

From Morogoro to Tanga: Raha Farm's Expansion Showcases Youth Empowerment in Tanzanian Agriculture



Raha Aloyce, a rising star in the Tanzanian **horticultural/ vegetable** seedling farming industry, has taken a significant step towards sustainable agriculture and youth empowerment by opening a new seedling farm in Kilindi District, Tanga region.

This venture marks her second successful establishment, following the thriving farm in Dumila Juu, Kilosa District Council, Morogoro. The expansion is made possible through the support of the Agricultural Input Trust Fund (AGTF) via the BBT Program, which aims to foster young agricultural entrepreneurs.

Raha Farm's journey commenced in Morogoro, where Aloyce's passion for agriculture and a vision for expansion led her to establish her initial operation. The robust demand for seedlings in Tanga inspired her to open this latest farm. The inauguration event was attended by Kilindi's District Commissioner, Hon. Hashim Mgandilwa, BBT Program Coordinator Ms. Vumilia Zekankuba, and leaders from both the Tanga and Morogoro regions. Mr John Banga, the SAGCOT Kilombero Cluster Manager, also graced the event.

During the launch, Ms. Aloyce, who currently employs 50 young individuals, expressed deep appreciation for President Samia's role in enhancing the

agricultural environment for youth. "President Samia's initiatives have been pivotal in empowering us to excel in agriculture," she remarked. She also praised the crucial AGTF grant that supported expanding her farming activities.

Ms Zekankuba emphasized the impact of the BBT Program, noting, "4% of our beneficiaries are making notable progress in agriculture, with Ms Aloyce exemplifying success and effective loan usage."

Local government support was reaffirmed by Hon. Mgandilwa, who advocated for further growth and innovation in crop sales. Reflecting on her early challenges, Ms. Aloyce acknowledged the vital early support from SAGCOT, which helped establish Raha Farm.

This expansion underscores a significant milestone in Ms Aloyce's career and emphasizes the vital roles of youth empowerment and sustainable agricultural practices. As Raha Farm continues to flourish, it stands as a symbol of advancement and optimism for young farmers throughout the region, heralding a more sustainable and prosperous future for all involved.