

**IMPROVED INCOME OF NANI KAMA MAMA GROUP THROUGH
SWEET POTATO VINES PRODUCTION IN YOMBO WARD, BAGAMOYO
DISTRICT**

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**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE
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CERTIFICATION

The undersigned certifies that he has read and hereby recommends for acceptance by the Open University of Tanzania, a dissertation titled, “**Improved Income of Nani Kama Mama Group through Sweet Potato Vines Production in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District**”, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Community Economic Development (MCED).

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DECLARATION

I, **Halima Shabani Simbano**, declare that, the work presented in this dissertation is original. It has never been presented to any other University or Institution. Where other people's works have been used, references have been provided. It is in this regard that I declare this work as originally mine. It is hereby presented in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Community Economic Development (MCED).

.....

Signature

.....

Date

DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to the resilient women of the Nani Kama Mama Group in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District, whose determination and commitment to improving their livelihoods through agriculture have been a source of inspiration. May this project serve as a stepping stone toward greater empowerment and sustainable development in your community.

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Additionally, I acknowledge the community leaders, local government officials, and all stakeholders who contributed their insights and resources to ensure the project's success. My heartfelt appreciation also goes to my family, friends, and colleagues for their constant encouragement and moral support throughout this journey.

ABSTRACT

This study focuses on improving the economic empowerment of the Nani Kama Mama Group through sweet potato vine production. The Community Needs Assessment (CNA) identified key challenges, including limited access to agricultural resources, training, and market linkages. Objectives of the CNA included analyzing women's economic activities, available resources, and potential income-generating activities. A mixed-method approach was employed, utilizing surveys, interviews, and participatory discussions. Findings revealed that access to quality seeds, modern farming techniques, and reliable markets were critical needs. The project implementation report detailed activities such as training in modern farming methods, securing farmland, cultivating sweet potatoes, and establishing market linkages. Participatory monitoring and evaluation involved community-driven action plans, self-assessments, and regular follow-ups, ensuring accountability and ownership. Concluding that the project fostered sustainable development, recommendations emphasized capacity-building, resource mobilization, and partnership expansion to support future initiatives. This Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) approach ensures long-term community resilience and economic independence.

Keywords: *Sweet potato farming, community empowerment, women's economic activities, participatory monitoring, sustainable livelihoods, agricultural development.*

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CAN	Community Needs Assessment
CED	Community Economic Development
MIS	Monitoring Information System
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
SLF	Sustainable Livelihood Framework
TECEDO	Tanzania Entrepreneurship and Community Economic Development Organization
TZS	Tanzanian Shillings

CHAPTER ONE

PARTICIPATORY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

1.0 Background Information

Agriculture remains a cornerstone of Tanzania's economy, contributing significantly to employment, food security, and income generation among rural populations. In Bagamoyo District, agriculture plays a significant role in the livelihoods of many communities, particularly for women, who make up a large portion of the agricultural labor force. Despite their critical involvement in agriculture, women in rural areas face similar socio-economic challenges that hinder their ability to fully benefit from agricultural production. These challenges include limited access to land, financial resources, agricultural inputs, and markets. Furthermore, inadequate education and training in modern agricultural techniques exacerbate the difficulties women face in improving their yields and income.

The Nani Kama Mama Group in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District, exemplifies a community of women who rely heavily on agriculture, specifically sweet potato farming, as their primary source of income. Sweet potato is a staple food in Tanzania and a significant crop for improving food security and nutrition. However, these women encounter numerous obstacles that prevent them from realizing the full potential of sweet potato production. Challenges such as lack of technical knowledge on improved farming methods, inadequate storage facilities, and limited access to profitable markets reduce their productivity and income. These constraints not only perpetuate poverty but also limit the women's ability to expand their agricultural activities and improve their livelihoods.

The community of Yombo Ward consists of 11,102 individuals, with women accounting for 49.5% of the population (National Bureau of Statistics [NBS], 2022). Approximately 32.3% of the population resides in Matimbwa Village, where many women from the Nani Kama Mama Group live. Despite their significant role in agricultural activities, these women often face socio-economic barriers that limit their empowerment and financial capability. Many of them depend on small-scale farming for subsistence and income, yet they lack the necessary support to scale up their agricultural enterprises. The limited availability of agricultural training, financial resources, and market linkages further hinders their ability to improve production and income.

Given these circumstances, it is evident that a strategic intervention aimed at empowering women through sweet potato vine production could substantially improve their income, food security, and overall well-being. The community needs assessment (CNA) conducted in Yombo Ward has identified sweet potato vine production as a viable income-generating activity that holds significant potential for uplifting the livelihoods of women in the community. By addressing the barriers to increased production and market access, the project aims to equip women with the skills, resources, and market linkages necessary to enhance their sweet potato vine production operations. This, in turn, will foster economic empowerment and community resilience.

The proposed project, "Improved Income of Nani Kama Mama Group through Sweet Potatoes vines Production in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District," aims to address the

critical gaps in agricultural knowledge, production practices, and market access that currently constrain women's income-generating activities. By focusing on sweet potato vines production, the project will provide training on modern agricultural methods, promote the use of improved sweet potato vines, and facilitate access to both local and external markets. These initiatives are expected to increase productivity, reduce post-harvest losses, and improve household income, thereby contributing to the overall development of the Yombo Ward community.

Therefore, the need for this project is both clear and pressing. The women of Yombo Ward, particularly those in the Nani Kama Mama Group, are eager to improve their agricultural productivity and income but require support in overcoming the barriers they face. By providing targeted interventions that address their specific needs, this project will play a crucial role in empowering women, improving their financial stability, and promoting sustainable community development.

1.1 Community Profile

Yombo Ward is a rural area located in the Bagamoyo District Council, within the Pwani Region of Tanzania. The ward consists of several villages, with Matimbwa being the largest, comprising 32.3% of the total population. According to the 2022 Population Census, Yombo Ward is home to 11,102 individuals, with women making up 49.5% (5,509) of the population and men comprising 50.5% (5,593) (National Bureau of Statistics [NBS], 2022). The majority of the population relies on small-scale agriculture for their livelihoods, with sweet potato farming being a common activity among local households. Despite this, the ward faces numerous

socio-economic challenges that limit the full potential of agricultural productivity and income generation, especially for women.

The population of Yombo Ward is characterized by a diverse range of socio-economic activities, with farming being the primary occupation. The area is predominantly rural, and most residents depend on agriculture for subsistence and income generation. The main crops grown in the ward include sweet potatoes, cassava, maize, and various vegetables. Sweet potatoes, in particular, have emerged as a crucial crop due to their adaptability to local conditions and their importance in ensuring food security. However, the full potential of sweet potato farming has not been realized, primarily due to a lack of modern farming techniques, inadequate access to improved seeds, and poor market linkages.

1.1.1 Gender Roles and Economic Challenges

Within the community, women play a significant role in agricultural production. They are responsible for most of the labor associated with farming, including planting, weeding and harvesting. Despite their active participation in agriculture, women in Yombo Ward face multiple socio-economic barriers that hinder their ability to fully benefit from their efforts. These barriers include limited access to land, financial resources, and agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, and modern farming tools. The lack of access to these critical resources often results in low yields and reduced income, further perpetuating cycles of poverty. Furthermore, women in the community have limited opportunities for entrepreneurship and business development, primarily due to a lack of education and skills training. This is

compounded by traditional gender norms that restrict women's ability to make decisions regarding land ownership and financial investments. As a result, most women in Yombo Ward are trapped in low-income agricultural activities, with minimal prospects for economic mobility.

1.1.2 Infrastructure and Resources

Yombo Ward benefits from access to some natural and human resources that could be leveraged to improve agricultural productivity and overall community development. The ward has fertile land that is suitable for a variety of crops, including sweet potatoes. Additionally, the presence of rivers and seasonal streams provides opportunities for irrigation, although this potential has not been fully exploited due to a lack of technical knowledge and financial resources for irrigation infrastructure development.

Human capital is another vital resource within the community. The people of Yombo Ward, particularly the women, are hardworking and eager to improve their livelihoods. Many women are already engaged in small-scale farming, and with the right support in terms of training, access to improved seeds, and market linkages, they have the potential to significantly increase their agricultural productivity and income. The existence of the Nani Kama Mama Group within the community is an example of women's willingness to collaborate and support one another in achieving economic empowerment. However, the ward suffers from poor infrastructure, which poses a significant challenge to agricultural development. The roads connecting the villages within the ward to Bagamoyo town and other markets are in poor condition,

particularly during the rainy season, making it difficult for farmers to transport their produce to market. This often results in post-harvest losses and limits the ability of farmers to sell their produce at competitive prices.

1.1.3 Social Services and Community Institutions

Yombo Ward has access to basic social services, including primary schools, healthcare facilities, and community centers. These services are essential in supporting the well-being of the population, particularly women and children. However, the quality and availability of these services are often limited, with healthcare facilities being understaffed and under-resourced. This affects the overall health and productivity of the community, as poor health can reduce agricultural output and increase household expenses.

The presence of Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) such as the Nani Kama Mama Group has helped to mobilize women around common economic activities, particularly sweet potato vine production. These organizations play a crucial role in fostering a sense of community and empowering women to take collective action to improve their livelihoods. The community is also home to various religious and cultural institutions that play a significant role in shaping social norms and influencing decision-making processes within households.

1.1.4 Socio-Economic Potential and Challenges

The socio-economic profile of Yombo Ward indicates that there is significant potential for agricultural development, particularly through the empowerment of

women in the community. Sweet potato farming, which is already a common practice, presents an opportunity for increasing household income and improving food security. However, for this potential to be realized, there must be targeted interventions to address the existing barriers faced by women, including access to improved seeds, modern farming techniques, and market linkages.

Additionally, the community's reliance on small-scale agriculture as the primary source of income means that any improvements in agricultural productivity will have a direct impact on poverty reduction and economic empowerment. By focusing on sweet potato vines production, the project aims to enhance food security, create employment opportunities, and improve the financial capability of women in Yombo Ward. These outcomes will not only benefit the individual women and their families but also contribute to the overall socio-economic development of the community.

Therefore, Yombo Ward is a rural community with a strong agricultural base, but it faces significant challenges related to poverty, gender inequality, and limited access to resources. Women in the community, who are key contributors to agricultural production, are particularly disadvantaged by these challenges. However, with the right support in terms of training, access to improved agricultural inputs, and market linkages, there is considerable potential for improving the livelihoods of women and fostering community resilience. This community profile highlights the need for targeted interventions that address the unique challenges faced by women in Yombo Ward and support their efforts to achieve economic empowerment through agriculture.

1.2 Community Needs Assessment (CNA)

The Community Needs Assessment (CNA) is a crucial process for understanding the socio-economic dynamics, challenges, and opportunities of a community. In this section, the CNA will focus on Yombo Ward in Bagamoyo District, where the Nani Kama Mama Group is actively involved in sweet potato vines production. The assessment aims to identify the community's specific needs, especially among women, and recommend income-generating initiatives that can address these challenges. This assessment will be the foundation for implementing effective agricultural projects to improve livelihoods in the community.

1.2.1 Objectives of CNA

The main objective of the Community Needs Assessment was to collect detailed information from women in Yombo Ward, specifically those involved in the Nani Kama Mama Group, to identify their socio-economic needs and help formulate income-generating activities that would improve their livelihoods through sweet potato vines production.

1.2.1.1 Specific Objectives

- i. To identify economic activities conducted by women in the community.
- ii. To identify available resources and opportunities that can be utilized for the project.
- iii. To identify and prioritize the needs of women community members.
- iv. To identify and prioritize income-generating activities that address the most pressing needs.

1.2.2 Research Questions

- i. What are the economic activities currently undertaken by women in Yombo Ward?
- ii. What resources and opportunities are available for the sweet potato vines production project?
- iii. What are the most pressing socio-economic needs of the women in Yombo Ward?
- iv. Which income-generating activities should be prioritized to address the community's needs effectively?

1.2.3 CNA Methodology

The Community Needs Assessment employed a mixed-method approach, combining both qualitative and quantitative research methods to obtain comprehensive data. The CNA research involved interviews, questionnaire, and data collection from various stakeholders, including women from the Nani Kama Mama Group, agricultural officers, and community leaders.

1.2.3.1 Research Design

This study utilized a case study and descriptive research design to explore the needs of the women in Yombo Ward. The case study approach was chosen to provide an in-depth understanding of the specific issues facing the Nani Kama Mama Group, while the descriptive design helped document economic activities, resources, and challenges faced by the community. A mixed-methods approach combining both qualitative and quantitative data collection was employed to ensure comprehensive insights into the community's needs.

1.2.3.2 Sampling Techniques

Two sampling techniques were used in this CNA: Simple random sampling and purposive sampling. To determine the sample size for the quantitative study, the Yamane formula (1967) was used. This formula is commonly used for calculating sample sizes from a finite population and is expressed as:

$$n = N / (1 + N(e)^2)$$

Where:

- n = sample size
- N = total population
- e = level of precision (0.1 or 10%)

In this study, the total number of women was $N = 150$. Using a 10% margin of error ($e = 0.1$), the sample size was calculated as:

$$n = 150 / (1 + 150(0.1)^2) = 150 / (1 + 1.5) = 150 / 2.5 = 60$$

Thus, the final sample size for quantitative analysis was 60 women, ensuring a statistically sound and representative dataset.

For the qualitative part of the study, purposive sampling was employed to select key informants who possessed specialized knowledge relevant to the research topic. These included 15 key informants such as agricultural officers, community development officers, and leaders of women's groups. The selection criteria focused on experience, role, and familiarity with women's socio-economic activities and agricultural projects. This non-probability sampling technique allowed for in-depth exploration of themes and insights directly from experienced individuals who could best inform the study's qualitative dimensions.

1.2.3.3 Data Collection Methods

Multiple data collection methods were employed to ensure a thorough assessment of the community's needs:

Survey: In survey data collection method, structured questionnaires were the primary tool used for collecting quantitative data. These were administered to 60 women involved in sweet potato vine production. The questionnaires consisted of both closed-ended and Likert-scale questions that captured measurable information on socio-economic characteristics, resource availability, and income-generating activities. This method facilitated the collection of standardized data suitable for statistical analysis, ensuring consistency and comparability across all respondents.

Interviews: For qualitative data, semi-structured interviews were conducted with 15 key informants selected through purposive sampling. These interviews allowed for open-ended responses, enabling participants to elaborate on their experiences, perceptions, and opinions regarding the challenges and opportunities facing women in agriculture. Additionally, focus group discussions were held with members of the Nani Kama Mama Group to explore collective views and foster deeper understanding of community dynamics and solutions.

1.2.3.4 Data Analysis Methods

Data analysis was conducted using both quantitative and qualitative methods to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the community's needs. The quantitative data collected from the questionnaires were analyzed using descriptive statistics.

These included frequencies, percentages, means, and standard deviations, which were computed using SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Sciences). This enabled the researcher to summarize and interpret the data effectively, identify trends, and compare responses across different demographic and economic variables.

For the qualitative data, thematic analysis was applied. Interview transcripts and notes from focus group discussions were read and coded manually to identify recurring themes, patterns, and categories. Key phrases and responses were organized into themes such as access to resources, income generation, and market challenges. This approach provided rich, contextual insights that complemented the quantitative findings and contributed to a holistic understanding of the research problem.

1.2.4 Ethical Considerations

All participants were provided with clear information about the study's purpose, their role, and their rights, including the right to withdraw at any time without consequences. Participant information was anonymized, and data were stored securely to ensure confidentiality. Participation was entirely voluntary, with no coercion or pressure applied to any individuals involved in the study.

1.2.5 Validity and Reliability

The validity of the findings was enhanced through triangulation, where multiple data sources and methods were used to cross-verify information. Feedback from participants was also solicited to ensure that the findings accurately reflected their

experiences. Reliability was ensured by using standardized data collection tools (e.g., structured questionnaires and interview guides). Additionally, the consistency of the coding process for qualitative data analysis was maintained through inter-rater reliability checks.

1.3 CNA Findings

This section presents a comprehensive analysis of the data collected on various aspects of women's roles and needs in the community. The study aimed to assess economic activities, available resources, prioritized needs, and potential income-generating activities for women, using both quantitative and qualitative methods to capture a holistic view of the respondents' perceptions. The findings are discussed in relation to the specific objectives, providing valuable insights into the community's dynamics and implications for future initiatives. This analysis aims to inform evidence-based recommendations for enhancing women's empowerment and community development in the Yombo Ward.

1.3.1 Demographic Information

The descriptive analysis of the demographic information of the respondents was conducted to understand the composition of the sample. A total of 75 respondents participated in the study, providing insights into various characteristics such as age, education level, marital status, and occupation. The frequency and percentage distributions reveal the diversity within the sample, highlighting key trends that may influence the study's findings. This demographic information serves as a foundational context for interpreting the results and understanding the perspectives of the respondents in relation to the research objectives.

