

## **PROGRESS REPORT**

### **Capacity Development for Results-Based Monitoring, Evaluation and Auditing Projects**

**Reporting period:** [Oct 2013 – December 2013]

**Reporting Agency:** Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF)

#### **I. PURPOSE**

ESRF conducted ten studies in Uyui, Bunda and Bukoba Rural districts which came up with several findings and several proposed interventions to scale-up the achievements from ATI and MAF projects. However given the available resources, all proposed interventions could not be implemented simultaneously. Therefore, the below interventions were financed from the Capacity Development for Results-Based Monitoring, Evaluation and Auditing Project work plan for 2013/2014 financial year.

*Output1: Extending the ICT4RD Network to Connect MAF AIRC Centers*

This output, is focusing into the infrastructure side r connecting four centers in Mugeta, Bunda town, Kibara, and Kisorya. It builds on the existing ICT infrastructure owned by ICT4RD and Agricultural Information Resource Centers (AIRC) installed by former projects called Access to Information initiative (ATI) and MDGs Acceleration Framework (MAF). Also, this intervention intends to use ICT4RD servers to install required software/applications which will be used to perform the underlying project functions.

This intervention is implemented by several partners including; UNDP, SPIDER, DIT, COSTECH, ESRF and The Fraunhofer Society. The GRA ICT4D project (through Fraunhofer) supports the implementation of this activity by providing the following;

1. 1x WIBACK Controller + 10x WIBACK outdoor nodes including cables, antennas, mounting kit, etc. Value about 15000k Euro. (Fraunhofer FOKUS)
2. Medical and Messaging Applications (Fraunhofer AICOS)
3. Fraunhofer will train and support the KTH students that work in Bunda
4. Fraunhofer will survey/support the setup in November and conduct a validation of the test bed in 2014
5. Fraunhofer is available for remote support between September 2013 and March 2014.

Expected Output and Outcome include; internet infrastructure installed, easy, cheap and reliable internet connectivity, jobs for young entrepreneurs, resource sharing etc.

UNDP supports installation and administration of the activity. Specifically supports the Mugeta - Bunda Fiber Link, Bunda – Kisorya wireless link, Fabricating and erecting 7 masts, WiBACK to mount on the Masts, Buying the CPE for 4 location + 2 backup (Mugeta, Bunda, Kibara, Kisorya) and Buying accessories and installation costs.

*Output 2: Establishment of content development centre at ESRF*

The studies found that there are challenges to content in all forms. For the existing resource centres to be effective much more attention must be paid to creating and packaging information and messages in ways that speak directly to local audiences. The centre contain a series of simple information and knowledge utilities to enhance basic knowledge access, storage, sharing, and training.

We are establishing a centralised centre for content development and distribution. The centre is established at ESRF will be involved in development of radio programmes, Policy and research translation into simple language mostly Kiswahili. The centre will be equipped with a purpose build room for studio, and related equipment such cameras, Mixer with professional microphone, software, powerful computers, and DVD burning machine.

Expected Output from this activity will include timely availability of information and knowledge on poverty, vulnerability and environment. Community Knowledge and practices will be documented and disseminated

*Output 3: Support Operationalization of ICT platforms*

Under this output we are establishing community platforms, maintenance of websites and use of mobile phones through South-South Cooperation. Also support to Tzonline and TAKNET, Bunda Community radio and Mazingira FM for content sharing. Establishment of bulky messaging system and interactive mobile platform for Bunda and Bukoba districts are among the output under this intervention.

Through this output platforms, sharing community knowledge and best practices will be developed and operationalized. Knowledge and information will be repackaged into different format including DVDs and radio programmes. The existing platforms such as TAKNET, Tzonline, and Mazingira FM and Buda radio

will be strengthened. Implementers and coordinators will as well benefit from the knowledge gained through South-South Cooperation.

*Output 4: Share with stakeholders the studies' findings and recommendations and Capacity Building*

The studies' findings emphasize the need to share the feedback with LGAs and NGOs in the districts. Also the need for Capacity Building to Agriculture extension officers, NGO and community in general on the use of ICT and knowledge/information dissemination was accentuated.

