



DEVELOPMENT GRANT REPORT FORM

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The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is proud to be a partner with you. Your reports document the effectiveness of the project and help us communicate your efforts to the people who contribute to the LCMS. Project reports are required before any subsequent project payments are released. A final cumulative report is also required when all funds from LCMS have been spent.

Date: March 4, 2022

Project Number or ID	Project # AA0006-61007
Project Name	Agricultural Consultancy for East Africa
Project Location	Northwest Diocese, ELCK, Kenya
Project Coordinator	Rev. Shauen Trump
Applicant Organization	LCMS East Africa Field Office
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World Area or LCMS District East Africa

Time Period Covered by Report January 21, 2022 through March 8, 2022

Amount of Grant Documented by this Report: Ross Stroh has a record of the total contributed to Project # AA0006-61007

Please respond to the following questions.

What have been the major accomplishments during this reporting period?

We (Delano & Linda Meyer) have been serving as LCMS short-term agricultural consultants working with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Kenya in the Northwest Diocese. We have trained ELCK members and community members at 16 locations plus 2 Kapenguria Bible College Evangelist classes with a total

attendance 1,051. We have also witnessed about our Lord and Savior to students and teachers at several schools and at church services. These are covered in more detail later in this report.

Another facet of our ministry is teaching and encouraging local leaders to carry on this important work. It has been a joy to see our Lord bringing individuals forward who have an interest and position to continue effective training and demonstration of useful agricultural practices.

Subjects included: improving soil fertility using organic methods, natural control of fall army worm using the “Push - Pull” system featuring the use of the legume plant desmodium and napier grass, fertilizer placement and timing, crop storage using PICS sacks, Christian family life especially Ephesians 5, money management using “Management of the Harvest” training materials, and mulching to improve soil fertility. Mulching also inhibits weed growth, helps hold soil moisture and prevent soil erosion by wind and water.

How have the project objectives been met?

Objectives are: Train in agricultural subjects to help people raise better crops and be able to protect their production from insect pests; help participants to see they can do better management of harvests, improve their marketing strategy and use money in a God-pleasing way; inspire husbands and wives in the Christian family to live in harmony with each other to be examples to ELCK members and their community; emphasize our good works are a response to God’s grace and love for us.

Since army worms are a serious threat to crops in some areas of Africa, Dr. Jacque Breman has done a lot of work preparing posters that can be used in training about fall army worm prevention. These posters titled “Push – Pull” were used at every location where army worm is a problem. Only high elevations where the primary crop is Irish potato in NW Kenya did not have problems with army worm.

Napier grass and the legume desmodium are a vital part of the “Push-Pull” system to naturally protect maize against fall army worm. Our driver Evans found desmodium seed in Kapenguria. We divided the 500 grams of seed into small envelopes and have given the seed in areas that did not already have desmodium growing naturally. Kongelai and Konyao areas have desmodium growing naturally and there is a small patch of desmodium growing in the KBC compound.

We begin teaching about army worm by showing one picture of the damage they cause in corn and the second picture is of the worm itself (pictured below). We ask if attendees have had this damage in their maize (corn). We were surprised that even in the driest, hottest parts they do experience this pest.



After receiving feedback from the people that army worm is a problem, we bring out the “Push – Pull” poster and describe how the use of the legume desmodium and Napier grass can reduce or eliminate the fall army worm. See the picture below:



Included in the “Management of the Harvest” is teaching about the wise and foolish use of money. We discuss how money from the sale of crops and animals should be used in a God-pleasing way for the care of the family. In many parts of Africa the shortage of food causes stress and bitterness, and some marriages break up because of it.

A logical step toward keeping enough food for family use and for sales at a higher market price is to store crops in the Purdue Improved Crop Storage (PICS) sack. Our driver Evans Masinde Juma found suppliers for these sacks in Northwestern Kenya. PICS sacks eliminate the need for dangerous chemicals that are often needed for storing crops in Africa. PICS sacks have potential for helping improve marketing at higher prices for all villagers since they would be the best method to preserve crops.

