

PROJECT: WOMEN FARMER GROUP INITIATIVE

TITLE: *DELIVERING EXTENSION SERVICES THROUGH EFFECTIVE AND INCLUSIVE WOMEN GROUPS*

OBJECTIVES:

- *To encourage women participation in group work*
- *To develop strategies to achieve their goals*
- *To develop interest to seek support from financial groups for sustainable development and self reliance*

OUTCOME/RESULTS:

After this workshop it is expected that women in Bomi County will be able to:

- *participate in development meetings*
- *seek funding for themselves through extension services*
- *organize themselves in groups*
- *teach their colleagues on agricultural extension services*
- *speak their minds.*

INTRODUCTION

This project (Workshop) will help women to feel free in equal participation in extension services.

MOTIVATION

For too long the women in Liberia were denied equal participation in extension services. This project will help women realize their important role in extension services which is the breadbasket for any nation. The problem of gender equality is still in existence and needs to be reduced. This project will motivate women participation in community, national and group initiatives.

OUTLINE OF TOPICS

- *Site selection*
- *Land preparation*
- *Nursery construction*
- *Methods of sowing seeds (drilling and broadcasting)*
- *Breaking dormancy*
- *Application of fertilizers*
- *Disease control*
- *Thinning*
- *Watering*
- *Transplanting*
- *Mulching*
- *Economic value of crop production*

DAY ONE (1)	I. Site selection
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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. <i>Land preparation</i> 3. <i>Nursery construction</i> 4. <i>Method of sowing seeds (drilling & broadcasting)</i> 5. <i>Breaking dormancy</i>
DAY TWO (2)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. <i>Application of fertilizer</i> 7. <i>Disease control</i> 8. <i>Thinning</i> 9. <i>Watering</i> 10. <i>Transplanting</i> 11. <i>Mulching</i> 12. <i>Economic value of crop production</i>

<i>Site Selection</i>	○ <i>Soil, topography, water, road</i>
<i>Land preparation</i>	○ <i>Clearing, felling and destorming</i>
<i>Nursing preparation</i>	○ <i>Field layout, mounds</i>
<i>Method of sowing</i>	○ <i>Drilling and broadcasting</i>
<i>Fertilizers</i>	○ <i>Organic matter, compose, Inorganic matter</i>
<i>Disease control</i>	○ <i>Application of medicine to keep disease away from the plant and planting site</i>
<i>Thinning</i>	○ <i>Removing seeds that are very closed to allow optimal yields</i>
<i>Transplanting</i>	○ <i>Moving the seedlings from the nursery to the planting sites</i>
<i>Mulching</i>	○ <i>To maintain moisture in the soil</i>
<i>Economic value</i>	○ <i>The benefit from the crop that will benefit the gardeners</i>
	○

DURATION: 2 DAYS

TIME: The project will start on Monday January 19, 2016 and end Tuesday, January 20, 2016.

IMPLEMENTOR: BOMI COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PROJECT SUMMARY

The project will provide income generation for less fortunate women.

PROJECT DETAILS

The workshop will be in Bomi County, Tubmanburg City, and Western Region of Liberia. It is expected to benefit 60 women in Bomi County. The workshop will focus on women empowerment for sustainable development. The implementation of the workshop will require patience as some of the women cannot read and write. The use of picture and drawing will be good for the successful implementation of the workshop.

CONCLUSION

The workshop will develop interest in women to participate in extension services for the production of food for consumers and place women in the advantage of small skills and income generation for self reliance.

REFERENCE

I would like to thank MEAS for the knowledge gained from this training and providing training manual that enabled to put this material together.

SUBMITTED BY: KIEH W. WESSEH and ALFRED S. MONGAR

Site selection

Select a site close to a water source. Avoid land which was previously under sweet potato. Distance between the site and the nearest old sweet potato field should be at least 100m. Fence off the site if damage by animals is anticipated.

Land preparation

Plough land and harrow and remove all trash. In the conventional seed multiplication procedure, leave the plot flat. In rapid multiplication procedure, raise beds of about 1.5m width and a length based on amount of multiplication material and land available. The area between adjacent beds should be 50cm wide. Use the soil between adjacent beds to raise the beds.

Field management

Ensure weed free conditions in the first 4-5 weeks by manually removing the weeds. Diseased or infected plants must be removed and burnt away from the field.

Pests and diseases management

Most times insect pests are not a threat to cassava production but still farmer needs to look at these steps below:

- Use of disease resistant varieties*
- Biological control using insecticide*
- Crop rotation*

-Planting early at the onset of rains

-Use of clean planting materials