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From: "Hansen, Peter Lysholt" <PPLYHA@um.dk>
 To: "Gondwe, Hilda (WP51)" <hilgon@dartz.um.dk>
 Date: 7 July 1998 2:10pm
 Subject: HIMA: Report on the impact of HIMA on Farmers Income in Ilula Sokoni Village

** RAMMEFORTROLIGT **

Dear Hilda,

I have with great interest read the report on the Impact of HIMA on Farmes Income in Ilula Sokoni Village forwarded with amb nr, 350 of 1 July 1998.

I very much appreciate that some of the activities of HIMA such as tree planting and small animal raising will require a longer period before any major impact materialize. However, it seems to me that the report actually confirms that the income saving/generation as a result of MIHA-activities has indeed been significant (see page 15-17). The reason this is not fully reflected in the conclusions from the report seems to be that the consultant has taken the word "income" very litterally, which in my view is a pity. What is interesting of course is to see and monitor the net benefit to the farmers of the HIMA-activities, which in my view also would include savings and improvements in the family's diet and more food on the table. I realize that is can be difficult to acurately quantify such net benefits. However, in order to get a fuller picture of the impact of HIMA also in quantitative terms and to monitor the future progress it is in my opinion important to try to do so (and as long as the assumptions on which to calculate the benefits are clear and consistent this should be no problem).

As I have not seen the actual data of the interviews held it is very difficult for me to assess whether the benefits as deccribed above can be calculated.

However, in my view this should be done and I should like to request you to contact the HIMA-project in this regard. I would also very much like to see that the impact study (with the above modifications) is repeated in Ilula Sokoni Village in 1-2 years time. Furthermore I think that the HIMA project should consider whether similar impact studies shpuld be undetaken in other villages with different characteristics.

Yours sincerely

Peter (Lysholt Hansen)

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Hilda: Give Cp MS

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**REPORT ON THE IMPACT OF HIMA ON FARMER INCOME
IN ILULA SOKONI VILLAGE
Of Iringa District**



APRIL 1998

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Primarily, I am extremely grateful to the men and women of Ilula Sokoni village interviewed in this study for sharing their time and experiences with me. I thank them for their frankness and honesty.

I would like to thank Dr. Arif Qaraeen, Chief Technical Advisor, for assigning me this challenging study and for his support throughout this internship.

From HIMA-Iringa, I am appreciative of all of the help that was given me in compiling the background information and in arranging the visits to the subvillages of Ilula Sokoni from Mr. Steve Gossage, Team Leader and Agricultural Advisor and Mr. Mgimwa, Community Development Officer. And especially, to Mr. Mgalamwu, the head of the Agriculture Unit for his time and highly descriptive explanations of the projects in Ilula Sokoni.

From the Mazombe Sub-Center Staff, I am grateful to Ms. Ester Luyangi of the Forestry Department and to Mr. Kinenekejo, Divisional Livestock Officer, for showing me around the Sub-Center archives.

I am extremely grateful to Buruhan Mbululo, Village Chairman, and to the Village Secretary of Ilula Sokoni for their patient answers to my endless questions and for their indispensable aid in the conduction of this study.

Last, but not least, I would like to thank Ms. Lusajo Mwangaba, my personal interpreter for her companionship and tireless dedication to this study.

I sincerely appreciate all of the assistance and support provided by all.

Ms. Rozy Fredericks
HIMA-RPMU Intern

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ABSTRACT

This study is an assessment of the impact of HIMA-Iringa's Soil and Water Conservation Project on the incomes of the participant farmers in Ilula Sokoni. Primarily intended to investigate quantitatively the savings and additional income accrued through involvement in various HIMA activities, the study also attempted to ascertain the household distribution of the economic benefits and how they were spent. Particular attention was paid to the indirect and direct benefits that women farmers experienced in relation to their husbands, since they are often the ones who perform the majority of farm labor and the implementation of HIMA activities.

HIMA activities were divided into: 1) traditional HIMA activities including: tree planting, small animal raising, home gardening, composting, on-farm soil and water conservation methods, improved granary construction, water source protection, hilltop protection, and private tree nurseries, and: 2) non-traditional activities that have been specific to Ilula Sokoni or only a small number of villages, namely: large scale gully rehabilitation and the planting of improved tomato varieties. The respective income accrued was separated into these two sub-sections of HIMA's involvement in Ilula Sokoni in order to investigate the origin of the impact on income, and then they were categorized into major or minor savings and income generation, accordingly.

The study was conducted through informal interviews of 52 farmers in the 7 subvillages of Ilula Sokoni. The number of farmers interviewed in each subvillage was a representative sample taken according to the level and type of involvement in HIMA activities of the subvillage residents. In addition to being representative of those people involved in HIMA activities, the respondents also contributed general survey information in order to reflect their representation of the village as a whole.

The findings of this report show mainly that as a result of their participation in HIMA activities, the participant farmers in Ilula are generally saving money rather than making money and therefore are actually accumulating little to invest. Overall, the money that is saved or made contributes to higher food security and the quality of life within the family, through helping with feeding and paying for basic necessities like clothing and school fees. In comparing those conventional and non-conventional HIMA activities, the gully rehabilitation was found to have been extremely beneficial to the people of Ilula Sokoni, but many of the traditional activities were found to be equally as important in saving and generating money for the participants. In relation to women, although they were found to be performing a slightly disproportionate share of the labor involved in implementing HIMA projects, they do seem to be benefiting equally or even in a superior manner than their husbands from the benefits of their labor. There was no evidence here discovered that money earned or saved was squandered by negligent husbands.