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MORE MILK FOR HIGH PERFORMANCE CULTURE

Some more milk for better results...



An interesting observation with regard to massive failures that marked last year's national form four exams. Many reasons were cited for the failures, but what if poor milk consumption contributed to the poor showing?

Friday 31 May, 2013

The Guardian KILIMO KWANZA



More milk for better results

drink five times less milk than is recommended lecting, processing and selling the cream. by world health bodies. There has been a drastic decline in the production and consumption of milk in Tanzania over the last couple of years. Indeed, with half the cattle numbers, Kenyans con-Tanzania is a net importer of milk from Kenya, Zimbabwe, South Africa and even the dry arid middleeastern countries, all of which have fewer cows per capita than Tanzania.

our cattle are low yielding traditional varieties that, although are hardy enough to withstand tough tropical conditions, are not versatile enough to produce large volumes of milk or meat for that matter. Furthermore ance in class. the nature of livestock husbandry in the country means that as our cattle herds roam the vast expanses of scrub and thicket in search of pastures, they drag entire families of their caretakers along with them.

This is hardly the model for a thriving dairy or livestock industry. But until something concrete is done, we will just have to trust the pulpit declarations of "a new resolve to improve cattle breeds and modernise animal husbandry in the country" as is often said by those given the mandate to do so.

Second, major challenges facing investment in this sector means that most milk never makes it to the formal distribution channels. Only few people living in urban centres have access processed milk. The rest, if any, is often left for the farmer and his neighbours to enjoy; leaving those residing in areas with no cattle to make do with whatever it is that they make do with.

Furthermore, moves to encourage more investment in the milk processing sector has borne negligible results as better production environments means that imported milk is often more competitively priced and packaged than locally manufactured produce. Indeed, local milk manufacturers are on record as saying they Wallace Mauggo are often unable to meet their milk production capaci- Editor

N a country with an estimated one cow for ties owing to seasonal milk shortages, unfair competievery three individuals, on average Tanzanians tion and other investment challenges they face in col-

Third and perhaps most importantly, poor eating habits mean that when faced with the decision to choose between fancy coloured carbonated water and wholesome milk, most people opt for the fake sugar sume double the milk that Tanzanians do. In fact high of a fizzy drink. It is against this scenario that soda pop companies are thriving while milk processing firms ruminate and shut down.

This takes us back to the need to educate our people on what contributes to wholesome health. In this is-How or why, you ask? Well, to begin with most of sue of Kilimo Kwanza, writer Michael Pandisha posits that sufficient milk consumption for students enhances nutrition, health and brain development, therefore improving learning concentration, retention and perform-

An interesting observation, especially when taken against a background of massive failures that marked last year's national form four examinations. In case you missed it, the unprecedented outrage that followed the exam flops led the powers that be to scrap the results.

Many reasons were cited for the failures, but what if poor milk consumption contributed to the poor showing? Milk is, after all, the most complete food in that it contains all the essential nutrients required for human growth. This is something for the examiners to chew on as they ponder how to improve the nation's performance in education. Don't you think so?

inside

Farmers' group tackles post-harvest challenges





Small traders decry exorbitant fees



Environment: Agriculture and recycling









In February this year, Taha, in collaboration with the World Vegetable construction of handling, packaging It is estimated that up Centre, offered training on postharvest and cooling facilities among others. handling technologies to farmer groups in Arusha at the AVRDC Postharvest and storage services to farmers, at a horticultural products Training Centre Services (PTSC). Taha fee plans to implement the training programme in other parts of the country.

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HARVEST

Farmers' group tackles post-harvest challenges

By Kilimo Kwanza Reporter

A critical challenge

t-harvest handling of esh fruits and vegetables one of the most critical challenges undermining profitability of horticultural industry in Tanzania. It is estimated that up to 60 per cent of horticultural products are lost due to poor postharvest handling techniques. This challenge has been taken up

MoU for new centres

Understanding (MoU) with the One of such technologies is zero energy Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives to implement a proj ect aiming at constructing collection centres and greenhouses in selected horticultural production areas in Tanzania. The centres are expected to be used as knowledge dissemination platforms to not only provide the needed linkage to markets, but also disseminate innovative technologies to boost production in the areas.

