

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED BY BAMVITA IN 2010 UNDER EABDA/SIDA PROJECT AGREEMENT

Introduction:

BAMVITA is an umbrella of different stakeholders who are the implementers of project activities. Currently is having twenty stakeholders, but only nine stakeholders are fully involved in the implementation of activities. These stakeholders are: PATA, BSAT, UWAVITA, TLSB, SOMA CBP, CCHAUTA ITA and TLA.

BAMVITA is still implementing the phase two of the EABDA/ Sida project with a main focus on fundraising and enabling the Council to sustain by it self.

BAMVITA acknowledges Sida/EABDA for the financial support which has been received from them since phase I in January 2001- January 2005 and part of phase II. Through their support BAMVITA was able to improve literacy level and accessibility to books in many districts in order to contribute to poverty reduction efforts in the country. BAMVITA also recognizes efforts done by its stakeholders for putting much effort in the implementation of activities.

ACTIVITIES REPORT

BAMVITA has been implementing all the activities as per approved proposals, and budget of funds allocation from Sida in all previous years except in 2009 and the 1st 2nd 3rd quarters of 2010. The following activities were implemented in 2010 by BAMVITA in collaboration with its stakeholders: Six Children Reading Tents, 2 Community Reading Tents, one stakeholder's workshop, AGM, National Book Week Festival and Advocacy, networking and fundraising.

Promotion of reading culture in Tanzania

(i) Children Reading Tents:

Only four children reading tents instead of eight were implemented by TLA in collaboration with CCHAUTA in Biharamulo district with the aim of familiarizing children with story books, reinforce reading skills, explore talents and impart book management skills among teachers and pupils.

However with the assistance of the District Education officer a total of 40 Schools were selected from Biharamulo from different wards. It was agreed that there should be four centres – Biharamulo Primary school, Inyengamulilo Primary school, Kikomakoma Primary school, and Ntumagu.

Each school selected 22 students (girls and boys) on the following distribution; Class I and II 8 pupils, Class II and IV 8 pupils and Class V and VI 6 pupils. Each school provided one teacher to escort the students. Host schools guaranteed the availability of water and other facilities like toilets. A total of 880 children participated in reading tents.

(ii) Community Reading Tents:

Tanzania Library Services Board implemented two community reading tents instead of four with the aim of improving readership skills among rural and urban communities, and to boost and stimulate the reading habit in a community. A total of 126 children and 160 adults participated in reading competition. Centres involved were: Ruziba, Kitwe, Bisibo, Nyarukongogo, Rubodo, Misenyi, Kiruruma, Nyakatundu and Biharamulo. .

Below are the costs of the reading tents and the list of stakeholders who took responsibilities for the implementation.

S/N	ACTIVITIES	ASSOCIATION	COSTS IN USD \$
1.	Four Children reading Tents	TLA & CCHAUTA	5,840
2.	Two Community reading tents	TLSB	2,920
	TOTAL		8,760

Other contributions were made by publishers who donated books worth TZS 2,850,000 and Tanzania Library Association TZS 962,400.

Publishers who donated books are:

1.	Mkuki na Nyota Publishers Ltd.
2.	Ben & Company Ltd.
3	Macmillan Aidan Ltd.
4	Mangrove Publishers.
5	Longman Tanzania Ltd.
6	Longhorn Publishers Ltd.
7	Mture Educational Publishers Ltd.
8	E& D Vision Publishing.
9	Readit Books Ltd.
10	Educational Books Publishers.

(iii) National Book Week Festival:

Book Week planning and Coordination meetings started early June 2010 and Mr. Abdallah Hassan was unanimously appointed by the book week committee to be a chair, and Ms. Hobokela Magale as a the National Book week Coordinator.

The National Book Week Festival was therefore celebrated from 25th to 28th of November, 2010 at Blue Pearl Hotel. Below are the activities cost of the festival and the list of stakeholders who took responsibilities for the implementation of the book week activities.

S/N	ACTIVITIES	ASSOCIATION	COSTS IN USD \$
1.	Book donation & Teacher librarian Training	TLA, BSAT, PATA, BAMVITA	13,500
2.	Publicity	BSAT, BAMVITA	5,000
3.	Cultural performance	UWAVITA	1,000
4.	Inter-secondary school quiz	BSAT, BAKITA, UWAVITA	2,000
5.	City reading tent	TLA, ITA, CCHAUTA	5,500
6	Exhibition	PATA	11,918
7.	Book talk children	BSAT, UWAVITA	1,500

8.	Regional guests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air tickets • Accommodation • Per diems • Adult book talk • Book slam 	BAMVITA/Stakeholders	12,415
9.	Planning and Coordination	BAMVITA, Coordinator	2,401
10.	Literary award	UWAVITA	2,000
	TOTAL		47,221

The organizing Committee as it has been before managed to fundraise TZS 6,500,000 and goodwill to make the book week success. The EABDA Book week budget was USD \$ 30,000.

Further some of the contributions were made in kind whereas exact cost could not be found. The following contributions were made to support the festival activities.

