



TIST HABARI MOTOMOTO MAY 2025

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Photo 1: An example of agro-forestry using alley cropping practice

In this newsletter, we are going to have one article and one story;

- I. **TIST Best Practices in Practicing Agro-forestry**
- II. A story from Claudia Christopher “**TIST Monthly salary have boosted my financial income by establishing poultry project and bought a land for farming**”

TIST Best Practices in Practicing Agro-forestry

Agro forestry refers to growing trees and shrubs together with agricultural crops or livestock. The overall aim of agro forestry is to increase the productivity of the land through the use of trees. Trees have many benefits for the Farmer:

- Fruits and other food
- Fodder
- Soil stabilization
- Soil fertility
- Moisture retention
- Wind shelter
- Erosion control, especially by rivers
- Medicines
- Shades
- Building material and
- Fuel wood

Agro-forestry practices:

There are many different techniques and new methods are being discovered all the time. Some techniques are successful in one place, while not so useful in other areas. The following are some common methods of agro-forestry:

1. Hedges: This involves selecting a tree species which can be placed in a line and which has benefits for the land. Hedges require little space, control erosion, and can produce leave for fodder or mulch. An example of hedging is to plant a row of trees around the field boundary. Recommended spacing is around 2m - 3m, with the best design including a mixture of tall and short trees.

2. Alley cropping: This involves establishing trees at varied spacing 2m and above, in rows along fields. There may be a tree row, then two or three rows of crops, then another tree row, then crops etc. An example of this is planting alternating rows of maize with *Leucaena*, or coffee and bananas. The most suitable trees are leguminous ones (ones that fix nitrogen for the soil). Spacing between rows of trees should be at least 5m. The tree rows need to be weeded and pruned regularly. The trees cannot grow too tall otherwise they will compete with the crops for soil nutrients and light. The pruned leaves can be added to the soil to improve the soil fertility. Trees that are pruned to be shrub-like will not be suitable for TIST payments, since they won't sequester much carbon, but they will improve the agricultural land and provide many other benefits to the farmer. In drier areas, this may not be a good approach, or more space between trees and crops may be needed, so that they do not compete too much for nutrients and water.

3. Windbreak: This is planting wide strips of trees to provide a windbreak, which protects crops from the oncoming wind. You begin by planting large trees in the center, smaller trees for the next two rows and low shrubs, then bushes and grasses on the outside. The advantage of windbreaks is that the Farmer does not have to sacrifice an entire plot of land for trees. It only takes a strip of land, and the benefits can improve yields by 30% in some areas. Please note that poorly planned windbreaks can damage crops more, because it can channel the wind through gaps. Find someone experienced in this to help you design your windbreak.

4. Fallow cropping: This is where Farmers stop growing crops on a piece of land and let trees take over to help restore soil fertility.

5. Inter-cropping: This involves wide and even spacing of trees among food crops. Good trees are those that have light canopies and fix nitrogen. Refer April 2025 HMM about inter-cropping.

6. Grazing improvement: You can do this by managing trees on grazing land to help provide wood and fodder.

7. Woodlots: Small woodlots can be grown on unused or unproductive land, e.g. woodlots planted on stony outcrops or in gullies. Woodlots can also be planted on cropland to serve as a windbreak, or they can be planted on fallow land. Please note that TIST trees have to be correctly spaced in order to grow fully and remain in the ground long-term. Some of the above agro-forestry methods are Best Practices for agriculture, but may not qualify for TIST tree payments.



Photo 2: *An example of agro-forestry (mixing trees and crops)*

II. TIST Monthly salary have boosted my financial income by establishing poultry project and bought a land for farming.

I am Claudia Christopher from Kibondo District, Tanzania. I joined TIST in 2021 as a Cluster Servant who served three (3) Clusters: Katanga, Kibondo town, and Mabamba. Currently I am serving two Clusters Kibondo and Kibondo town. I am a girl who loves being innovative and creating impact in lives of the community and the surrounding environment.

From my tender age I loved trees because I grew up seeing my parents planting trees and encouraged every child at home to plant trees each year and take care of the trees planted. It was my pleasure to join TIST after I heard about it from my parents. I was eager to know more about it and how it works. When I joined I was appointed to serve Farmers as a Cluster Servant. Through Cluster Meetings, Seminars and trainings that I facilitated in Small Groups, I was able to learn more from TIST including TIST Values and gain leadership skills. I learnt that I should walk the talk by putting into practice what I have learnt.



