

“Working together to increase smallholder incomes in Kasese.”

KSIIIP’s objective is to increase smallholder household incomes through increased and improved productivity, postharvest handling, and marketing of high-value crops in Kasese district.

QUARTERLY UPDATE

Welcome to KSIIIP’s quarterly bulletin, which keeps stakeholders informed about current and upcoming key activities and events. KSIIIP is a unique collaborative effort among eight farmer associations, HighLow supermarket B.V. Holland, and Cordaid. The program continues to work with more than 2,000 smallholders engaged mainly in vanilla and hot pepper production. During the quarter, more than 35 metric tons of vanilla were harvested, earning more than US\$80,000 in the district. Vanilla production during this season increased by more than 50 percent, mainly because the vanilla vines that farmers received through the program in 2004 reached the production stage and because of continued technical assistance by KSIIIP. Mubuku Irrigation Scheme hot pepper growers remained steadfast in their quest toward EurepGAP, now GLOBALGAP certification. During the quarter, internal audits were undertaken and external audits are expected by the end of the fourth quarter. KSIIIP appreciates your continued and demonstrated interest in programme activities, your feedback is always welcome and will help us improve our service. — *KSIIIP Management.*

VANILLA

During the quarter, farmers remained busy with



Mr. Deo Munyanzikwiye scouting for pests in a young hot pepper field.



KSIIIP farmers interact with Ms. Annemiek van der Leij, during her visit to Kasese.

vanilla harvesting and marketing. KSIIP's efforts focused mainly on vanilla bean quality assurance and postharvest processing. The processing exercise is expected to be completed during the early period of the fourth quarter.

HighLow procured more than 22,198 kilograms of fresh vanilla beans from farmers, generating more than US\$40,000 in sales.

Below is a table of some activities performed under the vanilla enterprise:

	Association Name	Male	Female	Total
Trainings	Maliba	74	39	113
	Bugoye	89	36	125
	Kisinga	126	35	161
	Kyarumba Upper	133	29	162
	Kyarumba Lower	42	10	52
	Bwera	94	16	110
	Kyondo	50	17	67
	Maliba/ Bikone/ Isule	35	12	47
TOTAL		643	194	837
Farm visits	Vanilla associations	173	44	217
Meetings with vanilla farmers		334	153	487
TOTAL		1,150	391	1,541

MORINGA

KSIIP continues to play a market linkage facilitation role and was able to broker a supply of 9,000 kilograms of moringa seeds. Because of higher rainfall expected during the second season, higher moringa harvests are expected in the first quarter of 2008.

HOT PEPPERS

The Mubuku farmer association is committed to hot pepper production and is expecting to have an external GLOBALGAP audit in the fourth quarter this year. Harvesting is expected to begin in early November on 32 acres of new production.

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT TRAINING

This training was carried out by AMA consultants to equip small holder farmers with alternative environmentally friendly ways of dealing with pest and disease problems in their gardens.

Scouting, record keeping and identifying biological control agents for pests/diseases were emphasized. Excursions to farmer's fields were carried out to have 'hands on knowledge' and also find solutions to any on spot problems.

VISIT WITH ANNE MIEK

Ms. Annemiek van der Leij, Cordaid's Credit and Investment Officer in charge of Uganda, visited KSIIP and was able to share ideas with growers of Mubuku and Kisinga.



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