



Strengthening Innovation and Technology Dissemination for Sustainable Development in Cereals, Cocoa and Coffee Value Chains in Western and Eastern Africa (SATIFFS)

Funded by EU ACP S&T II

REPORT ON DISSEMINATION WORKSHOP

Held at Churchill Courts Hotel

Gulu, Uganda

on

September 9th 2014



Background

The workshop kicked off at 9:05 am with self-introduction of the participants detailing their respective institutions and roles in the project. The objectives of the workshop were to officially launch the SATTIFS project in Gulu, and to share important information amongst participating institutions and the general stakeholder community in Uganda. The workshop took place at Gulu Churchill Courts Hotel on Tuesday 9th of September 2014. In total, there were 44 participants, six (6) were from Italy, 2 from Ghana, 2 from Ethiopia and 34 Ugandans from Gulu University, government extension agencies, NGOs, farmer groups, and the private sector dealing in agro-processing. A full list of participants is included at the end of this report.



Some of the participants at the SATIFFS Dissemination Conference at Churchill Courts Hotel on 9th September 2014

Background on SATIFFS project, by Prof. Cinquanta Luciano

Prof. Cinquanta Luciano, the overall Coordinator of the SATTIFS project, gave a comprehension background to the project, which is being implemented in Northern Uganda, Ethiopian and Ghana. The project started on the 1st of January 2014 and will last for duration of 36 months. The total budget of the project was reported to be EUR 621,608.91. Participants were further informed of the overall objectives of the project, which is to contribute to building and to strengthening Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) capacities in the agricultural sector of Western and Eastern Africa countries to enable food security and socio-economic development. Further, the following specific objectives of the project were elaborated:

1. Establishment of working partnerships among the participating institutions.
2. Establishment of 3 Centres for Innovation and Technology dissemination (CITED) in each ACP partner Country.
3. Dissemination of successfully proven Appropriate Technologies (ATs)

The target group of the project were mentioned to be professors, researchers and post-graduate students of the African Universities involved in the project. Also the final beneficiaries were reported to be key stakeholders in maize, rice, cocoa and coffee sectors including farmers, farmers'

associations, traders, poor and disadvantage people living in rural areas of Ethiopia, Ghana and Uganda largely dependent on agriculture, wider farming community, users of research innovations.

It was further reported that the project will achieve the following results:

1. Three centres for innovation and technology dissemination for sustainable agricultural production and food security at host universities established.
2. Improved knowledge, skills and attitude about various ATs that help to improve productivity and food security amongst 40 members of target groups.
3. Increased inter-institutional STI networking cooperation and collaboration among researchers, stakeholders, policy makers, technology distributors as well as end users from Africa and EU.
4. Improved ACP stakeholders networking capacity with institutions.
5. Increased awareness on the availability and use of successfully proven appropriate technologies in the maize, rice, cocoa and coffee sectors.
6. Strengthened human resource capacity in developing collaborative research, technology transfer and knowledge exchange on best practices and procedures in sustainable maize, rice, cocoa and coffee value chain (i.e. trained and facilitated mechanics, blacksmiths and artisans to support dissemination of technologies).

Participants were informed of the main activities of the project that were divided into work-packages (WP) as follows:

WP1: "Project management"

The University of Molise is to lead activities under WP1 and will be responsible for the overall project management, and ensure support of the project and guarantee the achievement of the expected results. Some of the main roles of the WP1 were reported to be:

1. interfacing with contracting authority, (UE-ACP-Commission)
2. coordination, preparation of Steering Committee meetings and planning of activities;
3. cost and progress reporting; monitoring, evaluation and financial auditing,
4. preparation and approval of documents
5. Identification/avoidance/ resolution of conflicts.

Further, key personnel were mentioned and their roles and responsibilities reported to the participants of the workshop.

Operational Units were informed of the requirements for 6 monthly internal progress reports, and yearly progress reports that must be prepared and submitted to the European Commission.

