DONATA?

- Dissemination of New Agricultural Technologies for Africa-OFSP
- FARA project funded by AfDB
- Project spread across Africa
- In East and Central Africa, project is funded through ASARECA with technical coordination and backstopping by CIP.
- TRANSFER AND DISSEMINATION OF PROVEN AND EMERGING AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGIES IN ORANGE FLESHED SWEETPOTATO

Introduction

- Innovation Platform for Technology Adoption (IPTA) coordinated by the NARIs in the respective countries/DONATA OFSP project sites.
- IPTA actors are drawn along the sweetpotato value chain (farmers/farmers association, processors, researchers, NGOs/public extension, BDS etc).
- IPTAs coordinated and backstopped by CIP (2009-2010) and later to be undertaken directly by ASARECA.

Goal and Purpose

Overall Objective: Improved livelihoods and increased economic growth for resource poor farmers in Eastern and Central Africa. (ECA)
Purpose: Enhanced uptake and adoption of orange-fleshed sweetpotato (OFSP) technologies in Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

Results

- OFSP technologies made available to uptake pathways in Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda and Uganda.
- Best bet approaches for up-scaling OFSP technologies generated and promoted.
- Capacities for disseminating and up-scaling OFSP technologies in the production-toconsumption continuum strengthened.
- Information on OFSP technologies and uptake approaches made available to intermediate and end users in East and Central Africa (ECA).

Implementation

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• IPTAs formed-2 IPTAs in each of countries except for Ethiopia.

Country	IPTA s	NARI/Focal Point
Uganda	Gulu IPTA	Gulu University
	Lira IPTA	Ngetta ZARDI
Kenya	Bungoma	KARI-Kakamega
	Kakamega	KARI-Kakamega
Rwanda	Seed Systems	ISAR-Rubona
	Processing/marketing	ISAR-Rubona
Tanzania	Seed Systems	Lake Zone ARDI
	Processing/marketing	Lake Zone ARDI
Ethiopia	Seed systems	Hawassa
	Processing	-

 Two IPTAs expected to be formed each year for the rest of the project life with more farmers involvement/representation

Multiplication of OFSP varieties:

- In total 12 OFSP varieties accessed to farmer groups/cooperatives.
- Multi-tier system (PMS, SMS and TMS) used in multiplication of quality planting material.
- Invitro multiplication undertaken in Rwanda and Ethiopia.

Processing technologies:

- various processing equipments have been procured and accessed to farmer groups to process OFSP and act as learning/training centres for processing.
- 1-2 processing units have been/are soon to be established in each country.
- The equipments are chippers, slicers, peelers/washers. These are either manual or motorised.

Production practices:

- Rapid and conventional multiplication techniques for vines have been demonstrated.
- Pest and disease (notably weevils and viruses) management practices have demonstrated among farmer groups.

OFSP products:

- Production of various OFSP recipes has been demonstrated to farmer groups/processors.
- Some IPTAs have made OFSP products available to some targeted markets.

Training of Trainers (TOT):

- IPTA actor staff, farmer representatives, public extension. Training provided by CIP, NARI and other IPTA actors.
- Areas of training include RMT, root production, farming business skills, processing and marketing etc.

Farmer Training: undertaken by the TOTs.

Msc. Training: one student per country. Kenyan candidate started field work. Ugandan candidate is awaiting approval of budget from FARA. Ethiopian/Rwandan candidates-are finishing their coursework and getting to thesis work in 2011. Tanzanian candidate to be replaced

Researcher training: Agricultural innovation approaches, Monitoring and Evaluation.

- Information materials produced and distributed-OFSP callendars, stickers, leaflets, booklets.
- Quality seed vine multiplication manual at advanced level. Also processing and marketing manual drafted and shared for review.
- Radio talk shows: held mainly in Uganda. Farmer recorded messages also aired.
- Field days and national shows: World Food Day, Nanenane show.
- Advocacy meetings with government. Case of Tanzania and Uganda.
- Regional experience sharing workshops: one held in Nairobi, August 2010

Challenges

IPTA management and coordination. Conflicts experienced and actors not undertaking the roles effectively. This arises from the varied capacities of the actors in the IPTA and inadequate understanding of the IPTA concept. However, through meetings and lesson learning workshops held with the IPTAs this have been reduced.

- Monitoring: Trucking of seed multiplication not effectively done.
- Documentation of IPTA processes. Most IPTA were not able to document their processes for learning.

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