

PROJECT PROFILE

<u>Sector</u>	Agriculture
<u>Sub-sector</u>	Crops
<u>Code</u>	AG 27(A)
<u>Title</u>	Agricultural Extension Project
<u>Implementing Agency</u>	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry & Fisheries
<u>Location</u>	Countrywide
<u>Total Plan Exp.</u>	US\$ 2.48m
<u>Funds Secured</u>	US\$ 1.52m
<u>Funding Gap</u>	US\$ 0.96m
<u>Starting Date</u>	1999
<u>Completion Date</u>	2003

Background

Since 1986, efforts to build the Agricultural Extension Service which was rated very highly before the period of misrule (1971-1986) and well supported with appropriate by-laws, local administrators and cultural chiefs, have so far made very little success particularly in respect of food production. These efforts have been criticized for not involving the major beneficiaries, the farmers, in developing the service thus making it non responsive to farmers needs and concerns but rather supply driven from the center, largely offering unavailable and unsustainable packages. The research extension farmer linkages and the delivery systems and mechanisms have also been poor.

Governments strategy for agricultural extension emphasises improving the relevance as well as the effectiveness of the process of technology generation and transfer i.e agricultural research and extension. This has meant redoubling efforts and investments in extension but now under institutional arrangements which have been transformed through taking decentralisation to the sub-county level to ensure that extension would become more directly responsive of farmers needs.

Objective(s)

- (i) To improve the delivery of extension services.
- (ii) To improve the skills of extension agents and farmers.
- (iii) To enhance the adoption of improved techniques by farmers.
- (iv) To enhance, research extension farmer linkages.

Performance Indicators

- No of sub-county extension workers recruited
- No of motorcycles procured for sub-county extension workers
- No of induction courses carried out.

Technical Description

The project is bridging the gap before AEP II comes on board. The activities will include:

- Training of both extension workers and farmers
- Procurement of motor bikes for front line extension workers
- Carrying out induction courses for sub-county level extension workers
- Technical backstopping of the extension workers by MAAIF HQ staff
- Financing of activities initiated by the ended AEPI project

Financing

The GoU has provided US\$0.847m for the FY 2001/02.

Feasibility Studies

The project is a follow-up on of the ended AEP I which was originally a component of Head start facility for Agricultural Research and Extension project one of the projects under the Investment Component of IDA Agricultural sector adjustment credit programme (AG26) which became effective in January 1991.

Plan of Operation

The Permanent Secretary of MAAIF assisted by the Directors of Agriculture and Animal Resources are responsible for co-ordination and overall management of the project.