

The Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers' Forum



ESAFF Annual Report 2008/09

“From forming to performing”

For the period of September 2008 – August 31st, 2009

Name of the Project ESAFF 2008-2010

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Acronyms

AGM	– Annual General Meeting
BoD	– Board of Directors
COMESA	– Common market for Eastern and Southern Africa
EAFF	– East Africa Farmers Forum
EAC	– East African Community
EC	– ESAFF Coordinator
ERB	- ESAFF Regional Board
ESA	- Eastern and Southern Africa
ESAFF	- The Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers' Forum
Exco	- The Executive Committee of (the Board of Directors of ESAFF)
FPM	- The Financial Policy and Manual
GS	– General Secretary
NGO	– Non Governmental Organisation
NSSF	- National Social Security Fund
NSSFF	- National Small Scale Farmer Forum
ON	– Oxfam Novib
PAYE	- Pay As you Earn
PPM	- Personnel Policy and Manual
ROPRA	- Réseau des Organisations Paysannes et des Producteurs Agricoles d'Afrique de l'Ouest
SACAU	– Southern Africa Confederation of Agricultural Unions
SADC	– Southern Africa Development Community
SP	- Strategic Plan
WSSD	- World Summit of Sustainable Development

(i) About this Report

The report explains about key activities performed by the organisation, lessons learnt challenges and provides a glimpse on the way forward.

This report is meant to cover activities performed by ESAFF between the financial period of 1st August 2008 to 31st July 2009 (according to financial year of ESAFF – Art. 10.3 of the constitution)¹. However, the report has been extended to 30th August 2009, to cover the reporting period of the contract between ESAFF and our Development partner, Oxfam Novib.

The Board of Directors endorsed this report in its meeting that took place on 2nd October 2009. The meeting was held in Morogoro, Tanzania in which 11 farmer leaders who are ESAFF Board Members attended. Board members were from Burundi, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Lesotho, Madagascar and Seychelles. A farmer leader from Rwanda was not present.

The report has two parts; part one is the narrative report while part two contains financial report. The narrative report explains about ESAFF achievements and challenges as well as a way forward on the four key areas (organizational and institutional development of ESAFF, Food Security activities and Trade and marketing as well as HIV/AIDS, Gender and Youth involvement in ESAFF activities.

Part two of financial report provides over view of financial performance and at the end it gives challenges as way forward.

¹ See the constitution of ESAFF Art. 10.3 “financial year of the organisation shall start on 1st August to 31 July of each year”

(ii) Message from the Chairperson



I am very honoured as a mother and a female small scale farmer who works on the farm on day to day basis in Masvingo, Zimbabwe, to present to you this ESAFF's first annual report. This is just a small step for ESAFF but in the right direction for small scale farmers in the eastern and southern Africa region. For a long time we have been represented by research organizations, NGOs and political leaders, and now we are moving towards ensuring that small scale farmers speak for ourselves.

ESAFF have come a long way. Since its formation in 2002 in Johannesburg, South Africa, was able to get registered in Tanzania in 2007. I personally thank my fellow farmer leaders in the region and all other partners like GRET for staying a course since then. We were determined to have a platform of our own to enable us plan, share and strategies so that our voices can be heard and heed by duty bearers.

We thank our partners and in particular PELUM Association for working hard to bring together 300 small scale farmers during the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in South Africa. We also extend our gratitude to MVIWATA, a Network of Small Scale Farmers Groups in Tanzania for hosting us and helping ESAFF stand on its own.

The list of gratitude cannot be complete without mentioning our sole development partner, Oxfam Novib, which trusted small scale farmers and decided to support. It was calculated risk worth to take it. On behalf of small scale farmers in Eastern and Southern Africa, I say boldly that we won't let you disappointed. A small support you have provided will enable us go extra miles in the fight against poverty and marginalization through policy engagement and advocacy. We believe that *"change will happen when those who normally do not speak are heard by those who normally do not listen"*

To all who helped us in one way or another, we say thank you.

ESAFF is here to stay to enable small scale farmers speak for ourselves

Elizabeth Mpofu
ESAFF Chairperson,
Morogoro September 2009

(iii) About ESAFF

The Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers' Forum – ESAFF, is a network of small holder farmers that advocate for policy, practice and attitude change that reflects the needs, aspirations, and development of small-scale farmers in east and southern Africa. It was established in 2002 after the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) held in Johannesburg in South Africa. ESAFF was registered in Tanzania on 27th August 2007, under Non Governmental Organisations Act 2002 of the United Republic of Tanzania. Registration Number of ESAFF is **OONGO/1097**.

The vision of ESAFF

Is to become strive to be a self reliant, independent, effective regional network that empowers national farmers' organisations in Eastern and Southern Africa Region to increase small scale farmers' visibility and promote sustainable Agriculture and their sustainable livelihoods.

Mission of ESAFF

Is to increase national and international dynamic alliances and advocate for policy, practice and attitude change that reflects the needs, aspirations, and development of small-scale farmers in East and Southern Africa.

The purpose of ESAFF

To enable small scale farmers in Eastern and Southern Africa to speak as a united voice, so that the issues, concerns and recommendations of farmers become an integral part of policies and practices at grassroots, national, regional and international levels.

The structure of ESAFF

Is built on the national farmers' forums which are themselves membership based, the Board of Directors under which there is a Secretariat, and above it the Annual General Meeting and the Triennial Summit Meeting.

1.1.1 ESAFF Core Values

- **Integrity:** To be honest, reliable and upright in our conduct as well as to stand for what we believe;
- **Mutual trust:** Cultivate confidence and self reliance among farmers to avoid hurting each other;
- **Equal partnership:** Treat every member equally with the same rights irrespective of their country of origin, sex, age or beliefs;
- **Transparency and accountability:** Openness and truthfulness in our conduct and being answerable to one another and to others; and
- **Respect:** Holding high opinion of each other and of others, valuing each other and nurturing the esteem of fellow farmers as well as keeping our promises.

Part I

**ESAFF NARRATIVE REPORT
FOR THE YEAR 2008/2009**

I.0 Introduction

This is the annual report of ESAFF for the period of September 1st 2008 to August 31st 2009. The report is titled “*from the making to performing*” from the fact that the year 2008/2009 was the very year when ESAFF secretariat was established. This is an arm of the organ charged with day to day operations. The title is also being drawn in relation to the fact that the year 2008/9 marks the first year of the implementation of ESAFF’s Strategic Plan (SP) 2008 -2011.

The year 2008/9 was a very critical, challenging but year very successful for the organisation. The year saw ESAFF establishing its regional secretariat in Morogoro, one year after it was registered in Tanzania on 27th August 2007. ESAFF also has been growing in terms of membership to cover 12 countries in the eastern and southern Africa (ESA) region.

The year 2008/9 is the year when ESAFF managed to share its business plan (strategic plan 2008-2011) with development partners and was able to get commitment and funds from Oxfam Novib. The Strategic Plan has the budget of USD 902,900 in which Oxfam Novib has committed USD 225,000. This leaves the Strategic Plan deficit of USD 677,900.

Financially, the year 2008/2009 planned budget was USD 229,900 and ESAFF received USD 105,294.2 which is about 40%. Members’ contribution stand at USD 132.93 (TSH 167,500), later in the year, in August 2009, Oxfam Novib provided additional funding of Euro 25,000 (USD 35,000 equivalent to Tsh 45,000,000) to make total of its contribution at Euro 100,000.



