

**ASSESSMENT OF SOCIAL SUPPORT PROJECTS FOR VULNERABLE
GROUPS TOWARDS POVERTY REDUCTION: A CASE STUDY OF
TASAF IN BUKOBA DISTRICT**

BY

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**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULLFILLMENT OF THE
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ABSTRACT

This study was conducted in Bukoba District being one of the pilot districts in Tanzania to implement social support projects supported by TASAF. The overall objective of this study was to assess the impact of social support projects on vulnerable groups in Bukoba District, Kagera Region. The specific objectives of this study were to identify TASAF development interventions on poverty reduction through social support projects; to compare social support project participants under TASAF and non-TASAF projects participants; and to determine factors that lead to sustainability of the TASAF sub-projects. A cross-sectional research design was applied in this study. A representative sample of 156 respondents (120 TASAF participants, 36 non-TASAF participants) was drawn from the sampling frame. Data from the questionnaires were analyzed statistically using statistical packages for social science (SPSS) and statistical test were done using the chi-square to test the significant difference between the strata. The study revealed that there was no much difference in the state of living between project participants and non participants. Problems that face the projects are: inadequate cash to buy inputs, diseases of crops and animals, inadequate and ineffective extension services, insufficient cooperation within participants and leaders, long distance to the field and lack of competent trainers in carpentry, tailoring and milling projects. The study recommends that district council should make close follow up of the progress of the projects; that the inputs are available at the right time and at affordable price and sensitize the vulnerable people to form SACCOS so as to access to credits. NGOs do their responsibilities diligently; village governments should backup the vulnerable people to ensure progress of their projects and households should be aware that the projects are for their benefits and

therefore they should ensure that they dedicate their efforts towards achievement of their project goals.

DECLARATION

I, George Stanslaus Lupilya, do hereby declare to the SENATE of Sokoine University of Agriculture that the content of this dissertation is my original work which has never been submitted for a higher degree award in any other university.

George Stanslaus Lupilya
(MA. Candidate)

Date

The above declaration is confirmed

Professor. D. S. Kapinga.
(Supervisor)

Date

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DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to my beloved sons and daughter Kishosha, Ndalahwa and Getrude.

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The general background characteristics that were put into account were age, gender, education level, marital status, household size and type of vulnerability.

These characteristics were considered as important generally because they have certain influence on poverty reduction (Narayan et al., 2000). Table 1 shows the

distribution of respondents by demographic characteristics, the criteria selected in this study are considered to be important in describing the status of the respondents.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
CBO	Community Based Organization
CPC	Community Project Committee
CTA	Technical Center for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation
EC	European Commission
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GOT	Government of Tanzania
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
i.e.	That is
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
MACOP	<i>Misenyi</i> AIDS Control Program
MKUKUTA	<i>Mkakati wa Kukuza Uchumi na Kupunguza Umaskini Tanzania</i>
MTEF	Medium Term Expenditure Frame
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NPES	National Poverty Eradication Strategy
NSGRP	National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty
OC	Other Charges
PEDP	Primary Education Development Program
PER	Public Expenditure Review
PIA	Project Implementing Agent
PRB	Population Reference Bureau
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper

RDA	Recommended Dietary Allowance
REPOA	Research on Poverty Alleviation
SACCOS	Saving and Credit Cooperative Society
SSP	Social Support Projects
SUA	Sokoine University of Agriculture
TAS	Tanzania Assistance Strategy
TASAF	Tanzania Social Action Fund
TPPA	Tanzania Participatory Poverty Assessment
Tshs	Tanzania shilling
UMATI	Family Planning Organization in Tanzania (<i>Uzazi na Malezi Bora Tanzania</i>)
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
URT	United Republic of Tanzania
US\$	United States Dollar
VEO	Village Extension Officer
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background information

The gap between rich and poor countries has doubled in the world for the past 30 years (Semboja, 1994). In developing countries, the poverty situation has declined significantly over the past twenty years, but progress has been uneven. The proportion of people living in extreme poverty on less than 1 a day dropped by almost half between 1981 and 2001, from 40% to 21% of the global population (World Bank, 2005). However, UNICEF (1994) laments that approximately one fifth of the world's population live in absolute poverty. Inequality is very high in the world; the average income in the richest 20 countries is 37 times the average income in the poorest countries (PRB, 2000). However, huge regional disparities remain, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa, where the number of poor people has increased significantly during the same period and is projected to continue rising. In 1980, one out of every 10 poor people lived in Sub-Saharan Africa. In 2000, the figure rose to one out of every three. Future projections predict that one out of every two poor people will live in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Globally, about 90% of the world's poor are in Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. Although the total number of the poor has not changed much in a decade, the regional distribution has changed. Whereas poverty has generally declined in Asia, it has increased in Sub-Saharan Africa. Poverty is growing at an even faster rate in Sub-Saharan Africa as a matter aggravated by a HIV/AIDS pandemic, of the total number of poor people living below \$ 1 per day, 75 % (0.9 billion), live and work in rural areas. Whereas for most parts of the world the rural poor live in less favoured areas that are disadvantaged by difficult agro

climatic conditions, that is not entirely the case for the rural poor in Tanzania. A good proportion of the rural poor lives in reasonably good agro climatic areas or at least have access to some, but their development is probably hampered by inadequate infrastructure and poor support services (roads, irrigation, markets, research and extension, credit, schools and health) (Keenja, 2002). Since independence in 1961, the government of Tanzania has been preoccupied with three development problems: ignorance, disease and poverty. National efforts to tackle these problems were initially channelled through centrally directed, medium-term and long term development plans, and resulted in a significant improvement in per capita income and access to education, health and other social services until the 1970s. Thereafter, these gains could not be sustained because of various domestic and external shocks and policy weakness. Indeed, despite sustained efforts since the mid-1980s, to address the country's economic and social problems, one half of all Tanzanians to day are considered to be basically poor, and approximately one third live in abject poverty (URT, 2000b). On the domestic front Tanzania faced a number of constraints and challenges. These include poor record of social indicators like the Human Development Index (HDI), wide spread poverty and increasing income inequality, HIV/AIDS, low domestic resource mobilization, low level and unsupportive development of basic infrastructure for moving the country from a digital divide to a digital opportunity, overwhelming supply side constraints (low productivity in agriculture and low level of human resources development) and environmental degradation. Externally the debt overhang remained a serious constraint. Debt servicing obligation diverted the much needed resources for enhancing economic growth and improving delivery of social services (URT, 2001). Though substantial progress has been made over recent years; Tanzania remains one of the poorest countries. Despite the achieved economic growth since the mid 1990s (GDP grew from 1.4% in 1994 to over 6% in

2002) and reduction in inflation, there has only been limited improvement in the income poverty status. Food poverty went down from 22% in 1991/92 to 19% in 2000/01. Basic needs poverty decreased from 39% to 36%. Tanzania had shown significant improvements in non-income poverty in the 1970s and early 1980s. Kagera was one of the regions which was highly affected by economic hardships among them are invasion of Idd Amin of Uganda, impacts of HIV/AIDS, and drop of coffee prices. Bukoba district was one of the most deprived districts in Tanzania; it is a district which poverty remains predominantly a rural phenomenon (URT, 2000a). Major task for the developing world including Tanzania is to build development strategies for alleviating poverty particularly in the rural areas (Banturaki, 2000).

1.2 Statement of the problem

Despite vulnerable groups being assisted by the TASAF program to execute various subprojects in Bukoba District so as to improve their living standard, yet some of the sub projects are not progressing sustainably and the target groups are still living in poor condition. In case of the role of civil society in the development of the region, no region in Tanzania can match Kagera in the total number and diversity of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and Community Based Organizations (CBOs). By the year 2002, some 94 such bodies were actively involved with developmental issues in the region. They ranged in areas of concentration from HIV/AIDS to women protection and conservation to agriculture, education, health, water supplies, community development and human rights (URT, 2003c). Under TASAF regulations the NGOs and CBOs are the key implementers of the Social Support Projects (SSP). However, once these NGOs and CBOs handover the project to the target group, the initiated projects collapse and the targeted people remain poor. Hence need to carry out a thorough research to find out the

reasons for failure and success of some projects under TASAF interventions for poverty reduction was perceived.

1.3 Study justification

This study was undertaken such that first, it would establish further the factors affecting sustainability of the established projects, in fostering vulnerable groups' empowerment so as to raise their social-economic status. Secondly, it would generate new knowledge and information, which will be useful to development planners, policy makers and practitioners in relevant ministries, NGOs and other bodies interested in poverty eradication. Thirdly, the findings of the study might contribute in designing new, or re-designing the existing national strategies for poverty alleviation in Tanzania, particularly at the level of district authority.

1.4 Objectives

1.4.1 General objective

The general objective of this study was to assess Social Support Projects (SSP) for vulnerable groups towards Poverty reduction under TASAF project in Bukoba district, Kagera Region Tanzania.

1.4.2 Specific objectives

- (a) To identify TASAF development interventions on poverty reduction through Social Support Projects.
- (b) To compare social support projects participants under TASAF and non-TASAF projects members.
- (c) To determine factors that lead to sustainability of the TASAF sub-projects.

1.5 Research questions

- (a) Is the approach undertaken by TASAF adequately effective in reducing poverty to vulnerable group members?
- (b) Is there any difference in living standard between those with TASAF projects and those without TASAF projects?
- (c) What are the factors that contribute to the performance of Social Support Projects?

1.6 Conceptual framework.

The conceptual framework proposed by this study is presented in Figure 1. The framework shows a set of independent variables, which influences poverty alleviation to vulnerable groups. In the present study, the social cultural variables included attitudes towards agricultural technology, prioritization in decision making and inadequate sense of ownership, on the social-economic variables it included the household income, possession of assets, use of indigenous knowledge, inadequate extension and training and inadequate infrastructure. These variables were seen as variables which can influence the dependent variable (poverty reduction). Variable and their indicators are shown in appendix 1.

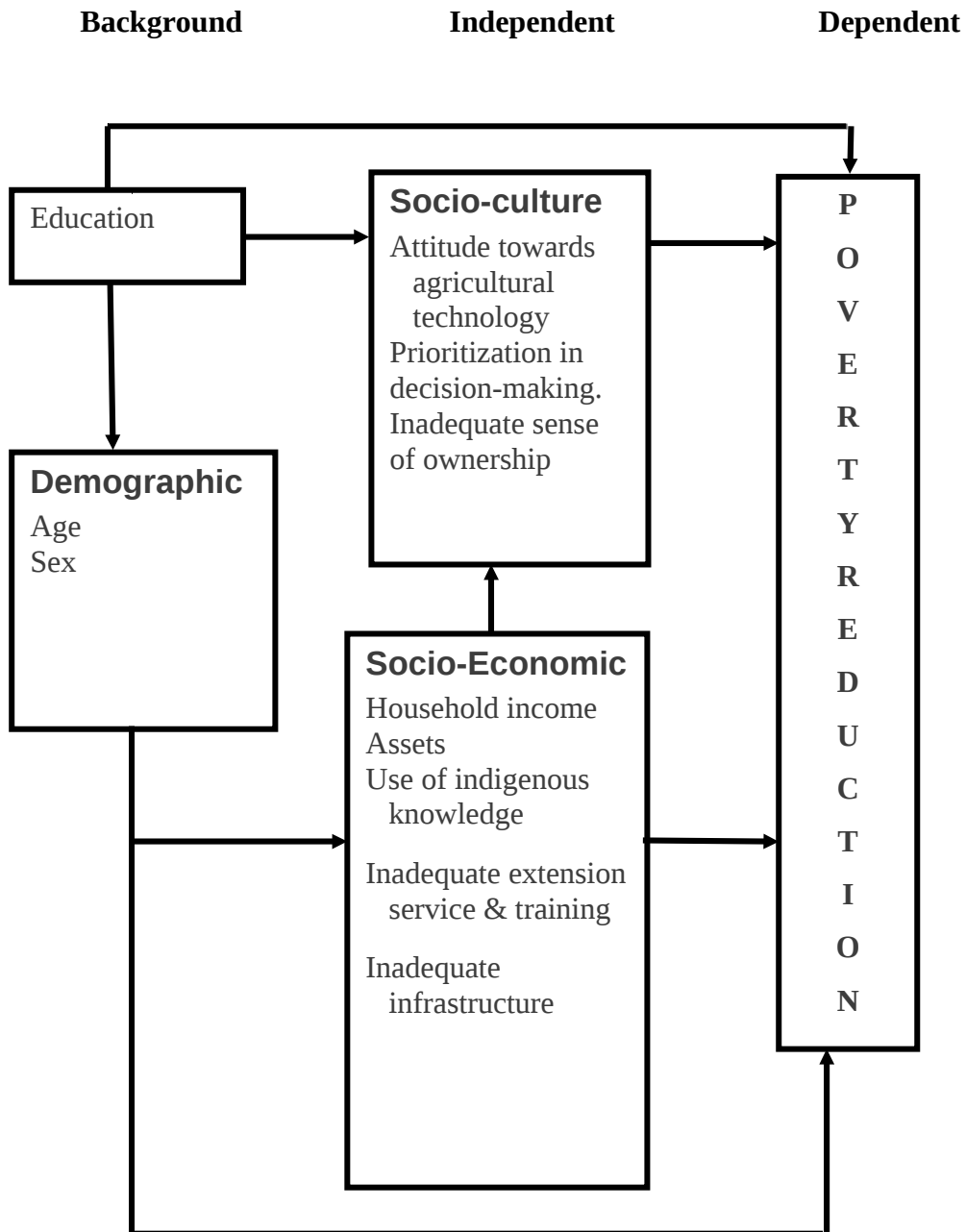


Figure 1: Conceptual Frame Work for the assessment of TASAF intervention on poverty reduction

1.7 Limitation of the study

- (a) All vulnerable groups are treated equally in terms of fund received from TASAF regardless of type of vulnerability.
- (b) With regard to this study vulnerable group includes widows, orphans and elders.
- (c) Some respondents did not remember actual amounts of products they produced at a particular season.
- (d) The major limitation during data collection was the difficulty to reach some of the respondents due to the topographical nature of the study area. The area is mountainous and villagers are scattered. This cost much time and energy since some of the areas were unreachable by motorcycles.

CHAPTER TWO

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Patterns of poverty

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), (2007) revealed that more than one billion people in the world live on less than 1 a day, 2.7 billion struggle to survive on less than 2 per day, more than 800 million people go to bed hungry every day, including 300 million children. Every 3.6 seconds a person dies of starvation, and most of those who die are children under age of 5. Every year 6 million children die from malnutrition before their fifth birthday. However, the European Commission (EC) and the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA), show that poverty in Africa is pervasive, and predominantly rural (Mundy and Gladbach, 1999). Some 40% of the population of Sub-Saharan Africa live below the international poverty line of 1 per day (in 1985 purchasing power dollars), and this figure has risen slightly since the mid-1980s. This figure understates the vulnerability of many to the shocks of drought and war. The pattern of poverty is changing. The numbers of poor are rising in the cities, in dry areas and areas with poor soils, in war-affected regions, and among women, the landless and the elderly. These changes will call for a major rethinking of anti-poverty strategies. As poverty becomes more and more urban, for example, policy makers will have to design approaches that provide low-cost food at stable prices. Policies to do this are likely to be very different from those currently being pursued.

2.2 Poverty alleviation: meaning and measurement

Poverty alleviation refers to lifting the poor out of poverty. Typically two approaches have been discussed extensively in various literatures: alleviation through growth and alleviation through redistribution. Alleviation through growth is fundamental to combating poverty: standards of living cannot rise without new wealth generated through economic activity. An anti-poverty strategy must seek ways to generate wealth by revising investment, wage structures, terms of trade and other factors. Alleviation through distribution is also key. Wealth must not stay in hands of a few. Policies must ensure that its benefits are distributed widely. Relevant policies include land reform, taxation, infrastructure development and the provision of services, Mundy and Gladbach (1999). Under the first approach it is recommended that the government's and the actors' activities should concentrate on growth policies and the results of growth will "trickle" down to the poor through both primary and secondary incomes and thus alleviating their poverty (Oyen, 1992). In Tanzania both approaches are attempted (Mtatifikolo, 1994).