In some areas of the Northwest Diocese farmers do not use commercial fertilizers to increase crop production; instead they use animal manure. In other parts of this Diocese purchased commercial fertilizers are used. We have discovered that most farmers here do not apply (DAP) fertilizers properly at planting time and often kill germination of seeds by placing fertilizer and seed together in the same hole. They also often apply urea or calcium ammonia nitrate (CAN) on the surface next to the stock and do not cover the fertilizer with soil. They also apply the urea or CAN too late instead of at the 6 leaf stage, which will give maximum return from fertilizer. We spend considerable time explaining correct fertilizer placement and timing. At each place where we teach, we leave a document produced by Dr. Jacques Breman on proper timing and placement of fertilizer for corn.

At almost every location Delano has taught about Christian marriage based on Ephesians 5:25 and 5:33. Spouses following the Lord and living in unity and faithfulness to each other will work together to provide for their family.

How many people have been served by this project?

We had an opportunity to greet several classes and three large gatherings of students during our training sessions and travels. In all cases we encouraged students to follow the Lord Jesus by reading the Bible, going to church and praying for our Lord’s guidance in their lives.

Chepararia Mixed Secondary School outside in the school compound. Estimating 200 students in attendance.

Chepararia Mixed Secondary School- taught in the agricultural class of 34 students.

Project 24 Boarding School for Girls at Udom - spoke to 29 girls.

Propoi Primary School - spoke to 30 students outdoors under a tree,

Propoi Primary School, 6-8th grade – taught 28 students in the class room

Propoi Girls Secondary School having 560 girls. See photo below:

ELCK Chesta Girl’s Boarding/Day School with 749 students

We have attended 5 church services and spoke at four of them. Linda talked about being good stewards by maintaining soil fertility. At Chorwai Linda talked about bringing up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Delano talked about Christian marriage. Estimated attendance at the 4 congregations was 100 per congregation = 400 members receiving Christian witness from us after the church service.

We toured two farms, one in the Propoi area (20 people attending training after the tour) and one in the Chesta area at Pastor Phillips farm.

We toured a Women’s Goat Project 1 hour north of Chesta in the lowlands with 4 in attendance, but covered several topics and learned a lot from them about what crops grow in the area.

We had an opportunity to speak at an E4 Impact Foundation meeting of 22 people for one hour at Chesta Guest House dining hall. Our guest house manager Mercy organized that meeting for us and interpreted for

us. Linda taught “Life of the Soil”, and Delano taught about intercropping and planting on the contour to help prevent erosion and explained microbial life in the soil and how it helps improve fertility.

We did training sessions at 17 locations, primarily churches and the KBC evangelist class of 52, and 4 outdoor gatherings including community members, with a total attendance of 1,051.

Picture below is of Propoi Girls Secondary School having 560 girls (listed above).



Describe how this project has made an impact in the life of one person or family. Give names and attach photos.

The messages below from individuals we have worked with in the last 6 weeks give reference to the impact of the training.

We were blessed to have Samuel Chesire who is an ELCK member and teacher at the Chesta Teachers Training College stop by to visit us at the Chesta Guest House. He showed great interest in what we are trying to accomplish in agricultural training and offered to promote these ideas at the Chesta Teachers Training College and with a conservation minded group he is involved with. Two of his messages follow:

From: Samuel Chesire [mailto:samchesire@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2022 8:59 PM
To: Delano & Linda Meyer <meyerdel@yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: Faidherbia albida

Thanks bro Delano. Sorry I have been slightly busy. I had visited some farmers up the hills in Chesta. I am collaborating with the local administration in relaying the messages you've been sending. I have developed a data Bank on the same.

The information you've been sharing is very valuable. Wishing you well friends.

On Tue, Feb 15, 2022, 18:28 Delano & Linda Meyer <meyerdel@yahoo.com> wrote:

Dear Samuel, Attached is another document about Faidherbia Albida. God bless, Delano & Linda

From: Samuel Chesire [mailto:samchesire@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2022 8:23 AM
To: Delano & Linda Meyer <meyerdel@yahoo.com>
Cc: Mercy at Chesta Guest House <Chepkoo427@gmail.com>; Evans Masinde Juma <jumaevans61@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Desmodium seed

Yes, we received it [desmodium seed]. Good morning Sir Delano. I have already given a packet to Pastor Philip and I also gave him the parcel meant for the area chief. Will be taking the 2 packets to college [Chester Teachers Training College] this morning.