The AVRDC Postharvest Training by Tanzania Horticultural Association Centre Services (PTSC) offers training (Taha), whose one of its key objectives designed to help growers, associations is provision of technical support servic- and marketers with the best post-hares to horticultural farmers in the coun- vest practices involving high maintenance and protection of fresh produce, postharvest loss reduction, hands-on

The centre also provides packaging to 60 per cent of

Zero energy cooling

Development of simple-low cost cooling system for storage of fruits and techniques... In a bid to provide a long term so-vegetables is important in order to lution to this critical challenge, Taha overcome the problem of postharvest has signed a Memorandum of losses due to poor handling of produce.

cooling chambers.

Zero energy cooling chambers are a cheap alternative technology for farmers to store their produce after harvesting since most farmers cannot afford intensive and expensive refrigerated stor-

In fact, this cooling technology is an alternative of common refrigerator and



are lost due to poor postharvest handling it can be easily accessed since it is an on-farm storage chamber, for fresh fruits, vegetables and flowers to extend their marketability.

As it is well known, due to their high moisture content, fruits and vegetables have very short life and are liable to spoil. Moreover, they are living entities and carry out transpiration, respiration and ripening even after harvest. The spoilage of fruits and vegetables can be controlled by proper post-harvest handling techniques.

Beauty in the technology

The greatest importance of this low cost cooling technology lies in the fact port of the American People that it does not require any electricity or power to operate and all the materials required to make the cool chamber are available locally, easily and cheap-

Even an unskilled person can install it at any site, as it does not require any specialized skill. Most of the raw material used in cool chamber is also re-usable.

The zero energy cool chamber can be constructed easily with materials like low value brick, sand, bamboo, gunny bag etc. The chamber can keep

the temperature 10-15OC cooler than the outside temperature and maintain about 90 per cent relative humidity.

3

It is most effective during the dry season and can contain up to 100 kilos of vegetables.

How to construct Zero Energy **Cooling Chamber**

- Requirements Construction materials: bricks. sand, bamboo etc.
- Top cover: sisal fiber material fixed in a bamboo-frame
- Watering of the chambers: watering can or bucket and mug, water tank, drip system (optional).
- Plastic crates for storage and plastic sheet for cover. Hand sprayer (small) for spraying
- of insecticides/fungicides

Procedure

For construction of a Zero Energy Cool Chamber, one should select an area with a nearby source of water sup-

- Make floor of the chamber with the help of bricks size 165 cm x 115 cm.
- Erect the double bricks wall on the above floor to a height of 67.5 cm leaving a cavity of 7.5 cm which will later be filled by sand.
- Drench the chamber with water and soak the fine riverbed sand with water. Fill the cavity between the double brick wall with this wet
- Make a frame of top cover with bamboo (165 cm x 115 cm) frame and sisal fiber material or dry
- Make a thatch/tin/asbestos shed over the chamber in order to protect it from direct sun or rain.
- After construction following operation instructions are to be followed. Keep the sand, bricks and top cover of the chamber wet with water.
- In order to achieve desired temper ature and relative humidity. water twice daily (morning and evening). Alternatively, fix a drip system for watering with plastic pipes and micro tubes connected to an overhead water source.
- Store the fruits and vegetables in this chamber by keeping in perforated plastic crates. Cover these crates with a thin polyethylene sheet.
- The cool chamber should be reinstalled once in 3 years with new bricks utilizing the old bricks for other purposes.

Compilation of this article has been made possible with the supthrough the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). However, its contents are the sole responsibility of Taha and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government.

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COVER STORY 4

Milk for healthy, high performance culture

By Michael Pandisha, Tampa

Deriving success ducation is the key to life for that reason every parent or guardian would want to see his or her child excel in studies However, this is only pos sible if a child has good health.

