

CURRICULUM IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT FOR TRAINING INSTITUTES (CISTI)



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Contact Us:
P.O. Box 6369
MOROGORO
info@kilimi.org

CISTI PROJECT NEWSLETTER

Building Competence for Sustainable Agricultural and Livestock Sectors Transformation
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FROM THE PROJECT TEAM

Strengthening Skills, Institutions and Future Leaders

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the CISTI Project newsletter. As we launch this biannually update, we are excited to share the significant strides being made to transform agricultural and livestock education and training in Tanzania.

The Curriculum Implementation Support for Training Institutes (CISTI) Project, implemented by Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania (SAT) in collaboration with the Ministries of Agriculture and Livestock and Fisheries, and with the generous support of the Liechtenstein Development Service (LED), is built on a powerful conviction: Lasting change happens when skills, institutions, and future leaders are strengthened together.

This first edition highlights three major pillars of our work: empowering tutors with cutting-edge practical skills, nurturing the next generation of agricultural professionals through hands-on learning, and fortifying the leadership and management capacities of our partner institutions.

We invite you to dig in and see what “Building Competence” looks like when conviction meets action.

FEATURE ARTICLE

1.0 Empowering Tutors, Transforming Livestock Feed Systems
Building Capacity in Pasture and Fodder Production Technology

Tanzania’s livestock sector is the backbone of millions of live-

lihoods, yet it faces a persistent challenge: seasonal feed shortages and degraded rangelands. To address this, the CISTI Project organized a landmark five-day Training Workshop on Pasture and Fodder Production Technology from 9th–13th March 2026 at the Farmer Training Centre (FTC), Vianzi, Morogoro.

The training brought together 43 dedicated tutors from Agricultural Training Institutes (ATIs) and Livestock Training Agencies (LITAs) from across the country.

The Challenge: A Critical Gap in Livestock Productivity

The need for this intervention was urgent. “During the dry season, our livestock suffer, and productivity plummets,” explains a participating tutor. “Farmers lose income, and families face food insecurity. We need to equip our students with the tools to solve this problem on the ground.”

The workshop was designed to bridge this gap, strengthening tutors’ technical and pedagogical capacities to deliver high-quality, competency-based training on sustainable feed technologies.

Learning by Doing: A Hands-On Approach

Adopting a Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET) approach, the program was a powerful mix of classroom instruction



and intensive practical field exercises. Tutors didn't just learn about new techniques; they practiced them. Through demonstrations, group work, and experiential learning, participants gained firsthand experience in:

- Establishing and managing pastures
- Identifying grasses, legumes, and fodder trees
- Producing hydroponic fodder
- Making high-quality hay and silage
- Sustainable grazing systems and rangeland rehabilitation
- Integrating agroforestry with livestock production.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS & THE ROAD AHEAD

The workshop delivered tangible results that will resonate throughout Tanzania's agricultural education system:

- **Enhanced Expertise:** Tutors are now equipped with practical, climate-resilient techniques to improve training delivery.
- **Harmonized Training:** The collaborative development of a draft Pasture and Fodder Production Compendium will create harmonized, high-quality training content across all institutions.
- **A Stronger Network:** The workshop fostered crucial collaboration and knowledge exchange among ATIs and LITAs, creating a powerful network of trainers.
- This training marks a significant step toward a future where Tanzanian farmers have access to the knowledge and resources needed to build climate-smart, productive livestock systems.

2.0 STUDENT CORNER

From the Classroom to the Field: Students Champion Organic Agriculture

At the heart of the CISTI Project is the student. We believe that the best way to build future agricultural leaders is to immerse them in practical, real-world challenges.

With support from the CISTI Project, students at KARUCO College one of our key beneficiary institutes are leading the charge in sustainable agriculture. Through dedicated field-based learning, they are actively championing organic and agroecological farming practices.

Bridging Theory and Practice

Students are gaining invaluable experience by:

- Preparing and applying high-quality compost
- Implementing organic crop management strategies
- Improving soil fertility using natural methods



KARUCO students gain practical experience on their organic farming demonstration plot.

- **Managing pests and diseases biologically**
"It's one thing to read about agroecology in a textbook," says a student participant. "It's another thing entirely to prepare your own compost and see your crops thrive without chemicals. The practical activities have helped us understand how sustainable farming works in real situations and have increased our confidence to apply what we learn in class." Student Perspective.

KARUCO students gain practical experience on their organic farming demonstration plot.

This hands-on exposure is building a generation of graduates who are not only technically competent but are also passionate advocates for environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient food systems.

3.0 INSTITUTIONAL LEADERSHIP

Sharpening the Tools of Governance: A New Era of Leadership for ATIs and LITAs
Effective leadership is the cornerstone of institutional success. Recognizing that strong, visionary management is fundamental to delivering quality education, the CISTI Project invested in a landmark five-day Leadership and Institutional Management Training for 66 Principals and Senior Management Staff from Agricultural Training Institutes (ATIs) and Livestock Training Agencies (LITAs).

The training, held from 4–8 May 2026 at SAT's offices in Kilakala, Morogoro, was facilitated by the Eminent Corporate Academy. It was designed to address a critical need: building the leadership and governance capacity necessary to navigate the complex challenges facing public institutions today, from accountability and communication to managing change and fostering a positive organizational culture. A Participatory Approach to Real-World Challenges

The programme went beyond theoretical lectures, adopting a highly participatory and learner-centered methodology. Participants engaged in interactive lectures, case studies based on real institutional scenarios, role-plays and simulations to practice conflict management, group discussions and institutional dialogue

sessions, reflective leadership exercises, and strategic action planning. These approaches enabled participants to connect theoretical concepts with real leadership and management challenges experienced within ATIs and LITAs.

Empowering Leaders for Institutional Transformation

The comprehensive curriculum strengthened participants' capacity in five core areas:

- People-Centered and Transformational Leadership: Building on the foundation of values-driven, ethical, and emotionally intelligent leadership.
- Institutional Governance and Accountability: Strengthening systems for integrity, risk management, and policy compliance.
- Communication, Teamwork and Conflict Management: Enhancing crucial soft skills for effective collaboration and dispute resolution.
- Organizational Culture and Change Management: Creating positive, supportive, and high-performance work environments.
- Strategic Leadership and Institutional Transformation: Aligning institutional goals with actionable plans and exploring the role of innovation, including Artificial Intelligence, in educational leadership.



VOICES FROM THE TRAINING

"This training has opened my eyes to the importance of emotional intelligence and strategic communication in managing our teams. I now feel better equipped to handle the complex challenges we face at our institute." — Felix Mrisho, MATI-Ilonga Principal.

"The discussions on organizational culture and change management were particularly valuable. We often focus on the 'what' but neglect the 'how.' This training gave us frameworks to lead change more effectively." — Flora Kajuna, Kikulula LITA Campus Manager.



Looking Ahead: A Shared Commitment to Excellence

The training concluded with participants developing institutional action plans and making concrete commitments to apply their new skills. The programme also provided a vital platform for networking and experience sharing, helping to build a more collaborative and effective institutional framework across the agricultural and livestock education sectors.

To build on this success, participants recommended similar training be extended to Directors and other management staff, and that follow-up mentorship programs be established to support the implementation of institutional action plans. This investment in leadership development is building a resilient and competent system capable of transforming Tanzania's agricultural and livestock sectors for generations to come.



For more information

Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania (SAT)

P.O. Box 6369

Morogoro, Tanzania

Email: info@kilimo.org

Website: www.kilimo.org

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