


PROJECT SUMMARY	
Project Name	Vijana Kilimo Biashara
Implementing Partners	Small Enterprise Institutional Development (SEIDA)
Reporting Period	November 2023
Project Duration	October 2023 to September 2026 (36 months)
Project Targeted beneficiaries	25,000 farmers (70% youth, 70% women).
Project location	2 Regions Shinyanga (Kishapu, Msalala, Shinyanga, Ushetu districts) and Tabora (Nzega, Igunga, Uyui and Sikonge districts)
Submitted by	Fredrick Ogenga (SEIDA CEO)
Submission date	10 th December 2023
Courtesy visits and introductory meetings in the Tabora region. The Regional Commissioner, the government, WFP and SEIDA staff at a group photo	

PART ONE: NARRATIVE REPORT

Introduction

The November report presents the recruitment of project staff, onboarding; training and orientation them; , procurement of furniture, computers, Printer, scanner, photocopy, software for digital profiling, and lease of some equipment; rental of offices (Shinyanga and Tabora regions); car hiring;; courtesy calls and

introductory meetings at government and other stakeholders; and train technical staff in data collection using digital tools (Kobo, ODK) and quality data management

Section I: Monthly key achievements and activities

Project Management

1.1 Onboarding and recruitment of staff

SEIDA recruited and brought on board staff responsible for implementing the project. The project has a team of 14 (12M,2F) some of them contribute part of their time to the project while others use 100% of their time to the project. Staff who contribute 100% of their time to the project include the Project Coordinator, Project Agribusiness Specialist, Results Measurements Specialist (RMS), Project Officer-Gender, Youth Inclusion, Project Officer- Agriculture Education and extension, 2 Project Officers -Farmer Organization Developments (FOD), Project Officer-Information and Knowledge Management and Project Accountant, Finance and Administration Manager and the Programs Manager contribute specified their level of efforts to the project.



1.2 Rental of offices Shinyanga &Tabora

SEIDA rented two offices (one office per region) in Shinyanga and Tabora regions. In the Shinyanga region, the office is located at Mababasi Street, Nkulila Road block no 11 whereas the Tabora office is located at Babebiberi Street, Kahama Road, Block No, 50 Nzega town.



Figure 1: CP office ,Shinyanga

1.3 Procurement and lease of equipments

SEIDA procured furnitures for the offices in Shinyanga and Tabora regions. The procured furniture includes chairs and tables; procured six (6) laptop computers, two printers, Overhead projectors 2; photocopier and scanners and stationeries. These included offices consumables like electricity bill, fuel for vehicle. SEIDA leased 2 vehicles that provide transport services for project activities in the 2 regions . SEIDA contracted software developer and made advance payment for the development of digital profiling Platform to be used in profiling of the project participants digitally. Moreover, SEIDA procured security services for the project offices in Nzega ,Tabora and Shinyanga respectively.

1.4 Conduct staff training and orientations

SEIDA conducted a 4-day orientation and onboarding training for 20 staff (16M, 4F). The main objective of the training was to create a common understanding of the VKB project among all staff.

The sessions covered various aspects, including the VKB project overview, gender issues, standard financial management practices, procurement practices, gender and youth considerations, and

sunflower and sorghum QDS production and management practices, SEIDA and WFP policies related to VKB Project implementation. Also, staff were trained on participant profiling, design and use of data collection tools (Kobo Tool) and reporting methods, VKB communication strategies and tools as well as information and knowledge management systems.

WFP organized a two-day VKB project kickoff workshop at Lush Garden Hotel in Arusha from 1st to 2nd November 2023. The purpose was to bring together project staff from Cooperating Partners/CPs; SEIDA, BRAC, and TAHA, along with the donor to provide an overview of the project and establish a collaborative framework for its successful execution. From SEIDA, SEIDA was represented by the CEO, Programmes Manager, 2 Finance Officials, Gender and Youth Officer, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, and two Project Officers representing the Tabora and Shinyanga regions.



The workshop successfully provided a detailed overview of the VKB Project, with presentations from WFP, SEIDA and other CPs. Additionally, thematic areas such as sensitization, agronomy, finance, partnerships, and monitoring and evaluation were extensively discussed, fostering a comprehensive understanding among participants. The

Figure 2; Kick off workshop organized by WFP

workshop facilitated discussions on (Field Level Agreement) FLA management addendums technical oversights, and other partnership-related aspects, promoting collaboration between WFP and CPs.

