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Project Title: **Comprehensive Poverty Alleviation Agriculture Project** Date: **September 2008**

Context: Educating farmers in Zanzibar on agricultural techniques can improve the prosperity of their small-scale subsistence farms. Providing education, training, and advice on farming techniques that respond to the specific needs of the participants will increase the production of a healthy and varied food supply.

Project Summary/Beneficiaries: The goal of this project is to provide economically relevant education that will lead to a sustainable improvement in participant livelihoods. This exercise also serves as a pilot project for future agricultural education projects while continually building community involvement. Both men and women will participate in the three phases of this project. First, A study will be conducted to determine economic context and criteria for participant selection. Then, from the group surveyed, seven participants will be selected and trained. Second, participants will be trained on specific agricultural techniques. Third, a series of follow-up visits will be conducted to monitor progress and provide advice as needed. At the end of the project a final report will be prepared and farmers will partake in an exhibition ceremony.

Phase 1 Expected Results: Conduct survey of economic context in Koani, Zanzibar. Determine baseline data and criteria for selection of participants. Select 7 participants.

- **Technical Meeting:** Suleiman, Kathryn, and three staff members from the Ministry of Agriculture will meet to determine how to conduct the survey and what questions to ask. They will also determine criteria for selecting the 20 farmers who will be surveyed.
Preparation: Suleiman will prepare project goals and background for presentation.
Timeframe: Will take place first week of project. Will last one day.
- **Conduct Survey:** A meeting will be conducted with Koani's Sheha to introduce the project to the community. 20 residents for survey will be selected (based on the criteria developed Technical Meeting). Suleiman and two members of the Ministry of Agriculture will survey the farming system and local economy. The survey results will establish baseline metrics for measurement throughout the project. The results will also determine the seven final participants.
Preparation: Suleiman will organize transportation and buy materials for survey. Suleiman and Mohammed write-up results from technical meeting and print out survey questions (20 copies).
Timeframe: Will take place within a week of technical meeting. Will last two days.
- **Participatory Project Planning:** Suleiman and Mohammed will lead a meeting with three members of the Ministry of Agriculture and the seven selected participants to present the step-by-step project details and the survey results. As a group social issues will be

discussed to gain better contextual understanding and to permit a comprehensive analysis of individual farmer challenges. The meeting will allow the participants to share their perspectives and learn from each other. Critical outcomes will be farmers establishing and articulating their goals for this project and setting stakeholder expectations. A timeline or calendar will also be set for project activities. The costs for each farmer's plot materials will also be determined.

Preparation: Analyze the survey results, select seven participants, and determine metrics. Set agenda for meeting and organize location/transport. Prepare presentation.

Timeline: Will take place within two weeks of survey. Will last two days.

Phase 2 Expected Results: Train seven farmers on seven specific agricultural techniques (1-nursery establishment and management, 2-land preparation and crop management, 3-root crops, 4-plantains and other food crops, 5-plant protection/pest and disease management, 6-organic matter management, 7-post harvest).

- **Pre-arrangement meeting:** Suleiman, Kathryn and five facilitators from Ministry of Agriculture will attend a one day meeting to establish the training topics, determine training material needs (e.g. organic soil, chemical samples), and decide how to collect and transport materials to the training sites/farms. They will also determine the schedule and content for the training events. The facilitators will present Suleiman with a list of materials and a budget for their particular training day. Then, the trainers will collect material needed for their training sessions with the farmers.

Preparation: Suleiman will prepare training summaries and organize transport/lunch/logistics.

Timeline: Will take place within a week of participatory project planning meeting. Will last one day.

- **Training:** The training will take place in Koani on the plot of one of the members or nearby in a training area. Suleiman and two of the facilitators covering a particular day's topic will be present each day. The training will consist of a presentation of theory, a practical application, and an examination/re-cap each day. At the end of the training, certificates will be issued to the farmers.

Preparation: Material needs to be collected by the facilitators and transported to the site before training. Training hand-outs and materials should be prepared by Suleiman and reviewed with Kathryn prior to the week of training. Transportation/Meals/Logistics must be arranged by Suleiman.

Timeline: Will take place within a week of pre-arrangement meeting. Will last 5 days.

- **Materials Support/Implementation:** Based on the needs assessed during the project planning, material will be purchased to support the individual plots of the seven participants. Suleiman will purchase the material and transport it to the farmer's plots and assist the farmers in setting up their plots based on what they learned during training. Two staff members from Ministry of Agriculture will assist in these activities.

Preparation: Research, purchase, and transport the materials (manure, seeds, tools).

Timeline: Will take place within one to two weeks of training.

Phase 3 Expected Results: Suleiman will conduct a series of follow-up visits to monitor farmers' progress and dispense advice as needed. At the end of the project he will write-up a final report and organize a participant exhibition ceremony. Metrics established during Phase 1 will be measured throughout Phase 3.

- **Monitoring/Follow-up visits**: Each farmer will be visited once per month over the course of 5 months by Suleiman. On the last visit, two staff members from the Ministry of Agriculture will also attend and participate in a post-visit review/evaluation meeting. It will take approximately three days per month to conduct follow-up visits for the seven farmers. Farmers will continue to be encouraged to network during this phase of the project. Suleiman will take notes during follow-up visits and share them with Kathryn after each visit.

Preparation: Suleiman will arrange transportation and schedule visits with farmers

Timeline: Will occur continuously over five months after implementation

- **Exhibition Ceremony**: On site in Koani, the farmers, facilitators, community leaders, Kathryn and media coverage will participate in an exhibition of the goods grown during the project. This will serve as an opportunity to celebrate successes and evaluate the project (both achievements and short comings). At this time, we will also explore future options and share what has been learned.

Preparation: Select exhibition site, coordinate with farmers what they will be presenting, contact media, provide advertising and other exhibition materials needed.

Timeline: Will take place within 7 months of project start date