2.3 Poverty situation in Tanzania

Tanzania is one of the least developed countries in the world with an estimated annual per capita income of 257. The economy is heavily dependent on the agricultural sector, which constitutes about 50% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). It is a source of employment for 80% of the population and accounts for 70% of total exports, 60% of export earnings and 90% food crops (Kapinga, 2003). Currently high growth sectors are mining (and quarrying) (13.9%) and construction (8.4%) followed by trade, hotels and restaurants as related to tourism (6.5%). The informal sector is also becoming an important source of employment (URT, 2003a).

Poverty has been growing in spite of the measures being undertaken to alleviate it (Makombe *et al.*, 1999). Similarly, Samwel (2004) argue that there has not been any significant achievement in poverty reduction and the actual number of people living both below the basic needs and food poverty lines in 1991/1992 has increased in 2000/01. According to the National Poverty Eradication Strategy (NPES), Tanzania aims at reducing the current levels of poverty by 50% by the year 2010 and to eradicate absolute poverty, which stands at 36% at the moment to 0% by the year 2025. The Government through NPES and Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) has earmarked some sectors as the priority sectors for poverty eradication and investing in these sectors will have high impact on poverty eradication.

Poverty has many faces and indeed many roots. Attacking it from all fronts can reduce poverty. Given the multidimensional nature of poverty it is clear that all routes taken for poverty reduction matters. This includes poverty eradication initiatives and the role of civil society in poverty program formulation, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation (Lindeboom and Kilama, 2006). This indicates that without government intervention, we cannot rely on private sectors alone to ensure poverty eradication and full access by all to basic social services.

The little achievement so far in eradicating poverty are caused by many factors; these are: weak social and economic infrastructure, lack of savings culture, increased use of private and even government resources for non-essential expenditure, low productivity in productive sector, HIV/AIDS pandemic, lack of affordable credit and business skills. Other problems include, very low and uncertain incomes for some people working in the growing informal sector, limited formal employment opportunities particularly for

youths, especially girls and lack of means of capital accumulation for low income groups (URT, 2003b). However, while income poverty has generally declined between 1991-92 and 2000-01 HBS (2000-01) the reduction has been relatively higher in urban areas compared with rural areas.

Within rural areas women have been even more disadvantaged. However, despite an age of unprecedented global prosperity and an existence of world wide network of poverty-reduction institutions, poverty persists and is intensifying among certain groups and in certain regions around the world. Narayan *et al.* (2000) reported that poverty is pain, poor people suffer physical pain that comes with too little food and long hours of work; emotional pain stemming from the daily humiliations of dependency and lack of power; and the moral pain from being forced to make choices-such as whether to use limited funds to save the life of an ill family member, or to use those same funds to feed their children.

Narayan (1997) reported that the income distribution is quite uneven in Tanzania, the average adult equivalent expenditure of the richest quintile was more than six times greater than that of the poorest quintile, the inequality between rural and urban areas was also considerable; while on average rural Tanzanians spent the equivalent of 193 per annum, their counterparts living in Dar-es-Salaam spent an average 587 per annum. Access to safe drinking water has been on the decline since 1976. Rural households spent an average of 3.1 hours a day collecting water, with the brunt of work borne by women. Infant mortality is high; for every thousand children born in Tanzania, 90 will die before their first day. However, rural literacy has increased (from 59% in 1983 to 73% in 1993). Hence concerted efforts has to be done in order to reduce the proportion of the rural

population below the basic needs poverty line from 38.6% in 2000-01 to 24% by 2010 and food poverty line from 27% in 2000-01 to 14% by 2010 (URT, 2004).

2.3.1 Assets and poverty

Assets provide people with opportunities and options in the face of impoverishing forces. Thus, being asset poor limits people's capacity to improve and safeguard their well being (Rutasitara, 2002a). However, Narayan *et al.* (2000) supported that the poor rarely speak about income, but they do speak extensively about assets that are important to them. The poor manage a diverse portfolio of assets-physical, human, social, and environmental. These assets include a broad range of tangible and potential resources, both material and social, those individuals, households, and communities draw from in times of need or crisis. Power differences among individuals and groups shape how such assets are controlled and used.

2.3.2 Age structure

Children and the old tend to be poorer than those in the middle age set because children are not expected to work for their living and do not possess assets to generate income-where assets may be physical and non physical such as education and skills. Likewise, the old are not physically strong enough to generate wealth and are, consequently, likely to be poor. However, generalizations are questionable. First, except in cases of child labour, induced or forced, children's poverty status should ideally be the same as that for the household to which they belong. Second, for the old (ageing), poverty status is influenced not only by their reduced capacity to work but also possible lifetime savings they may have accumulated over the years. But for rural areas, there are few retirees who would have come from the civil service ranks (or in urban-based private sector employment).

Most of the old are basically working on the farm, and in the absence of a modern social security system, at old age they are both allowed by their working-mates to remain as dependants and taken care as children (Rutasitara, 2002b).

2.3.4 Gender of household

Most female headed households are poorer than male-headed households. Narayan (2000) reported that female-headed households are less well-off than male headed households. The female-headed households are more vulnerable because, among other reasons, they possess limited capital assets. However, the World Bank (1996) supported that female headed households in the rural areas own less land, less livestock and have, on average, less years of schooling and tend to have a higher dependency ratio. The discrimination engendered by land (and property) inheritance traditions and preference to boys rather than girls' education in certain communities reinforces the vulnerability of women.

2.3.5 Household size

Poorer households tend to be larger than richer households; exceptions are possible in cases where, for instance, many of members contribute to the income of the household (URT, 2003b). Similarly, Likwelile (2003) suggested that, vulnerable groups have to be captured, and this dictates the need to work out modalities to capture and protect them in our societies. The idea here is to understand the practical issues involved in the development of safety net interventions to:

- (a) Understand the macro-micro-linkages so that achievements at macro level are translated at the micro level;
- (b) Protect the poor and vulnerable population groups from income risk;

- (c) Ensure they have adequate access to essential services;
- (d) Have conceptual clarity on who constitutes the vulnerable groups;
- (e) Design and implement effective safety nets: cash and in-kind transfers, income generating schemes;
- (f) Monitor and evaluate policies and interventions (inputs, outputs, outcomes, impacts).

Reducing vulnerability has instrumental value; it is important due to its implications for reaching other goals. Indeed, individuals, households and communities face a wide range of forces pushing them towards poverty. If unchecked, Tanzania will not be able to meet its target of reducing abject poverty by 50% by 2010 wholly eradicating it by 2025 (URT, 2004). In order to tackle the economic bottlenecks to vulnerable groups, the Government of Tanzania in collaboration with the World Bank established the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) in the year 2000.

2.4 Focus on rural poverty

Given the background and commitment to fight “poverty, ignorance and disease” since independence, (1961), and the fact that Tanzania still ranks among the poorest nations, discussions and analysis of the impact of the reform policies on poverty reduction is imperative. Although most characteristics of rural and urban poverty are qualitatively similar, and vary only in the degree of deprivation, it is still possible to consider rural and urban poverty separately. Rural poverty is justified on the grounds that some features of rural poverty are unique, the geographical isolation, poor distribution of services and infrastructure and shortage of specialized personnel such as for doctors. Also, rural poverty merits special attention in view of the historical bias in favour of urban development. To the extent, specific policies for rural growth are called for. It is

nevertheless desirable to recognize the dynamic rural-urban linkages in the design of anti-poverty (Rutasitara, 2002a). Cookesey (1994) urged that, at the village level, income inequalities are a function of factors such as differences in land and cattle ownership; the use of hired as opposed to family labour; the quality of agricultural technology employed (hand hoe, oxen, tractor); access to credit and farm inputs; marketing and off farm income earning opportunity.

2.5 Community participation

Korten and Uphoff (1981) suggested that participation has major implications not only for local populations but for governmental and other personnel involved in the management of development programs. Participation has been endorsed by most of the world's governments, international financial institutions and bilateral donor agencies as the most effective instrument for bringing about sustainable development (Feeney, 1998). TASAF is one of the programs strategically initiated by the country to alleviate poverty. It has been doing efforts to influence the community to participate in projects identified by them. Mkapa (2004) argued that national and local ownership of the development initiative is necessary if we are to scale up poverty reduction efforts, and sustain them, and ownership must be dovetail with participation. There can be no ownership without participation. Ownership must also devolve down to the level of communities. However, Miller (1979) suggested that, in order for the community to eradicate poverty it must participate from the early stage of decision making of what should be done to them. He further mentioned four affirmations which summarize the significance of participation on the development process:

(a) People organize best around problems they consider most important;

- (b) Local people make rational economic decisions in the context of their own environment and circumstances;
- (c) Voluntary local commitment of labour, time, material and money to a project is a necessary condition for breaking patterns of development paternalism, which reinforce local passivity and dependency;
- (d) Local control over the amount, quality and especially the distribution of benefits from development activities is directly to those benefits becoming self-sustaining.

These affirmations reflect the fact that participation means more than occasional meetings in which project staff discussed their plans with local farmers in the usual benefactor-to-beneficiary manner. Rather, meaningful participation implies a systematic local autonomy; in which communities discover the possibilities of exercising choice and thereby becoming capable of managing their own development. Korten and Uphoff (1981) also suggested that meaningful participation implies a systematic local autonomy, in which communities discover the possibilities of exercising choice and thereby becoming capable of managing their own development.

2.6 The poor organize themselves

The foundation of poverty reduction is self-organization of the poor at the community level. UNDP (2000) and Banturaki (2000) emphasized that, the concerted efforts from both the developed nations and the world bodies must go towards promoting self-help groups organizations and encouraging people's participation in developing programs particularly rural development. Likwelile (2003) argued that vulnerable groups have to be

captured, and this dictates the need to work out modalities to capture and protect them in our societies.

2.7 Efforts towards poverty eradication in Tanzania

Chambers (1983) argued that poverty in any country can be a subject of indifference or shame, something to shut out, something polluting, something in psychological sense, to be repressed. Similarly, Likwelile (2003) commented that Tanzania has been struggling since independency to eradicate poverty; it has defined poverty in Tanzanian context, and find out the reasons for poverty and suggestions for the way out. As part of the poverty eradication efforts the Government introduced several policy documents and processes, including Tanzania Development Vision 2025; The National Poverty Eradication Strategy (NPES); Tanzania Assistance Strategy (TAS); Public Expenditure Review (PER) and Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF); Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP); Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS1); the National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (PRS2) or MKUKUTA. The policy documents and processes were prepared through consultative and participatory processes that involved different stakeholders at different levels, and that these documents and processes were expected to do substantial work, not only in poverty monitoring, but also in its gradual eradication.

Government efforts started with identifying the causes of poverty through stakeholder workshops at zonal level discussed according to sectors (URT, 2000b). In agriculture the major problems were identified as: Poor working tools and technology, non-availability of farm inputs, poor roads that result in limited accessibility to crop markets, lack of credit facilities, and collapse of cooperatives, adverse climatic conditions and lack of other alternative safety-nets to deal with adverse climate. In order to deal with these

problems, the following were proposed: establishing and strengthening rural credit mechanisms; improving and deepening research and extension services possibly to the level of one extension agent per village; enhancing ability, especially at the community level, to repair and maintain rural roads; reviving agricultural cooperatives; establishing effective safety-nets to assist vulnerable groups.

In the case of the education sector, the Government of Tanzania (GOT) has recently increased its allocation to education. Donor funding for education is also on the increase, though difficult to quantify since a significant portion of it still takes place outside the main budget. Higher allocations and proper prioritization are necessary but not sufficient conditions for positive outcomes. In case of education, inadequate provision of other charges such as teaching and learning materials and other expenses is said to jeopardize quality, especially for poor families who cannot afford to provide the supplies that their children need for learning. Pro-poor education expenditure, therefore, would imply increasing allocations in favour of Other Charges (OC). Reducing leakages is also clearly important. Similarly, URT (2002) shows that the share of government recurrent budget allocation to education has been increasing between 1998/99 and 2001/02 and that education receives the largest share in recurrent priority spending among the other priority sectors (Othman *et al.*, 2003). This pattern is seen as a good indicator that the government is targeting education as a key pro-poor sector in its expenditure allocation and a key factor in poverty eradication. However, the ratio of primary education spending to total education spending has increased from 64.5% in 1998/99 to 70.6% in 2001/02; the government budget for secondary education has been less than 10% and it continues to decline. Higher and technical education allocations from budgetary sources declined from 21.4% in 1998/99 to 19.1% in 2001/02. The explanation for this is that primary

education benefits the majority of the people including the poor, so putting priority and more resources here indicates that allocations within the education sector are becoming more pro-poor, signifying a strong macro-micro linkage as for the PRSP. The discrepancy in fund allocation between primary and higher education is compensated for by non-governmental agents such as religious institutions and private individuals, who invest more in secondary than in primary education.

In 1996 the Government of Tanzania undertook to formulate an Education Sector Development Program (ESDP) to address existing problems and face the challenges resulting from on-going reforms and the increasing demand for human resource development. Under the ESDP a series of policies and reforms have been initiated with the objective of ensuring that all the children have equitable access to good quality primary education. The Primary Education Development Program (PEDP) came out of the ESDP, whose main components are largely in line with the objectives outlined in the PRSP (Othman *et al.*, 2003).

One landmark decision under the PEDP was the introduction of a capitation grant to help finance non-salary expenditure; other charges (OC) in primary education to the tune of 10 per pupil per year. This compares with the previous allocations amounting to only 1. In the national budget the increasing allocations to OC, pro-rated per pupil show an increasing trend, from around 2 to about 8 per pupil. However, information collected at the grassroots level indicates that schools still received only a small proportion of these increased allocations of only about 1. Various sources, including the reports of the Controller and Auditor General, NGOs and media reports show that the public authorities do not always account for the use of funds (Othman *et al.*, 2003). In some districts, for

example, education funds are diverted or 'borrowed' for other 'pressing' needs, and are never returned. As a result, the Government has directed that education (and other sectors) allocations at local level must be published in local papers to increase transparency and accountability. It would also be useful if all individuals who misappropriate funds were brought to justice, as this would further minimize thefts.

Othman *et al.* (2003) reported that, according to the pro-poor expenditure tracking study which aimed at tracking down government expenditure on priority sectors (education, health, rural water and rural roads), apart from the government's efforts in eradication of poverty there are still leakages due to a number of reasons, among which are;

- (a) Unpredictable flows of funds to district councils, both in level and timing which creates room for delays and misappropriations;
- (b) Serious delays in disbursement, especially those related to other charges, a problem more prevalent in rural than urban localities. For example, the study indicates that the processing of OC disbursements to education takes up to 37 days from the Ministry of Finance to Kisarawe District, 31 days to Dodoma district, 30 days to Babati District, 37 days to Mtwara District, and up to 54 days to Kigoma District. The report further indicates that personal emoluments (PE) funds take a shorter period to reach their destinations;
- (c) Disbursement delays even within localities and significant reallocations of funds at that level. For example, the study also shows that there are significant delays in transferring OC funds to sectoral accounts in all councils. These delays take up to 48 days in some council;
- (d) Lack of an effective central government monitoring system for actual disbursements to councils and use of funds thereafter, and varied reporting formats.

The Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) which is the subject of this study is one of efforts by the Tanzania Government to tackle the problem of rural poverty.

