Together we achieved a lot in 2018!

Welcome to this special edition of our newsletter that highlights the major achievements and events of 2018.

Together we have achieved a lot. Our strong partnership with the Government of Tanzania both in the Mainland and Zanzibar, development partners and other UN Agencies enabled us to impact positively on the lives of small scale farmers across the country especially women and youth.

Through our technical support and as co-Chair of the Development Partners’ Agriculture Working Group, we have constructively engaged in dialogues, launched and implemented major projects all aimed at improving the agricultural sector in the country.

As we look into 2019, it is our hope that our partnership will further be strengthened for bigger impact and wider reach.

Many thanks!

Study on marine stocks to boost Tanzania’s industrialisation drive

In April and May last year a state-of-the-art marine research vessel Dr. Fridtjof Nansen conducted a two-week long research on fishery resources and ecosystem in Tanzania’s Indian Ocean waters.

The research was part of the 40-year partnership between FAO and Norway under the framework of the EAF-Nansen Programme through Norway’s Institute of Marine Research (IMR). The ship has seven different laboratories packed with high tech equipment. The Dr. Fridtjof Nansen vessel concluded surveys in several countries with the objective to collect data on distribution and abundance of fish stocks, biodiversity, environmental conditions, occurrence of micro-plastics. It uses cutting-edge technology and sophisticated equipment to help developing countries assemble scientific data critical to sustainable fisheries management and study how a changing climate is affecting our oceans.

Speaking at an event to mark the climax of the study in Tanzania organized at the Dar es Salaam Port, the Chief Secretary of the United Republic of Tanzania, HE Amb. Eng. John William Kijazi, said that the research was timely and that it was going to boost Tanzania’s industrialization drive in the fishing sector.
FAO, Tanzania for deeper collaboration

FAO Director General Mr. Jozè Graziano da Silva had a meeting with Deputy Minister of Agriculture from Tanzania Hon. Abdallah Hamis Ulega on February 23.

This was during the 30th FAO Regional Conference for Africa held at the Friendship Hall in Khartoum, Sudan from 19 to 23 February 2018.

During the meeting, Mr. Graziano da Silva and Hon. Abdallah Hamis Uledi had an opportunity to discuss various issues of common interest between Tanzania and FAO including the development of the National Fisheries Strategic Framework.

The meeting involved ministers of agriculture, livestock and fisheries from across Africa.

The functions of the Regional Conference are to hold consultations at a high level, to indicate the special problems of the region and the priority areas which should be taken into account.

The Khartoum meeting provided a platform for the ministers to chart a new path for agricultural development, food and nutrition security on the continent for the next two years.

FAO supports Tanzania to finalize forest policy review

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) finalized the consultative process of revising the National Forest Policy and handed it over to the Government of Tanzania through the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism (MNRT).

This follows an agreement between FAO and the Government of Tanzania in February 2017 through a technical cooperation program to support the country to finalize review of the 1998 policy in order to align with new developments in the country and across the globe.

The handing over ceremony was held on April 10, 2018 at the Ministry’s headquarters in Dodoma between the Ministry’s Permanent Secretary, Major General Gaudence Milanzi, and FAO Representative, Fred Kafeero.

FAO is working with MNRT to prepare an implementation strategy of the revised policy which will ultimately lead to legal reforms for successful implementation.
A new marine hatchery to benefit Zanzibar, East Africa

Zanzibar and Tanzania together with the larger East African region stand to benefit from the construction of Zanzibar semi-commercial marine hatchery that was launched in April 2018.

The hatchery was constructed with financing from the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and technical support by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

The Second Vice President of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar, Amb. Seif Ali Iddi and the President of KOICA, Ms. Lee Mi-Kyung presided over the launching ceremony.

The completion of the construction of this facility will go miles away in supporting the fishing mariculture in the country and in East African region by producing quality fish fingerings for our local and regional markets. This way it is expected to contribute to strengthening food security, job creation and social and economic development.

