

# Welcome to the 4<sup>TH</sup> Annual Technical & Executive Steering Committee Meeting



<b>7-Oct</b>	<b>AM</b>	Welcome Remarks & Overview of Support Platform in West Afr
<b>Monday</b>		Overview of SASHA & RAC Progress
		Weevil resistance Progress
		Breeding Progress
	<b>PM</b>	Field trip to CSIR-Crops Research Institute
	<b>Evening</b>	<b>Photo Contest and Dinner</b>
<b>8-Oct</b>	<b>AM</b>	Seed Systems & Dissemination: several projects
<b>Tuesday</b>		Panel Discussion on Net Tunnels
	<b>PM</b>	Innovation Platforms
		Animal Feed
		Going-to-Scale in Uganda
		<b>Poster Session &amp; Competition</b>
		Gender
		Partnerships
	<b>Evening</b>	Discussions on how to improve the Support Platform Concept

Logistics Support:

Emily Ndoho

Muhammed-Awal Zakaria

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<b>9-Oct</b> <b>Wednesday</b>	<b>AM</b>	Delivery System Update
		Changing CGIAR Context
		Way Forward on the SPHI in Phase 2 (Working Groups)
	<b>13:00</b>	Technical meeting ends
	<b>PM</b>	Executive Steering Committee Meeting
		<i>Side meeting to review costing guidelines on a sweetpotato intervention</i>
<b>10-Oct</b> <b>Thursday</b>	<b>AM</b>	Executive Steering Committee Meeting
		<i>Side meeting on SASHA phase 2 breeding planning</i>
		Wrap-up meeting of ESC members with SASHA PMT
	<b>16:00</b>	leaders & RAC project manager
	<b>17:30</b>	Close of ESC meeting

Chairperson of  
ESC:

Dr. Hans Adu-  
Dapaah

Highlights from  
Year 4: Vision of  
SPHI &  
Management and  
Support Platforms  
under



Jan Low, Project Manager  
7 October 2013  
Crops Research Institute, Kumasi, Ghana





**17 priority  
countries,  
3 sub-regions**

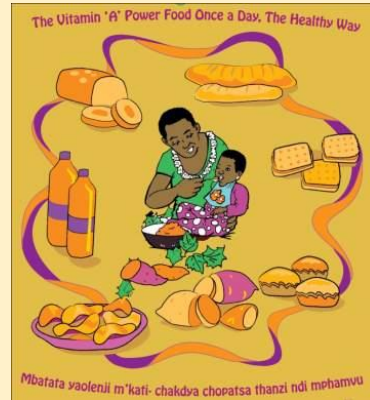
**Now, 12 with  
Activity under  
SPHI  
Umbrella**

*Enhancing the Lives of 10 million African households by 2020*

# A Year When Several Projects Finished Up or Completed their First Phase



Angola



Malawi

*DONATA & Agricultural Innovation System*



*Mitigating Disaster in Mozambique*

# A Year of Continued Growth in Interest, especially in OFSP



*Uganda*



*Zambia*



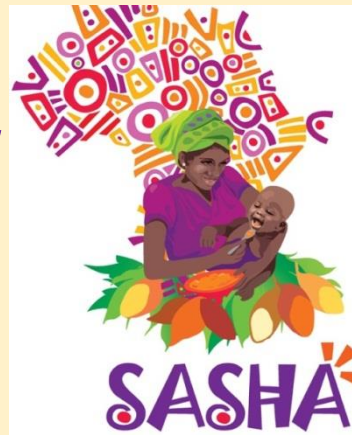
*Commercializing Seed in Uganda & Tanzania*



*Mozambique*



*Net Tunnels*



*New Support from the UK  
Nutrition for Growth  
8 June 2013*

# Where have we come since last September in Nairobi?



## 3<sup>RD</sup> SPHI Technical and Executive Steering Committee Meetings



Mike Pix - 0722 858 898

Held at Pride Inn Hotel – Westlands, September 11-14, 2012

# Year of Highlighting Progress so Far



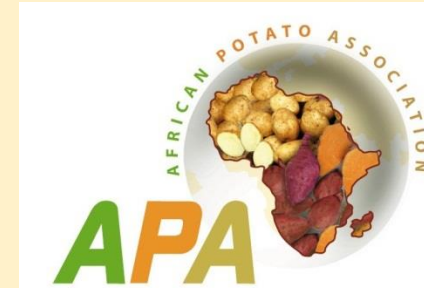
*Exhibition as part of SPHI meeting*



*Exhibit & Sponsored Session  
At Int'l Society of Root & Tuber  
Crops Global Meeting September  
2012*



# Major Participation in 9<sup>th</sup> Triennial African Potato Association Meeting



Sweetpotato researchers from 25 countries presented their research findings in 5 keynote presentations, 24 oral presentations and 56 poster presentations. 12 linked to SPHI.



