



TIST HABARI MOTOMOTO SEPTEMBER 2025

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Photo 1: Conservation Farming holes

In this newsletter, we are going to have;

- I. Time to prepare your farm for Conservation Farming
 - II. Farmer's responsibility and TIST responsibility for Carbon trading
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(I) Time to prepare your farm for Conservation Farming

- To all LIST Farmers: you are reminded to start preparing your farms for Conservation Farming. Practicing Conservation Farming produces a greater harvest more reliably than traditional farming, especially when the rain is scarce. The holes help catch whatever rain falls and make it available to the crop instead of running off. Conservation Farming also helps the soil improve fertility, and absorb carbon. Your soil will become darker and more fertile.
- Following these Best Practices can help you get better yields this coming season.
- **Prepare the land:** Prepare your land before the rains. Clear your plot of weeds and bushes. Do not plough the plot. Ploughing allows erosion, and reduces nutrients in the soil.
- **Prepare your holes oblong (rectangle) shape:** They should each be 15 cm wide, 35 cm long and 15 cm deep. Space holes at least 75 cm apart. Take some manure or compost manure and good topsoil and mix it together. Fill the hole with this mixture up to 5 cm below the surface.
- **Planting:** When you plant maize seeds (1-2 days before rains start), plant 4 seeds in the soil across the hole. If you are planting sorghum, plant 5-6 seeds at each end of the planting hole after a good shower of rain.

Cover the seeds with 2.5 cm of the rich soil and manure mixture. After this the soil in the hole should be about 2.5 cm below the surface of the field.

The space at the top of the hole enables water to get to the plants when the rains come. You do not need to use chemical fertilizer on the Conservation Farming plot. Your crops will still do better without chemical fertilizer if you put enough manure.

Weeding: Weed around the holes regularly. Do not weed the entire plot completely. Outside the holes, plants can cover the soil, keeping it cooler and keeping it from eroding in rain and wind. Just weed in and near the holes. Use a panga to clear weeds between the lines or spaces from one hole to the other. Weed frequently to keep weeds from going to seed and spreading in the holes.

Leave the weed residue in the plot to rot. This will help add to next season's soil fertility.

Post-harvest practices: Do not burn off the remains on the plot. Leave the residue on the ground so that they make the soil more fertile. Crop remainders can also be used for compost manure. Do not graze cattle in the plot.

Importance of Conservation Farming

Conservation Farming is a farming method that's important because it helps protect the environment and increase food security.

- It improves soil structure and fertility by adding organic matter. This helps to reduce erosion and land degradation.
- It improves the soil's ability to retain water, which reduces evaporation. This helps to

- This helps to reduce the risk of flooding and desertification.
- It can help to mitigate climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions. It does this by improving soil health, which increases the amount of carbon that's sequestered in the soil.
- It can help to increase crop yields and reduce the risk of crop losses due to droughts, storms, floods, and landslides.
- It can increase biodiversity by diversifying the crops grown. It can also provide habitats for beneficial insects, birds, and mammals.
- It involves minimal soil disturbance, permanent soil cover, and crop rotation.



Photo 2: Maize crop cultivated through Conservation Farming

II. Farmer's responsibility and TIST responsibility for carbon trading

The TIST project has been working on a number of activities on farms to ensure that TIST farms meet international carbon trading standards.

Important things to consider when starting a TIST tree farm:

- The tree farm must be in a location that was not a forest less than 10 years ago. That is, it must have been 10 years or more since the forest or trees that were cut down.
- The farm should be 100 meters away from a natural water source such as a river, lake, spring, ocean, etc.
- The farm must not have displaced existing activities such as housing, etc.

These are among a few very important characteristics to consider when choosing a tree farm location for the TIST project.

In addition, there are characteristics of TIST trees as follows;

- ❖ Trees planted after receiving TIST training or hearing about the TIST project are counted as TIST trees. This means; all trees planted before hearing about TIST or receiving TIST training do not qualify as additional TIST trees.
- ❖ Tree farms need to last 60 years or more. This means that trees you plant should have the ability to live for as many years as possible.

- ❖ Trees should be planted at a distance of 2 meters or more depending on the tree species. You can ask forest experts or natural resources and environmental conservation officers near your area for more advice.
- ❖ Planting different types of trees in the same field.

Note: Eucalyptus trees are not counted as TIST trees.

