



PHOTO & CAPTION

Technical Assistance for Mozambican Litchi Growers



Photo: Southern Africa Trade Hub

The Southern Africa Trade Hub recently provided technical assistance to litchi growers in the Chimoio region of Manica Province in Mozambique.

In collaboration with a South Africa marketing firm, the Trade Hub arranged for a litchi expert to provide technical assistance to these farmers.

The assistance focused on improved grafting techniques

Training in improved propagation techniques for smallholder farmers in Manica Province, Mozambique is an important first step to cluster development and regional market expansion.

(including air layering, pictured here) and post-harvest handling. The assignment also allowed the marketing firm an opportunity to investigate new sourcing arrangements for early season fruit. It is envisioned that with a minimum of follow-up training and reinforcement of skills learned, the farmers will be capable of propagating the types of seedlings needed to build the area's production base and attract more commercial marketing companies.

The targeting of emerging commercial farmers directly supports USAID/Mozambique's rural income growth strategy and is consistent with the Trade Hub's strategy of supporting bilateral Mission activities. This activity also is consistent with the Global Development Alliance principle of leveraging private sector involvement to achieve development objectives.