

2016/2017 Q4 (JANUARY-MARCH 2017)

OVERVIEW

FDT has managed to progress roles in improved seed supply, moving from subsidised loans to nurseries in 2014, to loans without subsidy in 2015, to supply by a market player, Jambe Agro, in 2016, alongside renewed potential in TTSA. Peer to peer learning is evident among tree growers, whereby progressive farmers that were willing to take risks by adopting improved planting materials and make additional investments in better silviculture practices, are actively and passively influencing fellow farmers. There has also been an unexpectedly high level of skill transfer between nurseries. Overall, more market actors are adopting productive practices and looking to provide sector services. This period saw an important milestone reached in terms of species trials planted in public plantations, as well as the early stages of establishing breeding populations and seedling seed orchards for *P. patula* and *E. grandis*. The potential for further inclusive arrangements for seed orchards is also being explored. MNRT published the 'Forest Plantation and Woodlot Technical Guidelines' as the new national reference point for commercial forestry of key commercial species in Tanzania.

Key developments during 2016/2017 Q4 are outlined below.

ORGANISATION AND GOVERNANCE

Management: Positive risk management for the entire year with decline in risk rating for 44 of 60 risks. Ten new risks were added to the risk register (to replace low priority risks) for management from 1 April 2017 onwards. Strong progress made in implementing findings from the October 2016 Annual Review, 2016/2017 Audit, 2016 Operations Review and DFID financial management review.

Human resources: Completed job grading and progressed with salary review, continued execution of the staff training plan, established Safety and Health Committee, completed annual performance reviews and preparations for applying competency framework, finalised revisions of HR policy.



Finance and administration: Budget management for Q4 had a variance of 9%, with expenditure for Year 4 2016/17 at 87% of Year 4 budget and expenditure up until the end of Year 4 amounted to 71% of the total phase 1 budget. Inventory management (full counting of seeds and clones) took place. External auditors appointed for period ending 31 March 2017.

Measurement and learning: Initial surveys undertaken as part of effort to gain greater clarification of FDT current beneficiaries and means to increase the impact of FDT interventions. Reviewed measurement tools and responsibilities, and drafted a value for money strategy

GENETIC RESOURCES

Tree breeding infrastructure: Trial maintenance planning and field activities undertaken in most trials in collaboration with trial site owners. TFS, KVTC and NFC have met all agreed trial establishment and maintenance costs to date, demonstrating a shift from the start of the programme when FDT covered all R&D costs. FDT worked with the management teams of TFS during land preparation and trial establishment (Eucalyptus species, Eucalyptus hybrid clonal, Pine species and Corymbia species) in Mbizi, Wino and Ruvu. This has included the testing of alternative planting material in warmer and drier areas outside the southern highlands, Ruvu and Wino. On-the-job training provided to TFS staff during utilisation of Standard Operating Procedures while establishing trials. SOP guidelines were sent to TAFORI for inclusion of pests and diseases scoring. Planting material assembled and land preparations undertaken in preparation for seedling seed orchards and breeding populations at Sao Hill. *P. patula* and *E. grandis* clonal seed orchard preparations continued in collaboration with TTSA.

Strategy and institutional arrangements: Engaged at senior level with stakeholders in Dar es salaam (MNRT and African Forestry) on the future of TIRWG and shift of coordination role away from FDT. Visits were also made to Sustainable Forest Investment, KVTC, TAFORI, TTSA, SUA, TANWAT, NFC and PFP to mobilise collaborative investments and shared R&D costs. Forestry stakeholders have shown willingness to participate in collaborative tree improvement, with most private companies willing to contribute but requiring more information on financial needs, while some government institutions have shown interest to ultimately lead coordination. TAFORI and the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Tourism of SUA have also shown interest in leading TI activities. Experience from South Africa and Zimbabwe offers alternative models for private and public sector funding and coordination.



TREE GROWER SERVICES

Seed supply: Marketing efforts by Jambe Agro (JA) included radio announcements and promotion of improved seeds to nursery operators, large commercial farmers, Tanzanian investors, PFP and the tobacco industry. JA prepared an ambitious One-acre-pack expansion strategy, with initial marketing trials through the Tanganyika Farmer Association outlets proving promising. Assisted connect JA to seed import sources in South Africa and Zimbabwe, and to enhance learning on species suitability and reliability of the tree seed supply, the provision of technical guidance and export procedures.

Nurseries: 89 FDT-trained nurseries produced and sold over 11 million seedlings, with nearly 5 million raised from improved seeds. FDT continued to build technical and business management practices, with a survey indicating that 356 neighbouring nurseries have adopted good practices. Explored commercial training providers through which nurseries can access commercial training services, and conducted a willingness-to-pay survey among nurseries. FDT met with financial institutions to promote the nursery business model and explore opportunities to access commercial loans.

Advisory services: In terms of promoting advisory services around silviculture, FDT trained some 200 tree nurseries, and will determine the business benefits for nurseries who provide such advisory services. Ongoing efforts to influence several different types of actor and explore options for sustainable advisory, extension and training services to tree growers. This has included outgrower schemes (forestry, tea and tobacco sectors, with a focus on the latter given potential large number of farmers reached), government extension (building on training given to forestry extension staff), medium tree growers (non-industrial tree plantation investors) and local organisations.

Training materials and demand creation: 30,000 copies of the FDT produced printed learning material were printed this past year, including 10,000 each by TFS and PFP. 300 copies of the FDT produced training videos have been distributed to extension agents and are also available over YouTube. The 'Forest Plantation and Woodlot Technical Guidelines' were completed and published by MNRT. Temporary demand creation effort by FDT Field Foresters continued with training of 4,005 tree growers to further strengthen the supporting market function of JA and commercial tree nurseries.

Fire management: In collaboration with MNRT and African Forestry, advertised TOR to develop Integrated Fire Management Guidelines and scope targeted interventions.

Seed and seedling production standards: Consultancy tender was advertised for the development of standards for improved tree seeds, tree nursery and plantation establishment services.



FOREST PLANTATION AND WOODLOT TECHNICAL GUIDELINES



Forestry and Beekeeping Division

February 2017

Forest Plantation and Woodlot
Technical Guidelines

MARKETS AND POLICY

Woodlot mapping: Following completion of the pine and eucalyptus mapping in the southern highlands (estimated 233,500-257,600 Ha covered by 72% pine and 28% eucalyptus in the Southern Highlands), worked with private forestry company to explore how the spatial data can be used practically in the sourcing of raw material from smallholders. Draft mapping report produced.

Small grower marketing: Initiated development of two interventions aiming to promote participation of poor small tree grower in the sawn timber value chain: developing harvesting and processing contractor services; and improving marketing information and bargaining power at harvest. Initial scoping also undertaken to understand whether a veneer investment could be profitable.

Wood market study: Following distribution of the third draft report on Tanzania Wood Market Study by Unique, feedback from stakeholders were compiled and sent for incorporation in a final version prior to a final validation event. Discussions held with PFP to promote alignment of messaging.

Sector policy and planning: Rapid review of the draft revised Forest Policy was undertaken to identify changes since the last draft version was circulated for stakeholder comment and policy gaps in light of FDT's work to identify a desirable vision for the commercial forestry sector. The Trust was requested by FDT to engage with this final stage of policy review, which is being coordinated by FAO.

Various documents can be found on the [Resources](#) section of the Trust website.