1.5 Conduct courtesy calls and introductory meetings with Government and other stakeholders.

WFP in collaboration with SEIDA conducted courtesy calls and introductory meetings with the Regional Leaders in Shinyanga and Tabora. In the Shinyanga region, 14 people attended the meeting where the government was represented by 4 staff from the Regional Administrative Secretary, WFP was represented by 2 staff and SEIDA was represented by 8 staff from Taboara and Shinyanga offices included Head Quarters in Dar Es Salaam. In the Tabora region, 72 people attended the meeting. The Tabora Regional Commissioner chaired the meeting which was attended by various senior government officials such as 5 District Commissioners from Uyui, Igunga, Nzega, Sikonge, Tabora Municipal, Urambo and Kaliua. The District Council chairpersons and other heads of departments from the district councils attended the meeting. WFP was represented by 2 staff and SEIDA was represented by 8 staff. WFP used these meetings to introduce SEIDA as a cooperative partner responsible for implementing the Vijana Kilimo Biashara

project in the regions. Additionally, WFP introduced the project and created awareness among the government about the project. The government promised its commitment to the project and to ensure the project will be implemented to its fullness. The government promised to collaborate with SEIDA to select the villages and project participants. Additionally, the government promised to appoint the District Focal Persons (DFPs) who will be the contact person and the link between SEIDA and the district councils.



WFP representatives also visited the SEIDA regional office in Nzega to meet the staff and discuss some project-related issues. Some of the main topics of discussion were the districts to be covered in the first year in the Tabora region and the number of participants. WFP suggested that Uyui, Igunga and Nzega districts should be covered in the first year. The participant's target is 15,000 for the Tabora region and 10,000 for the Shinyanga region. SEIDA is awaiting formal notification of this change.

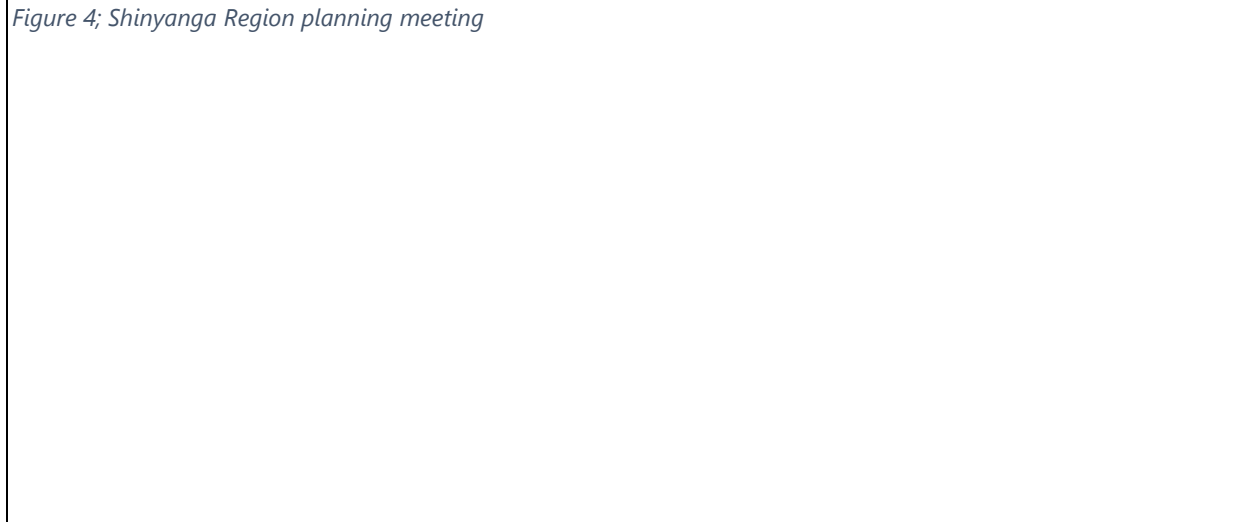
Facilitate project closure and sustainability activities

SEIDA began to implement the VKB project sustainability at the beginning of the project by facilitating government ownership of the project. SEIDA conducted one planning meeting with the regional and district officials in Shinyanga region where the regional and district key departments and technocrats discussed with the SEIDA teams the project implementation approach, milestones, work plans as well as the project targeting and attributes for potential villages and outreaches. The key issues included the commitment of the government and the project participants to participate fully in the project. SEIDA worked with the government to set criteria for villages and participants selections in Kishapu, Msalala and Shinyanga DC potential for VKB project implementation and then selected villages from each district.

