Reaching Agents of Change (RAC)

Achievements: Capacity Strengthening & Gender Integration under RAC

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Focus Areas

Objective 2: To build the capacity of implementing agencies to design & implement technically strong & cost-effective interventions that drive uptake of OFSP

• Gender Study
• OFSP project development and M&E toolkit
• Training of trainers manual and other training materials
• 6-day project management and M&E course
• Identify and strengthen the capacity of national training counterparts and Train key national counterparts
• Develop and implement an annual 10-day gender-sensitive training programme in 3 countries
• Ensure supply of quality foundation vines at least 2 sites in every target country
Key Achievements: Capacity Strengthening – Gender Study

Gender Study (Sonii David)

- Sweetpotato production in Nigeria (2012-2013)

Objective: understand gender roles and responsibilities in sweetpotato value chain

Study locations: Nasarawa, Kwara & Ebonyi States

Methodology: Group interviews - 402 farmers (209 F: 193 M) and key informant interviews (18 F: 18 M) in 9 communities
Key Achievements: Capacity Strengthening – Gender Study

Key Insights

• Both men and women have an interest in sweetpotato
• Sweetpotato plots are individually owned by men and women
• In some instances e.g. Dorowa, Nasarawa – women sold more of their harvest and kept less for food than men did

Sweetpotato is becoming increasingly more important for both men and women for income and food, suggesting the need for working with both men and women to give them equal opportunity for prosperity.
... Key Achievements: Capacity Building – Gender Study

Gender Integration Under RAC

- Learning toolkits & other learning materials engendered
- Engendered project proposals (log-frames, monitoring indicators)
- Local decentralized vine multipliers identified & strengthened to improve women’s access to quality vines
- Female commercial vine multipliers, developed and supported
- Production interventions, varietal preferences & gender related constraints considered at individual producer level

- Gender considerations - a selection criteria for identifying course participants
- Husbands & wives considered in step-down training - for improved livelihoods, food security & nutrition
... Key Achievements: Capacity Building – Learning Toolkits

Learning module on Engendered OFSP Project Planning, Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation – published English & Portuguese with Power Points

Training of trainers manual on Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Sweetpotato – published English, Portuguese, Kiswahili & French with Power Points & Memory Aids
... Key Achievements: Capacity Building – Project and M&E Course

Capacity for 30 agencies to develop & implement OFSP projects

Strengthen the capacity to develop & implement gender sensitive OFSP projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
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<tr>
<td>30 agencies</td>
<td>51 agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>10 (Mar 2013)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>12 (Apr 2013)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>*27 (Apr 2013)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
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<td>Ghana</td>
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Participants have already started preparing and submitting proposals on OFSP for funding
**... Key Achievements: Capacity Building – Strengthen capacity of host institutions**

**Identify at least 3 national host counterparts** (agricultural research / extension organizations) and give them the capacity to champion the OFSP agenda during and after the life of RAC - **41 primary facilitators trained**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CEAGRE - Faculty of Agronomy and Forestry Engineering (MZ)</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Development of the agriculture sector and the well-being of rural communities (design / delivery of training)</td>
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<td>• Coherent integration of OFSP in curriculum</td>
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<td>• Experience with OFSP</td>
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<tr>
<th>Agricultural and Rural Management Training Institute (ARMTI) (NG)</th>
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<td>• Federal level – established to put agriculture back on track nation-wide</td>
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<td>• Interest in OFSP – transformation agenda</td>
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<th>Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness (DAEA) (TZ)</th>
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<td>• SUGECO – innovative long-term transformation</td>
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<td>• Focus on OFSP, fruit, vegetables</td>
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<td>• Access to finances, information, training</td>
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- **Matourkou Training Institute - (Burkina Faso)**
RAC project’s training pyramid

**Actors**

- Nigeria: ARMTI
- Mozambique: EMU-FAEF
- Tanzania: SUA

- District level government and NGO agricultural extension workers
- Ward/village level government and NGO agricultural extension workers
- Respected sweetpotato farmers - representative of different wealth groups, and traders
- Sweetpotato farmers

**Primary trainers**

- Secondary trainers
- Tertiary trainers
- End users/farmer trainers
- End users

**Training materials**

- TOT Manual,
- TOT 10 day practical hands-on learning course,
- TOT PowerPoint set,
- Field activities

**Competence required**

- Qualified agriculturalists, nutritionists, marketing and gender experts, prior knowledge of OFSP
- Degree/diploma in agriculture. Sensitive to gender issues. In a position to train others and/or oversee a sweetpotato project
- Diploma in agriculture. Sensitive to gender issues. In a position to train farmers
- Respected in the community, experienced and active in agriculture, ability to motivate and communicate
... Key Achievements: Capacity building – TOT Courses

9 ToT courses
224 secondary facilitators trained
39 step-down courses conducted,
reaching 3,995 tertiary facilitators and farmers

4,311 (2036 female) change agents so far trained

Annual training programs conducted for researchers, extensionists, NGOs, private sector actors in MZ, NG, TZ on “Everything you ever wanted to know about sweetpotato”

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<td>60 each year</td>
<td>74, 72, 78</td>
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<tr>
<td>180</td>
<td>224</td>
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*Key Achievements: Capacity building – TOT Courses*
... Key Achievements: Capacity building – Seed Systems

- Fast-tracked release of **two** OFSP varieties in Nigeria
  
- **Clean planting materials** supplied to decentralized vine multipliers (DVMs) - **7.3 ha** of **primary** seed established in year 2 and **10.3 ha** in year 3
... Key Achievements: Capacity building – Seed Systems

- **Irrigation systems** installed in primary seed multiplication sites
  - 414,386 vines in 2012 to 4,030,734 vines in 2014
  - 4.2 ha in 2012 to 23.8 ha in 2014

Approximately **130,999 households** have received vines in Tanzania, Mozambique, Nigeria and Ghana.
Thank you!

Invest in Orange–fleshed Sweetpotato for Health and Wealth!