

Towards Sustainable Nutrition Improvement in Rural Mozambique (TSNI), Project Activities September - November 2002



3 Orange-flesh sweet potato believers– Jan Low, project coordinator, Calisto Bias, Director of INIA, and Maria Andrade, SARRNET representative – at Low’s despedida (going-away party) to mark her departure for Quelimane and the beginning of the Towards Sustainable Nutrition Improvement Project.

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TSNI team members with local health personnel in front of the health facility in Malei Sede (Namacurra District). From left to right: Nadia Osman, nutritionist (TSNI), Eugenia Raposo, Provincial Nutritionist (Ministry of Health), Health technician Malei, Rosana Francisco, agronomist (World Vision), Armanda Gani, nutritionist (Ministry of Health), and World Vision malaria extension agent. Armanda Gani, representing the Ministry of Health at the national level, introduced the project and the team to all district level Health and Administrative personnel during her field visit in October 2002.

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The coastal zone near Mexixine, one of the research sites, is shown in this photo. Coconut is a dominant crop in this area, with manioc and rice being the major staple foods.

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Participant testing one of the various sweet potato products served at the Provincial Level Awareness meeting held at the Provincial Directorate of Agriculture and Rural Development on 22 October 2002.

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Meetings were held in all intervention sites with community leaders to explain the project and asking for their support in organizing community meetings. The audience at the leader meeting held in Malei Sede is shown here.

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Leader's meeting held in Mexixine.

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Part of the audience at the Mexixine leader's meeting listening to the Coordinator explain how the project will operate.

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Nadia Osman, project nutritionist, explaining why children need to be measured during the course of the project at a community level meeting in Condini (Mopeia District).

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Audience listening to Osman's presentation in Condini.

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Antonieta Farijão, project extensionist and Mariamo Omar, Chuabo teacher for senior staff, presenting a theater piece written by Nadia Osman in which the actors debate whether or not to participate in the project.

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Part of the audience in Mushenge watching the theater performance. The performance was a very effective way to ensure that the audience understood the objectives of the project.

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Attendees of introductory community meeting in Zuere (Modo area), Malei District standing in front of the primary school where the meeting was held.

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An example of the terrain in Mopeia district, in which households often are spread out, with significant amounts of secondary forest remaining. Communities have limited access to health services in these sites.

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Woman in Morais area (Mopeia district) thinly slicing sweet potato before drying in the sun. Once dried, the sweet potato can be stored for several months and it is principally used to prepare porridge.

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Construction of the first seed bed for rapid multiplication of beta-carotene rich sweet potato by the “Independente” farmer’s group in Morais B. This group will produce planting material for the surrounding area.