

# Provitamin A (PVA) Maize ToT Report

Iringa-Tanzania March 28-30, 2017

Report by Joyce Maru

Capacity Development and Communication Specialist  
Building Nutritious Food Baskets (BNFB) Project

## Introduction

One of the objectives of the Building Nutritious Food Baskets project (BNFB) is to strengthen institutional and community capabilities, to produce and consume bio-fortified crops to reach a critical mass through initiatives, like training of trainers (ToTs); targeted step-down courses and raising awareness through behavioral change communication targeting key stakeholder groups. In Tanzania, BNFB is focusing on the Orange-fleshed sweetpotato (OFSP), high iron beans and PVA Maize, and works with key partners to upscale these biofortified crops.

To scale up; BNFB applies a step-down model /cascading where key experts (agriculturalists, nutritionists, marketing and gender experts) attend a long, more detailed ToT workshops on priority areas of focus. These experts become the primary target who in turn deliver a shorter version ToT courses to various levels of audiences (secondary and tertiary). This trend continues until the training is cascaded down to “farmer trainers” who finally train the end users in their communities. This cascading approach is illustrated on diagram 1 below.

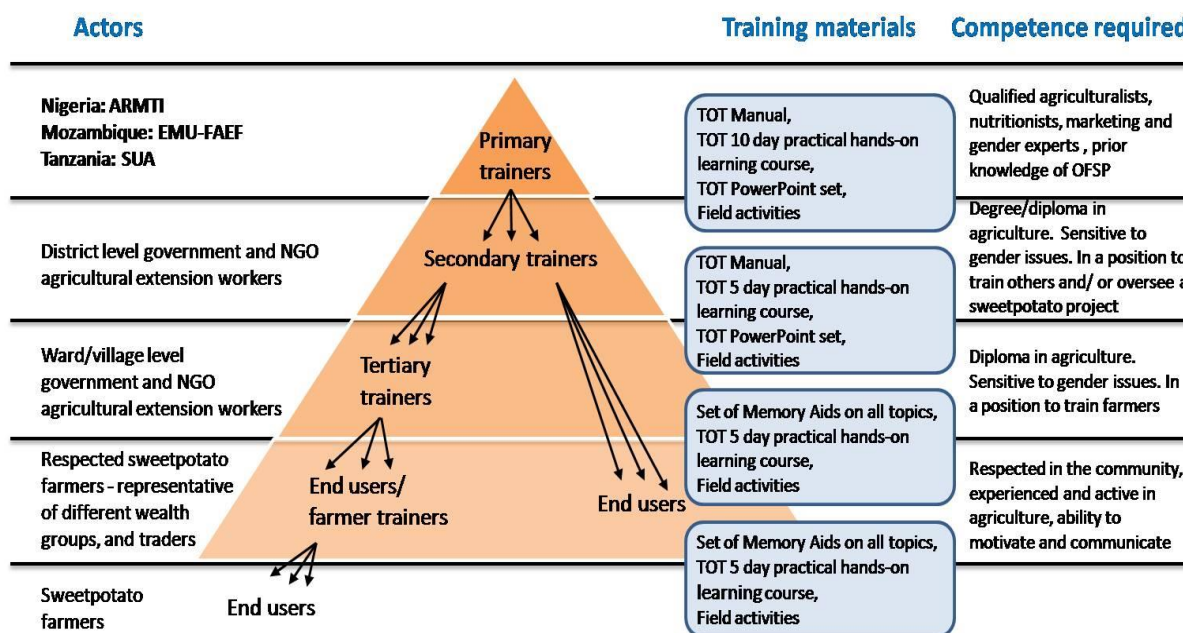


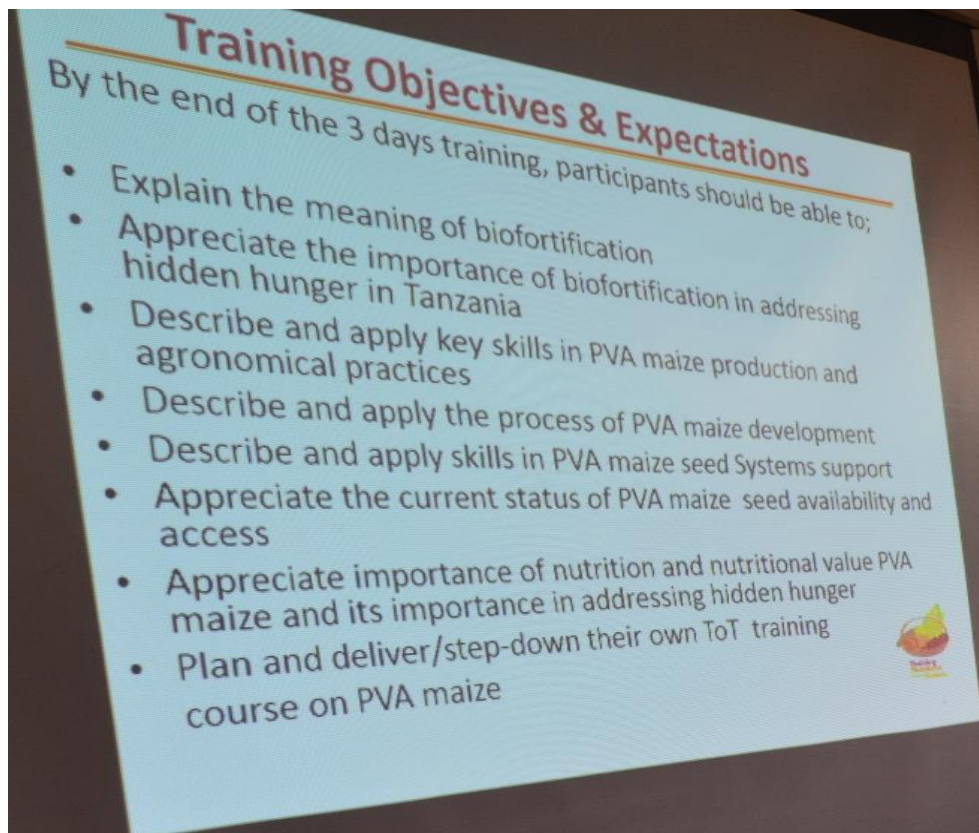
Diagram 1: Logic/Training Pyramid

## ToT Awareness Creation for (PVA) Maize in Tanzania

BNFB, through one of its consortium partner, The International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) and in collaboration with Tanzania Center for Food and Nutrition (TFNC), conducted a 3-day ToT course on development, benefits, seed access and utilization biofortified pro-vitamin A (PVA) (orange) maize PVA maize in Tanzania. This training was identified as priority and will underpin successful upscaling efforts for new PVA maize varieties in Tanzania. The training was held on 28-30 March, 2017, at the Hall Mark Conference Hall, Kihesa, Iringa, Tanzania.



The objective of the training was to equip the participants with knowledge on biofortification and its role in addressing micronutrient malnutrition; basic technical skills on PVA maize and to raise awareness on the PVA maize which has recently been introduced in Tanzania. The following were the key objectives of the training.



### ***Training participants***

A total of 26 participants (19 females and 7 males) attended the training. They included district agricultural extension staff (from 10 districts); nutritionists from National Agriculture research systems (NARs); seed companies and local NGOs (see annex 1 – list of participants).

The course was facilitated by 1 PVA maize breeder from CIMMYT; 1 seed systems specialist from CIMMYT; 1 nutrition specialist from CIP; 1 nutrition specialist from TFNC; BNFB Capacity Development Specialist, and Senior M & E specialist - who is currently also acting as Senior Country coordinator for Tanzania.