2. Activities accomplished in the year 2008/9:

During the reporting period, ESAFF's activities were in line with the Strategic Plan (SP) of 2008 – 2011. The strategic plan has four (4) key result areas. These result areas are;

- (i) Organizational development,
- (ii) Food Security,
- (iii) Trade and Marketing and,
- (iv) Gender Youth and HIV/AIDS

The following are the accomplishment as per the key result areas;

2.1 Organizational Development of ESAFF

KEY RESULT AREA I. ORGANIZATIONAL & INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- (i) **Goal** - Established and enhanced organizational and Institutional capacity of small scale farmers forum (SSFF) in terms of; Organisational capacity, Managerial capacity and Technical capacity.

2.1.1 Establishment of a functional ESAFF Regional Secretariat - Staffing

2.1.2 ESAFF Coordinator Recruitment

A regional secretariat was established and the Coordinator was hired in March 2009 and reported to office in April 2009. The Coordinator is a MA. Holder in International Relations from Warsaw University and has experience of 10 years working in the civil society sector the media. He was the officer responsible for ESAFF within an organisation called PELUM Association in the year 2004 and 2005.

2.1.3 Recruitment of accountant/Administrative Assistant

An accountant/Administrative Assistant was not hired despite some efforts to recruit in May 2009 due to financial difficulties. The budget item for an accountant was used to cover other expense in other budget line like office furniture (tables, chairs, partitioning and face-liftings of the office) that was the least budgeted but very important to enable smooth operations of the organisation. To ensure that the Accounts Unit of ESAFF is functional, arrangements were made between for MVIWATA (a member of ESAFF in Tanzania), through its staff to support ESAFF Accounts Unit. A temporary Assistant Accountant was hired in July 2009 to ease pressure from the Coordinator. This helped to improve day to day financial management and financial reports. Monthly financial brief reports were produced and shared to members of the Executive Committee of the Board.

During the year 2008/09, ESAFF was able to register for Tax Identification Number (TIN) - 108-047-437, which enabled the organisation to meet its statutory payment of staff on Pay As you Earn - PAYE and the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) – Employers Number - 765848. These payments are mandatory monthly deductions from the salaries of the staff.

2.1.4 Acquired Office Space, mail box and TIN, NSSF Number

During the reporting period, ESAFF was able to secure an office was secured along Old Mlali (Sokoine University of Agriculture) Road, in Msufini locality in Morogoro. The office was secured since January 2009. But as the office was to wait for some maintenance it was officially in operational since March 2009. Face-lifting of some utilities proved to be costly. These were like toilets and kitchen as well as partitioning, repairing of electric system and water system.

The rent period expires on 28th February 2010. The landlord has served ESAFF with a notice that would like to change business of the premises. The secretariat is challenged to look for new physical location after 1st March 2010 or renegotiate terms with the landlord.

Office Contacts and other identification Numbers (TIN and NSSF)

During reporting period ESAFF was able to secure a Post Mail Box 1782, Morogoro, A telephonefax No. + 255-26-2600006, Tax Identification Number (TIN) 108-047-437, Social Security Employers Number NSSF 765848 and Telephone Mobile Number +255732-931041

2.1.5 Development of Financial and Personnel Policies

During the period of September 2008 and August 2009, ESAFF also the focus area of Organisation Development, was able to develop two institutional policies and manuals. Policies and manuals developed are **Financial Policy and Manual** as well as **Personnel Policy and Manual (PPM)**. The Financial Policy and Manual (**FPM**) contain policies, which will govern and guide the management and accounting operations of ESAFF. Financial management entails planning, organising, controlling and monitoring the financial non financial resources to enable the organisation to achieve objectives.

FPM has five (5) Sections which are: **Section One** (i) contains an introduction with the Vision and Mission statements as well as the values of ESAFF. **Section Two** (ii) entails Planning, Budgeting and operation of Bank Accounts, this section contains; preparations of the annual plan and budget, sources of funds and how the bank account will be opened and managed. (iii) **Section Three** contains Financial Policies and Guidelines. This section include General Accounting Policy, Authorisation Procedures, Purchase and Procurement procedures, management of fixed assets, Accounting Records and Books of Accounts, Financial reports and Auditing. **Section Four** (iv) of the FPM has information on Imprest, Travel Expenses and subsistence allowance rate, personnel costs and payroll procedures as well as other allowances. And finally **Section Five** (v) is about charts of accounts and **Section Six** (vi) are financial forms to be used by ESAFF.

Another Policy and Manual that was developed is the ESAFF **Personnel Policy and Manual (PPM)**. This manual is to guide ESAFF procedures in adverting and hiring and promotion of personnel, their conduct, remunerations, and Personnel expense and benefit. It will also set procedures and rates on staff travels, leave and medical treatment, and staff performance appraisal.

2.1.6 Office Furniture and Equipment

In order to enable smooth operation of the secretariat office furniture and equipment were purchased. Four (4) laptop computers, five (5) mobile phones, (5) wireless modem devices and five (5) cameras were purchased to countries where Executive Board members originates as well as the Regional Headquarters: Zimbabwe, Zambia, Kenya, and Tanzania. This was to assist in marketing, communication and documentation. The Executive Board recommended and authorized the purchase of the items. The investment has proved to be beneficial as the Coordinator was able to get in touch with Board members for mentoring and critical advices. This process has empowered farmer leaders and increased ownership and leadership of the organisation. Reporting of various activities was instant and very presentable.

Office furniture purchased included wooden tables, chairs for the three Offices, Reception and Boardroom. Also purchased were bookshelves, a small printer/scanner, fax machine, electric ceiling fans, and a fridge. **Moses Shaha (pictured below)** a farmer leader from Kenya made his donation to ESAFF. His donation included various stationeries from box files, pens to a wall fan.

The budget line in this area shows slightly higher expenditure than actual budget. The actual budget was highly underestimated at USD 1,200 while actual expenditure recorded was USD 5,126.98 (Euro 3,800). Other devices were purchased to support national small scale farmers among other things on marketing and communications in the countries mentioned above (Zimbabwe, Zambia, Kenya, and Tanzania).

2.1.7 Development of ESAFF Board Meetings and Leadership

Executive Board Meetings and full Board meeting of ESAFF were held during the reporting



period. Executive Board meetings were held in January 2009 prior to the Full Board Meeting that was held on 06th January 2009. The Executive Committee (EXCO) Members of the Board also met in April 2009 to finalise negotiations and sign contract with the new Coordinator and also to open operational accounts in Tanzania Shillings. The EXCO also handed over the

office to the Coordinator. Another EXCO meeting was held in Zimbabwe in June 2009 in which ESAFF as one of the member was invited to attend the People to People Dialogue in Harare. The EXCO received updates from the regional desk and deliberated to extend ESAFF invitation of membership to Madagascar, Mozambique and Namibia.