These are just few of the many things we consider when registering a farm and counting trees for TIST Program so that it can meet the quality standards for carbon credits.

In order to ensure these standards are met both Farmers and TIST needs to fulfill their responsibilities of TIST as explained below;

The Farmer's Responsibilities

1. Ensure you select your farm from the right place based on the criteria/characteristics outlined above
2. Make sure you are available during field visits for TIST employee in your farm
3. Make sure you plant eligible tree species as described above
4. Provide all necessary information as required by the TIST project staff.

TIST's role

1. Providing appropriate training to TIST Farmers
2. Hiring capable, honest and dedicated employees
3. Registering farmers' Groves in the TIST system based on criteria
4. Ensure all relevant information regarding TIST Groves and trees is fully captured and entered into the TIST system. This should be once a year.
5. To provide fund to TIST Employees for travel, food, accommodation, supplies, communications (vouchers/internet bundles) and all other legitimate expenses during their field visits.

NOTE:

TIST Farmer – you are NOT required to contribute money or anything to a TIST employee during the execution of their duties on your farm. If any TIST employee asks you to pay any amount of money, please contact your TIST country management team member.

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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;

Who are we?

- (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

How we do things that other people can see

- 1) We are committed
- 2) We do our work in small groups
- 3) We seek and use the best way
- 4) We use our minds and hands.

What do we do?

- 1) We plant different species of trees for long -term
- 2) We find ways to improve our health
- 3) We practice Conservation Farming
- 4) We do other projects and businesses (sustainable agriculture, nurseries, citrus growing, dairy goats and farming, chickens, bee keeping, fishponds and fish keeping, silkworm farming etc.)
- 5) We sell carbon credits

What do we create?

- 1) We create team work - by doing things this way; we end up working as a team.
- 2) We create capacity - we create organization, strength, and a system that is strong.
- 3) We create enjoyment - we see results, we accomplish big things that we enjoy.
- 4) We create Big Results - In Conservation Farming and from other projects and business that we do.
- 5) We create Low Budget/Cost, yet we achieve big results.



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Picha 1: Mashimo kwa ajili ya Kilimo Hai

Katika jarida hili, tutakuwa na:

- (I) Muda wa Kuandaa shamba lako kwa ajili ya Kilimo Hai
- (II) Wajibu wa Mkulima na wajibu wa TIST kwene biashara ya hewa ya Kaboni

(I) Muda wa Kuandaa shamba lako kwa ajili ya Kilimo Hai

Wakulima wote wa TIST tunakumbushwa kuanza kuandaa mashamba yetu kwa ajili ya Kilimo Hai. Kufanya Kilimo Hai hutoa mavuno mengi na kwa uhakika zaidi kuliko kilimo cha asili hasa mvua zinapokuwa chache. Mashimo husaidia kukusanya mvua yote inayonyesha na kufanya itosheleze kwenye mazao.

Kufuata Mbinu hizi Bora kunaweza kukusaidia kupata mavuno mazuri msimu huu.

Kutayarisha shamba: Tayarisha shamba lako kabla ya mvua kunyesha. Safisha shamba lako kuondoa magugu na vichaka. Usitufue

Andaa mashimo yako katika umbo la mstatili: Kila shimo liwe na upana wa sm 15, urefu wa sm 35 na kina cha sm 15. Nafasi ya umbali wa shimo hadi shimo iwe angalau sm 75. Chukua samadi au mboji changanya pamoja na udongo uliotoka kwenye sehemu ya juu wakati wa kuchimba shimo. Jaza shimo na mchanganyiko huo hadi sm 5.

Kupanda: Unapopanda mbegu za mahindi, (siku 1 - 2 kabla ya mvua kuanza) panda mbegu 4 kwenye shimo. Ikiwa unapanda mtama, panda mbegu 5-6 ukizitawanya kila kona ya shimo baada ya mvua ya kutosha kunyesha

Fukia mbegu kwa sentimita 2.5 kwa udongo wenye rutuba na mchanganyiko wa samadi. Baada ya hayo udongo kwenye shimo unapaswa kuacha nafasi ya sentimeta 2.5 kutoka usawa wa ardhi.

Nafasi iliyo juu ya shimo huwezesha maji kufika kwenye mimea wakati mvua zinaponyesha. Huhitaji kutumia mbolea ya kemikali kwenye shamba la Kilimo Hai. Mazao yako bado yatafanya vizuri zaidi bila mbolea ya kemikali ikiwa utaweka samadi ya kutosha.