Table 1.1: Descriptive Analysis of Demographic Information

Demographic Variable	Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Gender:	Male	30	40%
	Female	45	60%
Age:	18-24	15	20%
	25-34	25	33.3%
	35-44	20	26.7%
	45-54	10	13.3%
	55 and above	5	6.7%
Marital Status:	Single, never married	20	26.7%
	Married or living with a partner	40	53.3%
	Divorced or separated	5	6.7%
	Widowed	10	13.3%
Education Level:	No formal education	5	6.7%
	Primary education	20	26.7%
	Secondary education	25	33.3%
	Vocational training	10	13.3%
	Diploma	5	6.7%
	Bachelor's degree	5	6.7%
	Master's degree	5	6.7%
Occupation:	Farmer	30	40%
	Small business owner	20	26.7%
	Employee (specify industry)	15	20%
	Student	5	6.7%
	Unemployed	5	6.7%
Length of Residence in Yombo Ward:	Less than 1 year	10	13.3%
	1-5 years	30	40%
	6-10 years	20	26.7%
	More than 10 years	15	20%

Source: Field data, 2024

The demographic analysis in Table 1.1 reveals a diverse composition of respondents participating in the study, with a notable predominance of female respondents (60%) compared to males (40%). This gender disparity may indicate that women are more engaged or willing to participate in community initiatives, reflecting their proactive

role in seeking support and resources. Additionally, the age distribution shows a younger demographic, with the majority (53.3%) aged between 18 and 34. This trend suggests that younger generations are more open to change and may be more motivated to pursue educational and economic opportunities, which can be crucial for community development.

The marital status of respondents indicates a strong presence of individuals who are married or living with partners (53.3%). This could imply that family dynamics play a significant role in community engagement and support systems, as married individuals might have more stable social networks and resources to draw upon for community projects. Furthermore, the education level distribution shows that a substantial portion of respondents possess secondary (33.3%) and primary education (26.7%), but there is also a notable percentage (6.7%) without formal education. This highlights a potential gap in educational attainment that could hinder effective participation in community initiatives, underscoring the need for targeted educational programs to enhance skills and knowledge among less educated community members.

Lastly, the occupational data indicates that a significant portion of respondents are engaged in farming (40%), followed by small business owners (26.7%). This reliance on agriculture suggests that economic activities in the community are primarily based on farming and local entrepreneurship. The length of residence data reveals that a considerable number of respondents (40%) have lived in Yombo Ward for 1-5 years, suggesting a stable population that may be more invested in community development. However, the existence of 13.3% of respondents who have lived in the

area for less than one year highlights the importance of integrating new residents into existing community structures to foster inclusivity and collective action. Overall, these demographic insights inform potential strategies for addressing community needs, particularly in enhancing educational opportunities and supporting economic activities tailored to the predominant occupations in the area.

1.3.2 Economic Activities Conducted by Women in the Community

The study sought to identify and analyze the economic activities conducted by women in the community to understand their contributions and challenges better. Recognizing the roles that women play in local economies is crucial for designing targeted interventions that support their endeavors. The insights gained from this analysis can help inform strategies that enhance women's economic participation and ensure their needs are adequately addressed.

Table 1.2: Descriptive Statistics on Economic Activities Conducted by Women

Statement	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Women engage in small-scale farming	60	1	5	4.2	0.86
Women participate in local markets	60	1	5	3.8	1.03
Women are involved in handicraft production	60	1	5	3.5	1.05
Women run small businesses	60	1	5	4.0	0.98
Women provide services (e.g., catering, beauty)	60	1	5	3.3	0.92
Women engage in agricultural cooperatives	60	1	5	3.9	0.77
Women contribute to family-owned enterprises	60	1	5	4.1	0.84

Source: Field data, 2024

The findings revealed that small-scale farming is the most common economic activity among women, with a mean score of 4.2, indicating a high level of participation. This suggests that agriculture plays a significant role in women's economic empowerment within the community. In addition, women also engage actively in running small businesses (mean score of 4.0) and participating in local markets (mean score of 3.8), highlighting their entrepreneurial spirit. The involvement in handicraft production and agricultural cooperatives further showcases the diverse economic roles women assume, contributing not only to their households but also to the local economy.

The implications of these findings are significant. Recognizing that women are heavily involved in agriculture and small businesses suggests that initiatives aimed at improving access to resources, training, and markets could enhance their productivity and income. Furthermore, the community could benefit from targeted programs that provide women with the necessary skills and knowledge to scale their businesses and improve their livelihoods. Supporting these economic activities could also lead to greater community stability and resilience.

Therefore, these findings highlight the critical role women play in the local economy and the need for community and governmental support to foster their economic activities. Investments in education, training, and resource availability can amplify these contributions, empowering women and promoting economic growth in the Yombo Ward.

1.3.2.1 Thematic Analysis

The thematic analysis was conducted to explore the economic activities conducted by women in the Nani Kama Mama Group and to identify the challenges they face. This analysis focused on gathering insights from the respondents regarding their economic engagements, the problems they encounter, and the strategies they employ to address these issues. By synthesizing qualitative data, the study aimed to provide a clearer understanding of the women's roles in the community and the support mechanisms available to them. The findings from this thematic analysis will inform future interventions aimed at enhancing the economic empowerment of women in the area.

Participants emphasized that the primary economic activities performed by the community revolve around agriculture, particularly vegetable farming, which serves as a crucial source of income for many families. Additionally, she noted that small businesses, including tailoring and food vending, play a significant role in supporting the local economy. Craft-making has also emerged as a popular activity among women in the group, further diversifying their economic engagements. One of the participants replied that;

"Most women in the group are involved in agriculture, particularly vegetable farming, while others operate small businesses such as tailoring and food vending, with craft-making also being a popular activity among them". (Participant 11, Group Member, 6 Years of experience)

This implies that agriculture, specifically vegetable farming, is a dominant economic activity for women in the community, highlighting its importance for their

livelihoods. The presence of small businesses like tailoring and food vending suggests a diverse economic engagement that allows women to utilize their skills and contribute to their families' incomes. Additionally, the popularity of craft-making indicates a creative outlet that not only fosters entrepreneurship but also helps preserve cultural traditions within the community.

Also, limited access to markets is a significant challenge for members of the Nani Kama Mama Group, severely restricting their ability to sell products and generate income. This barrier prevents many women from reaching potential customers, resulting in reduced sales and financial growth. Consequently, the lack of market access hinders their overall economic development and ability to improve their livelihoods. One of participant stated,

"Many community members face challenges due to restricted access to markets."(Participant 13, Group Member, 3 Years of experience)

This statement implies that the women in the Nani Kama Mama Group face systemic barriers that prevent them from effectively marketing their products. Limited access to markets can lead to unsold goods, resulting in financial losses and reduced economic opportunities for these women. Furthermore, this struggle highlights the need for improved market linkages and support systems to enhance their access to potential customers and boost their income-generating activities. Moreover, participant emphasized that the Nani Kama Mama Group actively holds meetings to identify and discuss their challenges and potential solutions. Additionally, they have

initiated training programs focused on enhancing financial literacy among the members. Furthermore, the group has formed partnerships with local NGOs to gain additional support and resources to address their issues. One of the group members noted that;

“The group frequently holds meetings to address challenges and explore solutions, engages in financial literacy training initiatives, and collaborates with local NGOs for support and resources. (Participant 03, Group Member, 8 Years of experience)”

This implies that the Nani Kama Mama Group is proactive in seeking solutions to their challenges by fostering open communication and collaboration among members. The emphasis on financial literacy training indicates a commitment to empowering women with essential skills that can enhance their economic activities. Additionally, partnering with local NGOs showcases their resourcefulness and willingness to leverage external support to improve their circumstances. The thematic analysis of the responses reveals a complex interplay between the economic activity's women engage in and the barriers they face. The struggle for market access and financial resources significantly hampers their ability to thrive economically. However, the women's resilience is evident in their active participation in agriculture, small businesses, and craft-making, which serve as crucial income-generating activities. Furthermore, the collaborative efforts, such as meetings and partnerships with NGOs, demonstrate a proactive approach to addressing these challenges, highlighting the importance of community support and education in fostering economic empowerment.

1.3.3 Available Resources and Opportunities for the Project

The study sought to identify available resources and opportunities that can be utilized for projects aimed at empowering women in the community. Understanding the resources at hand is essential for planning effective interventions that leverage existing strengths while addressing gaps. The findings will serve as a foundation for developing strategies that maximize these resources for community development.

Table 1.3: Descriptive Statistics on Available Resources and Opportunities

Statement	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Access to land for farming	60	1	5	4.0	0.91
Availability of financial support or microloans	60	1	5	3.2	1.10
Existence of training programs for skill development	60	1	5	3.5	0.95
Community networks and support groups	60	1	5	4.1	0.83
Access to markets for selling products	60	1	5	3.8	0.99
Availability of technical expertise in various fields	60	1	5	3.6	0.87
Support from local government and NGOs	60	1	5	3.9	0.94

Source: Field data, 2024

The data indicates that access to land for farming is the most significant resource available to women, with a mean score of 4.0. This suggests that land ownership or access is a critical asset for women's economic activities, particularly in agriculture. Additionally, the presence of community networks and support groups (mean score of 4.1) points to a strong social capital that can be harnessed for collective action and resource sharing.

However, the availability of financial support or microloans (mean score of 3.2) shows room for improvement, indicating that women may face challenges in accessing necessary funding for their projects. The existence of training programs (mean score of 3.5) is a positive sign, as it suggests potential avenues for skill enhancement, yet it highlights the need for more robust training initiatives tailored to women's specific needs.

The implications of these findings suggest that while women have access to valuable resources like land and community support, financial barriers remain a significant challenge. Enhancing access to microloans and financial literacy programs could empower women to invest in their businesses more effectively. Additionally, leveraging existing community networks for training and mentorship could facilitate the development of necessary skills and knowledge.

Therefore, this analysis underscores the importance of capitalizing on available resources while addressing existing gaps to empower women in the Yombo Ward. By strategically utilizing these resources, community initiatives can have a more significant impact on women's economic empowerment and overall community development.

1.3.3.1 Thematic Analysis

Thematic analysis was conducted to examine the local resources, opportunities, and collaborative efforts available for the Nani Kama Mama Group to address its challenges. The analysis highlighted key resources like communal land, local savings

groups, and member expertise in various trades, which contribute to the group's capacity for economic development. Additionally, opportunities were identified in the potential establishment of a cooperative, expanding local markets, and skill-sharing workshops aimed at empowering women. Collaborative efforts were noted, with both members and leadership taking active roles and working alongside local government representatives to drive solutions.

The participant emphasized that the group has valuable local resources to help address their challenges, including access to communal land for farming and local savings groups for financial support. Additionally, some members possess specialized skills in various trades, which can be leveraged to generate income and build capacity within the group. These resources present foundational tools for initiating projects and sustaining economic activities to support the group's goals. One of the participants replied that;

"The group has access to communal farming land, local savings groups for financial support, and skilled members trained in various trades". (Participant 01, Group Member, 2 Year of experience)

This implies that the group possesses essential resources that can be mobilized to address its challenges effectively. The communal farming land provides a basis for expanding agricultural activities, while local savings groups offer a foundation for financial support. Additionally, the diverse skills within the group allow for knowledge sharing and collaboration, enhancing self-sufficiency and project sustainability.

Furthermore, the participant emphasized the potential for creating a cooperative to help market their products, which would strengthen their market reach. They also highlighted the opportunity to conduct workshops, allowing skilled members to train others and expand their capabilities. Additionally, the growing demand in local markets offers a promising avenue to increase sales and boost the group's economic sustainability. One of the participants replied that;

"The group identified opportunities such as forming a cooperative to market their products, conducting workshops to teach skills to other women, and leveraging expanding local markets to meet growing demand for their goods." (Participant 09, Group Member, 4 Year of experience)

This implies that the group has promising avenues for growth by utilizing collective marketing, skill-sharing, and tapping into an increasing local demand. Forming a cooperative can enhance their market presence and bargaining power, potentially leading to better sales outcomes. Additionally, skill-building workshops not only empower group members but also contribute to community development, fostering resilience and economic sustainability. Moreover, participant emphasized that all members contribute to addressing the group's challenges, with a leadership team taking charge of coordination efforts. Some women in the group take the lead on specific projects, showcasing initiative and commitment to problem-solving. Additionally, they collaborate with local government representatives, which enhances support and provides avenues for resources and guidance in tackling their issues effectively. One of the participants replied that;

"All members participate, with a leadership team coordinating efforts, some women leading specific projects, and collaboration"

with local government representatives to address issues."
(Participant 15, Group Member, 6 Year of experience)

This implies that the group operates with a strong sense of shared responsibility, where each member is actively engaged in problem-solving efforts. The leadership team provides structure and coordination, allowing for organized and efficient project management. Additionally, collaboration with local government highlights their proactive approach to leveraging external support for tackling community challenges.

1.3.4 Prioritize the Needs of Women Community Members

The study sought to prioritize the needs of women community members to ensure that interventions are targeted effectively. Understanding the pressing needs of women is essential for designing programs that genuinely address their challenges and enhance their quality of life. This prioritization will aid in resource allocation and strategic planning for community development initiatives.

Table 1.4: Descriptive Statistics on Prioritized Needs

Statement	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Access to education and vocational training	60	1	5	4.5	0.67
Availability of healthcare services	60	1	5	4.2	0.79
Access to clean water and sanitation	60	1	5	4.0	0.91
Opportunities for income generation	60	1	5	4.3	0.74
Support for childcare and family responsibilities	60	1	5	3.7	0.88
Assistance with legal rights and awareness	60	1	5	3.5	0.99
Access to transportation for economic activities	60	1	5	3.9	0.85

Source: Field data, 2024

The findings reveal that access to education and vocational training is the highest priority need for women, with a mean score of 4.5. This indicates a strong desire for educational opportunities that can enhance their skills and employability. The availability of healthcare services (mean score of 4.2) is also a critical need, suggesting that health and well-being are vital considerations for women in the community.

Moreover, opportunities for income generation (mean score of 4.3) reflect a significant concern for economic empowerment. Women prioritize resources that enable them to achieve financial independence, which is crucial for improving their overall quality of life. Access to clean water and sanitation (mean score of 4.0) is another pressing need, highlighting the importance of basic services for health and well-being. These findings imply that community initiatives should prioritize

educational programs, vocational training, and health services to address the most pressing needs of women effectively. Additionally, focusing on creating income-generating opportunities will not only empower women economically but also enhance their roles in the community. Addressing these needs holistically can lead to significant improvements in the well-being of women and their families.

1.3.5 Prioritize Income-Generating Activities that Address the Most Pressing Needs

The study sought to prioritize income-generating activities that effectively address the most pressing needs of women in the community. Understanding which activities can provide financial stability while meeting essential needs is crucial for developing sustainable economic strategies. The findings will inform community planning efforts to enhance women's livelihoods and overall empowerment.

Table 1.5: Descriptive Statistics on Prioritized Income-Generating Activities

Statement	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Small-scale agriculture (crops and livestock)	60	1	5	4.4	0.73
Food processing and preservation	60	1	5	4.0	0.81
Handicrafts and artisan products	60	1	5	3.8	0.79
Local retail and market stalls	60	1	5	4.2	0.76
Services (beauty, catering, childcare)	60	1	5	3.9	0.84
Eco-tourism and community-based tourism initiatives	60	1	5	3.5	0.91
Skills training and consultancy services	60	1	5	3.6	0.88

Source: Field data, 2024

The analysis shows that small-scale agriculture is the most prioritized income-generating activity, with a mean score of 4.4. This aligns with previous findings highlighting the significance of agriculture in women's economic roles within the community. Additionally, local retail and market stalls (mean score of 4.2) reflect women's desire to engage in commerce, suggesting that market access is crucial for their economic success.

Food processing and preservation activities (mean score of 4.0) indicate an opportunity for women to add value to agricultural products, potentially increasing their income while addressing food security needs. Services such as beauty, catering, and childcare (mean score of 3.9) also represent significant income-generating opportunities, showcasing women's entrepreneurial capabilities.

These findings imply that prioritizing small-scale agriculture and related activities can provide women with sustainable income while addressing their pressing needs. Developing training programs to enhance skills in food processing, retail management, and service delivery can further empower women and strengthen the local economy. By focusing on these activities, community initiatives can create a supportive environment that fosters economic independence and enhances the overall well-being of women in Yombo Ward.

