Sainte Anuarite center of Abomey Calavi, 14-15 July 2015

SUMMARY REPORT

WORKSHOP REFLECTION ON EXTENSION OF GOOD POST- HARVEST PRACTICE

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The consortium composed of HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation (HSI) and Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN) in association with African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (AFAAS) and AGRIDEA ran a program on "Reducing Post Harvest Losses " of family farms and at the level of farmers' organizations to improve the food security of small producers Saharan Africa." The first phase of this program is implemented in Benin and Mozambique.

In order to identify innovative ways to disseminate PHM tools and technologies, the national coordination of AFAAS-Benin in collaboration with HELVETAS convened a workshop to reflect on suitable tools and channels that will help disseminate storage systems to reduce post-harvest losses. This workshop was attended by forty people involved in various aspects of extension of post-harvest technologies and dissemination tools. These are producers, representatives of farmer organisations, local radios leaders, representatives of microfinance institutions, the private sector ensuring the supply of products and conservation technologies, craftsmen, post-harvest specialists, researchers, local elected officials, specialists in broadcast video, the heads of Rural Development, Non Governmental Organizations and representatives of staff HELVETAS, FANRPAN and AFAAS.

After the welcome address of the AFAAS-Benin Coordinator, the floor was given to presentations

Evelyne SISSINTO from HSI Benin gave a presentation on the PHM project and its objectives. She ended her presentation by a quick view of completed and ongoing activities. Among the achievements of the project there are a training manual on maize and cowpea; data sheets on the storage and conservation of maize and cowpea; posters; Video on the preservation and storage of cowpea and video on the storage and conservation of maize.

Mr Philbert AIGBANVI, the head of rural development in the municipality of Savalou, shared with the participants, the experience of his department in the PHM. It is clear from his speech that the PHM has a scant attention among the activities carried out in the department (SCDA: Secteur Communal de Développement Agricole) of Savalou.

Mr. Patrice AKAKPO, on behalf of the company Sahel explained the efforts of his company to promote improved technologies to reduce post-harvest losses. They specifically promote the use of PVC containers of 25 liters as means of storage and conservation.

Dr. Brice GBAGUIDI, on behalf of the team of consultants, presented the topics covered in the various data sheets, posters and training manuals as part of the achievements of project.

For a second time, Evelyne SISSINTO gave a brief presentation on the metallic silo as well as pricing.

Dr. Florent Okry from Access Agriculture (International Access Agriculture NGO), gave a presentation on behalf of Dr. Augustin KOUEVI. He presented a paper on strategies of videos dissemination for impact. He addressed three points in the presentation: the difference between a video and an ordinary agricultural training video; principles of video mediated learning and monitoring and evaluation tools distributions.

Mr. Lionel Guezodje, Chairman of FUPRO (Fédération des Unions des Producteurs) presented a Collaboration Communication on the partnership between the public sector and
FUPRO as part of the dissemination of innovations. He shared the experience of his institution with the participants. FUPRO is the largest federation of producers of Benin with a membership of 780,000 farmers out of the 3.5 million farmers of Benin.

In between this series of presentation, participants also attended a video projection on the storage and conservation of the cowpea.

After all this, the participants were invited to group work. A total of four groups were formed according to the following themes:

- **Group 1: Public-private partnership**
- **Group 2: The broadcasting of videos: prerequisites and impact assessment**
- **Group 3: Training groups in cascades of each level**
- **Group 4: Thinking about organizing PHM awareness week**

A plenary session followed the group work.

**Group 1: Public Private Partnership,**
Four main points emerge from their work:

- **Tarpaulin / plastic bags:**
  - distribution, demand and the order will be provided by the farmers organization;
  - product presentation to companies and monitoring will be provided by the project NGOs;
  - the financing of the operation and monitoring will be undertaken by MFIs (Micro-finance Institutions) and, finally, 3
  - promotion, purchase and sale of the product will be made by the companies and all this before the harvest.

- **Pics Bags:** the project will facilitate the linking of Companies with national representative Pics Bags.

- **Consumer products:** the State will facilitate access to the recognition of companies and provide product inspection.

- **Metal Silos:**
  - the demand and product distribution will be by the OP,
  - looking for raw material, purchase order and production silos will be by artisans,
  - delivery silos and control quality will be by businesses,
  - funding will be by MFIs, training and quality control silos will be by project NGOs and finally,
  - marketing, training and monitoring will be provided by the SCDA (Secteur Communal pour le Développement Agricole).

In short, the strategy defined by the group is that the company research material for the manufacture of silos and sales to producers. The MFI finance companies for the purchase of manufacturing materials silos and producers in the purchase of storage structures. The SCDA (Secteur Communal de Développement Agricole) will market and accompany producers in the use of these products.
Group 2: The broadcasting of video and pre-impact measures

Three points can be emerged from the work of this group:

- Set up the DVD in the beneficiary farmers of the project: it will be after the formation of FA (Farmers Association) leaders on the content of the videos and the development of distribution records;
- Establishment of DVDs in the municipalities of the project (Savalou and Boukoumbé): it will be made after the establishment of a focal point at the SCDA (Municipal Sector of Agricultural Development), agent training on SCDA on content and videos development of distribution records;
- Wide dissemination: this broadcast will be made after the development of data collection sheets on participants who will take part in this broadcast.

Group 3: Training in groups cascades of each level

Training will be done by experts in post-harvest technologies capable people to train new people and so on. Training young agricultural entrepreneurs is planned. Coaching is expected to accompany the Level 1 training and monitoring is planned for the trained group 2. The achievement of socio-economic studies on new storage technologies and improved food preservation (metal silos) must be made before training.

The declination of the waterfall is as follows:

- Level 1: Training of trainers. The trainees are extension workers (SCDA Boukombé and Savalou), NGOs (ERAD, LDLD, GRADED, etc.), the leading producers, Members of store management committees, leaders of processors and traders, animators Local radio and artisans.
- Level 2: Training by trained. This training will be done by trained from level 1 to the place of CSAE agents, producers, processors, traders, young agricultural entrepreneurs,
- Level 3: Mass training to be conducted by local radio stations and by producers themselves.

It is therefore important that these actors are sensitized to generate demand for training hence the interest of group 4

Group 4: Thinking about organizing a PHM awareness week

Several activities have been planned to furnish this week:

- Inform local authorities about the situation of the post harvest from their joint meetings and work sessions;
- Presentation of the project's pilot actions at meetings and work sessions;
- Training of actors on the PHM with a three-day training workshop;
- Media coverage all week thanks to local radio stations;
- Projection on educational videos;
- Videos demonstration on mobile phones;
- Realization emission of testimony with drivers producers;
- Implementation of thematic programs with involvement of local elected officials;
- Trade fairs and exhibitions in both zones.

After the group work, two roadmaps were developed for participants to two common and include five main points:

- Organization of the awareness week;
- Realization of training;
- Using videos;
- Development of partnerships;
- Monitoring, support and advice on practical PHM.

An evaluation after the two-day workshop, reveals that the majority of participants are satisfied with the activities during this workshop and her participation.