*Expected output and Outcome include; sharing with stakeholders findings from the studies, eventually the use of information/knowledge for development will be improved. Knowledge on knowledge and information management will be enhanced among the LGAs and NGOs and people in general.*

## **II. IMPLEMENTATION (RESULTS)**

During the period under review ESRF conducted all activities/outputs as planned. They are:

During the period between September and December 2013, one Capacity Building workshop will be organised in Bunda and Bukoba as a way to disseminate the study's findings

### **1. Extending the ICT4RD Network to Connect MAF AIRC Centers**

Extending the ICT4RD network to connect MAF AIRC centers in Kibara and Kisorya with internet services. UNDP through ESRF has disbursed TZS 118,000,000 for the purpose of this activity. To date contractor for fabricating masts have been engaged and the fabrication started. While the fabrication is going on, the construction of masts base is in progress, bases for two masts are in the last stages of construction. It is expected that by the end of January all 5 mast will have been mounted and the two old ones repaired.

The GRA ICT4RD project (through Fraunhofer) has supported the implementation of this activity by providing the following;

- i. WiBACK radio Controller including cables, antennas, mounting kit, etc.
- ii. The solar power kits to be installed in all masts – they have installed on the existing 2 masts
- iii. Trained local team in Bunda on how to install the gadget also demonstrated the installation of the gadgets in two existing masts. The local team will install on the remaining masts.
- iv. Fraunhofer will be available for remote support between September 2013

and March 2014.

## **2. Establishment of content development centre at ESRF**

The rehabilitation of a room at ESRF that has been allocated for construction of a content development centre is in its final stages. The gadgets required such as cameras, mixer, microphones, furniture and other equipments have been ordered and some have already been delivered at ESRF. They will generate series of simple information and knowledge utilities to enhance basic knowledge access, storage, sharing, and training. It is our expectations that before the end of January the centre will have started production.

## **3. Support Operationalization of ICT platforms**

Under this output community platforms were established, websites maintained and use of mobile phones through South-South Cooperation encouraged. Specifically the following have been implemented:

- i. Support to Bunda Community radio and Mazingira FM for content sharing. Mazingira FM has ordered a solar system that will enable the radio to broadcast beyond the 4 hours a day due to the cost of operating a generator.
- ii. Establishment of bulky messaging system and interactive mobile platform for Bunda and Bukoba districts is in its final stage. Since majority of people in rural areas need agriculture information, the proposed platform will start with developing agriculture menu. The pilot phase was submitted and demonstrate and comments to make it more useful was provided.
- iii. The ICT platforms i.e Tzonline and TAKNET have been enhanced.
- iv. Tanzania Knowledge Network (TAKNET) continued to provide Tanzanians with the facility to network generate and promote the sharing of experiences and research through the use of ICT. During the period under review three topics were discussed, they are: Tanzania Human Development Report 2014: Economic Transformation for Human Development; 2013/2014 Government Budget: What is your opinion? And Fish Farming for the Attainment of MDG1
- v. Several institutions including research and Higher education were visited with the purpose of marketing and promoting the Tzonline and TAKNET, as well as collecting documents for Tzonline database.

Brochures, fliers, banners, posters and pens were distributed to potential users.

#### **4. Share with stakeholders the studies' findings and recommendations and capacity building**

The studies' findings emphasized the need to share the findings, recommendations and interventions with LGAs and NGOs and the public in the districts. It was expected that *sharing with stakeholders the findings* from the studies, will eventually culminate to the use of information/knowledge for development.

On 7<sup>th</sup> December 2013, a dissemination workshop was conducted in Bunda district. More than 50 people participated from different works of life. They included; district officers, NGO leaders, LGA officers, farmers, Agriculture extension officers, livestock keepers and businessmen. A printed report was handed over to the District commissioner by the team leader. The presentations apart from giving the findings and recommendations, they highlighted the interventions that are taking place in Bunda. The presentations were as follows;

- i. Social Economic profile of Bunda
- ii. Presentation of findings, recommendations and proposed interventions from 4 studies
- iii. Progress on Implementations of interventions and recommendations of the 4 studies; ICT4RD, Bunda/Mazingira Community radio, Content development centre, mobile interactive platform
- iv. Financial Support around Microfinance Institutions (MFI) in Bunda
- v. Future plan and way forward

### **III. RESOURCES**

The financial implementation status of these activities is attached to this report.