An investment in education and training should go hand in hand with investing in good health. According to studies, milk is rich in nutrients as it is a wholesome food encompassing valuable proteins, vitamins and minerals required for growth and good health.

Sufficient milk consumption for students enhances child nutrition, health and brain development, and therefore it improves learning concentration, retention and performance in class

Consumption still low

Milk consumption in the country is still very low. According to the World Health Organisation (Who), the per capita consumption of milk and dairy products in the country stands at 43 liters compared to about 200 liters per annum recommended by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (Fao).

Kenya, on the other hand, consumes milk four times the average of sub-Saharan Africa. On average, each Kenvan drinks 100 liters of milk a vear This means. Tanzania risks the health of its children and the education system at large.

system is not supportive.

consumers.

The situation prior to July, 2009

was that only unprocessed dairy prod-

ucts were exempted from VAT. All

processed dairy products were, there-

fore, subjected to VAT and this worked

against the consumption of these prod-

ucts making them expensive to final

been promoting the dairy sector to be

competitive in the East Africa region.

In 2009, for instance, the government

introduced VAT exemptions by listing

dairy products and equipment, includ-

The government of Tanzania has

According to a paper presented by Dr. F. M. Kasirye in the first Eastern and Southern Africa milk conference, most farmers in the region are small scale and they accounted for the biggest share of milk production.

He further established that seasonal variations cause fluctuations in milk production and supply.

In the recent past, stakeholders in the dairy sector in Tanzania pointed out that the Value Added Tax (VAT)

ing heat insulated cooling tanks and aluminum jerry cans in the Second Schedule to the VAT Act (Cap. 148).

Manufacturers unhappy

However, these changes were only beneficial to the final consumers, but not the manufacturers of the product because they were dealing with VAT exempt products only. As a result, the manufacturers of the dairy products had to bear the whole of the VAT burden for dairy input and equipment.

Another attempt to reduce the cost of producing dairy products to the man-

pumps, milk hoses, milk pasteurizers, homogenizers, cheese pressers and several other equipment and packaging says Genuine Martin, a business conmaterials for dairy products were added to the VAT exemption list.

These changes, however, did not alter the situation. The Finance Act, 2012 introduced

Item 18 of the First Schedule to the VAT Act, Cap. 148. The changes were effective from July 1, 2012 which means that dairy products are now VAT zero rated.

"The registered manufacturers of

ufacturers was made in 2010. Milk dairy products can now sell their processed dairy products without collecting VAT from their consumers." sultant based in Dar es Salaam.

"They can buy unprocessed milk and milk products as raw materials without paying VAT. Besides, they can buy equipment, jerry cans, refrigerators, and packaging materials without paying VAT," he added.

He urged all unregistered local manufacturers of milk and milk related products to apply for VAT registration if their annual turnover is 40 million or

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COVER STORY

Drinking a glass of milk daily improves learning concentration and performance in class. (File photo)



Formal milk processing has declined by more than 80 per cent over the last 15 years, and 13 dairy plants have been closed. Most of the processing plants are working at less than 30 per cent of the installed capacity...

more. He stressed that VAT zero rating would only apply if the local manufacturers produces the milk and milk related products by using locally produced milk. "The move will create employment and increase domestic investment opportunity in Tanzania," he remarked

Why low consumption?

There are a number of factors which account for limited milk consumption in the country. "Lack of awareness on health value of milk," says Edmund Mariki, executive secretary of the Tanzania Milk Processors Association (Tampa).

He added: "most people consume fizzy drinks that have little or no nutrients to the human body."

He explained that negative perceptions and attitude of consumers affect milk consumption. He cited an example of some people who were of the view that processed milk and dairy products sustained economic and social benefits contained chemicals which were harmful to human health.

Limited capacity

"Limited milk processing capacity of local enterprises is yet a major challenge in the dairy sector" he observed, urban market while rural dwellers ments. rarely get locally processed milk.'