2.8 Tanzania social action fund (TASAF)

Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) became effective in November 2000. It is a project of the Government of Tanzania conceived to efficiently implement the Government's efforts in poverty eradication. In order to achieve maximum efficiency, the Government has established TASAF to make sure that targeted development initiatives in remote areas of the country get requisite support in a timely and cost-effective manner (World Bank, 2000). However, apart from TASAF which is focusing on rural and peri-urban communities, the government has instituted "social funds" to cater for the income-poor who are unable to raise credit from banks, targeting women, the unemployed youth and those in the informal sector. Also in 2006, the government initiated the Presidential Fund where by each region received one billion (Tshs) for purpose of enabling the poor people to borrow from banks so that they can initiate business and hence improve their living standard. However, these are limited to urban and peri-urban areas mainly due to limited accessibility to rural and most people in the rural areas are not aware (informed) of most of these funds or the new credit organizations (Rutasitara, 2002b).

2.8.1 The objective of the fund

The objective of TASAF is to increase and enhance the capacities of communities and stakeholders to priorities, implement and manage sustainable development initiatives and in the process improve social and (or socio-economic) services and opportunities. TASAF operations are in harmony with other ongoing initiatives within the Local

Government reform in order to ensure sustainability of the Fund's achievements. The project helps the Government sustain the momentum of ongoing reforms by facilitating improvements in social and (or socio-economic) infrastructure, enhancing capacity and skills among rural and peri-urban communities and creating a temporary safety net for the poorest sections of communities. In this regard, TASAF activities are designed to improve basic social and economic services and protect vulnerable groups including young children while the positive impact of the ongoing structural adjustment and administrative reforms take hold. Specific attention is being given to the HIV/AIDS epidemic, the involvement of civil society and Non-governmental organizations, including faith based organizations and rural development issues. In the process communities will be enabled to take hold of their development process thereby facilitating the changing role of government from that of a provider of services to a facilitator of economic agents (TASAF, 2000). In the struggle of alleviating poverty Tanzania has adapted TASAF strategies to involve the people in decision making in implementation of various projects decided by the people themselves. Mkapa (2001), stated: "TASAF is a beacon of hope to Tanzanians determined to fight poverty in that the TASAF implementation modality motivates people to self-development. With TASAF, priorities and projects are determined through a participatory appraisal and the whole project cycle is determined by the people themselves. Apart from rekindling the spirit of self-development, the TASAF implementation framework guarantees sustainability because of a high degree of ownership. In addition to keeping the costs to a minimum, the TASAF model has managed to keep overheads at a minimum. As a rule not more than 20% of the TASAF support goes to administrative overheads, thus leaving 80% to reach the targeted community projects". In year 2000 TASAF covered only 42 districts in the country as phase 1 out of 125 districts. In the middle of phase I that is 2003, the

component of Social Support Projects (SSP) was launched to cover only 4 districts as pilot ones after discovering that there were some segment of the population who were not benefiting from TASAF projects due to their status of vulnerability that is children especially orphans, widows, people with disabilities; people with chronic illnesses; people in HIV/AIDS affected households, elderly, childbearing women/women with young children and destitute persons. The districts which were in the pilot phase were Bukoba Rural, Kibaha, Shinyanga Rural and Meatu. The reasons which lead into selection of these districts were the existence of enormous number of NGOs and CBOs which are the key players in the implementation of SSP in collaboration with the target groups. Moreover; they were the first districts which showed the need for TASAF interventions in prevention of HIV/AIDS in the respective districts.

2.8.2 Social support projects

(i) Justification

In implementing the sub- projects there are some segments of the population that are not adequately served, such as the aged, orphans, the chronically ill, people with disabilities and those infected/affected by HIV/AIDS. The SSP were introduced so as to provide support to such vulnerable persons. Support under SSP is channelled through sponsoring agencies such as NGOs and CBOs, and the interventions are implemented in a participatory, equitable and sustainable manner. This will contribute to poverty reduction and reduce suffering among the disadvantaged and vulnerable persons in the communities. The process of delivering SSP will mainstream a number of cross cutting issues including human rights, gender, HIV/AIDS, nutrition and environment.

(ii) Objectives of SSP

The main objectives of the SSP component are:

- (a) To provide financial grants and technical resources for programs targeted at vulnerable and marginalized groups by funding the initiatives sponsored by agencies already working with these groups;
- (b) To support networking activities among NGOs, CBOs, and other key actors working in this field to exchange information for policy advocacy and coordination of programs at district and national level;

(iii) Guiding Principles

The following principles guide TASAF operation of the SSP:

- (a) Sub-projects must reflect the needs of the vulnerable persons;
- (b) Applications must be submitted by an NGO or CBO;
- (c) Supported sub-projects will be implemented through intermediaries such as NGOs or CBOs, referred to as Project Implementing Agency (PIA);
- (d) PIA contribution is mandatory;
- (e) Accountability and transparency in all activities and operations;
- (f) Sub-project implementation period will not exceed 18 months.

(iv) Target groups

The target groups for SSP are vulnerable and marginalized persons who do not have the capacity to mobilize themselves and solicit resources for the purpose of improving their livelihood. These include orphans, chronically ill persons, persons infected and affected with HIV/AIDS, the elderly, people with disabilities and severely malnourished children.

(v) Coverage

In phase 1 (2000-2005) SSP activities were piloted in the districts of Kibaha, Shinyanga Rural, Meatu and Bukoba Rural, selected on the basis of their being the first to submit applications on HIV/AIDS interventions for TASAF support. In phase 2 (2006-2010) SSP will be implemented in the whole country.

(vi) Type of projects

Under the SSP component a wide range of sub-projects aimed at meeting the needs of the vulnerable persons will be supported. Some may have multiple activities based on the nature of problem to be addressed. Examples of activities which are eligible for support include income generation, home-based care, skills training, early childhood development, etc.

(vii) Eligibility criteria

In order to be considered for TASAF funding, the following institutional and subproject criteria have to be met.

(Viii) Institutional

A distinction is made between NGOs and CBOs because of capacity differences between these types of institutions. In order for an organization to qualify and participate in the SSP component, it must declare its status and meet the following criteria:

- **NGOs**

- (a) Registered by the Registrar of NGOs as a non-profit making organization and recognized in the district where it is operating;
- (b) Have a constitution;

- (c) Demonstrate that it has a sound management structure with trustees and at least three professional permanent staff;
- (d) Capacity to produce financial statements and audited reports for the past year;
- (e) Demonstrated ability to provide at least 5% contribution to the sub-project cost, either in cash or in kind;
- (f) Recurrent costs of the organization will be met by its own resources.

- **CBOs**

- (a) Registered with the District Council;
- (b) Previous experience in working with vulnerable groups;
- (c) Demonstrate the capacity to mobilize communities and vulnerable groups and PIA;
- (d) Demonstrate sound management grounded in previous work with the vulnerable;
- (e) Demonstrate the ability to provide at least 5% of the total sub-project cost either in cash or in kind.

(ix) Sub-Project Eligibility

The sub-projects must meet the following criteria to be considered for funding:

- (a) Evidence that the sub-project represents a priority need of the marginalized group; and that the beneficiaries or their representatives have been consulted;
- (b) Directly benefit marginalized persons;
- (c) Includes a capacity building component for the beneficiaries;
- (d) The implementation period will not exceed 18 months;
- (e) Demonstrate that there will be active participation from the target group and beneficiary community;
- (f) Evidence of ownership by the beneficiary community;
- (g) Evidence that the PIA and/or community are committed to the operational costs to ensure sustainability.

(x) Eligibility for a vulnerable group to receive assistance from TASAF**• Orphan**

An orphan is any person who is not more than 18 years and he/she has lost one or both of his/her parents. In order to be considered for assistance from TASAF, one must have the following features:

- (a) He /she must be living in a family which cannot sustain its daily life;
- (b) A child who is living in a situation that denies him/her to have his/her human rights;
- (c) A child who is living in a family that does not love him/her;
- (d) Child who is living in a desperate life.

• Elderly

Elderly person is any one with the age above 60 years. In order to receive the assistance from TASAF, one must have the following characteristics:

- (a) A person who cannot mobilize resources to earn a living;
- (b) A person who does not have children or relatives to assist him/her;
- (c) A person who is unable to do work;
- (d) A person who does not have permanent residence;
- (e) A person who is depended by large household members.

• Widow

A widow is a woman who has lost her husband and she has not been married again. In order to receive the assistance from TASAF one must have the following features.

- (a) A widow who cannot sustain her own life;
- (b) A widow who is being depended by large number of family members;
- (c) A widow who has been deserted by her husbands' family.

CHAPTER THREE

3.0 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Description of the study area

Bukoba District is located in the North-Western part of Tanzania between 31⁰-32⁰E and 1⁰-1⁰30'S. The district borders Uganda in the North and stretches into Lake Victoria in the East. The topography of the area is characterized by valleys and ridges. The altitude at Lake Victoria level is 1130 meters above sea level while the ridge summits reach altitudes of 1600 meters above sea level. The high rainfall zone is situated along the shore of Lake Victoria. The climate is equatorial with two distinct rainy seasons, from October till January and from February till June. Average rainfall is about 2100 mm/year. The mean annual temperature is 20⁰C. The area is highly populated and population densities per effective area reach over 240 inhabitants per square kilometre (Folmer *et al.*, 1999). Administratively, the district has 6 divisions, 41 wards, and 168 villages. According to population census of 2002 the district has a population of 395 130, the average household size is 4.4 with the annual growth rate of 1.1%. Soil types of the zone include ferralsols, Acrisols and Arenosols. The soils have low Ph (on average 5.4) and are highly weathered and leached due to high rainfall. They are chemically poor in most nutrients, but have extremely high values of phosphorus. Land use in the Bukoban high rainfall zone is a combination of a core land use system, the perennial banana-based home gardens, surrounded by small fields with annual crops and vast grasslands. Cropped land covers about 23% of the area, while 50% is dry grassland and the remaining part is swamp. The banana based home garden, locally known as *kibanja*, is characterized by its crop species diversity and its multi-layer architecture (Folmer *et al.*, 1999). Crops grown include different types and varieties of banana, coffee, beans, maize, cassava, yams, pineapples

and various fruit and timber tree species. Soil nutrients are obtained from the grasslands and are transported through manure and mulch to the home garden. Household refuse is applied to the bananas within the vicinity of the house. The land use system can 'shrink' or 'grow' according to the farmers' access to soil fertility inputs and labour. Social differentiation has led to the evolution of distinct classes. Until independence land was owned by a small elite and the majority of people worked for the landowners or paid rent to cultivate it. Socialist land policies abolished this feudal system, but the collective farms and villagization which followed were no great success in Bukoba District. With the introduction of the market economy, especially through coffee production, a new resource-rich class of households emerged. A rich man can be distinguished from a poor farmer through the size and quality of home garden. Access to manure and labour, these are considered key resources determining the productivity of this land use system. These resources are obtained by keeping cattle, producing coffee and engaging in off-farm activities such as trade.

3.2 Choice for study area

The reasons for carrying out the study in Bukoba district were:

- (a) It is one of the first pilot districts in the country whereby the Social Support Projects (SSP) were initiated by TASAF.
- (b) It is the district which is most deprived, it has large number of vulnerable (orphans and widows) as compared to other districts in the region as well as in the country.

3.3 Research design

A cross-sectional research design was used in this study. The cross-sectional research design consent to data to be collected at a single point in one time and used in descriptive

study and for determination of relationships of variables (Babbie, 1990 and Bailey, 1998). This research design was considered to be favourable because of resources limitations, time for data collection, and unavailability of baseline data prior to establishment of TASAF projects.

3.4 Sampling procedure

3.4.1 Sampling unit

The target population for the study involved vulnerable groups both males and females who implemented social support projects under TASAF assistance, and Non-TASAF participants for comparison in various issues.

3.4.2 Sample size

One hundred fifty six respondents were interviewed, that is, 120 vulnerable people including widows, elders, and orphans; and 36 people who did not receive any assistance from TASAF just for the purpose of comparing (control).

3.4.3 Sampling methods

The sampling methods which were used to get the required sample size included simple random sampling (SRS), and purposive sampling. Purposive sampling was used in getting the appropriate villages and TASAF interventions. The villages selected randomly were *Byamtemba*, *Igayaza*, *Kyamalange*, *Kassambya*, *Izimbya*, *Omukihisi*, *Ibaraizibu*, and *Mabuye*. The SRS method was used to choose 120 respondents who are TASAF participants, and 36 non TASAF participants, also SRS was used to obtain 10 district staffs that were used during the focus group discussion and lastly SRS was applied in

obtaining 10 Community Project Committee (CPC) for focus group discussion. Four major projects that were involved in the study area were;

- (a) Animal husbandry projects which included goat, poultry, and pig. Five villages were involved whereby from each village, 6 respondents were selected randomly, (18 participants from three villages kept goats, 6 respondents from one village kept pigs and 6 respondents from one village kept poultry (local chickens) hence making a total of 30 respondents with animal husbandry projects. Furthermore, 4 respondents who did not receive any assistance from TASAF were selected randomly from each project for comparison purposes, hence 18 non-TASAF participants. TASAF supported many households in goat keeping than other species of animals that is why there is larger proportion of households keeping goats;
- (b) Crop husbandry project: which involved maize farming: 30 participants were selected from 2 villages (15 participants from each village), 6 non TASAF participants were also selected randomly;
- (c) Milling project: 30 participants were selected randomly from two villages (15 from each village), 6 non TASAF participants were also selected randomly;
- (d) Tailoring and carpentry: 30 participants were selected randomly from one village and 6 non TASAF participants were selected randomly.

3.5 Data collection methods

A set of structured questionnaires with closed and open-ended questions, focus group discussions and interviews were used to collect primary data. the questionnaire was designed to capture all the necessary information, the questionnaires were tested by interviewing seven households in order to check the validity and amendments were then made to get the final version (Appendix II). The data collected includes the demographic

data such as (age, household size, education, and marital status), income, production level and number of livestock.

3.5.1 Reconnaissance survey

A reconnaissance survey was conducted to provide a general picture of the research area and test the questionnaire for the main study. The stakeholders encompassed district staffs, CPC, village leaders, and households to be sampled.

3.5.2 Primary data

The primary data were collected through direct interviews to vulnerable groups, district staff, CPC and village leaders using structured questionnaires, checklist and also from reconnaissance survey. Various questions were asked to obtain relevant answers which are core to this study.

3.5.3 Secondary data

The secondary data were gathered from various sources including publications, Journals, Magazines, books as well as visiting websites. Other sources included visiting libraries of SUA, and District TASAF Office.

3.5.4 Focus group discussion

During the reconnaissance survey, focus group discussions were done involving a group of respondents that involved the CPC together with the village leaders (Village Chairman and/ or Village Secretary) every FGD composed of 10 participants, The FGD was conducted to every selected village with a project, and also FGD was conducted to district staffs which were 10 in number. FGD were conducted so as to confirm the

participant's response in the questionnaire; therefore most of the questions that were asked are repetitions of the vulnerable group's questionnaire. The prepared guiding checklist facilitated the procedure whereby it enabled respondents to reveal more of the project activities in the absence of the district staffs because experiences shows that most villagers avoid discussing openly especially on those issues/aspects pertaining to project implementation. For instance villagers usually don't disclose information relating to the weakness of the project in public meetings or open discussions, especially when project staffs are present. During the FGD it was revealed that most of the respondents were free to talk the problems relating to management and success of the project openly. The verbal discussions held with the respondents were analyzed to meaningful qualitative information.

3.6 Data processing and analysis

Data from the questionnaires were coded and analyzed using statistical packages for social science (SPSS). Descriptive statistics including frequencies, percentages and cross tabulation were generated. Furthermore, association between grouped variables was tested using the Chi-square, while on the other hand differences between groups, means were tested using t-test. Information from FGD was analyzed using content analysis.

CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 General background characteristics of the respondents

The general background characteristics that were put into account were age, gender, education level, marital status, household size and type of vulnerability. These characteristics were considered as important generally because they have certain influence on poverty reduction (Narayan *et al.*, 2000). Table 1 shows the distribution of respondents by demographic characteristics, the criteria selected in this study are considered to be important in describing the status of the respondents.