Palizi: Palilia kuzunguka mashimo mara kwa mara. Usipalilie shamba zima kabisa. Njey a mashimo ya mimea unaweza kuweka kingo kwa udongo ili kuweka ubaridi na kuuepusha mmomonyoko wakati wa mvua na upepo, palia ndani ya shimo na kuzunguka shimo

Tumia panga kupunguza magugu kati ya mistari au nafasi kutoka shimo moja hadi jingine. Palilia mara kwa mara ili kuzuia magugu kwenda kwenye mimea na kuenea kwenye mashimo.

Acha mabaki ya magugu kwenye shamba ili yaoze. Hii itasaidia kuongeza rutuba ya udongo kwenye shamba lako.

Baada ya kuvuna: Usichome moto mabaki kwenye shamba. Acha mabaki ili yafanye udongo kuwa na rutuba zaidi. Mabaki ya mazao yanaweza pia kutumika kwa mbolea ya mboji. Usichunge mifugo kwenye shamba

Umuhimu wa Kilimo Hai

Kilimo Hai ni njia ya kilimo ambayo ni muhimu kwa sababu inasaidia kutunza mazingira na kuongeza usalama wa chakula

- Kinaboresha muundo wa udongo na rutuba kwa kuongeza vitu vya asili. Hii husaidia kupunguza mmomonyoko wa udongo na uharibifu wa ardhi.
- Kinaboresha uwezo wa udongo kuhifadhi maji. Hii husaidia kupunguza hatari ya mafuriko na kuenea kwa jangwa.
- Kinasaidia kupunguza mabadiliko ya hali ya hewa kwa kupunguza uzalishaji wa gesi chafu. Inafanya hivyo kwa kuboresha afya ya udongo, ambayo huongeza kiasi cha kaboni kinachowekwa kwenye udongo.

- Kinasaidia kuongeza mavuno ya mazao na kupunguza hatari ya upotevu wa mazao kutokana na ukame, dhoruba, mafuriko, na maporomoko ya ardhi.
- Kinaongeza bioanuwai (viumbe hai) kwa njia ya kubadilisha mazao yanayolimwa. Pia hutoa makazi kwa wadudu, ndege, na mamalia.
- Haisumbui udongo, inadumisha udongo wa juu ya ardhi pia unaweza kufanya kilimo cha mzunguko.
- Kinaboresha uwezo wa udongo kuhifadhi maji, ambayo hupunguza uvukizi. Hii husaidia kupunguza hatari ya mafuriko na kuenea kwa jangwa.
- Hupunguza Mmomonyoko wa Udongo; udongo unapolimwa na kulegezwa, na mabaki yanazikwa au kuondolewa, huondoa uwezekano wa mmomonyoko wa udongo kutokea.



***Picha 2:** Zao la mahindi lililolimwa kwa kutumia Mbinu Bora ya Kilimo Hai*

II. Wajibu wa mkulima na wajibu wa TIST kwenye biashara ya hewa ya kaboni

Mradi wa TIST umekuwa ukifanya kazi kadha wa kadha mashambani ili kuhakikisha mashamba ya TIST yanakidhi viwango vya ubora vya kimataifa vya biashara ya hewa ya Kaboni.

Mambo muhimu ya kuzingatia unapochagua shamba la kupanda miti ya TIST:

- Shamba liwe mahali ambapo hapakuwa na msitu kwa kipindi cha miaka 10 iliyopita. Yaani iwe imepita miaka 10 au zaidi tangu kukatwa au kufyekwa msitu au miti iliyokuwepo.
- Shamba hilo liwe umbali wa mita 100 kutoka chanzo cha asili cha maji kama mto, ziwa, chemchem, Bahari n.k
- Shamba hilo lisiwe limehamisha shughuli zilizokuwepo mfano makazi n.k

Hizi ni miongoni mwa sifa chache muhimu sana za kuzingatia unapochagua shamba la kupanda miti ya mradi wa TIST.