Formal milk processing has declined by more than 80 per cent over the last 15 years, and 13 dairy plants have been closed. Most of the processing plants are working at less than 30 per cent of the installed capacity resulting in only 105,000 liters being processed per day down from 496.000 liters, according to the Tampa's 2011 report.

The report further describes that regulatory burden increases the cost of doing business. It points out multiple uncoordinated inspection of premises. testing of dairy products, lack of clear division of responsibilities and coordi-

nation between inspecting authorities resulting into duplication of efforts of controlling authorities.

"It is high time for parents, guardians, policy makers, politicians and other dairy stakeholders to appreciate the value of milk consumption in learning institutions," says Jumanne Mchomvu, a senior teacher in Kilimanjaro region.

He adds: "milk consumption not only enhances students' cognitive ability but also increases students' attendance in schools."

Mill in schools

He urges the government to put in place a comprehensive milk programme in all schools in the country to address the challenge.

The government, for its part should streamline regulations in order to increase the dairy sector's domestic and international competiveness for of the country, says the Tampa official.

Tampa, in collaboration with SCF works in a project titled, market development support of dairy products in Tanzania which, among other things, seeks to promote per capita consumption of locally processed milk and dairy adding: "many local processors target products among target market seg-

Milk's health value

Tampha amplifies clearly the values of milk to child health performance and brain development.

Milk is just about everything for the human body. It is the food that you need to stay strong in body and mind. A good health does not cost, it pays. Let us promote milk consumption to students for a bright future!

> Send your comments for free starting with (MILK) to 15774

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TAX

Small traders decry exorbitant fees

By Kilimo Kwanza Reporter

Desk review

Jumuia ya Vikundi vya enve Viwanda na Ndogondogo ashara Tanzania (Vibindo) carried out a desk review study on business regis-

tration fees in Tanzania in 2012. The study was intended to establish the state of business registration fees and its effects to business entities in the country

The Business Registration and Licensing Agency (Brela) had planned to increase registration fees and had already made an announcement to that effect in two meetings held in both Morogoro and Dar es Salaam. As stakeholders, the small traders through Vibindo society, called for wider consultations right from the beginning of the process not just towards the end

According to Vibindo, increasing business names registration fee by over 1,000 per cent will undoubtedly kill the business formalisation drive for small and micro enterprises. "This should not be allowed to take place as micro and small enterprises form the largest business segment in the economy in almost all sectors in Tanzania. Available data indicate that majority of small firms operate informally and formalisation would benefit the overall economy," the society argues in its report.

Why small firms fail to register

The study further notes that majority of small businesses are not registered mainly due to constraints in the registration process, including direct and indirect costs. Many small and micro enterprises can only afford to register as business names and not partnerships, or limited liability firms because of the huge costs involved.

The 2012/13 budget statement proposed amendments to the fees and levies charged by ministries, regions and independent departments. It is thus not only a review of the fees, but also of laws that affect small businesses. like the Business Activities Registration Act (Bara), that are going to be under review.

It is clear that there is dire need for the reduction or scrapping of business registration fees rather than increment.

Accordingly, Brela should shelve the proposed new fees and widely consult stakeholders first. Brela has been promising to facilitate online business search and registration for a long time but until now, nothing has come of this promise. In this age of science and technology, business name search should be free and available online and in real time.

Countries across the world are practically doing this and there is no reason why Brela should not embrace it. In fact, Brela online search is several years behind

At the same time, it is notable that Tanzania has an inadequate small and medium enterprises (SME) policy and no law for nurturing and protecting small businesses. This should be looked at afresh to check instances where small holder business people are locked out of some sectors which they have the capacity to run.

The most important issue here is the need to review the Executive Agencies Act to introduce public-private oversight role on agencies formed under this law. Government agencies like Brela are free to design user fees they want without being regulated by anyone, but parent ministries.

It would be appropriate to have a relevant body that checks the excesses of such agencies. Such a review should institutionalise public-private consultations for government agencies.

Vibindo in a nutshell

VIBINDO society is an umbrella organisation of economic groups operating in the informal economy in Tanzania representing a total of four hundred and eighty (480) economic groups. The society has a primary vision of being an effective representative, advocate and lobbyist for better business environment for its members.

