

**Scottish Government International Development Programme
Final Report**

1. General project information		
1.1	Project reference Number	ZAM-SCIAF/KATC
1.2	Name of organisation	Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund (SCIAF)
1.3	Lead partner(s) organisation	Kasisi Agricultural Training Centre (KATC)
1.4	Project title	Sustainable Organic Agriculture Support Project – Towards training for farmers at the Kasisi Agricultural Training Centre, Zambia
1.5	Reporting period	From: 01/04/2019 To: 30/09/2020
1.6	Reporting year	3 (including extension period)
1.7	Project start date	01/10/2017
1.8	Project end date	30 September 2020 (including no-cost extension (NCE) from 01/04/20 – 30/09/20)
1.9	Total project budget*	£480,000
1.10	Total funding from Scottish Government*	£240,000
1.11	Provide a brief description of the project's aims, highlighting which of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) your project is working towards? (200 words)	<p>The project seeks to improve food, nutrition and income security through the promotion of Sustainable Organic Agriculture (SOA).</p> <p>The project targets: 1) Providers of SOA training; 2) Government decision and policy makers; 3) Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) extension staff; 4) Staff from agricultural training institutions; 5) Small-scale farmers (SSFs).</p> <p>The main objectives of the project are: 1) Strengthen the KATC SOA training institution; 2) Develop SOA training at tertiary level; 3) Promote value-addition through training; 4) Lobby and advocate the upscaling of SOA, through engagement with the MOA and using the Farmer Training Centre (FTC)/Farm Institute (FI)/Agriculture Training Institution (ATI) model to expand the outreach of SOA; 5) Strengthen the income generating capacity of KATC.</p> <p>This project seeks to contribute to UN Sustainable Development Goal 1 No Poverty through agricultural livelihoods development and increased income, Goal 2 Zero Hunger through increasing yields and farm levels of production, Goal 13 Climate action through the promotion of SOA principles and practices and Goal 17 Partnership through working with our Zambian partner.</p>
2. Project progress and results		
<i>Please use this section to give an update on the progress the project has made during this reporting period.</i>		

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2.1	<p>Provide an update on the progress your project has made. Use this space to update us on what has gone well and any challenges you have experienced, detailing how you have overcome these. (Max 500 words)</p>
	<p>Through this project KATC has achieved changes in agricultural practices in Zambia across six provinces and has become a more financially sustainable organisation. They have developed a strong relationship with the Ministry of Agriculture, and increased support within the MoA for SOA. Despite the challenges presented by drought and COVID-19, great progress has been made and valuable learning generated for future. KATC has refined its expertise and used this experience to develop medium and longer term plans.</p> <p>Key successes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Influencing farming practices at government institutions on the ground has proven very positive and an indirect way to influence government policies to support SOA longer term. 2. The two-strand approach of a) building MoA support and capacity for SOA and b) MoA staff providing SOA training to communities improved the visibility of MoA structures on the ground. This is important for sustainability and long-term impact of the project. With sufficient mentorship, farmers will continue obtaining technical support, and extension and advisory services on SOA from these institutions. 3. The involvement of groups of farmers from agricultural cooperatives/agricultural camps in the daily running of demonstration plots at Kanchomba FI and Lundazi FTC helped strengthen farmer groups on the ground. This approach enhances farmers' learning and will be embraced in future projects. 4. The development of the SOA course and its anticipated introduction in the ATIs will ensure sustainability of the promotion of SOA after the completion of this project. The SOA course will be an integral part of the curriculum at both certificate and diploma levels in all the ATIs. <p>Challenges:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The COVID-19 pandemic presented a major challenge to several activities: field days were cancelled, training delayed, the milking parlour could not be commissioned, and staff could not meet to review ATI course content. To capture learning from the demonstration plots KATC and the Zambia National Agricultural Information Services (NAIS) shot a TV documentary. This was broadcast on the Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation (ZNBC) and Start Time TV. The remaining delayed activities were all carried out at a later date. 2. There has been a slight reduction in milk production as the cows are still being trained to be milked using the herringbone milking parlour. KATC is using the herringbone in the afternoon and continuing with traditional milking in the morning until the cows settle. <p>Key activities include: SOA training at tertiary level: The SOA Diploma course will be launched in January 2021, affiliated with the University of Zambia (UNZA). Training of MoA staff: 315 MoA staff have been trained during this reporting period. Dairy parlour: Commissioned by De La Val in October 2020 and currently operational. Review of KATC training materials: Materials for five different courses were reviewed and revised, including crop health in SOA and agroforestry. SOA course for ATIs: The final draft of the course content has been developed, with support of the ATI staff and specialists. Calf shed and water reticulation: This has led to an improvement in the weight gain of the calves.</p>
2.2	<p>Has the focus or plans for delivery changed significantly? Please highlight what issues or challenges prompted this change and how you anticipate any changes in focus will impact on the previously agreed outcomes (Max 500 words)</p>

