

Wasambo Woodlot Project 2018 Report



Project Description	The Wasambo Woodlot Project was designed to mitigate any negative environmental impact that the Wasambo Boys High School may have on the site. A Club was formed at the beginning of the project to oversee the planting of 10,000 trees on the site.
Staff Member	Frackson Mhango, Special Programs Manager
Dates of project	From 2016 to 2018
Date of report	August 9 th 2018

Project Successes

Name	Description
Establishment of Tionerepo Woodlot Club	A Tionerepo Woodlot Club was established at the inception of this project. Members were chosen by the chief, and clubmembers have been very committed throughout the entire process. Club members are all actively cooperating and they take ownership of the project.
Cooperation with member Joseph Kayira	Joseph Kayira is an intern from the University of Livingstonia. He initiated the strategy and plan for the project. He has been very engaged and would be an asset for projects in the future.
Monitoring Activities	D2D has been checking on the activities of the Tionerepo Club, which is in charge of the project. This helped D2D and the club to verify what is working well and the one that is not. The monitoring visits also helps to give feedback and draws lessons and adjustments.
Woodlot Training	The training took place from 7th November to 9th November, 2016. The training was delivered by D2D staff members and forest department from government. The training focused much on woodlot management, team work, leadership and participation.

Unexpected Events

Description	Impact	Actions Taken
Land disputes with the owners of the land. Some community members did not allow selling of their land and this created conflict between the committee members and community members.	The owners of the land cut down trees in the woodlot, negatively effecting the targeted number of trees that the project is expected to achieve	D2D conducted meetings with chiefs and club members to settle the land disputes. The chiefs ordered D2D to arrest anyone who is disrupting the project
Reduction of targeted number of trees on the field due to external factors beyond our control. The project targeted 10,000 trees to be raised in 4 years. In the first year of the project,	The reduction of the number trees has negatively affected the committee and D2D because we are now	D2D and Tionerepo Club members agreed that the trees should be replaced during rainy season so as to maintain

the number of trees remained the same and this gave us hope that the project would be able to achieve its goal. In the 2nd year the number of trees decreased to 2186. We did not expect such huge reductions.	very far from our target number.	the target number of tree at the end of the project.
While most of Tionerepo Club members remain very engaged, there has been lack of participation of some committee members	This led to poor management of the project which has resulted to reduction of our target number of trees and caused conflict within the group	The members that were not cooperative were removed from the club and new members have been recruited by the chief and other club members.

Lessons Learned

List and describe any lessons learned from this project and provide recommendations that can be used to improve the delivery of future information systems projects.

Description	Recommendation
Land disputes negatively affected the performance of the project, especially the reduction of trees	It is advisable that, before implementation of any project, risk assessment should be done so as to see any external hardship that can affect project performance. In this case, D2D should have dealt with the land disputes before commencement of woodlot project.
Frequent monitoring visits to check with the club and to see what is working and what is not working. This helps to deal with any issues before they become major problems.	There is need to embark on monthly monitoring to check with the club on the project progress. Also, it is recommended that quarterly reviews and reports are conducted.

On Budget					
Approved Budget	Spent Budget	Variance (in \$)	On Budget	Under Budget	Over Budget
\$ 9,589	\$ 1,169	\$8,420	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>

Key Indicators		
	Numbers	Comments
Number of beneficiaries	Male: 6 Female: 8	Tionerepo Woodlot Club has both genders represented
Number of people trained in woodlot management	Male: 6 Female: 8	

Number of trees planted	11,000	The target number of trees is 10,000 in 4 years. The club decided to plant more so that when some of them dies we should still have the targeted number.
Number of trees survived 1 year	10,000	The first year was successful
Number of trees survived 2 years	2,186	We need to put more effort to make sure that our targeted number is achieved at the end of the project

Project Performance

In 2016, D2D initiated Wasambo Woodlot Project which aimed at raising 10,000 blue gum trees at Wasambo High School within 4 years. The overall goal of the project is to maintain the environment after Wasambo High School is introduced to the site. The project was meant to mitigate any deforestation caused by the Wasambo Education Foundation, due to the need to clear land for building and the need for firewood for cooking. D2D chose blue gum trees over other varieties because they are fast growing and produce good poles for timber.

A woodlot club was established in 2016 to run this project over the course of its 4 years. 14 community members were chosen by the chief and trained in woodlot management. Since the project was initiated, a number of activities has taken place and these include; preparation of the field, training of members of the club, preparing the nursery tree site, taking care of the trees on the project site, and monitoring the site. The club is responsible for the project and they are involved in all activities including monitoring.

The project is for 4 years and is expected to finish in 2020. The first year of the project went very well and we managed to reach our target number of trees successfully. However, the second year of the project was not as promising, and the number of trees decreased from 11,000 to 2,186. At this rate, we will not reach our targeted number of 10,000 trees.

D2D also monitors the project, but its involvement are less regular. D2D monitoring takes place once per year, at which time payments are given to the club members based on the number of surviving trees. A total of 10% of funds may be given at the end of each of the first 3 years, if all 10,000 of the trees survive, and 70% of the funds awarded at the end of the 4th year. Since a majority of the trees did not survive the 2nd year, the full amount of funds were not given to club members and the project remains under budget. D2D and the Woodlot club have agreed that the trees will be replaced this coming season to meet our target number. Also, there is need to conduct quarterly meetings with the club so as to check what is working and what is not. This will also help to address the problems at early stage before big problems occur.