WP2 "Centres of Innovation and Technology Dissemination"

It was reported that Gulu University will lead this work-package, and ensure that CITEDs are created. Tasks under this WP2 were mentioned to be:

1. Recruitment of CITED management team and personnel
2. Procurement of office equipment and tools. These include state-of-the-art, commonly accepted aflatoxin diagnostics and sample preparation and diagnostics technologies ultra-high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC), enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA)
3. Training of the CITED staff and linkages with innovators and researchers

After the creation and the recruitment of CITED staff, the personnel will be trained in order to guarantee the functionality of the structure. It was also mentioned that in-service training will be organized and delivered, focusing on communication and motivation, and will start within month 5 from the beginning of the project. This WP will also initiate development of linkages with innovators and researchers that are currently working in the ACP partners, which was seen as fundamental for the implementation of the CITED actions.

WP3: “Dissemination and promotion of the successfully proven Appropriate Technologies (ATs)”

It was reported that the University of Energy and Natural Resources (UENR) in Ghana, will lead this work-package. Detailed description of the tasks involved was also mentioned.

WP4: “Dissemination and promotion”

Participants were informed that Bio-economy Africa (The Ethiopian partner) will lead WP4. Tasks involved under WP4 were also elaborated.

Report on activities implemented in the SATTIFS project from April to September 2014

Prof. Cinquanta Luciano informed participants that the following activities have so far been accomplished since April 2014.

1. SATTIFS website was created: <http://www.sattifs.unimol.it/index.php/en/>
2. An Audit Firm for the project was selected;
3. First set of funding, amounting to 50% of the costs of the first year of the project was transferred to bank accounts of African partners as approved by the first Steering Committee meeting;
4. The first batch of scientific equipment were procured and shipped to African countries. The equipment included ELISA kit with reader for the determination of mycotoxins.
5. Stakeholder workshops were organized and conducted
6. Baseline reports were being drafted by participating institutions
7. CITED staff were recruited and training activities were initiated

Matters arising from the presentation

A number of issues were discussed following this presentation leading to the following observations

- *Training of farmers and establishment of demonstration facilities were noted to be important for the success of the project*
- *The project gives flexibility to the different stakeholders to choose various technologies depending to their requirements.*
- *Baseline study for each country or community was carried out to select the appropriate technology as they desire.*
- *The project aims at improving the technologies that the people already have but not to impose new technologies.*
- *In case of use of controversial technologies such as Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs), participants must adhere to prevailing legislations of individual countries.*
- *For African farmers to access the European market, they must develop good agricultural practices and ensure that food quality improves.*
- *Technologies in this project should be demand driven in order to ensure sustainability*

Reports on SATTIFS activities in Ghana, by Prof. Daniel Obeng-Ofori University of Energy and Natural Resources (UENR), Ghana

Prof. Daniel Obeng-Ofori the Operational Unit Coordinator of Ghana presented the progress made by the project in Ghana. The following activities were reported to have been accomplished.

Recruitment of project personnel, which is now comprised of six members with the following titles: Project Coordinator, Operational Unit Assistant, Field Officer, Chemistry/Scientific Assistant, Project Accountant, Office Assistant

Stakeholder workshop on maize

A stakeholder workshop on maize was conducted on the 21st of July 2014. The workshop attracted 30 Participants from the entire project area. These were made up of farmers, agricultural extension officers, and officials from the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. An inventory of existing and exploitable knowledge and technologies on maize production in Ghana was developed and priority needs were identified.

Stakeholder workshop on cocoa

A stakeholder workshop on cocoa was conducted on the 24th of July 2014. A total of 12 individuals comprising of cocoa farmers, agricultural extension officers, cocoa research scientists, and technicians from the seed production unit participated in the workshop.

Factors affecting choice of technologies were identified during the workshop and priority intervention needs were identified to be: 1) establishment of demonstration farms, 2) provision of extension services, and 3) enhancing the Coco-link project. The workshop recommended the need for nursery/seedling and provision of information on how to nurse own seeds. Further, old farms should be rehabilitated.

Field visits in Ghana

Further, Prof. Daniel Obeng-Ofori informed participants of the Ghana Field visit 2014 by the SATTIFS project officials. On the 23rd of August 2014, a 10 member team visited the Techiman trial farm and irrigation project, and the Techiman market in order to familiarize with postharvest handling of maize. On the same day, the team also visited other model farms that produce maize.

