

Smallholder Crop Finance (SCF) in Kilombero Valley, Morogoro Region

A Matching Grant Fund project of the Competitive African Rice Initiative (CARI) and Kilombero Plantation Limited.

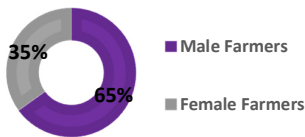


Goals

The goal of the project is to integrate 2,000 rice farmers into sustainable and competitive business models that lead to increased paddy production as well as improvements in quality. As a result, income of the farmers are expected to double by the end of the 2-year project. This contributes significantly to the reduction of poverty of small holder farmers in Kilombero District, Morogoro Region, Tanzania.

Our Approach

In order to double the yield and income of beneficiaries, support is given to the beneficiaries through training on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and System of Rice Intensification (SRI). By supporting contract farming arrangements between farmers and off takers, the project enables farmers to market their products. The technical packages and GAP training includes demonstrations on the use inputs (fertilizers and agrochemicals), use of zero tillage in production and good farming practices. Farmer Business School (FBS) training increase farmers' financial literacy and teaches them how to manage their farm as a business.



Project strategies

- Enhancing rice production capacity of 2,000 rice farmers for production of 3.5MT/hectare.
- Access to quality inputs and credit facilities
- Financial literacy trainings on long term planning and debt service
- Enhanced mobile phone networking that support information on input distribution, price of paddy price and markets, paddy supplied by farmers and sale order from individual farmer
- Improved linkages among rice value chain actors (Farmers, Extension Agents, Input Dealers, Offtakers, Millers and Financial institutions)
- Crop diversification to help improve family nutrition and provision of alternative source of income.

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