



SCALING SWEETPOTATO SEED SYSTEMS THROUGH DVM REGISTRATION



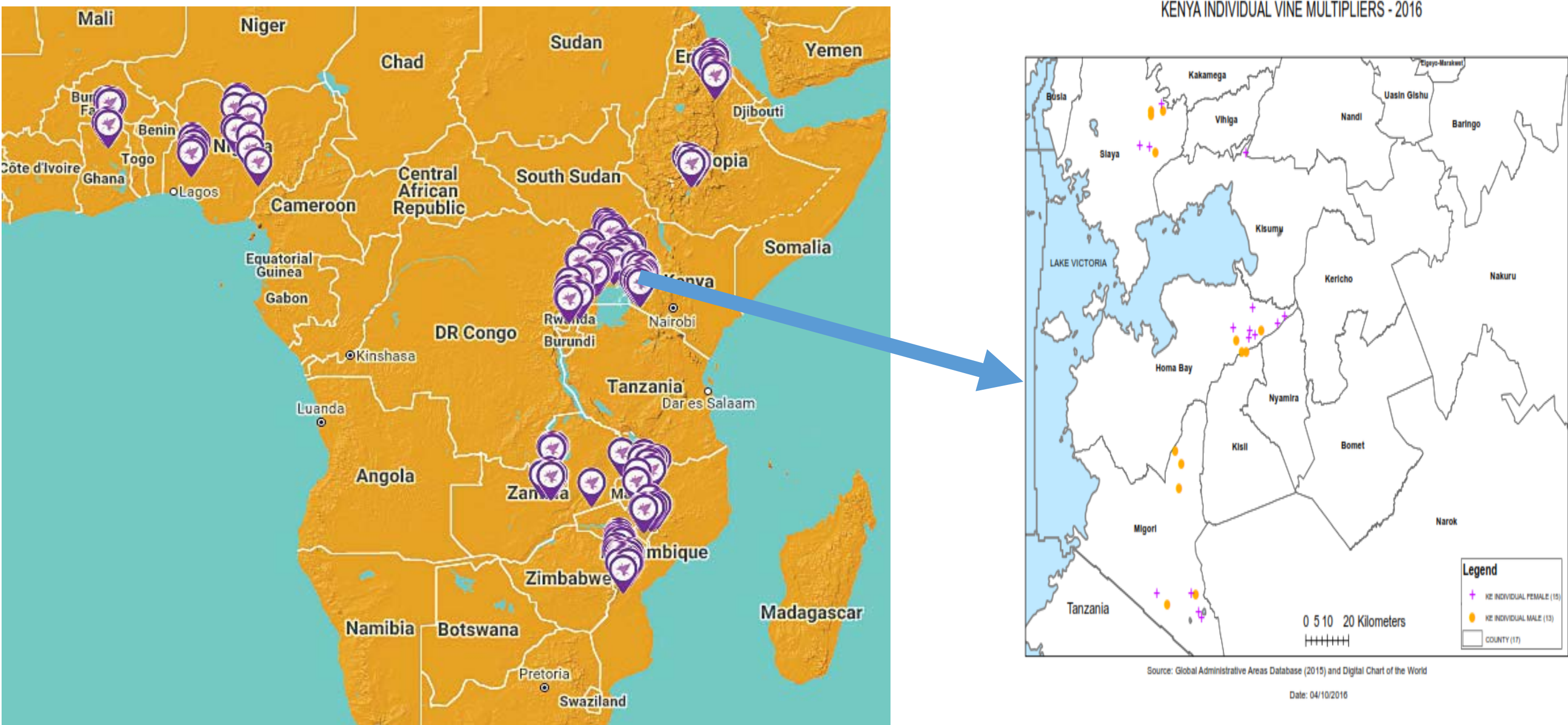
SEED SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

Access to clean planting materials remains a major challenge in disseminating OFSP vines to farmers. One of the strategies used by projects to tackle this challenge has been establishing OFSP multipliers closest to the farmers. These Decentralized Vine Multipliers (DVMs), receive training on sweetpotato agronomy, pest and disease management and nutritional benefits of OFSP. They are in turn expected to pass this information to eligible beneficiaries in their communities. This poster synthesizes how DVM registration increases access to vines

Open Data Kit (ODK) technology is employed to register and collect information about the DVMs. Data forms are designed to collect basic personal, farm characteristics and location data. These data are updated annually. Contacts and location of DVMs based on the collected location data are posted on the Sweetpotato Knowledge Portal (www.sweetpotatoknowledge.org). The portal targets farmers and/or organizations interested in finding a multiplier of quality vines.

HOW SCALING UP HAPPENS

1. The DVM database is a directory to the source of vines



DVM map on the Sweetpotato Knowledge Portal

2. Through the registration, we know the numbers, and we assess progress

Table 1: Current DVMs (as of October, 2016)

Country	Male	Female	Country	Male	Female
Uganda	38	22	Malawi	18	4
Kenya	62	45	Zambia	171	60
Tanzania	81	72	Mozambique	96	25
Rwanda*	17	29	Nigeria	27	10
Ethiopia*	7	5	Ghana	34	2

* Ethiopia and Rwanda have 9 and 16 group DVMs, respectively

3. We collect demographic characteristics, which guide strategies for scaling up

Table 2: Some characteristics of DVMs (based on 2015 data)

DVM characteristics	Male	Female	Reflections
Age (years)	48.0	48.4	Need to encourage youth DVMs
Total farm ≤ 5 acres (%)	78.0	81.0	Need for more large commercial DVMs
Belonged to a farm group (%)	77.2	88.8	Increases opportunity for vine sharing & formation of group DVMs
Had leadership roles (%)	75.1	80.4	Increases opportunity for vine sharing

4. We identify critical gaps/ constraints to the DVM scaling up process

a. Irrigation and vine conservation remain a key challenge

❖ Only 58% of DVMs had irrigation equipment



Vines conserved in a stream in Malawi



A DVM in Ethiopia uses a well to irrigate vines

b. No clear definitions of DVM in terms of: size, capacity, and in the level of management



c. Labelling of the plots need to be emphasized and improved

❖ 75% of the DVM plots lack labels, other plots are poorly labelled.



5. We update new technologies in vine conservation

a. Triple S Technology in N.Uganda



b. Irrigation technology in Western Kenya



KEY PARTNERS FOR SCALING UP

Key Partner	Role
Breeders	To breed and produce breeder's seed
Private laboratories	Multiply the breeders seed
DVM's at different levels (some commercial others not)	Produce the seed
CIP led projects	Recruit DVM; these form the bulk of DVMs
NGOs	Engaged in establishing DVMs and dissemination of vines to other farmers
CIP M & E staff	DVM mapping data capture using the ODK

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