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	<p>Overall, the focus of the project remained the same but the strategy for implementation was adapted, with approval of the Scottish Government.</p> <p>The project accrued significant exchange rate gains and submitted requests to the Scottish Government to utilise these.</p> <p>The first request allocated funds to the following activities: review/update training materials and facilitators' guides, tertiary curriculum review, demonstration plot follow-up visits, and training additional MoA staff in Sustainable Organic Agriculture and SOA related courses. The training material, facilitator guide and tertiary curriculum review was delayed due to inadequate resources and could not have taken place without the exchange gains. The demonstration plot follow-up visits were vital to continue the link and support between KATC and the institutions who had established the demonstration plots. The additional training for MoA staff was requested as a result of further engagement with the MoA.</p> <p>A no-cost extension request was approved by the Scottish Government on 18 March 2020, moving the project end date to 30 September 2020. This approval also allowed the use of the remaining exchange rate gains to deliver further MoA training on SOA and Organic Vegetable Production, carry out an end line survey, and continue to carry out follow-up visits to the eight demonstration plots.</p> <p>As previously raised with the Scottish Government, the target for Outcome 3: 300 tertiary level students trained in SOA has not been met. The Diploma will be offered to students from January 2021.</p> <p>The prevalence of COVID-19 resulted in changing a number of implementation strategies of project activities as highlighted in section 2.1.</p>
2.3	<p>Taking into consideration what you have achieved over the project period, along with any challenges you have experienced, please highlight to us what lessons you have learned, and how these will be applied in the future. (Max 500 words)</p> <p>There has been a lot of learning from this project over the course of implementation. The key learning is as follows:</p> <p>Introducing an SOA course in agricultural colleges is a more sustainable approach in the dissemination of SOA than working with the FTCs/FIs. The work at FTCs/FIs is primarily project-bound, whereas a course introduced in a learning institution will become part of the ongoing curriculum.</p> <p>All training provided should be accompanied by strong mentorship programmes and capacity building in participatory extension methodologies to ensure that SSFs benefit through the continued interactions between trained MoA staff and farmers.</p> <p>Furthermore, the establishment of on-farm demonstration plots in addition to the on-station ones would ensure ownership of the efforts by the small-scale farmers and will make adoption of SOA practices easier. The day-to-day running and management of on-station demonstration plots by farmer groups is a good approach as farmers tend to easily relate to something their fellow farmers did. These farmer groups can act as study circles allowing all members to support one another, and share experiences and learning.</p> <p>While SSFs have directly benefitted from the SOA demonstration plots by attending field days, more deliberate efforts and interaction are needed to ensure their effective adoption of SOA and SOA practices. Some of the reasons hindering adoption of promoted SOA practices include: (i) the lack of well-structured mentorship and activities for SSFs at the FIs, FTCs, ATIs and among CEOs; (ii) limited knowledge and capacity in participatory extension approaches among CEOs and staff from FIs, FTCs and ATIs; (iii) while the practices promoted at government institutions were selected in consultation with the local MoA staff,</p>

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farmers were not given the chance to provide inputs and feedback on the suitability of the practices based on their own farm circumstances; and (iv) incapacity of CEOs to design demonstration plots that meet the needs and aspirations of the SSFs taking into consideration their environment.

While considerable progress has been made in engaging more women in training and involvement in SOA farming, more attention needs to be given to strategies to reach out to youth and vulnerable members of the community. KATC is seeking ways in which inclusion challenges could be overcome, and determining which strategy should be developed to ensure more youths participate in the project.

