Innovation Platforms and Partnerships

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Crawford Fund’s 2019 Annual Conference
*Weathering the ‘Perfect Storm’ – Addressing the Agriculture, Energy, Water, Climate Change Nexus*
12 and 13 of August 2019
Introduction

• Agriculture main livelihood
• Subsistence agriculture
  • Mixed cropping systems
  • Livestock integration
• Rain fed agriculture:
  • 1 to 2 cropping season
• Low productivity
• Declining soil fertility
• Changing environmental conditions
  • Vulnerable production systems
• Food and nutritional insecurity
Our problem
“aims to reach more than ten million smallholder households, with at least 650,000 adopting different combinations of Sustainable Intensification (SI) options by 2023 to improve maize and legume productivity by 30% and to reduce the expected downside yield risk by 30% by 2023”
Scaling out and Innovation Platforms

- Multi stakeholder approach
- To address a common problem
- Specific to location
  - Ownership of solution
  - Increase likelihood of uptake the solution
- Technologies
  - CA practices and technologies
  - Maize varieties (9 hybrids and 4 OPV)
  - Legume varieties (9 soybean, 8 beans, 3 cowpea, 4 pigeon pea, and 6 common bean)
The IP

Facilitation Supporting Role
- IIAM
- ISPM

Champions
- IDEEA-CA
- TLC
- UCAMA
- AGRIMERC

Input Supplier

SIMLESA Technologies and Practices

Finance

Traders

Farmers
The Farmer at the Center

• Feed back meetings
• Farmers monitoring the demo and trials
• Participatory variety selection
Farmers preferences differ:
- Location
- Gender

Adoption of parts of the technological package
- 7,436 households using maize
- 5,295 using legumes
- 38,057 using one of the components of CA practices
- about 100,000 households reached through IP

IP defined the priorities and research agenda
What we have learned

- IP effective in fostering upscaling and adoption of technologies
- Value chain development for scaling out the technologies: markets, markets, markets!
  - Market information still a problem
- Involve and engage the actors: in our case agro-dealers were important: price and delivery methods negotiation
- IP provides the incentives for adoption
“To make African systems more circular, we need to intensify them first – you cannot circulate what you do not have.”

Daniel Rodriguez

Thank You!