One of Vibindo society's objectives is to assist and facilitate its members and non-members to formalise their business. The attainment of the objective is very minimal due to cumbersome procedures of formalising business in the country.

Throughout the developing world, smallholder businesses face a number of challenges. These include enabling environment that includes registration and service fees charged, among others. This threatens the business in general and the livelihoods of the smallholder businesses.

Studies on barriers to business

In Tanzania, a number of researches have devoted time and resources on studies on the general barriers that affects the business in the

Yet, there is no known comprehensive study so far undertaken to investigate the enabling environment specifically registration and service fees increment in the selected study area and how they could influence business and livelihood of the smallholder business.

Thus, there is a need to study this in the area for a clear understanding of the reasons and consequences for the fees changes (increment) to smallholder businesses. This will help in creating knowledge on the extent of change, and implications of such changes in the business and the livelihoods of the smallholders' business community.

There is also a need to evaluate smallholders' perceptions on such changes. The purpose is to enable the business environment being supportive for investors that are from within



and those from outside the country. and so improve the economy of our country

Impact of changes in fees

So, in the study area, changes in the registration fee and other services. the reasons for the changes and the implications of such changes in the business environment are not well known. The study, therefore, intends to understand business stakeholder's perceptions as well as attitudes on these issues and the consequences to their business.

Vibindo intends to use the report generated for sharing with smallholder business community. Their views after presentation will be used to lobby the Ministry of Industry and Trade to issue a clear directive on registration of small businesses. Specific objectives are identifying and reviewing the existing registration and service fees, investigating how the existing different registration and service fees are reviewed and making a comparison on the different fees visa-a-vis proposed registration and service fees presented by brela and come up with a narrative



In the proposed structure there is no mention of online business registration, stressing that in this era of science and technology, business name search should be free and available online real time...

Very little knowledge has been developed in Tanzania on enabling business environment especially on the changes in registration and service fees over time, although much has been done on business barriers as a

This study will enhance an understanding on the different registration fees, and how they are reviewed and also will evaluate on the implications of the fees increment in the business. The knowledge will then guide business stakeholders in identifying the best practices and strategies that will enhance business improvement and growth of the economy.

Way forward

The conclusion from the study carried out is that the proposed user fees are very high and the private sector stakeholders do not see any justification for the over 1,000 per cent increment. With the business environment still not conducive for small businesses, the small and micro enterprises that want to formalize will be hard hit. Brela does not have any special treat-

wards the end

environment

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It does not also have the capacity to offer education and assistance to small and micro businesses en masse. Integrating small firms into the reform process through regular consultative dialogues and other outreach activities is not also being done to the desired lev-

Perceptions need to be changed through public private dialogues integrating the private sector into the reform process from the outset, not to-

Increased registration fees and for smallholder business people. The reintroduction of the business license

ness license fees that were to be implemented from January, 2012. Both have

Also, much as Brela and other similar agencies make ad hoc consultations, this is never adequate and the

private sector is rarely satisfied. Comprehensive, wide and structured Agencies Act to introduce public priconsultations are more desirable

Scrap registration fees

Vibindo gives forward recommendations it feels are necessary to put its point across. It mentions that there is need to reduce or scrap business registration fees, arguing that it would be wiser for the government to make major reforms on business policies to make Tanzania a fertile ground for small and micro enterprises to grow.

"This is the only way to realise the Tanzanian dream- where all small holder business people know if they work hard, they can become successful and fulfil their dreams. Many researchers have in the past recommended that the government should reduce corporate taxes charged to small firms, reducing fees for registering small firms. Instead of following the advice, Brela is seeking to increase fees for business registration," reads the report in part.

Consult stakeholders

Vibindo further recommends that Brela should shelve the proposed fees, and consult stakeholders first. For harmony to prevail and for the sake of better business environment, it would be better for the authorities to completely do away with the proposed fees and widely consult stakeholders to come up with mechanisms that will motivate small enterprises to formalise.

