MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MOTHER AND CHILD HEALTH
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

EXPANDED FOOD SECURITY PACK PROGRAMME (EFSP)

Stakeholders Consultative Meeting
18th March 2015
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INTRODUCTION

The Food Security Pack (FSP) was introduced in November 2000 by Government of Zambia aimed at:

• Empowering Vulnerable but Viable farmers to increase their production and productivity in all districts.

• As a Social Safety Net programme under the Ministry of Community Development, Mother and Child Health.

In 2012, the MCDMCH with financial support from the Royal Norwegian Embassy introduced a pilot programme called Expanded Food Security Pack (EFSP) in three (3) districts namely; Chadiza/Vubwi, Nyimba and Itezhi-tezhi.

• EFSP Programme was designed to build on some inadequacies of the Food Security Pack (FSP).
Introduction CONT’D

• EFSP provides farming inputs and social cash supplement to vulnerable but viable farmers

• Components of EFSP;
  a) Input Supply (Cereal, Legumes, Tubers & Fertiliser)
  b) Social Cash Supplement: K 100/beneficiary (Jan – March).

• EFSP is being implemented for a period of four (4) years (2012–2015) and is targeting to reach 27,000 beneficiary farmers by 2015.

GOAL/ PURPOSE: is to uplift 27,000 rural beneficiary farming households in the three (3) pilot districts from sub-subsistence level to a level of market participation and self sustainability.

Overall Objective: To reduce poverty and hunger among beneficiary rural households in Zambia through increased agricultural productivity and social protection.
Collaboration with Partners

1. Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAL)
   – At District level
   – At Camp Level

2. Conservation Farming Unit (CFU)
   - Provides technical support in Conservation Farming technologies & Field days

3. Zoona (Mobile Service Provider)
   - Conducts training in the use of e-vouchers & processing mobile transactions.
EFSP Model

EFSP Model is based on the following premises;

1) Use of E-Voucher system for processing transactions and collection of inputs by beneficiaries from rural based Agro-input dealers. Eligible farmers receive e-vouchers which they redeem with Agro-input dealers to collect their inputs.

2) Promotion of Conservation Farming technologies to secure productive and sustainable climate-resilient agronomic practices.

3) Provision of seasonal inputs to beneficiaries using more efficient supply chains drawing on private sector enterprise.
<table>
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<th>Season/Year</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>2012/2013</td>
<td>5,780</td>
<td>3,220</td>
<td>9,000</td>
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<td>2013/2014</td>
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<td>6,347</td>
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<td>2014/2015</td>
<td>5,492</td>
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Experiences with E-Voucher Implementation

• The e-voucher system reduces costs on administrative and logistics functions in the distribution of farming inputs.

• E-vouchers have contributed to private sector growth. System has economically empowered local Agro-input dealers resulting in increased financial resources which are circulating within the rural economy.

• E-voucher system has in-built controls which enhance transparency and accountability in the distribution of farming inputs. The system strengthens effective targeting of beneficiaries by ensuring that only eligible farmers are identified and selected to receive inputs.
Experiences with E-Voucher Implementation CONT’D

• Agro-Input dealers are motivated to deliver farming inputs closer to the farmers for increased sales volume. Motivation is also due to the use of adaptive direct bank transfer mechanism for payments to Agro-input dealers (money goes directly into their accounts upon processing the voucher transactions).
Lessons Learnt with e-voucher system

• E-Voucher system requires intensive training of Program staff, Agro-input dealers & farmers in the following areas;
  a) Processing transactions,
  b) Maintenance of beneficiary database,
  c) Monitoring of redeemed vouchers and
  d) Collection of seasonal inputs by the farmers.

• Poor mobile network in most sub centers delays the process of redeeming vouchers at points of input collection.

• For E-voucher system to operate efficiently & effectively, NRC numbers of beneficiaries have to match with their names on the beneficiary database.
Lessons Learnt with E-Voucher system CONT’D

- Replacement of vouchers becomes difficult when farmers misplace/lose their cards and sometimes when their reference and pin codes are erased on the cards.
- At points of voucher redemption by farmers, sometimes the process takes long since manual linking of vouchers with farmers’ identity cards is used at this stage. Electronic linking may not be possible due to poor mobile network in most rural areas.
THANK YOU