

Parallel Group 2 – Key  
successes, lessons to share,  
improvements needed

# Successes: (1) Multiplication rates

- Use of trailing to increase multiplication rate in the screen house – Zambia, Kenya
- Use of combination of Urea and NPK
- Use of farmyard manure combined with NPK – Tanzania
- Benches enable higher production per unit area – Kenya
- The use of black net for screen houses increased vine multiplication e.g. in Tanzania and Burkina Faso

# Successes: (2) Reducing costs

- Use of drip irrigation to improve water use efficiency and to reduce labour costs
- Reducing production in TC and increase in Screen house
- Plug propagation and sterilization by black sheet

# Successes: (3) Revolving funds

- All the countries are institutionalizing the business plans
- All countries have started institutionalizing the revolving funds, and Ethiopia and Kenya have started using the revolving funds

# Lessons

- There is need to back up qualitative observations/experiences/insights of some of the successes with quantitative studies
- Trailing increases multiplication rates e.g. in Kenya
- Branding is a good marketing strategy e.g. in Rwanda
- Social media is an effective strategy of linking stakeholders in the seed system value chain e.g. Whatsapp in Tanzania
- Gradual increase in proportion of revolving funds allocated to the production of SP pre-basic seed will help ensure sustainability
- Decreasing the subsidy level through voucher system

# Challenges

- Access to sustainable sources of water for irrigation
- Free vine distribution is affecting pre-basic seed marketing because farmers are not willing to buy. The conflict is exacerbated by different approaches by CIP projects
- Dependence on institutional buyers may hinder sustainability of business plans
- Farmers don't have enough awareness about clean planting materials