4.1.1 Sex of household head

The study shows that 17.3% were male and 82.7% were female, indicating that females were more vulnerable than men. This observation supports the report from URT (2003b), which reported that women and female-headed households tend to be poorer than men and male-headed households. Similarly, according to URT (2004), listed the vulnerable groups as children, persons with disabilities, youths (unemployed, youths with unreliable income and female youths), elderly persons, people living with long illness and HIV and AIDS, women (widows, other women who are not able to support themselves) and drug addicts and alcoholics. According to TASAF a widow is any woman who has lost her husband and she has not engaged again in marriage. In addition to that she is not able to sustain her own life, having many dependents, and who has been deserted by her late husband's family.

Table 1: Distribution of respondents by demographic Characteristics

Criteria	Project participants (N=120)		Non-participants (N=36)		All (N=156)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sex of household head:						
Male	24	20.0	3	8.3	27	17.3
Female	96	80.0	33	91.7	129	82.7
Age category:						
< 20	27	22.5	0	0.0	27	17.3
21 – 40	25	20.8	7	19.4	32	20.5
41- 60	42	35.0	23	63.9	65	41.7
> 60	26	21.7	6	16.7	32	20.5
Marital status:						
Married	13	10.8	8	22.2	21	13.5
Not married	30	25.0	0	0.0	30	19.2
Widow	73	60.8	27	75.0	100	64.1
Divorcee	4	3.3	1	2.8	5	3.2
Education level of household head:						
Nil	13	10.8	8	22.2	21	13.5
1 - 4	32	26.7	9	25.0	41	26.3
5 – 8	65	54.2	19	52.8	84	53.8
9 – 12	10	8.3	0	0.0	10	6.4
Household size:						
< 5	49	40.8	17	47.2	66	42.3
5 – 8	61	50.8	15	41.7	76	48.7
> 8	10	8.3	4	11.1	14	9.0
Type of vulnerability:						
Widows	69	57.5	23	63.9	92	59.0
Orphans	36	30.0	3	8.3	39	25.0
Elders	6	5.0	4	11.1	10	6.4
Care takers	9	7.5	6	16.7	15	9.6

Rutasitara (2002a) reported that female-headed households are less well-off than male headed households. The female-headed households were more vulnerable because, among other reasons, they possess limited capital assets. Furthermore, World Bank (1996) pointed out that the female headed households in the rural areas own less land, less livestock and have, on average, less years of schooling and tends to have a higher dependency ratio.

4.1.2 Age category

It is important to know about age distribution in a population because most of the demographic events that determine population dynamics such as births, deaths dependency ratio and migration are highly associated with age variable.

The study revealed that larger proportion of the respondents (41.7%) belonged to age 41-60 years; this is a group in which the majorities are head of the households as compared to the rest of the age group, meaning that it is a group which owns the household resources. Rutasitara (2002a) pointed out that children and the old tend to be poorer than those in the middle age set because children are not expected to work for their living and do not possess assets to generate income. Assets may be physical and non physical such as education and skills. Likewise, the old are not physically strong enough to generate wealth and are consequently likely to be poor.

4.1.3 Marital Status

Results from the present study indicate that larger proportion (60.8%) of the respondents under TASAF project were widows, suggesting that most of the vulnerable group which received the TASAF assistance were the widows. Similar trend was also observed for non-TASAF project members in which widows accounted for about 75% of the total respondents. This situation occurred due to the fact that many projects under Social Support Projects were of widows; this is a group of vulnerable which is highly pronounced in Bukoba district due to the pandemic disease of HIV/AIDS. Semboja (1994) reported that indirect evidence suggests that women are more severely disadvantaged than men. They face higher illiteracy rates, cultural, social, legal and economic obstacles, and work longer hours for lower pay than men.

4.1.4 Education level of the household head

Education always is valued as means of liberation from ignorance it is the only principal mechanism for developing human skills and knowledge (URT, 2003b). Under the current study all respondents were requested to state their levels of education, which ranged from nil to secondary education. The field results show that (53.8%) of respondents had attained primary education. However, there is a segment of the population (13.5%) of all respondents who have not attended any formal education only (6.4%) had attained education above the primary school level. This observation indicates that the literacy rate of the majority (82.7%) is high. The findings are similar to observations by URT (2005) in which the literacy level in Bukoba district was reported to be above 80% and that there is no district in the country where women are more literate than men. Furthermore, Narayan *et al.* (2000) reported that in developing countries women are less literate than men, and female illiteracy has far reaching implications for development because illiteracy further marginalizes women in the public spheres. Women are often simply unable to participate in literacy programs. This scenario of having a segment of the population who did not attend the school (13.7%) is not very much appreciated because in Tanzania basic education is regarded as basic right of every Tanzanian. It is compulsory for every child despite the fact that nowadays this basic right of getting education is abused by other educational factors such as the scarcity of basic educational facilities (URT, 2003b). The high literacy rate indicates that, most of the respondents know how to read and write. Such a considerable high rate of literacy is an important input which may enable local people to be aware, understand and adopt new technologies more easily hence creating necessary strategies for avoiding and fighting against poverty in their localities. Makauki (1999) found that knowing how to read and write was

sufficient in adoption of technologies whose dissemination demanded simple leaflets, pamphlets, posters, newspapers or other simple written materials.

4.1.5 Household size

The size of the household can be an impoverishing force particularly when it indicates a significantly skewed dependency ratio that overburdens the household head or the major breadwinner (URT, 2003b). According to the current study the household size was determined by considering all members present in each household, including parents, children and dependants. Results from Table 1 show that, the larger proportion of the households (48.7%) has a household size of 5-8 people and 42.3% has a household size of less than 5 people per household. In contrast, a small proportion of the households have a household size of more than 8 people per household. According to URT (2003a), it is a common assumption that as a community moves from under development to development the average household size shrinks. Contrary to such belief Kagera Region's average household size increased steadily between 1967 and the year 2002. The regional average rose from 3.9 in 1967 to 4.5 in 1978; 4.9 in 1988 and finally 4.4 in 2002. That means the respondents had higher average size than that of the district as well as that of the region which is 5.2. Kamuzora (1999) cited by Mwisomba and Kiilu (2002) reported that there was a positive correlation between welfare and household size, that means, large-sized households tended to be less poor than others.

4.1.6 Distribution of respondents by type of vulnerability

People's vulnerability is a result of the number and intensity of things pushing them towards poverty versus the number and effectiveness of their response options, URT (2003b). According to the current study, the result shows that the large proportion of the

respondents under TASAF were widows (57.5%), followed by orphans (30%), and a small proportion of participants were elders (5.0%). Similar trend was seen on the non TASAF participants whereby a larger proportion of the respondents were widows. The distribution of respondents by vulnerability reveals that most of the projects funded by TASAF in Bukoba district were of widows, few projects were initiated for elders, and orphans, no project was meant for disabled people. This is because the initiation of the project depended entirely from the need of the vulnerable group in question, (the idea and type of the project should come from the vulnerable people themselves)

4.2 Dependency ratio

In a man's life time the trend is for one to start life dependent on adults. Thereafter, one becomes an economically active adult on whom others depend. The last age phase of life is the advanced age group when one once again, becomes dependent on a younger generation of the economically active. As a country advances from developing status to one fully developed, the dependency ratio in its human population declines. But this could be explained partially by decimation of the economically active group by AIDS (URT, 2003a).

Table 2: Distribution of respondents by dependency ratio (N=156)

Age category(<5 years)	frequency	%
0	96	61.5
1	40	25.6
2	14	9.0
3	5	3.2
4	1	0.7
Total	156	100.0

The Table above reveals that out of 156 respondents 61.5% had no child under five years while 25.6% had one child to feed, 9.0% had two children; 3.2% had 3 children to feed. This category of population is not engaged in production up to when they reach an adult age starting from 18 years.

Table 3: Distribution of respondents by dependency ratio (N=156)

Age category(>65 years)	frequency	%
0	102	65.4
1	53	34.0
2	1	0.6
Total	156	100.0

The Table above shows that out of 156 respondents 65.4% do not live with the old people aged more than 65 years, 34.0%.said that they are living with one old person aged more than 65 years, 0.6% said that they are living with two people over 65 years of age This is an age which his/her potential productivity has declined so he/she is depending on others for his/her living. URT (2003b) argued that, when people grow old, they experience physical changes that prevent them from pursuing their usual livelihood, while limiting their capacity to search for alternatives and respond to a wide range of impoverishing forces.

Table 4: Distribution of respondents by dependency ratio (N=156)

Age category(19-65 years)	frequency	%
0	14	9.0
1	70	44.8
2	37	23.7
3	26	16.7
4	7	4.5
5	2	1.3
Total	156	100.0

The Table 4 above shows the number of working ages at the household. The result shows that 9.0% households were having no ages from 19-65, these houses belonged to elders who live with orphans (under 18 years) and most of these youths were at school. The majority of the respondents (44% households) have one person who is under working ages, thus most of the economic activities that support the household depend on one person to feed the whole family. The study also reveals that 23.7% has two people aged 19-65, 16.7% has three, 4.5% has four and lastly very few households have five people within the age of 19-65 years. The picture derived from here indicates that the households have few working ages per household. This result is supported by the study done by URT (2003a) that a major part of Tanzania's population consist of young persons between ages 10 and 14 years and old people aged 65 and over, then a major national effort is expended in producing food and other consumer goods for these non productive dependants.

The study revealed that 10.3% of the households were living without having a member of the family with the age group of 6-18 in the household; it was further revealed that 86.5% of the households lived with 1-5 people with the age of 6-18 years of age, only a small proportion (2%) lived with more than 5 people with the age of 6-18 years. Majority of this age group are dependants because they are mostly engaged in schooling, (primary-secondary school).

Table 5: Distribution of respondents by dependency ratio (N=156)

Age category(6-18 years)	frequency	%
0	16	10.3
1	40	25.6
2	34	21.8
3	31	19.9
4	30	19.2
5	3	1.9
6	1	0.6
7	1	0.6
Total	156	100.0

4.3 General information of TASAF supported projects in Bukoba district

During phase I TASAF supported 28 projects aimed at assisting the vulnerable groups to fight against poverty. The projects ranged from profit making to provision of services. The projects were distributed all over the district. Before the initiation of the subproject the vulnerable groups were supposed to suggest type of the project that they think they can manage and hence can alleviate poverty to their households. Also they were supposed to suggest any PIA/CBO which they think it has enough experience and they can work together in implementing the project. In case the group does not have any suggestion the district TASAF office assisted them in soliciting the appropriate PIA/CBO. The budget for the project and community based action plan were done in collaboration with the district appraisal team, PIA and community project committee (CPC). The budget and the action plan are later on tabled to the village assembly for approval. During the current study the following projects were sampled.

4.3.1 Maize production projects

The TASAF project in Bukoba district had two projects that were entirely concerning with farming; these projects were owned by widows and orphans. The details of these projects are described below.

4.3.1.1 Mabye maize project

This project was conducted at *Mabye* village, number of beneficiaries were 32 and type of beneficiaries were widows. The project was initiated in 2003, the total cost of the project was Tshs 7 332 566 and community contribution was equivalent to Tshs 824 000 (contribution can be in monetary terms or materially). Each farmer was supposed to cultivate 1 acre of maize. The PIA of this project was World Vision Tanzania. The PIA had an obligation of cultivating the field, and provided the inputs, the participants were supposed to carry out weeding and other succeeding activities. During the cropping season of 2003/04 all the participants (32) planted maize. However, during the cropping season of 2004/05 the number dropped to 22 (68.7%). During the current study there were 20 (62.5%). when they were asked as to why there were dropouts they said that there are a number of reasons, among them being long duration of sickness of some of the participants, distance to and from the field, presence of couch grass which requires a lot of energy to uproot; thus for those who did not manage it opted to drop out. During the study the maize yield per hectare for most of the participants were 2 tons – 2.8 tons. This amount is below the recommended maize production of 3 tons – 4 tons per hectare (Ngeze, 2003). Low production was contributed by untimely field preparation, planting, weeding, and inadequate use of inputs. Comparatively the yield was lower to widows who are relatively aged and vice versa probably due to working capabilities.

4.3.1.2 Bunazi maize and beans project

This project was conducted at *Bunazi* village. The beneficiaries of this project were the widows living at *Kassambya* and *Bunazi* villages. The total numbers of beneficiaries were 75, and the total number of acres cultivated for widows were 75 whereby each participant had 1 acre. The main objective of this project was to enable the household to

be food secure. The total cost of the project was Tshs 10 287 000 whereby TASAF contributed Tshs 9 040 000 and the beneficiaries contribution was Tshs 500 000. The PIA that assisted the widows was the World Vision Tanzania. The PIA assisted the widows to cultivate the field and distribution of inputs, and also it provided cash to the group in order to help them in looking for casual labour that can assist them in weeding. During the study it was found that the extension service was a problem and also there was no backup from the village government. Furthermore, there was a problem of financial mismanagement by the PIA. That is to say, there was no proper planning for assisting the widows in various activities such as transportation of maize. The CPC, which was supposed to oversee the progress of the project in collaboration with the PIA were in place, though it was not active. Yield per hectare was not high as it was recommended (3 tons – 4 tons/ha). The yield for participant was 2 tons – 2.5 tons/ha.

The objective of ensuring food security to the participants was not adequately achieved because in average the amount of maize harvested per household did not sustain the household throughout the year. The participants had a suggestion that TASAF should not use PIA in implementation of the projects because some of them are not honest.

4.3.2 Animal husbandry projects

The TASAF project in Bukoba district had five projects that were entirely concerning with animal husbandry, these projects were owned by widows and orphans, different types of animal were kept depending on their preference. The details of these projects are explained below.

4.3.2.1 Igayaza goat keeping project

The project was conducted at *Igayaza* village; the beneficiaries of the project were orphans, the total number of families that were to benefit from the project was 42 families that have the total of 101 orphans (42 boys, 52 girls). The objective of the project was to improve the nutritional status of the orphans, and to increase farm productivity.

The total cost of the project was Tshs 13 777 575, whereby, TASAF contribution was Tshs 13 121 500 and target group contribution was equivalent to Tshs 656 075, The PIA of the project was a religious community based organization known as *Bethania Igayaza*. One of the activities of the PIA was to construct 42 goat's sheds. PIA purchased 89 goats (84 does "she goats" and 5 bucks "male goats") which were distributed to the households. Each household received 2 does. The 5 bucks were distributed evenly through out the sub villages whereby each sub village received one buck. Due to managerial problems there was frequent occurrence of diseases, abortions and lack of kidding, these problems resulted into inadequate production of milk which was to be used by the orphans so as to improve the nutritional status. Most of the goats were producing below half a litre.

4.3.2.2 Izimbya poultry keeping project

The project was conducted at *Izimbya* village; the beneficiaries of this project were orphans. Total number of the beneficiaries was 75 (34 boys; 41 girls). The main objective of this project was to improve the nutritional status of the orphans through consumption of eggs and to improve the living standard of the household through selling of eggs and chickens. The total cost of the project were Tshs 15 072 350 whereby TASAF contribution was Tshs 11 912 000, PIA contributed Tshs 2 844 314 and beneficiaries contributed Tshs 316 035. The PIA of this project was a CBO known as *Mwangaza*,

based at the village. The tasks of the PIA in this project were to purchase 1000 local chickens and construction of 12 huts for chickens. The participants were required to attend on regular alternating basis to these centres for cleaning the hut, provision of drinking water, feeds and collection of eggs. Records of activities done per day and eggs collected are recorded and stored by the secretary of CPC. (Each centre has 80-85 chickens). Literary it was supposed to conduct a meeting of the participants every month and to deliver the progress of the project showing profits and expenditures. However, during the current study it was revealed that the participants conveyed the meeting only thrice since 2004 and there were no proper records of how much eggs were collected. Some of the centres have decided to divide the chickens to each participant so that each family rears the chickens on his/her own. The CPC is in place but it is not active.

The participants from each centre were supposed to cultivate one acre of maize to be used as feeds for chickens, however, during the current study it was found that there was no maize harvested for chickens because of long dry spell at the village. Due to lack of reports the village government has intervened and instructed that each participant should raise its chickens. The major problems that have faced the project include deaths, droughts, inadequate feeds, inadequate extension services and inadequate funds to construct proper houses for chicken.

