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The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

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AUGUST 2016

**FEED THE FUTURE TANZANIA
LAND TENURE ASSISTANCE (LTA)**

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This is a monthly report covering project activities undertaken for the period from the 1st August to 31st of August 2016. This report focusses on activities and constraints for this first full month of field activities in the first and second of the LTA villages.

Fieldwork has continued in the first of the LTA villages with 520 parcels completed. Based on this experience and findings the work, defining and refining operational procedures for adjudication screening of claimants and dispute resolution procedures has continued to be the primary focus of LTA activity. Closely tied to this is the proposed changes that will be needed to MAST, and development of an effective business logic model to enable effective scaling up of field operations. Work is also required in the realm of message development for village public outreach and training.

There is also still work to be done to ensure District staff buy-in to change and that the DLO is able to effectively manage the resulting datasets.

The COR visited the project 22nd – 24th August and was able to review progress in detail – specifically; the requirements for MAST development/improvements (supported by a field visit and demonstration), progress on the M&E Plan and Matrix, Annual Work Planning and Budget Realignments. The LTA is appreciative of the thoughtful contributions, guidance and support provided by the COR during his visit.

The next monthly report will be submitted not later than October, 15th and will cover the period 1st September – 31st September 2016.

2.0 STAFFING

2.1 Key Personnel

Clive English, Chief of Party and Dr Alphonse Tiba, Land Administration Specialist (LAS) have been in Iringa under the full support of the administrative staff throughout the month. However, following completion of his probationary period a decision was taken not to continue with the incumbent LAS.

A transition plan to the new appointment for the LAS position has been submitted to USAID.

The public outreach position is now filled, the contract is signed and the new staff member will commence duties on 1st September.

Work is ongoing to secure suitable personnel to fill the GIS/DB position and the M&E positions. Updates are as follows.

- GIS/DB Specialist – a Company has been identified and a number of individuals interviewed – the LTA will be putting these candidates to a test to ensure they are able to complete all relevant GIS and DB tasks. This post is particularly important

as the point person liaising with the software developer for improvements to the MAST software.

- Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist – will analyze statistics for both M&E purposes and to enable effective change in procedures and management as the project progresses.
- Additional Field Assistants – these will be appointed to enable the work of regularizing land to be rolled out. The LTA is also looking closely at the opportunities for further training of trainers from existing village staff in readiness for the next villages.

2.2 Field Staff

The field manager is now in to his second month of field operations in the first of the LTA villages (Kinywang'yanga) and is overseeing all field activities and data quality with District Land Office personnel.

The new public outreach designer will be engaged with the field manager to re-organize and package key messages in land to rationalize the processes of outreach. This will reduce the time and costs and is a key priority before fieldwork commences in the second of the LTA villages.

The new village team structures employed have worked well and will be replicated in other villages to further the accuracy required in regularising land. The team structures have worked well though there are still challenges with the accuracy of the devices and the manner in which the software records boundaries and adjudication verifications are undertaken. Attribute data accuracy is, however, much improved. The next steps are to:

- To review the type and scale of data errors and review procedures for rectifying these
- Implement an objections and corrections period in September to enable villages to manage and improve their own records
- Quality control checks will be reviewed to check on overall data capture methods and accuracy into MAST.

The model of training trainers from villages and extending their skills and services to other villages will be put to the test in September. This remains the primary method to be used for scaling up and is dependent on the quality and skill of persons that prove themselves in ongoing fieldwork.

2.3 Subcontractors

DAI and subcontractor Land Equity International have finalised inputs for a capacity building consultant. There will be no other inputs under this sub-contract. This position has not changed.

3.0 PROGRAM AND MANAGEMENT

3.1 STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS AND CONSULTATIONS

The LTA is still focusing on meetings at District and Village level to progress field operations. Meetings have been held in Kiponzelo, Usengelendete and Magunga villages. Additional meetings will be organized in September.

The LTA addressed the session of the Iringa District Council on 5th August to brief councilors on the objectives and key tasks of the project in Iringa Rural District. This effectively ensured all Ward Councilors are aware of the LTS and its objectives. The District Executive Director was also present.

The Minister of Lands made a brief visit to the LTA office on 5th August and discussed the need for regularizing land and the importance of the CCROs in securing tenure. Statements by the Commissioner regarding standardizing land titles for urban and rural settings were briefly discussed.

As a result of this discussion a visit was made by the COP LTA and COR USAID to the MLHSD to speak with the Commissioner of Lands to seek clarification on the possible impacts for the LTA. Because of the unavailability of the Commissioner discussions were held with the Deputy Commissioner of Lands. He advised that no imminent changes to the titling arrangements would be made and that the LTA should continue as per Contract. Changes to the policy are in progress but this will take some time to complete.