# 9<sup>th</sup> Triennial Conference



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# Year of Review, Reflection & Planning



BMGF commissioned external evaluation of all components, exc. transgenics. Two person team of Don Doering & Mohammed Musabaha.

Visited field sites  
20<sup>th</sup> October -2 November in SSA;  
then Lima (Peru) 3-7 December 2013.

*The intention of the evaluation is to be forward-looking to plan future investments and improvements of the strategies and grants that support the foundation's sweet potato goals. The context of the evaluation is the foundation's generally positive assessment of program performance to-date and that the foundation intends to reinvest in a sweet potato program.*

# Key findings of the Review Team



Achievement	High Level Goals
	1. Develop the essential capacities, products, and methods to reposition sweetpotato in food economies to alleviate poverty and under-nutrition in Africa.
	2. Develop the core capacities within the Sweetpotato for Profit and Health Initiative, around which complementary projects will be built.
	3. Establish population improvement programs at sub-regional level in SSA linked with varietal development at the national level to produce locally adapted varieties;
	4. Establish demand-led cost-effective seed systems for new varieties for nutrition and market led initiatives and understand the development of commercial seed systems;
	5. Provide evidence that delivery systems can benefit the poor through (1) food-based approaches to nutritional deficiencies and (2) responding to urban and other markets for sweetpotatoes;
	6. Develop sub regional platforms to support sweetpotato research and development and to build a sustainable community of practice.

SASHA has made very admirable progress toward its highest level goals. The incomplete achievement of the goals speaks more to the optimism and boldness of the proposed goal than to inadequate efforts of the SASHA team.

- SASHA Convening held in Seattle at
- BMGF in 12-15 March 2015



- Review of Progress
- Exchange of ideas for Phase 2
- Decisions on the way forward

Concept note by  
August 2013

SASHA remains focused  
on research

# Consultations held for 1-2 days from April through July..



Breeding, seed systems, pig feeding, post-harvest



Concept note submitted  
Approved to advance to  
proposal submission  
by 31 December 2013

# Highlights from five major programs under SASHA in Year 4



1. Population Development & Varietal Selection
2. Weevil Resistant Sweetpotato using Transgenics
3. Seed Systems, including Marando Bora
4. Delivery Systems
  - \*Mama SASHA
  - \*Rwanda Super Foods
  - \*Animal Feed
5. Management and Sweetpotato Support Platforms



# Highlight RP1: Breeding



Year 4: Large investment in training

August 2012: 2 week course at University of Ghent focused on modern Molecular methods

