

Dodoma February 1st, 2006

Wednesday February 1st, 2006

Today we had a meeting with The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, Strategic Grain Reserve in Dodoma. We talked to Mr Marlin and he showed us around the food storage. He informed us that they at present have 36.000 tons of maize in stock, they also have other cereals. They are buying from farmers all around Tanzania and are paying TSH 1.40/kg

The market prize has now increased to TSH 2.50/kg and the fuel has this year increased by 100%. One positive thing is that the Government since last week not charge any duty on cereals imported from other countries as the situation now begins to be serious due to the draught.

In the same area World Food Programme also has their food storage. Just one kilometer away so we took a walk to their premises as well and had a look around. Here they store all cereals which is to be distributed within the Dodoma region. From here they also distribute the food which goes to the refugee camps located in western Tanzania. Camps exist along the borders of Rwanda, Uganda and Congo.

Some facts about WFP Dodoma Sub Office

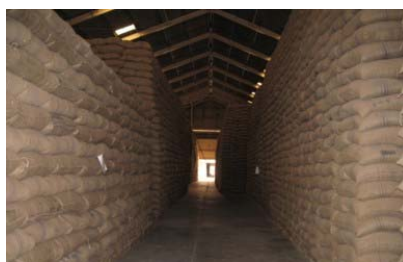
Dodoma Sub Office is one of seven WFP sub/field offices in Tanzania. Dodoma, the capital of Tanzania, is located in the centre of the country. It is a major logistics hub for WFP. The Dodoma office also supports WFP's country programme activities in Dodoma, Iringa and Singida Regions. WFP is the only UN agency with a Dodoma office.

DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

The Dodoma office provides programme support to the following WFP Country Programme activities in central Tanzania.



Meeting with Strategic Grain Reserve



Strategic Grain Reserve at Dodoma



Train to be loaded with cereals



Sorting cereals



Unloading truck



Pots to be delivered to school kitchens

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School feeding

WFP provides food to primary school children to encourage enrolment and attendance

Food for Asset Creation

WFP provides food as an incentive for rural communities to undertake work to improve their food security, including land rehabilitation, tree-planting and construction of irrigation systems.

Support to Food insecure Households Affected by HIV/AIDS

Wfp provides food to HIV/AIDS affected people including orphans. Food is also offered to community volunteers to attract them to participate in training in home based care skills.

After lunch we also had a meeting with MIGESADO who is the agency which investigate which regions needing help and what kind. So far they have delivered more than 3000 stoves, 250 water tanks have been built with a size of 12-19 cbm. They have constructed a new stove which is based on bio gas, on the unit is also a lamp driven by gas so the user at the same time have light when doing the cooking. The unit can be used in schools or at home by families.



Meeting at MIGESADO

A lunch was also served with thanks.

Last thing to do today was a visit to a primary school in the surroundings of Dodoma.

We had a talk to the Headmaster of the school, he was quite young, could guess 25 years old, can be the case that I am getting old... he showed us around and told us that the school at present have 320 students, 167 of those are girls. All to share 3 class rooms...



Traditional school kitchen

They are dependant of donations. One of the earlier team members from The Netherlands has raised money when returning back home and raised enough money to build another building with 2 big class rooms and an office for the Head master. When our CEO of TNT visited this school last year, he donated a solar screen.

At one side of the building they have painted "Once upon a time.." and then written all the names of the donors. At the time we were there, a journalist / photographer interviewed us and took some photos. The article will be published in a local Swahili newspaper of Dodoma tomorrow.



Donated School building



Name of the donors



Student's bedroom

PS to Swedish readers, listen to Radio City, today they called me and will do it again later on...



Links of interest regarding The School Feeding Project
<http://storiesworthtelling.org> + <http://wfp.org>