Despite training in marketing, SSFs did not change their marketing strategies. Few farmers trained in value addition put their learning into practice. This was primarily due to limited post-training mentoring and support. Strong accompaniment must be built into future work, and market linkages facilitated to encourage farmers to pursue value addition. Supporting farmers to work in groups would increase quality control, collective selling and information sharing.

This learning will be incorporated into the follow-on SCIAF-funded project which will establish mentorship programmes at two FTCs.

3. Partnerships and collaboration

This section allows you to discuss how partnership working is progressing on the project, as well as wider collaboration and sharing of learning.

3.1 Provide an update on how partnership working has gone over the course of the project. Let us know about any highlights, challenges or changes to roles and responsibilities. (Max 350 words)

The partnership between KATC and the MoA grew stronger over the period of the project. This helped increase the visibility of KATC and the popularity of SOA in areas where KATC had never worked in the past.

SCIAF and KATC's partnership thrived even with staff changes at both organisations. At KATC, the Project Manager, **REDACTED** retired in August 2019 and was replaced by **REDACTED** in October 2019. **REDACTED** who coordinated the day-to-day management of the project was replaced by **REDACTED** in June 2019.

At SCIAF, **REDACTED** was replaced by **REDACTED** as Programme Officer (PO) and **REDACTED** by **REDACTED** as Programme Manager (PM) in May 2019.

The former PO and PM remained available to offer support as required which was valuable particularly in reviewing the impact of the 2018/19 drought. **REDACTED** also travelled to Zambia with the new programme team in August 2019. His insight and knowledge on the visit was invaluable and provided an excellent handover. **REDACTED** remained in regular contact with the project team at KATC, discussing project progress, changes required and any challenges being faced. The continued communication and consultation between KATC and SCIAF made the partnership between the two institutions exceptionally effective. This allowed for timely reorientation of project activities to cope with a number of unforeseen challenges.

In December 2019 SCIAF and KATC met with Dr Paul Hargreaves from SRUC to discuss potential ideas for collaboration going forward. Unfortunately, COVID-19 limited any opportunity for further learning and exchange. This relationship would have been strengthened by stronger agreed objectives and activities from the outset.

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3.2	<p>Have any Scotland-based staff visited the project in the past 12 months? Give details including key activities and outputs of these visits.</p> <p>International visits were put on hold due to COVID-19. The last SCIAF visit was in August 2019, followed by REDACTED visit in October 2019.</p>	
Date of visit	Key achievements / outputs of visit	Follow-up actions
N/A		
3.3	<p>Please tell us about any dissemination and learning throughout this reporting period. How have you promoted effective learning across the project? Please explain what processes you have used both internally and externally to share learning from the project so far, and how this learning is being used. (Max 500 words)</p>	
	<p>The project was designed using learning from the Kulima Programme and the Promotion of Rural Food Security Project, as such dissemination and learning were key components of this project, enhanced through the strengthened relationship with the MoA. Based on learning from Kulima, this project focused on practical work with the MoA to influence operational policy and practice, rather than attempting to change official government policy on organic and inorganic farming. This approach has proven successful and engagement with the MoA increased significantly as the project progressed.</p> <p>KATC has disseminated information on the collaboration with the MoA and lessons learned from this project in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing Radio Maria and One Love radio programmes. - Attendance at the Regional Conference on Conservation Agriculture in Livingstone (at the invitation of WWF). - Attendance at a conference held by Stellenbosch University, GIZ and the German Environment Agency on 'Mapping out options for a model legislation for sustainable soil management in Africa'. - Attendance at the Seed Knowledge Initiative Regional Conference. - Attendance at the launch of the Southern African Knowledge Centre for Organic Agriculture. - Development and airing of an SOA documentary on the Zambia public TV broadcaster, ensured a wider outreach as the viewership is nationwide. <p>In addition to the above, KATC's on-site SOA demonstration plots have been a very valuable tool in the dissemination of SOA through the numerous tours that have been conducted with various individuals and institutions, and to the wider communities.</p> <p>Based on the lessons learned from the SOA demonstration plots, the MoA has directed the demonstrating institutions to roll out the efforts from the demonstration plots to the larger production fields within each site. This is a very positive move as it will see all MoA production units turning organic, which will prove valuable when lobbying for policy change and a budget allocation for SOA. The setting-up of demonstration plots in all three contrasting agroecological regions of Zambia has proved to be a very valuable feedback mechanism on how KATC can package its SOA practices to suit the different agroecological conditions. This has further enriched the KATC trainings and promotion of SOA i.e. trainers can relate to the different places where potential trainees are coming from.</p>	