The government promised to appoint district focal persons who will be the contact person and link the government with SEIDA in the project implementation.



Figure 4; Shinyanga Region planning meeting



Section II. Progress in Implementation

Outcome/Output		Project Description	Indicator	Target	Monthly achievement	Cumulative achievement
		Project Management				
Activities	0.1	Staff recruitment	Staff hired	15	14	
	0.2	Office set-up	# of offices hired	2	2	
	0.3	Conduct project launch events at the regional and district levels	Project officially initiated			
	0.4	Beneficiaries digital profiling	Farmers digitally profiled	25		
	0.5	Inception meeting	# of meetings conducted			
	0.6	Facilitate annual and bi-annual project planning and review meetings with project staff and the WFP team	# of meetings conducted			
	0.7	Conduct community entry and project introduction to the key stakeholders in target districts	# of meetings conducted			
	0.9	Support quarterly district-level sensitive nutrition coordination meetings	# of meetings conducted			
	1.0	Facilitate project closure and sustainability activities	Strategy prepared and implemented			
Outcome: 1		Smallholder Farmers especially Youth, women increase productivity, the value and volumes of their sales leading to improved income.	% of targeted smallholder farmers increase engagement with high-volume buyers	TBD	0	
			% of smallholder farmer associations improved governance and financial systems	TBD	0	
			% of smallholder farmers reporting increased income from agribusiness	TBD	0	

Outcome/Output		Project Description	Indicator	Target	Monthly achievement	Cumulative achievement
Intermediate Results 1.1		Identified and profiled 25 000 project participants	# of farmers registered by the end of the project	25000	0	
Activity	1.1.1	Farmers' sensitisation and mobilization	Farmers	25000	0	
	1.1.2	Identify youth and women who are eligible for VKB through village meetings	Farmers	25000	0	
	1.1.3	Beneficiaries digital profiling	# SHFs registered	25000	0	
	1.1.4	Profiling farmers (70% women and 70% youth) and Farmers' Organizations (FOs), and increasing last-mile and first-mile services	Farmers	25000	0	
Intermediate Results 1.2		Improve crops yield potential productivity and food security to targeted smallholder farmers by 5%	% of smallholder farmers who have access to technical support	TBD	0	
Activity	1.2.1	Training of crop diversification /rotation practices for agro-ecological maintenance	# of sessions/events organized	80	0	
	1.2.2	Support women and youth groups with cost-effective materials to establish community/ kitchen garden	# of groups	16	0	
	1.2.3	Train farmer associations' members and young Farm Innovation agents (FIAs) on agroecological practices.	# of farmers' associations trained	88	0	

Outcome/Output		Project Description	Indicator	Target	Monthly achievement	Cumulative achievement
	1.2.4	Facilitate centralized village/ward semi-annual review and feedback meetings between smallholders farmers association Leaders and agricultural extension officers	<i># of participants</i>	320	0	
Intermediate Results 1.3		Increase the volume and value of sorghum, sunflower and pulses products to 10%, of the 25 000 smallholder farmers, especially 70% of youth and 70% of women	% of targeted smallholder farmers increase engagement with high-volume buyers	TBD	0	
			% of smallholder farmer associations improved governance and financial systems	TBD	0	
			% of smallholder farmers reporting increased income from agribusiness	TBD	0	
	1.3.1	Facilitate contract farming between FOs, buyers, processors and LGAs	<i># of the contract signed</i>	TBD	0	
	1.3.2	Train farmers on appropriate good farming practices for sorghum, pulses, sunflower, and horticulture value chain	<i># of farmers registered</i>	TBD	0	
Intermediate Results 1.4		Increase availability and access to input services for sorghum and sunflowers by supporting best practices of smart agriculture and commercialization of local seed production	<i># of smallholder farmers increase engagement with high-volume buyers</i>	TBD	0	

Outcome/Output		Project Description	Indicator	Target	Monthly achievement	Cumulative achievement
Activity	1.4.1	Identify and recruit 128 quality declared seed (QDS) farmers in all districts for targeted crops	Quality seeds identified	TBD	0	
	1.4.2	Train identified smallholder farmers (DQS) on quality seed production and storage	# of Smallholder farmers trained	TBD	0	
	1.4.3	Facilitate and support the establishment of climate-smart agriculture demonstration sites/plots for improved seed crop production in target districts per crops	# of CSA sites established	TBD	0	
	1.4.4	Monitoring harvest, cleaning, sorting and certification of QDS and certified seeds	#Monitoring	128	0	
	1.4.5	Sensitize farmers' association members to adopt new/existing climate-smart agriculture practices through ICT and mobile platforms	# of sensitization sessions held	32	0	
Outcome: 2		Smallholder farmers especially youth and women reduce post-harvest losses of their produces	% of targeted smallholder farmers increase productivity	TBD	0	
			% of targeted smallholder farmers reduce post-harvest losses	TBD	0	
			% targeted smallholder farmers adopt GAP/CSA technologies	TBD	0	