The full Board **06th January 2009** meeting received the agenda, discussed and deliberated on. The summary of the agenda and issues discussed included the following;

- (i) **Office Acquisition and preparations** – that the acquisition of the office was complete and acquired on 1st January 2009, located along Old Mlali (SUA) Road. Funds used for searching an office and eventually follow-ups was from the balance of funds from the Dar es salaam strategic planning workshop of which permission was sought from (Nolekke) the Oxfam Novib's accountant.
- (ii) **The Engagement of an ESAFF Regional Coordinator** – Interview was done and the Executive Committee (Exco) of the Board proposed Mr. Joseph Mzinga for the position. Mr. Mzinga was approved by the Board. An assessment and confirmation of the coordinator will take place in October 2009 during the Board meeting.
- (iii) **Engagement of Administrator and Finance Manager** – The Board was advised that this was best to be left at the moment, to gauge the weight of the duties during the subsequent coming months and if there would be need to engage someone in this position then the Coordinator requests this from the board at an appropriate time. It was recommended to continue using the service from MVIWATA and subsequently a temporary accountant to be engaged.
- (iv) **The engagement of the General Secretary to the position of Regional Programmes Officer-** After the ESAFF Regional Board (ERB's) decision to seek the engagement of the Regional General Secretary to the position of ESAFF Programmes Officer, it later arose that KESSFF was not ready to lose him at the moment and they sought to be given time to sort themselves before releasing him to the region level. Alternatively the EXCO thought it better to advice the Board to have the general secretary be visiting the regional office one week every month to physically oversee the directional progress of ESAFF and advice the Board through the EXCO accordingly.
- (v) **ESAFF Membership fees** – The Board approved members registration fee to be at USD \$150 and \$200 for yearly membership, members registration fees being paid once.

2.1.8 Establishment of functional information communication and communication

During the Reporting period, communications and communication was at the focus. This is due to the fact that ESAFF is a regional network with members all over the eastern and southern Africa. Hence effective communication is life line of ESAFF.

During the reporting period, a website (**right**) was constructed and uploaded in May 2009. After consultation with some members, it was proposed the web to



be face-lifted and some extra features were added to make it more dynamic. These features are like the *Mkulima Blog*, *what farmer says*, *donate to ESAFF*, *campaigns of ESAFF*, *webmails*, and *E-newsletter*.

The dynamic website (**picture above**) has enabled ESAFF members to get update of the organisation. The website also has increased legitimacy of ESAFF and it is an effective marketing tool of the organisation to development partners, potential members and other well wishers. The challenge however, is on getting information from members and updating them. Another challenge is to encourage farmer leaders to use it as source of information from other members as well as sharing best practices. Members also were encouraged to register for free webmail with the domain esaff.org

The website address is www.esaff.org with the size of 2 GB. The emails of the organisation is esaff@esaff.org; and info@esaff.org

2.1.9 ESAFF Membership, Networking and Partnerships

ESAFF also continued to enhance its membership base in eastern and southern Africa. The year saw the coming in of 2 new members: Burundi (ESAFF Burundi) and Madagascar (CPM). Total number of members of ESAFF, to the end of the financial year was 12. These are; Tanzania (MVIWATA), Kenya (KESFF), Uganda (ESAFF Uganda), Rwanda (Imbaraga), Burundi (ESAFF Burundi), Zambia (ESAFF Zambia), Malawi (NASFAM), South Africa (SA-SFN), Lesotho (ESAFF Lesotho), and Zimbabwe (ZIMSOF). Others are Seychelles (SeyFA) and Madagascar (CPM). Discussions with Mozambique (UNAC) are now in advanced stage.



During the reporting period ESAFF farmer leaders visited fellow countries to mentor and handholding other members and potential members. In the year, ESAFF leaders visited Malawi (NASFAM) (**pictured left**); Lesotho (ESAFF Lesotho); Uganda (ESAFF Uganda), Rwanda, Burundi and Botswana. The objective was to share information, see what

can ESAFF learn from them, what ESAFF can support and also establish the level advocacy activities in the national Agriculture budgets. The immediate output from the visit is the enhanced commitment on ESAFF's vision and mission by farmers in the region. Burundi has set up ESAFF Burundi as the result of these visits.

Networking and partnerships

The year 2008/9, ESAFF continued to work with likeminded partners. Partnership was mainly in terms of experience and best practices sharing. In the year 2008/9 ESAFF partnered with the following organizations;

- TCOE of South Africa
- GRET of France
- Via Campesina Africa
- Oxfam Novib - Netherlands
- Oxfam International (Tanzania)
- ACORD – Kenya
- IDASA – South Africa
- International Budget Program (IBP) of Washington, USA and
- PELUM Association and PELUM country chapters
- Third World Network (TWN)

2.1.10 Fundraising activities

On fundraising, ESAFF developed and sent project proposals to various potential donors. Among the proposals developed were on enhancing visibility of ESAFF Country Chapters through Organisational Development. This proposal with a total value of Euro 25,000 (USD 35,000) was sent to Oxfam Novib in June 2009 and go funded.

Another proposal on regional workshop to strategise how farmers can enhance their engagement on agriculture budgeting processes and agriculture sector resource monitoring was sent to **Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung** (FES) Tanzania. This proposal was to allow small scale farmers in the region to analyse and set strategy following the AU summit in Sirte, Libya that had a theme **“Investing in Agriculture for Economic Growth and Food Security”**.

This project was not funded by FES by saying was not in the position to support the project in the eastern and southern African region (ESA) for more than one year.

Another proposal on institutional capacity enhancement of country chapters and Agriculture Budgeting Campaign (ABC) were sent to **Misereor** and **Bread for the World** as well as **Southern Africa Trust Fund (SAT)**. Neither had responded during this report preparations. However, **Bread for the World** said that they were looking an audience with ESAFF in September 2009 to see how it could support the organisation in 2010 to a tune of Euro 50,000.

2.1.11 Unaccomplished Tasks under focus area number one (I) on organizational development

Despite all the achievements, there are some planned activities that were not accomplished under organizational development area. These are fundraising training and development of fundraising strategy. Another unaccomplished activity was on development of monitoring and evaluation systems.

- **A regional Training on Fundraising** has been planned to take place in late September 2009. It is expected that ESAFF will develop a regional fundraising strategy.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation Tools and Strategies** were not developed during the reporting period. However, tools and strategies are expected to be worked on by farmers in the month of October 2009 during the workshop planned in Dar es salaam. The operation budget (attached) will be one of the tools to gauge how the organisation is working towards the realization of the four key result areas stipulated in the strategic plan.

3. KEY RESULT AREA 2. FOOD SECURITY.

Goal - Improved Food Security by supporting small scale farmers to advocate for improved access to necessary resources, better government policies and sustainable agriculture practices.

3.1 Food Security

Planned activities under this focus area of food security included training to small scale farmer leaders on campaigning, advocacy and lobbying. Also ESAFF had planned to conduct training to



enable farmers participate in budget making processes; participate in regional policy making in agriculture. According to the planned activities, ESAFF was to carryout research on agriculture policies, trade and marketing in the region to identify issues that need advocacy and campaigning.

In Zambia, ESAFF Zambia embarked on small scale farmers capacity building with the support of Oxfam Novib. Trainings in conservation farming were conducted in 3 districts with a total of 126 farmers trained as Trainers of fellow farmers as part of the Capacity building project and the Pilot Project on Disaster Preparedness and Prevention. This was in response to small-scale farmers adaptability to the effects of climate change in partnership with the United Church of Zambia and PELUM Association.