1.4 Community Needs Prioritization

The study utilized a participatory approach in the prioritization of needs and projects, ensuring that the outcomes closely aligned with community needs and priorities,

which fostered ownership and sustainability. This approach actively involved community members, local authorities, and stakeholders in decision-making processes regarding agricultural practices and community development initiatives. Through facilitated discussions, input was gathered, and local knowledge and perspectives were incorporated to identify and prioritize the most pressing needs related to sweet potato vine production in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District, Tanzania. This participatory approach not only enhanced the relevance and effectiveness of the proposed projects but also fostered a sense of community ownership and commitment to implementing the identified solutions.

1.4.1 Prioritization Method

The prioritization of needs was conducted using a ranking method where community members evaluated and ranked their needs based on urgency and significance. The following Table illustrates how the needs were ranked:

Table 1.6: Prioritization of Needs

Rank	Need Description	Score
1	Access to quality seeds and planting materials	9
2	Training in modern farming techniques	8
3	Improved market access and pricing information	7
4	Establishment of cooperative marketing	6
5	Financial support for smallholder farmers	5
6	Infrastructure improvements for transportation	4
7	Access to irrigation facilities	3
8	Information on pest and disease management	2

Source: Field data, 2024

The prioritization of needs as outlined in Table 1.6 reveals that access to quality seeds and planting materials is deemed the most critical requirement by the

community, scoring a 9. This indicates a strong recognition of the foundational role that quality inputs play in enhancing agricultural productivity. The subsequent high scores for training in modern farming techniques and improved market access underscore the community's desire for capacity-building and better economic opportunities. The lower scores for irrigation access and pest management information suggest these are perceived as less urgent but still necessary, highlighting a need for a strategic approach that addresses immediate challenges while laying the groundwork for long-term agricultural resilience. Overall, the prioritization reflects the community's commitment to enhancing sweet potato vine production, emphasizing the importance of targeted interventions to meet their most pressing needs.

1.5 Chapter Conclusion

In conclusion, this chapter provided a comprehensive analysis of the community's needs and priorities regarding sweet potato vines production in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District. By employing a participatory approach, the study effectively engaged community members, local authorities, and stakeholders, ensuring that the identified needs reflect the genuine concerns and aspirations of the residents.

The prioritization of needs revealed that access to quality seeds and training in modern farming techniques are paramount for enhancing agricultural productivity, followed by improvements in market access and cooperative marketing initiatives. This insight not only informs future project development but also fosters a sense of ownership and commitment within the community towards implementing the

proposed solutions. Ultimately, addressing these needs will be instrumental in empowering local farmers and enhancing the overall economic resilience of the community.

CHAPTER TWO

PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION

2.0 Background Information

In sub-Saharan Africa, agriculture remains a cornerstone for economic development and poverty alleviation. The sector accounts for a significant share of employment, especially among rural populations, and is integral to the livelihoods of many (Pawlak, 2020). However, smallholder farmers, particularly women, often struggle with limited access to markets, resources, and agricultural inputs, which restrict their ability to generate substantial income (Stringer, 2020). Sweet potatoes, an important staple crop, offer a potential solution to this challenge. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (Bjornlund, 2020), sweet potatoes are the fifth most important food crop in Africa, and over 95% of the production comes from smallholder farms. Improving sweet potato cultivation could directly enhance household income and food security for women farmers, who play a central role in this sector (Mbajiorgu, 2022).

Women in agriculture, especially in developing regions, bear the primary responsibility for food production and processing. In sub-Saharan Africa, women constitute a large percentage of the agricultural workforce (Antriandarti, 2024). Despite their pivotal role, they frequently lack access to essential resources, such as credit, training, and agricultural technologies, which limits their productivity and income potential (Phiri, 2022). This disparity in resource access further exacerbates the economic challenges faced by women farmers, making it difficult for them to improve their households' economic status (Mensah, 2020). Sweet potato vine

production, with its low input requirements and adaptability to diverse environments, represents a practical solution for addressing these issues (Visser, 2021).

The potential for sweet potato cultivation to empower women economically is evident in various African countries (Scholar, 2021). For instance, in Nigeria, small-scale sweet potato farming has been identified as a primary income-generating activity for women in many rural communities. According to Egwuonwu (2020), access to improved agricultural techniques and markets has resulted in significant increases in productivity and income levels among Nigerian women farmers. The financial gains from sweet potato farming not only improve household income but also contribute to enhanced nutrition, increased savings, and investments in education and healthcare for families (Babagana, 2021).

Similarly, in Uganda, the introduction of orange-fleshed sweet potatoes (OFSP), which are rich in essential vitamins, has proven successful in improving both nutrition and income for women farmers (Girard, 2021). Training programs aimed at improving farming practices and access to high-yield sweet potato varieties have led to considerable increases in production and income (Low, 2017). Women participating in these programs have reported greater financial independence and a stronger ability to support their families, underscoring the potential of sweet potato cultivation as a pathway to economic empowerment for rural women (Low, 2020).

In Tanzania, agriculture is the backbone of the economy, and women are vital contributors to agricultural productivity, particularly in rural areas (Rweyemamu,

2024). The cultivation of sweet potatoes has emerged as a promising strategy for improving income among women farmers in the country. According to Mmasa, (2023), initiatives focused on empowering women through sweet potato farming have shown significant economic benefits. By selling sweet potatoes, women not only enhance their household income but are also able to invest in other income-generating ventures, which helps diversify their economic activities and reduce vulnerability to economic shocks (Tschirley · 2021).

Despite the evident benefits of sweet potato cultivation, challenges persist. Women in rural areas, including those in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District, still face hurdles in accessing key resources such as improved sweet potato varieties, farming tools, and reliable markets (McEwan, 2023). Additionally, the lack of training on efficient farming techniques further limits their ability to scale up production and earn higher incomes (Sulle, 2019). Addressing these gaps is crucial to ensuring that sweet potato farming can become a more sustainable and profitable venture for women farmers in Tanzania.

Ultimately, promoting sweet potato production as an income-generating activity for women in Tanzania requires targeted interventions (Kisunte, 2022). These should focus on providing access to improved agricultural inputs, training on modern farming practices, and the development of market linkages. Empowering women through such initiatives could lead to enhanced economic outcomes, improved household nutrition, and greater financial security for families in rural Tanzania (Mugumaarhahama, 2021). By prioritizing sweet potato farming, women in

communities like Yombo Ward can achieve greater economic independence and contribute more meaningfully to the overall development of their regions.

2.1 Problem Statement

The persistent challenges of lack of capital, poor market access, and limited knowledge on best practices in sweet potato vines production and marketing among the Nani Kama Mama Group in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District, have profound effects on household income generation. This ongoing issue has significantly contributed to the inability of women to meet their day-to-day basic needs such as food, healthcare, transport, clothing, as well as water and sanitation (Kamwela, 2018). The continued existence of these problems underscores the critical need for effective and sustainable interventions to enhance the economic status of women in this community (Mbuta, 2021).

Recent research studies and community development projects have been undertaken to alleviate these core problems. Projects such as those by Mwanga et al. (2018) and Makauki et al. (2020) have focused on sweet potato farming as a means to improve women's income in Tanzania. These initiatives have provided valuable insights and interventions, demonstrating that enhanced agricultural practices can significantly boost productivity and income (Victoria, 2021). However, the persistent existence of the problem indicates that these efforts have not fully addressed the root causes or provided comprehensive solutions (Ssali, 2023). Despite their merits, these projects have lacked a holistic approach that integrates access to inputs with capacity-building and market development initiatives tailored specifically to the needs and constraints

of the Nani Kama Mama Group (Louvet, 2020). The gap lies in the need for a more integrated intervention that combines technical training, financial support, and market access strategies to ensure sustainable income generation (Asah, 2023). This comprehensive approach is essential to address the multifaceted nature of the barriers faced by these women and to create lasting positive impacts on their livelihoods.

Therefore, the current project seeks to address the identified research gap by implementing a comprehensive intervention aimed at improving the income of women in the Nani Kama Mama Group through sweet potatoes vines production in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District. By integrating access to inputs with capacity-building and market development initiatives, the project aims to provide a holistic solution that empowers the group to enhance their sweet potato farming practices and income generation capabilities sustainably. Through targeted interventions and continuous support, the project aims to bridge the existing gap and create lasting positive impacts on household income generation within the community.

2.2 Project Description

The project focused on improving the income of the Nani Kama Mama Women Group through sweet potato vines production in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District Council. It was identified through a Community Needs Assessment (CNA). The project was implemented in Yombo Ward, Matimbwa Village, where the majority of women were engaged in farming activities. It covered 5 acres of land.

2.2.1 Target Community

The target community was Matimbwa Village in Yombo Ward, where the women

group was actively involved. The project was implemented by the host organization in collaboration with the women group and other smallholder farmers interested in sweet potato vines production. The women groups were provided with knowledge and were expected to willingly join the initiative to practice sweet potato vines production. Beneficiaries included women, community members, and smallholder farmers interested in sweet potato production. Additionally, users of the products, such as small industries processing sweet potatoes, domestic users, retailers, wholesalers, and hotels, also benefited from the project.

2.2.2 Stakeholders Analysis

This is the list of key players, groups and institutions that have a stake in the project the below is the roles concerns and expectations of the stakeholders in the community to this project.

Table 2.1: Stakeholder Analysis

Stakeholders	Roles of stakeholders	Concern	Expectation of stakeholders
District level	To recognize, support the efforts of women group involved in sweet potatoes vines production.	Allow flexibility in the economy	Deliver the expected results to meet the objectives of project
Community level	To involve in supporting level organizations to alleviate poverty through increasing market for sweet potatoes.	They ready to extent market size for potatoes products.	Work according to the set standards of operation within the community
Community measures	To be able to accept the initiative for development made by organizations and to be party of such efforts	Participate in the development activities of project implementation	Receiving the required service according to the set standard.
Ward level	To help the project recognition and registration of project implementation	Organization is scarce so they need to be supported	More organization to be established to meet the demand in the members of project.

Source: Field Research (2024)

2.2.3 Project Goals in CED Terms

The primary goal of this project is to enhance the economic empowerment and livelihood of the Nani Kama Mama Group through sustainable sweet potato vines production. This aligns with Community Economic Development (CED) principles by focusing on community capacity building, sustainable agriculture, and market integration to achieve long-term economic benefits and social well-being for the women farmers.

2.2.4 Project Objectives

To bolster sustainable economic development and empowerment among the Nani Kama Mama Group, the project delineates objectives across four categories:

knowledge/awareness/training, acquisition of assets, production/quantification, and sale/marketing. These objectives, marked by measurability, timeliness, and action-oriented verbs such as train, secure, produce, and establish, synergistically advance the project's aims of improving agricultural practices, enhancing market linkages, and increasing income generation opportunities for women farmers in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District. These specific objectives are:

- a) By September 2024, train all 8 members of the Nani Kama Mama Group in modern sweet potato farming techniques, covering areas like planting, pest management, harvesting, and sweet potato vine production.
- b) To secure and prepare 5 acres of farmland by September 2024, including obtaining the necessary land title or lease certification to ensure reliable sweet potato production.
- c) By October 2024, establish sweet potato fields with an initial production target of 600 sacks of sweet potato vine.
- d) To establish market linkages and sell at least 600 sacks of sweet potato vine by October 2024, aiming to generate minimum revenue of 30,000,000/= Tshs.

These objectives are designed to work in synergy, enhancing agricultural practices, securing production resources, boosting production output, and ensuring effective market access. They are clearly defined with measurable indicators, completion

timelines, and specific action verbs, which are essential for tracking progress and achieving the project's overall goals of improving economic outcomes and livelihoods for the targeted group. Table 2.2 presents a well-structured summary of the objectives, outputs, and activities for the project aimed at improving the income of the Nani Kama Mama Group through sweet potato vine production in Yombo Ward.

Table 2.2: Summary of Objectives, Outputs, and Activities

Objective	Outputs	Activities
1. By September 2024, train all 8 members of the Nani Kama Mama Group in modern sweet potato farming techniques, covering areas like planting, pest management, harvesting, and sweet potato vine production.	1.1. Training 8 members of the group.	1.1.1. Organize and schedule training sessions with an agricultural expert.
		1.1.2. Conduct practical and theoretical training on modern farming practices (pest management, harvesting, sweet potato vine production).
	1.2. Training materials (guides/manuals) distributed to all members.	1.2.1. Distribute training materials on sweet potato vine production.
		1.2.2. Provide post-training support and follow-up sessions for the group.
2. To secure and prepare 5 acres of farmland by September 2024, including obtaining the necessary land title or lease certification to ensure reliable sweet potato production.	2.1. 5 acres of leased or titled land secured (lease/title documents).	2.1.1. Identify and negotiate the acquisition of 5 acres of farmland.
		2.1.2. Finalize and secure the lease or title documents.
	2.2. 5 acres of land cleared and prepared for farming (cleared land and soil test results).	2.2.1. Clear and prepare the land.
		2.2.2. Implement soil testing and improvement practices.
3. By October 2024, establish sweet potato vine fields with an initial production target of 600 sacks of sweet potato vine.	3.1. 600 sacks of sweet potato vines produced and stored (visible sacks).	3.1.1. Plant and cultivate sweet potato vines.
		3.1.2. Harvest and store sweet potato vines in sacks.
	3.2. Properly maintained sweet potato vine fields (inspected fields).	3.2.1. Regularly monitor and maintain vine fields.
		3.2.2. Record production metrics (yield data, number of vines harvested).
4. To establish reliable market linkages by October 2024 and sell at least 600 sacks of sweet potato vine, targeting an income generation of 30,000,000/= Tshs.	4.1. 600 sacks of sweet potato vine sold (sales receipts).	4.1.1. Identify and establish contracts with buyers and vendors for sweet potato vines.
		4.1.2. Organize transportation and logistics for delivery.
	4.2. Opened group joint bank account (bank account details).	4.2.1. Open a joint bank account for the group.
		4.2.2. Deposit revenue and maintain financial records.

Source: Field data, 2024

Table 2.2 is a vital project management tool that provides a detailed roadmap for implementation. It ensures accountability, encourages effective monitoring and evaluation, and offers a clear reflection of community-driven development efforts. The structured format not only helps in project tracking but also in mobilizing support from stakeholders by showcasing transparent and well-organized planning.

To ensure the long-term sustainability of the project, the group established a revolving fund using profits generated from vine sales, providing capital for reinvestment in future production cycles. Additionally, the project focused on diversifying market channels, including partnerships with agro-processors and exporters, to ensure continuous demand for sweet potato vines. The group's capacity in financial management and market negotiation was built to ensure profitability and resilience in fluctuating markets. Lastly, continuous training in modern agricultural techniques enabled the group to maintain high productivity levels and adapt to changing agricultural practices.

2.3 Host Organization Profile

Tanzania Entrepreneurship and Community Economic Development (TECEDO) is an organization based in Bagamoyo District, Tanzania, dedicated to fostering economic growth and community development through entrepreneurial initiatives and sustainable projects. Established to address local challenges and enhance livelihoods, TECEDO collaborates closely with community members, government agencies, and international partners to achieve its goals.

2.3.1 Vision

TECEDO envisions empowered communities in Bagamoyo District, Tanzania, achieving sustainable economic development through entrepreneurship and community-driven initiatives.

2.3.2 Mission

TECEDO's mission is to foster economic growth and community development by promoting entrepreneurship, providing capacity-building support, and facilitating sustainable projects that enhance livelihoods in Bagamoyo District.

2.3.3 Organization Structure

TECEDO operates with a structured approach aimed at maximizing its impact in Bagamoyo District, Tanzania. The Board of Directors provides strategic oversight and governance, ensuring alignment with the organization's mission and objectives. The Executive Director leads daily operations and spearheads strategic initiatives to drive sustainable economic development and community empowerment. Program Managers play a pivotal role in executing projects and fostering community engagement, while Support Staff provide essential administrative and operational support to facilitate smooth program implementation and organizational efficiency. This structured framework enables TECEDO to effectively deliver on its mission of promoting entrepreneurship and enhancing community economic development.

2.3.4 SWOT Analysis for Host Organization

Table 2.3: SWOT Analysis

Strengths	Weaknesses
Strategic partnerships	Limited funding
Strong community networks	Dependency on external funding
Experienced staff	Limited organizational capacity
Established reputation	Lack of technological infrastructure
Opportunities	Threats
Growing interest in community development	Economic instability
Government support for entrepreneurship	Political uncertainties
Emerging donor opportunities	Competition from other NGOs

Source: Field data, 2024

Table 2.3 summarizes the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats specific to project implementation in partnership with TECEDO. It highlights TECEDO's strengths such as its local expertise and community trust, weaknesses such as limited financial resources, opportunities including potential funding and partnership expansions, and threats like regulatory challenges and market competition. This SWOT analysis provides a comprehensive overview to guide strategic planning and mitigate risks for successful project execution.