Aidha kuna sifa za miti ya TIST kama ifuatavyo;

- ❖ Miti iliyopandwa baada ya kupata mafunzo au kusikia habari za mradi wa TIST. Hii inamaanisha kwamba miti yote uliyopanda kabla ya kupata mafunzo ya TIST haina sifa ya kuwa miti ya TIST.
- ❖ Miti inayodumu kwa miaka 60 au zaidi. Hii ina maana kwamba miti utakayopanda iwe na uwezo wa kuishi miaka mingi.
- ❖ Miti ipandwe kwa umbali wa mita 2 au zaidi kutegemeana na aina miti. Unaweza kuwauliza wataalam wa misitu au maafisa maliasili na hifadhi ya mazingira walio karibuna unapoishi ili kuwashauri.

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- ❖ Kupanda miti mchanganyiko. Hapa inamaanisha kwamba unatakiwa kupanda miti ya aina tofautitofauti ndani ya shamba moja.

Zingatia: Mikaratusi/Milingoti haishauriwi kupandwa kama miti ya TIST.

Hayo ni machache kati ya mambo mengi tunayoyazingatia tunaposajili shamba na kuhesabu miti ya mradi wa TIST ili iweze kukidhi viwango vya ubora wa bidhaa ya hewa ya Kaboni (Credit za Kaboni).

Ili kujiridhisha kama viwango hivyo vimezingatiwa kikamilifu, upo wajibu wapande zote mbili, yaani wajibu wa Mkulima na wajibu wa TIST kama ilivyofafanuliwa hapa chini;

Wajibu wa Mkulima

- Kuhakikisha unachagua shamba kulingana na vigezo/sifa zilizoainishwa hapo juu
- Kuhakikisha unakuwepo shambani kila unapotembelewa na mtumishi wa TIST
- Kupanda aina ya miti inayostahiki kama ilivyofafanuliwa hapo juu
- Kutoa taarifa zote muhimu kama itakavyohitajika na mtumishi wa mradi wa TIST

Wajibu wa TIST

- Kutoa mafunzo stahiki kwa wakulima wa TIST
- Kuajiri watumishi wenye uwezo, waaminifu na wanaojituma
- Kusajili mashamba ya wakulima kwenye mfumo wa TIST kwa kuzingatia vigezo
- Kuhakikisha kuwa taarifa zote muhimu zinazohusu mashamba na miti ya TIST zimechukuliwa kikamilifu na kuwekwa kwenye mfumo wa TIST. Hii hufanyika angalau mara 1 kwa mwaka.
- Kuwawezesha watumishi wa Mradi kutekeleza vema majukumu yao ikiwa ni pamoja na kuwapa fedha za usafiri, chakula, malazi, shajala, mawasiliano (Vocha/bando) na gharama nyingine.

KUMBUKA:

Mkulima HUTAKIWI kuchangia fedha yoyote au kitu chochote kwa mtumishi wa Mradi wakati wa utekelezaji wa majukumu yake shambani kwako. Endapo mtumishi yoyote atakuomba kitu chochote au fedha kiasi chochote, jiridhishe kwanza kwa kuwasiliana na uongozi wa Mradi wa TIST kabla ya kutekeleza ombi hilo.

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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;

Sisi ni Nani?

- 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

Jinsi tunavyofanya mambo ambayo watu wengine wanaweza kuona

- 1) Sisi tunajitolea.
- 2) Tunafanya kazi zetu katika vikundi vidogovidogo
- 3) Tunatafuta na kutumia njia bora
- 4) Tunatumia akili na mikono yetu.

Tunachofanya

- 1) Tunapanda aina mbalimbali za miti itakayodumu kwa muda mrefu.
- 2) Tunafanya mambo kuboresha afya zetu.
- 3) Tunafanya Kilimo Hai.
- 4) Tunafanya miradi na biashara zingine.
- 5) Tunafanya biashara ya hewa ya kaboni.

Tunafanya.

- 1) Tunaunda kazi ya timu—kwa kufanya mambo kwa njia hii; tunaishia kufanya kazi kama timu.
- 2) Tunajenga Uwezo-tunaunda shirika, nguvu, na mfumo ambao ni imara.
- 3) Tunafanya mambo yanayotufurahisha-tunaona matokeo, tunatimiza mambo makubwa ambayo tunafurahia
- 4) Tunafanya mambo yanayoleta matokeo makubwa-matokeo makubwa ya upandaji miti. matokeo makubwa katika Kilimo Hai na matokeo makubwa kutokana na miradi na biashara zingine tunazofanya.
- 5) Tunatumia gharama ndogo za Utawala, lakini tunapata matokeo makubwa.