3.1.1 Research Activities

Three (3) desktop researches were conducted during the reporting period. Research conducted were desktop one aimed at exploring on how to increase visibility and voices of smallholder farmers in EAC, COMESA and SADC's policy making processes and implementations in those region;

The research also covered emerging issues for lobbying and advocacy for smallholder farmers within regional economic blocs. The research also explored the Structures and entry points for smallholder farmers to engage with these regional economic groupings

The conclusions of the three research show that small scale farmers are still marginalized in regional policy making. This is because there are no common understandings, no unified voices or platform for small scale farmers to engage. The research also revealed that EAC offers observer status for any non state actors who wish to engage the regional grouping. It was also evident that SADC and COMESA had no desk officers responsible for civil society organisations. The research have provided variable information that will be used during the year 2009/10 campaign planning to influence policies at regional level.

3.1.2 Agriculture Budgeting Campaign (ABC) for food security.

Under this area of food security, some ESAFF members also were engaged their government on budgeting issues. The focus area was to demand for more space in making and monitoring of resources/money allocated for agriculture sector. In some member countries like Zambia, ESAFF ZAMBIA engaged members of parliament by providing them with analysis on the funds allocated for agriculture. Small scale farmers demanded timely disbursement of funds allocated for agriculture. In Uganda, ESAFF Uganda also has been providing awareness on smallholder farmers in order to enable them participate in budgeting processes and monitoring.



- ESAFF Zambia is engaging grassroots community and the Zambian Parliamentary Expanded Committee on Estimates to voice in expectations of SSF in the national agriculture budget.
- They did so for the first time early 2009.
- Some comments were taken by the Government e.g the involvement of farmers in the distribution of fertilizer.

3.1.3 ZAMBIA: Success of ESAFF Zambia Agriculture Budgeting Campaign

After massive complaints from small-scale farmers and the subsequent submissions by ESAFF Zambia to the Expanded Committee on Estimates for the 2009 National Budget concerning the lack of farmers participation in the distribution of fertilizer resulting in the inputs not reaching the intended beneficiaries under the former Fertilizer Support Programme (FSP). The Zambian Government scraped the FSP and replaced it with the Farmer Input Support Programme (FISP) that requires farmers to be involved in the selection of beneficiaries and distribution of fertilizer at district and village (Camp) level.

The Government of Zambia has also commenced the distribution of fertilizer that began in August in time to ensure that inputs reach the farmers in time. These developments have cheered farmers who for a long time have been sidelined in the implementation of the government subsidized input support to the agriculture sector.

“Thanks to ESAFF Zambia campaign, the fertilizer was delivered on time ... this is cardinal for farmers who now have to prepare the field and plant with the early rains as the rainfall patterns are unpredictable as a result of climate change” **Mr. Stephen Muliokela a farmer of Munyeu Cooperative, Kafue District.**

We are happy that our (ESAFF Zambia's) advocacy and lobbying has finally paid off as we have been engaged with the government for two years now as rightly politically affiliated members were mostly benefiting and even civil servants that were not farmers. He said that commercial farmers were also benefiting by using farmers that didn't have the money to register and get the fertilizer on their behalf.



Muliokela said that the involvement of farmers groups in programmes aimed at developing small holder agriculture is a move in the right direction in targeting the right beneficiaries and opens a new chapter of a well coordinated approach.

“ESAFF Zambia will now aim at lobbying for increased support to the small-scale farmers in the next farming season as government proposes to reduce the number of bags from 8 to 4 per farmer in order to increase the number of beneficiaries in the next farming season” – **Simon Mwamba– ESAFF Zambia (in picture)**

ESAFF Zambia major concerns for the national budget 2010

- **Agriculture** - Failure of the government of Zambia to Meet the Maputo Declaration 10%. In the year 2009 Zambia allocated 7.1% of the budget to agriculture while in 2010, according to ESAFF Zambia statement, the Government of Zambia allocated only 6.8% of the budget to agriculture.
- **Extension staffs** have failed to be effective due to immobility and lack of resources to support their activities.
- **Irrigation** - disaster prone areas in southern province and western province have not adequately been taken care of .
- Fertilisers Input Support Program (FISP) does not take into account issues of environment conservation:
- **Unequal Distribution of Resources** -that rural and poor communities in districts like Mufumbwe and Chavuma in North Western, Chilubi in Northern, Gwembe and Kazungula in Southern province continue to receive fewer funds compared to more accessible districts in agriculture and infrastructure development
- **Agricultural Marketing** –SSF registered disappointment with the operations of the Food Reserve Agency (FRA) in 2009 as farmers were paid after about three months while most of the maize sales centers were located far from farmers in outlying areas.
- **Land Reforms** – that are at the slow pace and the Land Policy has not been finalized
- **Monetary and Financial Developments** - In his Budget Address for 2010, the Hon. Finance Minister of Zambia, Dr. Situmbeko Musokotwane mentioned that the low growth in Domestic Credit is mainly due to weaker domestic demand and stricter lending conditions by commercial banks. However, the stricter lending conditions are the one that that hinders many Zambians small scale farmers from accessing loans.

With additional funding from Oxfam Novib, ESAFF had prepare a regional training workshop on how small scale farmers in the region can involve themselves effectively in the Agriculture Budget Campaign (ABC). By the end of the calendar year 2009, ESAFF will support some member countries in mobilizing small scale farmers to analyse and voice their views on budgets allocated for agriculture. We will also continue campaigning for countries to set aside 10% of their budget to agriculture as was agreed in the AU Maputo Declaration and reaffirmed during the Sirte Meeting in Libya in July 2009.

Through ABC campaign initiative we expect to see the following:

- Increased smallholder farmers participation in government planning and budgeting processes,
- Enhanced linkage (formalise) linkages with parliamentary committees and Ministries.
- Enhanced internal organisational, financial and technical capacity of national Farmers Forum.

Uganda: Farmers speak for themselves: a Community Action Planning (CAPs) process

- ESAFF district farmer leaders in Mukono District in Uganda were involved in CAP as way of adding the concerns and voices of smallholder farmers in the following budget cycle.
- Through Community Action Planning citizens are able identify the most pressing issues facing them as farmers and suggest solutions to those issues.
- As consequence their pressing issues are always deferred to the next budget process like upgrading of feeder roads, improvement of primary grade schools, water access and dispensaries equipment and staffing,
- The challenge under CAP is on how to cover many districts and to ensure that inputs from farmers at district level are embraced by policy makers at national levels - **Ms. Nancy Mugimba – ESAFF Zambia (in picture above)**



In 2008/9 ESAFF Uganda piloted a project in Mukono district with the major aim of increasing farmer participation in the planning and budgeting process at the grass root level that is at village, parish and sub county levels and this was done in 3 sub counties of Kiyuni, Bagezza and Kasambya (Nabingola).

This project involved the training of farmer leaders to identify common problems among the farmers and point out relevant solutions that are attainable at the grass roots level.

After the community action planning training, many of the farmers in Mubende district worked within their groups to obtain inputs from their respective sub counties.

In general, these CAPs developed were of great importance in the sub counties and were a great relief to the local leaders who now had plans from the grass roots to work with. They commended ESAFF for simplifying their work and helping them sensitize the people. This was a great achievement because a large part of the community is now aware of their duty as responsible citizens.

During the training, the farmers were urged to take up positions of leadership so that they too would be able to be strategically positioned to influence decisions. In Nabingola one of the farmer trainees was elected to serve on the procurement committee of the NAADs in his sub county. Because of his influence, farmers' needs were fronted in his sub county and farmers were given coffee seedlings.