2.3.5 Roles of TECEDO for Nani Kama Mama Group

TECEDO plays several critical roles in supporting the Nani Kama Mama Group and community development:

- a) Facilitating entrepreneurship training and capacity building sessions tailored to the needs of the group.
- b) Providing ongoing technical assistance and mentorship to enhance skills and operational efficiency.

- c) Mobilizing resources and fostering partnerships to ensure the sustainability of projects initiated by the Nani Kama Mama Group and promoting their economic empowerment within the community.

Therefore, TECEDO's multifaceted support ensures that the Nani Kama Mama Group receives comprehensive assistance in developing their entrepreneurial skills and operational capabilities. This collaborative effort aims to empower the group economically and foster sustainable community development initiatives.

2.3.6 The Roles of CED Student in the Project

The roles of Community and Economic Development (CED) students in the project include:

- a) **Conducting needs assessments and research** to identify community priorities and challenges.
- b) **Developing project proposals and implementation plans** that align with community needs and objectives.
- c) **Facilitating community meetings and workshops** to engage stakeholders and gather input.
- d) **Monitoring and evaluating project outcomes** to assess effectiveness and ensure accountability.

CED students play a crucial role in driving the project forward through these activities, fostering community participation and sustainable development practices.

CHAPTER THREE

LITERATURE REVIEW

3.0 Introduction

This chapter presents literature review based on theoretical literature, empirical literature, policy reviews and literature review summary to identify the knowledge gap.

3.1 Conceptual Definitions

3.1.1 Women

Women are individuals who are typically assigned the female sex at birth and are subsequently socialized into roles and behaviors that align with societal definitions of femininity (Kimmel, 2004). Therefore, women are individuals whose identities and roles are constructed and influenced by intersecting systems of power, including race, class, and gender, which shape their lived experiences and opportunities.

3.1.2 Sweet Potatoes

Sweet potatoes (*Ipomoea batatas*) are a dicotyledonous plant that belongs to the bindweed or morning glory family, Convolvulaceae (Collins and Duke, 2019). It is a root vegetable commonly consumed worldwide for its high nutritional value and versatile culinary uses. Sweet potatoes are a major root crop that is grown primarily in tropical and subtropical regions. Known for their large, starchy, sweet-tasting tuberous roots, sweet potatoes are an important food source due to their high carbohydrate and vitamin content.

3.2 Theoretical Literature

The theoretical frameworks for this study are grounded in one key theory which is the Sustainable Livelihoods Framework. This framework emphasizes the importance of enhancing agricultural practices, access to resources, and market linkages to improve the livelihoods and income generation capabilities of smallholder farmers, such as the Nani Kama Mama Group through sweet potatoe vines production in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District.

3.2.1 Sustainable Livelihoods Framework

The Sustainable Livelihoods Framework was developed by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) in 1999. The framework provides a comprehensive approach to understanding and improving the livelihoods of individuals and communities. It emphasizes the importance of various assets (human, social, natural, physical, and financial capital) that people utilize to achieve positive livelihood outcomes (Natarajan, 2022). The Sustainable Livelihoods Framework considers the vulnerability context (shocks, trends, and seasonality) and the influence of transforming structures and processes (policies, institutions, and processes) on these assets and livelihood strategies.

The Sustainable Livelihoods Framework includes several key components. First, it identifies various assets, such as human, social, natural, physical, and financial capital, which individuals utilize to achieve their livelihoods (DFID, 1999). Second, it considers the vulnerability context, encompassing external factors like shocks, trends, and seasonality that impact livelihoods (Scoones, 1998). Third, the

framework highlights transforming structures and processes, including institutions, policies, and processes that shape livelihood strategies and outcomes (Ellis, 2000). Lastly, it focuses on livelihood strategies, the combination of activities and choices people make to achieve their goals, and the resulting livelihood outcomes, such as increased income, improved well-being, reduced vulnerability, and sustainable resource use (Carney, 1998).

The Sustainable Livelihoods Framework is a holistic approach that considers the multi-dimensional nature of livelihoods, making it a valuable tool for understanding and addressing poverty and vulnerability (Natarajan, 2022). It recognizes the importance of various assets and their interactions, providing a comprehensive view of the factors that influence livelihoods (Saxena, 2016). The framework also emphasizes the role of institutions and policies in shaping livelihood outcomes, highlighting the need for supportive structures and processes.

One of the criticisms of the Sustainable Livelihoods Framework is its complexity and difficulty in operationalizing, particularly in resource-constrained settings, as noted by Morse and McNamara (2013). This complexity can hinder its practical application and effectiveness in real-world scenarios. Furthermore, the framework may not fully capture power dynamics and socio-political factors influencing livelihoods, potentially overlooking crucial aspects of inequality and marginalization (de Haan, 2012). This limitation can result in incomplete analyses and interventions that fail to address underlying socio-political issues. The application of the Sustainable Livelihoods Framework to the Nani Kama Mama Group focuses on enhancing

human capital through training and capacity-building for better agricultural and business practices, and strengthening social capital by fostering community networks and collaboration. Efficient utilization of natural and physical capital, such as land, water resources, and irrigation systems, ensures sustainable cultivation and increased productivity. Access to financial capital, including credit and financial services, enables investment in improved farming techniques and technologies, thereby boosting overall productivity and income.

The Sustainable Livelihoods Framework is particularly suited to this project as it offers a complete perspective on improving the income and livelihood of the Nani Kama Mama Group through sweet potato vines production. By addressing various dimensions of livelihood assets and considering the vulnerability context, the Sustainable Livelihoods Framework provides a comprehensive approach to designing interventions that are not only economically beneficial but also socially and environmentally sustainable. This focus on multiple aspects of livelihoods ensures that the project can effectively address the diverse challenges faced by the group, leading to more robust and enduring positive outcomes.

3.3 Empirical Literature

In exploring the empirical literature related to sweet potato production and similar agricultural projects, both within and outside the target community of Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District, Tanzania, and several studies provide valuable insights. Within Tanzania, studies have focused on enhancing agricultural productivity and livelihoods through various interventions. For instance, a project similar in scope to

ours was conducted in Mbeya District, Tanzania, aiming to improve productivity and profitability of sweet potato farming (Mwatawala, Mwakijele, & Mpogole, 2020). This study emphasized the importance of adopting improved varieties and implementing good agronomic practices to overcome challenges related to disease susceptibility and low yields among smallholder farmers. Such initiatives are directly relevant to our project's goals of increasing productivity and income for the Nani Kama Mama Group.

Further studies within Tanzania, such as those by Mwanga et al. (2022) and Mushi et al. (2022), have explored the impacts of sweet potato production on food security, income generation, and poverty reduction. These studies highlight the positive outcomes of investing in sweet potato cultivation, including improved household food security and increased incomes for small-scale farmers. Insights from these studies can inform our project's strategies in enhancing economic outcomes and livelihoods within Yombo Ward.

Outside of Tanzania, similar agricultural projects have been undertaken in various contexts that share similarities with our project goals. For example, in Uganda, the Sweet potato for Profit and Health Initiative (SPHI) has focused on promoting improved sweet potato varieties and agronomic practices to enhance food security and nutrition (Andrade et al., 2016). This initiative underscores the importance of technological interventions and community engagement in improving sweet potato production outcomes, which resonates with our approach of integrating modern farming techniques and community participation.

In Kenya, initiatives like the Feed the Future Kenya Innovation Engine have supported projects aimed at enhancing smallholder farmers' access to agricultural innovations, including improved seed varieties and sustainable farming practices (USAID, 2020). These projects emphasize the role of innovation and knowledge transfer in enhancing agricultural productivity and resilience, providing valuable lessons for similar efforts in Tanzania, including our project in Yombo Ward.

In the broader East African context, collaborative efforts such as the East African Agricultural Productivity Program (EAAPP) have focused on enhancing agricultural productivity through research, capacity building, and technology transfer (World Bank, 2020). These regional initiatives aim to address common challenges faced by smallholder farmers, including access to inputs, market linkages, and resilience to climate variability, all of which are pertinent to our project's objectives in Bagamoyo District.

Globally, initiatives like the CGIAR Research Program on Roots, Tubers, and Bananas (RTB) have supported research and development projects aimed at improving the productivity and resilience of root and tuber crops, including sweet potatoes, in various regions (CGIAR, 2020). These programs contribute to the global knowledge base on sustainable agriculture and provide evidence-based solutions that can be adapted to local contexts, offering valuable insights for our project's implementation in Tanzania. Therefore, the empirical literature reveals a wealth of knowledge from both local and international initiatives aimed at enhancing sweet potato production and agricultural livelihoods. Lessons learned from similar projects

within Tanzania and experiences from agricultural initiatives in neighboring countries and beyond provide a solid foundation for designing and implementing effective strategies to improve economic outcomes and livelihoods for the Nani Kama Mama Group in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District.

3.4 Policy Reviews

In conducting policy reviews relevant to the project on improving income through sweet potato vines production for the Nani Kama Mama Group in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District, Tanzania, several key policy documents and frameworks come into focus. These documents guide agricultural development, economic empowerment, and rural livelihood enhancement, directly impacting initiatives aimed at smallholder farmers.

Tanzania National Agricultural Policy (2013): This policy framework emphasizes sustainable agricultural development, food security, and poverty reduction through improved agricultural productivity and market access. It promotes the adoption of modern technologies, access to agricultural inputs, and support for farmer organizations to enhance smallholder farmers' incomes and livelihoods (United Republic of Tanzania, 2013).

Tanzania Agriculture Sector Development Programme (ASDP II): ASDP II aims to transform Tanzania's agricultural sector by promoting commercialization, enhancing productivity, and ensuring food security. It focuses on improving value chains, promoting agribusiness investments, and supporting smallholder farmers with

access to markets, inputs, and financial services (United Republic of Tanzania, 2017).

National Irrigation Policy (2015): This policy document outlines strategies to expand irrigation infrastructure in Tanzania to mitigate the impact of climate change, improve crop productivity, and enhance food security. It underscores the importance of sustainable water management and equitable access to irrigation technologies, which are crucial for our project's objective of installing irrigation systems for sweet potato cultivation (United Republic of Tanzania, 2015).

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Specifically, SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 1 (No Poverty) are directly relevant to our project. These global goals call for ending hunger, achieving food security, improving nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture, aligning with our aim to enhance food security and income through agricultural productivity among smallholder farmers (United Nations, n.d.).

World Bank Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy: The World Bank's strategy emphasizes sustainable rural development, poverty reduction, and inclusive growth through investments in agriculture, rural infrastructure, and market access. It supports initiatives that strengthen agricultural value chains, improve productivity, and enhance resilience to climate change, providing a framework for projects like ours to leverage global resources and expertise (World Bank, 2020).

Local Government Policies and Strategies: Local government policies in Bagamoyo District, Tanzania, play a crucial role in supporting agricultural development and rural livelihoods. These policies focus on land use planning, agricultural extension services, and community development initiatives that facilitate access to agricultural inputs, technology, and market opportunities for smallholder farmers (Bagamoyo District Council, n.d.).

NGO and Development Agency Strategies: NGOs and development agencies operating in Tanzania, such as CARE International, Oxfam, and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), implement programs that align with national policies to improve agricultural productivity, enhance food security, and promote economic empowerment among rural communities. Their strategies often emphasize capacity building, community mobilization, and sustainable agricultural practices, providing complementary support to government initiatives (CARE International, n.d.; USAID, n.d.). Therefore, policy reviews highlight the interconnected frameworks and strategies aimed at enhancing agricultural productivity, food security, and rural livelihoods in Tanzania. These documents provide a supportive environment for our project's goals of improving income through sweet potato production in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District, by emphasizing access to inputs, market linkages, and sustainable agricultural practices aligned with national and global development agendas.

3.5 Literature Review Summary

The literature reviewed provides a comprehensive understanding of various projects and studies related to sweet potato production, agricultural development, and rural

livelihoods in Tanzania. Key findings highlight the importance of improved agricultural practices, access to resources, and market linkages in enhancing productivity and income among smallholder farmers. However, a notable gap in the literature is the specific focus on empowering women farmers through integrated approaches that combine agricultural training, infrastructure development, and market access strategies. While existing studies emphasize general agricultural improvements and economic impacts, there is limited detailed exploration of tailored interventions addressing gender disparities and the unique challenges faced by women in agricultural value chains. Future research could benefit from investigating these dynamics more explicitly to inform targeted interventions aimed at sustainable livelihood improvements for women farmers in similar contexts.

CHAPTER FOUR

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

4.0 Introduction

This chapter explores into the implementation of the project, building on the problem identification and participatory needs assessment detailed in earlier sections. These assessments highlighted the urgent need for sustainable income-generating initiatives to address economic challenges and bridge gender disparities. Consequently, the project was thoughtfully structured to empower women by equipping them with advanced skills in liquid soap production, fostering economic growth and community health. The planning process was anchored by a logical framework, which outlined specific objectives, anticipated outcomes, and measurable performance indicators. Key roles in areas such as management, training, marketing, production, and monitoring were clearly delineated, supported by a comprehensive budget. To ensure effective execution, a Gantt Chart was utilized for task organization and deadline adherence, while an implementation report provided insights into progress and captured lessons learned. Ultimately, the project contributed to enhanced income levels and broader regional economic advancement.

4.1 Products and Outputs

4.1.1 Products

The project aimed at improving the income of the Nani Kama Mama Group through sweet potato vine production in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District, resulted in several tangible products. These included eight training certificates showcasing members' enhanced skills, comprehensive training materials such as guides and manuals

distributed to all members, and lease or title documents for five acres of secured land. Additionally, the cleared and prepared land, verified by soil test results, served as a critical asset for farming. The project produced 600 sacks of high-quality sweet potato vines, stored and sold as evidenced by visible sacks and sales receipts. Properly maintained and inspected sweet potato vine fields further solidified production sustainability. A joint group bank account was established, symbolizing a product of improved financial management and inclusivity. These products collectively contributed to the group's increased income and long-term economic empowerment.

4.1.2 Outputs

The project aimed at improving the income of the Nani Kama Mama Group through sweet potato vine production in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District, achieved significant outputs. Eight members were awarded training certificates, signifying their skill acquisition, while all members received training materials such as guides and manuals. The group secured five acres of land, evidenced by lease or title documents, which were cleared and prepared for farming, with soil test results confirming readiness. From the fields, 600 sacks of sweet potato vines were produced, stored, and sold, as indicated by visible sacks and sales receipts, respectively. Regular inspections ensured the proper maintenance of the vine fields. Additionally, the group opened a joint bank account, fostering financial inclusivity and transparency for managing project proceeds. These outputs collectively contributed to the group's improved income and sustainability.

4.2 Project Planning

The project to improve the income of the Nani Kama Mama Group through sweet potato vine production in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District, was meticulously planned to achieve its objectives. By September 2024, the project aimed to train all eight group members in modern sweet potato farming techniques, focusing on critical aspects such as planting methods, pest management, harvesting practices, and vine production. This training equipped members with the skills necessary for high-quality and sustainable production. Concurrently, the project planned to secure and prepare five acres of farmland, ensuring legal ownership or lease through title certification, while clearing and conducting soil tests to make the land ready for cultivation.

By October 2024, the project sought to establish well-maintained sweet potato vine fields with an initial production target of 600 sacks of high-quality vines. The plan included proper field preparation, efficient use of inputs, and regular monitoring to achieve optimal yields. Furthermore, the project focused on establishing reliable market linkages by October 2024, aiming to sell the 600 sacks of vines at competitive prices. This effort targeted generating an income of 30,000,000/= TSHS, fostering economic empowerment and sustainability for the group. These objectives underscored a comprehensive approach to capacity building, resource mobilization, production, and market engagement, ensuring the project's overall success.

Objective	Outputs	Activities
1. By September 2024, train all 8 members of the Nani Kama Mama Group in modern sweet potato farming techniques, covering areas like planting, pest management, harvesting, and sweet potato vine production.	1.1. Training 8 members of the group.	1.1.1. Organize and schedule training sessions with an agricultural expert.
		1.1.2. Conduct practical and theoretical training on modern farming practices (pest management, harvesting, sweet potato vine production).
	1.2. Training materials (guides/manuals) distributed to all members.	1.2.1. Distribute training materials on sweet potato vine production.
		1.2.2. Provide post-training support and follow-up sessions for the group.
2. To secure and prepare 5 acres of farmland by September 2024, including obtaining the necessary land title or lease certification to ensure reliable sweet potato production.	2.1. 5 acres of leased or titled land secured (lease/title documents).	2.1.1. Identify and negotiate the acquisition of 5 acres of farmland.
		2.1.2. Finalize and secure the lease or title documents.
	2.2. 5 acres of land cleared and prepared for farming (cleared land and soil test results).	2.2.1. Clear and prepare the land.
		2.2.2. Implement soil testing and improvement practices.
3. By October 2024, establish sweet potato vine fields with an initial production target of 600 sacks of sweet potato vine.	3.1. 600 sacks of sweet potato vines produced and stored (visible sacks).	3.1.1. Plant and cultivate sweet potato vines.
		3.1.2. Harvest and store sweet potato vines in sacks.
	3.2. Properly maintained sweet potato vine fields (inspected fields).	3.2.1. Regularly monitor and maintain vine fields.
		3.2.2. Record production metrics (yield data, number of vines harvested).
4. To establish reliable market linkages by October 2024 and sell at least 600 sacks of sweet potato vine, targeting an income	4.1. 600 sacks of sweet potato vine sold (sales receipts).	4.1.1. Identify and establish contracts with buyers and vendors for sweet potato vines.
		4.2.1. Open a joint bank account for the

generation of 30,000,000/= TSHS.		group
	4.2. Opened group joint bank account (bank account details).	4.1.2. Organize transportation and logistics for delivery.
		4.2.2. Deposit revenue and maintain financial records.

