



Photo: Land O'Lakes International Development Tanzania Dairy Development Program

Seventy-five percent of Tanzania's population is rural, and reliant on agriculture and livestock. In Tanzania, women's roles in this sector are expanding through the Tanzania Dairy Development Program (TDDP) and improving women's livelihoods and opportunities for economic growth.

BACKGROUND

In Tanzania, Land O'Lakes International Development has managed TDDP since 2010 under a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food for Progress grant. The aim of TDDP is to improve capacity for economic activity that generates household livelihoods, improves nutrition, and builds the sustainability of the Tanzanian dairy sector. TDDP partners are milk cooperatives in Northern Tanzania and the Tanzanian National Insemination Center (NAIC).

For TDDP, Land O'Lakes performed a landscape analysis and found women's representation to be strong at the farmer and cooperative level of dairy production, but weak in private sector support services areas such as feed manufacturing and veterinary and breeding services. With partner cooperatives, Land O'Lakes identified breeding services as the highest potential private sector entry point; and with the National Artificial Insemination Center (NAIC), TDDP initiated technical skill training of artificial insemination (AI) technicians.

Initial results showed that women AI technicians had higher positive pregnancy rates than their male counterparts. This outcome aligns with the global phenomenon of women AI technicians achieving higher positive pregnancy rates compared to their male counterparts, and that communities considered the women agents to be better technicians due to improved punctuality, increased frequency of follow-up visits, more attention to hygiene and better customer rapport. The process has also raised awareness among partners about the economic benefit of gender integration across the value chain.

FAST FACTS

Program Name: Tanzania Dairy Development Project (TDDP)

Program Goal: To provide technical assistance across the value chain to strengthen the dairy sector and ensure the sustainability of commercial milk production.

VEGA Lead Member: Land O'Lakes International Development

VEGA Lead Partners: Tanzanian National Artificial Insemination Center (NAIC) and local dairy cooperatives

Years Implemented: 2010 - 2014

Country: Tanzania

IMPACT

The focus of Land O'Lakes and TDDP on building local capacity in gender integration has had impact in various ways:

- First, as seen in the innovation of training women as AI technicians, the gender integration focus enables individual women to gain skills, opportunities, and income;
- Second, there is a positive impact on the cooperative as a whole, since gender integration strengthens a cooperative's functioning, sustainability, and ability to meet diverse market needs;
- Third, there is a change in attitudes regarding gender roles and norms and an increase in male-female cooperation to improve economic conditions for all;
- Fourth, TDDP's local partner NAIC gained sustainable gender integration experience;
- Fifth, there is an impact on the economy as a whole.



Photo: Land O'Lakes International Development Tanzania Dairy Development Program

LOCAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Land O'Lakes innovated an approach to capacity building for gender integration in TDDP that increased women's livelihoods and incomes in a sustainable way through new entrepreneurial opportunities as AI technicians; made new services available to dairy cooperatives to expand production; challenged gender norms; and contributed to Tanzania's goal to expand the dairy sector through increased use of artificial insemination to improve milk-producing breeds.

LESSONS LEARNED

This case study identifies several lessons learned. Chiefly, program strength in gender integration is achieved through: specific Land O'Lakes gender policies, guidelines, and tools; the training and sensitization of all staff; and the rigorous capture of gender lessons learned across programs and countries.

THE VEGA ALLIANCE

The Volunteers for Economic Growth Alliance (VEGA) is the world's largest member-directed consortium of nonprofit economic growth organizations that designs and delivers high impact programs, incorporating skilled volunteer professionals into its work with donors, philanthropic institutions, private enterprise, and developing country organizations. VEGA was established as a 501(c)3 organization in 2004 through a United States Agency for International Development's Leader with Associate Award. When it began a decade ago, VEGA was established as a rapid and efficient mechanism that utilized a competitive process to award USAID funding to its member organizations. Now, VEGA continues to champion its model and its alliance members' breadth of expertise to other partners. VEGA supported the research and publication of this case study as part of its commitment to knowledge management and sharing lessons learned among its member organizations and the international development community.



VEGAALLIANCE.ORG



TWITTER.COM/VEGAALLIANCE



FACEBOOK.COM/VEGAALLIANCE