



Multistakeholder Platforms for Sustainable Upgrading Agri-food Value Chains in Rural Tanzania: Creating a Space for Empowerment and Effective Engagement

Laurent Kaburire¹, Frieder Graef², Khamaldin D. Mutabazi³, Elirehema Swai⁴, Bashir Makoko⁴

Introduction

Stakeholder involvement pathways: Stakeholder involvement in Trans-SEC happens upon various activities pre-defined from project start. Stakeholder involvement also evolves and is refined during project lifetime based on ongoing activities. Both approaches are integral parts of the Trans-SEC project.

The approach

The approaches used to facilitate stakeholders involvement in Trans-SEC depend on the nature of activities being implemented, circumstances and stakeholder categories contributing to such particular activities. Stakeholders involved in the implementation of Trans-SEC activities include Research and development organizations from Germany and Tanzania, key players in the agriculture sector in Tanzania, grassroots stakeholders in the case study sites and policy makers from both local and central government. Figure 1 shows Trans-SEC implementing partners.

1) Grassroot level stakeholders "GLS"

(primary users)

- Farmers (and pastoralists)
- Processors, millers, stockiest
- Traders, middlemen, transporters
- Consumers

2) Key informants "KI"

(interested organisations, institutions)

- policy makers, extension officers, service providers, ..
- NGOs, churches,...

Stakeholder involvement

- Stakeholder involvements include **interviews, workshops, trainings, testing and assessing UPS and focus group discussions** that take place during the implementation of the following activities;
- **Stakeholder mapping** in the four case study sites, at district, regional and national levels
 - **Inventorying priority commodities and constraints** to address food security of farmers in the case study sites
 - Identification and validation of **food security criteria** for assessing the impact of UPS
 - **Inventorying potential UPS** based on priority commodities
 - **Decision making on UPS** for implementation in each CSS
 - **UPS Farmer group formation** in the four CSS
 - **Implementing UPS** in the CSS and on farm to test and validate prioritised UPS
 - **UPS monitoring**
 - **UPS results dissemination**

The results so far

- Stakeholder perceptions differ across case study sites, district, regional and national levels;
- Stakeholder involvement requires considering age, gender, status, skills, personal background;
- UPS farmer groups need continuous monitoring
- Policy engagement is required to address issues beyond project level
- Involvement of grassroot level stakeholders helps to get appropriate site specific and sustainable UPS to address constraints of farmers

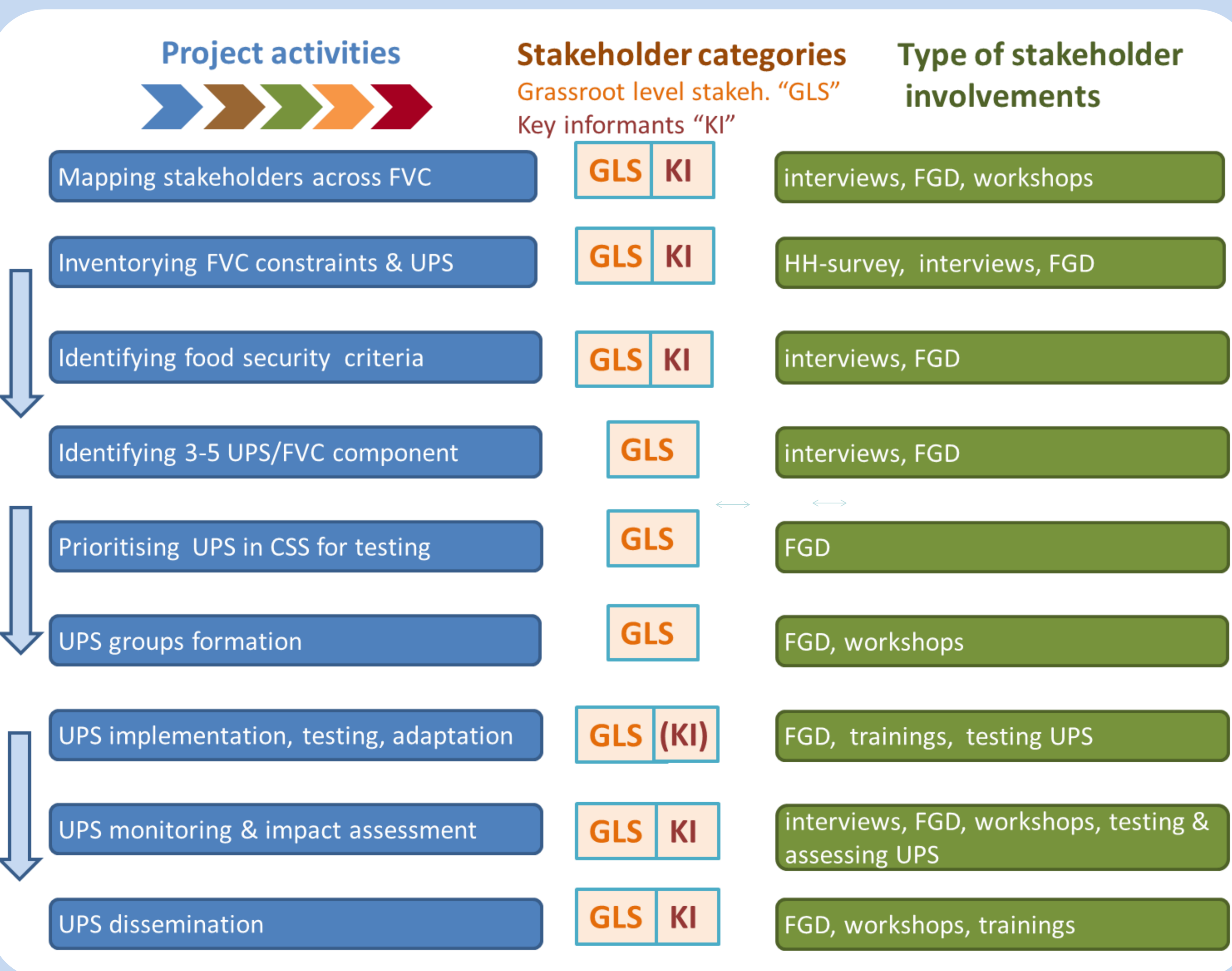


Figure 1: Trans-SEC stakeholder activities, stakeholder categories involved, and methods of stakeholder involvements

¹Sokoine University of Agriculture, PhD Student, Development Studies Institute, Tanzania

²Leibniz-centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF) e.V., Inst. for Land Use Systems, Germany

³Sokoine University of Agriculture, Dept. of Agric. Economics & Agribusiness, Tanzania

⁴ Agricultural Research Institutes (ARI), Ilonga and Hombolo, Tanzania