4.3.2.3 Byamtemba goat keeping project

The project was conducted at the village known as *Byamtemba*, the beneficiaries of this project were the orphans. The total number of the orphans to be served by this project was 34 who were living in 22 households. The main objective of this project was to improve the living standard of the households who have the orphans. The PIA of this

project was known as *Alaah masjid –Omurugando* (A religious CBO based at the village, formed by Islamic women for the purpose of helping each other during the funerals and celebrations). The main task of the PIA was to construct 36 huts and to purchase 190 goats to be distributed to the households, and also to organize training concerning goat husbandry, each household received 5 goats. The total cost of the project was Tshs 11 017 140 whereby TASAF contributed Tshs 10 428 800; PIA's contribution was Tshs 588 240.

The project has assisted the families to be able to solve some problems which have been facing the households on the day to day basis such as purchasing utensils, salt, and purchase of the children's uniforms; and also the households had an opportunity to use manure in the field, as a result of this the productivity has comparatively increased. The CPC was in place though it was not active; there was very little support from the village government, meetings to discuss the progress of the project were not conducted regularly.

4.3.2.4 Kyamarange pig keeping

The project was conducted at a village known as *Kyamarange*, the beneficiaries of this project were 38 widows. The PIA of this project was World Vision (T). The main objective of this project was to improve the living standard of the widows; this objective was to be achieved through selling of the piglets, meat and improve productivity through the use of manure.

The total cost of the project was Tshs 11 247 760 whereby TASAF contributed Tshs 10 172 760, and PIA contributed Tshs 585 000. The main task of the PIA was to construct 36 sheds for pigs and purchase of 76 pigs; each household received 2 pigs. Each household

was supposed to cultivate an acre of cocoyam (*magimbi*) to be used as food for pigs, but due to land scarcity, labour, cost of cultivation, and inadequate planting materials few households managed to cultivate even a quarter of an acre. The problems that faced the project were inadequate feeds, and inadequate extension services. Due to these problems pigs were not productive.

4.3.2.5 Kassambya home based care for elders

The project was conducted at *Kassambya* village. The beneficiaries of this project were the elders who are living with orphans, and the project was concerned with goat keeping. The PIA of this project was Missenyi Aids Control Program (MACOP) which is a local NGO based at the village. The main objective of this project was to improve the standard of living of elders. This was to be achieved through keeping of goats whereby, the elders will get milk hence improving their nutritional status and also they will get manure which will improve the soil fertility of their fields. The main task of the PIA was to construct 20 sheds for cattle and 24 huts for goats. Purchase of 51 goats and 20 cattle was made. The total costs of the project was Tshs 20 209 800. TASAF contribution was Tshs 17 547 800; PIA contribution was Tshs 1 780 000 and beneficiary contribution was Tshs 882 000. Total number of beneficiaries were 68 whereby 29 have received goats and 10 have received cows, the remaining 39 (20 elders opted to be given goats, and 10 elders opted to be given cows). These elders were to receive the goats and cows from their neighbours based on agreement. However, during the current study it was revealed that some of the participants were refusing to give goats/cows to their neighbours as it was agreed during the initiation of the project. The issue has been presented to the village government to intervene but stern measures against the defaulters have not yet being implemented.

4.3.3 The milling machine projects

Milling projects were among the projects that were executed by TASAF, there were four milling projects in the district but two projects were selected randomly in this study. The details of these projects are explained below.

4.3.3.1 Ibaraizibu milling project

The project was conducted at *Ibaraizibu* village. The beneficiaries of this project were the widows and orphans, the total number of the target group were 21 widows, and 81 orphans. The PIA of the project was known as Bukoba Association Group. The objective of the project was to improve the living standard of the widows who have large number of orphans. The project was anticipated to enable the widows to earn income through milling machine; hence the project will enable them to take care of the family with little difficulties. The total cost of the project was Tshs 16 500 055 whereby TASAF contributed a total amount of Tshs 15 123 120, PIA contributed Tshs. 1 196 935 and beneficiaries contributed Tshs 180 000.

The PIA was required to buy a milling machine, construct the milling house, and organize training of how to handle the machine and bookkeeping. The project started on 9 July 2004. However, during the implementation process the project faced a number of problems which hindered its productivity. The running cost was very high as compared to income; for example the salary of the security guard was Tshs 56 000 per month while the customers per day were 5-10 people, whereby each customer brought 3-5kg of maize at a cost of Tshs 150 per kilogram, hence the income per day was not more than Tshs 2 000 (about Tshs 60 000 per month). The cost of electricity is about Tshs 40 000 per month. This amount was too high to be afforded by the project; moreover, there was

frequent breakdown of the machines which needs repair. This situation resulted into high maintenance cost and loss of customers. The project anticipated that the profit will be distributed to the beneficiaries and the bank account will be opened, but due to no or low profits to beneficiaries for a long period, some of the members have dropped from the group. The CPC is in place and it is active. However, when they convey the meetings very few members attended. The group had no backup from the village government. Because of the poor progress of the project, the widows were planning to make a contract with an individual businessman who could hire the machine and pay the group some money on monthly basis.

4.3.3.2 Omukihisi milling project

The project was conducted at *Omukihisi* village. The beneficiaries of this project were widows and their total number of beneficiaries was 38 out of 97 widows who are living in the village, the PIA of this project was UMATI. The main objective of this project was to improve the living standard of the widows. The total cost of the project was Tshs 10 529 000 whereby TASAFA contributed Tshs 9 989 000, PIA contribution was Tshs 300 000 and the beneficiaries contributed Tshs 240 000. The main task of the PIA was to construct a milling shed, to buy the milling machine, and to organize for training of handling the machine and simple bookkeeping. During the current study it was revealed that there was a problem of cash to buy fuel for the machine and also the numbers of customers for milling were very few due to the fact that within the village there were three other milling machines. During the study it was also found that the records were not well documented. The participants have not yet obtained tangible benefits. The village government does not backup the project effectively. However, the

beneficiaries are optimistic that may be the benefit can be realized when there will be bumper harvest of maize.

4.3.4 Kassambya tailoring and carpentry subproject

The project was conducted at Kassambya village. The beneficiaries of this project are orphans, the total number of the beneficiaries is 40 orphans and the PIA of the project is *MACOP*. The main objective of the project is to train the youths to acquire the skills in tailoring and carpentry so that they can sustain their own lives. The total cost of the project is Tshs 14 695 950 whereby TASAF contribution was Tshs 13 675 950 and PIA contribution was Tshs 1 020 000. The main task of the PIA was to construct tailoring and carpentry classes, office, store and toilets and later on to ensure that the beneficiaries have opened bank account. During the current study the CPC was found to be in place and the committee was active, however, the project is not doing well due to lack of competent trainers for carpentry and tailoring, inadequate cash to buy timber, garments and tools. Furthermore, there was lack of transparency on issues related to cash obtained through selling of few furniture and clothes that are manufactured. During the current study it was revealed that no profit had been distributed among the participants, and also no money had been saved in the bank account. The profit has been obtained to few participants who are able to buy their own timber and manufacture furniture that are sold to customers. However, the issue has been reported to the district authority, procedures are on the way to ensure that the vocation centre is registered. When registration will be accomplished the centre will be under the supervision of the district hence the existing shortfalls will be over.

4.4 Detailed functioning of the projects

The following subtopics explain the responses from TASAF participants and non-TASAF participants in various issues as they are described below.

4.4.1 Consumption of selected food items

The study was conducted to find out whether the selected few protein foods are consumed at household level. The selected foods were meat, fish and eggs. Inadequate intake of these foods leads to malnutrition to both adults and children. The Table below shows the distribution of the respondents by consumption of each food item.

Table 6: Distribution of respondents by consumption of food items (N=156)

Food Item	Project participants		Non-project		All	
	(N=120)		participants (N=36)		(N=156)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Meat kg per month						
0	64	53.4	27	75.0	91	58.4
0.5-1	16	13.3	2	5.6	18	11.5
1.5-3	22	18.3	7	19.4	29	18.6
>3	18	15.0	0	0.0	18	11.5
Number of eggs per month:						
0	94	78.3	33	91.7	127	81.4
2 - 15	18	15.0	3	8.3	21	13.4
16 - 30	4	3.3	0	0.0	4	2.6
> 30	4	3.4	0	0.0	4	2.6
Fish kg per month						
0	13	10.8	5	13.9	18	11.5
0.1-1	62	51.7	17	47.2	79	50.7
1.1-3	33	27.5	12	33.3	45	28.8
>3	12	10.0	2	5.6	14	9.0

The results from Table 6 show that substantial proportion (53.3%) involved in TASAF project indicated that a month can pass without consuming meat, even those who

consume most of them take not more than 3kg per month. This situation is also observed to the non-TASAF participants, whereby 75% do not eat meat in entire month.

Results from Table 6 further show that eggs were rarely consumed in both groups. Proportion of interviewed people who agreed that a month can pass without consumption of even a single egg by their household was 78.3% and 91.7% for TASAF and non-TASAF project members, respectively. Less than 5% of respondents in both groups managed to eat/buy at least a single egg per day for their families. Results from present study in Table 6 also indicated that of the all food items studied, fish (specifically *sardines*), which is relatively cheap, were the food item in which most of the households can afford to buy at least few kilograms in a month.

According to FNCRCC (1989) the recommended dietary allowances for energy is 4kcal/g of food protein or food carbohydrate and 9 kcal/g of food fat although these recommendations are affected by age, sex, body size and composition of genetic factors, energy factors, energy intake, physiologic state, coexisting pathological conditions and ambient temperature. Therefore, considering the household sizes of more than five people per household, it is definite that the amount of protein, carbohydrate and fats consumed per day per person is very low to meet the recommended dietary allowances. Therefore, conclusively TASAF projects have not yet brought any significant changes to the households as far as improving nutritional status is concerned.

4.4.2 Food production

During the study the respondents were asked to state how much they harvested during the season of 2005/06 (beans, banana and maize). The answers were given in measurement

which was easy for the respondent to recall. Isinika and Mdoe (2001) argued that farm records provide a basis for checking on farm performance and guide future decisions. Despite the importance of records, smallholder farmers in developing countries like Tanzania do not or rarely record farm information on paper. Therefore, some of the respondents, due to lack of records got problems to recall production of previous season. The table below shows the amount harvested to both groups.

Table 7: Average productions for various major crops in a household for the season 2005/06

Type of crop	TASAF	Non-TASAF	t-value	Significance
Beans (Tins)	6.3	5.1	1.10	0.028 ^{NS}
Maize (Tins)	6.3	4.2	1.96	0.043*
Banana (Bunches)	71.7	44.1	2.10	0.038*

Key: NS=Non significant,*=significant at ($p < 0.05$)

Results in Table 7 indicate that average production for various crops were somewhat higher in the TASAF project members compared to non-TASAF project members and the differences were significant ($P < 0.05$). Average production in the season 2005/06 in a household for TASAF project members was 6 tins of beans, 6 tins of maize and 72 bunches of banana, while for the non-TASAF members average production per household was 5 tins of beans, 4 tins of maize and 44 of bananas bunches, respectively. On average, the amount of beans, maize and bananas harvested was indicated by the respondents in TASAF project to sustain them for about 5, 4 and 3 months, respectively, compared to 4, 3 and 1 months, respectively for non-TASAF project members (Table 8). The observed differences in production could be brought about by the support in which some of the TASAF members get specifically those involving in maize farming. The supports include extension services, provision of inputs such as fertilizers, and the use of farm yard

manure. The study reveals that the amount harvested, could not sustain them for the whole period of the year, it only sustained them not more than six months.

During the study the respondents were asked to explain the contributing factors which hindered them to produce adequate amount of food which can sustain them for the whole year, they mentioned the problems which are clearly indicated in Table 25. However, the problem of low food production is a major hindrance to achievement of poverty reduction which is a core objective of TASAF.

Table 8: Average months in which the amount harvested would sustain the household

Type of crop	TASAF	Non-TASAF	t-value	Significance
Beans	5.1	4.0	2.06	0.043*
Maize	4.4	2.5	3.51	0.001**
Banana	3.2	1.4	2.10	0.035*

Key: *=significant at ($p < 0.05$), and **=significant at ($p < 0.01$)

4.5 Number of children attending schools and number of school droppers

Poor people realize that education offers an escape from poverty-but only if the economic environment in the society at large and the quality of education improves. Education has both private and social returns (Mbele and Katabaro 2003).As with health; education is an area in which most developing nations experience great needs. Education is perceived as both a basic human right and also an essential constituent of development, working to build required human capital, it is a tool for reshaping personal attitudes to bring them in line with national goals (Kahama *et al.*, 1986).

During the current study the respondents were requested to mention the number of children who are attending the school, so as to evaluate how the households are

emphasizing on educating their children as one means of combating poverty in a country. Results for Chi-square test in Table 9 indicated that there was no significant association ($P > 0.05$) between the number of children attending school and to whether a household is engaged in TASAF project or not. Majority of the respondents in both groups (78% and 67% for TASAF and non-TASAF project members, respectively) had one to three children attending school. This is even reflected in Table 10, in which very few households (around 10%) in both groups had their children left the school due to various reasons including diseases such as HIV/AIDS, lack of uniforms and negligence of the child himself/herself.

Table 9: Distribution of respondents by number of children attending school
(N=156)

Number of children	Project participants		Non TASAF participants		All		Chi square
	No	%	No	%	No	%	
	0	17	14.2	10	27.8	27	
1-3	93	77.5	24	66.7	117	75.0	
4 and above	10	8.3	2	5.6	12	7.7	
Total	120	100.0	36	100.0	156	100.0	

Key: NS = non-significant at ($p > 0.05$)

Table 10: Distribution of respondents by number of children dropped at school
(N=156)

Number of children dropped	Project participant		Non-TASAF participants		All		Chi square
	No	%	No	%	No	%	
	0	105	87.5	35	97.2	140	
1	15	12.5	1	2.8	16	10.3	
Total	120	100.0	36	100.	156	100.	
				0		0	

Key: NS = non-significant at ($p > 0.05$)

4.6 Possession of animals and assets

URT (2003b) reported that assets provide people with opportunities and options in the face of impoverishing forces. Thus, being asset poor limits people's capacity to improve and safeguard their well being. However, Rutasitara (2002a) argued that wealth symbolizes peace and prestige, a sign that the owner is a well-off at least by the standards of his community and wealth in form of assets, land, and capital is in addition a source for further wealth. Three forms of wealth are used to describe the poverty profile namely; land, livestock and ownership of simple consumer durables. However, Narayan *et al* (2000) categorized poor households into; relatively well off households; average households; poor households and very poor households whereas in Uganda women's groups distinguished between three categories of poor people: the poor, the poorest, and the fully dependent. Likewise, Kamuzora (2001) supported that possessions of assets reflect income levels. With respect to this study the following assets were considered to be important in measuring poverty of the household.

4.6.1 Type of the house

During the study respondents were asked the type of their houses among the two categories, namely the house thatched with grass and the house with corrugated iron sheet. The study revealed that more than a half (64.2%) of total number of respondents with TASAF projects had their house roofed with corrugated iron sheets. Similar trend was also observed for non- TASAF members in which 58% of them had their houses roofed with corrugated iron sheets. This trend is not surprising as most of the houses were old one built in those old years in which the economic status of people in Bukoba district was relatively good due to high prices of coffee (the major cash crop in the area) and bananas (the major food crop of the area). Currently the production of these crops has tremendously declined.