Outcome/Output		Project Description	Indicator	Target	Monthly achievement	Cumulative achievement
			% of targeted smallholder farmers access postharvest technologies, equipment/ facilities	TBD	0	
Intermediate Results 2.1		Increase investment in postharvest technologies	Crop yields have increased by 5 % for the targeted farmers	TBD	0	
	2.1.1	Conduct training for Extension Officers (ToT) and lead farmers on PHHS	# Extension officers trained	32	0	
Activity	2.1.2	Train farmers on PHHS in target value chains and equip smallholder farmers with market orientation and technology	# farmers trained	25000	0	
	2.1.3	Facilitate linkage of farmers to established networks of private suppliers of hermetic technology and post-harvest equipment (hermetic bags, tarpaulins, threshing machine, silos etc.)	# farmers linked	25000	0	
	2.1.4	Conduct a demonstration of PHHS materials/technologies/equipment to farmers	# farmers trained	25000	0	
	2.1.5	Identify and train youth for post-harvest technologies as the service provider	# youth trained	800	0	

Outcome/Output		Project Description	Indicator	Target	Monthly achievement	Cumulative achievement
	2.1.6	Coordinate delivery of the materials/equipment from equipment technology company or suppliers/distributor to the farmers	# follow-ups	6	0	
	2.1.7	Introduce and train smallholder farmers and youth to use a dehydrator for drying vegetables/fruits to reduce loss	# youth trained	8000	0	
Intermediate Results 2.2		Increase access to quality storage facilities for smallholder farmers to reduce post-harvest losses	# of Smallholder farmers using storage facilities	TBD	0	
Activity	2.2.1	Train smallholder farmer associations on warehouse management and record-keeping	# of smallholder farmer associations trained in warehouse management	88	0	
	2.2.2	Facilitate/coordinate timely availability and delivery of storage bags/ equipment for smallholder farmer associations from producers or suppliers	# of Smallholder farmers accessing storage bags	3000	0	

Outcome/Output		Project Description	Indicator	Target	Monthly achievement	Cumulative achievement
Intermediate Results 2.3		Strengthen the capacity of smallholder farmers' associations and mobilize community support in targeted areas for effective individual and collective action towards post-harvest losses	Post-harvest losses have been reduced by 15% for the targeted farmers	TBD	0	
	2.3.1	Conduct awareness to warehouse managers/AMCO leaders on the benefits of aggregation and selling large volumes	<i># of warehouse managers and AMCO leaders attending awareness</i>	25000	0	
	2.3.2	Integrate ICT technology with available aggregation centres including the use of Kilimo Data Hub (KDH) through available mobile network operators	# of warehouses reached	48	0	
	2.3.3	Establish/support warehouse committees and conduct training on warehouse management to members (e.g. stacking, rejection techniques and record keeping)	Participants	168	0	

Outcome/Output		Project Description	Indicator	Target	Monthly achievement	Cumulative achievement
OUTCOME 3		Strengthen smallholder farmers' linkages to inputs, support services and markets for increased market access and input access, thereby increasing revenues to smallholder farmers	# of smallholder farmers with linkage to inputs	TBD	0	
			# of smallholder farmers with linkage to the market		0	
Intermediate Results 3.1		Marketing of agricultural produce increased	# of smallholder farmers with access to quality storage facilities to reduce post-harvest losses	TBD	0	
Activity	3.1.1	Mobilize farmers to participate in the aggregate of their produce	# of farmers mobilized	14056	0	
	3.1.2	Facilitate training on marketing dynamics to smallholder farmers (especially youth and women)	# of farmers trained	5884	0	
	3.1.3	Facilitate linkage for farmers and FOs with marketable surplus to local and regional markets to ensure access to profitable market opportunities	# of farmers linked	3270	0	