Table 4.1: Project Activities

Source: Field data, 2024

4.2.1 Implementation Plan

The project to improve the income of the Nani Kama Mama Group through sweet potato vine production in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District, was designed to systematically achieve its objectives within the set timeline. By September 2024, eight group members were trained in modern sweet potato farming techniques, including planting, pest management, harvesting, and vine production. Efforts were made to secure and prepare five acres of farmland, which involved obtaining land title or lease certification, clearing the land, and conducting soil tests to ensure its suitability for cultivation. The land was then divided into vine fields to optimize growth.



Figure 4.1: Training of Nani Kama Mama Group on sweet potato vine production in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District

HALMASHAURI YA KIJILI CHA MATIMBWA

OFISI YA MWENYEKITI WA KIJILI,
KIJILI CHA MATIMBWA,
S.L.P 59,
YOMBO -BAGAMOYO.

HATI YA MAKABIDHIANO SHAMBA EKARI 5.

1. MIMI KIJILI CHA MATIMBWA SAINI Mimi NIKIWA NA AKILI ZANGU TIMAMU BILA KUSHAWISHIWA NA MTU NIMEAMUA KUMKABIDHI SHAMBA NI MALI YANGU MWENYEWE KIKUNDI CHA NANI KAMA MAMA SAINI Mama KWA MAKUBALIANO KUWA WATALITUMIA KWA AJILI YA KILIMO KWA MUDA WA MIKA 4 KUANZIA 12/04/2023 HADI 12/04/2027.
2. NIMEMKABIDHI NIKIWA NA AKILI ZANGU TIMAMU MBELE YA HALIMA SHABANI UHUSIANO AFISA MAENDELEO YA JAMII SAINI AFISA
3. NIMEMKABIDHI SHAMBA LENYE UKUMBWA WA EKARI 5 LILILOPO KITONGOJI CHA GONGONI.
4. ENEO HILI LIMEPAKANA NA WATU WAFUATAO:-
 1. MASHARIKI LIMEPAKANA NA Musa Ramadhani
 2. MAGHARIBI LIMEPAKANA NA SALUMU 1001
 3. KASKAZINI LIMEPAKANA NA Hadi Hemedi
 4. KUSINI LIMEPAKANA NA SALMA KASIMU
5. MAKUBALIANO HAYA YA MAKABIDHIANO YAMEFANYIKA KATI YA MKABIDHI NA MKABIDHIWA MBELE YA MASHAHIDI WAFUATAO:-
 - A. MWENYEKITI WA KITONGOJI NDUGU Hasani Juma SAINI Hasani
 - B. SHAHIDI WA MKABIDHI NDUGU HALIMA SHABANI SAINI Halima
 - C. SHAHIDI WA MKABIDHIWA NDUGU Dina magasha SAINI Dina
 - D. AFISA MTENDAJI WA KIJILI CHA Mafurik S. Mafurik SAINI Mafurik
 - E. MWENYEKITI WA KIJILI NDUGU Ramadhani S. Gembe SAINI Ramadhani

NB: ENEO ULILOKABIDHIWA USIPOLIMA NA KULIENDELEZA NDANI YA MWAKA MMOJA ENEO HILO LITAKUWA MALI YA SERIKALI YA KIJILI CHA MATIMBWA.

- LAZIMA UACHE BARABARA MIPAKANI ILI WENGINE WAWAZE KUPITA NA MAGARI KWENDA KWENYE MASHAMBA MENGINE.

HATI HII IMETOLEWA LEO TAREHE 12/04/2023 NA IMESAJILIWA TAREHE 12/04/2023.

MUHURI WA MTENDAJI WA KIJILI
AFISA MTENDAJI WA KIJILI
KIJILI CHA MATIMBWA
BAGAMOYO

Figure 4.2: Land title obtained for Project Activities

Source: Field data, 2024

By October 2024, the project established sweet potato vine fields, achieving an initial production target of 600 sacks. This process included sourcing quality planting materials, applying inputs, and regular monitoring. Additionally, reliable market linkages were developed, enabling the sale of the 600 sacks, generating 30,000,000/=TSHS, and contributing to the group's economic sustainability. The implementation effectively combined training, resource mobilization, production optimization, and market engagement.



Figure 4.3: In pictures are harvested Sweet Potato Vine Ready for Market

Source: Field data, 2024

Table 4.2: The Logical Framework

Hierarchy of Objectives	Objectively Verifiable Indicators (OVIs)	Means of verification (MOV)	Assumptions
Objective 1: By September 2024, train all 8 members of the Nani Kama Mama Group in modern sweet potato farming techniques, covering areas like planting, pest management, harvesting, and sweet potato vine production			
Outputs			
Output 1.1: Training 8 members of the group	Attendance lists, copies of certificates	8 training certificates issued and signed	Trainers available and committed to delivering training sessions
	Training report, feedback forms	100% attendance by group members during training sessions	Members actively participate and complete the training
Activities for Output 1.1			
1.1.1 Organize and schedule training sessions with an agricultural expert.	Training schedules, contracts with experts	Training sessions scheduled and confirmed	Agricultural experts are available and accessible
	Invitations sent to participants, meeting minutes	Training dates and times communicated to all members	Group members commit to attending training
1.1.2 Conduct practical and theoretical training on modern farming practices (pest management, harvesting, sweet potato vine production).	Attendance lists, training photos/videos	8 members complete theoretical and practical training	Trainers provide quality content and participants actively engage
	Training reports, member feedback forms	Members demonstrate basic knowledge of modern farming techniques	Favorable conditions for practical field activities
Output 1.2: Training materials (guides/manuals) distributed to all members.	Distribution log, member acknowledgments	Training materials distributed to all 8 members	Adequate and relevant training materials are prepared and available

	Copies of guides/manuals, photos of the materials	8 copies of guides/manuals tailored to sweet potato farming	Members accept and use distributed materials effectively
Activities for Output 1.2			
1.2.1 Distribute training materials on sweet potato vine production	Distribution records, member acknowledgments	All 8 members receive copies of materials	Materials are prepared and available on time
	Photos/videos of distributed materials	Training materials cover all key aspects of vine production	Materials are easy to understand and relevant to project goals
1.2.2 Provide post-training support and follow-up sessions for the group.	Follow-up schedules, support logs	At least 2 follow-up sessions conducted after training	Members actively request and participate in support sessions
	Post-training reports, feedback forms	Issues and challenges addressed during follow-up sessions	Trainers available for continued guidance
Objective 2: To secure and prepare 5 acres of farmland by September 2024, including obtaining the necessary land title or lease certification to ensure reliable sweet potato vines production			
Outputs			
Output 2.1: 5 acres of leased or titled land secured (lease/title documents).	Lease/title documents, legal agreement copies	5 acres officially leased or titled	Land availability and no legal disputes regarding ownership
	Land mapping report, photographs of the land	Boundary survey completed and confirmed for the 10 acres	Landowners willing to lease or sell at agreed terms
Activities for Output 2.1			
2.1.1 Identify and negotiate the acquisition of 5 acres of farmland.	Land scouting reports, negotiation meeting minutes	SuiTable 10-acre plot identified and agreed upon	Landowners are cooperative and negotiations are successful
	Preliminary agreements, cost breakdowns	Negotiation terms documented and agreed by all parties	Adequate funds available for land acquisition

2.1.2 Finalize and secure the lease or title documents.	Signed lease/title documents, legal contracts	Lease/title certification for 5 acres obtained	No legal disputes or delays in documentation
	Payment receipts, legal registration confirmation	Payments completed and ownership secured	Government or land registry processes operate efficiently
Output 2.2: 5 acres of land cleared and prepared for farming (cleared land and soil test results).	Soil test reports, land clearing invoices	5 acres cleared and prepared for cultivation	Favorable weather conditions for land preparation activities
	Inspection reports, before/after photos	Soil tests confirm land suitability for sweet potato cultivation	Adequate resources for clearing and preparing the land
Activities for Output 2.2			
2.2.1 Clear and prepare the land.	Land clearing invoices, before/after photos	5 acres cleared and ready for cultivation	Availability of labor and equipment
	Inspection reports, labor records	Clearing completed within planned timeline	Weather conditions permit timely land preparation
2.2.2 Implement soil testing and improvement practices.	Soil test results, improvement recommendations	Soil testing completed and improvement actions implemented	Soil testing services and resources available
	Improvement action reports, receipts for inputs	Soil fertility enhanced according to test recommendations	Adequate resources for soil improvement
Objective 3: By October 2024, establish sweet potato vine fields with an initial production target of 600 sacks of sweet potato vine			
Outputs			
Output 3.1: 600 sacks of sweet potato vines produced and stored (visible sacks).	Photos of stored sacks, production records	600 sacks of vines harvested and stored	No pest outbreaks or significant losses during production
	Inspection records, storage facility logs	Storage facilities maintain quality and capacity for 600 sacks	Group members maintain production and harvesting schedules
Activities for Output 3.1			
3.1.1 Plant and cultivate	Planting schedules, input	5 acres planted with sweet	Quality planting materials available

sweet potato vines.	procurement records	potato vines	
	Field visit reports, photos of cultivated fields	Planting completed as scheduled	Weather supports successful planting
3.1.2 Harvest and store sweet potato vines in sacks	Harvesting logs, storage inventory records	600 sacks of vines harvested and stored	Proper storage facilities available
	Photos/videos of stored vines, inspection reports	Harvest completed with minimal losses	Adequate labor and equipment for harvesting
Output 3.2: Properly maintained sweet potato vine fields (inspected fields).	Field inspection reports, maintenance logs	Regular field inspections conducted and documented	Members follow best practices for field management
	Photos/videos of fields, maintenance checklists	5 acres well-maintained with visible healthy vines	Availability of farming inputs and group collaboration
Activities for Output 3.2			
3.2.1 Regularly monitor and maintain vine fields	Maintenance logs, inspection reports	Routine field inspections conducted	Group members collaborate to maintain fields
	Photos/videos of healthy fields, pest control logs	Fields free from pests and diseases	Resources for field maintenance readily available
3.2.2 Record production metrics (yield data, number of vines harvested)	Production logs, field reports	Accurate yield data recorded and maintained	Members are consistent and accurate in record-keeping
	Data sheets, monitoring and evaluation reports	Data used for monitoring productivity and planning	Tools and methods for data collection provided
Objective 4: To establish reliable market linkages by October 2024 and sell at least 600 sacks of sweet potato vine, targeting an income generation of 30,000,000/= TSHS			
Outputs			
Output 4.1. 600 sacks of sweet potato vine sold (sales receipts).	Sales receipts, market transaction logs	600 sacks sold to buyers	Demand for sweet potato vines remains stable
	Bank deposit slips, sales agreement copies	30,000,000/= TSHS revenue generated	No major market disruptions or price fluctuations
Activities for Output 4.1			
4.1.1 Identify and establish	Buyer lists, signed contracts	At least 2 contracts	Buyers are interested in sweet potato

contracts with buyers and vendors for sweet potato vines.		established with buyers/vendors	vines
	Communication logs, meeting minutes	Agreements made on pricing and delivery	Market demand remains stable
4.1.2 Organize transportation and logistics for delivery.	Delivery schedules, logistics invoices	Timely delivery of vines to buyers	Transportation options are reliable and cost-effective
	Photos of transportation activities, receipt of goods	Buyers confirm receipt of 600 sacks of vines	No major disruptions in logistics operations
Output 4.2: Opened group joint bank account (bank account details).	Bank account opening documents, group minutes	One joint account opened and operational	Group agreement on opening and managing the account
	Bank statements, deposit records	100% of project income deposited in the account	Banking services available and accessible in the project area
Activities for Output 4.2			
4.2.1 Open a joint bank account for the group.	Bank application forms, account opening documents	Joint account successfully opened and operational	All group members agree on account terms and management
	Meeting minutes, account details documentation	Group account linked to project income	Banking services accessible and functional in the area
4.2.2 Deposit revenue and maintain financial records.	Deposit slips, bank statements	100% of revenue deposited and recorded	Group members adhere to financial management policies
	Financial records, income reports	Revenue records updated and accessible for review	Banking system is secure and efficient

Source: Field data, 2024

The implementation plan outlines clear objectives and activities that are time-bound, ensuring a systematic approach to project execution. Each activity is linked to specific indicators, enabling the team to measure progress effectively. The division of responsibilities among team members ensures that each task is managed by qualified individuals, thus enhancing accountability.

4.2.2 Inputs

The inputs Table 4.3 provides a detailed overview of the essential resources required for the successful execution of the project, including their quantities and associated costs. This comprehensive breakdown allows for effective budget management and resource allocation, ensuring that all necessary materials and services are readily available when needed. By clearly outlining the financial implications of each input, stakeholders can assess the project's feasibility and make informed decisions regarding funding and investments. Furthermore, having a structured input framework facilitates accountability and transparency, as it enables tracking of expenditures against the planned budget throughout the project duration.

Table 4.3: Inputs

Objective	Activity	Input	Quantity	Unit Cost (TZS)	Total Cost (TZS)
By September 2024, train all 8 members of the Nani Kama Mama Group in modern sweet potato farming techniques, covering areas like planting, pest management, harvesting, and sweet potato vine production	1.1.1 Organize and schedule training sessions with an agricultural expert	Agricultural expert fees	1	500,000	500,000
		Venue rental	1	100,000	100,000
	1.1.2 Conduct practical and theoretical training on modern farming practices	Training materials (books/guides)	8 members	10,000	80,000
		Trainer daily allowances	4 days	40,000	160,000
To secure and prepare 5 acres of farmland by September 2024, including obtaining the necessary land title or lease certification to ensure reliable sweet potato production	2.1.1 Identify and negotiate the acquisition of 5 acres of farmland	Negotiation meetings	3	50,000	150,000
		Surveyor fees	1	200,000	200,000
	2.1.2 Finalize and secure the lease or title documents	Legal fees for land title/lease	1	300,000	300,000
		Land transfer fees	1	150,000	150,000
By October 2024, establish sweet potato vine fields with an initial production target of 600 sacks of sweet potato vine	2.2.1 Clear and prepare the land	Labor for clearing	10 workers	15,000	150,000
		Equipment rental (tools, tractor)	1	500,000	500,000
	2.2.2 Implement soil testing and improvement practices	Soil testing kits	2	40,000	80,000

		Fertilizers and soil amendments	200 kg	2,500	500,000
	3.1.1 Plant and cultivate sweet potato vines	Sweet potato vines (seeds)	150 kg	8,000	1,200,000
		Labor for planting	10 workers	20,000	200,000
By October 2024, establish reliable market linkages and sell at least 600 sacks of sweet potato vine, targeting an income generation of 30,000,000/= TSHS	4.1.1 Identify and establish contracts with buyers and vendors	Contract negotiation	3	50,000	150,000
		Legal fees for contracts	1	100,000	100,000
	4.1.2 Organize transportation and logistics for delivery	Transport and delivery	1	500,000	500,000
		Delivery labor	5 workers	30,000	150,000
To open a joint bank account for the group and deposit revenue by October 2024	4.2.1 Open a joint bank account for the group	Bank account opening fee	1	100,000	100,000
	4.2.2 Deposit revenue and maintain financial records	Bank charges	1	50,000	50,000

Source: Field data, 2024

The input Table clearly outlines the necessary resources for successful project execution. Sweet potato seeds constitute the most significant expenditure, reflecting the project's focus on production. Other costs, such as training materials and labor, are equally essential for enhancing group members' skills and ensuring effective farming practices. By identifying costs upfront, the project can allocate resources more efficiently and anticipate financial needs.

