



Trans-SEC

Innovating pro-poor Strategies to safeguard Food Security using Technology and Knowledge Transfer

Contractnumber: 031A249A

**REPORT ON THE TRANS-SEC NATIONAL
STAKEHOLDERS' WORKSHOP**

14th AUGUST, 2014 at BLUE PEARL HOTEL; UBUNGO-DAR ES SALAAM.

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Introduction

ACT in collaboration with TFC organized a one day National stakeholders' workshop which was held on 14th August, 2014, at Blue Pearl Hotel, Ubungo Plaza, Dar es Salaam. The event brought together stakeholders along the Food Value chain; producers, processors, traders, agricultural inputs and machinery suppliers, policy makers and researchers.

The objective of this workshop was to introduce the concept of the project, presentation of the progress and key policy issues which came out of the baseline survey as well as seeking stakeholders' comments and promote close collaboration among stakeholders at the national level.

The event was carried out in a series of presentations followed by discussions at the end of each presentation. Here under are the presentation outlines

- 1. Overview of Trans-Sec Project.** This presentation entailed:
 - Project Pillars
 - Overall Approach
 - Generalized Food Value Chain
 - Capacity building
 - Partners
 - Core Objectives and Challenges
- 2. Stakeholders involvement in the project**
- 3. Upgrading Strategies Mission**
 - UPS identification framework
 - Focal crops
 - UPS decision types and add-ons
 - UPS decision across the FVCs
- 4. Emerging key policy issues**
 - Erratic rainfall
 - Land scarcity for crop production, land conflicts between farmers and livestock keepers, farmers and investors-case of Kilosa (Ilakala and Changarawe)
 - Low use of improved agricultural inputs (availability, pricing, knowledge, late supply, discrimination of farmers in the NAIVS)
 - Distribution of fake inputs-threatening the food security
 - Inadequate number of Agrodealers (poor access to improved inputs)
 - Unreliable power supply and outages
 - Inadequate skills for processing (raw products)
 - Poor processing technologies (use of poor & rudimentary tools)
 - Poor access to processing services (inadequate milling machines, high milling prices)



- Poor milling quality
- Unreliable markets
- Price fluctuations for produce
- Measuring beyond the normal size
- High Cess rates but also vary from place to place
- Roadblocks (deterioration of produce quality)
- Poor quality products (unsorted, dirty)-low market prices
- Inadequate supply to meet the market demand
- Farmers-price takers (cannot negotiate for good price)
- Poor road infrastructure (market access)
- Unfair competition-oil seeds
- Poor access to market information
- Inadequate storage facilities (encourage pest infestations, moisture content-leading to poor quality products)
- Food safety issues (aflatoxin-maize, groundnuts, sorghum) during value addition and processing
- Processing environment-Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) matters e.g how deal with contaminants during value addition

5. Government Role in the Project

To create the good business environment so as to enhance the growth of the agriculture sector.

To address constraints can be addressed.

- Address issue of climate change-TMA
- Settling land issues-Conflicts LUPC
- Use of standard weights and Measures (WMA)
- Provision of financial services to farmers at affordable interest rates.
- Value addition and Processing (education, access to improved processing technologies, machines)
- Food safety issues (quality, standards, SPS- education and awareness)-TBS, TFDA
- Access to improved inputs (genuine-seeds, fertilizers and agro-chemicals)
- Input stockiest being in proximity Central market with price information
- Improved market access (WRS, market structures, infrastructures, pricing)
- Harmonization and reduction of taxes (cess and levies)

Discussions

After a series of presentations, there followed a detailed discussions in the form of questions and answers as well as comments from the stakeholders. Some comments required more clarifications



on the framework of the project in terms of sustainability of the project, linkages with the ongoing Government initiatives and explanations on the Policy issues which emerged during the baseline survey i.e. how stakeholders can jointly collaborate to ensure successful implementation of the research project. These were as follows:-

-How is this project prepared to overcome the new emerging diseases especially for the maize crop, and to what extent the project is using laboratory investigations to check the qualitative contaminants of the harvested crops before being sent to the market so as to ensure farmers send the best quality products to secure the promising prices.

-What criteria did the project use to define the pro-poor farmer? All farmers are poor and we are wondering how a poor farmer can think of processing and marketing while he has no enough food.

-The UPS especially for PhD students are not exhaustively detailed enough to cope with current science and technological advancement. For example the use of facebook, twitter, what's up etc to avail the market information to farmers

-How policy makers should be involved in the project at the national level

-What is the sustainability strategy to ensure that after five years farmers will be able to use the developed technologies?

-After going through the presentations, the issues presented are reflected in the new agricultural Policy 2013. From the policy document in place, the Government should go a further step of realigning the policy statements with the current legislations to formulate laws and regulations through which the policy objectives will be implemented. This process passes through various stage including the cabinets and finally approved by the Parliament. It is therefore the role of ACT and TFC to lobby the Government through influencing the Parliamentary Committees so as to enhance the policy processes in Agriculture.

-In order to address issue enlightened through these presentations the private sector should also contribute. What is the private sectors' role in addressing such issues as part of PPP?

-The project should ensure the proposed interventions are realigned to the ongoing Government initiatives under the Agricultural Development Programme (ASDP) which is implemented in the form of District Agricultural Development Plans (DADPs).

-The criteria used to select stakeholders, thus how did project opt to work with the mentioned villages

-It was also advised that the project can look for more literatures of previously studies done by ANSAF on policy matters, as part of advancing policy activities in the project

-The proposed project interventions should be interdependent in such a way that solving problem at one stage will be the step ahead for the next stage i.e. Research cannot stand on its own to solve farmers' problems, but it should also look on other factors acting as barriers to technology adoption so as to ensure that the project will achieve significant and long term impacts and change the ways of doing for the pro-poor. It should therefore emphasize on the importance of involvement of extension workers since from the beginning.



-It was advised that the project should consider SIDO's involvement at district and regional levels in provision of extension services in terms of technical and business skills as well as provision of financial services under the National Entrepreneurship Development Fund (NEDF). This will ensure farmers' progressive access to other technical services in terms of machineries and equipment from relevant stakeholders even after the end of the project.

-Ensure proper information sharing between actors in the project so as to have a joint effort in addressing issues along the project.

-The PMO-RALG open doors for consultations and assistance in case of any critical issues arising in the project area.

-To address the issues of producer prices, the Government is advised to give the indicative and ceiling prices so as to enable farmers realize whether they get profits.

-On issues pertaining to weather changes project partners should consult the weather stations to be notified on the prevailing weather conditions of the season.

Way forward

1. Understanding the composition of stakeholders at each levels, ACT and TFC have identified stakeholders to work with at the policy level. This includes the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MIT), department of marketing, Ministry of Agriculture Food Security and Cooperatives (MAFC), departments of Food Security and Policy and Planning, Prime Minister's Office- Regional Administration and Local Government (PMO-RALG) and Regional Administrative Secretaries (RAS) for both Morogoro and Dodoma.
2. ACT and TFC to visit the case study sites to obtain the background information and ascertain the key policy issues mentioned in the UPS identification process.
3. To form a policy platform at the national level
4. Identifying stakeholders to attend the Trans-Sec annual meetings and help in pushing forward the policy agenda
5. Sharing information to stakeholders at the various levels (Policy makers) as part of advancing policy activities in the project.

List of participants is attached (in pdf file).