January-April 2013: 9 two-day courses at country level on *CloneSelector 3.0*

April 2013: Annual *speedbreeders* meeting in Kigali





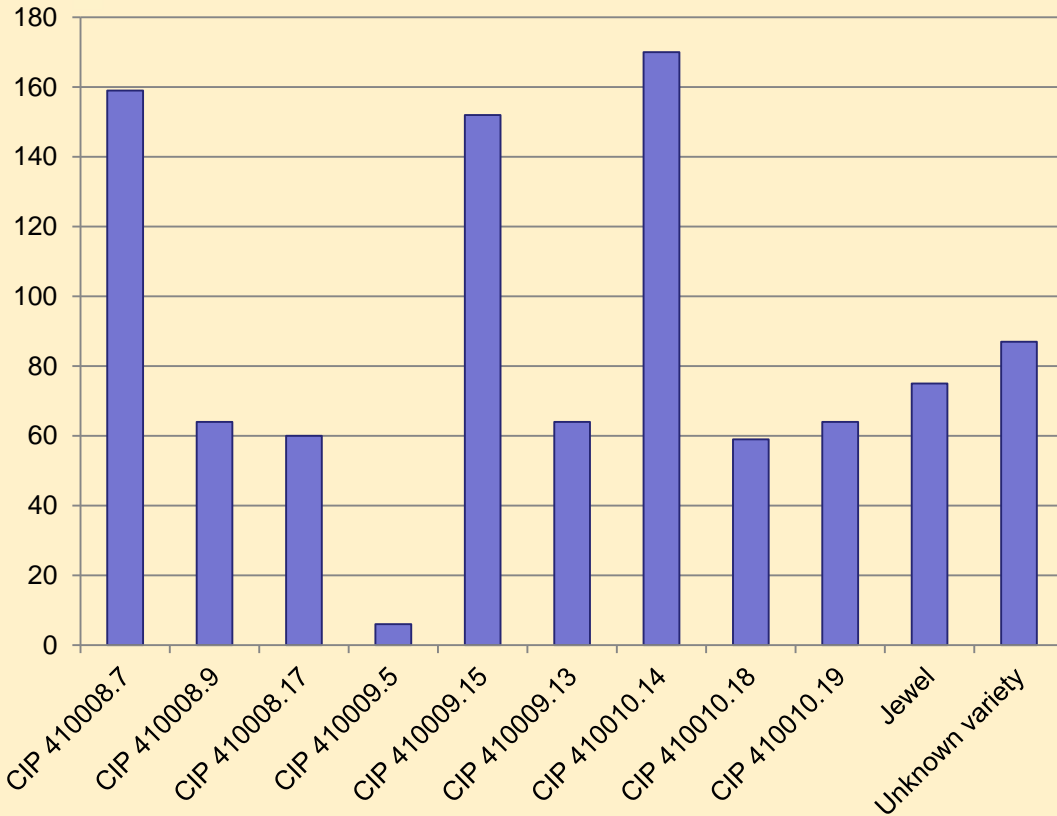
# Progress in varietal release



Since 2009, eight Sub-Saharan African countries have released 46 improved sweetpotato varieties, of which 31 are orange-fleshed



# Highlight RP2: The Weevil Resistance Group made Progress with New Strategy



- Have one Cry gene out of 30 that displayed reduced infection in Puerto Rico
- Have new gene constructs expected to result in enhanced accumulation of weevil-active proteins
- As a complementary strategy, an RNAi strategy started with transcriptome analysis to identify weevil target genes.

Emerging adults from 17 sweetpotato roots per transgenic event

# Highlight RP3: Endline survey of Marando Bora conducted Jan-March 2013



- Key findings
- Follow-up on the 88 DVMs trained post-project

Marando Bora, working with 8 Implementing Partners has covered 16 districts and an accumulative total of 110,722 households (74% of the original target) received vines over three dissemination seasons. Implementation ended in June 2012.

# Highlight RP4A: Mama SASHA Cohort

## Study Team Hired & Study Launched



In August 2012, the team inaugurated the Cohort for Vitamin A (COVA) study of the Mama SASHA project

Hiring of manager & 16 research Assistants completed

Enrollment of 505 pregnant women Completed & 1<sup>st</sup> visit as well

In May 2012, awarded new Cohort Study funds (\$1.3 million) which will significantly strengthen Mama SASHA evidence base. Aimee Webb of Emory University is our partner.



# Highlight RP4A: Mama SASHA gave out its final voucher in August 2013



Project Manager Fred Grant presenting certificate of service appreciation to health worker

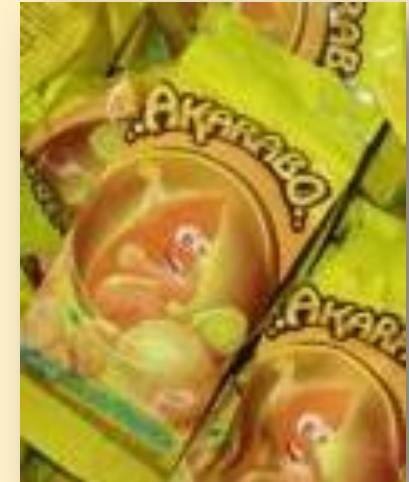
As of May 2013, over 4,600 pregnant or lactating women received vouchers

