Building resilience into agricultural research for resource-limited farming communities in Africa

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Africa RISING – Sustainable Intensification and Building Resilience

3-years, $2.5 million

Project Activities:
1. Understanding drivers of sustainable production
2. Seed systems action research
3. Capacity building
Africa RISING
Research in Sustainable Intensification for the Next Generation

- Focuses on agricultural intensification:
  - Of staple foods within major farming systems with linkages to nutrition and diversification
  - Special attention to soil as the base resource in agriculture

- Addresses farm-level issues (beyond the plot and field)
  - Interactions among components (soil fertility, water management, germplasm)
Production situation

Potential yield

Yield-defining factors
- Temperature
- Radiation
- Crop characteristics

Attainable yield

Yield-limiting factors
- Nutrients
- Water

Actual yield

Yield-reducing factors
- Pests, diseases and weeds
- Pollutants

Available food

Post-harvest to marketing
- Post-harvest losses

Production level
Purpose of Africa RISING

To provide pathways out of hunger and poverty for small holder families through sustainably intensified farming systems that sufficiently improve food, nutrition, and income security, particularly for women and children, and conserve or enhance the natural resource base.
Africa RISING is designed to:

..... learn with farmers and refine *technical options* that provide *robust intensification trajectories*, best fitting *local farmer circumstances* in the face of:

• a degrading natural resource base
• climate change and increased variability
Africa RISING components

1) Action Research - expansion of activities to Mangochi and Machinga districts
2) Generating empirical data to understand drivers of sustainable production
3) Seed systems - action research in support of diversification and ripple effects
In search of sustainable intensification for resilient farming systems
“Africa Research in Sustainable Intensification for Next Generation”.

www.africa-rising.net