Photo 3: *Claudia's farm*

In order to walk the talk I decided to buy a land through TIST Monthly salary I was paid for my work to TIST as a Cluster Servant. In that land I have planted 4,000 trees and cassava. Through working hard on TIST Program, I was lucky to be appointed as a TIST Desk Auditor; my income increased and decided to establish poultry project. I have over 100 chickens my new business resulted from my monthly allowance. So, I am happy that ***“TIST Monthly salary have boosted my financial income by establishing poultry project and bought a land for farming”***

I am also participating in the in country leadership management meetings where I am continue to gain the leadership skills and also get chances to travel within and outside the country for learning new Best Practices and getting experiences from other Farmers.

My dream is to plant over 10,000 numbers of trees that would also contribute to emission reduction and hence create revenue in the form of carbon credits. I also plan to increase the numbers of poultry from 100 to more than 200 chickens for my future family.



Photo 4: *Claudia's poultry project*

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TIST Values

As TIST Family we have our Values which most of TIST Small Groups know and practice. We always reflect on these Values and to ensure that we all are truly living by them. The success of TIST is based on the integrity and effort of individual members within TIST. What we can achieve depends on each of us following these Values;

- (i) *We are Honest*
- (ii) *We are Accurate*
- (iii) *We are Transparent*
- (iv) *We are Servants to each other*
- (v) *We are Mutually Accountable to Each Other and*
- (vi) *We create Low Budget/ cost, yet we achieve Big Results.*



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Picha 1: *Mfano wa Kilimo misitu kwa njia ya kuchanganya na mazao*

Katika jarida hili, tutakuwa na makala moja na hadithi moja:

- (I) Mbinu Bora za TIST katika Utekelezaji wa Kilimo msitu
- (II) Simulizi kutoka kwa Claudia Christopher “Mshahara wa kila mwezi kutoka TIST umeongeza mapato yangu kifedha umeniwezesha kuanzisha mradi wa ufugaji kuku na kununua shamba kwa ajili ya Kilimo”

I. Mbinu Bora za TIST katika Utekelezaji wa Kilimo msitu

Kilimo msitu kinahusisha kupanda miti, vichaka pamoja na mazao ya kilimo au mifugo. Madhumuni ya kilimo msitu ni kuongeza tija ya ardhi kupitia matumizi ya miti. Miti ina faida nyingi kwa Mkulima zikiwemo:

- Matunda na vyakula vingine
- Lishe
- Kuimarisha udongo
- Rutuba ya udongo
- Kuhifadhi unyevu
- Hifadhi ya upepo
- Udhibiti wa mmomonyoko wa udongo, hasa kwenye mito
- Madawa
- Vivuli
- Nyenzo za ujenzi na
- Kuni

Mbinu za Kilimo msitu:

Kuna mbinu nyingi tofauti zinagunduliwa kila wakati. Mbinu nyingine zimefanikiwa katika sehemu moja, wakati katika maeneo mengine hazijafanikiwa. Zifuatazo ni baadhi ya Mbinu za kawaida za kilimo-msitu:

1. Wigo/Ua: Hii inahusisha kuchagua aina ya miti ambayo inaweza kupandwa kwa mstari na ambayo ina manufaa kwenye ardhi. Wigo huhitaji nafasi kidogo ili kudhibiti mmomonyoko wa udongo, na inaweza kutumika kwa ajili ya malisho ya mifugo au matandazo. Mfano wa wigo ni kupanda mstari wa miti kuzunguka mpaka wa shamba. Nafasi inayopendekezwa ni kati ya 2m - 3m, ikiwa na muundo bora zaidi unaojumuisha mchanganyiko wa miti mirefu na mifupi.