Even if the review of business registration fee is necessary, without adequate consultation it cannot win public support.

Unfortunately, the public sector is used to making consultations on reforms and other changes with private sector towards the end of the process.

A good example is Brela consulting while it has already proposed new fees. It would have been better for the public private dialogues to be made from the onset – before coming up with the figures

Introduce online registration

The Vibindo study also urges Brela to make online business search and registration real. In the proposed structure there is no mention of online business registration, stressing that in this era of science and technology, business name search should be free and available online real time.

The society also urges Brela to mull reintroduction of business license fee an act for nurturing small businesses. will only stall business formalisation Apart from business registration fees, there are many other levies small busiproposed high fees come in the wake of ness are charged, and in some instances locked out.

For example the tourism sector The government is preparing to laws completely lock out the smallholdstart implementing the delayed busi- er business person. To counter such, there is need for a micro and small business consolidated law that will pronegative implications to the business tect their interest and set the necessary environment for growth.

> Review Executive Agencies Act The society also advises the Brela

to push for review of the Executive vate oversight role on agencies formed under this law. Government agencies like BRELA are free to design user fees they want without being regulated by anyone but parent ministries.

It would be appropriate to have a relevant body that checks the excesses of such agencies. This should be done by the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (Ewura) and Surface and Marine Transport Regulatory Authority (Sumatra).

Establish a regulatory body through an act of parliament to exercise an oversight role for the public good. Such a review should institutionalize public private consultations for government agencies. It is recommended that BEST- AC can finance Vibindo Society to undertake a study on the feasibility of the idea.

Policy recommendations

Brela is the only agency in the Mainland that does business registration. As the government has embraced private sector lead economy, it means the agency has a great role in ensuring smooth running in registration of all businesses- big or small.

Informal, micro and small enterprises play a big role in the lives of millions of Tanzanians. Brela is supposed to play a leading role in assisting, advising and protecting micro and small business for the country to achieve greater economic growth.

At the moment unlike an agency like Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) that waives user fee for small and micro enterprises, Brela does not have any special consideration for such enterprises

This is highly undesirable and goes counter other government initiatives for business formalization as follows: every Tanzanian with a business idea should be freely allowed to register his/her business idea at very little or no cost; user fees should not be used to generate income for the agency; rather Brela's concern should be to encourage as many people as possible to formalise their entities for the greater good of the country and in the end increase actual incomes of the people and the country's tax base; user fees by government agencies like Brela are not regulated by anvbodv

Self-regulation for very important is a society for small traders, identified service giving agencies such as Brela and TBS, are not very palatable. There should be a body to regulate how such agencies serve the masses and at what cost. They should not be left to decide on their own, there must be an institutionalised mechanism set by necessary policies and laws on how the private sector will be involved in this.

The Vibindo society further recom mends a need for further studies.

Send your comments for free starting with (TRADERS) to 15774

Study assesses business legislation

By Kilimo Kwanza Reporter

Business Activities Registration Act (Bara) was enacted by the Parliament in January 2007 to repeal the Business Licensing Act number 25 of 1972.

The Act intends to remove unnecessary restrictions on business entry regulation and exit by radically streamlining business start-up processes, having in place a simple, clear, transparent, cost effective and consistent system for operating businesses in Tanzania.

However, in the process of establishing the regulation, Jumia ya Vikundi vya Wenye Viwanda na Biashara Ndogondogo (Vibindo), which



"The small traders, through Vibindo, argued that implementing Bara as it is would not achieve the objective of simplifying and reducing cost of doing business in Tanzania, and rather it would complicate the process.

some shortfalls and called for review of the Bara.

The small traders, through Vibindo, argued that implementing Bara as it is would not achieve the objective of simplifying and reducing cost of doing business in Tanzania, and rather it would complicate the process.

After intensive dialogue with the government and other stakeholders in the private sector, consensus was reached to implement Bara by piloting it in 24 local government authorities (LGAs) namely: Temeke, Ilala, Kinondoni, and Kibaha.

