Rwanda Warehouse Receipt System

Presentation to the Joint Leadership Network for African Agriculture

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February 15, 2015
Case Overview

- Video introduction
- The issues
- Project goals
- Project stakeholders
- Innovations
- Challenges & Opportunities
- Key take-aways

Photos: Toby Adamson/Oxfam America
The Issues

• Low maize yields = low income & food insecurity
• National priority to increase maize yields (Crop Intensification Program)
• Farmers’ need for cash while crops in field empowered traders (“kotsa imyaka”)
• Needed intervention to identify constraints and opportunities for increased yields and income in Rwanda’s largest district, Nyagatare
Project Goals

• Improve yields and quality of harvest
• Provide farmers with access to post-harvest storage facilities to reduce losses
• Identify new buyers for large quantities of maize and more lucrative markets
• Facilitate farmers’ access to credit
MAIZE NETWORK
RESEARCH INTO USE • RWANDA

Project Stakeholders

- **RIU Rwanda** (Platform facilitator)
- **Government**: Ministry of Agriculture (national & district)
- **Agricultural experts**: Umutara Polytechnic University & Rwanda Development Organization (extension services)
- **Private sector**: traders, input retailers, seed multipliers, banks, micro-finance
- **Civil society**: farmers & cooperative (NYAMIG)
- **NGO**: World Food Program’s Purchase for Progress (P4P)
Innovations

• Market-oriented warehouse receipt system
• Create company to promote interests of farmers (NYAMIG)
• Committed buyers
• Roots-up change
CHALLENGES

• **Scale**
  – Limited participation
  – Financial & environmental sustainability

• **Inclusion**
  – Equitable access for farmers (across size & gender)

• **Replication**
  – Crop Intensification Program important catalyst for change

OPPORTUNITIES

• **Possibilities for expansion**
  – To Rwanda’s Eastern Province (NYAMIG & D-IMF)
  – Nationally (Sarura Commodities, Ltd.)

• **National government support**
  – Organization of 416 sectors by Ministry of Agriculture to visit and replicate cooperatives

• **Sustainability**
  – Project continued after donor exit (through elected committee.)
Key take-aways

Illustrates power of *value chain approaches*:
- to take advantage of boosts in productivity, needed *storage*, quality *standards*, *financing* mechanism, and dedicated *buyer(s)*
- *Innovations* were required across value chain to achieve successes
- *Multi-stakeholder engagement* critical to success
Thank you for your attention