

IMPROVEMENT OF KIBAKWE AGRICULTURE RESOURCE CENTRE (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).

The Kibakwe Agriculture Resource Centre under the Ministry of Agriculture is located in Kibakwe, Mpwapwa District Council. The centre was established to provide agricultural knowledge - both theory and practice - to the communities within Kibakwe Ward. In December 2015, LIC was approached by Mpwapwa District Council to support finalisation of the construction of a hostel at the centre and equip it with necessary educational tools. In support of this investment, LIC proposed the establishment of a new management structure through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) which includes contracting a private operator for managing the centre activities.



Kibakwe Agriculture Resource Centre hostel for hosting trainees (Front side), supported by LIC

Kibakwe Agriculture Resource Centre hostel (back side)

Apart from the completion of the hostel, the LIC support included drilling of a water well, purchase and installation of a drip irrigation system, establishment of a nursery for production of vegetable seeds and improved fruits seedlings, purchase of ICT equipment, installation of internet service, procurement of key agricultural machines and tools for the centre, and, last but not least, support to the development of tailor-made training programmes for farmers, with emphasis on young farmers.



Kibakwe Agriculture Resource Centre's horticulture garden used for training, supported by LIC



Kibakwe Agriculture Resource Centre elevated tank for gravity drip irrigation, funded by LIC

Highlights and Achievements

The infrastructure and training program improvements at the centre has enabled Mpwapwa District Council to offer better training to both farmers and young people interested in agriculture as a business. One case is a youth programme funded by LIC that was run in collaboration with the Loan Board and Visele, a private Agriculture and Livestock Institute in Mpwapwa. The programme has provided practical training at the centre to support youth motivated to venture into agribusiness. In addition, vegetable farmers around the centre as well as extension officers got their horticulture knowledge upgraded to a level enabling them to attend further training at the horticultural training center SEVIA in Moshi.

Since the completion of the LIC support in March 2018, the centre has hosted a total of 170 farmers and youth including 60 youth undergoing a 6 month intensive horticultural education program. The next phase of the support will look into ways of supporting the youth to get started as commercial producers of horticultural products, including possible support to viable investments in processing.

The LIC support has included focus on attaining financial self-reliance of the centre through the SPV management structure. Income from hostel and workshop utilization together with sales of farm produce have substantially reduced the need for financial support from the District Council. It has proven the viability of establishing such training centers through collaborative effort between the Local Government Authority and the private sector. This particular centre is focusing on the horticultural sector, but the model can be applied to other value chains in need of cost-effective education and training facilities and opportunities.

LIC has invested around TZS 194 million in the improvement of Kibakwe Agriculture Resource Centre. The Programme will continue its support to the public and private sector in the regions of Kigoma and Dodoma until February 2020.

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