Others are: Morogoro, Tanga, Arusha, Moshi, Babati, Dodoma,

Singida, Tabora, Shinyanga, Ilemela, Nyamagana, Musoma, Bukoba, Iringa, Mbeya, Kigoma Ujiji, Sumbawanga, Songea, Lindi, and Mtwara Mikindani.

The pilot was intended to test the Act on the ground and observe any shortfall and eventually conduct a comprehensive review basing on the evaluation report.

To put the process into motion, the government prepared a participatory action plan for the implementation of the activities. Various activities were identified for the pilot implementation.

According to the action plan, the project commenced on May 2009 and ended in August 2011.

In turn, Vibindo society, as one of the main stakeholders of the Act, requested and received a pre-project grant from the Business Environment Strengthening for Tanzania Advocacy Component (BEST-AC)] to make follow up on the implementation of the Bara to the piloted councils, and come up with findings with regard to the efficacy of the Act.

Due to financial constraints, Vibindo Society picked a sample of five councils from the 24 councils which were earlier selected for the pilot project, namely: Mbeya, Dodoma, Morogoro, Moshi and Mtwara Mikindani.

To this effect, Vibindo engaged Helping Hand, an independent consulting firm, to undertake a survey on the implementation. The terms of reference (ToR) for the project emphasises on activity number four to nine in the action plan, which are procurement of equipment and services as well as locating office space.

Others are recruiting of required staff, developing a business registration system and installing a wide area network, developing a strategic communication system and sensitising the public, fully implementing the Bara, monitoring its implementation and documenting lessons learnt.

These being the core Bara piloting implementation activities, from March 28 to April 20, 2011, the consultant visited all five identified piloted councils and assessed the progress of implementation of the action plan.

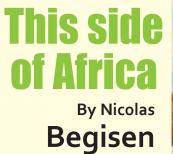
At the end of the survey, the consultant was required to prepare a questionnaire addressing these issues, and prepare a report on findings.

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COLUMN

Environment: Agriculture and recycling



ecycling is an area that is, in most cases not fully or never understood but can offer us with numerous answers to a range of questions that worry us when it comes to agriculture and keeping the environment both safe and clean. Let us delve into the world of recycling and see how it benefits agriculture if at all it does.

Most farm operations rely a lot on disposable plastics and this is across all sectors of agriculture. Long gone is glass, metal, concrete and ceramic. Plastics are more favored due to being cost effective, safe, and increase in production efficiency. However farmers carry out certain practices that do not maximize on the advantages provided by disposable plastics. Many a time you find a farmer burning waste plastics in open fires on their farms, plow them in fields or even dispose of them in water sources. These actions exhaust the productivity of the farming land.

Nevertheless recycling has the answer to this nerve cracking troubles. The benefits of recycling by farmers ought to include sizable energy and resource savings. Recycling is rare, but new opportunities are constantly emerging. Many everyday items can be reclaimed, reprocessed and remanufactured to maximize on productivity on the farm land thus resulting in higher vields

We should understand that burning of plastics causes a release of dioxins and other pollutants, which then can enter the food system at the base of the food chain. When left in the field, plastics pose risks to livestock, create mosquito breeding habitats, interfere with the ecosystem, and are an ugly detriment to agri-tourism.

Bear in mind nothing comes easy without having to break a sweat, recycling is a process and if well handled it is bound be profitable to farmers. The art of recycling is more than just storing empty bottles and used aluminum cans separate from the garbage. It

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wholesomely includes gathering a wide range of recyclable materials and processing them into reusable materials that can be used to make more plastics.

So what are the benefits of recycling to a farmer? A lot of everyday use objects are created from recyclable materials thus a farmer can use all that is on his farm to maximize yields while

being cost effective. Energy and re- been used and can be reused for other sources used are saved as making recycled raw materials uses less energy than processing original raw materials. According to recycling-revolution.com, making recycled aluminum saves 95 percent of the energy usually used to make aluminum from raw materials; recycled steel uses 60 percent less energy; recycled newspaper uses 40 percent less energy; recycled plastics use 70 percent less energy; recycled glass uses 40 percent less energy.

