

Case Study: TANZANIA:

Building a Sustainable Community & a Sustainable Environment

FMC BioPolymer partnered with the Government of Tanzania and the University of Dar es Salaam in establishing the seaweed farming industry in Tanzania in 1989. We provided technical expertise and financing to two local businessmen and provided training to hundreds of coastal inhabitants to become seaweed farmers. Today the country produces around 10,000MT/year and FMC is still the largest buyer and a leader in developing and implementing best farming practices.

Technical & Business Best Practices

FMC wants to see farmers increase productivity, produce seaweed in an environmentally sustainable manner and work safely. FMC has worked closely with farmers to boost their productivity through training in Best Farming Practices, improved farming systems, developing technology and safety/health awareness. This has led to a dramatic rise in production and productivity. Farmers adopting FMC Best Farming Practices increased productivity to over 1MT/120 man hours/month.



Highly productive farms of Pemba, Zanzibar. These farmers have adopted FMC Best Farming Practices and seen their productivity increase fivefold.

Plastic Boats:

Even with higher productivity and technical know-how, harvest transport methods were inefficient over long distances. In addition some farmers used wooden boats. This drives deforestation and the boats are heavy, require maintenance and cost over \$600. FMC developed plastic boats with KL Industries that cost <\$200, can be carried by two people, transport over 400kg of harvest and need 10cm of water. They should last 10 years. There are now over 400 plastic boats in use and more on order.



Pemba farmers were the first in the world to obtain plastic boats that FMC developed with KL Industries in Michigan. These boats allow them to carry 500kg/day to the beach instead of 20kg on their head and making two to three 1-mile trips.