Giving back hope to Kagera residents

A joint programme by the Government and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has managed to enable residents of Kagera region to stand on their feet again after the 2016 earthquake and prolonged drought.

The afternoon of September 10, 2016 will remain in the minds of Kagera region residents forever. On that particular date, a 5.9 Richter scale earthquake struck the region killing 19 people while injuring more than 400 others with 2,072 buildings reduced into rubbles. A total of 14,000 other buildings developed major cracks. This compounded the risk of food shortages and seed scarcity.

The ‘Support Livelihood Restoration to the Disaster Affected Communities in Kagera Region of Tanzania’ project has seen Kagera region turning from asking for food aid to producing enough food for its residents and surplus for selling.

Farmers have benefitted from capacity building through the Farmer Field School approach, provision of agro-inputs, including livestock, fish fingerings and planting materials. In a year the project has reached 2,498 farmers in Bukoba Urban, Bukoba Rural, Missenyi, Kyerwa and Muleba districts.
Zanzibar finalizes its agriculture sector development programme

The Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar is in the final stages of development of a programme that will see major transformations in its agriculture sector in the coming ten years. Dubbed ‘Zanzibar Agricultural Sector Development Programme (ZASDP) which aims to boost sustainable production by combining both the blue and green economies.

Speaking in November the Zanzibar Minister of Agriculture, Natural Resources, Livestock and Fisheries, Rashid Ali Juma, said that his Ministry was finalizing the programme ready for the Government’s endorsement in the near future.

He was speaking during the meeting between the President of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar, Dr. Ali Mohamed Shein and members of the Development Partners’ Agriculture Working Group that was held at the State House in Stone Town.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) provided technical support to Government of Zanzibar in the development of the ZASDP.

The development partners supporting the agriculture sector paid a courtesy call on President Shein who appreciated the support by development partners to the agricultural sector in Zanzibar and pledged support to speed up ZASDP endorsement process.

Govt commends FAO for promoting food safety in the country

The Government through the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) has appreciated the financial and technical support by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) aimed at promoting food safety and quality assurance in the country.

In a letter to the FAO Representative to Tanzania Fred Kafeero, TBS Director General, Prof. Egid Mubofu said that the FAO contribution was a milestone in the country’s efforts to ensure food safety and quality assurance.

Tanzania Bureau of Standards, as the National Codex Contact Point, expressed appreciation to FAO, both the Tanzania Representation Office in Dar es Salaam and the FAO HQ in Rome, for assistance provided to the country on matters regarding food safety and quality assurance.

FAO assisted Tanzania in completing the Codex Trust Fund Phase II Tanzania Application in 2015 and later funded the Training for Trainers (ToT) on Food Safety and Quality Assurance.

From this activity forty nine (49) experts from the whole country participated and graduated and at the same time Food Safety Toolkit for training was developed, finalized and issued for use.

FAO and the World Health Organization (WHO) launched a follow up initiative to the Codex Trust Fund for the period 2016-2027 to support developing and transition economy countries to build their capacity to engage fully and effectively in the establishment and adherence to international food safety standards.
A successful campaign against rabies in Moshi District

A massive vaccination and public awareness raising campaign against rabies was carried out in Moshi (Rural) District, Kilimanjaro region between April and May following reports of the outbreak of the disease in the area.

The campaign was carried out by the Government through the One Health Desk in Prime Minister’s Office and Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries with technical support from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Between January 2017 and April 2018, Moshi District in the Kilimanjaro Region of Tanzania reported sporadic cases of rabies whereby a total of 168 human cases including 163 treated and recovered, and five deaths were reported.

A total of 29,000 dogs and cats were vaccinated which was a significant increase in vaccination coverage recorded compared to previous record of 4781 vaccinations per annum in Moshi.

As a result of the campaign, so far no single incidence of rabies has been reported in Moshi from May 2018 to date as compared to an average of 14 cases per month for the period between January 2017 and April 2018.