Another important fact to note is that every ton of paper made from recycled materials saves 17 trees, about 450 gallons of oil and about seven gallons of water. Every ton of plastic that is recycled saves the equivalent energy of 1,000 to 2,000 of gasoline. Source: HCDoes.org

Apart from just the packaging materials found on the farmer, water is a very integral part of farming and should also be held in high regard. Every effort should be put in proper usage of it and also reclaiming what has

30 GALLON REFUSE DISPOS **Disposed substances**

BEST-AC



purposes. Recycling water is the reuse of water that has been "reclaimed" from tap water and sewage and then treated.

This water is not intended for drinking but for other farm uses such as watering plants, construction activities, and landscape irrigation as well. Every gallon of water that is recycled is one less gallon that needs to come from rivers, lakes and ground water sources.

Electronics, batteries, solvents and oils can all leech harmful chemicals and gasses into the ground or air if discarded into a landfill. Specialized recycling programs are available to deal with these items either through safe destruction or reuse. Electronics are usually broken down to their essential elements with harmful components destroyed safely and other components recycled for reuse. In some cases, electronics are refurbished and reused.

For more info or comments: nkbegisen@gmail.com

Tel: +255 22 2122984-6 TATEECO Ltd - Tel: +255 784 427817 EQUIPMENT FINANCE



WATER AND SANITATION

Dar es Salaam Water and Sewerage Authority (DAWASA) - Tel: +255 22 276 0006

Dar es Salaam Water and Sewarage Corporation (DAWASCO) Tel: +255 22-2131191/4

Drilling and Dam Construction Agency (DDCA) Tel: +255 22 2410430/2410299

Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority Tel: +255 22 2123850, 22 2123853

Water and Environmental Sanitation Projects Maintenance Organization (WEPMO) Tel: +255 22 2410738, 716 099959 Ministry of Water

Tel: +255 22 245 1448

INDUSTRY SUPPORT AND ASSOCIATIONS

Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) – Email: dg@sido.go.tz, info@sido.go.tz

ANSAF - P.O. Box 6370, Dar es Salaam

CNFA - info@cnfatanzania.org

Tractors Limited

Cells: +255 784 421606, 786 150213

Consolidated Holdings Corporation (CHC) Tel: 255 (022) 2117988/9

Vocational Education and Training Authority (VETA) - Tel: +255 22 2863683/2863409

Export Processing Zones in Tanzania (EPZ) Tel: +255 22 2451827-9

Agricultural Economics Society of Tanzania (AGREST) - Tel. +255-23 260 3415

Tanzania National Business Council (TNBC)

Tanzania Agriculture Partnership (TAP)

Tel: +255 22 2124851

Tanzania Milk Processors Association (TAMPA) Tel: +255 222 450 426

Rural Livelihood Development Company (RLDC) Tel: +255 26 2321455

Tanzania Cotton Board Tel: +255 22 2122564, 2128347

Horticultural Development

Council of Tanzania (HODECT) Cell: +255 789 222 344; Fax: +255 27254 4568

AGRO-PROCESSING

ERTH Food - Tel: +255 22 2862040 MUKPAR Tanzania Ltd Tel: +255 28 250038/184 ASAS Diaries Limited - Tel: +255 26 2725200 Tanga Fresh - Tel +255 27 2644238

NatureRipe Kilimanjaro Limited Tel: +255 22 21 51457

Gurudumu Tatu Limited Tel: +255 22 2865632 / 2863699 National Service Corporation Sole (SUMAJKT) Cell: +255 717 993 874, 715 787 887

Private Agricultural Sector Support (PASS) Tel: 023-3752/3758/3765 Community Bank Association Tel: +255 22 2123245 Bank of Tanzania P.O. Box 2939, Dar es Slaam, Tanzania

AGRO-INPUTS

Minjingu Mines & Fertilizers Ltd Tel: +255 27 253 9259 250 4679