Table 11: Distribution of respondents by type of the house

Type of the house	Project		Non-TASAF		All		Chi square 0.525 ^{NS}
	participant		participants		No	%	
	No	%	No	%			
Thatched with grass	43	35.8	15	41.7	58	37.2	
Corrugated iron sheet	77	64.2	21	58.3	98	62.8	
Total	120	100.0	36	100.0	156	100.0	

Key: NS = non-significant at (p >0.05)

4.6.2 Possession of animals and assets

In some places, cows, mules are used for draught, otherwise, animals are kept as form of wealth, food and rarely for commercial purposes for example Mwanza and Mara regions the number of cattle owned signifies the wealth status of the household head, which enables the owner to increase the number of wives Rutasitara (2002b). Similarly Mascarenhas (2000) supported that livestock ownership is one of the critical factors of appreciating poverty. They are also major indicators of deficient livelihood systems, reflect a method of coping with environments which are not conducive for agriculture, represent a sign of “wealth” and also are a form of investment. Likewise, in the study area the possession of animals was regarded as a sign of wealth and security. During the study the respondents were asked to state the number of various type of animals in which they own. The study revealed that most of the respondents in both groups had no cattle. About 90 and 92% of respondents in TASAF and non-TASAF project members had no cattle, with the difference between the two groups being non significant (P> 0.05). Similarly, pigs were also kept by very few people as a result, proportion of respondents in both groups who don’t keep pig accounted for more than 75% of total respondents. In contrast, a significant proportion of respondents in both groups possessed goats and chickens. While proportion of people possessing goats in both groups accounted for nearly 60% of

total respondents, about 50% and 42% of total respondents in TASAF and non-TASAF projects respectively kept chickens. Although substantial proportion of sampled households were keeping goats and chickens, however these livestock species in both groups were kept in small numbers that is 1 -3 goats by most of the respondents.

From the results obtained it is concluded that keeping of animals has not improved the living standard of the respondents, neither there is no difference in life style between the groups that is for TASAF participants and non-TASAF participants, moreover, the number of animals being kept by the respondents were observed to be very small to bring any positive changes (to alleviate poverty). Possession of animals by the participants is shown in Table 12 here below.

Table 12: Distribution of respondents by possession of livestock

Type of livestock	Project participants		Non TASAF participants		All		Chi square
	No	%	No	%	No	%	
Cattle							
0	108	90	33	91.7	141	90.4	0.934 ^{NS}
1-3	9	7.5	3	8.3	12	7.7	
4 - 6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	
> 6	3	2.5	0	0.0	3	1.9	
Goat							
0	49	40.8	15	41.6	64	41.0	5.527 ^{NS}
1-3	55	45.8	11	30.6	66	42.3	
4 - 6	11	9.2	8	22.2	19	12.2	
> 6	5	4.2	2	5.6	7	4.5	
pigs							
0	94	78.3	32	88.9	126	80.8	0.267 ^{NS}
1-3	26	21.7	4	11.1	30	19.2	
Chicken							
0	50	41.7	21	58.3	71	45.5	0.161 ^{NS}
1-3	36	30.0	11	30.6	47	30.1	
4 - 6	22	18.3	3	8.3	25	16.0	
> 6	12	10.0	1	2.8	13	8.3	

Key: NS = non-significant at (p > 0.05)

4.6.3 Possession of other assets

In the current study, respondents were asked to state whether they possess other assets such as radio, TV, and bicycle. As observed in possession of different livestock species, results from present study also indicated that there was no significant difference ($P > 0.05$) between the two groups in the possession of other assets (Table 13). More than 90% of total respondents in both groups had no TV, and less than 50% of them had a bicycle. Number of people possessing radio in both groups accounted for about 53 and 44% of total respondents in TASAF and non-TASAF project, respectively. Assets such as Radio, TV, Bicycle and House with corrugated iron sheets are usually linked to wealth status (Rutasitara, 2002a). Not being able to own any of these assets may indicate household's low expenditure capability. Since most of the respondents in both groups didn't own

these assets (Radio, TV) therefore earnings obtained from the projects which the participants are undertaking, have not yet enabled the majority of the vulnerable groups to access to these assets. Normally assets are purchased when a household has accomplished the necessary family needs such as food and other necessities.

Table 13: Distribution of respondents by possession of other assets

Assets		Project participants (N=120)		Non project participant (N=36)		All		Chi square
		Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	
Radio	No	57	47.5	20	55.6	77	49.4	0.396 ^{NS}
	Yes	63	52.5	16	44.4	79	50.6	
TV	No	119	99.2	34	94.4	153	98.1	0.070 ^{NS}
	Yes	1	0.8	2	5.6	3	1.9	
Bicycle	No	68	56.7	21	58.3	89	57.1	0.859 ^{NS}
	Yes	52	43.3	15	41.7	67	42.9	

Key. Freq = frequency

4.7 Income of the respondents

During the study the respondents were asked to mention their income per year, the result shows that 70% of the TASAF participants were receiving an income below Tshs 50 000 per year and 19.2% were receiving an amount not more than Tshs 100 000 per year. Only a small proportion of the respondents with TASAF activities (10.9%) were receiving an amount above Tshs 100 000. On the other hand, the study revealed that, the non-TASAF participants (83.3%) receive an income below Tshs 50 000. The study further shows that only 13.9% received an income between Tshs 50 000-100 000 and 6% were receiving an income from Tshs 100 000 and above. These observations indicate that majority of the respondents in both groups (TASAF and non TASAF) live below poverty line. URT (2003a) reported that, in the year 2000 income in Tanzania was 242 per capita per year. About 50% of Tanzanians live below the poverty line of Tshs 73 877 per adult equivalent per year in 1995 prices, which is about 0.5 per capita per day. World Bank (2000) also

pointed out that 50% of all Tanzanians live in poor households with an income equivalent of less than 1 per day per person, while 36% of households have an income equivalent of less than 0.75 per day. Poverty is particularly prevalent in the rural areas; almost 61% of the rural population is poor as compared to 39% of the urban population.

Chi square test was done to establish if there was a significant difference in the distribution of respondents among different income categories for TASAF and non-TASAF project participants. Results showed that there was no significant difference ($P>0.05$) between the two groups. Generally, most of the respondents in both groups receive an income below Tshs 50 000. This earning suggests why Kagera Region is pointed out as one of the poorest region in Tanzania (URT, 2003a). The Table 14 below shows the average income of the participants.

Table 14: Distribution of respondents by income of the household

Income category	Project participants (N=120)		Non-project participants (N=36)		All (N=156)		Chi-square
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
< 50 000	84	70.0	30	82.3	114	73.1	0.344 ^{NS}
50 001 – 100 000	23	19.1	5	12.9	28	17.9	
100 001-500 000	8	6.7	1	1.8	9	5.8	
>above 500 000	5	4.2	0	3.2	5	3.2	
Total	120	100.0	36	100.0	156	100.0	

4.8 Number of labourers hired

During the current study it was revealed that 91.7% of TASAF respondents were not in a position of hiring people to do work in their fields, while 5.8% of household were able to hire 1-2 labourers to do jobs in their fields and pay them. However, 2.5% of households were able to hire more than 3 labourers to do work in their fields. For Non-TASAF it was revealed that 94.4% of the respondents were not able to hire labourers to do jobs in their

field, while only 2% were able to hire casual labourers for work in the field. This trend of being unable to hire the casual labour is supported by the amount of income earned per year whereby 91.0% of the respondents receive an income of not more than Tshs 100 000 per year as it is indicated in Table 14. This category of earning cannot allow a household to hire the casual labour. Result for Chi square test indicated that differences between the two groups in extent of labour hiring was not significant ($P>0.05$).

Table 15: Distribution of respondents by Number of labourers hired

No of labourers	Project participant (N=120)		Non-TASAF Participant (N=36)		All (N=156)		Chi square
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	
0	110	91.7	34	94.4	144	92.3	0.629
1-2	7	5.8	2	5.6	9	5.7	
3 and above	3	2.5	0	0.0	3	3.0	
Total	120	100.0	36	100.0	156	100.0	

Key: Freq = Frequency

4.9 Number of family members who sold their labour

Kamuzora and Gwalema (1998) reported that there are two poverty-exacerbating factors in Bukoba District namely; labour constraints in the labour intensive smallholder agricultural production. Similarly, the level of poverty in rural settings is sometimes judged as to whether the member of households go out to search for work to do for earning money so as to sustain the family members. The higher the frequency of being a casual labour to others' fields the poorer the household.

During the current study the respondents were asked to respond to the question of how many members of the family go to work in the others/neighbours field as casual labourers, the current study revealed that 72.5% of the TASAF participants responded that there is no member of their family who goes out to search for work in others in order to earn money for supporting the family. It was also found that 25% of the households 1-2 members of the family go out of their household to search for a job in others field so as to earn money for a living. Also it was found that 2.5% of the households let more than three members of their family to go out to look for a job in others family, which later on receives money which is used to sustain members of the family. Similarly, 72.2% of the households of the non-TASAF participants did not let their members to go out to look for work in others' fields, and 27.8% had not more than 2 people in the household who were working in others field to earn money for the family use. Generally, 72.4% of the both groups of respondents said that they do not sell their labour so as to earn money to sustain the family. However, during the FGD participants were asked as to why most of the respondents do not go out to search for a job in others fields and one respondent said that, *“Traditionally, it is a great shame for a “Haya” household to go out and work to others’ field, traditionally this was a job of the “Ha” and “Hangaza” people from Kigoma and*

Ngara districts respectively. However, the trend is slowly changing due to economic hardship to the households.

Chi square test was done to establish if there was a significant difference between the two groups with respect to this variable. The result shows that there was no significant difference in selling labour between TASAF participants and those without projects (Table 16).

Table 16: Distribution of respondents by number of family sold their labour

No of labourers	Project participant (N=120)		Non-TASAF Participant (N=36)		All (N=156)		Chi square
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	
	0	87	72.5	26	72.2	113	
1-2	30	25.0	10	27.8	40	25.6	
>3	3	2.5	0	0	3	1.9	
Total	120	100.0	36	100.0	156	100.0	

Key: Freq = Frequency

4.10 Number of groups the respondents joined

It is believed that an individual cannot be self-sustained or self-contained without depending on others, in rural areas people do join in various groups so that he/she can be assisted by his/her fellow in the groups in case of any social problem such as death, lack of food, etc. Many groups one joins the better the chances one can be assisted by the fellow group members. Narayan *et al.* (2000) supported that poor people invest heavily in social relations for psychological, cultural, and economic well being. Narayan (1997) reported that membership in a group participation in its activities, contributing resource in kind and payment of fees all impose on members. In times of increased economic hardship, it would be expected that membership would decline. Yet in Tanzania,

membership in at least some groups is increasing both among the poor and wealthy; However, large proportion of the people do join groups for economic support, other reasons are; brings people together, strengthen religious beliefs, provides consolation, provides encouragement and emotional support, to share information, ideas, news, provide credit etc.

During the current study, the participants were asked to explain if he/she has joined in any group. The result shows, that no one member in TASAF project has not joined to a group. More than 62.5% of the TASAF respondent had either one or two groups and 37.5% had more than three groups. However, on Non-TASAF participants 33.3% had no group while 65.6% had one or two groups and 11.1% had more than two groups. This phenomenon of joining social groups has prospered even in urban areas whereby it is very prominent to women than men. Most of the respondents who join the groups are women because they are more vulnerable to poverty than men, and are prone to any other form of hardships as compared to men. Generally, more than 90% had joined to at least group essentially due to social as well as economical grounds. However, Result for Chi square test indicated that differences between the two groups in extent of joining the groups is significant ($P>0.05$).

Table 17: Distribution of respondents by number of groups joined

No of groups joined	Project participant (N=120)		Non-TASAF Participant (N=36)		All (N=156)		Chi square
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	
None	0	0.0	12	33.3	12	7.7	46.47***
1	38	31.7	11	30.6	49	31.4	
2	37	30.8	9	25.0	46	29.5	
3 and above	45	37.5	4	11.1	49	31.4	
Total	120	100.0	36	100.0	156	100.0	

Key: *** = significant at ($p<0.001$) and Freq = frequency.

4.11 Type of TASAF interventions to support vulnerable groups

Implementation of the TASAF activities is done through various projects; there are projects which are owned by a group, others are entirely owned by individuals. Under current study those which were owned by groups are milling projects, tailoring and carpentry. Those that are individual owned are maize and animal husbandry projects. All types of projects are required to have the project community committee (CPC) which works in close collaboration with the PIA. During the current study it was found that the CPCs are not active in performing their obligations.

4.12 Participation of the respondents

Participation ensures that projects or programs are operated and managed more efficiently, effectively and sustainably. Moreover, it ensures efficiency because by involving all interested parties a wider pool of knowledge is available that supports better design, implementation, financial and other costs may be shared. It also ensures effectiveness because stakeholders varied interests are identified and addressed well in advance. Furthermore shared ownership of the program means there is greater chance of achieving the intended outcome, finally, it ensures sustainability because people are encouraged to use their knowledge and take their initiatives. Moreover they gain skills and confidence to maintain the benefits once the foreign aid resources are formally stopped (Rugumamu, 1999).

During the current study, the TASAF participants were interviewed to respond if they were involved from the initial stage of selecting the type of the project that should be implemented. The result showed 86.7% of the participants that were assisted by TASAF under animal husbandry projects were involved in all stages of the project formulation.

The study further revealed that 100% of the respondents in maize farming and milling projects participated in the project from the initial stages of the project. In contrast, only 60% of total respondents in tailoring and carpentry projects were involved from the initial stage of the projects. During the Focus group discussion with some members in the tailoring and carpentry project it was revealed that members who were involved were the ones who joined the group in the initial stage of the project implementation, while 40% who said that they were not involved from the initial stage joined the group in the later stages so as to replace the vacancies left by former group members who left the project due to various reasons such being married, or searching for jobs in urban area, or dropping out from the project. One young respondent said that “*why should I keep on coming while at the end of the day I earn nothing, better go to town to do bodaboda*” (*carrying passengers and luggage by bicycle*). Generally, participation of the participants in the TASAF project is commendable. This is in line with the TASAF pre-requisite that for the project to be eligible it should demonstrate that there will be active participation from the target group and beneficiary community. Furthermore, before a project is identified the target group should be endorsed during the village assembly which is supposed to be attended by more than 70% of the eligible voters of the village, and then the target group forms their group leadership. Results for Chi square test indicated that this difference in level of participation among different projects was statistically significant ($P < 0.001$).

Table 18: Distribution of participants by participation (N=120)

Type of activity	Participants Involved		Participants not involved		All	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Animal husbandry (N=30)	26	86.7	4	13.3	30	100
Crop farming (N=30)	30	100.0	0	0.0	30	100
Milling (N=30)	30	100.0	0	0.0	30	100
Tailoring and Carpentry (N=30)	18	60.0	12	40.0	30	100

Key: Chi-square value= 27.692, Significant ($P < 0.001$) and Freq = frequency.

4.13 Comments on the progress of the projects

It is usually very important to obtain views of the targeted individuals on the progress of the projects. By doing so, one is able to acquire the whole picture of the activity in question. During the study respondents were given an opportunity to give out their views about the progress of their projects, the study revealed that the projects of animal husbandry and crop farming were commented positively by the respondents (80% and 83.3%, respectively). The benefits obtained are manure, availability of foods, and earning of cash as it is evident in section 4.15 (Table 22). However, substantial proportion of the respondents (43%) said that the projects of milling are not progressing as it was expected, similarly, a large proportion of the respondents (70%) commented negatively on the overall performance of the tailoring and Carpentry. Results for Chi square test indicated that this difference in response whether the projects are progressing well or not well progressing was statistically significant at $P < 0.001$ (Table 19).