Outcome/Output		Project Description	Indicator	Target	Monthly achievement	Cumulative achievement
	3.1.4	Creating awareness and mobilizing FOs for collective marketing through aggregation and collection centres	# of farmers informed	13076	0	
Intermediate Results 3.2		Strengthening access to reliable markets for agricultural produce	# of farmers with access to markets	TBD		
Activity	3.2.1	Identify main buyers (local & and regional) and establish actual demand for agricultural produce	# Buyers	16	0	
	3.2.2	Facilitate Business to Business (B2B) meetings between farmer organizations (FOs) and potential buyers/off-takers	# B2B Meetings	80	0	
	3.2.3	Integrate ICT to deliver Market information i.e. prices, volumes & buyers	# ICT	32	0	
	3.2.4	Integrate modern technologies into warehouses for digital services (i.e. digital weighing scales, moisture meters, scanners, printers etc.) and job creation	# Warehouses	32	0	

Outcome/Output		Project Description	Indicator	Target	Monthly achievement	Cumulative achievement
Intermediate Results 3.3		Improve income by increasing the volume and value of the products sold and benefit from improved access to profitable markets	# of smallholder farmers association with increased capacity in organizational development	TBD	0	
00Activity	3.3.1	Facilitate farmer's market access and linkage with target off-takers, private companies and other key actors	<i># of farmers linked</i>	286	0	
	3.3.2	Strengthening existing Farmers' Organizations (FOs) and increasing last-mile and first-mile services	<i># of farmers' organizations reached</i>	320	0	
	3.3.3	Facilitate farmers' linkages between smallholder farmers and registered agribusiness firms or agro-dealers through their FOs	<i># of farmers linked</i>	9480	0	
Outcome: 4		Young people especially women have improved employment opportunities along the sector value chain	# of registered women and youth smallholder farmer associations can support their members in financial services	60 women and youth groups	0	
			% of women and youth reporting improved economic conditions and livelihood	TBD	0	
			# of MSMEs linked and support women and youth smallholder farmers to have greater economic autonomy	120 women and youth	0	

Outcome/Output		Project Description	Indicator	Target	Monthly achievement	Cumulative achievement
Intermediate Results 4.1		Participating young people, especially women, have improved employment opportunities along the value chain through MSMEs strengthening	% of smallholder farmers and MSMEs with established business links and benefiting from them	TBD		
Activity	4.1.1	Identify youth and women who are eligible for VKB through village meetings	# of women and youth identified	16346	0	
	4.1.2	Conduct training for women and youth on basic entrepreneurship and marketing skills	# of youth trained	240	0	
	4.1.3	Facilitate train on financial literacy among identified youth	# of youth trained	5558	0	
	4.1.4	Train youth and women on Value-addition	# of youth and women trained	7192	0	
	4.1.5	Conduct train on agripreneurship skills and self-employment knowledge among identified youth	# of youth trained	6538	0	
	4.1.6	Identify and register youth and engage them in MSMEs	# of youth engaged	7100	0	
	4.1.7	Provide coaching, mentorship and linkage between youth clubs to FOs and aggregation centres to provide mechanization, post-harvest and production services	# of youth coached and mentored	4576	0	

Outcome/Output		Project Description	Indicator	Target	Monthly achievement	Cumulative achievement
	4.1.8	Train the youth and women on market dynamics	# of women trained	4250	0	
	4.1.9	Facilitate training of Youth Extension and Enterprise Clubs (YEECs) on GPS farms mapping, soil health testing kits, promotion of crop insurance services, hand planters, rippers and pesticide applications for fee/commission.	# of youth with GPS in clubs	4304	0	
					0	
Intermediate Results 4.2		Young people, especially women, have improved employment opportunities along the value chain through MSMEs strengthening	# of women and youth associations with advanced capacity in food processing and value addition	To be determined	0	
	4.2.1	Capacitate FOs to re-invest in emerging agriculture opportunities during off-seasons	# FOS	640	0	
	4.2.2	Support women and youth to own and establish small Sorghum and sunflower miller to establish sorghum and sunflower oil processing points	# of established sunflower oil processing points by women and youth	32	0	

Outcome/Output		Project Description	Indicator	Target	Monthly achievement	Cumulative achievement
Outcome 5		Improved inclusiveness of the marginalized groups in the agricultural commodities value chains.	% of women and youth smallholder farmers who own property or productive resources	TBD	0	
			Contribute to 50% gender-sensitive governance in smallholder farmers associations	TBD	0	
			# proportion of women and youth participating in the decision-making index	TBD	0	
Intermediate Results 5.1		Women and youth benefit from increasing inclusiveness and opportunities in the selected agricultural value chains.	% of women and youth groups who have adopted the tested business technologies and innovations and practicing	TBD	0	
Activity00	5.1.1	Sensitize farmers on gender equality to increase awareness of gender-responsive decision-making over resources owned together	# Men and women sensitized	19876	0	
	5.1.2	Conduct awareness and training on gender equality/equity and identification of specific gender-based (youth and women) activities on agriculture investment	# awareness training on gender equality	196	0	

