

# **Examination of learning and replicability of Income Generation Groups lounded by Millennium Village Project at Mbola Villages, Uyui District, Tabora Region in Tanzania.**

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**ABSTRACT:** Millennium Villages Project that lounded in 2005-2015 worldwide, engages Poverty Eradication interventions in Tanzania at Mbola Villages in Tabora Region. This was done through establishing the income generation groups which together work to ensure the members and community in general acquire economic growth but also the other community members learn and copy for implementation from the existing Income Generation Group. This study sought to examine lessons from those IGGs and copied for establishment and running of other new IGGs, for economic growth. The main objective of this study is to identify the acquired lessons that copied and bear other new IGGs. Descriptive analysis was done to find out what happened, learnt, copied from the IGG's operation and its effects on economic growth hence led to the establishment of other new IGGs. From the findings the study concluded that, Economic Projects like MVP, which target economic growth through IGG's, should make sure that they allow community members to access the project activities in order to learn new lessons, there is no new IGG's established after obtaining the lessons that can be copied from the previous IGG's established by the MVP.

**KEYWORDS:** *Learning and replicability, Income Generation Groups and Millennium Villages Project.*

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## **I. INTRODUCTION**

In September, 2000, world leaders at the UN Millennium Summit committed their nations to reduce extreme poverty and set targets with a deadline of 2015, known as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The UN Millennium Project, initiated by then UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan and directed by Jeffrey Sachs, estimated that interventions to achieve the MDGs would require a 10-year average investment of between \$101 and \$127 per person per year (all monetary units given as 2005 US\$ per person per year), with low-income settings requiring \$58–80 from external financing. Motivated by the UN Millennium Project's findings, the Millennium Villages Project (MVP) was initiated in 2005 to achieve the MDGs within 5 years in rural villages in sub-Saharan Africa, focusing on quick-win social and economic interventions. Thereafter, additional funding enabled the MVP to be redesigned as a 10-year project, including longer-term strategies to achieve the MDGs by 2015. The project expanded to 14 sites across ten countries by the end of 2006. Countries were selected on the basis of political stability and government commitment to the MDGs. Millennium Village (MV) sites were selected from rural areas of high under nutrition, representing varied agro ecological zones, and with local political buy-in and community ownership.

The project implemented integrated interventions hence one of them was poverty eradication through formation of IGGs at every village. MVP aimed to contribute \$60 (of \$80) in external financing, consistent with the UN Millennium Project's recommendations. Tanzania was one of the 189 nations, which endorsed the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in September 2000 as part of the Millennium Declaration of the General Assembly of the United Nations (URT 2011). Since publication of the first country MDG Report in 2008, successive reports have continued to show that great challenges lie in achieving the poverty eradication goal (MDG 1). Greater efforts made to achieve MDG 3, which is about poverty eradication. This intervention conducted at **Uyui** district which had a high incidence of poverty (48.1%). It was named the Mbola Millennium Villages Project.

Mbola Millennium Village project (Mbola MVP) aimed at changing the lives of selected communities through attaining specified Millennium Development goals (MDGs) by involving the local people. The project officially launched in May 2006 and took off in September 2015. The project implemented in 16 villages (located in four wards namely Ilongulu, Mabama, Ibiri and Usagari) which together form Mbola Millennium

Village. The Millennium Village of Mbola is located in the Uyui district in mid-western Tanzania, the Sukuma and Nyamwezi groups mainly inhabit it, and it is about 36 km from Tabora town.

## **II. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

MVP engages poverty eradication interventions parallel at some villages through establishing the income generation groups so as to reach the community economic development goals. In every village one IGG with thirty group members established with the expectation that the other community members shall learn and copy from the host IGG established in order to form other IGG's as many as they can for economic growth. Crossing to these villages now seven years since 2015 when MVP phased out. The other community members still not familiar with IGG's, except who were members of the past IGG's which also have already perished. The neighbor villages which also expected to know and implement IGG's through host villages with established IGG's do not also aware with the issue of Income Generation groups thus they even do not have these IGG's. "Uyui District Social – Economic Profile (2018)

## **III. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

The main objective of this study is to find out the acquired lesson that copied and bear other new IGG's on other community members and neighbor villages. Specifically;

- i) To assess the lesson acquired by the community from Income Generation Groups established.
- ii) To identify the ripple effects of established IGG by MVP village.