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	<p>KATC made two submissions to the Parliamentarian Committee on Agriculture, Land and Natural Resources in 2019. The first submission was on the provision of extension services to farmers, while the second focused on Zambia’s response to the impact of climate change on the agricultural sector. Lessons from the ongoing project activities at the FTCs, FIs, and ATIs, as well as working with MoA CEOs, proved valuable in both submissions.</p> <p>Finally, through this project an SOA training module was developed for ATIs which will continue to be delivered after project completion, and the online SOA Diploma will be launched in January 2021. KATC has plans to extend knowledge on SOA by developing a degree course and curriculum for primary and secondary schools across the country.</p>
3.4	<p>Has the project completed a mid-term project evaluation in the past 12 months (or is one planned for the next 12 months)? Please provide detail of the outcome of the evaluation. (Max 500 words)</p>
	<p>The final evaluation for this project has just been completed, and is submitted with this report.</p> <p>The internal evaluation was carried out by a SCIAF and KATC team, led by a SCIAF volunteer who is a retired colleague with over 30 years of international development experience.</p> <p>The recommendations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To KATC - Provide more support to SSFs after SOA training, including initial mentoring support and systematic follow up. Maintain the “lead farmer” system and develop additional farmer-to-farmer extension approaches - study circles, farmer field schools and exchange visits, to encourage ownership and subsequent adoption of SOA practices by farmers. <i>(Much of this is already planned by KATC).</i> - Develop more on-site demonstration plots at institutions but also a network of on-farm demonstration plots, ensuring, in both cases, suitable initial resourcing (e.g. seeds for green manure plants). Continue the practice of local farmer groups managing the day-to-day running of the plots. - Deliver a structured system of post-training mentoring for CEOs, staff of FIs and FTCs and for lead farmers, including further SOA-related skills development and training in participatory extension methodologies. One suggestion was to consider setting up SOA focal centres e.g. FTIs/FTCs that receive intense backstopping as they start offering SOA trainings to farmers. - Agree a communications plan at the outset with the MoA and local institutions to ensure clear communication across all levels. - Explore how to increase capacity for wider coverage of SOA training. One possibility might be to consider ToT for staff from experienced like-minded NGOs, e.g. SCIAF partners such as Caritas Mongu, to increase SOA training outreach to SSFs in other provinces. - Ensure a more comprehensive programme for SSFs on value addition and marketing, including support for formation and training of groups, market research and assistance to develop market linkages. - As part of efforts to stimulate consumer demand for organic produce, field days could be linked to local markets to allow community members to see and taste the quality of organic vegetables. - Develop clear strategies and activities to promote inclusion of youth, women and marginalised groups in SSF training opportunities, including ways to encourage more female lead farmers, and specific strategies to encourage youth & people with disabilities. This might include capturing learning from (i) other organisations who have adapted projects to be more accessible e.g. for