In Bagezza Sub County, farmers were able to lobby for coffee seedlings and got them in good



condition. They were also able to reject day old chicks that were given to them under the NAADS program. These chicks were said to be diseased and were dying off in large numbers. Through these advocacy trainings, farmers were able to stand their ground and say no to bad

services. The CAPs training brought together the farmers and hence their collective action.

In Kiyuni subcounty, the groups were able to identify other stakeholders in development who could help them improve their livelihoods. Some farmers obtained pineapple suckers from an NGO; Rural Community in Development (RUCID). The project was partially funded by Oxfam GB.

During the CAPs training, local leaders were brought on board and also took part in the training exercises. This has cemented the relationship between the farmers and their leaders. The gap that existed between the leaders and the farmers was closed and the farmers involve themselves in the different for a at the district level.

The effects of the CAPs training are still unfolding and more benefits will be realized with time.

In Kenya, Kenya Small Scale Farmers Forum (KESSFF) is working in the Economic Partnership agreement (EPAs) Stop campaign. It has managed to file a court case in the High Court of Kenya demanding the government not to sign EAC - EPAs.

During the reporting period also, ESAFF participated in the public dialogue on agriculture financing ahead of the AU summit. The dialogue organized by ACORD was held in Nairobi in July 2009. Small-scale farmers in Kenya used the opportunity to share their grievances on slow pace in reaching the 10% budget mark for agriculture in the countries of Eastern and Southern Africa. Their views were broadcasted on BBC radio.

3.1.4 Influencing Regional Economic Groupings (COMESA, SADC and EAC)

During the month of April and May 2009, farmer leaders from ESAFF visited all the regional economic groupings in ESA. These are; the Southern Africa Development Community – SADC in Gaborone, Botswana. The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) in Lusaka and the east African Community Headquarters in Arusha. The main objective of the farmer leaders was to explore entry points for small scale farmers to engage the regional groupings.

3.1.5 ESAFF and COMESA

In COMESA, a farmer leader from Zambia, in his tour of duty he managed to establish rapport with the organization. As of the time of reporting a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been developed between ESAFF and COMESA. The MoU is still under review and has the objective of The objective of is to establish a framework of a formal working relationship between COMESA and ESAFF in implementing and promoting regional initiatives in agriculture and engaging in dialogue on factors or policy positions that impact on agriculture.

If the MoU is agreed, COMESA and ESAFF will work on the following areas:

- (a) COMESA and ESAFF shall cooperate in the promotion of the agricultural sector in the Eastern and Southern Part of the Region;
- (b) COMESA through its institutional structures shall provide the communication mechanism for ESAFF's activities and priorities to reach the relevant policy decision-makers within COMESA;
- (c) COMESA shall engage ESAFF on all regional dialogue concerning agriculture and rural development; and

- (d) ESAFF through its linkage with the small scale farmers that form a big population in the region, shall provide COMESA with the necessary support to broaden consultations with small scale farmers and agro dealers in the region.

3.1.6 ESAFF and SADC

ESAFF leader from Zimbabwe visited SADC to familiarize and explore possibility of small scale farmers greater involvement in SADC issues regarding agriculture. The farmer leader (*standing in a picture below*) met the SADC officers responsible for Agriculture, Rural Development and Food security. She also met the Director of livestock. At the SADC Headquarters, ESAFF was challenged to establish links with the organization. During the year 2009/10, ESAFF will see to have a MoU with



SADC. ESAFF also will work with other organisation (like SADC CNGO and SACAU) which have formalized linkages with SADC.

3.1.7 ESAFF and EAC

A farmer leader in Tanzania and a Board member of ESAFF and the Association of Small Scale Farmer Groups in Tanzania – MVIWATA, visited the East Africa Community (EAC) Headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania. The visit was meant to

familiarize the farmers with the EAC modus operandi and modus vivendi. Specifically ESAFF was looking ahead to strengthening visibility and voices of smallholder farmers in the process of policy and decision making in the EAC. Towards that end, ESAFF in the year 2009/10 will be looking to apply for an observer status to the EAC. ESAFF will also work with The East Africa Civil Society Forum – EACSOFF- that brings all CSOs in the East Africa Community who needs to engage with the community.

3.1.8 Lobbying against harmful Technology – GMO.

During the period of 2008/09, ESAFF was invited in various forums to share the experience on harmful technologies and biosafety. ESAFF used the opportunity to share experience of Tanzania (MVIWATA) on measures taken by small scale farmers on seed security. Farmers in Tanzania have introduced community seed banks to ensure the supply during planting season. The experience and updates as well as networks established during those events organized by African Biosafety Network (ABN) Kenya and Envirocare (Tanzania) will be used in the ESAFF campaign against harmful technology in 2009/10 period.

In Kenya – The Kenyan small scale farmers and community groups under the umbrella of the Kenya biodiversity coalition (KBIOC) challenged the visit to the Kenya Agriculture Research Institute (KARI) by the US Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton and the Secretary for Agriculture, Tom Vilsack showcasing the Obama Administration's betrayal to Africa's small scale farmers and misplaced priorities on how to achieve sustainable food security in Africa. KARI has been a focal point of U.S. and Monsanto funding to develop GMO biotechnology crops in Africa.



The press release by small scale farmer said that smallholder farmers recognize the importance of investing in agriculture but caution that chemical-intensive production methods continue to stress the soils end up to have adverse health and environmental effects, while 'modern biotechnology' (Genetic Engineering) has contributed to hardly any verifiable positive impacts

on equitable and sustainable development.

A section of the press statement reads "We are deeply concerned that the visit to the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute-KARI by the US foreign Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and secretary for agriculture Tom Vilsack, will be used as a vehicle to channel these monies back to the Multinational Corporations who fund and benefit from GE biotechnologies. This money will not therefore have any tangible benefits to local African farmers neither will it enhance food security.

Small Scale farmers in Kenya (**pictures above**) therefore called the US Administration to work in consultation with farmers at the grassroots in the usage of these funds as small farmers do not need GE technologies. These have repeatedly failed and frustrated farmers where they have been in use for the last few years. The most recent example is the massive failure to flower and pollinate of Monsanto's BT maize (Mon 810) in South Africa.

"This biotechnology is to blame for the huge shortfalls in maize production in that country. They urged the Obama administration to fund local farmers in Africa directly through their institutions. This is the most sustainable way to ensure food security in poverty stricken Africa as projected by the recent UN studies on agriculture in Africa-the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science, and Technology for Development (IAASTD)".

4. KEY RESULT AREA 3: TRADE AND MARKETING

Goal - Empowered smallholder farmers who understand access and influence markets of agricultural produce.

In this area ESAFF conducted desktop studies on how small scale farmers can influence regional policies on trade and market. The studies were part of the three studies conducted for COMESA, EAC and SADC (see section 3.1.1). The studies focused on two main areas;

- Challenge and opportunity of globalization on markets for smallholder farmers
- Regional Economic Community's (RECs) positions on EPAs – Economic Partnership Agreements

In Kenya, Kenya Small Scale Farmers Forum (KESSFF) is working in the Economic Partnership agreement (EPAs) Stop campaign. KESSF has taken the Government of Kenya to the Court demanding for the government not to sign EPAs.

During the year 2009/10 ESAFF will identify areas for lobbying under Trade and Marketing to ensure that small scale farmers are aware of unfair policies at global, regional and country level. ESAFF will also draw an action plan while forging relationship with likeminded organisation working on this area.

