

Sample 3: E-mail on VP's Visit to PADEP Subproject

DATE: February X, 20XX
TO: Sector Manager
FROM: S _____ A _____
SUBJECT: ***VP's Visit to PADEP Subproject***

The Vice President, Mr. Rao Nanjahari, was accompanied by Ms. Jacqueline O'Donnell, Mr. Ronald Barth, Ms. Joan Bikasso, Ms. Heidi Nguma, the Rosalkusha Regional Commissioner, Mr. Mako Franciscan, the District Executive Director of Kuta district, Mr. Boka, the District Commissioner, and other regional and district officials.

The VP was taken straight to the irrigation intake site to see the work done on the rehabilitation of the furrow, where the village chairperson gave a brief report of the community project. In his introductory remarks, the chairperson said that, the community of Mbisu village felt quite honored to be visited by the VP. He also informed that Mungushi was privileged to be one of the first two pilot villages in Kuta district to test the PADEP concept and implementation mechanism. In his report, the village chairperson mentioned the following:

- **Background:** Rehabilitation of the furrow started in 2002. Through participatory rural appraisal the village community decided to rehabilitate their aged traditional irrigation canal. The main objectives of the project were to: (i) increase the amount of water in the furrow for irrigation; (ii) expand the irrigated area from 270 to 400 ha; and (iii) enable farmers to raise crops twice a year.
- **Subprojects:** The community, through farmer groups, also implemented four subprojects, which aimed at enabling the community to acquire improved farming technologies in crop husbandry, processing, and marketing.
- **Achievements:** 95 percent of all planned activities were implemented. Despite the reduction of water due to drought experienced after completion of the irrigation project, farmers were able to:
 - increase maize production from 5-7 bags to 15-20 bags per acre;
 - farmers' income increased from Tsh. 150,000 per year to 285,000 in year 2004;
 - number of farmers with access to irrigation water has raised from 450 to 600; and
 - provide training, study tours and seminars to acquaint a considerable number of farmers with new technologies.
- **Sustainability:** the community has secured a certificate of user rights of the irrigation furrow; the village is finalizing formalities for establishing a water users association, after which, every member will be contributing Tsh. 2,400 a year and non-members will be charged TSh. 6,400 a year.

- **Constraints:** the community could not attain 100 percent of their objectives due to unforeseen issues including - price escalations of the building materials and transport charges, and new problematic areas along the furrow that emerged during the implementation process

Mr. Nanjahari thanked the community for the warm reception extended to him and his delegation. He commended the community for the successful implementation of their project. He was also happy to learn that through the project, the community got more harvests, and since women were active members, he believed there was enough food in the households and that children were going to school. He expressed his support for community initiatives in development projects as the right approach towards poverty reduction. He urged the communities not to wait for the government to provide, instead to carry on with the same spirit in order to achieve more in future.