Table19: Distribution of respondents by progress of the projects (N=120)

Type of the activity	Well progressing		Not well progressing		Chi square
	Frequenc y	%	Frequenc y	%	
Animal husbandry	24	80.0	6	20.6	17.488**
Crop farming	25	83.3	5	16.7	
Milling	17	56.7	13	43.3	
Tailoring and Carpentry	9	30.0	21	70.0	

Key: **= Significant at (P< 0.01)

4.15 Benefits from the projects

Under normal circumstances, if the participant says that he/she is benefiting from the project it is more likely that he/she will ensure that the project keeps on progressing well, but when one says that he/she does not benefit from the project it is also more likely that the sustainability of the project becomes in doubt. During the present study respondents were asked to give out their views of whether they are benefiting from the projects. Results are presented in Table 21. The results revealed that 76.7% of the respondents from the project of animal husbandry said that they have benefited from the project. Similarly, 86.7% of the respondents in farming projects agreed that they have benefited from the project in various ways as it is clearly explained in section 4.15 (Table 22). In contrast, other projects (milling and tailoring/carpentry) revealed different picture. When respondents were interviewed to give out their views of whether they are benefiting from the project or not, only 13.3% and 30% responded that they have obtained benefit from the projects for milling and tailoring/carpentry projects respectively. During the FGD respondents were asked as to why very few people are benefiting from the project they said that those who are benefiting from milling projects are those who supervise

milling operations on a regular basis. Moreover on further probing, one respondent said that “*they benefit from flour and money of the customer*”.

With regard to tailoring and carpentry project respondents in FGD said that they don’t expect any benefit from the project if the working tools and competent trainers are not obtained. Through these they will be able to construct materials that are marketable and hence acquire money that can improve their living standard. Chi square test was done to establish if there was a significant difference on response to this question in various projects. The result shows that there was high significant difference between the projects in whether the projects have benefited the members or not. Animal husbandry and maize farming were beneficial to the respondents while milling, tailoring and carpentry projects were not of beneficial to target groups as revealed in preceding paragraphs.

Table 20: Distribution of respondents by benefits from the projects

Type of activity	Whether benefited from the project or not				Chi-square
	Yes		No		
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	
Animal husbandry (N = 30)	23	76.7	7	23.3	45.52***
Crop farming (N = 30)	26	86.7	4	13.3	
Milling (N = 30)	4	13.3	26	86.7	
Tailoring/ Carpentry (N = 30)	9	30.0	21	70.0	

Key: ***= Significant at (p<0.001)

4.16 Type of benefits

During the study the respondents were interviewed to give out the type of benefits they have acquired from their projects, the study showed that on the animal husbandry project,

the larger proportion of the respondents 47.8% said that they have benefited from obtaining manure from animals which they are using in their field. Moreover, 26.1% said that the project has enabled them to purchase kitchen utensils such as bowls, cups, spoons, plastic tins and items of that nature, 13% said that they are getting milk, eggs, and income through selling of pigs or piglets, whereby in turn they buy foods for their families, 13% commented that they have earned some cash through selling of eggs, goats and pigs which has enabled them to pay various debts ,ranging from that of school requirements to debts owned by their neighbours.

On the other side, the study revealed that 73.1% of the respondents on maize farming project, commented that the project has enabled them to purchase domestic utensils such as bowls, plastic tins, aluminium tins, chairs. Also 26.9% commented that the project has enabled them to pay debts.

On the milling project, 75% of the respondents said that the project has enabled them to purchase various food items. However, 25% of the respondents commented that the project has enabled her to start a petty business.

On the tailoring and carpentry project 66.7% of the respondents said that the project has enabled them to purchase utensils such as bowls, plastic tins, aluminium tins, chairs. Furthermore, 11.1% of the respondents commented that the project has enabled them to start a petty business, paying debts and buying of utensils respectively.

Table 21: Distribution of the respondents by type of benefits:

Type of benefit	Animal Husbandry	Crop farming	Milling (N=4)	Tailoring and Carpentry	Total (N= 62)

	(N=23)		(N= 26)				(N=9)			
	Frq	%	Frq	%	Frq	%	Frq	%	Frq	%
Manure	11	47.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	11	17.7
Enabling buying of utensils	6	26.1	19	73.1	0	0.0	6	66.7	31	50.0
Availability of food items(milk, eggs)	3	13.0	0	0.0	3	75.0	1	11.1	7	11.3
Starting of petty business	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	25.0	1	11.1	2	3.2
Paying of debts	3	13.0	7	26.9	0	0.0	1	11.1	11	17.7

Key: Frq. =frequency

4.17 Visits by extension worker

Improved extension services have a great impact to improved productivity to both farm and animal projects which ultimately improve the living standard of the people. Agricultural extension is as old as food production as farmers assisted one another with ideas to increase output. In more recent times governments have also become involved in educating farmers on improved farming practices, as agricultural extension bridges the gap between technical knowledge and current practices (URT, 2003b).

During the study it was revealed that on the project of tailoring and carpentry it was highly visited by the extension worker (local trainer) this was due to the fact that the trainer who trains the target group in carpentry and tailoring work was attending at the site every day that is why all the respondents said that they are being visited by the extension worker (trainer) regularly. The situation is quite different to other projects where the extension worker was referred to the agriculture and livestock extension workers. In the animal husbandry project it was revealed that 53.3% of respondents said that they are being visited by the extension worker regularly.

On the milling project where the extension worker was referred to labourer/trainer on how to operate the milling machine, significant proportion of the respondents (60%) agreed that they are being visited by a trainer regularly. However, although, most of the respondents commented that they are visited regularly, during the FGD, it was revealed that the training was not formal and it was done to few members of the group who attends the machine daily, most of the respondents commented that they want the system of training to be changed so that each member of the group knows how to operate it and there should be a timetable whereby each member will attend the milling process on a rotational basis.

On the side of maize farming projects, it was found that only 30% of the respondents said that they are being visited by the extension worker regularly. The shortage of visits and number of extension workers in Tanzania was also reported previously by URT (2003b). In this report it was shown that during economic crisis in the year 1980/06 in Tanzania, extension services were no longer effective as access to them by ordinary farmers and livestock keepers was hampered by the lack of funds. By the year 2000, the vacancy rate was to the tune of 50 per cent or more for VEO in many districts and there were two or more villages per VEO, implying the limited reach of such vital services. During the FGD with the PRA members as to why the VEOs' visits to the farmers are not regularly, one of the respondent said that *"we have female extension agent and she has no means of transport to visit the farmers regularly and moreover the fields of the participants are far from her residence"* Moreover, most of the respondents lamented that their VEO is not residing in the village and if the trend of her work keeps on that way, together with the

problems they have mentioned in (Table 25) there will be very little change in crop productivity, hence reduction of poverty will not be achieved.

When chi-square was conducted to see if there was significant difference between projects as far as visiting by extension worker is concerned it was revealed the differences to be significant ($P < 0.001$).

Table 22: Distribution of respondents by visits of extension worker: Distribution of respondents by visits of extension worker

Type of the activity	Frequently visited		Not frequently visited		Chi-square
	frequency	%	frequency	%	
Animal husbandry(N=30)	16	53.3	14	46.7	0.000
Crop farming(N=30)	9	30.0	21	70.0	
Milling(N=30)	18	60.0	12	40.0	
Tailoring and carpentry(N=30)	30	100.0	-	-	

4.18 Training opportunities

Training component is very crucial in the progress of any project, training empowers an individuals. Most of the projects do fail due to lack of adequate trainings, trainings can be on-job/field training or can be formal whereby participants are required to leave their families and attend the training. The later is more undesirable by most of the women because they are less to take time off from their families, farms and businesses for off premises training and therefore frequently fail to utilize existing opportunities. During the current study the respondents were asked to report whether they have received any training in relation to their projects. The study showed that (83.3%) of the respondents under the project on animal husbandry has received training pertaining to goat, pig, poultry and cow husbandry projects, while on maize farming 56.7% responded that they has received the training on crop management of maize and beans. Regarding milling

project, the study found that a larger proportion of the target group (63.3%) has not received any training on how to operate the milling machine. FGD revealed that majority of respondents in milling project did not receive training because they don't have money to pay the trainer and don't know where to find one. The study further found that on the tailoring and carpentry project 100% of the participant responded that they are receiving the training on carpentry and tailoring every day though the training is of poor quality due to lack of qualified trainer.

Table 23: Distribution of respondents by trainings

Activity	Received		No training	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Animal husbandry(N=30)	25	83.3	5	16.7
Crop husbandry(N=30)	17	56.7	13	13.0
Milling(N=30)	11	36.7	19	19.0
Tailoring and Carpentry(N=30)	100	100.0	0	0.0

4.19 Problems encountered

During the study respondents were asked to mention problems which they face in the process of managing their projects, the respondents came out with a number of problems, in which these problems were merged and came out with only major ones. The major problems which were mentioned are; Lack of cash to buy inputs, such as veterinary drugs, fungicides, fertilizers, fuel, maize for milling. Diseases of animals and crops, inadequate extension services, insufficient cooperation, distance to/ from the field and lack of competent teachers. Similarly, Narayan (1997) supported that, the most important constraints to farmers are; credit, crop destruction due to pests and disease, lack of availability of implements, price and availability of inputs. Other constraints are market,

extension services, and availability of land. In some areas such as Shinyanga, Kagera and Mara regions, issues of theft and destruction of crops by wild animals are highly reported.

During the analysis of the problems against each activity (Table 25), the study showed that the problem of lack of cash to buy inputs in animal husbandry project is a major problem to the participants in which was reported by 62.1% of the respondents. Low livestock productivity due to failure to meet recommended managerial practices, high prevalence of animal diseases was mentioned by 37.9% of total respondents, likewise, inadequate extension services was mentioned by 41.4% of the interviewee. Concerning maize farming project, the study revealed that the major problem was distance to and from the field, this caused the participant not to do the farm activities efficiently due to the fact that they become exhausted by the time they reach at the field, when they were asked how much time they use to reach to the field during FGD one of the respondent lamented that, "*one can walk up for two to three hours*". The problem becomes much worse during the transportation of the produce, taking into account that these were widows, others were old therefore the magnitude of the problem was very much felt. Another problem was lack of cash to buy inputs which accounted for 33.3%, followed by lack of extension staff (29.6%), insufficient cooperation (25.9%), and lastly, inadequate extension services (18.5%). On the side of milling project, the major problem which the participants faced was insufficient cooperation within the participants. This problem was faced by 64.3% of the interviewed people. During the FGD they said that there is no proper time table to follow so that each member should supervise the milling process on the daily bases, one respondent claimed that *I am starving with my family while group leader's families are thriving*". Similarly, Swai (1998) argued that many local organizations in developing countries failed because of corruption, mismanagement,

conflict and lack of clear goals. According to Kabuga (2004) group composition, structures and size can strengthen farmers' groups. Group cohesiveness is the attraction to group, including resistance to leaving it, morale, or the level of motivation evidenced by group members and coordination of efforts of group members. Economic situation of the group can also influence the group to be stronger. Stronger farmer groups can not be well achieved if the economic situation of the members (beneficiaries) is not promising, member will be active in the group if they obtain positive change of their economic viability. Otherwise they will not be motivated with their respective groups as they do not get the intended benefits (Mvella, 2000). Another problem which the participants faced was inadequate extension services which accounted to 10.7%.

On tailoring and carpentry project, 90% reported that inadequate cash to buy inputs such as working tools (sewing machines and its accessories, and the carpentry tools and its accessories) was the major problem. The situation causes them not to participate fully in the training as a result of this they spend hours doing nothing. Another problem was lack of competent teachers whereby 50% of the respondents mentioned it as a major problem. This problem is aggravated by the fact that this group is not registered and therefore the group in collaboration with the village has to find out the resources by itself. During the FGD the majority lamented that if the situation is not changed they will end up with nothing.

Table 24: Distribution of respondents by problems encountered

Type of the problem	Animal husbandry (N = 29)		Crop farming (N = 27)		Milling project (N = 28)		Tailoring and carpentry (N = 30)	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Lack of cash to buy inputs	18	62.1	9	33.3	10	35.7	27	90.0
Diseases	11	37.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Inadequate extension services	12	41.4	5	18.5	3	10.7	0	0.0
Insufficient cooperation within participants and leaders	1	3.4	7	25.9	18	64.3	0	0.0
Distance to and from the field	0	0.0	11	40.7	0	0.0	0	0.0
Lack of competent teachers	0	0.0	8	29.6	0	0.0	15	50.0

Key: Freq. = Frequency

4.20 Views of respondents on eradication of poverty

The most effective weapon for poverty eradication in any community lies inside the system of wealth creation, and in the manner in which its labour force and entrepreneurship are mobilized for a modernized commercial production system, Simba (2003). However, Mtafitikolo (1994) reported that there are typically two approaches that can alleviate poverty; alleviation through growth and alleviation through redistribution. In the present study the participants under each type of the project were asked to give out their comments on whether they think TASAF projects can eradicate poverty or otherwise. The results indicated that 80% of the respondents under animal projects agreed that the project can eradicate poverty to their households if the problems they have mentioned in Table 25 can be taken care of. Similarly, in crop farming project Most of the people (80%) responded positively that their project can eradicate poverty. Likewise, under milling project 50% said that the project can eradicate poverty if all the problems they have mentioned in Table 25 are dealt with accordingly. On the other hand, under

tailoring project the study revealed that a significant proportion of the respondents (60%) said outright that the project cannot eradicate poverty to their households. Isinika and Mdoe (2001) argued that in order to determine the sustainability or non sustainability of projects run by the participants, the following should be looked at; whether participants faced any problems; whether projects have expanded since inception of the project; whether the participants have been able to make any savings since starting the project; whether the clients could continue running the project without depending on further loans. With those remarks above, the study revealed that the projects have not yet fulfilled its objectives adequately. Chi square test was done to establish if there was a significance difference between projects on the views of the participants on the whether a project can alleviate poverty. Result shows that there is high significant difference ($p < 0.01$) in views of the respondents in poverty eradication through their projects.

Table 25: Distribution of respondents by views of respondents on eradication of poverty

Comment	Animal Husbandry (N = 30)		Crop Husbandry (N = 30)		Milling Project (N = 30)		Tailoring and Carpentry (N = 30)	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Can eradicate poverty	24	80.0	24	80.0	15	50.0	12	40.0
Can't eradicate poverty	6	20.0	6	20.0	13	43.3	18	60.0
Don't know	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	6.7	0	0.0

Chi-square value = 21.678, Significance at ($P < 0.01$)

4.21 Advice of respondents to TASAF/District council

During the present study respondents were given an opportunity to give out their advice to TASAF/district council, that is, what they think should be done by high authority so that the projects continue with minimal problems or setbacks.

The study revealed that under maize farming project, 24.2% of the respondents advised that for better performance of the project, TASAF/district council should enable/ intensify the extension services in terms of regular visits to the projects. It was observed that the visits of extension services to projects were minimal. Moreover, they commented that arrangement should be done to have seminars, workshops, exchange visits, short courses to both extension workers and project participants as these strategies will lead into improving the competence of the extension workers and project participants, it will also assists in improving knowledge of how to handle the working tools such as milling, carpentry and tailoring machines.

Under animal husbandry project the study revealed that the majority (56.7%) advised that they should be given credits so that they can scale up their projects. URT (2003b) argued that limited accessibility to credit facilities has affected people's ability to invest into more productive ventures. Similarly, Narayan (1997) reported that nationally, the percentage of the farmers who seek for credits is very low, this is due to, not wanting to get into debt, lack of know how about credit and inability to qualify for a loan. On the other hand 30% advised that for better performance of the projects the district councils should put a mechanism that ensures that the extension officers intensifies their extension services, and 10% advised that trainings should be provided to the participants so that they improve the management of their projects. About 10% advised that TASAF should scale up its funding to the projects, provision of fund which enables the participant to have substantial number of livestock per household. The study further revealed that 6.7% advised on reduction of price of inputs. Narayan (1997) commented that availability of inputs for agricultural and livestock will scale up the percentage of inputs to more than

20% which uses agricultural inputs nationally in Tanzania. A number of barriers prevent farmers from using agricultural inputs, but the major is lack of easy availability. The traditional source of agricultural inputs for Tanzanian farmers is the cooperatives. Now that the cooperatives are being dismantled, however, they are no longer able to supply inputs at the same level. The private sector has yet to fill this demand so affordable inputs are not widely available.