In '000 TZS

S/N		AMOUNT IN TZS
1.	Haki Elimu	5,000,000
2.	Femina HIP	1,500,000
	TOTAL	6,500,000

CONTRIBUTION IN KIND

S/N	
1.	Mkuki na Nyota Publishers donated 50 t-shirts for School children for the book match.
2.	Ben and Company donated 50 t-shirts for School children for the book match.
3.	TLSB provided a vehicle to assist during the book match
4.	SLADS Provided a Min bus to assist during the match

It was not easy to fundraise for the 2010 Book Week due to the presidential elections. BAMVITA struggled under great strain to make sure that the Book Week would be held. In a show of discipline and selflessness all stakeholders joined hands and worked tirelessly to make sure that the Book Week event would happen. BAMVITA appreciates the effort of book industry stakeholders and private sectors to make the book week successful.

Despite the situation, 2010 Book Week and Book Fair were a great success. A Book week Brochure and A1 poster were printed and distributed the week prior to the book week and all activities associated with the Book Fair went on quite smoothly.

The Book Week Preparatory Committee used the media extensively with members appearing at various times on Radio and Television. TBC, ITV, Mlimani TV carried live interviews on the TV and Radio stations.

Activities during the Book Week included a book exhibition, rural outreach, City reading tent, book talk adult, book talk children, cultural performance, book slam and publicity. The theme for the 19 National Book week Festivals was “*Soma Vitabu Ujiendeleze, Ujikomboe*”. 18 regional guests participated in the national Book Week festival, 4 from Kenya, 4 from Uganda, 2 from Rwanda and 8 EABDA officials: The chairman, Executive secretary and EABDA EC members, 31 local exhibitors were registered and participated in exhibition hall daily.

Data taken from 25th to 28th November showed that 32% of those who attended were adults and 69% were school and street children. Generally the event was carried out successfully despite the constraints that BAMVITA experienced in preparation for the event.

(iv) Library development:

Training of teachers librarians for 25 primary schools and book donation was implemented in 2010 as had been planned. The \$13,500 allocated for that event was disbursed by EABDA.

(v) World Book and Copyright day:

The world book and Copyright day was celebrated on the 23rd April, 2010 at the Tanzania Library Service Board grounds. Five primary schools from the best practice on library management were only involved.

On the other hand Publishers organized book exhibitions and the guest of honour was the director of TLSB for the Minister of Education and Vocational Training Hon. Prof. Jumanne Magembe. This event was funded by Publishers Association of Tanzania only. Children Book Project and Reading Association of Tanzania organized the children reading tent. Other stakeholders of the book industry participated in the event.

Capacity building at all levels

(i) Stakeholders planning workshop: Only One stakeholder’s workshop was implemented 2010 instead of four. It was for the purpose of training in financial management and was held at ESRF Conference Hall on 3rd October 2010.

(ii) Annual General Meeting (AGM): BAMVITA 10th Annual General Meeting was held on 4th October 2010 at ESRF hall. A report on different activities implemented by BAMVITA in 2009 was tabled. The AGM held elections for members of the Executive Committee as well as Treasurer. The AGM was successful.

Strengthening of Advocacy Programmes

(i) Advocacy and networking:

BAMVITA has built a good relationship with mass media such as TBC, ITV, Mlimani TV, Daily news, Mtanzania, Tanzania Daima to promote its activities, all matters related with book sector at national wide as well as globally at minimal costs as one of its advocacy and networking strategy. This will help lobbying the government to approve the book policy and ensure it is in government plans.

(ii) Publicity:

BAMVITA programmes and activities have been publicized not only in mass media but also by using banners, brochures and posters. 150 A1 posters were designed and printed and hung at bus stops in Ilala, Kinondoni, Temeke districts, Muhimbili (referral hospital), shopping malls etc during the book week festival.

Improving governance

BAMVITA Executive committee held their quarterly statutory meetings and reviewed the concerns raised by EABDA EC on financial management in project implementation. They made appropriate decisions in the interest of stability and integrity of the Council.

Challenges:

The main challenge was the implementation of all activities with limited funds. The implementation of children and Community reading tents were affected, as BAMVITA had no funds to purchase books as in previous years.

Geographical distribution of schools; the schools in Biharamulo district were very far apart from each other. This necessitated the need to provide the students and teachers with transport allowance to enable them to attend the reading tents in time. Also this situation forced the facilitator to close the reading tents early to enable the students and teachers to reach their homes before dark. This meant that more money had to be spent for transportation of both facilitators and books.

Meeting BAMVITA's other financial obligations (rent, electricity bills, security services, water bills and salaries of BAMVITA's staffs) was a source of great distress. EABDA did not disburse funds for the secretariat overheads for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd quarters of 2010.

Achievements

- Despite the absence of funds to purchase book for CRT's, BAMVITA managed to conduct four children reading tents and two community reading tents using donated books from local publishers.
- A total 880 pupils and 40 teachers attended the Children reading tents and 286 participated in Community reading tents for the year 2010.
- BAMVITA managed to conduct its planned quarterly Executive Committee meetings as well as emergency meetings without funds allocated to pay members sitting allowances as per approved proposals and budget under the national secretariat allocation funds for 2010.
- BAMVITA raised TZS 6,500,000 million for the book week from local donors.
- BAMVITA managed to build very good relationship with mass media.

Conclusion and recommendations

1. BAMVITA and stakeholders in general should look for fund to evaluate the impact of the activities that have been conducted to date. This will provide the council with information that might help improve the events at the same time will be able to determine the outcome of the project.
2. Participating schools and District officers recommends that the days for conducting CRTs be increased to give students enough time to benefit from the project.
3. Sustainability is still a biggest challenge to the council due to the threat from its competitors in seeking funds. Thus the Government should put into consideration the approval of book policy so that the council is included in the government budget.