

7TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAUREATES
FREIBURG, GERMANY - 15 - 18 MARCH 2018



Laureates' Symposium



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◆ Nyanda Ashililya

Tanzania

“Promotion of leguminous and tuber crops
in Mwanza, Tanzania”

PROMOTION OF LEGUMINOUS AND TUBER CROPS IN MWANZA TANZANIA

A paper presented in the 7th International Convention of Environmental LAUREATES (15th-18th March, 2018)

Presented by:
Mrs. Ashililya Nyanda
www.mrhp-ngo.tz



OVERVIEW OF THE ORGANIZATION & PROJECT IN WORKING AREA

- Mwanza Rural Housing and Food Security Programme (MRHP) is a community based non-governmental organization located in Misungwi Town, in the Northern Eastern of Mwanza city - Tanzania.. Area which is dry, with short, erratic and unreliable rains. MRHP –NGO was launched with the fundamental aim of supporting the rural population in Mwanza region to improve their housing condition through improved housing technologies, and construction of low-cost housing, "hence ASHDEN AWARD in 2006."
- In 2005: MRHP expanded its work to include agricultural interventions in order to improve income so as to improve HABITAT and food security in two districts of Kwimba and Misungwi. From 2005 to 2017, the NGO implemented various agricultural projects with different partners (BFTW being major partner).



WHY PROMOTING LEGUMINOUS AND TUBER CROPS?

Leguminous crops

- They are drought resistant (average rainfall 600mm)
- Low input
- Mature early(60-75days vs maize 90-110 days)
- Fix nitrogen in the soils
- Market catching /high value
- Nutritious, i.e. rich in protein
- Food security
- Cover plants hence good for soil conservation.
- Can be intercropped with maize or cassava
- After harvest waste fed to small animals
- Women crops!!



WHY PROMOTING LEGUMINOUS AND TUBER CROPS.....

Sweet potatoes

- Rich in beta carotene that assist to create Vit. A (improve vision, body immunity, promotes optimum growth for children)
- Rich in carbohydrate
- Food security
- Income sources
- Cover plants hence good for soil conservation
- Considered as women crop in major parts of Tanzania

Cassava

- Major source of carbohydrates and therefore good energy source in human body
- Income source
- Can be used as animal feed
- Drought resistance crop
- Can be used for starch production
- Food security
- Grows in sand & infertile soils



MRHP APPROACH AND PRACTICES RELATED TO PROMOTION OF LEGUMINOUS AND TUBER CROPS

- MRHP promotes the cultivation of grain legume crops, and tuber crops
- MRHP involves farmers in:
 - Use of improved varieties of chick peas, Green grams, Cow peas, bambara nuts, ground nuts, Orange Fleshed Sweet Potatoes (OFSP), and cassava for food, income source and fix Nitrogen
 - Training on good agronomic practices, such as land preparation, timely planting, weeding, manure application, crops protection measures against pests and diseases, and post harvest technologies. (PICS Bags). The NGO promotes the use of agric implements e.g. ox-plough/weeder
 - Training PLWHAs on nutritious (power) foods preparation for value addition.
 - Keeping small animals, whereas some of farmers have been given dairy goats
- In addition, MRHP is also creating awareness on HIV/AIDS, and linking PLWHAs to Care and Treatment Centre (CTC) services.



SOME PRACTICES.....

Train on ox-weeder



OFSP farm



PRACTICES

Improved var. chick pea



Improved var. green gram



PRACTICES

Improved var. of bambara
nuts



Original variety var. of chick
pea



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