This will ensure agricultural land becomes more productive, sustainable, and resilient to climate change.



Mr. Helmut Anschuetz (AKTC team leader) provided a brief overview of the AKTC project



COP members in the field to learn more about resilient crops to climate change

BBT - YIA PROGRAM IN ACTION

The Government through the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) has initiated a special program known as **“Building a Better Tomorrow – Youth Initiative for Agribusiness (BBT-YIA)”** to address youth and women's challenges in the agricultural sector. Since its launch by the Prime Minister Hon. Kassim M. Kassim on 3rd August 2022 at the Nane Nane Farmers Day Exhibition held at the John Mwakangale in Mbeya, the program has attracted youth attention towards agriculture opportunities and the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) has set aside 162,492 acres of arable land for crop production in regions of Mbeya (Chunya), Dodoma (Chamwino), Kagera (Misenye) and Kigoma (Uvinza) purposely for large scale block farming. The program is expected to increase employment for young people up to 1 million and increase agricultural sector growth by 10% in 2030 (Agenda10/30).



BBT-YIA’s main goal is to enhance youth engagement in the agricultural sector for sustainable and improved livelihoods. BBT-YIA’s strategic objectives include: i) inspire youth through implementing a behavior/attitude changing communication strategy; ii) empower youth through training mentoring and coaching; iii) engage youth in profitable and sustainable management of agribusinesses; iv) enable youth-led enterprises by improving the business environment; and v) coordinate effectively youth agribusiness.

The first window of the program enrolled 812 out of 20,227, which is equivalent to 4% that managed to start their four month training that started on 17th March this year in the 15 incubation training centers including the Bihawana Agricultural Training Center in Dodoma region. Following successful completion of the program, graduates will be assigned fields in accordance with procedures and conditions to be determined. The program is also seen as bringing hope to youth employability in the country. In eight years, the program will create 12,000 profitable enterprises across the country. To realize this goal, a strong partnership is needed among the following institutions: the Ministry of Agriculture, private sector, development partners, Tanzania Youth in Agriculture Association and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs)

Pictures of BBT participants gaining practical experience







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.

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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

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.

Official ACT Social Media Accounts:

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PFS is responsible to ACT Board of Directors