On the 25th of August 2014 the team visited Cocoa farms and the Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana, to familiarize themselves with the Cocoa industry in Ghana.

Training of the Ghana CITED staff

A training of CITED staff in Ghana was conducted on the 24th of August 2014. The staff were given detailed overview and detailed activities of the project by Prof. Luciano Cinquanta. Information on detection of Mycotins were also given to the staff during the training by Remo Manoni. During the training, Diantom Agoura (Joseph) also made a very informative presentation on the Role of farmers' organization and women in agricultural productivity.

Matters arising

There were questions, comments and discussions on the various issues coming out of the presentation. The following important issues were noted

- Some farmers intercrop Cocoa with plantain.
- Farmers in the Northern part of the country of the country also use oxen for cultivation.
- Informed members that a curriculum farmer field schools training will be designed and training of facilitators will be conducted.
- The most important challenge in storage is to ensure that bags are well sealed to avoid moisture entry into the bags.
- It is important to ensure that maize grains are not infested by pests prior to storage.
- He informed member that the SATTIFS project will aim at educating farmers and disseminating technologies which have already been developed.
- It was noted that over 70% of Cocoa from Ghana is exported unprocessed. The need for local processing was emphasized since it can lead to creation of local employment and also results in earnings more from cocoa growing.

Overview of SATTIFS project in Ethiopia, by Dr.Tikubet Getachew, BioEconomy Africa (BEA)

The presenter put forward that there are 2 important commodities for Ethiopia i.e. coffee and maize. He also further added that coffee originated from Ethiopia in a place called Kaffa and Ethiopia supplies coffee all over the world.

He also informed the participants that burning of coffee husks causes Asthma (Negative impact) and coffee provides a major GDP for the country.

Furthermore, he added that initially Ethiopia's major food was teff (free from gluten) but now maize is a major food and animal feed and it is also used for energy production.

He also talked about Integrated Bio-Economy systems in Ethiopia which has transformed lives of many rural people in Ethiopia. Participants were informed that the capacity building program in Ethiopia was linked with the Ministry of Agriculture that takes technical development very seriously.

Participants were informed that a memorandum of understanding was (MOU) signed with an engineering company to create a strong technological centre.

Matters arising

- Members were informed that technological gaps in the maize and coffee value chains had already been identified.
- The need to set up training centres was mentioned.
- Coffee marketing is done through the coffee marketing board and the prices are declared on media
- The government also restricts coffee growing to multinational companies and also the role of middlemen is minimized
- Ethiopian commercial bank gives a guarantee to the farmers on inflation and deflation matters

Gulu reports on baseline study and stakeholder workshop, by Dr. Martine Nyeko and Dr. Grace Okiror

Dr. Martine Nyeko and Dr. Grace Okiror made a joint presentation on the progress of the SATTIFS project in Gulu.

Baseline study. Participants were informed that the Gulu team had conducted a baseline study to establish the current status of technologies in the rice and maize value chains. The study involved the following activities:

1. Desk review of available technologies on a “general” scale for the maize and rice value chains
2. Field study visits to establish the locally available technologies and technological gaps in the maize and rice value chains
3. A stakeholders’ workshop to select and prioritize of technologies for immediate intervention for great impact considering the available resources.

The Geographical coverage of the field study covered the entire project area in the districts of Gulu, Amuru, and Nwoya Districts. Participants were informed that the study was essentially a needs assessment exercise. The scope included pproduction, postharvest handling, value addition and marketing of maize and rice. Respondents to the study comprised of:

- District production officials,
- Local leaders in the rice and maize producing sub counties,
- Farmers groups and individual farmers
- Women and youths groups producing rice and maize
- Agro-processors and traders dealing in rice and maize

Stakeholders’ workshop

Participants were informed that the Gulu SATTIFS team conducted a stakeholders’ workshop on the 19th of August 2014. The objectives of the workshop were to:

- Consolidate and harmonize the knowledge obtained from the field study
- Prioritize on the technologies for intervention under the SATTIFS project
- Identify participants for field visits and demonstrations

Participants were informed that during this workshop, priority technologies for intervention in the rice and maize value chains were identified by stakeholders.

