TIST
MAZINGIRA BORA
Trees for life – conserve your environment
Monthly Newsletter
February 2005

Participants of the Nanyuki TIST seminar in a group photo

TIST SMALL GROUPS PROGRAM IS OFFICIALLY
LAUNCHED IN KENYA

The initial program of TIST – The International Small Groups and Tree Planting Program was developed in 1999 through the collaboration of Clean Air Action Corporation, Mission Teams from the United States of America and 40 small groups. Members of the 40 groups in Mpwapwa, Tanzania joined to implement the TIST program between January and March 2000.

Training of small group leaders and trainers began in earnest and the first Habari Moto Moto monthly newsletter was distributed to small groups in Mpwapwa / Kongwa area. TIST programs phase II began in January 2001 with 472 new small groups joining. During this phase additional training and tree planting training was made. Nurseries were established and groups started practicing good seedling care and conservation farming. Between January and

Mpango wa kwanza wa TIST – The International Small Groups and Tree Planting Program ulianzishwa mwaka wa 1999 kupitia ushirikiano wa Clean Air Action Corporation, vikundi vya wamishonari kutoka Merekani na vikundi arubaini vidogo vidogo. Washiriki wa vikundi kutoka Mpwapwa, Tanzania waliungana kutekeleza mpango huo kati ya Januari na Mechi 2000

Mafunzo ya wawezeshaji wa vikundi na wawezeshaji wa mafunzo ulianza mara moja na toleo la kwanza la jarida la Habari Moto Moto likasambazwa kwa vikundi huko Mpwapwa na Kongwa. Awamu ya pili ya ilianza na vikundi vidogo 472 vikajiunga na TIST. Mafunzo ya ziada yalitiliwa mkazo na upanzi wa miti ukaanzishwa. Sehenu za upanzi wa miche zilitengwa na vikundi vikadumisha utunzi bora wa miche na kilimo hai.
September 2002 over 900,000 TIST trees were planted in Mpwapwa and Kongwa Districts of Tanzania. Its during the same period that TIST programs were launched in villages near Chennai, India.

The first TIST activities were began in Uganda and Kenya between July and October 2003. By January 2005 the first TIST small groups from Kenya were registered on website. To date 4.8 million TIST live trees have been reported on website.

TIST Kenya Chapter was officially launched on 21st February 2005 at a seminar held in Nanyuki at Christ The King Catholic Church.

Eighty participants carefully selected from local CBOs in Meru Central, Meru North, Laikipia and Naru Moru area around Mt. Kenya converged at the Christ The King Catholic Church for the seminar that was slated to take 6 days. The objective of the seminar was to launch the TIST program in Kenya, train trainers and help the participants prepare their 40 days action plans for implementing the TIST program in Mt. Kenya region.

After going through thorough training the participants were able to identify specific needs of their communities and prepare achievable and realistic time – bound, observable, quantifiable and measurable action plans. There was song dance and cerebration from the participants as the seminar came a successful finale on 26th February 2005.

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**BEST SPECIES OF TREES TO PLANT IN OUR LOCAL FARMS (FOR THE NEXT SIX MONTHS)**
- Grevillia robusta (mukima) ♣ ♠♥ ♣
- Cordia African (Muringa) ♣ ↔ ◆
- Vitex kinensis – Meru Oak ♣ ↔ ◆
- Mexican green ash (miria) ♥ ↔ ◆

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**THE BEST SPECIES FOR PLANTING IN GOVERNMENT FORESTS**
- Olea africana – Olive tree (Mutero)
- Markhamia lutea
- Vitex kenensis – Meru oak

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Kati ya Januari na Septemba 2002 miti zaidi ya 900,000 ilipandwa Mwapwa na Kongwa. Wakati huo huo Mpango wa TIST ulianzishwa kwenye vijiji via Chennai, India.


Mpango wa TIST wa Kenya ulianzishwa rasmi tarehe 21 Februari 2005 katika warsha huko Nanyuki kwenye ukumbi wa Christ The King Catholic Church. Washiriki themanini waliochaguliwa kutoka kwa mashirika ya mashinani ya wilaya ya Meru ya kati, Meru kaskazini, laikipia na Naru Moru, Walikusanyi katika Ukumbi wa Christ the King Catholic Church kwa warsha ya siku sita. Lengo la warsha hii oliikuwa ni kuanzisha mpango wa TIST Kenya, kuwahamazisha wavuwezesha na kuwawezesha washiriki kutayarisha ratiba ya mpango yao ya siku 40 za kwanza za TIST katika eneo la Mt Kenya.

**BEST FARMING PRACTICES**

The TIST participants came up with some of the practices that would best suit the farming communities around them. These methods are: Zero tillage, crop rotation, agro-forestry and Drip Irrigation.

These farming methods have been tested and proven and they will surely go a long way in improving farming. Some of the most obvious benefits will be; (i) Higher yields (ii) Improvement in soil texture and fertility (iii) Better and more economic utilization of the scarce water resources.

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**TIST ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT 40 DAYS**

- Train trainers and quantifiers
- Introduce the TIST program to the wider Mt. Kenya region and beyond.
- Start TIST small groups in the Mt Kenya region
- Start AIDS eradication campaign
- Registration of existing TIST small groups

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**UKULIMA BORA**

Katika warsha ya TIST washiriki walizindua mbinu kadha za ukulima bora zinazofaa kutumika kwenywe mazingira yao. Hizi mbinu nikama vile zero tillage, kubadilisha mimea, kupanda mimea ya chakula pamoja na miti na kunyunyizia mashamba maji.

Mbinu hizi zimejaribiwa na kuthibitishwa kuwa ni sawa nazikutumika zitanujaisha wakulima. Manufaa yanayoeza kupatikana kuto kana na matumizi ya mbinu hizi nikama vile: (i) Mavuno mengi (ii) rutuba nzuri ilionawiri (iii) matumizi bora ya maji.

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**MIRADI YA TIST KWAPIKI**

- Kuwahamazisha wawelesha shaji
- Kuanzisha miradi ya TIST katika eneo la Mt. Kenya.
- Kuanzisha vikundi vidogo vidogo katika eneo la Mt. Kenya.
- Kuanzisha kampeni ya kuwalamisana uKimwi.
- Uandikishaji wa vikundi via TIST vilivyomo.