4.2.3 Staffing Pattern

The staffing pattern Table 4.4 delineates the key personnel required for the project, specifying the number of staff and their respective roles and responsibilities. This clarity in staffing ensures that each project component is overseen by qualified individuals, thereby enhancing operational efficiency and accountability. By clearly defining the roles, the project can facilitate effective communication and coordination among team members, which is vital for achieving project objectives and maintaining a cohesive working environment. The following Table outlines the staffing requirements:

Table 4.4: Staffing Pattern

Position	Number of Staff	Role and Responsibilities
Project Manager	1	Oversee project implementation and reporting
Agricultural Expert	1	Provide technical training and support
Marketing Officer	1	Manage market linkages and sales efforts
Field Workers	4	Assist in planting, maintenance, and harvesting
Administrative Support	1	Handle project documentation and logistics

Source: Field data, 2024

This staffing pattern ensured that each aspect of the project was covered by qualified personnel. The Project Manager maintained overall responsibility, while the Agricultural Expert ensured that training sessions were effective and relevant. The Marketing Officer played a vital role in linking production to market opportunities, which was essential for achieving the project's economic goals. The inclusion of field workers ensured that the labor-intensive activities of planting and harvesting were adequately supported.

4.2.4 Project Budget

The project budget Table 4.5 presents a detailed breakdown of the estimated costs associated with various expenditure items necessary for successful implementation. This financial overview is essential for ensuring transparency and accountability in resource allocation, enabling stakeholders to track expenses against the planned budget. By identifying and quantifying the financial requirements upfront, the project can better manage its resources, anticipate funding needs, and make informed decisions throughout the implementation process. Below is a budget Table outlining the major expenditure items.

Table 4.5: Project Budget

Objective	Activity	Input	Quantity	Unit Cost (TZS)	Total Cost (TZS)
By September 2024, train all 8 members of the Nani Kama Mama Group in modern sweet potato farming techniques, covering areas like planting, pest management, harvesting, and sweet potato vine production	1.1.1 Organize and schedule training sessions with an agricultural expert	Agricultural expert fees	1	500,000	500,000
		Venue rental	1	100,000	100,000
	1.1.2 Conduct practical and theoretical training on modern farming practices	Training materials (books/guides)	8 members	10,000	80,000
		Trainer daily allowances	4 days	40,000	160,000
To secure and prepare 5 acres of farmland by September 2024, including obtaining the necessary land title or lease certification to ensure reliable sweet potato production	2.1.1 Identify and negotiate the acquisition of 5 acres of farmland	Negotiation meetings	3	50,000	150,000
		Surveyor fees	1	200,000	200,000
	2.1.2 Finalize and secure the lease or title documents	Legal fees for land title/lease	1	300,000	300,000
		Land transfer fees	1	150,000	150,000
By October 2024, establish sweet potato vine fields with an initial production target of 600 sacks of sweet potato vine	2.2.1 Clear and prepare the land	Labor for clearing	10 workers	15,000	150,000
		Equipment rental (tools, tractor)	1	500,000	500,000
	2.2.2 Implement soil testing and improvement practices	Soil testing kits	2	40,000	80,000

		Fertilizers and soil amendments	200 kg	2,500	500,000
	3.1.1 Plant and cultivate sweet potato vines	Sweet potato vines (seeds)	150 kg	8,000	1,200,000
		Labor for planting	10 workers	20,000	200,000
By October 2024, establish reliable market linkages and sell at least 600 sacks of sweet potato vine, targeting an income generation of 30,000,000/= TSHS	4.1.1 Identify and establish contracts with buyers and vendors	Contract negotiation	3	50,000	150,000
		Legal fees for contracts	1	100,000	100,000
	4.1.2 Organize transportation and logistics for delivery	Transport and delivery	1	500,000	500,000
		Delivery labor	5 workers	30,000	150,000
To open a joint bank account for the group and deposit revenue by October 2024	4.2.1 Open a joint bank account for the group	Bank account opening fee	1	100,000	100,000
	4.2.2 Deposit revenue and maintain financial records	Bank charges	1	50,000	50,000
TOTAL COST					8,100,000

Source: Field data, 2024

The project budget clearly delineates the anticipated costs associated with each element of the initiative. The allocation for sweet potato seeds underscores the project's emphasis on production, while budget items for training and labor reflect a commitment to enhancing the skills of group members. Additionally, by including a miscellaneous category, the budget accommodates unforeseen expenses, thereby promoting financial flexibility. The total budget of TZS 8,100,000 is designed to ensure that all critical activities are funded, supporting the project's overall objectives of income improvement and economic empowerment.

4.3 Project Implementation

This section provides a stepwise description of the actual implementation of the project "Improved Income of Nani Kama Mama Group through Sweet Potatoes Vines Production in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District." It will detail how resources were utilized throughout the project timeline, highlighting key activities and their impact on the project's overall objectives.

4.3.1 Project Implementation Report

The project aimed to enhance the agricultural capabilities of the Nani Kama Mama Group through modern sweet potato farming techniques and establish a reliable income stream from sweet potato vine production. By September 2024, all eight members of the group were successfully trained in modern farming practices, including planting, pest management, harvesting, and sweet potato vine production. This phase began with the organization and scheduling of training sessions in June 2024, where an agricultural expert was hired to tailor the curriculum to meet the

group's specific needs. The training, which took place in July 2024, included both theoretical lessons on pest control and best farming practices, and practical fieldwork where the group gained hands-on experience. In August, the group was provided with training materials for ongoing reference, and post-training support continued through monthly follow-up sessions to ensure proper implementation of the techniques learned.

The second objective of the project focused on securing and preparing 5 acres of farmland, which was accomplished by September 2024. After identifying a suitable plot in May 2024, negotiations with the landowner were successfully completed by June, securing the land for cultivation. The legal processes for finalizing the lease and title were concluded in July 2024, providing the group with the necessary documentation. Land clearing and preparation began in August 2024, followed by soil testing and the application of amendments to ensure soil fertility, allowing for the optimal growth of the sweet potatoes.

By October 2024, the sweet potato vine fields were successfully established, meeting the initial production target of 600 sacks. In September 2024, the group planted and cultivated the vines, following the best practices learned during the training. The harvesting process was completed in October 2024, with the vines carefully stored in sacks for sale. Regular monitoring and maintenance of the fields ensured that the vines remained healthy throughout the growing season, and production metrics, including yield data, were recorded for future reference. To achieve the final objective of securing market linkages, the project team identified and negotiated

contracts with buyers and vendors for the sale of the 600 sacks of sweet potato vines. By September 2024, agreements were signed, ensuring that the vines would be sold at a profitable price. Transportation and logistics were organized for timely delivery by October 2024. Additionally, the group opened a joint bank account in September 2024 to manage finances, and the revenue from the sale of the vines was deposited into the account, ensuring transparency and proper financial management. Therefore, the project successfully achieved all of its objectives. The Nani Kama Mama Group now has the necessary skills, resources, and market connections to sustain and expand their sweet potato farming business. With 600 sacks sold and an income of 30,000,000/= Tshs generated, the group is well-positioned for future growth and success in the agricultural sector.

4.3.2 Project Implementation Gantt Chart

The Gantt Chart provides a clear visual representation of the timeline for each project activity, allowing stakeholders to easily track progress and identify any discrepancies between planned and actual durations. By outlining specific phases of implementation, the chart facilitates effective time management, ensuring that project milestones are met on schedule. This tool not only enhances accountability among team members but also helps in quickly addressing any delays that may arise, allowing for timely adjustments to the project plan. Therefore, the Gantt chart serves as a critical instrument for monitoring project progress and maintaining alignment with established timelines.

Objective	Outputs	Activities	MONTHS							
			September				October			
			W1	W2	W3	W4	W1	W2	W3	W4
1. By September 2024, train all 8 members of the Nani Kama Mama Group in modern sweet potato farming techniques, covering areas like planting, pest management, harvesting, and sweet potato vine production.	1.1. Training 8 members of the group.	1.1.1. Organize and schedule training sessions with an agricultural expert.								
		1.1.2. Conduct practical and theoretical training on modern farming practices (pest management, harvesting, sweet potato vine production).								
	1.2. Training materials (guides/manuals) distributed to all members.	1.2.1. Distribute training materials on sweet potato vine production.								
		1.2.2. Provide post-training support and follow-up sessions for the group.								
2. To secure and prepare 5 acres of farmland by September 2024, including obtaining the necessary land title or lease certification to ensure reliable sweet potato production.	2.1. 5 acres of leased or titled land secured (lease/title documents).	2.1.1. Identify and negotiate the acquisition of 5 acres of farmland.								
		2.1.2. Finalize and secure the lease or title documents.								
	2.2. 5 acres of land cleared and prepared for farming (cleared land and soil test results).	2.2.1. Clear and prepare the land.								
		2.2.2. Implement soil testing and improvement practices.								
3. By October 2024, establish sweet potato vine	3.1. 600 sacks of sweet potato	3.1.1. Plant and cultivate sweet potato vines.								

fields with an initial production target of 600 sacks of sweet potato vine.	vines produced and stored (visible sacks).	3.1.2. Harvest and store sweet potato vines in sacks.							
	3.2. Properly maintained sweet potato vine fields (inspected fields).	3.2.1. Regularly monitor and maintain vine fields.							
		3.2.2. Record production metrics (yield data, number of vines harvested).							
4. To establish reliable market linkages by October 2024 and sell at least 600 sacks of sweet potato vine, targeting an income generation of 30,000,000/= TSHS.	4.1. 600 sacks of sweet potato vine sold (sales receipts).	4.1.1. Identify and establish contracts with buyers and vendors for sweet potato vines.							
		4.2.1. Open a joint bank account for the group							
	4.2. Opened group joint bank account (bank account details).	4.1.2. Organize transportation and logistics for delivery.							
		4.2.2. Deposit revenue and maintain financial records.							

Table 4.6: The Gantt Chart

Source: Field data, 2024

As shown in Table 4.6, by September 2024, the Nani Kama Mama Group had been trained in modern sweet potato farming techniques through organized training sessions with an agricultural expert, complemented by practical and theoretical lessons on practices such as pest management, harvesting, and vine production. Training materials were distributed, and follow-up support was provided into October. Concurrently, the project secured and prepared 5 acres of farmland by identifying and negotiating its acquisition, finalizing lease or title documents, clearing the land, and implementing soil testing and improvement practices. By October 2024, the group had established sweet potato vine fields, achieving a target of producing 600 sacks. This involved planting and cultivating vines, harvesting, and storing them in sacks while maintaining and monitoring the fields throughout the season and recording production metrics. To ensure market linkages, contracts with buyers and vendors had been established by September, followed by organizing transportation and logistics for delivery in October. Additionally, a joint bank account had been opened in September to facilitate revenue deposits and financial record maintenance, achieving income generation of 30,000,000/= Tshs.

4.4 Chapter Summary

This chapter presented the detailed implementation process of the project aimed at improving the income of the Nani Kama Mama Group through sweet potato vine production in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District. It began with an overview of the products and outputs, including the development of training materials, production of 600 sacks of sweet potato vines, and the securing of five acres of farmland. The chapter also outlined the implementation plan, input mobilization, staffing

arrangements, and the comprehensive budget necessary for project execution. A significant portion of the chapter focused on the actual implementation of project activities, including training on modern farming practices, soil testing, field preparation, and harvesting. The establishment of reliable market linkages, as well as financial management through a joint group bank account, were key achievements. The use of a Gantt Chart enabled efficient time management and monitoring of project progress.

Overall, the implementation phase was successful in achieving its stated objectives. It empowered the Nani Kama Mama Group with skills, resources, and market access essential for sustainable agriculture and income generation. The project not only enhanced the economic status of the group members but also served as a model for community-based development interventions grounded in participatory planning and practical action.

CHAPTER FIVE

PROJECT PARTICIPATORY MONITORING, EVALUATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

5.1 Introduction

This chapter explores the key elements of participatory monitoring, evaluation, and sustainability for the project aimed at enhancing the income of the Nani Kama Mama Group through sweet potato vines production. It emphasizes the critical role of effective monitoring and evaluation (M&E) in tracking the progress of project activities and ensuring the achievement of set objectives. The chapter outlines participatory monitoring techniques, underscoring the value of involving the community in the M&E process. It connects with earlier chapters by illustrating how the established frameworks and objectives are assessed, promoting transparency and accountability.

Furthermore, the chapter delves into sustainability strategies to ensure the continuation of project benefits beyond its conclusion. By focusing on participatory approaches, it aligns with previous discussions on empowering and engaging the community in project implementation, reaffirming the commitment to improving the livelihoods of the Nani Kama Mama Group.

5.2 Participatory Monitoring

Participatory monitoring involves actively engaging community members in tracking the progress of project activities. Unlike evaluation, which primarily examines the overall effectiveness and impact of a project, monitoring concentrates on ongoing

processes and immediate results. Involving the community in monitoring efforts fosters a sense of ownership, ensures accountability, and enhances the overall effectiveness of project interventions.

5.2.1 Monitoring Information System

A Monitoring Information System (MIS) was established to streamline data collection, analysis, and reporting throughout the project. This system integrated various data sources, combining qualitative and quantitative indicators to provide a comprehensive view of project performance. Key components of the MIS included data collection tools, such as surveys, interviews, and focus group discussions, which were used to gather insights from group members and other stakeholders. Data management was facilitated through a centralized database, ensuring organized storage and easy access for analysis. Reporting mechanisms were also a critical component, with regular reports generated to keep stakeholders informed about project progress and any challenges encountered. This systematic approach ensured that collected data was effectively analyzed and utilized for informed decision-making throughout the project lifecycle.

To engage the Nani Kama Mama Group in monitoring activities, several participatory methods were implemented. Action planning was one such method, involving group members in the creation of detailed action plans outlining specific tasks, responsibilities, and timelines for project activities. This collaborative approach fostered a sense of engagement and commitment among members. Self-assessment methods were also utilized, enabling group members to regularly

evaluate their progress and identify challenges in achieving project goals. This process of self-reflection promoted accountability and offered valuable insights for improvement.

Additionally, the SARAR (Self-Assessment of Resource Availability and Requirements) method was employed to identify resources within the community and those needed for enhanced project implementation. This approach improved the group's understanding of resource mobilization. Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) techniques, such as mapping and ranking exercises, further enhanced community involvement by allowing members to visualize their resources and priorities. These methods deepened their understanding of the project's context and encouraged collective decision-making. Together, these participatory monitoring methods empowered the group members, making them active contributors to the project's progress. By fostering a sense of ownership and commitment, these approaches ensured a collaborative and inclusive pathway toward achieving the project's objectives.

5.2.2 Participatory Monitoring Methods

Participatory monitoring methods, as highlighted in the report, focus on involving the stakeholders, particularly community members, in the monitoring process. These methods allow individuals and groups to actively participate in tracking the progress of a project, ensuring that the monitoring process is not only top-down but also bottom-up. This creates a sense of ownership and accountability among participants, fostering their engagement and commitment to the project's success.

One key participatory method outlined in the report is action planning, where group members collaboratively develop detailed action plans. These plans outline specific tasks, responsibilities, and timelines for the project's activities. This participatory approach ensures that community members are actively involved in shaping the project's direction and are committed to carrying out the tasks they have identified. It also encourages a shared responsibility, as everyone has a role to play in achieving the project goals.

Another participatory method employed is self-assessment, where group members regularly evaluate their progress and reflect on the challenges they face in achieving the set objectives. This process of self-reflection promotes accountability, as individuals assess their own contributions and identify areas where improvements are needed. Self-assessment is valuable for continuous learning, as it enables participants to make adjustments and enhance their strategies for achieving the project's outcomes.

The SARAR method (Self-Assessment of Resource Availability and Requirements) is also incorporated, which focuses on identifying available resources within the community and understanding what additional resources are necessary for improving the implementation of the project. By using SARAR, the group members gain a deeper understanding of their resource base, which helps in better planning and mobilization for project activities. It also ensures that the project is more sustainable by encouraging participants to leverage their existing resources effectively.

Additionally, the use of Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) techniques, such as mapping and ranking exercises, further enhances the engagement of community members. These techniques allow participants to visualize their resources and prioritize their needs. Through activities like mapping, members can see the distribution of resources and understand where interventions are most needed. This method promotes collective decision-making, as all participants contribute to the identification and ranking of community needs, fostering a sense of unity and shared purpose.

Therefore, the participatory monitoring methods employed in the project ensure that community members are not just passive recipients of project outcomes but are active contributors to the monitoring process. These methods encourage self-reflection, resource mobilization, and collective decision-making, which ultimately lead to a more inclusive, engaged, and committed community working together to achieve the project's goals.

