

SAFE-World Project/Initiative Summary

Country: Tanzania

Project/Initiative Title: SECAP - Soil Erosion Control and Agro-Forestry Project (GTZ) 1984

Nos. farmers: 1000 Hectares: 1300

Agro-Ecological Zone: III/VII

Improvement types

1x	2	3x	4	5x	6x	7	8	9
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Success and Limits to spread

Success	Limits
1b, 3e	3a, 5b, 4a

A. Key Impacts

A1 – Productivity

	Before/Without	After/With	% change
Vegetables and bananas			New crop

A2 – Impacts on natural capital

- ?? Formerly not cultivated fields are now productive again.
- ?? Soil and Water Conservation has sped up considerably. We also plant trees and promote O-grating. People have awareness that forest is water. We start doing more for soil fertility (Dolicos lablab and compost making).
- ?? Farmers plant more species (diversification). Use of chemical fertilizer is not possible as it is not available. ONLY for cash crop (cabbage, tomato, etc.). Farmers try to use chemicals. We promote Neem-application.

A3 – Impacts on local community (social capital)

- ?? Farmers organ ise themselves in working groups. They carry farmyard manure to the group members.
- ?? People come back to their land, they cultivate now instead of looking for casual labour possibilities.
- ?? There are Soil Conservation Committees which create by-laws and try to promote physical measures cut-off terraces.

A4 – Impacts on households and individuals (human capital)

- ?? Project is concentrating in low potential areas and especially subsistence women farmers are benefiting.
- ?? Food availability period is longer.
- ?? Farmers are investing in their farms again. Unfortunately we have still no title deeds.

Formerly, in many areas, it was impossible for women to take decisions about SWCM. This

seems to have changed.

Women farmers have more weight in decision making, and these decisions are more easily accepted. Still they have to ask for permission from the husband, if at all he is around. But the women farmers can be more active and get better organized than before. Men are accepting and appreciating the women's contributions in the implementation of SWCM. Even for communal work like for the construction of the road in Nkimai, the women are now actively contributing.

Specially women participating in the working groups show this activeness and decision power. Women have their own working groups or participate in mixed working groups. They are convincing other women farmers to join the groups, and by doing so they are the strong promoters of the physical measures.

A5 – Key changes in farm / regional system

?? More production already in the first year.

?? SWC - we work in 12 catchments about 4000 people (up to the year 2000 we planned to go in 50 new catchments). We cover 300 ha. Yes! We have a good spill over effect and neighbouring farmers start terracing their land.

B. Types of Sustainable Agriculture Improvements

Type 1: Better use of available renewable natural capital

Type 2: Intensification of single sub -component of farm system

Type 3: Diversify by adding new productive natural capital and regenerative components

Type 4: Better use of non-renewable inputs and technologies

Type 5: Social and participatory processes leading to group action for making better use of natural capital

Type 6: Human capital building through training-learning programmes

Type 7: Access to Finance

Type 8: Add value by processing to reduce losses and increase returns

Type 9: Add value by direct or organised marketing of produce to consumers

	Yes/No	Narrative
Type 1	x	?? Macro contour lines cut-off drains. ?? Water harvesting structures fanya juu (do up)
Type 2		
Type 3	x	?? Agroforestry (more trees in the field). ?? improved heifers through bull program.
Type 4 Type 5	x	Participatory approach... to begin with Rural Appraisal PRA then we have village technicians (from the hamlets) who assist the farmers to measure. Farmers exchange is very important and good tool to motivate for a change!
Type 6	x	?? School awareness creation program. ?? Now we did participatory impact monitoring, it was very good experience for our team as well, and farmers appreciated a lot committees.
Type 7		
Type 8		

Type 9		
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C. Key Lessons: Success, Spread and Constraints

C2 – Aspects of local/national context contributing to success

Working groups popped out without big support from the project. They are really promoting the idea. We have co-ordinators who live 1-2 years close to the community. We try hard to be participatory (still a bit top down). We do PRA and assist not only in Soil Conservation. We stress production and cooperate with Irrigation Project. We miss National Policy on SWCM. We are members of many networks!

C3 – Limitations preventing spread

- ?? No national SWC Policy in Tanzania.
- ?? Ministry and Extension service in hopeless condition.
- ?? No motivation for the small salary - project pays Performance Related Allowances (PRA).
- ?? No support, no leadership qualities.
- ?? Farmers have not many choices. Farming systems are very limited.
- ?? Problems of marketing is tremendous.
- ?? Nobody is organized.
- ?? Jealousy and no co-operation between farmers.
- ?? Development reduced speed. (Moslems - cultural factors).

C4 – Policy issues

- ?? No national SWC Policy in Tanzania.
- ?? Ministry and Extension service in hopeless condition.

D. Contact Point for Project/Initiative

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E. Project Narrative

We are using a *participatory approach* and not any longer the 'top-down' approach. The gap between the farmers and the Extension staff has become smaller. *Village technicians* are still considered as the real advisors, they motivate farmers finally to change their fields. They are implementing with the farmers. They are often the members of the working groups and they will stay in future in the villages.

Farmers spend more time in their plots than formerly. They are seen more often in their fields, taking care of their structures of SWC. The main reason is the expectation of higher yields. Production has increased, and farmers realise this very clearly. There is awareness about the importance of applying farm yard

manure and use the recommended spacing.

Farmers don't go for casual jobs, but concentrate on their agricultural activities.

The farmers exchange to visit other areas and the discussions from farmer to farmer are very motivating to change the farming practices. Discussion with other fellow farmers is more convincing than with the extension staff. And the farmer receiving the visitors feels honoured and gets even more respect from his neighbours.