



**Tanzania Association of Women Leaders
in Agriculture and the Environment 1995
- 2006
(TAWLAE)**

TAWLAE was initiated in 1995. Winrock International-AWLAE program facilitated the initiation of the association and was registered under the Societies Ordinance of 1954 on 10th November 1995 with registration Number So 8527. The association is a member of AWLAE – net.

TAWLAE headquarter is established in Dar es Salaam with 8 active zonal offices: Western, Eastern, Northern, Lake Zone, Southern highlands and Central Zone, Coastal and Zanzibar zone. The headquarter office is well equipped with

computers, telephone, fax machine and hooked to Internet. There are six hundred active TAWLAE members network and collaborate with government and non-governmental organizations in and outside the country.

TAWLAE has managed to leverage resources from different organizations for the past ten years to build the capacity of women at all levels. The association shares information, ideas, views and reports with other institutions at district, regional and National level.

TAWLAE builds the capacity of rural and professional's women to enable them actively involved in decision-making and empowered socially, economically and politically. Members are actively involved in supporting and facilitating education to schoolgirls working and living under difficult conditions.

Sustainability

TAWLAE members are professionals from the following sectors: Agriculture, Education, Livestock, Forestry, Beekeeping, Fisheries, Wildlife, Land use, Tourism, and Environmental conservation.

TAWLAE has the capability to perform effectively its objectives with sustainable strategic plans in place, reviewed and formulated after every five years. The first strategic plan was from 1996 to 2000, the second from 2001 to 2005 and the third is in the process to cover year 2006 to 2010. The association is active in planning and implementation of cross cutting issues such as gender mainstreaming, child labor issues and training for HIV/AIDS mitigation and coping mechanisms

Members have access to new information and technology. They also participate in the country policy formulation and other institute's consultative and planning meetings. There is gender equity in the association project design, implementation and during processes of monitoring and evaluation.

TAWLAE has a good leadership with credibility, continuity and motivated with output from voluntary tasks they perform.

TAWLAE staff recruitment procedures are efficient for technical and subject related issues.

Picture 1. cassava harvest



Picture 2. solar drying of cassava chips



Picture 1, 2, 3 4, and 5 Mkuranga cassava and chicken production and marketing has raised household food security and income. Cassava processing is being improved.

Member's capacity development

The association coordinated training programs for member's capacity building. Resources were from Winrock International AWLAE – TAWLAE training programs and other donors. The status of training members as per 2005 was 2 postdoctoral, 6 PhD, 2 MPH, 8 MSc and 5 BSc. Other skills

training were short courses, study tours and seminars.

The great impact of training programs was realized. Members were promoted to higher posts in political, government and non-government organizations.

Experience

TAWLAE in collaboration with other development partners and government institutions has been active in implementing various development initiatives at community level in Tanzania. TAWLAE has expertise in project planning and management, training, consultancy, participatory Rural Appraisals, Project monitoring and evaluation. Project areas of work are Environment conservation, enhancing food security, income generating activities, marketing, processing to reduce losses and value addition of agricultural products as well as cross cutting issues such as HIV/AIDS, and gender mainstreaming.

1. African Education Initiative (AEI) project – Prevention and withdraw from child labor

The project was funded for two years (2005 –2006) a total of US \$ 202, 361 by US-Ambassadors' Girls' Scholarships Program (AGSP).

The project addressed the problem of child labor; there was a problem that children were drawn from school and sent to urban areas and exploited for household chores, bars/restaurants or worked in tea and tobacco plantations.

TAWLAE collaborated with the local community and the District local government to conduct regular mentoring and setting future strategies of addressing the problem in a sustainable manner. Project beneficiaries girl's students at primary level were from Kondoa, Iringa and Mfindi districts, while secondary school girls were from 40 secondary schools, 580 primary school and 120 secondary schools most needy girls students benefited from the program.

2. Project Education for Democracy and Development Initiative (EDDI).

TAWLAE received funds from Ambassadors' Girls' Scholarships Program (AGSP) to facilitate and coordinate in supporting girl's education from 2000 to 2004. Secondary school girl's beneficiaries were 2057 and from poor families and living

under difficult condition which could make them susceptible to school drop out and to child labor. TAWLAE activities involved supply of educational materials, training and mentoring of 1000 students on career development, HIV/AIDS mitigation and coping mechanisms; and other skills on reproductive physiology (refer picture no. 6).

3. Improvement of food security situation in Mkuranga district through sustainable agriculture.

This is an ongoing project to improve food security and income of the district community (refer picture 1 to 5). The association is coordinating and supervising the project planning, implementation and evaluation. It was funded by Vredesiladen Country Office (VECO) Tanzania to be implemented from 2004-2006. Appropriate technologies for cassava and poultry production, value addition and marketing has been adapted and scaled up to 4 villages with 400 beneficiaries. Production of raw cassava has increased three folds and the Community food security and income has been improved hence higher income and poverty reduced. The project is sustainable because it involves the

community at all levels of implementation – they have ownership of initiated activities.

Picture 3. cassava flour packing for value addition



4. Frozen chicken promotion.

TAWLAE coordinated the promotion of frozen chicken activity in 2005, which was funded with \$ 25,005 by US Poultry and Egg Council (USAPEEC). The project created awareness to producers and processors that frozen chickens were good value added product for consumer market.

5. Environmental conservation through community participation

In 2001 TAWLAE received SEK 110,000 grant from Swedish Embassy – Tanzania to plan, implement, and evaluate a project on

environment conservation in Dar es Salaam sub urban.

6. Institutional Capacity Building:

TAWLAE has been granted US \$ 180,000 from ----to ---- by Ford foundation for institutional capacity building, office establishment, furnishing and operation, skills training of her members in leadership, policy and gender analysis, computer and connectivity, household food budgeting, communication and writing skills.

7. Technology transfer to communities.

TAWLAE coordinated transfer and scaling up of appropriate technologies to local communities after receiving a grant of \$ 39,792 from Mc Knight Foundation through Winrock –AWLAE Nairobi Kenya. Project activities were from 1998 to 1999; they improved food processing and income generation of beneficiaries. Technologies transferred were mushroom growing, fruits and vegetable processing, sweet potatoes preservation; sea weed farming, bee keeping, and improvement of local chicken and use of solar for processing.

8. Caring for Elderly project in Shinyanga Region.

TAWLAE members in Shinyanga region coordinated the project. Help age International provided a grant of TZS 45,000 000 for construction of 10 houses for elderly women, which started from 2005 and continues to 2007. During the project period TAWLAE working together with the local government authorities in facilitating training and sensitization of the community to stop killing elderly women on the belief that they are witch crafts. Training involved community legal rights, civics and gender issues.

9. Local chicken production in Dodoma

TAWLAE members in Dodoma region received a grant of TZS 3, 338, 508 from Care International to coordinate the project. The projects improved the income of the two village communities. Appropriate technological packages to improve local chicken production reached 2,573 households.

10. Domestic energy project in Dodoma.

The project was funded TZS 20, 880, 000 by Department for International Development (DFID). TAWLAE implemented the project in three villages, reduced firewood consumption and generated income to the community through sales of energy conserving stoves.



Picture 4. Low cost Chicken house at Sotele Village, Mkuranga District



Picture 5. Ordinary system of marketing of local chickens at village level



Picture 6 Mentoring seminar on HIV/AIDS, Reproductive Physiology and career development for Secondary School girls