5. KEY RESULT AREA 4: GENDER, HIV/AIDS and YOUTH

Goal - Gender, HIV/AIDS and youth issues are mainstreamed in the actions of farmers and ESAFF at all levels.

This is another area that was not accomplished fully in the year 2008/9. However, some activities were done in this area to piggyback other activities. The researches that were done towards the RECs: SADC, COMESA and EAC had to explore some gender and HIV/AIDS elements within those regional bodies. ESAFF is working to identify key areas for advocacy at regional level. Within ESAFF gender is entrenched within the constitution and policies. The Personnel Policy and Financial Policy developed during the reporting period were both developed with gender lenses.

Some farmer leaders attended the Gender Trajectory Workshop organized by Oxfam in which some good experience shared. ESAFF is set to develop a comprehensive Gender Policy with implementation action plan. Also the Board is set to deliberate on how to mainstream Gender, HIV/AIDS and the Youth issues during its meeting planned for October 2009.

Table No. 1. Progress Towards Outcome (Milestones)

Key Result Area	Outcomes	Progress towards outcomes
1. Organizational and institutional development	Effective capacity of ESAFF to fulfill its mission and meet its objectives	- Office set up and establishment was done and key staff engaged - Financial and Personnel policies developed - Constitutional meetings done - Strategy to support national farmers forums in place - The strategy is funded by ON - Coalition and networking enhanced among ESAFF member countries and between ESAFF and likeminded organisation. - Two (2) new members joined ESAFF (Madagascar, Burundi)
2. Food security	Smallholder farmers are able contribute more meaningfully to food security in the region through improved access to the necessary resources, better government policies and sustainable agricultural practices	- Baseline surveys were done during a farmer to farmer visits to establish the level of farmers involvement in budgeting processes - Desktop research conducted on agricultural policies within SADC, COMESA and EAC. - ESAFF established linkages with RECs (SADC, EAC and COMESA) after farmer leaders visits - Small scale farmers in Zambia engaged MPs and the Government of Zambia through policy position paper. Gov responded to critique by involving farmers in the distribution of inputs under the Fertilizer Support Program. - Strategy to scale up best practices in Uganda and Zambia (Agriculture budgeting campaign) in place. - A comprehensive master plan for all members to engage parliaments, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Finance as well as Media will be executed between November and April 2010.
3. Trade Marketing and	Empowered smallholder farmers that understand, access and influence markets of agricultural produce	- Desktop survey was done to establish entry points within RECs - Areas of engagement identified on EPAs and EU-ACP framework - ESAFF works with other renowned CSOs in trade advocacy such as Third World Network (TWN),
4. Gender, HIV/AIDS and Youth	Gender, HIV/AIDS and youth issues are incorporated in the work of ESAFF at all levels	- Personnel policies and financial policies developed with gender lenses - The constitution that is gender sensitive is continuing to provide overall direction - Terms of reference for Gender, HIV/AIDS research are in place - Gender, HIV/AIDS issues featured in the Desktop study on RECs: SADC, EAC and COMESA

6. CONCLUSIONS and LESSONS LEANT

The year 2009/10 was very challenging but successful for ESAFF. The secretariat has grown strong, membership has increased, and relationship between ESAFF and regional economic groups has started to take shape. The year concentrated more on strengthening the secretariat at the regional level by putting up systems and tools. The second year concentration will be to support national farmers forum and embark on advocacy and lobbying on farmers issues.

At country level, small scale farmers' visibility and their role in policy formulation is gaining momentum. ESAFF also has learnt that using farmers to farmer empowerment through mentoring is very crucial. Also programs for small scale farmer leaders to visit and engage regional grouping shows that ESAFF is a real small farmers' movement.

Despite all success, ESAFF is facing some challenges to reckon with. These challenges include;

- (i) To continue building on successes achieved in the year 2008/9. As many new issues and priorities emerge, ESAFF is challenged to ensure that the gains are consolidated.
- (ii) Many ESAFF national chapters also are very weak institutionally. The fact need a formulated medium term strategy to ensure that national small scale farmers forum are stronger. The year 2009/10 will see the program on organizational capacity development intensified. Also study tours and mentoring will be employed to strengthen national farmers' forum.
- (iii) Sustainable funding is a challenge for both the regional HQ and many national farmer forums. Currently ESAFF depend only on one development partner (Oxfam Novib) who partially supports the implementation of the strategic plan 2008-2011. The year 2009/2010 will see more fundraising activities. Also ESAFF national members will be encouraged to submit their subscription and membership fees in good time. At national level, the focus will be to bring in more farmer groups to form district farmers' forums and start fundraising within the country.
- (iv) Increase visibility of small scale farmers and ensure that ESAFF counter some powerful regional and national larger scale farmers' organization. The strategy of ESAFF will be to seek a common ground to work together while ensuring that ESAFF maintains it autonomy, vision, mission and purpose.
- (v) Strengthening secretariat of ESAFF in terms of personnel and equipment especially the Finance Unit will need an accounting package while Communication personnel will be needed to enhance communications, documenting and dissemination of best practices and website updating.

Part II

**ESAFF FINANCIAL REPORT FOR
THE YEAR 2008/2009**

I. INTRODUCTION

The present document is the first year financial report on the implementation of the ESAFF three year Strategic plan that runs from 2008-2011. The required core fund of the strategic plan of ESAFF amounts to a total of USD 902,232 for the period from 2008-2011. In its conception, ESAFF requested Oxfam Novib and agreed to support 40% of annual operation budget. The balance 60% was to be obtained from the other source through fundraising from members' organizations and other donors.

This report presents a brief financial performance of ESAFF for the period of September 1st, 2008 August 31st, 2009, while the report gives an overview of the results of the activities implemented is presented in the document of physical report.

2. OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL POSITION FOR THE YEAR 2008/09

2.1 Income

The fund required in year one to finance ESAFF core activities was USD 229,900. The total fund received in this period is USD 134,880.36 equivalent to Euro 100,000 equals to Tzs 169,949,250 from Oxfam Novib, while USD 4,292.18 equivalent to Tzs 5,408,141.75 was from membership contributions and the project balance transferred to support establishment of regional secretariat office. This resulted in total fund available for the period to be USD 139,172.53 equivalent to Euro 103,151 equal to Tshs 175,357,391.75 against the total budget of USD 299,900 equals to Tzs 289,674,000(see the table I below) which is 45% of that was planned for the year as per the strategic plan 2008-2011.

TABLE I: INCOME FROM DONORS /OTHER SOURCES FOR THE YEAR 2008/09

Exchange rate: Euro /Tsh is 1,700
USD/ Tsh is 1,260

Actual funding contributions for the year 2008/09			
Source of funds/Partner	Amount (EURO)	Amount (USD)	Amount (Tsh)
Oxfam Novib	100,000.00	134,880.36	169,949,250.00
Membership contribution and others	3,181.26	4,292.26	5,408,141.75
TOTAL	103,181.26	139,172.62	175,357,391.75

2.2 Expenditure

In the previous section we explained about the part where funds was obtained to finance core activities. In this section we provide explanations on how fund was put to use in the period reported. So, from the total income of USD 139,172.62, the total overall expenditure was amounting to USD 106,909.62 equivalent to Euro 79,238.90 equal to Tzs 134,706,126. The total

expenditure results to 76% of the fund made available during the period and is within the overall allocated budget.