Redemption 70% year 1; 80% year 2

Round 2 operations research completed

Preparations underway for endline survey next March 2013 of 316 pregnant women & 2,400 mother-child pairs

# Highlight RP4B: Rwanda Super Foods: Golden Power Biscuits were Launched

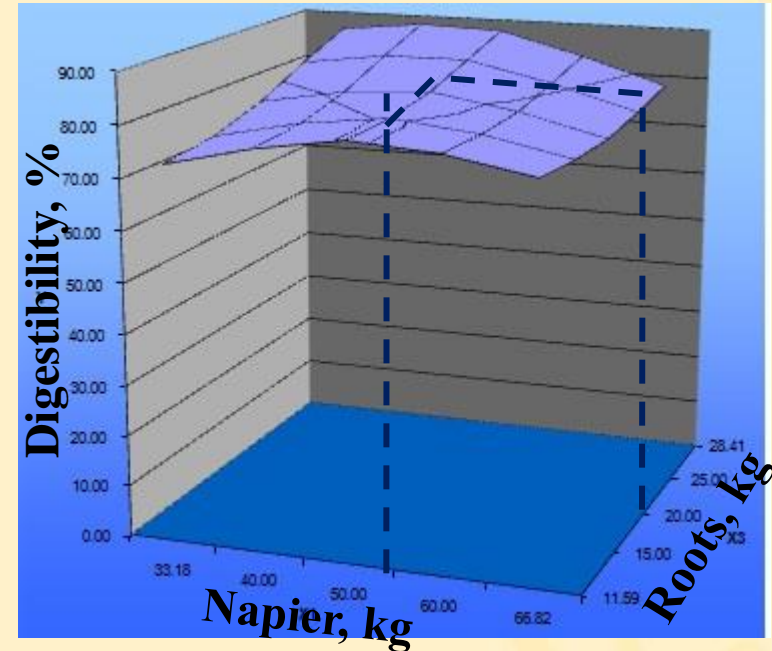


Major launch event held in November 2012. In year 4, made over \$160,000 USD in OFSP product sales. Well developed media strategy.

# Highlight RP4D: Animal Feed Results Shared with Key Stakeholders



15-30% sweetpotato silage (3 parts vine to 1 part roots and molasses) with combination of 70-85% concentrate resulted in good weight gain



Results of mini-silo trials show best way to combine Napier grass, sweetpotato vines & roots

# Senior Management Team meets twice yearly to review technical progress reports



At the mid-term meeting, extra time was add to make a field trip to visit Mama SASHA field sites



# Sharing our Knowledge



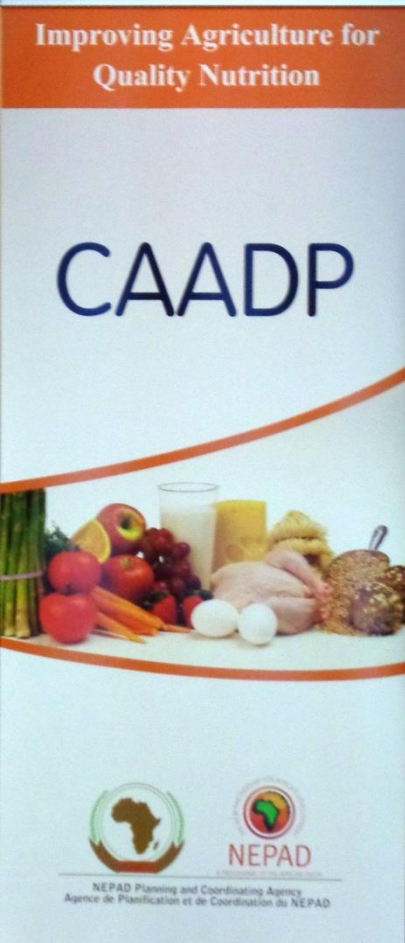
[www.sweetpotatoknowledge.org](http://www.sweetpotatoknowledge.org)

Public space: all can register & contribute to

*By July 2013:*

- 895 registered users
- 6,422 content items
- 35 different African countries, also heavy use from USA, Philippines, India, Peru; over 14,000 visits July 2012-June 2013

# Regional Advocacy opportunities for OFSP at major CAADP meetings



East & Central Africa: March 2013  
Southern Africa: September 2013



# Onward to Phase 2!