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	<p>people with disabilities, and (ii) local women’s groups and NGOs who work specifically with marginalised groups.</p> <p>To KATC and SCIAF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure more precise initial budget planning. - Discussions between KATC and SCIAF on what type of partnership would be most fruitful in future. - When taking on an additional partner, review the national and regional expertise available before considering partnering with an organisation from Scotland. - Incorporate the learning from this project into the SCIAF Zambia Country Strategy, bringing partners together to advocate to the government for alternative agricultural budget provisions.
3.5	<p>With reference to Q39a & 39b in your original application form, please highlight how you maintained an awareness of others working in this region, giving details of collaboration, joint working or partnerships with others. (Max 500 words)</p>
	<p>Partnership between KATC and the Ministry of Agriculture continued to thrive in year three and over the no-cost extension period. MoA HQ staff accompanied all KATC field visits and the same MoA officer was a member of the follow-up survey team. Following this initial collaboration, KATC’s partnership with the ATI coordination office increased leading to KATC training ATI staff in SOA and OVP. This culminated in the development of an SOA course to be introduced in all training institutions.</p> <p>KATC, using the efforts at the FTCs, FIs and ATIs, partnered with the Zambia Alliance for Agroecology and Biodiversity (ZAAB), the African Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) and the Community Technology Development Trust (CTDT) to form farmer groups around the FTCs, FIs and ATIs to spearhead lobbying and advocacy efforts for policy change to support SOA and farmer seed systems. With the coming of the one-year SOA Support phase II project, KATC intends to engage with the above-mentioned partners to carry these efforts forward.</p> <p>KATC has continued to provide leadership in the area of SOA in Zambia and the region. In addition to the KATC partnership with ACB, ZAAB and CTDT, KATC is working with a number of institutions at national and regional level in the promotion of SOA, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Seed and Knowledge Initiative – operating in Zambia, Malawi, Zimbabwe and South Africa for the promotion and preservation of traditional seeds and indigenous knowledge. - UNZA on the ORM4Soil research project which is running in Zambia, Kenya, Ghana and Mali with coordination from Switzerland. - The Forest and Farm Facility initiative under the FAO to implement sustainable forest management. - The Southern Africa Knowledge Centre for Organic Agriculture. KATC is the leading institution to provide training in SOA to members. <p>KATC also identified Caritas Mongu, a partner that KATC had worked with on previous SCIAF/Scottish Government funded projects, as a valuable partner who has been very active in mobilising farmers to attend field days and meetings on behalf of KATC. Caritas Mongu remains actively involved in the promotion of sustainable practices in Mongu through different projects and KATC intends to formalise the relationship in the upcoming SCIAF-funded project to create synergies between both institutions.</p>
<p>4. Safeguarding and fraud</p>	
<p><i>Please ensure you complete questions 4.1 and 4.2 even if you have no incidents to report.</i></p>	

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4.1	Have there been any safeguarding incidents, either relating to staff/volunteers or beneficiaries of the Grant or the Project?		
	No		
4.2	Have these incidents reported at 4.1 been reported to relevant authorities, and if so, to whom?		
	N/A		
4.3	Describe what action has been taken, and highlight any lessons learned.		
	N/A		
4.4	Have there been any incidents of financial mismanagement, theft, fraud etc, either relating to the Grant or the Project or which affects the organisation?		
	No		
4.5	Have these incidents reported at 4.1 been reported to relevant authorities, and if so, to whom?		
	N/A		
4.6	Describe what action has been taken, and highlight any lessons learned.		
	N/A		
5. Risk assessment			
5.1	Have any issues materialised during this reporting period? If so, how were they addressed?		
	<i>Please refer to risk assessment provided at application stage.</i>		
Assumption	Risk	Action taken	Was this included in the Risk Assessment Table in your application?
The project is implemented as planned	COVID-19 stops activities from being implemented due to enforcement of Government restrictions.	Continued to regularly review the government advice and updates within the UK and Zambia. Continued to implement activities that can be carried out safely. Changed implementation strategies of some planned	Yes, in the COVID-19 Risk Assessment from April 2020. Please see further detail attached in Annex 1