3.2 MILESTONE DOCUMENTS AND REPORTS

A Donor Coordination Report is now due for submission. Little in the way of donor linkages has been developed by the LTA so far but this situation will now improve with the appointment of the new outreach specialist. The LTA project has had close links with the LTRSP project. However, with the change in the Team Leader these contacts will need to be renewed.

Comments received from USAID on the Gender Plan need to be finalized and agreed by the LTA COP and the COR. These relate specifically to the issue of pastoralists.

3.3 KEY PROJECT ISSUES

The following project issues are summarized according to procedures and issues arising.

- **MOU:** On 18th July, 2016 LTA Team finalized the content of the MOU between DAI/LTA and Iringa District Council, District Land and Natural Resources Office. This has yet to be signed but the content is agreed. No progress on this from the previous month but signatures are expected in September.
- **Public Outreach:** The new public outreach specialist's priority will be to refine and hone the public outreach messages at village level and to ensure these can be effectively packaged. Later, the specialist will engage with other key stakeholders

and will begin implementing the principles and content of the LTA Communications Plan.

- **Procedures and Dataset Quality:** Key procedures in the regularization of land, and those around MAST, are now being refined and modelled for improvement and scaling up. Adjudication and dispute recording and resolution remain the key areas to resolve. The newly introduced objections and corrections phase (30 days) to be hosted in the villages will identify and resolve outstanding errors in data collection and measure the incidence of disputes and progress these to resolution. The target is to have all procedural issues and improvements resolved in time for commencement of fieldwork in the next village (Kiponzelo). These will also feed into the MAST development. Progressive changes to the existing MAST will be made in the interim until the overall software improvements can be made completed and made available.
- **MAST Development:** The LTA has completed both detailed reviews and field testing of the software to establish value added to existing best practice and in land regularization and the Tanzania Land Regulations. The scope of the proposed changes, and the budgetary consequences have been discussed with the COR during his recent visit to Iringa. As a result, the LTA will be submitting proposals for further MAST improvements to USAID as a part of the LTA budget realignment package.
- **Business Logic:** To achieve the above the LTA continue to work on developing the land administration business logic for the field procedures under MAST (using the current LTA village fieldwork) – this will be further developed for post registration transactions later in the project. It is not clear whether such a model was developed for the original MAST pilots. No such model has been presented to the LTA. The business logic models developed will be used to develop the software through TRUST – technical register under social tenure.
- **LTA Budget Realignment:** The LTA and DAI Home Office have discussed both the scope and content of the proposed comprehensive budget realignment following several months of ongoing assessment and fieldwork. The revised budget will allow for the changes to the staff profile, anticipated field costs and costs related to the improvements to MAST. The latter will involve a proposal for a budget uplift to be considered by USAID. The revised budget will be submitted in September.
- **Annual Work Plan:** The scope and content of this has been provided by the COR following a request for guidance from the LTA. This was discussed during the CORs visit to Iringa, A first draft is due for submission on 15th September. A revised work plan/gantt chart from that provided in the Inception Report will be provided. This will cover revised village field schedules based on recent experience.
- **M&E:** Revisions to the draft M&E Plan were discussed with the COR during his visit to Iringa. Proposals for rationalizing the number of indicators in the Indicator Matrix

were discussed and this work is now in hand. Changes to the text will also be made to address comments received and reflect the changes in the Matrix.

4.0 PLANS AND CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER 2016

Activities shown in **Table 1** are expected to take place for the month of September, 2016. The key priority for the next month will continue to be a technical focus on design and implementation of the field program and the business logic models for MAST and overall land administration.

Table 1: Plans and Calendar for September, 2016

Planned Activity	Location	Expected Dates
Field operations (parcel demarcations) in Kinywang'anga village. Expected completion of up to 100 parcels – thus completing demarcation and adjudication for Kinywang'anga.	Iringa DC	2 nd week September
Public Correction and Objections Pilots in Kinywang'anga	Iringa DC	2 nd half of September
Further meetings in Kiponzelo village to commence land use planning	Iringa DC	Extension of meetings held in August prior to commencement of fieldwork
Commencement of public outreach and training activities for regularization in Kiponzelo	Iringa DC	2 nd half September
Meeting with the National Land Use Planning Commission(NLUPC) in Dar es Salaam on the village use planning in the selected villages.	Iringa	Postponed from August following change of personnel of the LAS see above
1 st Draft of Annual Work Plan	Iringa	15 th September
Submission of budget realignment proposals	Iringa	9 th September.
USAID M&E Meeting	Dodoma	21-23 rd September