



TANZANIA

INNOVATIONS IN AGROECOLOGY

PRODUCING MACHINES FOR ORGANIC AND SMALL-SCALE FARMING SYSTEMS

UNACMA is the only association, at a national level, representing traders and repairers of agricultural machinery, and of machinery for the maintenance of green areas. It is associated with CONFCOMMERCIO MOBILITA and carries forward its objectives mainly in institutions at regional, national and European level. It carries out training and information activities about regulations and technical aspects. It collaborates, within the chain of national agricultural mechanization, with builders and users, for the development and dissemination of innovation in agriculture.

DESCRIPTION OF THE INNOVATION

The aim of UNACMA is to create and manage two mechanical workshops for the repair of agricultural machinery. This will allow the repair of non-functioning machines, and teach the mechanical profession

to the highest possible number of young local people. Thanks to our experience, we are sure that this is the first step to be taken and supported to encourage and spread agricultural mechanization,

starting from medium and medium-small mechanization, suitable for family-level agriculture. The new mechanics can guarantee repair and maintenance services directly in their villages.

DESIGN AND SHARING OF THE INNOVATION

UNACMA, thanks to the certainty that its members, and the whole category, have the best skills, abilities and experience, in the field of technical services for agricultural mechanization, has decided to use these qualities by making them available for the realization of a project supporting the development of sustainable agriculture in developing countries. The current destination of this first experience is Tanzania, in collaboration with the Dioceses of Dodoma and Same.



BENEFIT FOR FAMILY FARMERS AND FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY

We all know that food security in developing countries can only be achieved by increasing agricultural production. This increase is mainly achieved through the increase in cultivated areas, which requires agricultural machinery, especially for farm families or small businesses.

SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

An increase in family agricultural production and family income allows better schooling for children, and the reduction of the heaviest jobs for women. The marketing of part of the production exceeding family needs contributes to the development of trade, and a greater food availability for the entire population.



LESSONS LEARNED AND RECOMMENDATIONS

One of the many shortcomings that international cooperation has been reporting for some time, is the excessive dependence of rural populations on the use of hoe or animal traction tools, for the cultivation of land. We ourselves have been able to see directly how in sub-Saharan Africa, the already existing few machines are in fact almost totally unusable, due to the lack of mechanics and spare parts that would allow them to work for a long time.