2.3 Recurrent expenditure

During the period the recurrent expenditure was USD 94,778.9 equivalent to Tzs 119,421,354 about Euro 70,247.92, which is 40% of annual budget. This is 68% of the fund made available during the period and is within the overall allocated budget.

2.4 Capital expenditure

Capital items purchased during the period include electronic equipment costing USD 5,126.98 equivalent Tzs 6,460,000 equal to Euro 3,800 was spent for head office to procure Office furniture and equipments.

Also USD 7,003.79 equals to Tzs 8,824,772 equivalent to Euro 5,191.04 was used to purchase equipments for strengthening national offices in member countries (Kenya, Zimbabwe, Tanzania and Zambia) as part of capacity building, communication and marketing information linkage.

The total amount spent for capital items is USD 12,130.72 equivalent to Tshs 15,584,772 about Euro 8,991.04, which make 8% o of the fund made available during the period, approximately 4% of annual budget.

The detailed income and expenditure report in terms of activities see the appendix attached (***Budget Variance Report for the Period of 01st September, 2008 to 31st, August, 2009***)

3. BUDGET PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR 2008/09

The budget for the year 2008/9 focused mainly in 5 main areas. These areas are identified from the Strategic Plan 2008-2011 and an additional item on enhanced organizational, technical and managerial capacity of ESAFF country chapters. The key focus areas and budget areas are as follows;

- (i) Organizational and institutional development of ESAFF HQ
- (ii) Engagement of farmers in Food Security activities;
- (iii) Engagement of small scale farmers in Trade and Marketing and
- (iv) Mainstreaming of Gender, HIV/AIDS and youth in ESAFF's activities.
- (v) Organisational and institutional Development of ESAFF country chapters².

In order to make comparison with the plans, we examine the uses of fund for four strategic plan objectives. The comparison delivers a positive picture that the actual expenditures were within the framework of the budget as reflected in table 2 below.

² This area was added in due course of the implementation of the strategic plan 2008-2011

Table 2: Comparison of budget result areas and actual expenditure

Descriptions	Budget in USD	Actual in USD	Percentage
Organizational Development: - Establishment of Regional office, rent, - personnel cost, - Office furniture and equipment - Development of personnel and financial policies - Board members support to secretariat - Board Development (Board Meeting) - Develop, update and maintain website) - Networking with likeminded organisations	130,900	87,047.55	66.69%
Food Security - Farmer leaders engagement with RECs - Farmer leaders baseline and fact finding mission to other ESAFF member countries - Agriculture budget campaign (ABC) master plan development and engagement after sharing best practices - Research activities on agriculture policies and involvement of smallholder farmers: SADC, COMESA and EAC	51,000	4,921.37	9.60%
Trade and Marketing - Research on trade and marketing within SADC, EAC and COMESA arrangement - Support of national forums in communication equipments - Engagement on trade policies at regional and international level	42,000	14,940.70	35.70%
Gender, HIV/AIDS and youth - Carry out research (as part of the research on RECs) on Gender and HIV/AIDs within SADC, COMESA and EAC - Conducted analysis on institutional instruments if they are gender sensitive (constitution) and develop personnel policy that is gender sensitive	6,000	0	0%
Total	229,900	106,909.62	46.28%

Overall performance of ESAFF expenditure is 46.2% compared to income, which is 45 % of the total annual budget set up to the end of August 2009. This indicates that performance of ESAFF is limited with resources and the implication is that more effort is required to fundraise additional money.

The expenditure of year was almost spending to implement activity on **Organisational and Institutional Development** of ESAFF by recruiting and employing regional staffs, developing financial and personnel policies, developing the ESAFF Board and leadership by conducting Board meetings, establishing functional information and communication systems which costing USD 87,047.55 equal to 81%. It was inevitable to avoid focusing on this area as strong institution with proper systems and infrastructure in place, can guarantee success in advocacy in the future.

Though **Food Security** costing USD 4,921.37 (constituting 5%), many was done in this area in terms of researches, establishing the status quo of members to conduct advocacy and sharing best practice which will form a basis for future robust engagement with parliamentarians, media and government (ministry of agriculture) for food security. In this area as on trade and marketing, was a time for studying and laying foundation for engagement at regional level and national level.

Trade and marketing - That was influencing trade and marketing policy and capacity building on trade, marketing and access to credit cost USD 14,940.70 which forms 14% of the total amount spent. Main activities under this are entailed desktop research on trade and markets in

the Regional Economic Community (RECs) as well as on personal engagement of farmers to high-level officials within SADC, COMESA and EAC.

Gender, HIV/AIDS and Youth - This activity will be performed at the end of October 2009 as it was planned. However, it might be said that during the reporting period ESAFF participated in the training on Gender Trajectory (organized by Oxfam in Tanzania) that resulted to ESAFF development of Personnel Policy and manual that is gender sensitive. Also the constitution was analyzed if is gender sensitive and proposal for improvement will be submitted to AGM for adoption. The chart below indicates the expenditure distribution in percentage.

Institutional Development of ESAFF national farmers forum - This activity was funded by Oxfam Novib to the amount of Euro 25,000. The implementation was set for late September 2009 through to March 2010.

TABLE 3: Summary: KEY AREAS OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2008/09

Exchange rate: USD /TZS is 1,700,

USD/ TZS is 1,260

	Area of expenditure	Amount in Euro	Amount in USD	Amount in Tsh
1	Organization Core Activities (<i>advocacy and campaigning on Food Security, Marketing, Agriculture policy advocacy, farmers capacity development, and Research activities</i>)	9,530.26	12,858.28	16,201,443
2	ESAFF Recurrent (<i>Office maintenance, Board meeting and communication expense</i>)	40,691.23	55,118.43	69,444,220
3	ESAFF capital (<i>furniture and office equipment</i>)	5,873.40	7,924.42	9,984,772
4	ESAFF ICT devices for 4 countries and website development	4,966.34	6,483.06	8,168,650
5	Human & Institutional Development (<i>Staff development and remunerations, Personnel & Financial policies development</i>)	18,177.67	24,525.43	30,902,041
	TOTAL	79,238.90	106,909.62	134,706,126

4. LESSONS and RECOMMENDATIONS on FINANCIAL REPORT 2008/09

From the above financial and budget performances, the following are lessons and recommendations;

- (i) It is highly recommended that fundraising be given priority by the organisation in the year 2009/10 by the Board and the Secretariat.
- (ii) Though the year 2008/9 was mainly for the setting up of the secretariat, developing policies and research, there is a need to balance expenditure between core activities of the organization (advocacy and lobbying) with other priorities.
- (iii) Financial Policy and Manual of ESAFF should be adopted and adhered too to enable smooth operations and management of funds and personnel.
- (iv) There is a need to purchase accounting package software to enable more accurate management of funds and accurate and timely reporting.
- (v) Recruitment of a senior accountant with ability to act as Finance and Administration Officer is important to be given priority in 2009/10

Annex I. Activities and Performance Matrix

Key Result Area (i) Organizational and institutional development

Goal: To develop the effective capacity of ESAFF to fulfill its mission and meet its objectives.