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		activities to adhere to the imposed restrictions.	
6. Inclusion & accountability			
6.1	Was the project relevant for the beneficiaries you worked with? Please highlight how you ensured accountability on the project, did beneficiaries have the opportunity to feedback on the project and influence its development? (max 350 words)		
	<p>The project remained very relevant to the beneficiaries, SOA remains a key way for small-scale farmers to mitigate the impact of climate change while increasing their production and productivity.</p> <p>The relevance of the project was evident through the increased demand for SOA training from the MoA HQ and its staff on the ground, and through active participation of SSFs in the running of the demonstration plots. The MoA HQ has requested the replication of the project in the remaining provinces of Zambia.</p> <p>Individuals trained by KATC have had the opportunity to provide feedback on all training through mid-point and final training evaluations that are an integral part of all training courses offered.</p> <p>Prior to establishing the demonstration plots, consultative meetings were held between KATC and MoA staff to agree on the crops to grow, agronomic practices, field days, etc. These meetings, in addition to providing a platform for MoA staff to influence project activities, also served as a valuable learning tool for KATC to tailor the SOA packages to suit the local environment.</p> <p>Small-scale farmers were encouraged to participate in the project by engaging in the day-to-day running of the demonstration plots. In Kanchomba, the demonstration plot was run by six agricultural camps; a total of 56 farmers adopted one or two subplots in the demonstration plot. A similar approach was used at Lundazi and Katete FTCs. This proved a valuable way to share learning and good practice among farmers. Field days also served as platforms to obtain feedback from farmers and officials attending the project sites.</p> <p>Furthermore, a follow-on survey was carried out sampling 37 farmers who had received value addition training and training in cooperative formation/management. This survey acted as a tool for gathering economic and agricultural information as well as gathering feedback from those trained to help shape future training offered by KATC.</p> <p>The end of project survey and evaluation interviews and focus group provided critical feedback from the project beneficiaries on what worked/did not work and learning for future projects.</p>		
6.2	Were you aware of particularly vulnerable or marginalised groups within the community in which your project is working? Please give details on how you are disaggregating data to recognise these groups across the project. (Max 350 words)		
	<p>Women and youths were identified as particularly vulnerable or marginalised within the project communities due to their low attendance and participation in project activities. Efforts were made to disaggregate the attendance of men, women and youths in project activities (training, field days, day-to-day running of the demonstration plots), and ensure data was accurately captured and logged.</p> <p>This approach helped to highlight the existing imbalances in terms of women and youth participation in project activities. To address the poor participation by women and youths in project activities, deliberate</p>		

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	<p>efforts were made during recruitment of trainees and/or invitations to meetings so that women and youth participation was encouraged.</p> <p>Additionally, KATC introduced a topic on gender, as a cross-cutting issue, in most of its short courses to raise awareness on gender equality among farmers and other agricultural practitioners. The aim was to sensitise trainees on the need for empowering women in developmental activities, promoting gender equality and women's rights. It is hoped that the increased awareness will increase the level of participation of women in project activities beyond the scope of this project.</p> <p>Further work is being carried out to give people with disabilities and people living with HIV and AIDS an equal opportunity to participate in all of KATC's work going forward.</p>
<p>6.3</p>	<p>How did your project work to actively meet the needs of these vulnerable and marginalised groups, to ensure they benefitted from the project? Please outline any mechanisms you used. (Max 350 words)</p>
	<p>In partnership with the African Centre for Biodiversity and the Zambian Alliance for Agroecology and Biodiversity, KATC emphasised the actual percentages of men, women and youths participating in/attending community meetings and workshops, to reinforce the different individuals who were actively participating in project activities. This highlighted the ability to integrate different groups into a project and show others they can do the same. It is anticipated that as the MoA training institutions roll out the SOA training to the SSFs in the surrounding communities, vulnerable and marginalised individuals will receive the training as part of the community.</p> <p>Additionally, KATC has a policy that stipulates a minimum of 40% female participation in all of its training sessions. When recruiting participants for training, the extension staff were encouraged to consider a balance between men and women in order to encourage women's participation. KATC has been achieving 40% minimum female participation in the training they offer, however it has proved more challenging to meet this target in this project as the majority of MoA staff were male, as the MoA institutions tend to be male-dominated.</p> <p>Furthermore, KATC has female staff who provide training and are available to offer further support to female trainees. Female trainers are a valuable resource for showing that women can learn and practise the same as men. KATC also encourages female lead farmers by taking trainees to visit other female lead farmers. This tends to have a positive impact, not only on the female trainees but the male ones too, and can lead to changing opinions.</p>
<p>6.4</p>	<p>Taking into consideration some of the challenges of mainstreaming, please describe any challenges you have faced in reaching vulnerable and marginalised groups, and how you overcame these. (Max 350 words)</p>
	<p>In general, KATC finds it relatively easy to achieve the targeted 40% representation of women farmers, or more, in project activities carried out in rural communities; this cannot be said for targets relating to training provided to the MoA staff.</p> <p>The MoA FTCs, FIs and ATIs are traditionally male-dominated environments; as a result, there were few female staff available to attend training. This was a difficult challenge for KATC to address, as the issue lies with recruitment within the MoA institutions. However, KATC continued to encourage and promote the inclusion of women when training sessions were being discussed with the institutions. The female KATC staff act as good examples to show the MoA institutions that women are equally knowledgeable on SOA practices and valuable team members. This issue continues to be addressed in the follow-on SCIAF-funded project.</p>

