

IMPROVEMENT OF BAHI PADDY SCHEMES (DODOMA)

Local Investment Climate (LIC) is a private sector development Programme supported by Danida. LIC addresses critical constraints to business development and economic growth at district level in the two regions of Dodoma and Kigoma in Tanzania. The Programme invests in Public-Private Dialogue (PPD), business service facilities such as One-Stop-Business Centres and Public-Private-Partnership infrastructure in support of business development. The implementing partner agencies of LIC are; the President’s Office – Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), the Regional Secretariats in Kigoma and Dodoma, Tanzania National Business Council (TNBC), Association of Local Authorities in Tanzania (ALAT), Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) and Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA).

In November 2016, the LIC Programme received a proposal from Bahi District Council in Dodoma region to invest in improving irrigation facilities and production technologies for five paddy schemes; Bahi Sokoni, Matajira, Uhelela, Nguvumali and Mtazamo. The investment further included support to land use planning for titling through use of cost effective satellite technology and support to the establishment of financial management structures to ensure proper operation and maintenance of the schemes and revenue collection for the Local Government Authority.



Paddy farm within the Mtazamo irrigation scheme

Irrigation infrastructure in Matajira, supported by LIC

Before the rehabilitation of the irrigation infrastructure, the distribution of water in the five irrigation schemes was poor and uneven, resulting in poor yields. The rehabilitation has resulted in a yield increase of 25-100%, the span indicating a wide gap between the most effective farmers and the less effective ones. The difference is however also an indication of the potential scope for increasing the yield on poorer performing farms through providing education to farmers and through the introduction of improved technologies and farming practices.

The investment undertaken by LIC has not only revolutionised paddy production in the respective schemes in Bahi but has also been an eye opener for paddy farmers and other potential investors and business people involved in the paddy value chain.



One of the paddy processing machines in Bahi Town



Paddy warehouses in Bahi Town



Highlights and Achievements

- Increased rice production resulting from improved irrigation infrastructure and expansion of the irrigated and farmed land
- Employment opportunities created in nursery preparation, plot preparation, transplanting, weeding, winnowing, bag shifting, processing and shipping but also in commerce as the overall increase in rice production and farmer income generates benefits to the wider economy of the local communities.
- The increased output of rice has driven new private investments in warehouses and processing facilities.
- Increasing farm incomes and profit margins have made farmers to realize the value of investing further in paddy production and processing. More farmers are now shifting from selling raw paddy to processed rice.
- A land use plan is now in place and the farmers have secured Certificates of Customary Right of Occupancy (CCROs)
- Bahi District Council, through an agreement with representatives of each of the five paddy schemes, is now realizing increased revenue collection of 8,000 TZS per plot.

Up until September 2018, LIC has invested around TZS 239 million to improve Bahi paddy schemes in Dodoma. The Programme will continue to support private sector development projects in the regions of Kigoma and Dodoma until February 2020.

For further information, please visit www.lic.or.tz

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