

Title	Legume biomass transfer for enhancing productivity of maize in Striga infested farmlands: the case of Iringa district, Tanzania.
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Purpose	Increase maize productivity in Striga-infested areas of Iringa district.
Project Summary	This project aims at increasing maize productivity in Striga infested soils in Iringa district in Southern Tanzania using two villages as case studies. The project proposes to use nitrogen-fixing legumes, as the main intervention, which will be planted in a strip-intercropping system and their biomass incorporated into the soil to improve soil fertility levels and hence productivity of maize. Short term rotations of the legumes and maize will be evaluated on-farm using both edible and non-edible legumes namely mucuna (<i>Mucuna pruriens</i>), lab lab bean (<i>Dolichos lab lab</i>), sunhemp (<i>Crotalaria ochroleuca</i>), Carnavalia spp, green gram (<i>Vigna aurietum</i>), Cicer aurietum, cowpea (<i>Vigna unguiculata</i>) and soybean (<i>Glycine max</i>), Two graduate students will be supported to pursue studies leading to the award of MSc; one examining the influence of the leguminous plant

	materials on soil physical and chemical characteristics including the contribution of the selected legumes to soil fertility restoration and the other evaluating the influence of the legumes on Striga prevalence and severity on maize growth and yield including an assessment of the Striga seed bank dynamics. On-farm trials will be done on at least 5 farmers' fields in each of two villages (Kiwere and Mangalali), using the mother-baby approach. Farmers will be the key actors at all stages of planning, implementation and evaluation under the guidance of local extension workers.
Country and Specific Location(s)	Iringa district (Kiwere and Mangalali villages)
Participating Institutions	Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) following SUA financial regulations, DALDO
Start Date	September 2010
End date	August 2012
Amount of Funding	USD 59,997