

SHIPO SMART Centre Newsletter # 1

January 2016



Introduction

The SMART Centre is one of the units of the Southern Highlands Participatory Organization (SHIPO). It is a training centre for local entrepreneurs in the WASH sector. The role of the SMART Centre is to scale up the access to water and sanitation by means of building supply chains of innovative, cost-effective and market-based technologies and products. “SMART” stands for Simple, Market-based, Affordable and Repairable Technologies.

Hereby, we proudly present our first newsletter! It describes the achievements of 2015 and gives a preview of the activities planned for this year.

2015 has been a year full of activities in the SMART Centre. The year started with two new coordinators, Eugenia Kimaro and Eelco van der Pal. They have been selected to participate in the “Young Expert Program”, a program by the Dutch ministry of foreign affairs focusing on improving water and sanitation in developing countries (see www.yepprogrammes.com/en/home-2).

Trainings

In 2015 four trainings have been organized by the SMART Centre:

- SKAT funded training (April-May, 5 weeks). Focusing on training local entrepreneurs in rope pump construction. This year’s training also included other (new) topics such as drip irrigation, ecological sanitation and groundwater recharge systems. Business training was also part of it, as well as the implementation of a quality monitoring program. All participants have signed up for the certification program and their workshops were visited afterwards in order to check participants’ performance.
- Training in manual drilling in Mzuzu (August, 2 weeks). Trainer Laban Kaduma has travelled to Malawi to assist the SMART Centre in Mzuzu in giving training in drilling of wells using SHIPO method.



- A Training for VETA trainers in drilling equipment (September, 2 weeks). During the above mentioned SKAT funded training also two trainers of VETA participated. Since they were very positive about the technology so VETA decided to implement the rope pump in their curriculum with as a first result a request for a second training. Trainer James Malekano has been given training in drilling bit construction for three VETA trainers, again with positive feedback.



- Training in manual drilling in SAME region for World Vision (September, 2 weeks). Trainer Laban Kaduma has trained 20 participants in manual drilling and digging and rope pump installation. In total 3 pumps have been installed.

Compared to previous years this is a high number of trainings, all with promising expected impact (increased number of people having access to WASH facilities). The SMART Centre is proud of this but especially proud of the achievement of the implementation of the technology on a national governmental level.

Open days

The SMART Centre has organized two open days financed by the iWASH program. Before the open days took place, the demonstration plot was upgraded. A footpath has been constructed around the technologies that are being demonstrated, such as an Ecological Sanitation unit, a bicycle rope pump, a wind mill connected to a rope pump, different types of groundwater infiltration systems and various other types of rope pumps.



The first day was meant for the general public and was promoted in several ways, for example by radio advertisements and distribution of flyers and posters. The idea of this day was to inform the public about SHIPO's activities and to promote the artisans trained by the SMART Centre. The trained artisans were asked to explain one a technology in the demonstration plot and at the same time they could promote their business by providing business cards or brochures to the visitors. Besides this, there was an information market showing all other activities in which SHIPO is involved. In total, about 100 visitors have been recorded. A small survey afterwards showed that many of the participating workshops got at least one new client out of the event.

The second day was meant for governmental officials, village leaders and other high positioned stakeholders in the field of water and sanitation. The aim of this day was to discuss the challenges SHIPO faces and to strengthen the relationship with the invited stakeholders.

The Tanzanian Agricultural Productivity Program (TAPP)

In the beginning of 2015 the SMART Centre has finalized this project in which manual drilling groups were trained in Tukuyu, Mbeya, Iringa, Kilombero, Babati, Karatu, Moshi, Mkuranga, Dar Es Salaam and Unguja Regions. In each region the SMART Centre was asked to provide 5 wells for irrigation with minimum 2500lt/hr per region and to train 6 local people in manual drilling. 51 wells for irrigation were realized with the work of local trainees in the abovementioned regions. Implementation of the TAPP project represents a milestone for the SMART Training Centre due to its large scale, technical complexity and the many logistical resources required.

The SMART Centre Group

The SMART Centre has started cooperation with other SMART Centres in Mozambique, Zambia, Malawi and Ethiopia, called the SMART Centre Group (see www.smartcentregroup.com). The idea is to spread the SMART technologies internationally by improving the SMART Centre concept as a business.

Training requests

Besides the SKAT funded training which is planned for April 2016, the year started with four other training requests for the first quarter of 2016:

- Rope pump production and manual drilling training in Kasulu, Kigoma
- Auger drilling training for VETA
- A field mission to Igunga to survey the opportunities for implementing SMART technologies (see <http://www.igungaecovillage.com>)
- Rope pump production and manual drilling training in Mozambique

Contact

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