Output	Planned Activities	Accomplishments	Variance	Remarks
I.1 Establish a functional regional secretariat	a. Recruit and employ a Regional Coordinator	A coordinator was recruited		Performance assessment planned for Oct 2009
	b. Recruit an Accountant/Administrative Assistant	Assistant Account was recruited on temporary basis while MVIWATA was providing backstopping		Senior accountant to be recruited in 2010
	c. Acquire office space	An office was acquired from Jan 2009 to Feb.2010		The rent was paid from March 2009 to Feb 2010
	d. Acquire furniture and office equipment and maintenance.	Office furniture and equipment purchased		The budget planned was too small compared to actual requirements
	e. Office maintenance and utility	Face-lifting of office facilities done and security ensured		
	f. Develop financial and personnel policies	The two (2) policies developed: Financial and Personnel		Policies to be adopted by the Board in Oct 2009
I.2 Develop the ESAFF Board and leadership	a. Conduct Board meetings	A Board meeting was held in January 2009		Second Board Meeting planned for October 2009
I.3 Establish functional information and communication systems	a. Develop and maintain a Website	- Website (www.esaff.org) constructed - An E-Newsletter was constructed as well as a blog		Farmers leaders need training on the use of IT to enable fully utilization of ICT
I.4 Develop fundraising capacity of ESAFF	a. Conduct fundraising training		Fundraising training and strategy to be done in October 2009	Fundraising training and strategy to be done in October 2009
	b. Develop fundraising strategy			
I.5 Monitoring and evaluation	Develop monitoring and evaluation tools and systems		Not done	Planned for November 2009

a. Food security

Goal: To support smallholder farmers to contribute more meaningfully to food security in the region through improved access to the necessary resources, better government policies and sustainable agricultural practices

Output	Planned Activities	Accomplishments	Variance	Remarks
2.1 Capacity building	a. Conduct training to leaders of farmers on campaigning advocacy and lobbying.	Farmer leaders visited members countries to empower them	Training of farmer leaders Planned to be done in October 2009	
	b. Conduct training workshop (TOT) on gender, youth, HIV/AIDS and agriculture.		Training was not done	Planned for 2009/10
	c. Develop the regional lobbying and advocacy strategy of ESAFF		Written strategy Planned for November 2009	
	d. Conduct training to enable farmers participate in budget making and review processes at regional level and support national and local level engagement	Country visits was done to establish best practices and baseline. Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Lesotho, Malawi visited by farmer leaders	Actual training is planned for October 2009	
2.2 Conduct policy research, research for influencing policy decisions on food security in the region	a. Research on the impact of selected agricultural policies on food security.	A desktop researches done targeting SADC, COMESA and EAC	- Dissemination of research findings	
	b. Participate in agricultural policy making and review processes at regional level	Farmer leaders visited to RECs to build rapport and orient themselves to SADC, COMESA and EAC		COMESA and ESAFF proposed a MoU and a draft was prepared and shared to COMESA
	c. Lobby against agricultural technologies that undermine farmers' welfare.	ESAFF participated in training on biosafety and climate change sessions	Actual lobbying	The experience and network will be useful in the campaign by ESAFF

Key result area 3: Trade and marketing

Goal: To empower smallholder farmers to understand, access and influence markets of agricultural produce

Output	Planned Activities	Accomplishments	Variance	Remarks
3.1 Research on trade and marketing	a. Carry out research in trade and marketing in the region and identify issues needing attention and opportunities	Research was done as part of the desktop studies on regional economic groupings	Dissemination of findings and identify issues for lobbying and campaigning	Research findings will be disseminated widely in 2010
3.2 Capacity building on trade, marketing and access to credit	a. Carry out training (TOT) on trade and marketing concepts and issues	TOT training was not done	TOT training was not done	To be done in 2009/10
3.3 Influencing trade and marketing policy	a. Participate in regional and international trade policy processes	Invitation to participate on the EU-ACP dialogue in Botswana and Oxfam Stop EPAs campaign		Proper advocacy strategies to be developed in 2009/10

Key result area 4: Gender, HIV/AIDS and youth

Goal: To ensure that gender, HIV/AIDS and youth issues are incorporated in the work of ESAFF at all levels

Output	Planned Activities	Accomplishments	Variance	Remarks
4.1 Capacity building of ESAFF members on gender, HIV and AIDS	a. Develop a gender and youth and HIV/AIDS policy for ESAFF	None	The policy was not developed	To be done in second Q. 2010
4.2 Mainstreaming gender and HIV/AIDS in ESAFF	a. Implement the gender, youths and HIV/AIDS policy	Personnel policy developed with gender lenses developed		This activity is planned for 2010
	b. Ensure fair representation of women, men and youths in ESAFF leadership	An agenda for the Board meeting was set for deliberation on more gender balanced representation of both women and the youth		This activity is planned for 2010
4.3 Research and policy influence	a. Carry our research on gender, youths and HIV/AIDS in agriculture	Not Done		This activity is planned for 2010 as an a standalone

				project
4.4 Monitoring and evaluation	a. Develop appropriate tools to measure impact gender and HIV/AIDS interventions	Not done		This activity is planned for 2010 as an independent project
	b. Carry out monitoring and evaluation	Not done		

ESAFF Board Members at 31st August 2009



Elizabeth Mpofu (Zimbabwe) - Board Chair, **Mubanga Kasakula** (Zambia) Vice Chairperson, **Moses Shaha** (Kenya) – General Secretary, **Mamalefetsane Phakoe** (Lesotho) – Board Member,



From left: Hakimu Barilaine (Uganda), Selemani Niyonkuru (Burundi), Alice Kachere (Malawi), Aaron Tlaka (South Africa)

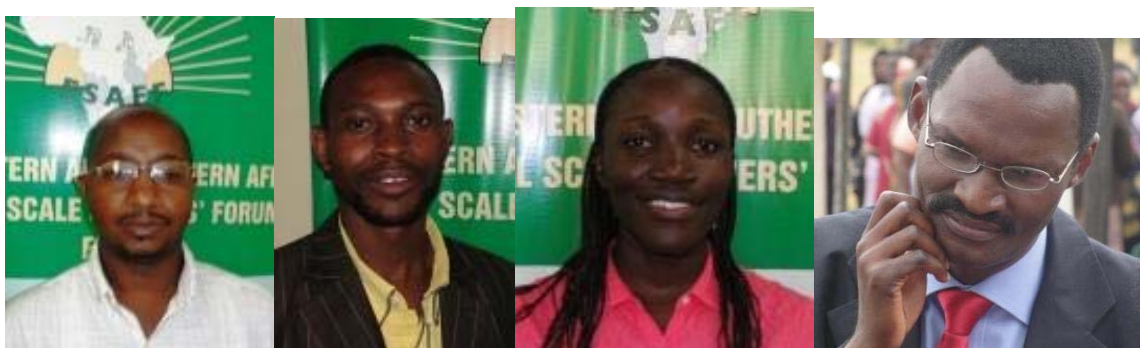


From left: Above: Elias Kawea (Tanzania), Kamali Thionest (Rwanda), BELOW: Serge Benstrong (Seychelles), Richard Rebetrano (Madagascar) and Joe Mzinga – Ex Official and Secretary to the Board

Staff Members of ESAFF at 31st August 2009



ESAFF Staff HQ From left: Judith Mwamafupa - Front Desk Officer, Joe Mzinga- Coordinator, Neema Gresmo Assistant Accountant



ESAFF National Coordinators: from left Eric Nijimbere (ESAFF Burundi), Simon Mwamba (ESAFF Zambia), Nancy Mugimba (ESAFF Uganda), Steven Ruvuga (Mwiwata – Tanzania)