2. Upandaji miti kwa njia ya kuchanganya na mazao: Hii inahusisha kuweka miti katika nafasi tofauti za mita 2 na zaidi, kwa mistari kwenye shamba. Unaweza kupanda mstari wa miti, kisha mistari miwili au mitatu ya mazao, halafu mistari mwingine wa miti, kisha mazao n.k. Mfano wa kilimo hiki ni kupanda kwa kupishanisha mistari ya mahindi na milusina, au kahawa na migomba. Mazao yanayofaa zaidi ni jamii ya mikunde (ile inayoweka nitrojeni kwenye udongo). Nafasi kati ya mistari ya miti inapaswa kuwa angalau 5m. Mistari ya miti inahitaji kupaliliwa na kupunguziwa mara kwa mara. Miti haiwezi kukua kwa urefu sana vinginevyo itashindana na mazao kwa kunyanga'nyana rutuba ya udongo na mwanga. Majani yaliyopogolewa yanaweza kuwekwa kwenye udongo ili kuboresha rutuba ya udongo. Miti ambayo inakatwa na kuwa kama kichaka au inayochipua haitafaa kwa malipo ya TIST, kwa kuwa haitachukua kaboni nyingi, lakini itaboresha ardhi ya kilimo na kutoa manufaa mengine mengi kwa Mkulima. Katika maeneo yenye ukame, hii inaweza isiwe njia nzuri, au nafasi zaidi kati ya miti na mazao inaweza kuhitajika, ili isishindane sana kwenye virutubisho na maji.

3. Kizuia upepo: Huu ni upandaji wa miti mipana ili kuzuia upepo, ambayo hulinda mazao dhidi ya upepo mkali utakaotokea. Unaanza kwa kupanda miti mikubwa katikati kisha miti midogo kwa mistari miwili inayofuata, kisha vichaka na nyasi kwa nje. Faida ya vizuia upepo ni kwamba Mkulima halazimiki kutumia shamba lote kwa ajili ya miti. Inachukua kipande kidogo tu cha ardhi, na faida zinaweza kuboresha mavuno kwa 30% katika baadhi ya maeneo. Tafadhali kumbuka kuwa vizuia upepo vikipangwa vibaya vinaweza kuharibu mazao zaidi, kwa sababu vinaweza kupitisha upepo kupitia kwenye nafasi zilizo wazi. Tafuta mtu aliye na uzoefu katika hili ili kukusaidia kubuni namna ya kupanda miti kwa ajili ya kuzuia upepo.

4. Upandaji miti upande mmoja wa shamba: Hapa Wakulima huacha kupanda mazao kwenye shamba upande mmoja na kupanda miti peke yake ili kusaidia kurejesha rutuba ya udongo.

5. Upandaji miti baina ya mazao: Hii inahusisha upana na hata nafasi kati ya miti na mazao ya chakula. Miti mizuri ni ile iliyo na nafasi ya kupitisha mwanga na kurekebisha nitrojeni.

6. Uboreshaji wa malisho: Miti inapandwa kwenye shamba la malisho ili kusaidia kupata kuni na malisho.

7. Misitu midogo midogo: Miti midogo inaweza kupandwa kwenye ardhi isiyotumika au isiyozaa, mfano miti iliyopandwa kwenye miamba au kwenye makorongo. Vijiti vya miti pia vinaweza kupandwa kwenye ardhi ya kilimo ili kutumika kama kizuizi cha upepo, au vinaweza kupandwa kwenye ardhi isiyolimwa. Tafadhali kumbuka kuwa miti ya TIST inapaswa kupangwa kwa nafasi ipasavyo ili ikue kikamilifu na kubaki ardhini kwa muda mrefu. Baadhi ya mbinu za kilimo-msitu zilizo hapo juu ni Mbinu Bora za kilimo, lakini huenda zisistahiki malipo ya miti ya TIST.



Picha 2: *Mfano wa Kilimo Mseto kwa kuchanganya miti na mazao*

(II) Mshahara wa kila mwezi kutoka TIST umeongeza mapato yangu kifedha umeniwezesha kuanzisha mradi wa ufugaji kuku na kununua shamba kwa ajili ya Kilimo”

Mimi Claudia Christopher kutoka Wilaya ya Kibondo, Tanzania. Nilijiunga na TIST mwaka wa 2021 kama Mtumishi wa Klasta ambaye nilikuwa ninahudumia Klasta tatu (3): Katanga, Kibondo mjini, na Mabamba. Kwa sasa ninahudumia Klasta (2) mbili Kibondo na Kibondo Mjini. Mimi ni msichana ambaye ninapenda kuwa mbunifu na kuleta matokeo chanya kwenye jamii yangu na mazingira yanayonizunguka.