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7. Financial information

This section will be reviewed alongside your budget report, which should be included alongside your narrative and logframe. Please ensure this spreadsheet is completed with both a detailed breakdown of expenditure for this financial year, along with your projected spend for the next financial year.

Please note carry-over of funds to the next financial year should have been agreed with the Scottish Government by January 31st of the current financial year.

7.1

With reference to your budget spreadsheet, please give a detailed explanation of any variances between planned and actual expenditure, including reasons for the variances and whether these are as a result of timing issues, price achieved, quantity etc. If these are temporary variances, please outline plans for expenditure. (Max 500 words)

The final financial report for the project shows full spend on both the Scottish Government grant contribution of £240,000 and the SCIAF match funding contribution of £240,000. Staff and activity costs during the six-month no-cost extension (NCE) approved on 18 March 2020 was fully funded from the SCIAF contribution, the Scottish Government grant having been fully spent within the original implementation period of the project.

The final financial report compares actual spend on the full project to that originally approved in October 2017. Several budget revisions were approved during the course of the project:

Staff Costs – Scottish Government grant spend on Scottish Staff Costs is in line with the originally budgeted figure of £10,685. Spend from the SCIAF contribution of £10,685 is higher than the budget of £7,123 due to costs incurred during the NCE. Despite additional costs during the NCE, spend on National Staff is lower than budgeted due to the actual start date being two months later than planned, and also due to exchange rate fluctuations. In line with the Scottish Government policy on exchange rate gains, these were initially set aside and approval subsequently given for specific additional spend on implementation activities.

Admin Costs – as per Staff Costs, savings from the delayed start and exchange rate gains were transferred to the Implementation budget.

Travel & Subsistence – actual spend on International Travel is much less than budgeted. Only one SRUC staff member travelled to Zambia at the beginning of the project. Savings have been achieved through combining travel with other projects wherever possible and travel plans in Year 3 were cancelled due to COVID-19 travel restrictions. Savings in In-country Travel from the delayed start and exchange rate gains were also transferred to the Implementation budget.

The higher than budgeted overall spend on Implementation activities was funded from savings elsewhere:

Output 1 Approval was given in July 2019 to use artificial insemination instead of purchasing in-calf heifers and to transfer the savings to capital to purchase a larger, more efficient disc mower.

Output 3 Additional spend of £11,651 on tertiary curriculum development was approved in October 2019 from exchange rate gain funds. Spend on the development of the agroecology diploma SOA training that was delayed from Year 3 was completed in the NCE.

