



2015/2016 NEWS LETTER

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ISSUES IN THE NEWS

73 Young People Empowered in Quality shear Butter Processing with financial literacy management training provided.

N2Africa Project Legume Technology Dissemination.

Young Females Trained as Animal Health Workers with Basic ICT training provided.

73 YOUNG PEOPLE EMPOWERED IN QUALITY SHEAR BUTTER PROCESSING

URBANET as part of its activities as a food and livelihood security organization in Ghana trained 73 young people (comprising 67 girls and 6 boys) between the ages of 15-to-24 years from Malshegu, Katariga and Vittin communities in the Northern region of Ghana on quality shear butter processing. The six months training provided by URBANET in 2015 with funding support from EMpower – The Emerging Markets Foundation resulted in the beneficiaries' ability to use the skills acquired in shear butter processing business as a source of descent incomes to support their educational and other socio-economic needs.

Processing the Shear nut seeds



Processing of Shear butter



Smoothing of Shear butter



Final Product (shear butter)



Equally important, the girls received training in financial literacy management and reproductive health education while 98 other young people are benefiting indirectly from the project through apprenticeship under the direct beneficiaries to also acquire some skills in that regard for gainful employment.

Interactive Session



SUPPORTING PARTNERS





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N2Africa Project legume Technology Dissemination

The 2016 cropping season has been very exciting and interesting to farmers in the Savelugu/Nanton district of Northern Region of Ghana where URBANET is leading the implementation of the N2Africa project legume technology dissemination work. This year's rains have been good and adequate for most farmers especially those who participated in the project activities. Unlike the 2015 where most soybean farmers had losses because of the late season's drought, this year, the yields have been good.

Several new communities were mobilized by URBANET for technology transfer and other interesting project packages. The Savelugu Township, Bunglung, Kpachelo, Botingli and Tumahi were some of the new communities on the project. Others were Yilkpani, Langa, and Behinaayili. The rest were Challam, Nyatua and Nyerigiyili.

A number of activities were planned and implemented in the season. These activities and result achieved are highlighted below:

Soybean Demonstration Plot



Data Collection during Harvesting



Weighing of Biomass



- Set up 15 demonstration plots for 450 farmers for N2Africa project legume technologies transfer using the lead farmer concept
- Supported 150 farmers to test N2Africa project legume technologies in their own farms
- Mobilized over 400 additional farmers for N2Africa technologies through 15 farmer field days
- Organized four radio discussions on N2Africa project legume technologies for farmers outside communities where demonstrations plots were set up.
- Used video shows to demonstrate N2Africa legume technologies to six communities
- Identified and mobilized farmers interested in seed production as out-growers and linked to Heritage Seed Company for seed production. In all 40 farmers made up of 20 women and 20 men multiplied groundnut variety, SAMNUT 22 on 21 acres, Chinese on 3 acres and soybeans variety Afayak on 14 acres in the Savelugu/Nanton district.
- Facilitate linkage between farmers and input distributors for improved access to inputs. This was done through organized meetings for farmers and input dealers and also during field days.
- Trained 150 leaders of producer groups on grain quality and market standard in the Savelugu/Nanton district.

Trained 200 women on soybean recipes to enhance household nutrition in the Savelugu/Nanton district.

Farmer Technology Evaluation



Farmers at Planting Field Day



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Young Female Animal Health Workers (YFAHW)

Still in its quest to empower more females and close the gender disparity gap in our communities and beyond, URBANET took advantage of Ghana's economy which is largely agro-based with livestock contributing about 25%-to-30% to Agric GDP and trained 90 young girls on livestock keeping and health management in 2016.

Therefore the YFAHW project fulfills a range of expectations including providing food and non-food products such as milk, meat, eggs, wool, hair, manure for fuel and improved soil structure, as well as income generation for the beneficiaries and some households among other things.

This project which is funded by EMpower – The Emerging Markets Foundation presents a great employment opportunity for young girls between the ages of 15-to-24 years who have acquired skills as animal Health practitioners from a training provided by URBANET in collaboration with the Vet-nary Service Department of the Ministry of food and agriculture (MoFA) as well as business management skills training with tool kits provided for the beneficiaries to support them in starting their business services.



Practical Session

Facilitation Session



Practical Session

Presentation of toolkitsSession



Group Picture After Training



It is also refreshing to note that the young girls equally acquired basic knowledge and skills in ICT from a 3-day training workshop organized by Urbanet in collaboration with Information Technology Foundation (ITF) which is and ICT for Development NGO in Ghana.

This ICT training which focused on MS Office and Web search with social media and best ICT practice skills provides an opportunity for the beneficiaries to use ICT facilities effectively to search for further information on the internet to support their knowledge and skills acquired as Animal Health workers and to market their services as well.

Facilitation Session



Interactive Session

Group Picture After Training