Matters arising

- The lists of attributes, functions and technologies for intervention were identified and ranked stakeholders during the workshop based in their priority needs.
- Maize and rice are considered as cash crops in the project area preference of the two crops vary from one Sub-County to another.
- Graduate students of Gulu University have a role to play in such projects and they are the targeted group.

Activities of Opit Investment Millers Limited by Mr. Paul Laboke

Mr. Paul Laboke informed members that Opit Investment Millers Limited is a local firm located in Gulu Municipality on on Plot 14 Salvatory Olwoch Road in Cereleno Industrial Area of Gulu District. The company was incorporated as a limited liability company in 2004 and works in partnership with smallholder farmers to ensure reliable supply of produce for milling. The main commodities processed were rice and maize for human foods and animal feeds.

The company aims at increasing supply of quality maize and rice products to local and regional markets through enhanced capacity for processing at factory level and large volume produce assembly at primary level.

Mode of operation

- The company works with a total of 38 farmer groups, comprising 1,292 farmers in Gulu, Amuru, Nwoya and Pader Districts;
- Each group is headed by a group of 9 executives;
- Group agents are trained on agronomic practices and post-harvest handling of rice and maize;
- They are also trained also on loan acquisition and repayment;
- The agents, with assistance of extension staff, train the other farmers.
- Demonstration plots set up in all groups;
- Maize cribs established in main maize producing sub-counties;
- Village collecting centres established for maize and rice;
- Farmers assisted with tarpaulins for drying produce;
- Farmers provided with trucks to transport their produce to main warehouse in Gulu town.
- Rice is milled, bulked and market sought collectively for the farmers who are patient enough to wait for better prices.

Matters arising

- Participating farmers pay membership fee of Uganda Shillings 17,000
- Loan defaulting by farmers is minimised by working with farmer groups through executives who carefully select beneficiaries.
- The company noted that they will be willing to host more intern students and they will open a research centre in Koro, a locality near Gulu town.
- Cribs used for storage of maize by farmers were designed by hired experts.
- Yes fertilizers are used for the demonstration units, but farmers rarely apply in their own fields
- In case of natural calamities such as drought, the duration for loan repayment is extended.
- No crop insurance mechanisms is currently available in case of such calamities/uncertainties
- SATTIFS project- Gulu will work hand with OPIT in hand to disseminate technologies to farmers

Role of farmers' organization and women in agricultural productivity, by Mr. Diantom Agoura Joseph

Mr. Diantom Agoura Joseph gave an overview of challenges of poverty and hunger in Africa. He emphasised the need for efficient and effective use of factors of production such as land, water, labour and agricultural inputs.

An overview of strategies to improve food security in Africa and the role of farmer organisations in agricultural development in Africa, were also elaborated. Examples of best practices of farmer groups across Africa were explicitly presented.

He gave a detailed account of the role of women in agriculture and encouraged project partners to involve women when conducting activities of the SATTIFS project.

Conclusion by Prof. Luciano Cinquanta

He thanked all people for attending and closed the workshop officially at 5:00pm.



