



FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT TRUST
UENDELEZAJI MISITU TANZANIA

ADVISORY PANEL NEWSLETTER

Q4 2015/2016

27/4/2016



OVERVIEW: QUARTER 4 2015/2016

The major developments in Q4 2015/2016 can be summarised as follows:

I.1. GENETIC RESOURCES (COMPONENT 1)

- Convened meeting to pursue adoption of the Tree Improvement Strategy and drafting of Terms of Reference for Tree Improvement Research Working Group.
- Continuation of planned activities for 2015/2016 trial establishment (covering higher altitude, cold sites and lower altitude, warmer sites) including drafting of agreements, land preparation, trial designs, planting and blanking. Both existing and incoming stakeholders are willing to extend level of investment beyond provision of land only.
- Drafted Terms of Reference for a study on species suitability and site potentials across country
- Reviewed strategic rationale for tree improvement activities as part of wider FDT strategy process.
- Planned activities:
 - Completion of species trial activities carried forward from Q4
 - Stakeholder engagement to be sped up
 - Embark on various studies related to planning for TI institutional arrangements, including completing appraisal of options for the tree improvement programme
 - Conclusion of other outstanding contracts/agreements
 - Convene first meeting of TI Research Working Group.

I.2. TREE GROWER SERVICES (COMPONENT 2)

- Work to clarify options for facilitating market driven access to inputs relevant to tree growers.
- Initiated analysis of financial statements, business models and value proposition for sample of nursery operators and FIPS agents, and corresponding field forester training.
- Data collection to determine catchment area, profile and number of growers reached through nursery extension.
- Stakeholder meeting to finalise plantation establishment and management guidelines.
- Nursery operator refresher training with focus on providing support services to tree growers
- Facilitate tree seed supply to nursery operators through Jambe Agro
- Support negotiations with TFA and agro-dealers on marketing channels for one-acre-packs
- Planned activities:
 - Complete analysis of nursery operator and contractor business models
 - Review MoU with Jambe Agro covering seed loan and other arrangements
 - Develop post FDT capacity to advise seed distributors on species selection and seed source identification.
 - Assist JA on promotions efforts and link to tree seed sources in EA, SA and Zim
 - Analysis of seed supply business model, including private commercial tree seed suppliers, public supply, and seed producer/distributor model.
 - Facilitate identification and testing of different distribution channels for nursery (shipment, courier) and OA packs (TFA, agro-dealers)
 - Conduct demand analysis among TGA and plantation owners
 - Benchmark SAWLOG (Uganda tour)
 - Develop ToR and plan for a study on outgrower models

I.3. MARKETS AND POLICY (COMPONENT 3)

- Developed learning questions, TOR and pursue implementation of two sector-wide studies: wood product supply and demand dynamics and wood product value chain assessments
- Scoped three options for woodlot mapping/remote sensing and move ahead with contracting
- Undertook targeted data collection and analysis in light of key parameter uncertainties from Mwenga analysis – recovery rates and establishment costs
- Concept and work plan developed for study on tree grower marketing choices targeting tree growers nearing harvest
- Drafted ToR for TTSA study on seed issues in advance of Advisory Panel meeting
- Planned activities:
 - Finalise small grower marketing research plan and field work to identify priority interventions, and initiate piloting of market price bulletin
 - Design and roll-out pole value chain study with TANESCO
 - Contract and oversee initial phase of wood products market studies
 - Review new Forest Policy to highlight key sector implications
 - Scope with PFP and other stakeholders regarding linkages on work with public sector
 - Contract benchmarking study on role of subsidies
 - Contract and oversee piloting of two remote sensing methodologies

I.4. STRATEGY, MONITORING AND LEARNING

- Completed adoption survey and end of season nursery survey
- Produced FDT annual report and support for DFID annual review
- Conducted analysis of the ‘catchment areas’ of the nurseries so as to know the potential small holder tree growers
- Ensured findings from nursery and demo review reports incorporated into FY17 Q1 plans
- Planned activities:
 - Develop intervention management tools/processes
 - Support to the development of revised results frameworks
 - Preliminary cost-benefit analyses of each intervention

I.5. ORGANISATION AND GOVERNANCE

- Drafted revised FDT strategy framework including FY17 annual work plan
- Specified further analytical studies in light of draft strategy
- Prepared and engaged with DFID annual review, including prior communication on strategy
- Reviewed manpower planning and conduct staff performance appraisals
- Proceeded with evaluation, selection and procurement of accounting software
- Tax and compliance review completed
- Organised meetings of Trustees and Programme Review Committee
- Planned activities:
 - Development of organisational health scorecard and risk management plan
 - Submission of HR and finance policies to Trustees for review and approval
 - Oversee refinement of organisation strategy and work plan
 - Review external relations and develop communications policy and plan
 - Oversee external annual audit and conduct review of financial controls and processes
 - Continue to develop register and controls for seed inventory and stock flows
 - Targeted recruitment of five positions in Trust and develop succession plan