Research-for-Development (R4D) platforms - a multi-stakeholder initiative for integrated farming towards sustainable intensification

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Africa Research In Sustainable Intensification for the Next Generation
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Research Site</th>
<th>Research Team Leader</th>
<th>Partner Institutions</th>
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<tr>
<td>Babati District, Tanzania (sub-humid)</td>
<td>IITA</td>
<td>CIAT, ILRI, CIMMYT, AVRDC, MAFSCO, SARI, NM-AIST, SUA, TFNC, ARI-Naliendele, ARI-Selian, ARI-Mbeya, TALIRI, DOs, Univ. Tuskegee, BOKU-Tulln</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kongwa/Kiteto Districts, Tanzania (semi-arid)</td>
<td>ICRISAT</td>
<td>CIMMYT, ICRAF, AVRDC, ARI-Hombolo, ARI-Selian, ARI-Naliendele, PRC, UDOM, SUA, DOs, NAFAKA, Tuboreshe Chakula</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dedza and Ntcheu Districts, Malawi (semi-arid to humid)</td>
<td>Michigan State University</td>
<td>CIAT, ICRAF, LUANAR, DAES, INVC</td>
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<td>Zambia (Eastern Province)</td>
<td>CIMMYT/IITA</td>
<td>TLC, GART, ZARI, MoAL, UNZA</td>
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<td>Cross-cutting: M&amp;E Farming Systems Analysis</td>
<td>IFPRI Wageningen University</td>
<td>IITA, MSU, CIMMYT</td>
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Why R4D platforms?

- promote a demand-driven approach, complementary to a science-driven approach
- long-term positive impact by integrated systems interventions
- interactive design, co-evolution and learning
R4D platforms

- **Strategy:** Support of three communicative processes (Leeuwis and Aarts 2011):
  - network building
  - social learning
  - conflict management

- How do we support ‘socially acceptable transformation’, *Example: how can platforms work in a way that is gender transformative?*
R4D platform - contributions

- Collective understanding of problems
- Knowledge sharing at systems level
- Effective resource utilization (research, time, etc)
- Common priorities
- Opportunity to involve private sector and policy-makers
- Integrated model across value chains
- Flexible in composition, focus over time
The intensification challenge in Babati

Population growth steady stimulates change challenges traditional land use patterns and livelihoods.

- ISFM (integrated soil fertility management)
- livestock integration
- continue titles and land certificates process
Support to improve livelihoods for smallholders, particularly women, is a support to higher productivity, improved health and nutrition status, and good governance.
The local innovation system

- Farmers (six villages)
- Private sector (Minjingu, SATEC, PANNAR, BRAC...)
- NGOs (FarmAfrica, WVI, FIDE, Tuboreshe, MVIWATA, TOBRA)
- Researchers (CG centers, NM-AIST, SUA, SARI, TALIRI, HORTI...)
- Extension staff (village/ward)
- Policy makers (district, region, country)
From stakeholder involvement to sustainability

Initiation

Situation analysis

Visioning

Engaging stakeholders

Establishment

Working groups (vikosi kazi)

Constitution Membership

Sustainability

Ownership, Leadership
Production and land policy

Markets

Enabling environment for scaling of agricultural intensification

Capacity building

Youth

Africa RISING research themes:
- Crop management efficiency
- Improved livestock feeds
- Management of maize lethal necrosis disease
- Vegetable integration
- Food storage, value addition and mycotoxin management
- Institutional cooperation and co-learning
- Farming systems analyses and impact assessment
- Economic validation of technologies
Platform support team
PI, Research Coordinator,
Gender, Scaling,
Communication

Strategic level (district)
Facilitator, stakeholders

Operational level (ward)
Facilitators, stakeholders
Partnerships for scaling

On-farm research
- CGIAR centers
- Farmers
- NARS
- Gov’t agencies
- Universities

Africa RISING
(1000s of farmers)

R4D & Innovation Platforms

Public sector:
- Extension Programs
- School programs
- Media

USAID – supported Development Projects

Private Sector
- Inputs
- Markets
- Media

(10,000s – 100,000s of farmers)
Thank you!
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