

Innovation platforms for agricultural development case studies: The Mukono-Wakiso innovation platform in Uganda case study – Workshop plan with teacher's notes

International Livestock Research Institute

December 2016



RESEARCH
PROGRAM ON
Integrated Systems
for the Humid
Tropics

ILRI
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Activities	Running time (in minutes)	PPT slides	Facilitator's digest reference
Introduction: Ice breaker	5	1	N/A
1. Situation in the region	10	2-4	1. Situation in the region
2. Protagonist one: How the IP helped the farmer	10	5-6	2. Protagonist one: How the IP helped the farmer
3. Integrated farming system	10-15	7-10	3. Integrated farming system
4. Formation of the Mukono-Wakiso IP	5	11	4. Formation of the Mukono-Wakiso IP
5. Strategies and activities of the IP	15	12-14	5. Strategies and activities of the IP
6. Protagonist two	10	15-16	6. Protagonist two
7. Impact of the IP on the region	10	17	7. Impact of the IP on the region
8. Challenges	10	18	8. Challenges
9. Next steps	10	19-20	9. Next steps
10. Summary: Takeaways	10	21-23	10. Takeaway
Total running time	105 minutes		

Introduction: Ice breaker (Slide 1)

Time

5 min

Procedure

1. Display **Slide 1**
2. Greet all the participants, introduce yourself and explain that you will begin by giving everyone a chance for a little introductory chat.
3. Ask your audience that you want them to introduce themselves to **at least two people** around them of their choosing and talk to them about their personal or their company's **experience with innovation in agriculture**.

1. Situation in the region (Slides 2-4)

Time

10 min

Procedure

1. Present **Slide 2** and discuss the situation in central Uganda pointing to the challenges and the opportunities of the region.
2. Then say that you are going to discuss the situation in the Mukono-Wakiso district where the IP was formed, show **Slide 3**.
3. Present **Slide 4** with the following question, '**What are the main challenges related to agriculture in your country or region?**', and ask your audience to discuss it, exchange their ideas and refer to their experience and knowledge in small groups or pairs.
4. Elicit a few examples and comments from the audience.

2. Protagonist one: How the IP helped the farmer (Slides 5-6)

Time

10 min

Procedure:

1. Present **Slide 5** and introduce the first protagonist. Discuss his situation and the challenges he had to face before the IP intervened.
2. Using **Slide 6** discuss how the IP helped bring about the change for the farmer and address the challenges he faced. Focus on the fact that he changed from sole cropping to integration system and how this decision positively affected his situation.

3. Integrated farming system (Slides 7-10)

Time

10-15 min

Procedure

1. Say that thanks to the IP farmers were trained in an Integrated farming system and could continue or start their farming by following the principles of this system.
2. Use **Slides 7 to 8** to present and discuss in more detail the main principles of the system integration and its benefits such as spreading risks, sustainable income and improved nutrition.
3. Then show **Slide 9** and refer back to the first protagonist reminding the audience that the farmer decided to use the integrated farming system on his own farm by adding diverse crops and incorporating fodder trees and manure.
4. Present **Slide 10** with the following question, '**To what extent integrated farming system could benefit your country or region?**', and ask your audience to discuss it, exchange their ideas and refer to their experience and knowledge in small groups or pairs.
5. Elicit a few examples and comments from the audience.

4. Formation of the Mukono-Wakiso IP (Slide 11)

Time

5 min

Procedure

1. Use **Slide 11** to present the origin of the IP. Briefly comment on the profile of the IP and their main goals.

5 Strategies and activities of the IP (Slides 12-14)

Time

15 min

Procedure

1. Use **Slide 12** to elaborate in more detail on the main activities of the Mukono-Wakiso IP, the strategies they applied to solve their problems and to tackle the challenges.

Discuss the following:

- How they decided on which areas/problems to focus
- What kind of field trials they conducted and what research experiments they did
- Training of farmers and capacity building

All the points mentioned above are described in more detail in your Facilitator's digest (see section 5. *Strategies and activities of the IP*). Use the information provided to expand on each bullet point in Slide 12.

2. Use **Slide13** to explain how the IP managed to link farmers to market.
3. Present **Slide 14** with the following question, '**What other strategies do you know that could help to link farmers to market?**', and ask your audience to discuss it, exchange their ideas and refer to their experience and knowledge in small groups or pairs.
4. Elicit a few examples and comments from the audience.

6. Protagonist two (Slides 15-16)

Time

10 min

Procedure

1. Present **Slide 15** and introduce the protagonist. Discuss her situation and the challenges she faced before the IP intervened. Focus on the fact that she was not sure which enterprise to focus on and how she lost her piggery and how the nuts proved to be a failure as well. Emphasize the fact that she did not have enough knowledge and advice to be able to predict the changes and that she received inaccurate information from other people that led her to wrong choices.
2. Use **Slide 16** to discuss how this farmer's situation changed after she received support from the IP. Focus on the fact that thanks to the IP she attended training that equipped her with knowledge on farming, investment and enterprise. Also, emphasize that the interaction with other farmers under Humidtropics helped her expand her knowledge about farming.

7. Impact of the IP on the region (Slide 17)

Time

10 min

Procedure

1. Use **Slide 17** to present the overall impact of the IP on the region and how it helped to address the issues of local farmers from the Mukono-Wakiso districts.

8 Challenges (Slide 18)

Time

10 min

Procedure

1. Present **Slide 18** and discuss the challenges the IP has faced during their work.
2. Ask the participants to work in small groups or pairs. Depending on the number of groups you can give each group 1 or 2 challenges from Slide 18 to discuss. They should think of ways to overcome the challenges basing on their experience, knowledge and the IP case they have just studied, and give their own ideas of how they would best approach the challenges.
3. Have each group present their solutions to the audience. Depending on the time you can allow for short discussion and ideas exchange.

9. Next steps (Slides 19-20)

Time

10 min

Procedure

1. Present **Slide 19** and ask the audience the following question, '**What could be the next steps for the Mukono-Wakiso IP to take to develop further?**' Encourage the audience to work in small groups or pairs to think of 1-2 pieces of advice they would like to offer to the IP.
2. After they finish ask a few groups (this depends on how many groups you have and how much time you have. If there are more than 4 groups, choose only 2-3) to present one advice to the audience and briefly comment on it. If you have more time and others want to engage or refer to the advice presented in Slide 19, allow for extra ideas exchange.
3. Use **Slide 20** to present and discuss the next steps for the IP.

10. Summary: Takeaways (Slide 21-23)

Time

10 min

Procedure

4. Present **Slide 21** with the following question, '**How the Mukono-Wakiso IP experience might help you or your organization develop further?**', and ask your audience to discuss it, exchange their ideas and refer to their experience and knowledge in small groups or pairs.
5. Elicit a few examples and comments from the audience.
6. Use **Slide 22** to present and discuss the final conclusions and takeaways. Have a short summary discussion with your audience.
7. **Slide 23** - allow some time to ask and answer questions, and offer extra comments.