Tangu utoto wangu nilipenda miti kwa sababu nilikua nikiwaona wazazi wangu wakipanda miti na kuhimiza kila mtoto nyumbani kupanda miti kila mwaka na kutunza miti iliyopandwa. Ilikuwa furaha yangu kujiunga na TIST baada ya kusikia habari zake kutoka kwa wazazi wangu. Nilikuwa na hamu ya kujua zaidi juu ya TIST na jinsi inavyofanya kazi. Nilipojiunga niliteuliwa kuwatumikia Wakulima kama Mtumishi wa Klasta. Kupitia Mikutano ya Klasta, semina na mafunzo ya Vikundi Vidogo nilivyowezesha, nimeweza kujifunza Maadili ya TIST na kupata ujuzi kuhusu uongozi. Nimejifunza kwamba ninapaswa kutenda kwa vitendo yale ninayoongea na nilijojifunza.

Ili kutekeleza kile nilichojifunza, niliamua kununua shamba kwa mshahara wa kila mwezi nilioupata kutoka TIST kwa kazi yangu utumishi wa Klasta. Kwenye shamba nililonunua nimepanda miti na mihogo. Jumla ya miti niliyopanda ni 4000 ikiwemo mihumula, parachichi na paini. Baada ya kuendelea kufanya kazi kwa bidii kwenye Mpango huu wa TIST ndipo niliteuliwa kuwa Mkaguzi wa Dawati; ambapo ninafanya kazi za; Kukagua Kikundi kama kina makosa ya track, mzunguko, idadi ya miti kulingana na eneo husika.

Ili kutekeleza kile nilichojifunza, niliamua kununua shamba kwa kutumia mshahara wa kila mwezi nilioupata kutoka TIST kwa kazi yangu ya utumishi wa Klasta. Kwenye shamba nililonunua nimepanda miti na mihogo. Jumla ya miti niliyopanda ni 4000 ikiwemo mihumula, parachichi na pines. Baada ya kuendelea kufanya kazi kwa bidii kwenye Mpango huu wa TIST ndipo niliteuliwa kuwa Mkaguzi wa Dawati; ambapo ninafanya kazi za; Kukagua Kikundi kama kina makosa ya track, mzunguko, idadi ya miti kulingana na eneo husika.

Kipato changu kimeongezeka ambapo kimeniwezesha kuanzisha mradi wa ufugaji kuku. Kwa sasa nina zaidi ya kuku 100 ambao wanataga mayai hivyo ninaendelea kujiongezea kipato kwa kuuza mayai. Hivyo ninafurahi kwamba ***“Mshahara wa kila mwezi kutoka TIST umeongeza mapato yangu kifedha umeniwezesha kuanzisha mradi wa ufugaji kuku na kununua shamba kwa ajili ya Kilimo”***

Pia kutokana na kazi ninazofanya TIST zimeniwezesha kushiriki katika mikutano ya uongozi wa TIST ndani na nje ya nchi; vikao na mikutano ninayoshiriki inanisaikia kuongeza maarifa ya uongozi kama msichana. Pia inanisaikia kupata nafasi za kusafiri ndani na nje ya nchi yangu kwa ajili ya kujifunza mambo mapya na kupata uzoefu kutoka kwa wakulima wengine.

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Ndoto yangu ni kuwa na shamba lenye idadi ya miti isiyopungua 10,000 ambayo pia inaweza kuchangia kupunguza kaboni na kusaidia kunipatia mapato kwa njia ya biashara ya kaboni. Pia ninatamani kuongeza idadi ya kuku kutoka 100 hadi kufikia zaidi ya kuku 200 kwa manufaa ya familia yangu ya baadaye.



Picha 3: *Shamba la miti na mihogo la Claudia*



Picha 4: *Mradi wa kuku wa Claudia*

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MAADILI YA TIST

Kama Familia ya TIST tuna Maadili yetu ambayo wengi wa Wanavikundi Vidogo vya TIST wanayajua na kuyatekeleza. Daima tunatafakari juu ya Maadili haya na kuhakikisha kwamba sote tunaishi kulingana nayo. Mafanikio ya TIST yanatokana na uadilifu na juhudi za wanachama binafsi ndani ya TIST. Tunachoweza kufikia inategemea kila mmoja wetu kufuata Maadili haya;

- 1) Sisi ni Waaminifu**
- 2) Sisi Tunatoa Taarifa Sahihi**
- 3) Sisi ni Wawazi**
- 4) Sisi Tunatumikiana**
- 5) Sisi ni Wawajibikaji**
- 6) Bajeti Ndogo, Matokeo Makubwa**