



RESCAP Weekly Progress in NOVEMBER 2014

RESCAP stands for "Rural Extension Service Capacity Advancement Project through PaViDIA Approach"

Extension Service in Action!

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(No. 251/28th November 2014)

Date	Main Activities in This Week (■ HQ, ■ Northern ■ Lusaka)	News around
24 Mon	■ RESCAP Advisors meeting ■ Preparation of the Project Completion Report ■ Final Reporting to the Chief Representative of JICA Zambia Office ■ Final Reporting to H.E Japanese Ambassador to Zambia	<p>Words from Advisor, Mr. Goichi SASAKI (Agricultural Extension)</p> <p>I worked for 5 years in charge of Agricultural Extension and it was a great pleasure working together with positively minded colleagues. I met a lot of extension staff seriously thinking about agriculture in Zambia and conscious of more better extension service delivery for the small scale farmers throughout the country. My major part of the activity was the training of extension staff. Together with the Master Trainers, we designed training system, developed training materials, then planned and conducted various trainings, e.g. induction, training of trainers, and in-service trainings. We designed contents and developed materials for the trainings, and we implemented the trainings as organizers and facilitators. We made our trainings practical and feasible considering of the reality and challenges our staff and farmers facing. I think the public extension service is still demanded especially by majority of small scale farmers in rural areas. Although the RESCAP is now ending as a project, I have a confidence that our strong minded extension staff can make contribution to agricultural production and productivity by providing better extension service. When I first came to Zambia as a volunteer in 2000, I worked under the Ministry's extension in a camp in Western Province. Working under RESCAP was good opportunity to learn about the whole extension system, from camp to District, Province and HQ. I appreciate my colleagues who gave me this opportunity with good friendship.</p> 
25 Tue	■ Preparation of the Project Completion Report ■ Compilation of the Project Account Report	
26 Wed	■ Preparation of the Project Completion Report ■ Compilation of the Project Account Report ■ Courtesy Call to PACO/PAO Lusaka Provincial Office	
27 Thu	■ Preparation of the Project Completion Report	
28 Fri	■ Preparation of the Project Completion Report ■ Farewell Luncheon by MAL	
<i>Upcoming Events/Activities</i>		<i>This Week's Picture</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Closure of RESCAP Office in the MAL HQ 12th December 2014 - Completion of the Project 14th December 2014 		<p style="color: red;">"We want to promote mushroom production in Luapula Province!"</p>  <p>From 24th to 26th of November 2014, a group of officers from the MAL Luapula Province were at the Kasama Farm Institute and the Misamfu Research Station in Northern Province to learn how to produce oyster mushroom. With financial support of PLARD II, the MAL Luapula Province plans to promote mushroom production by establishing spawn production at Mansa and demo production at Farmer Training Centres in Mbereshi, Mwense, and Samfya Districts. The participants prepared Action Plan at the end of the training for implementation in 2015.</p>

Promotion of Rice Production in Chilanga District, Lusaka Province

On the 25th of November 2014, the field training on upland rice production was conducted by Ms Linda Mzungaire (CEO) & Ms Anna Nawa (BEO) for Mwembeshi camp of Chilanga District in Lusaka Province.

The training was conducted with the attendance of thirty nine (39) farmers, DACO, District staff, and a ZARI researcher.

Before the 2014/15 farming season, the DoA conducted an In-service training for 17 Districts of 6 Provinces targeting about 280 Camp Extension Officers. As part of the In-service training, practical trainings on upland rice cultivation was conducted under the collaboration between ZARI and FoDiS-R. Ms Mzungaire & Ms Nawa participated in the In-service training and learned how to grow upland rice and conduct demonstration for the farmers after



the In-Service Training. Ms Mzungaire was employed and started service in the MAL from October 2013 and this field training was the first experience for her to conduct practical

training and demonstration in front of farmers.

She started the training with explanation about importance of field selection, field preparation, sowing method using line marker, the amount of seed and fertiliser should be applied, and weeding. After the explanation she practiced field preparation and sowing together with the participants.

After the training, she said evaluating herself about her performance "score of 60%, what do you think?" but we observed she was doing more better following what she learned from the In-service training.

Ms Nawa has experience of upland rice demonstration and supported Ms Msungaire. She also shared with the participants about the



importance of nutrition in household and findings from the survey conducted by Japanese young volunteers

in the last 2 months in the District.

The demonstration field is located near the school and clinic which is easy for people to see. People say during the rainy season the moisture content of the soil becomes enough for crop production. There is a natural spring and small pond just near the field and water to irrigate is available throughout the year.



DACO/Chilanga, Mr Isaac Chilinda, said "unfortunately, Chilanga is not targeted for rice promotion under the FISP, but the District has the activity on rice under the Extension Strategy.

Farmers' interest in rice production is high. I hope the District has got opportunity to promote rice from FISP in the next season."

The demonstration field will be monitored by the District office and the ZARI/FoDiS-R. Field training on harvest/post-harvest handling will be conducted at the end of the season.

Today's Laugh