***Group activity during training***

### ***Training Delivery***

The course was delivered through a blend of classroom based learning activities, field demonstrations and practical hands-on activities (refer to Annex 2 for the course program). The participants also got an opportunity to develop step-down plans to facilitate BNFB's scaling up approach. They were also provided with certified seed samples and all the training and publicity materials future reference.

### ***Training evaluation***

Overall facilitators and participants felt that the training met the set objectives, course content was relevant, timely and well delivered. See below summary of training evaluation conducted daily and at the end of the training.



*PVA Maize Ugali*

### ***Summary of Training Evaluation***

#### **1. What are the 3 most useful things that you have learnt from the training and why?**

The participant felt that these were the most useful things they learnt:

- a) About BNFB to understand more about the project.
- b) About biofortification to know why it is so important.
- c) Adult learning techniques to apply during training.
- d) The development of PVA maize to understand fortification.
- e) The difference between biofortification and GMOs for understanding and to know what to tell farmers.
- f) The nutrition in PVA maize in comparison with white maize variety.
- g) The importance of biofortification in Tanzania to understand how it can help in fighting malnutrition.
- h) The effects of processing on PVA maize to understand how best to process it to retain the vitamin A content.
- i) Characteristics of a good trainer so as to improve on training techniques.
- j) Learning about vitamin A to understand why it is so important.
- k) How to present materials at trainings to be better organized.
- l) Interaction with facilitators to share their experiences.

#### **2. Please rate the following aspects of the training**

	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Poor
Training was relevant to my needs	74%	22%	4%	0%

Materials provided were helpful	63%	33%	4%	0%
Length of training was sufficient	25%	46%	29%	0%
Content was well organized	54%	33%	13%	0%
Sessions were interactive and engaging	78%	22%	0%	0%
Instructions were clear and understandable	32%	64%	5%	0%
Training met my expectations	39%	52%	9%	0%
The presenters and / or presentations were effective	42%	54%	4%	0%
Overall value of the module	42%	50%	8%	0%

### 3. What would you like improved for the next training?

The participants felt that to improve the next training there was need to do the following:

- Make it a longer training, like a 5 day training session.
- Include field visits, practical sessions and demonstrations.
- Teach about how to harmonize project plans with activities.
- Prior preparation of practical materials.
- Invitation of few, pro-active farmers to disseminate messages.
- Teach on processing of PVA maize.
- A better training location.