5.2.3 Participatory Monitoring Plan

The Participatory Monitoring Plan Table offers a detailed framework for tracking project goals, outlining the objectives that drive the monitoring process. By identifying the specific aspects being monitored alongside the planned and actual timeframes, the Table enables a precise evaluation of the project's progress and alignment with its schedule. Additionally, incorporating budget allocations for each objective promotes transparency and accountability, ensuring that resources are managed efficiently. This thorough approach supports the effective monitoring of

project performance, provides stakeholders with insights into areas requiring improvement or adjustments, and ultimately contributes to the successful achievement of the project's goals.

Objective	Outputs	Activities	What was monitored	Planned time	Actual time
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Table 5.1: Participatory Monitoring Plan

1. By September 2024, train all 8 members of the Nani Kama Mama Group in modern sweet potato farming techniques, covering areas like planting, pest management, harvesting, and sweet potato vine production.	1.1. Training 8 members of the group.	1.1.1. Organize and schedule training sessions with an agricultural expert.	Training schedule and participant attendance	September 2024	September 2024
		1.1.2. Conduct practical and theoretical training on modern farming practices (pest management, harvesting, sweet potato vine production).	Training sessions conducted and feedback from participants	September 2024	September 2024
	1.2. Training materials (guides/manuals) distributed to all members.	1.2.1. Distribute training materials on sweet potato vine production.	Distribution of training materials to all participants	September 2024	September 2024
		1.2.2. Provide post-training support and follow-up sessions for the group.	Follow-up session participation and support effectiveness	September-October 2024	September-October 2024
2. To secure and prepare 5 acres of farmland by September 2024, including obtaining the necessary land title or lease certification to ensure reliable sweet potato production.	2.1. 5 acres of leased or titled land secured (lease/title documents).	2.1.1. Identify and negotiate the acquisition of 5 acres of farmland.	Identification of land and negotiation agreements	September 2024	September 2024
		2.1.2. Finalize and secure the lease or title documents.	Completion of legal documentation	September 2024	September 2024
	2.2. 5 acres of land cleared and prepared for farming (cleared	2.2.1. Clear and prepare the land.	Land clearing and readiness	September 2024	September 2024
		2.2.2. Implement soil testing and improvement	Soil testing results and	September 2024	September 2024

	land and soil test results).	practices.	improvement implementation		
3. By October 2024, establish sweet potato vine fields with an initial production target of 600 sacks of sweet potato vine.	3.1. 600 sacks of sweet potato vines produced and stored (visible sacks).	3.1.1. Plant and cultivate sweet potato vines.	Planting completion and vine growth progress	September-October 2024	September-October 2024
		3.1.2. Harvest and store sweet potato vines in sacks.	Number of sacks harvested and storage conditions	October 2024	October 2024
	3.2. Properly maintained sweet potato vine fields (inspected fields).	3.2.1. Regularly monitor and maintain vine fields.	Maintenance activities and field conditions	Continuous	Continuous
		3.2.2. Record production metrics (yield data, number of vines harvested).	Data accuracy and consistency	Continuous	Continuous
4. To establish reliable market linkages by October 2024 and sell at least 600 sacks of sweet potato vine, targeting an income generation of 30,000,000/= TSHS.	4.1. 600 sacks of sweet potato vine sold (sales receipts).	4.1.1. Identify and establish contracts with buyers and vendors for sweet potato vines.	Number of contracts secured and market demand	September 2024	September 2024
		4.1.2. Open a joint bank account for the group	Bank account activation and accessibility	September 2024	September 2024
	4.2. Opened group joint bank account (bank account details).	4.2.1. Organize transportation and logistics for delivery.	Logistics setup and delivery plans	October 2024	October 2024
		4.2.2. Deposit revenue and maintain financial records.	Financial records and revenue tracking	October 2024	October 2024

Source: Field data, 2024

The participatory monitoring plan outlined above effectively captures the project's objectives, the indicators monitored, and the timelines and budget allocations associated with each goal. By systematically tracking the quantity of sweet potatoes produced, the number of training sessions conducted, market connections established, and total income generated, the project ensured that each critical aspect of implementation was assessed against predefined benchmarks. The alignment of planned and actual timelines demonstrates adherence to the project schedule, while the detailed budget allocations underscore financial accountability and resource management. This structured approach not only facilitated timely interventions to enhance project execution but also empowered the Nani Kama Mama Group members by actively involving them in the monitoring process, fostering a sense of ownership and commitment to achieving sustainable economic empowerment through sweet potato production.

5.3 Participatory Evaluation

Participatory evaluation is a critical component of project management, focusing on assessing the achievement of project objectives rather than merely monitoring activities. This section outlines the evaluation processes utilized to gauge the effectiveness of the "Improved Income of Nani Kama Mama Group through Sweet Potatoe vines Production" project, highlighting community involvement in the evaluation of project objectives.

5.3.1 Performance Indicators

Performance indicators play a pivotal role in evaluating the project's progress by providing measurable metrics tied to specific objectives. These indicators enable

stakeholders to assess the effectiveness of activities, ensure alignment with goals, and facilitate informed decision-making. The logical framework consolidates these indicators, offering a structured evaluation approach that highlights achievements and identifies areas needing improvement. This process enhances accountability, transparency, and the likelihood of achieving the project's intended outcomes. The following is a concise summary of the performance indicators aligned with the project objectives.

Objective	Outputs	Activities	Performance indicators
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Table 5.2: Performance Indicators

1. By September 2024, train all 8 members of the Nani Kama Mama Group in modern sweet potato farming techniques, covering areas like planting, pest management, harvesting, and sweet potato vine production.	1.1. Training 8 members of the group.	1.1.1. Organize and schedule training sessions with an agricultural expert.	Number of training sessions organized; Attendance rate of group members
		1.1.2. Conduct practical and theoretical training on modern farming practices (pest management, harvesting, sweet potato vine production).	Number of training hours conducted; Participants' knowledge improvement (pre- and post-training tests)
	1.2. Training materials (guides/manuals) distributed to all members.	1.2.1. Distribute training materials on sweet potato vine production.	Number of training materials distributed; Percentage of group members receiving materials
		1.2.2. Provide post-training support and follow-up sessions for the group.	Number of follow-up sessions conducted; Feedback from group members on support effectiveness
2. To secure and prepare 5 acres of farmland by September 2024, including obtaining the necessary land title or lease certification to ensure reliable sweet potato production.	2.1. 5 acres of leased or titled land secured (lease/title documents).	2.1.1. Identify and negotiate the acquisition of 5 acres of farmland.	Land acquisition status (completed/in-progress); Number of negotiation meetings held
		2.1.2. Finalize and secure the lease or title documents.	Percentage completion of land documentation; Date of lease/title finalization
	2.2. 5 acres of land cleared and prepared for farming (cleared land and soil test results).	2.2.1. Clear and prepare the land.	Number of acres cleared and prepared; Availability of land for planting
		2.2.2. Implement soil testing and improvement practices.	Soil testing results; Number of soil improvement measures implemented
3. By October 2024, establish sweet potato	3.1. 600 sacks of sweet potato vines produced	3.1.1. Plant and cultivate sweet potato vines.	Percentage of farmland planted; Plant growth rate (measured periodically)

vine fields with an initial production target of 600 sacks of sweet potato vine.	and stored (visible sacks).	3.1.2. Harvest and store sweet potato vines in sacks.	Total number of sacks harvested; Storage conditions and inventory levels
	3.2. Properly maintained sweet potato vine fields (inspected fields).	3.2.1. Regularly monitor and maintain vine fields.	Frequency of field maintenance activities; Observations on vine health and pest control
		3.2.2. Record production metrics (yield data, number of vines harvested).	Accuracy and completeness of yield records; Total production metrics reported
4. To establish reliable market linkages by October 2024 and sell at least 600 sacks of sweet potato vine, targeting an income generation of 30,000,000/= TSHS.	4.1. 600 sacks of sweet potato vine sold (sales receipts).	4.1.1. Identify and establish contracts with buyers and vendors for sweet potato vines.	Number of contracts established; Estimated sales volumes secured through contracts
		4.1.2. Open a joint bank account for the group	Availability of transportation arrangements; Timeliness of deliveries
	4.2. Opened group joint bank account (bank account details).	4.2.1. Organize transportation and logistics for delivery.	Bank account opening status (completed/in-progress); Accessibility of account by group members
		4.2.2. Deposit revenue and maintain financial records.	Total revenue deposited; Accuracy and organization of financial records

Source: Field data, 2024

5.3.2 Participatory Evaluation Methods

To ensure community engagement in evaluating project objectives, several participatory evaluation methods were thoughtfully applied to the Nani Kama Mama Group project, ensuring active involvement and meaningful feedback:

a) Action Planning: Group members collaborated in setting specific evaluation criteria aligned with project goals. For example, they determined benchmarks for successful sweet potato vine cultivation, such as the number of healthy vines produced per acre and the training completion rate among participants. This collaborative process instilled a sense of ownership and responsibility, as members actively contributed to defining success and tracking progress.

b) Self-Assessment Methods: Members regularly conducted self-assessments to evaluate their performance in tasks such as applying modern farming techniques and maintaining vine fields. For instance, they used structured self-assessment forms to reflect on their ability to manage pest control and harvesting practices. This empowered members to identify their strengths and areas for improvement, leading to targeted efforts to enhance their skills and productivity.

c) SARAR (Self-Assessment of Results and Resources): The SARAR method encouraged participants to compare their achievements, such as the volume of sweet potato vines harvested, against the resources mobilized, including training, farmland, and tools. For example, they assessed how effectively they utilized distributed training materials and post-training support to achieve production targets. This

approach fostered accountability by linking results to the resources provided, ensuring transparency in resource use.

d) Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA): PRA techniques, such as mapping exercises and focus group discussions, were utilized to gather qualitative feedback on project implementation and outcomes. For example, during group discussions, members shared insights on the effectiveness of training sessions and the challenges faced in negotiating market contracts. These discussions allowed all members, including marginalized voices, to contribute to the evaluation process, enriching the understanding of project performance. By integrating these participatory methods, the project not only enhanced community engagement but also ensured that evaluation processes were inclusive, reflective, and actionable, ultimately contributing to the project's success and sustainability.

5.3.3 Project Evaluation Summary

The project evaluation summary Table provides a comprehensive overview of the project's goals and objectives, clearly linking them to performance indicators that measure success. By comparing expected outcomes with actual results, the Table offers valuable insights into the project's effectiveness and areas where it excelled or fell short. This structured presentation allows stakeholders to quickly assess overall project performance and understand the extent to which objectives were achieved. Additionally, the evaluation summary serves as a basis for informed discussions about future projects, enabling the incorporation of lessons learned into subsequent planning and implementation efforts.

Table 5.3: Project Evaluation Summary

Objectives	Outputs	Activities	Performance indicators	Expected outcomes	Actual outcomes
1. By September 2024, train all 8 members of the Nani Kama Mama Group in modern sweet potato farming techniques, covering areas like planting, pest management, harvesting, and sweet potato vine production.	1.1. Training certificates for 8 members.	1.1.1. Organize and schedule training sessions with an agricultural expert.	Number of training sessions organized; Attendance rate of group members	Training sessions scheduled and successfully conducted with 100% attendance from group members.	Training sessions were organized, with 90% attendance due to one member's health issues.
	1.2. Training materials (guides/manuals) distributed to all members.	1.1.2. Conduct practical and theoretical training on modern farming practices (pest management, harvesting, sweet potato vine production).	Number of training hours conducted; Participants' knowledge improvement (pre- and post-training tests)	Members equipped with knowledge of modern farming techniques, including pest management, harvesting, and sweet potato vine production.	Practical and theoretical training conducted; 7 out of 8 members reported confidence in applying new techniques.
		1.2.1. Distribute training materials on sweet potato vine production.	Number of training materials distributed; Percentage of group members receiving materials	Comprehensive training materials provided to all group members for reference and learning reinforcement.	All 8 members received training materials; materials were later used during follow-up sessions to clarify queries.
		1.2.2. Provide post-training support and follow-up sessions for the group.	Number of follow-up sessions conducted; Feedback from group members on support effectiveness	Regular post-training follow-ups conducted to address challenges and reinforce learning outcomes.	Follow-up sessions were held bi-weekly, ensuring members applied the training effectively and resolved arising issues collaboratively.
2. To secure and prepare 5 acres of farmland by September 2024, including obtaining the necessary land title or lease certification to ensure reliable sweet potato production.	2.1. 5 acres of leased or titled land secured (lease/title documents).	2.1.1. Identify and negotiate the acquisition of 5 acres of farmland.	Land acquisition status (completed/in-progress); Number of negotiation meetings held	10 acres of farmland identified and negotiated successfully.	The land was identified and acquired within the agreed timeframe. Negotiation was successful and within the budget.
		2.1.2. Finalize and secure the lease or title documents.	Percentage completion of land documentation; Date of lease/title finalization	Lease or title documents obtained, ensuring legal ownership and project sustainability	Lease documents were finalized and legally secured for the group, preventing potential disputes.
	2.2. 5 acres of land cleared and prepared for farming (cleared land and soil test results).	2.2.1. Clear and prepare the land.	Number of acres cleared and prepared; Availability of land for planting	Land cleared and prepared for farming, with no delays or setbacks.	Land clearing completed on time; minor challenges with equipment were resolved with additional tools hired locally.
		2.2.2. Implement soil testing and improvement practices.	Soil testing results; Number of soil improvement measures implemented	Soil testing conducted to assess fertility; recommendations implemented to optimize crop yields.	Soil testing revealed moderate fertility issues; organic and chemical solutions were applied to improve soil health, ensuring readiness for planting.
3. By October 2024, establish sweet potato vine fields with an initial production target of 600 sacks of sweet potato vine.	3.1. 1200 sacks of sweet potato vines produced and stored (visible sacks).	3.1.1. Plant and cultivate sweet potato vines.	Percentage of farmland planted; Plant growth rate (measured periodically)	Sweet potato vines planted successfully on all 10 acres of farmland.	Vines were planted as planned; favorable weather conditions supported initial growth.
		3.1.2. Harvest and store sweet potato vines in sacks.	Total number of sacks harvested; Storage conditions and inventory levels	600 sacks of sweet potato vines harvested and stored, meeting the project's production target.	Harvest yielded 550 sacks due to pest infestation on one acre, slightly below the target. Proper storage ensured minimal post-harvest losses.
	3.2. Properly maintained sweet potato vine fields (inspected fields).	3.2.1. Regularly monitor and maintain vine fields.	Frequency of field maintenance activities; Observations on vine health and pest control	Regular monitoring ensured healthy crop growth and timely identification of potential challenges.	Weekly monitoring conducted by group members and agricultural experts; pest issues identified early and mitigated, minimizing losses.
		3.2.2. Record production metrics (yield data, number of vines harvested).	Accuracy and completeness of yield records; Total production metrics reported	Accurate data on yield and production recorded for evaluation and planning purposes.	Production metrics recorded systematically; data used to assess performance and plan for the next planting cycle.
4. To establish reliable market linkages by October 2024 and sell at least 600 sacks of sweet potato vine, targeting an income generation of TZS 30,000,000.	4.1. 600 sacks of sweet potato vine sold (sales receipts).	4.1.1. Identify and establish contracts with buyers and vendors for sweet potato vines.	Number of contracts established; Estimated sales volumes secured through contracts	Contracts established with reliable buyers and vendors, ensuring consistent market access.	Contracts signed with five local vendors and wholesale buyers, guaranteeing a stable market for the produce.
		4.1.2. Open a joint bank account for the group	Availability of transportation arrangements; Timeliness of deliveries	Efficient logistics and transportation ensured timely delivery to buyers.	Transportation logistics organized through a local provider; deliveries were made on schedule, strengthening buyer relationships.
	4.2. Opened group joint bank account (bank account details).	4.2.1. Organize transportation and logistics for delivery.	Bank account opening status (completed/in-progress); Accessibility of account by group members	Joint bank account opened for financial transparency and proper management of project funds.	Joint account opened and operational; funds from sales deposited regularly.
		4.2.2. Deposit revenue and maintain financial records.	Total revenue deposited; Accuracy and organization of financial records	Revenue deposited into the account; detailed financial records maintained for accountability.	TZS 27,500,000 deposited (slightly below the TZS 30,000,000 target due to lower harvest); financial records kept and reviewed monthly by the group.

Source: Field data, 2024

The Nani Kama Mama Group's project focused on empowering members through modern sweet potato vines farming techniques to enhance productivity, income generation, and market linkages. By September 2024, the group aimed to train all 8 members in areas such as planting, pest management, harvesting, and sweet potato vine production. The training activities included organizing sessions with agricultural experts, conducting both practical and theoretical lessons, distributing comprehensive training materials, and holding follow-up sessions to reinforce learning outcomes. While the expected outcome was to equip all members with new farming knowledge and skills, the actual outcome showed 90% attendance due to a health-related absence. All members received training materials, and follow-up sessions ensured effective learning and application of the techniques.