## **IV. HYPOTHESIS**

- i) Community acquired lesson from the established Income Generation Groups established.
- ii) IGG have ripple effects within the MVP villages and their neighbors.

## **V. LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **5.1 Definition of Concepts**

#### **5.1.1 Millennium Village Project (MVP)**

The Millennium Villages Project (MVP) is a systematic approach to achieving the millennium development goals in rural Africa. The model is community-led development with simultaneous, integrated, science-based interventions in five main areas: agriculture, education, health, infrastructure (roads, power, water, sanitation, connectivity), and Poverty Eradication, Sachs (2019). MVP initially planned as a 5-year project but then a second phase has been added for 2011 to 2015. There are 12 original Millennium Villages (MVs) in 10 different countries in Sub-Saharan: Sauri and Dertu, Kenya; Koraro, Ethiopia; Mbola, Tanzania; Ruhiira, Uganda; Mayange, Rwanda; Mwandama, Malawi; Pampaida and Ikaram, Nigeria; Potou, Senegal; Tiby, Mali and Bonsaaso, Ghana. Each MVP consist several villages and experts were sent to these MVs to implement community-led development strategies, which includes partnership with local governments. Based on the different challenges in the different sites, the MVP has adjusted their interventions in each particular MV.

Millennium Villages Project through those six area worked with Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were eight international development goals for the year 2015 that had been established following the Millennium Summit of the United Nations in 2000, following the adoption of the United Nations Millennium Declaration. All 191 United Nations member states, and at least 22 international organizations, committed to help achieve the following Millennium Development Goals by 2015 which were such as;

1. To eradicate extreme poverty and hunger through income generation groups
2. To achieve universal primary education
3. To promote gender equality and empower women
4. To reduce child mortality
5. To improve maternal health
6. To combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases
7. To ensure environmental sustainability
8. To develop a global partnership for development

#### **5.1.2 Income Generation Groups in Mbola MVP**

Are the groups of people established by MVP consist of small businesses activities based on crop cultivation and livestock keeping managed by group members to increase their household income and community economic development in general through livelihood diversification. In every village one group established with expectation that other community members shall learn and acquire the knowledge and skills and establish other IGG's within the same and nearby villages, Millennium Villages Project (2011); Wilson (2014).

### 5.1.2. Learning and Replicability of Income Generation Groups

Learning is the acquisition of knowledge and skills on processes for establishing and implementing the Income Generation Group activities. Replicability is the capability of income generation group being reproducible as other groups in different areas by community members. Carr, M., & Wiek, A. (2018)

### 5.2. Importance of MVP Income Generation Group Learning and replicability

When an Income Generation Group within the community opens the door for other community members to acquire overall knowledge and skills from the ongoing income generation activities, it paves the way to the community members to understand the activities conducted and its processes from initial to the final stage. This pulls the community members to copy and establish other Income Generation Group all over within the community. This help them together collaborating to reach the poverty eradication target as planned with MVP by their own efforts even if the project has already phased out but the legacy is still continuing to expand. Kubisch, A. (1997)

### 5.3 Theory of MVP on poverty eradication through Income Generation Groups.

Through hard work, the household acquires some savings, moves from subsistence to cash crops, begins to specialize in a single crop, upgrades its capital inputs and acquires more land. Capitalism, Sachs concludes, is the aggregate outcome of this process operating ‘through the interactions of thousands or millions of households linked together by markets’. With the assistance of the MVP, each individual farmer is expected to generate a surplus and accumulate capital, before joining the ‘market economy’ as a ‘small-scale entrepreneur’:

*“Almost all of Africa is the private sector. Farmers, that is the private sector . . . But private sector doesn’t mean you just leave them alone . . . they can’t get started because they’re so impoverished. So we should help a private sector-led development by helping these farmers use inputs, boost their productivity . . . Bring in microfinance and let them rip. And that’s basically the model. (Sachs 2006b, 16)”*

### 5.4; Empirical Studies on MVP on IGG’s.

The empirical analysis concerns with an impact assessment of CED in MVP through the studies done by ESRF (2018) from Tanzania have examined on MVP but found that at that time MVP key areas of intervention on economic development through Income Generation Groups Activities on the area of Poverty eradication impacts by looking the activities developed through agricultural activities and entrepreneurship established. These done through some income generation groups for enhancing and sustaining community economic development within the villages although up to now still there is no new Income Generation Groups established since the MVP phased out. Furthermore, there is a need to know what economic development projects through IGG have to learn and copy from MVP interventions to be applied in future CED projects within several communities.

## VI. METHODOLOGY

This research therefore covers income generation groups by Mbola MVP from 06 villages such as Mbola, Ilola Ngulu, Mabama, Ideka, Mbiti and Msiliembe. Secondary data were obtained through Mbola MVP final report. Empirical works of other scholars were consulted. A sample size of 240 was obtained from the population of 1250 group and community members. The questionnaires distributed into IGG, which divided into four groups of ten people per each for group discussion. Each group of ten member’s questionnaires collected. The questionnaire was designed in Likert scale format. The researchers conducted a pre-test on the questionnaire to ensure the validity of the instrument.

## VII. TEST OF HYPOTHESIS

**Table 1, Hypothesis One;**

**H1;** Community acquired lesson from the established Income Generation Groups established.

H1; Community acquired lesson from the established Income Generation Groups established.	Total Respondents From IGG’s	Positive Response	Unknown Response	Negative Response
<b>Total Respondents From six IGG’s</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>175</b>
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>73%</b>

*Source; Author, 2022*

According to the above response from six villages concerns with the existence of lessons acquired from the IGG's. The respondent's percentage shows that its only 27% of the lesson acquired. This is very low to conclude that can help the community members have acquired the huge lesson concerns with the IGG's processes.

**Table 2, Hypothesis Two;**

**H2;** IGG have ripple effects within the MVP villages and their neighbors.

<b>H1;</b> IGG have ripple effects within the MVP villages and their neighbors	<b>Total Respondents From IGG's</b>	<b>Positive Response</b>	<b>Unknown Response</b>	<b>Negative Response</b>
<b>Total Respondents From six IGG's</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>230</b>
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>100</b>	Nil	04%	96%

Source; Author, 2022

According to the respondents response that shows no ripple effects by 96%. Hypothesis two tests reveals from the six MVP, villages there is no IGG's ripple effects hence no any other IGG established as the copied results from the existed IGG's established by the MVP.

### VIII. CONCLUSIONS

From the findings the research concluded the projects that involve some income generation activities via groups established, should make sure they open the room for other community members to get the lesson on what is conducted by themselves. This shall enable the community members to understand, own, control and be able to establish other groups carry same objectives within the society for the benefit of the community in general. By doing this the sustainability and growth of many income generation groups shall be under high performance.

### IX. RECOMMENDATIONS

From the findings and conclusions, the research recommends that the projects concerns with the economic growth through the income generation activities via groups shall make sure that, they create mechanisms for transmitting the lesson concerns with what is going on within the operation of income generation group's activities from the initial stage to the final stage. The community around the basement of IGG's must be participated even through the key representatives whom shall get the lesson from the existing IGG and later participate with other community members to establish more income generation groups to bring ripple effects of IGG's. The Project owners shall also adhere the philosophy of Community Economic Development which shall guide them to operate well the IGG's guided by respective principles.

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