### 4. What post training support do you think you may require to enable you to effectively apply the skills learnt in your work?

Funds were the most common answer. Some of the participants felt that they also needed:

- Stationery.
- Seeds.
- Transport and venues.
- Training on marketing and value chains.
- Farmer field days.
- Farmer exchange visits to different countries.
- Backstopping from professionals like researchers and breeders.
- Post harvesting skills.
- Laptops for data collection.

## Follow-up action

- James Gethi to follow up on the way forward for the step-down so that BNFB can implement step-down developed by the participants.
- Linked to 2 above, James Gethi to check CIMMYT-CIP SGA for clarity on target number of agents of change that CIMMYT should. (Joyce Maru and Godfrey Mulongo shared this information with

James at the final review meeting but James was unaware of these targets so needed to clarify on SGA).

3. James Gethi to follow up on a ToT manual on PVA maize developed by HarvestPlus for use in Zambia and work with Joyce Maru to explore how this can be adopted for use in Tanzania.



**Click here to more access photos from the training**

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/cbvba1ww0rs1xja/AACXocRv1bnellRoDaBQSg2fa?dl=0>



*Course participants*



*PVA maize blind tasting session*

## Annex 1. List of participants



TANZANIA PVA Maize TOT from 27-30 March 2017				
27th and 28th March 2017				
NO	NAME	SEX	Tittle	Organization
1	Jacob Kiyyo	M	Seed office	CIMMYT
2	Mohamed .A. Msangi	M	DAICO	Chunya
3	John Msemwa	M	SRO	TOSCI
4	Paul Lugodisha	M	DCO	Chunya
5	Mary .G. Mdachi	F	ARD arusha	ARI-Selian
6	Moro .S. Ng`elenge	M	AFO-I	Lushoto
7	Christopher Mussa	M	DCO	Gairo
8	Joseph Mkude	M	DAEO	Ulanga
9	Peter Nkala	M	DAICO	Ulanga
10	Gaspar Kaparaga	M	DAEO	Ngara
11	Watanga Chacha	M	Meru Agro	MD
12	Nunswe Nyanzali	M	DCO	Mufindi
13	Lydia Shonyela	F	DCO	Mbozi
14	Catherine Leo	F	Officer	Tanseed
15	Isaka Mashauri	M	MD	Tanseed
16	Bernadetha Fivawo	F	DAICO	Wangingombe
17	Thaudensia Massawe	F	Ag Taico	Mufindi
18	Godfrey Benegura	M	AO	Wangingombe
19	Hassanal Khaita	M	AO	Gairo
20	Elizabeth Mziray	F	AE	Mbulu
21	Celestin Mgoba	M	SRO	TFNC
22	Theophili Tarmo	M	Resercher	Recoda
23	Patrick Umbelto	M	AO	Mufindi
24	Urban .B. Kalimba	M	DAEO	Iringa
25	Mary .C. Aloyce	F	DNUO	Iringa
26	Richard Sirili	M	DAICO	Mbozi



## Annex 2. Course Program

### Tanzania PVA Maize ToT - 28-30 March 2017 Training Program

Time	Activities	Responsible
<b>DAY 1 – 28 March 2017</b>		
08.00-08.30am	Participants' arrival and registration	All
08.30-09.00am	Participants' introduction and sharing expectations Ground rules/how do we engage	Joyce Maru
09.00-09.20am	Welcome Remarks	TFNC Godfrey Mulongo
09.20-9.30am	Training objectives and expectations	Joyce Maru
9.30-10.30am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– About BNFB Project</li> <li>– Link with VISTA project/food basket approach</li> <li>– Introduction to Bio-fortification – panel discussion</li> <li>– What is biofortification</li> <li>– Which crops are biofortified</li> <li>– Why biofortification in Tanzania</li> <li>– Accessibility and availability of biofortified crops</li> </ul>	Godfrey & Fred Grant
10:30-11.00	<b>Group Photo Health Break</b>	
10.40-12.40am	PVA maize development  Seed Systems support  Seed companies – status of PVA maize availability and access	Thokozile Ndhelela (CIMMYT)  Meru Agro and Tanseed
<b>13.00 – 14.00</b>	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>	
14.00-4.30 pm	PVA maize development  Seed Systems support  Field trip for demos	James Gethi (CIMMYT)
<b>DAY 2 – 29 March 2017</b>		
9.30-1.00pm	Nutrition/Processing/Blind Tests for PVA	Dr. Celestin Mgomba Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TNFC)
<b>13.00 – 14.00</b>	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>	

14.00-4.30 pm	Practical sessions on Utilization - Blind Tests for PVA	TNFC
<b>DAY 3 – 30 March 2017</b>		
9.30-1.00pm	Adult learning techniques and communication Becoming a skilled facilitator Planning a training course Gender diversity in adult learning	Joyce Maru
<b>13.00 – 14.00</b>	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>	
14.00-4.30 pm	How to step-down the ToT Identify target audience Action plan including support required. Course evaluation	Joyce Maru