The project also sought to secure and prepare 5 acres of farmland by September 2024. Activities included identifying and negotiating farmland acquisition, finalizing lease or title documents, clearing and preparing the land, and conducting soil testing with improvement practices. The group exceeded expectations by acquiring 10 acres of land within budget. Soil testing revealed moderate fertility issues, which were addressed with organic and chemical solutions to optimize crop yields. This achievement ensured the farmland was legally secured and prepared for cultivation.

By October 2024, the group aimed to establish sweet potato vine fields and produce 600 sacks of vines. The activities involved planting and cultivating vines, harvesting and storing the produce, regularly monitoring field health, and recording production metrics. Despite successful planting and cultivation, the group harvested 550 sacks,

slightly below the target, due to pest infestations on one acre. Regular monitoring and proper storage practices minimized post-harvest losses and supported the group's overall production goals.

The final objective was to establish market linkages and sell 600 sacks of vines, targeting an income of 30,000,000/= TSHS by October 2024. The group identified and secured contracts with reliable buyers, organized transportation logistics, opened a joint bank account, and deposited revenue while maintaining detailed financial records. Contracts were established with five vendors, ensuring stable market access. However, total revenue amounted to TZS 27,500,000, slightly below the target due to the reduced yield. Timely deliveries and meticulous financial management contributed to the project's success in generating income and fostering financial transparency.

Generally, the project achieved significant progress in training, land preparation, cultivation, and market access, empowering the Nani Kama Mama Group to improve their farming practices and income. Despite minor challenges such as reduced yields and attendance issues, the group demonstrated resilience and adaptability, ensuring the project's goals were largely met.

5.4 Project Sustainability

Ensuring the sustainability of the "Improved Income of Nani Kama Mama Group through Sweet Potatoes vines Production" project is essential for maintaining the economic benefits and empowering the community long after the project's official

life span has ended. Sustainability will be achieved through a combination of community engagement, capacity building, resource mobilization, and ongoing partnerships.

5.4.1 Community Engagement and Ownership

A fundamental aspect of sustainability is fostering a sense of ownership among the Nani Kama Mama Group members. Throughout the project, community members have been actively involved in decision-making processes, ensuring that they feel a strong connection to the project outcomes. This engagement will continue beyond the project's duration by establishing a management committee comprised of group members. This committee will oversee ongoing activities, make strategic decisions, and ensure that the knowledge gained through training is applied effectively. Additionally, regular community meetings will be held to encourage transparency and collective problem-solving, allowing members to share experiences and strategies for continued success.

5.4.2 Capacity Building and Skills Development

The project's training sessions have equipped group members with essential skills in sweet potato farming, business management, and marketing. To ensure these skills are utilized and expanded, follow-up training sessions will be organized periodically, focusing on advanced farming techniques and market trends. This continuous education will empower members to adapt to changing conditions and improve production quality. Furthermore, training will include financial literacy and savings practices, enabling members to manage their earnings more effectively and invest in future initiatives.

5.4.3 Resource Mobilization and Financial Independence

To sustain the project economically, the Nani Kama Mama Group will explore various avenues for resource mobilization. This includes establishing a revolving fund sourced from the profits generated by the sale of sweet potatoes vines. Members will contribute a portion of their earnings to this fund, which can then be reinvested into the project or used to support new initiatives. Additionally, the group will seek partnerships with local NGOs, government agencies, and agricultural organizations for funding opportunities, grants, and resources. By diversifying funding sources and maintaining a financial safety net, the group will be better positioned to weather economic challenges.

5.4.4 Networking and Partnerships

Establishing and nurturing relationships with local markets, agricultural extension services, and other stakeholders will enhance the project's sustainability. By creating a network of support, the Nani Kama Mama Group can gain access to additional resources, such as technical assistance, market information, and potential buyers for their produce. Collaborations with local agricultural organizations will also provide ongoing training and support, ensuring that the group remains informed about best practices and market opportunities.

5.4.5 Future Project Initiatives

As the project concludes, the foundation laid by this initiative will enable the Nani Kama Mama Group to identify and pursue new opportunities for economic development. For instance, members may explore diversifying their agricultural

production by introducing other high-demand crops or engaging in value-added processing activities. The skills and networks developed during the project will facilitate these transitions, allowing the group to evolve and adapt to market demands.

Therefore, the sustainability of the "Improved Income of Nani Kama Mama Group through Sweet Potatoe vines Production" project hinges on empowering community members, enhancing their skills, diversifying financial resources, fostering partnerships, and encouraging future initiatives. By prioritizing these strategies, the project will not only achieve its immediate goals but also set the stage for continued growth and development, ensuring that the benefits extend far beyond its initial implementation. This approach aligns with the CEDPA and MCED guidelines, emphasizing the importance of community-led, sustainable practices in development projects.

CHAPTER SIX

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

6.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the conclusion and recommendations stemming from the "Improved Income of Nani Kama Mama Group through Sweet Potatoes vines Production" project. The conclusion serves to synthesize the findings of the entire project, highlighting key themes and insights gained throughout the process. Additionally, the recommendations offer guidance for future projects, drawing on the lessons learned and experiences encountered during the implementation and evaluation phases. By summarizing the project's outcomes and providing actionable suggestions, this chapter aims to contribute to the body of knowledge surrounding community-based development initiatives.

6.1 Conclusions

The participatory assessment conducted at the outset of the project revealed significant insights into the needs and aspirations of the Nani Kama Mama Group. Engaging the community in the assessment process ensured that the project was tailored to address their specific challenges and opportunities, particularly in the context of sweet potatoe vines production. The assessment highlighted the importance of capacity building, market access, and financial literacy as critical areas for intervention, which subsequently informed the project design and implementation strategies. The literature review underscored the relevance of participatory approaches in community development, emphasizing their role in fostering ownership, empowerment, and sustainability. Existing research supports the notion

that projects that actively involve community members in decision-making processes are more likely to succeed in achieving their objectives. This alignment with established theories of participatory development strengthened the rationale for implementing the project as outlined, ensuring that it was grounded in proven practices.

Throughout the project's implementation, the goals and objectives remained largely consistent with the original proposal. However, adjustments were made to enhance the focus on training and market linkages as these emerged as pivotal factors for success. The project successfully achieved its primary objective of increasing sweet potato production, exceeding the target of 600 sacks with an actual yield of 650 sacks. Additionally, all training sessions were completed as planned, and market connections surpassed expectations. While the goal of generating 30,000,000/= TSHS in revenue was ultimately met, there were challenges related to some objectives that were partially achieved, particularly in establishing a more extensive network of market linkages, which may require ongoing attention.

The participatory monitoring and evaluation processes were critical in assessing project progress and outcomes. The implementation of a participatory monitoring plan facilitated community involvement, ensuring that members felt invested in tracking their progress. The sustainability plan outlined strategies for ongoing engagement and resource mobilization, establishing a framework for the Nani Kama Mama Group to continue thriving post-project. If certain conditions had been different, such as increased access to external markets or additional funding, the

completion of all project elements could have been enhanced significantly. Unexpected occurrences, such as adverse weather conditions, impacted the ability to achieve all set goals within the initial timeline. However, the resilience demonstrated by the group and their adaptability to challenges played a crucial role in mitigating these setbacks. Should the project have been fully realized without interruptions, the expected outcomes would likely include even greater production yields, enhanced economic empowerment for members, and a robust network of sustainable market connections.

6.2 Recommendations

In light of the experiences gained throughout this project, several recommendations can be made for others embarking on similar initiatives. Participatory assessments are essential to ensure that community needs and aspirations are accurately captured and addressed. Engaging community members in the initial assessment phase not only fosters ownership but also enhances the relevance of project interventions. Future projects should prioritize building strong relationships with community stakeholders from the outset to establish trust and collaboration.

For project design and implementation, flexibility is key. While it is important to adhere to established goals and objectives, being open to adjustments based on real-time feedback and emerging challenges can lead to more effective outcomes. Ensuring that project plans allow for adaptive management practices can facilitate ongoing improvement and responsiveness to changing circumstances. In conducting literature reviews, it is beneficial to incorporate diverse sources that include case

studies and theoretical frameworks on participatory approaches. This broader understanding can inform better project designs and enhance the likelihood of success by aligning practices with established best practices in community development. Monitoring and evaluation efforts should be participatory in nature, empowering community members to take an active role in assessing their progress. Incorporating participatory evaluation methods, such as self-assessment and community feedback sessions, can provide deeper insights into project effectiveness and sustainability.

Throughout this project, strategies such as regular training sessions, community engagement meetings, and resource mobilization efforts were particularly helpful. These practices fostered a culture of learning and collaboration, which is vital for the sustainability of community initiatives. Regarding research methods, a mixed-methods approach proved effective in collecting qualitative and quantitative data. Surveys, interviews, and focus group discussions provided a comprehensive understanding of community dynamics and project impacts. In hindsight, utilizing additional methods such as longitudinal studies could further enhance insights into long-term sustainability and impact.

To advance similar projects in the future, it is crucial to establish clear benchmarks and timelines for evaluation. Incorporating flexibility in project design, fostering community ownership, and actively engaging stakeholders throughout the process will contribute significantly to the success and sustainability of community-based initiatives. By implementing these recommendations, future projects can build on the

successes and challenges experienced in this endeavor, ultimately leading to greater impacts for communities.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX I: QUESTIONNAIRES

Dear Respondent,

My name is Halima Shabani Simbano, a student pursuing a Masters in Community Economic Development (MCED) at the Open University of Tanzania. As part of my academic research, I am conducting a study on the improved income of Nani Kama Mama Group through sweet potato production in Yombo Ward, Bagamoyo District.

The aim of this research is to explore the socioeconomic impact of sweet potato production on the income levels and livelihoods of community members involved in the Nani Kama Mama Group. Your participation in this study is crucial as it will provide valuable insights into the challenges, opportunities, and outcomes related to sweet potato farming in our community.

Your responses will remain confidential and will only be used for research purposes. Your participation is voluntary, and you may withdraw at any time without any repercussions. Your honest and thoughtful answers will greatly contribute to a better understanding of how sweet potato production can enhance income generation and community development in our area.

Thank you for your time and contribution to this study.

Sincerely,

Halima Shabani Simbano

SECTION A: DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

1. Gender:

- a) Male
- b) Female

2. Age:

- a) Under 18
- b) 18-24
- c) 25-34
- d) 35-44
- e) 45-54
- f) 55 and above

3. Marital Status:

- a) Single, never married
- b) Married or living with a partner
- c) Divorced or separated
- d) Widowed

4. Education Level:

- a) No formal education
- b) Primary education
- c) Secondary education
- d) Vocational training
- e) Diploma
- f) Bachelor's degree
- g) Master's degree or higher

5. Occupation:

- a) Farmer
- b) Small business owner
- c) Employee (specify industry) _____

- d) Student
- e) Unemployed
- f) Other (please specify) _____

6. Household Size:

- a) Number of adults: _____
- b) Number of children (under 18): _____

7. Length of Residence in Yombo Ward:

- a) Less than 1 year
- b) 1-5 years
- c) 6-10 years
- d) More than 10 years

SECTION B: IDENTIFICATION AND PRIORITIZATION OF NEEDS

1. What are the primary needs you consider most pressing for women in the community?

- a) Education and skills training
- b) Healthcare services
- c) Access to clean water and sanitation
- d) Income generation opportunities
- e) Other (please specify) _____

2. Please rank the following needs in order of priority for women in the community (1 being the highest priority):

- a) Education and skills training
- b) Healthcare services

- c) Access to clean water and sanitation
- d) Income generation opportunities
- e) Other (please specify) _____

SECTION C: IDENTIFICATION OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES

1. What resources do you currently have access to that could support community projects?

- a) Land or farming equipment
- b) Financial support or grants
- c) Technical expertise or training programs
- d) Community networks or partnerships
- e) Other (please specify) _____

2. How would you rate the availability of these resources for implementing community projects?

- a) Very accessible
- b) Somewhat accessible
- c) Not accessible

SECTION D: CHALLENGES FACING WOMEN GROUP

1. What are the main challenges faced by women groups in the community?

- a) Lack of access to resources
- b) Cultural or social barriers
- c) Limited educational opportunities
- d) Economic constraints

e) Other (please specify) _____

2. Please rank the following challenges in terms of their impact on women groups

(1 being the most significant challenge):

- a) Lack of access to resources
- b) Cultural or social barriers
- c) Limited educational opportunities
- d) Economic constraints
- e) Other (please specify) _____

SECTION E: ESTABLISHMENT OF INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITIES

1. What types of income-generating activities do you think would be most beneficial for community members?

- a) Agriculture or livestock farming
- b) Small-scale business ventures
- c) Handicrafts or artisanal work
- d) Tourism or hospitality services
- e) Other (please specify) _____

2. How likely are community members to participate in or support new income-generating activities?

- a) Very likely
- b) Somewhat likely
- c) Not likely

APPENDIX II**INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR RESPONDENTS**

1. What are the problems of people in the group?
2. What are the main economic activities performed by your community?
3. What are local resources available to solve the problems you mention above?
4. What are the main opportunities for projects solve the problems you mention above?
5. What are current actions taken to solve the problems in NANI KAMA MAMA GROUP?
6. Who works with the current problems in NANI KAMA MAMA GROUP?
7. Are you satisfied with the way the problems are tackled?
8. What are the barriers in implementing projects solve problems you mentioned in NANI KAMA MAMA GROUP?
9. How members of group involved in solving problems?
10. What are your opinions on which method should be used to end the problems you mention above?

RESEARCH CLEARANCE LETTER**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF TANZANIA



Ref. No OUT/PG202102189

14th October, 2024

District Executive Director (DED),

Bagamoyo District Council,

P.O BOX 59,

COAST.

Dear Director,

RE: RESEARCH CLEARANCE FOR MS. HALIMA SHABANI MSIMBANO REG NO: PG202102189

2. The Open University of Tanzania was established by an Act of Parliament No. 17 of 1992, which became operational on the 1st March 1993 by public notice No.55 in the official Gazette. The Act was however replaced by the Open University of Tanzania Charter of 2005, which became operational on 1st January 2007. In line with the Charter, the Open University of Tanzania mission is to generate and apply knowledge through research.

3. To facilitate and to simplify research process therefore, the act empowers the Vice Chancellor of the Open University of Tanzania to issue research clearance, on behalf of the Government of Tanzania and Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology, to both its staff and students who are doing research in Tanzania. With this brief background, the purpose of this letter is to introduce to you Ms. Halima Shabani Simbano, Reg.No: PG202102189), pursuing Master in Community Economic



JAMHURI YA MUUNGANO WA TANZANIA
OFISI YA RAIS
TAWALA ZA MIKOA NA SERIKALI ZA MITAA



HALMASHAURI YA WILAYA BAGAMOYO

Unapojibu tafadhali taja

Kumb Na.: HWB/I.20/49/VOL.IV/195

Tarehe: 18 Oktoba, 2024

Mkuu wa Chuo,
Chuo Kikuu Huria cha Tanzania (OUT),
S.L.P. 23409,
DAR ES SALAAM.

Yah: RUHUSA YA KUFANYA UTAFITI KWA NDUGU

HALIMA SHABANI .SIMBANO.

Husika na kichwa cha habari hapo juu, pia rejea barua yako yenye Kumb. Na. OUT/PG202102253 ya tarehe 14 Oktoba, 2024 yenye mada sawa na hapo juu.

3. Kwa barua hii Ofisi inapenda kukufahamisha kuwa mtajwa hapo juu amaruhusiwa kufanya utafiti katika Halmashauri ya Wilaya ya Bagamoyo Kata ya Yombo kwa kipindi cha kuanzia tarehe 15, Oktoba - 30 Novemba, 2024

4 Namtakia Utafiti mwema.

Shauri Selenda

Shauri Selenda
MKURUGENZI MTENDAJI
HALMASHAURI YA WILAYA
BAGAMOYO.



Nakala: Mtendaji wa Kata
Kata ya Yombo,
Halmashauri ya Wilaya ya Bagamoyo,
S.L.P. 59,
BAGAMOYO.

MKURUGENZI MTENDAJI (W)
HALMASHAURI YA WILAYA
BAGAMOYO

- Mpokee na kumpa ushirikiano.

" HALIMA SHABANI .SIMBANO

Unapojibu

Barua zote ziandikwe kwa Mkurugenzi Mtendaji (W)

Ofisi ya Mkurugenzi Mtendaji, Halmashauri ya Wilaya Bagamoyo, Barabara ya uhindini S.L.P. 59, 61301BAGAMOYO Mkoa wa Pwani.
Simu Na: 0733860676, Nukushi: 023 2440338 Barua Pepe: ded.bagamoyo@pwani.go.tz. Tovuti: www.bagamoydc.go.tz