Outcome/Output		Project Description	Indicator	Target	Monthly achievement	Cumulative achievement
	5.1.3	Facilitate women and youth representation in development planning dialogues and decision-making processes at the community level	# Women and youth facilitated	9876	0	
	5.1.4	Promote gender mainstreaming throughout the agriculture and rural development sector by organizing and facilitating workshops for communities and partners at programme locations	Gender mainstreaming promoted	240	0	
	5.1.5	Provide community members with more gender-sensitive training and organizing farmer exchange visit	Gender-sensitive training provided	240	0	
	5.1.6	Develop reading materials on gender, agriculture and rural development, featuring smart best practices, to be distributed among farmers and LGAs	Material on gender and agriculture and rural development developed	4000	0	

Outcome/Output		Project Description	Indicator	Target	Monthly achievement	Cumulative achievement
	5.1.7	Improve coordination with key stakeholders involved in the project to help expand partnership opportunities that are geared to increase farmers participation in mainstreaming gender, youth, and environment into their farming communities	# Coordination's on mainstreaming gender, youth and environment increased	240	0	
Output 6		Agriculture policy was amended and agricultural product trading tariff improved and created a friendly business environment	# Policy brief developed	TBD	0	
Activities	6.1	Conduct policy dialogue on agricultural investment policymakers at project regions and districts	# of meetings conducted		0	
	6.2	Facilitate policy and trade tariff review meetings	# of meetings conducted		0	
	6.3	Facilitate policy and trade tariff dialogues for agricultural products	# of meetings conducted		0	
	6.4	Prepare a policy brief and trade tariff amendments report for the ministerial level	# of meetings conducted		0	

Outcome/Output		Project Description	Indicator	Target	Monthly achievement	Cumulative achievement
	6.5	Facilitate the dialogue meeting for ministerial policymakers and other stakeholders	# of meetings conducted		0	
	6.5	Monitoring and evaluation	Monitoring report produce		0	

Section III: Risks, Challenges, and Recommendations

Part A: Risks to the project

Risks	What steps are being taken to mitigate these risks
NIL	NIL

Part B: Challenges, lessons learned and recommendations

<p>B.2.1: Challenges in implementing during this period and mitigation— <i>highlight the challenges you encountered during the period of implementation and how they were mitigated to reduce like impact.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Changes of regional distribution targets from 10,000 project participants for Tabora to Shinyanga, and the 15,000 from Shinyanga to Tabora Increased and reduced districts in the 2 regions, Tabora 5 districts of (Tabora Municipal, Igunga, Nzega, Uyui and Sikonge) from the FLA and proposal 4; Shinyanga 3 (Shinyanga DC, Msalala and Kishapu) and leaving out Ushetu which was in the FLA Introducing a new sector beekeeping for Sikonge, a sector which though it may have off-season income for the project participants but during the RFP, proposal and even FLA was not included. The current work plan for the first year faces timing constraints, as it does not align effectively with the ongoing season. Given that farmers have already prepared their fields during the rainy season, certain activities may encounter difficulties in implementation within this first year, instead SEIDA have prioritized the activities to comply with the start ups period.
<p>B.2.2: Lessons Learnt— <i>what lessons emerged during the period and how have these been used or are being used to inform and improve the project</i></p> <p>Involvement of the government from the beginning of the project brings a sense of government ownership and involvement which assures project sustainability from the very beginning. Both regional Governments of Tabora and Shinyanga and their district councils have shown positive support to the VKB project.</p>
<p>B.2.3: Recommendations— <i>what do you recommend based on encountered challenges and lessons learned that can be used to future improve the project</i></p> <p>SEIDA recommends issues that have contractual obligations as far as the signed FLA, dealt with objectively by partners and shy away from political influences which may pose compromises on the programming aspects and affects attainments of the project outcomes, results including financial constraints.</p> <p>SEIDA anticipates by end of the quarter in January,2024 these aspects will be better addressed with the inception report/meeting of the partners on how the project can be aligned based on the realities on the ground but not at the partner introduction stage.</p>