GULU UNIVERSITY



SATIFFS PROJECT

www.satiffs.unimol.it

P. O Box 166, Gulu, Uganda

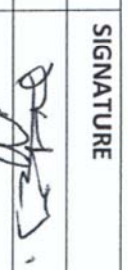



















PROGRAMME DISSEMINATION WORKSHOP

8th - 11th SEPTEMBER 2014, CHURCHILL COURT HOTEL- GULU


8th September 2014		Arrival and planning meetings	
TIME	ACTIVITY	METHOD	RESOURCE PERSONS
Morning	Arrival of visitors from Italy, Ghana & Ethiopia		Dr. Martine Nyeko
04:00 Pm to 05:00 Pm	Planning meeting		Dr. Martine Nyeko
9th September, 2014		Dissemination workshop	
08:30 Am to 09:00 Am	Registration	Self	Secretariat
09:00 Am to 09.15 Am	Introduction	Speech	DVC (Academics)
09:15 Am to 09:45 Am	Welcome remarks	Self	G. Okiror
09:45 Am to 10:15 Am	Background on SATIFFS project	PPT	Molise
10:15 Am to 10:45 Am	Coffee break	Self	
10:45 Am to 11:15 Am	Presentation from Ghana	PPT	Prof. D. Obeng-Ofori
11:15 Am to 12.45 Pm	Presentation from Ethiopia	PPT	Dr. Getachew Tikubet
11:45 Pm to 12:15 Pm	Presentation from Gulu	PPT	Dr. Martine Nyeko
12:15 pm to 12:45 pm	Presentation form ACP coordinator	PPT	Joseph Diantom
12:45 Pm to 02.00 Pm	Lunch break	Self	
02.00 Pm to 02.15 Pm	Presentation from stakeholder, Gulu	PPT	Opit
02:15 Pm to 03:45 Pm	Presentation on joint project proposal writing in a bid to attract funding from European Union	PPT and discussion	Dr. Giuseppe Giuliano

03:45 Pm to 04:00 Pm	Tea break	Self	Stephen
4.00 P.M – 4:30 Pm	Discussion and conclusion	Plenary	G. Okiror
4:30 Pm	Closing	Speech	Dean, FAE
10th September, 2014	Field Visit- Gulu		
08:30 to 12:00 Pm	Awach field visit	Visits	Dr. Collins Okello
2: 00 Pm to 4: 00 Pm	Patiko field visit	Visits	Dr. Collins Okello
11th September, 2014	Steering committee meeting	Visits	
08:30 to 12:00 Pm	Steering committee meeting	Visits	Dr. Martine Nyeko

SATIFES' DISSEMINATION WORKSHOP AT CHURCH HILL HOTEL ON TUESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 2014
ATTENDANCE LIST

S/N	NAMES	ORGANISATION/DISTRICT/SUB-COUNTY	CONTACT	SIGNATURE
1.	Opoka James	Gulu University	0772 241701	
2.	MAMBI RENO	SATIFES PROJECT	3366618955	
3.	SALBAEN GIOMARI	"	"	
4.	GIO MARI FIORÉ	"	"	
5.	AGOURA DIANTOM	"	3393737503	
6.	Collins Okello	"	0752326544	
7.	Gefachous Tibubet	Bioeconomy Africa	000251911252333	
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19.	LEASTON GRCODE	Gulu University	0772896168	
20.	AYUMA BRITT NONO	"	0782-332606	

22.	LAURENCE JEMUIFER	MPRANS - Amuru	07449377321	
22.	PAUL LABOKE	OPT INVESTMENT LTD	0770-669451	
23.	NASSANDA PROSSA	Gulu UNIVERSITY	0787699089	
24.	KOLA TOLIE	Agric office - Gulu Gulu University	0942843693	
25.	Peter Omara	Kwara Yello FPS	0780497229	
26.	DOLA SIMON PETER	Amuru DDC	0729704612	
27.	ALAYO SUKHO	Gulu Univ	0715223822	
28.	David Mwanza	Gulu University	07722481812	
29.	AJOK Jennifer Okello	Gulu University	0794667429	
30.	DROR BERBERG RASHID	AMURU DDC	0782778667	
31.	REN EBANGGA	Gulu University	0772404478	
32.	AGRA MICHELE	Sulu University	0782365574	
33.	LANEK JOHN PERE	AMACH SLG	0892882830	
34.	AKUMU JULIET H	ALERO SLG KUSAFA	0772357471	
35.	DRILLO PATRICK H	AMACH LIC	0777082203	
36.	OKOYA JAMES	Gulu University	0778814920	
37.	Achege Nelson	DAO NWAGA (4 NIGHV)	0788397914	
38.	Dr B.W. Khuzak	Gulu University	0772665287	
39.	Dr Julius Ocheng	"	0772576581	
40.	NONO DENIS	"	0775831102	
41.	OKNID KUSTAVD	Gulu University	0774134218	
42.	Ocan David	"	0772323764	
43.	Kilama Paul	St. Lukes Farm	0778465756	

44.	NDYOMUGENZI ELLI	GULU UNIVERSITY	0772886613	
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