2018 World Food Day Celebrations

On October 16 over 130 countries in the world including Tanzania celebrated the World Food Day (WFD) with events organized to promote worldwide awareness and action for elimination of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition.

The day is also the commemoration of the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) that took place in 1945.

The theme for the 2018 WFD was ‘Our Actions are Our Future. A Zero Hunger World by 2030 is Possible’. Zero Hunger is the second of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations, supported by all UN Organizations.

Nations, private companies, and citizens from around the world are committed to achieve the 17 goals by 2030.

FAO, the World Food Programme (WFP) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) also known as the Rome Based Agencies (RBAs), led preparations to celebrate the 2018 WFD in Tanzania both the Mainland and Zanzibar.

The celebrations provided a platform for the Government, private sector, development partners, civil society and academia to interact and affirm further actions for ensuring Zero Hunger in Tanzania by 2030.
Over 10,000 rice farmers in Iringa region including women, youth, and men are going to benefit from a project that aims to equip them with postharvest management skills to enhance their competitiveness in the market.

Dubbed ‘Improve Competitiveness and Increase Postharvest Management Capacity of Smallholder Farmers in the Rice Value Chain Project’, was launched in February at a function that was held in Iringa. The project is financed by the European Union and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) provides technical assistance.

It is implemented in Iringa District, Iringa region by FAO in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Rural Urban Development Initiatives (RUDI) covering 12 irrigation schemes of Idodi, Makifu, Tungamalenga, Mlenge, Magozi, Mkombozi, Makuka, Mafuruto, Ipwasi Ndorobo, Mapogoro, Luganga and Mlambalasi in 24 villages.

The main aim is to enhance competitiveness among smallholder producers in the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor (SAGCOT) area through rice value chain development and proper post-harvest management.

Development partners pledge support to phase two of national agriculture sector development programme

Development Partners through the Agriculture Working Group (AWG) pledged full support to the implementation of Phase Two of the national Agriculture Sector Development Programme (ASDP II) that was launched in Dar es Salaam by President John Pombe Joseph Magufuli in June.

Speaking on behalf of the development partners at the launch, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Representative to Tanzania, Fred Kafeero, said that development partners appreciated efforts by the Government for coming up with the programme.

He noted that they were encouraged by efforts by the Ministry of Agriculture to prepare and endorse such a comprehensive and well articulated programme that will contribute to the national development strategy and government vision on industrialisation.

FAO and the US Agency for International Development (USAID) are the current co-chairs of the AWG which consists of over twenty five agencies, and embassies interested in supporting the agriculture sector in the country.

Others in the group include International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), World Bank, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, World Food Programme, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, African Development Bank, Department for International Development (UK), Japan International Cooperation Agency, Irish Aid and Embassy of Japan, among others.
OTHER ACTIVITIES AROUND FAO IN TANZANIA

Click on the headline to read the full story

- FAO strengthens capacities of African countries to use dietary guidelines for healthy diets
- Stakeholders meet in Zanzibar for Integrated Food Security Phase Classification roll-out
- FAO supports African countries on forest resources assessment
- International Forest Day message - Making cities greener, healthier, happier places to live
- FAO supports Zanzibar to address antimicrobial resistance in animal health, environment
- SADC veterinary experts in Dar es Salaam to learn, share experience on PPR
- FAO, Tanzania sign agreement to respond to fall armyworm

MEDIA COVERAGE

- Joint efforts by FAO, Govt restore lives in Kagera - The Guardian
- Yes we can have a world without hunger by 2030 - The Guardian
- Norway, FAO promote ecosystem for sustainable resource utilization - The Guardian
- Don says everyone has a stake in land tenure - Daily News
- Three major projects to boost Tanzania’s rice farming - The Citizen
- Room for Growth - International Business Year
- Achieving Zero Hunger - The East African
- Tap cassava potential to drive industrialization - The Citizen
- Govt releases 11 billion to fight pests, birds - The Citizen
- Kagera turning into producer of cassava - The Citizen