We appreciate the desmodium seeds. I have also downloaded more information via the Internet. Will be passing the information to the area chief.

I appreciate the appended notes and the notes on improved farming together with Bible study notes on Christian marriage. You are indeed a friend of the Pokot and Kenya. May God bless you richly.

Wishing you a blessed day. Shalom.

ELCK Deaconess Dinah Cholongu responded to our e-mail this way:

See picture of Deaconess Dinah Cholongu and Linda below Dinah's message.

From: Dinah Cholongu [mailto:dinahcholongu77@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2022 10:56 PM
To: Delano & Linda Meyer <meyerdel@yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: Desmodium found at Konyao & Kongelai

Thank you for the teaching and word of knowledge. Kongelai and Konyao we have desmodium, I think God has send you to our place, as the book of Hosea 4:6 says my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. God bless you and we all appreciate you for everything.

On Thu, 17 Feb 2022, 20:04 Delano & Linda Meyer, <meyerdel@yahoo.com> wrote:

Dear Dinah,

Thank you for your excellent translating and guiding of our discussions at Konyao and Kongelai. I have attached three documents that explain more about desmodium.

God bless you for your good efforts,

Delano & Linda Meyer



Linda teaching “Management of the Harvest” and Deaconess Dinah Cholongo translating.

We were able to teach brief sessions about Management of the Harvest and Christian Marriage in the Mosop parish of Rev. Davidson Kae. His message to us follows:

From: Davidson Kae [mailto:davidsonkae6@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 22, 2022 6:17 PM

To: Delano & Linda Meyer <meyerdel@yahoo.com>

Subject: Re: A very useful tree Faidherbia albida

Thank you for the information. And I also appreciate to have a wonderful friends like you, I humble myself before God and praying God's blessings to you

On Tue, Feb 22, 2022, 6:01 PM Delano & Linda Meyer <meyerdel@yahoo.com> wrote:

Dear Rev Davidson,

I have attached an article about *Faidherbia albida* which is a very good tree that helps farmers by improving soils and helps feed animals as well. I am told they sell the seed for dairy animals in Eldoret. At this stage, I do not know where to get these seedlings.

Last week we were told that desmodium is growing in the areas around Kongelai and Konyao so I hope you will find good uses for the desmodium seed we gave you.

God bless you and your family, Delano & Linda Meyer

Rev. Davidson Kae speaking to a group of milk producers at the Leland Highland Dairy Company LTD.



We had an opportunity to speak about building soils in pastures and encouraging legume use to enrich soils. We also learned what legumes and grasses the dairy's extension staff is promoting to help increase milk production among its 3,000 members.

We also spoke about Christian marriage with husbands and wives loving each other as Christ loves the church. Rev. Davidson has told us this is a very important issue here and asked us to speak on this same subject after his church service at Chorwai in Mosop Parish on February 27, 2022.

What have been the major obstacles?

We had been scheduled to teach at Kapenguria Bible College on Saturday, February 12 but KBC Agricultural Manager Eric K. came to explain that the people had left for the weekend. We did show Eric some of the topics we had hoped to teach. On March 1st KBC Principal Andrew Ngeiywa called to us from in front of his office, and said he wanted us to teach the evangelists who recently returned for a class at KBC. We then were able to teach 52 evangelists for two days in two 26-person classes for two two-hour sessions on each day.

We were scheduled to teach at Kapkoris Church on February 25, but no one was at the church. The parish pastor was at an ELCK meeting at Eldoret and the contact given to our driver Evans did not respond to calls. A member did open the gate and we waited an hour and a half. The lady then mentioned to Evans that there was “Prayer Day” at the school and no one would be coming for a long time so she advised we come back another time.

We taught at 4 congregations that gave us 1 to 2 hours to complete our training.

We taught at 9 congregations that gave us over 2 hours to complete training.

