

PRiDe II NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2022

OUR RICE OUR PRIDE



Uganda celebrates World Food Day

To mark World Food Day, various Agricultural Institutes and Projects in Uganda participated in the agricultural products exhibition at National Crops Resources Research Institute (NaCRRI) on 16th October 2022.

The event was graced by the Prime Minister, Robinah Nabbanja and Frank Tumwebaze, Minister of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries.

During the exhibition, the Prime Minister appreciated the technologies being displayed, value addition and the youth involvement in farming. She also emphasized supporting collaborations of researchers and farmers on urban farming and commercialization in order to ensure sustainability for small-scale farmers.



Dr. Lamo (Program leader - Cereals NaCRRI) explaining value added products of rice such as rice cake and rice bread to the Prime Minister (the 3rd from far left)

PRiDe II Project exhibited different technologies used in rice cultivation, for example the post-harvest handling equipment (motorised thresher and wooden thresher), bird scaring techniques – i.e., use of falcon-form kites and bird nets. The Project also introduced other technologies including the rotary weeder and planting fork which are utilized for trainings.

The Project also exhibited the value addition products from rice, for example, rice cake, rice bread and pop rice. The exhibition participants were amazed by such various products from rice as they are new to the Ugandans. It is important to expand the possibilities of rice for the sake of increase of farmers' income in Uganda.

They also appreciated the project's roles in disseminating improved rice cultivation techniques towards increase of rice production / productivity and improvement of the small-scale farmer's standard of living.

5th JTC and 4th JCC Meetings of PRiDe II



Mr. Emmanuel Ogwal, Rice Desk-MAAIF, explaining the progress of development of NRDS2 in the 4th JCC, Kampala

PRiDe II has important management structure; JTC (Joint Technical Committee) in which discusses technical matters, and JCC (Joint Coordination Committee) in which discusses project management matters as an umbrella organ of PRiDe II.

The 5th JTC (AM) and the 4th JCC (PM) meetings for PRiDe II were held on 26th October in Kampala. In the 4th JCC meeting, progress of key project activities; research, seed production and extension/training were shared. Mr. Peter Ssenyonga, Research Officer in Rwebitaba ZARDI explained achievements of extension activities; registration of about 1,700 farmers as Musomesa, and progress management of techniques dissemination through ICT monitoring (smartphone application). Mr. Muzihirdin Shariff, Agricultural Officer (AO) in Bugweri District, on the other hand, shared stories of farmers in the district who increased rice production (4bags to 12bags) through MFS activities and great management of farmers' cooperative including support of a tractor from the area Member of



Parliament. It was the first time to invite an AO to JTC/JCC meeting and was really a good opportunity for PRiDe II to show the close cooperation with local governments.

Mr. Muzihirdin Shariff, AO in Bugweri explaining success stories of farmers and farmers' cooperative through MFS

Before closing the 4th JCC meeting, Ms. Rieko Kamioka, a new JICA Expert of CARD Regional Training Coordinator also explained the CARD Regional Training which will be held at the end of November.

The meeting participants were highly interested in PRiDe II training materials, Musomesa and Senior Musomesa T-shirts and Annual Report of FY2021.



Capacity building in Target Research Institutes

PRiDe II has been carrying out various research experiments for the purpose of raise of the research capability in Rwebitaba, Abi, Ngetta and Bulindi ZARDIs and NaSARRI under the direct supervision of the PRiDe team.

The multi-location trials aim to determine the optimum timing of planting and to find the proper variety under different environmental condition in the upland ecologies. The trials have been ongoing from April to date and the PRiDe team is working together with researchers, technicians, and field managers in NaSARRI and ZARDIs. After harvesting, the yield component is analysed to determine the performance of the variety in each zone.

In Ikulwe Station, Buginyanya ZARDI, a new seed production field has been prepared in cooperation with a JICA Volunteer to produce quality seeds of WITA 9 and other varieties. At Kamenyamigo Station, Mukono ZARDI, furthermore, a research officer and a research technician have been progressing Preliminary National Performance Trial (Pre-NPT) for release of a new variety "PRIDE 1".

Each target research institute understands several important roles for strengthening the linkage between research and extension, and the importance of capacity development for sustainable research works.



(Top) Sowing seeds in the experiment field – Bulindi ZARDI



(Bottom) Preparing seedlings for Preliminary National Performance Trial – Ikulwe Station, Buginyanya ZARDI



**(Upper right) Ms. Avako harvesting samples in monthly trial field
(Middle) Mr. Joseph Okello - Field manager NaSARRI, implementing the yield component survey**



**(Top) Transplanting at NPT field – Ngetta ZARDI
(Right) Ms. Maureen weeding in monthly trial field - Rwebitaba -ZARDI**

Developing Research Capacity through JICA’s Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP)

Ms. Solome Nakiyaga, a senior technician of PRiDe II Project finished a 6-week training under the JICA’s KCCP in Japan.

The training was organized by JICA – Chubu center under the theme ‘Development of Core Agricultural Researcher for Promotion of Rice Production in Sub Saharan Africa’.

Ms. Nakiyaga has been working on breeding experiments to develop rice varieties that has features such as resistance to the Rice Yellow Mottle Virus (RYMV) and aroma. The training came in handy as she was able to understand the different technologies of crossing and emasculation.

During the training session at Kyushu University, she obtained knowledge on different molecular techniques such as genetical analysis with dCAPS markers that can be used for marker assisted selection for resistance to RYMV.

The training ended successfully and further enhanced her knowledge on rice breeding and she will use the acquired skills to breed rice varieties that are resistant to RYMV under the direct supervision of the JICA expert – Mr. Nobuki Kojima.



**(left) Ms. Nakiyaga sharing what she learned in the training – NaCRRRI
(Bottom right) Remarks as a representative of the trainees in the closing ceremony at JICA Chubu**