On the maize farming project, the study revealed that, larger proportion of the respondents(50%) advised that provision of credits should be enhanced, while 26.7% advised that the District councils/TASAF should ensure that there is regular communication among target groups, that is, communication within members, leaders to members, within leaders to leaders and to make regular group meetings. In doing so it will bring transparency in the project, which is a key factor in the success of the project. Around 23.3% advised that TASAF should revise its mode of operation whereby it should exclude using the PIAs, because it was revealed by respondents that by using the PIAs there is delaying of implementation of activities due to unnecessary bureaucracy and also some of the PIAs are not honest, therefore the high authority should find a way of funding the village council or the target group instead of involving the CBOs or NGOs. Furthermore, the study revealed that 16.7% advised that extension services should be intensified.

The study further revealed that on the project of milling, the larger proportion of the respondents (50%) advised that extension services should be intensified, under this project. Extension services mean frequent visits of the expatriate of the milling machine from the district level and the cooperative officer who would train them how to handle

the milling machine and how to keep financial records respectively. Moreover, 33.3% advised that credits should be provided as this will enable them to expand their projects or diversify the project.

However, On the tailoring and carpentry project 80% of the respondents advised that, the authority should ensure there is a reduction of prices of inputs such as Sewing machines, carpentry tools and its accessories, etc as this will enable the project to have adequate tools and hence prosperity of the project. Similarly, tangible number of the respondents (50%) of the participants advised that the District council should ensure that the projects gets the competent staffs who could train the orphans(target group of the project) about carpentry and tailoring. About 10% of the respondents further commented that the district authority should find a way of ensuring that the project is registered so that it is nationally recognized. This will motivate the group to learn more hoping that after a period of time they will be given a recognized certificate. Generally, most of the respondents (35.0%) commented that the District council/TASAF should find out ways of giving out credits to people if poverty is to be eradicated, other issue which scored more proportion of the respondents was intensification of the extension services (24.2%) followed by reduction of the price of the inputs (21.7%).

Table 26: Distribution of respondents by advice to TASAF/District Council

Advice	Animal husbandry (N=29)		Crop farming (N=30)		Milling project (N=23)		Tailoring and Carpentry (N=27)		Total	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Intensify extension services	9	30.0	5	16.7	15	50.0	0	0.0	29	24.2
Provision of trainings	3	10.0	0	0.0	3	10.0	0	0.0	6	5.0
Provision of credits	17	56.7	15	50.0	10	33.3	0	0.0	42	35.0
Reduce price of inputs	2	6.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	24	80.0	26	21.7
Revising of the TASAF mode of operation	3	10.0	7	23.3	0	0.0	3	10.0	13	10.8
Competent staff/extensions	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	6.7	15	50.0	17	14.2
Improve communication	1	3.3	8	26.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	9	7.5
No advise	1	3.3	0	0.0	5	16.7	0	0.0	6	5.0

Key: Freq=Frequency

4.22 Frequency of meetings

Respondents were given an opportunity to say how frequently they meet to discuss the progress of their projects, it is believed that when people meets and discuss issues concerning their problems and progress of their projects it empowers them, and also it brings transparency, and in so doing, it removes all the prevailing ambiguities as a result the participants will be able to contribute morally and materially. During the study, the respondents were required to say how frequently they meet to discuss the progress of their projects, the study revealed that most of the respondents did not remember properly

how frequently they meet, and this is clearly indicated by their answers which were different among respondents showing that there was no regular pattern of meetings. However, 45.8%, which is a significant proportion of the respondents showed that they do meet once per month. In contrast, 12.5% of all respondents said that they do meet twice per month, while 20% of the respondents said that they do meet every day, and lastly, 20.8% of respondents commented that they don't meet at all. However, the results shows that the respondents from animal and maize farming project do meet frequently than other projects, that is 53.3% and 70% respectively. The frequency of meeting is high in tailoring and carpentry project (80%) than in other projects as 80% of participants claimed that they meet every day. This is because the respondents assembles at the centre every day and learn carpentry and tailoring activities, this is not common in other projects. During the FGD with the district staffs it was revealed that the frequency of meeting is high during the appraisal stage of the projects in the villages, but the frequency declines once the projects has started, the PRA members are neither consulted nor required by the TASAF administration to converge and discuss TASAF issues. One district staff said that *“tunaonekana wa muhimu wakati wa kuanzisha miradi ikisha anza TASAF inatusahau”* (we are important in TASAF projects only during the projects appraisal not at the implementation stage).

Table 27: Distribution of respondents by frequency of meeting

Frequency of meeting	Type of the activity									
	Animal husbandry (N=30)		Crop farming (N=30)		Milling Project (N=30)		Tailoring/ carpentry (N=30)		Total (N=120)	
	Freq	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
1	16	53.3	21	70.0	15	50.0	3	10.0	55	45.9
2	2	6.7	4	13.3	6	20.0	3	10.0	15	12.5
3	1	3.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.8
4	11	36.7	5	16.7	9	30.0	0	0.0	25	20.8
5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	24	80.0	24	20.0

Key: Freq=Frequency; 1=once per month; 2=Twice per month;3=once per three months;4=Do not meet;5=Meet every day.

CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The previous chapter presented and discussed the major findings of the study. In this chapter conclusions and recommendations for district council, NGOs, village governments, households' level and suggestions for further research are given.

5.1 Conclusions

The present study on the assessment of the social support projects for vulnerable groups towards poverty reduction has demonstrated that TASAF has employed various strategies in assisting the vulnerable groups. The strategies involved are promotion of animal husbandry through provision of goats/cows; provision of agricultural inputs such as improved seeds, fertilizers and insecticides; provision of milling machines; provision of carpentry tools, tailoring machines and capacity building in terms of training. Generally it was found that the projects of animal husbandry and farming have brought benefits to the participants. The benefits are in terms of earnings, acquisition of some assets and improvement in food security. This is unlike milling and tailoring projects. However, the benefits obtained from the projects are not substantial to alleviate poverty to the households in a sustainable manner. This is because it has not enabled the vulnerable groups to purchase inputs such as veterinary drugs, fertilizers, after phasing out of TASAF phase 1. Alleviation of poverty can be achieved unless the projects are scaled up. It was also revealed that there are no much differences in livelihood between TASAF participants and non TASAF participants.

As regards to projects sustainability, it was revealed that the sustainability of the projects is very crucial to bring positive change to the livelihood of the vulnerable groups. During the current study it was found that sustainability of the projects is not yet certain due to unavailability of the necessary ingredients such as inputs, effective extension services, adequate group organization and accessibility to credits. For example, the study has revealed that minimal visits by the extension workers in animal husbandry and farming projects, inadequate knowledge of the trainers in milling and tailoring/ carpentry projects has led into poor results of the projects. However, households which had contact with VEOs obtained more yield than those which did not have the contacts because the former got farm skills and knowledge from VEOs which enabled them to produce more rationally. Moreover, lack of cooperation within the vulnerable groups and inadequate involvement of the village leaders into making a close follow up to the projects, has led into poor performance of the projects, which affected the sustainability as well as mismanagement of funds and other resources which led into poor performance of the projects. The study also observed that, some of the PIAs were not faithful due to financial mismanagement and others were not competent in delivering the services to the vulnerable groups. Due to this inefficiency some of the projects did not perform well, for example milling and tailoring/carpentry projects. The study revealed that households who have more formal education reduce poverty more effectively than those headed by head of household with less formal education since education, which improves human capital, helps them obtain more total net household product through rational production.

Poverty incidence and depth in Bukoba district and Tanzania are high. Female headed households are poor than male headed households. Female headed households are not the poorest, but the majority of them are very poor. Therefore, poverty alleviation programs

targeting the very poor, without bias on the gender of head of household, can benefit many female headed households. The study also concludes that, if the use of hand tools goes on dominating production activities, production will not be enough to eradicate absolute poverty.

5.2 Recommendations

5.2.1 District council

(a) Close follow up of the projects

All progress of the projects in the district are reported to the District Executive Director; hence, the district councils should make a close follow up of the projects to ensure their sustainability. This can be attained through using the available staff both at the headquarters and those who are in the field. The staff will train the participants in how to manage the projects and ensure that the project reports are delivered in time and accurately. In addition to that, the district authority should ensure that the extension workers are performing their work effectively.

(b) Availability of the inputs

The district councils should ensure that the agricultural and livestock inputs, together with other working tools are readily available to the vicinity of the project sites at the right time and also at affordable price. Lack of inputs affects the productivity of the projects.

(c) Accessibility to credit facilities

The district council should sensitize the community to be aware of the credits provided by the financial institutions. The credits will enable the participants as well

as the community at large to invest into projects and scale up their existing ones. Through credits, their purchasing power will be enhanced.

5.2.2 NGOs

The NGOs that are involved in assisting the vulnerable groups should ensure that they are doing their responsibility diligently. They should provide reports to the participants concerning the progress of the project regularly and also empower the vulnerable groups to such an extent that at the end of the project, the groups will be in a position to proceed on their own. This can be achieved through transparency, provision of trainings and accountability of the NGOs.

5.2.3 Village governments

The village governments in collaboration with the community project committees should ensure that the projects supported by the government which are within their jurisdiction should be closely followed up. This will ensure positive progress of the projects, and deliver the benefits to the intended participants as well as the community at large. It is also recommended that projects' development should be discussed regularly in village meetings.

5.2.4 Household level

It is recommended that households dedicate their efforts towards achievement of their projects, and whenever the problems arise they should report immediately to the appropriate personnel for assistance rather than thinking that the projects are owned by TASAF or NGOs/CBOs.

5.3 Further research

- Further research on rural poverty should be done to identify the causes and ways of alleviating it to other districts.
- There have been a number of NGOs that supports vulnerable people both in the rural and urban areas to improve living standard, however, once the project phase out the groups remain poor, therefore, there is need to conduct a further research to find out the factors that leads to a failure and how to overcome the situation.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Variables with their specific indicators

No	Indicator	Indicator
1	Age	Ranges in years of birth.
2	Education	Highest level of education one has attained.
3	Income	Total annual income from the supported project in Tshs.
4	Sex	Being male or female in biological sense.
5	Vulnerable group	Widow, Orphans and elders
6	Household size	Number of household members
7	Group size	Number of people joining the group
8	Marital status	Current status of marriage of group and non group members.
9	Sustainability strategies	Strategies to ensure the existence of the project for long duration.
10	Poverty reduction	Increase in assets and income
11	Inadequate extension service	Frequency of extension service to visit a household
12	Attitudes towards agricultural	Acceptance of new technology introduced by the extension worker.

Appendix 2: Questionnaire

A.1.GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. Respondents name.....
- 2 Date.....
- 3 District.....
- 4 Division.....
- 5 Ward.....
- 6 Village.....

7 Age of respondents

8 Sex (Tick one)

1 Male

2 Female

9 Group of vulnerability

1 Widow

2 Orphan

3 Disabled

4 Elder

5 Guardian of the orphan

10 Marital Status (Tick one)

- 1 Single []
- 2 Married []
- 3 Widow []
- 4 Divorced []

11 What is your highest level of education

12 Who have the highest level of education above the head of the household.....

13 Which class he/she has attained.....

14 Household sizes

- 1 Under five years old []
- 2 Between 6-18 years []
- 3 Between 19-65 years []
- 4 Between 66 and above []

15 What is the major source of income of your family?

1. Farming []
2. Fishing []
3. Small business []
4. Others (Specify) []

16 For the last month, how much of the following protein foods have you consumed in your family

- 1 Meat..... (kg)
- 2 Eggs..... (Number)
- 3 Fish..... (kg)

17 How much did you harvest in the last season

1 Beans.....(kg)

2 Maize.....(kg)

3 Bananas..... (kg)

18 For how long period did it sustain your family (months)

1 Beans.....

2 Maize.....

3 Bananas.....

19 How many children do attend school regularly.....

20 How many do not attend the school regularly due to various reasons such as lack of uniforms, exercises, etc.....

21 How many have stopped going to school due to various reasons such as lack of uniforms, exercises, etc.....

22 Mention the number of the following assets you have in your house

Type of the asset	Number
Type of the house	
Livestock	
Cow	
Goat	
Pig	
Rabbit	
Poultry	
Duck	
Radio	
Television set	
Bicycle	

23 What is the annual income of your household?

1 0----50 000 []

2 51 000-----100 000 []

3 101 000-----500 000 []

4 Others []

24 How many labourers have you employed to work in your field of for livestock.....?

25 How many people from your family do work as labourers to earn income.....

26 How many social groups have you joined

Mention them:

1.....

2.....

3.....

(B) QUESTINNAIRE CONCERNING THE PROJECT

27 Your household belongs to what category of the project

1 Individual []

2 Group []

3 Non TASAF funded project[]

28 If non-TASAF project, have you heard of the program known as TASAF?

1 Yes []

2 No []

29 Your project is concerning with what.....

30 When did your project start.....

31 Where you involved in selecting this project?

1 Yes []

2 No []

32 What do you say about the progress of your project?

1 The project is positively progressing []

2 Not well progressing []

33 If not well progressing, what are the contributing factors?

1.....

2.....

3.....

34 If well progressing, have you ever purchased anything from the money accrued from the project,

1 Yes []

2 No []

35 If yes can you mention the benefit?

1.....

2.....

36 In your household who extensively deals day to day with the project?

1 Head of the household []

2 Wife []

3 Elder son []

4 Elder daughter []

5 Labourer []

37 Who does the decision making on the output of the project.....

38 Does the extension officer visit your project regularly?

1 Yes []

2 No []

39 If yes, how often

- 1 Once per month []
- 2 Once per three months []
- 3 Once per six months []
- 4 Others (specify) []

40 What is the distance from your house to the office of the extension worker (km)

.....

41 Have you attended any training concerning your project?

- 1 Yes []
- 2 No []

42 Have you ever been involved in other project other than TASAF since 2000.....?

43 Mention the problems which you always face in your project

- 1.....
- 2.....
- 3.....

44 Do you think the assistance provided by TASAF can reduce poverty in your household?

- 1 Yes []
- 2 No []

45 What advice do you give to TASAF/District Council?

- 1.....
- 2.....
- 3.....

Please indicate your agreement or disagreement with the following statements by putting a tick to the statement that coincides with your opinion.

1) SA = strongly agree

2) A = Agree

3) U = Uncertain

4) D = Disagree

5) SD = Strongly Disagree

S/No	Statement	1	2	3	4	5
46	I was actively involved from project design, implementation and management.					
47	Project become sustainable especially when village leaders are actively involved at all stages of the project cycle					
48	Work load to women leads to poor participation in the project cycle					
49	Village leaders influenced the target group in selection of the project					

50 How frequent the target group meets to discuss the progress of the project

1 Once per month []

2 Twice per month []

3 Once per three months []

4 Others (specify) []

51 When was the last meeting.....

52 In the last meeting did the Village Executive Officer or the Chairman attend the meeting?

1 Yes

2 No

53 What do you think are important things to be in place in order your project to be sustainable and hence to bring positive change to the target group.

1.....

2.....

3.....

Thanks for your cooperation

Appendix 3: Check list for District staff (PRA members)

1 The approach which was used in initiation of the projects.

- Influence of the village leaders and influential people in convincing the target groups.

2 Monitoring and evaluation

- The frequency of the PRA members in visiting the projects
- How many projects he/she has visited
- If not regularly what are the constrains

3 Suggestion about the approach of the PRA

- Time taken to do the PRA

4 Their views about the support provided by TASAF in poverty reduction

5 Coordination/participation of different sectors in making follow-up of the projects in the field.

6 What are the problems they face in conducting the PRA

7 Advice/suggestion

Appendix 4: Checklist for vulnerable group

1 What was the approach of initiating the project

- .if there was any influence from the village leaders
- .if all village community were aware of the project

2 Frequency of meeting

3 Involvement of the village leaders into progress of the project

4 Involvement of the non-TASAF members into the project

5 Problems encountered and strategies which are in place to solve them.

6 Sustainability mechanisms

7 Advice to high authorities