We taught at 4 congregations that gave us an hour or less to complete our training. We were often asked to shorten training due to other programs being scheduled or they needed to close after an hour to send members home to eat. We have materials for at least two and a half hours plus other subjects available if there were enough time allotted. So the brief time allowed was disappointing.

We did not have an opportunity to teach in the Lutheran Schools in Chesta because the students were taking their final exams. We were able to greet one large assembly of students there and gave a message encouraging them to follow the Lord Jesus by continuing to study God’s Word in the Bible, continue to attend church and pray for God’s guidance in their lives.

We were asked to teach at only one church in the Chesta area, and the time allotted was one hour because they were “launching the choir’s video” the same afternoon. We did not meet Edwin who was working with Shara coordinating our visit. Parish Pastor Phillip guided us, but did not schedule training in any other congregations of the parish outside of Chesta.

Many men including Christians in this area have more than one wife. Pastoralists have taken their herds to Uganda to find grazing lands for their cattle. It is reported to us that these herders often have a wife in Uganda and one or two in Kenya. Linda and I cannot imagine Christian harmony in the home living under these conditions. We did cover the topic of Christian marriage there.

How have these obstacles affected the project?

We want to make good use of the time we have with the churches, but it is often difficult for parishioners to be at the church on time, or some mention they had not been informed earlier. We could have taught more subjects at a few more locations, but different meetings and communication breakdown hindered us a bit.

In general we are not disappointed. We have had great opportunities to teach and witness with surprising responses from many.

How are these obstacles being overcome?

In many areas we guests are served tea with sugar and milk. We enjoy the custom of having tea and the conversation with our host. On arrival at one place we were served tea at 2 homes, plus lunch following about one hour of teaching! We might feel we would like to get at the teaching sooner, but realize this time can be very useful as we learn more about the area and our hosts get an idea of “who are these visitors”. We now see it as a relationship builder and not time away from teaching although this attitude is difficult for our culture.

“Tea time” or time waiting for attendees to come is often not wasted time, but beneficial. We often have opportunity for one-on-one teaching of pastors or interested laymen.

Patently continuing to train in the power of savings, wise investments and careful marketing are tools every individual should attain to raise themselves from poverty. We have demonstrated many times in our training using Ephesians 5 that Christian self-discipline, planning and unity between husband and wife are important ways to follow God’s will in our lives.

In the Chesta area there are highly eroded areas on hill sides and on the lower level areas with large bare spots having little or no vegetation and need to reduce over grazing and introduce agro-forestry to begin restoring soil fertility.

By addressing an environmental disaster we show the love of Christ for people who seem to feel they can do nothing to change their fate. Jesus Christ can motivate and free mankind from the cycle of poverty. We regret that the church in that area and others does not seem to address this issue. We do hope Samuel Chesire who teaches at Chesta Teachers Training College (quoted above) can have an impact in many areas in God’s time and way.

As in the past, some pastors and attendees have expectations of receiving financial help from us, so we explain to them that we have come with training and education for everyone and do not give out money. By depending on God to guide them, they can make wise use of talents and resources He has given them.

How has this project helped The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod carry out its mission?

The Gospel is emphasized in teaching from Ephesians 5 which says husbands should love their wives as Jesus Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her. Jesus gave his life to save us from our sins. In teaching about stewardship we ask participants how they thank God for what he has done for them, for caring for both body and soul. Many respond that they give tithes and offerings to church.

We hope that our encouragement of pastors and people to be strong in faith and good works has contributed to the building of the partnership between ELCK and LCMS.

How have LCMS funds been spent?

All expenses on the field have been submitted through the East Africa Field Office, and US Dollar expenses will be reported by us and sent to St. Louis.

Note: Refer to your original budget for categories and amounts.
Include an itemized list of expenses identifying individual expenses within a category.

Budget Category:	Budgeted Amount:	Actual Amount This Period:
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Explain any amounts and categories that are different from what was anticipated.

Please attach samples of newsletters and other publications that mention The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod as a source of funding for your project

This report was completed by: Delano & Linda Meyer	Volunteer Agricultural Consultants
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Name	Title

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