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	<p>Output 4 The value addition, markets and cooperative management trainings under Output 4 were completed at lower than budgeted cost (underspend of £10,753 net of exchange rate gain).</p> <p>Output 5 Significant additional spend was funded from the savings in Output 4 above and from approved use of exchange rate gain. The high demand for the courses resulted in a slight overspend on the revised budget.</p> <p>M&E&L Exchange rate gain on SCIAF funds was used to fund the end line survey during the NCE.</p>
7.2	<p>Please give details of any capital expenditure in this reporting period. (Max 350 words)</p> <p>Overall, capital expenditure was less than the original budget due again to exchange rate fluctuation. As planned, the majority of the capital expenditure was funded from the SCIAF match funds. This included the purchase of a lorry in Year 1 (£32,971), dairy parlour (£29,950) and calf shed (£6,994). The calf shed was built during the NCE and the final expenses in relation to the delayed commissioning of the herringbone milking parlour were also incurred during the extension period.</p> <p>As indicated above, approval was given by the Scottish Government in July 2019 to purchase a 3.2 metre disc mower (SG spend £11,885; SCIAF spend £5,874) with the original budget being supplemented by funds re-profiled from Activity 1.5 Purchase in-calf heifers.</p> <p>The greenhouse and vegetable drying tunnel (£3,934) were purchases in Year 2 from SCIAF funds; the Scottish Government grant funded a small amount of capital expenditure (£242) in March 2020 on materials for the installation. The remaining capital expenditure relates to a computer projector (SG £179 and SCIAF £179) for use in the delivery of training.</p>
7.3	<p>Please explain how you have worked to ensure cost effectiveness on the project in the past 12 months, whilst maintaining the quality of delivery. (Max 350 words)</p> <p>Substantial additional activity has been undertaken from the exchange rate gains which have resulted from proactive management of funds sent overseas and the strict ring-fencing of gains. This has necessitated careful management of wage inflation and other price pressure increases.</p> <p>Robust procurement procedures are in place with formal quotes being obtained for all major purchases and decisions taken by the procurement committee, taking into account both cost and quality.</p> <p>Effective networking with Ministry of Agriculture and other government agencies has enabled some ancillary costs such as travel for trainings to be funded by other agencies.</p> <p>Adaptive management of resources has been undertaken throughout the project and, where required, budget adjustments have been approved to allow a proactive response to changes in circumstances and opportunities that have arisen. Examples of this include the re-profiling of budgets to enable the project to take advantage of the local availability of suitable dairy equipment. Also the additional training of MoA officials has been undertaken. This continues to be a cost-effective way of disseminating SOA practices and enabling the project to reach many more farmers than could be done directly.</p> <p>The in-country end line survey costs were funded from exchange rate gains and SCIAF was able to use this information as the basis of a robust final evaluation conducted at no additional cost through using SCIAF staff and a suitably qualified SCIAF volunteer.</p>

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8. Any other information

Use this section to tell us any other relevant information regarding your project. (Max 500 words)

This project allowed KATC to pilot their support to the Ministry of Agriculture through the FIs/FTCs and ATIs, and provided many learning opportunities.

With funding from SCIAF, KATC is now embarking on a follow-on project which utilises learning gained in this project and recommendations made in the project evaluation.

Zambia's agricultural farming system is largely conventional relying heavily on the use of synthetic fertilisers, herbicides and pesticides, and hybrid seeds. It is difficult for policy makers and other actors in the sector to visualise and promote sustainable organic agriculture as a viable and sustainable alternative as there are limited resources and structures on the ground.

There is a need to strengthen the capacity of existing MoA structures such as the FIs, FTCs and ATIs in the widespread promotion of SOA. Working through the MoA FIs will strengthen SOA outreach to farmers on a scale that has not yet been achieved.

The follow-on project aims to contribute to improving the income, food and nutrition security of small-scale farmers in Mongu and Pemba. KATC will work with two Farm Institutes (FIs), the Namushakende FI in Western Province and the Kanchomba FI in Southern Province. FI staff will be trained by KATC in sustainable organic agriculture and will be supported to roll out SOA training to the neighbouring communities.

Learning from the Scottish Government funded project indicates that there is a need to enhance the support and mentoring of small-scale farmers beyond training, in order to enhance the adoption rate of SOA methodologies on farms. While working with the MoA and its extension system provides an excellent way to scale up awareness and support for SOA in the country, it is clear that additional work is needed to assist farmers to be able to adopt and use these technologies on their farms.

Some of the reasons hindering the adoption of SOA practices include:

- Lack of well-structured mentorship programmes and activities for SSFs at the FIs.
- Limited knowledge and capacity in participatory extension approaches and methodologies among CEOs and staff from FIs.
- Limited consultations with farmers on the suitability of the promoted SOA practices.
- Inability of CEOs to design demonstration plots that meet the needs and aspirations of the SSFs.

This project intends to utilise the above learning to deliver the following **objectives**:

1. Strengthen the capacity of government staff at the FIs to deliver SOA technical support to SSFs;
2. Strengthen the capacity of lead farmers in the provision of SOA technical guidance and support to fellow farmers;
3. Enhance the interaction between the FIs and the community farmers through the use of participatory extension methodologies;
4. Enhance the exchange of experiences among farmers; and
5. Popularise SOA among local communities, policy makers and traditional leaders.