



Integrated Support to Sustainable Development and Food Security Programme in FAO

About the IP

Activities

Resources

- publications
- newsletter
- press coverage
- PR-materials

IP home-page



SD-dimension

FAO-home

What's NEW at the IP?

No.2/July 2002 UPDATE

Content: Activities - Publications - Upcoming events

ACTIVITIES

Phase-I

Most of the activities in Phase-I (1998 to April 2002) are now finalized. You can read more about some of the outcomes and findings under Publications in this newsletter. A fuller description of all the IP-activities in Phase-I are available [here](#).

Phase-II

Phase-II of the IP has just started and builds on the experiences gained and lessons learnt from Phase-I. Phase-II of the IP maintains the underlying principle, which is to promote cross-sectoral collaboration. However, rather than implementing many small activities, as was the case in Phase-I, IP Phase-II will carry out one activity of greater scope in each country using one common identified problem area as the glue for bringing different sectors and disciplines together.

Phase-II activities are being implemented in collaboration with both established and new partners in Namibia, Zambia and Uganda. In March and April 2002, participatory workshops in each country identified HIV/AIDS and its impact on agricultural production, food security, and household resource management to be a common national problem that could be addressed by the IP through an integrated and multidisciplinary approach. The specific country projects are embedded both in the national policy context and in FAO's Strategic Framework 2000-15. The following activities will be carried out:

- A desk study reviewing available data and identifying data-gaps and existing coping mechanisms.
- Baseline surveys in selected partner communities determining problems and needs.
- National stakeholder workshops reviewing the results of the desk study and baseline surveys, and determining normative and operational solutions.
- Developing and testing coping methods and tools in and with the partner communities.
- Managing and disseminating information, best practices, and

case studies on the HIV/AIDS coping methods and tools.

Hamusimbi Coillard from the Farming Systems Association of Zambia has contributed with this extract of Phase II for the IP-newsletter:

Unexplored HIV/AIDS Impacts - Zambian Agricultural Sector

Other than the periodic references to lost productivity due to premature illness and death, and to economic consequences of lost income to families, the non-health impact of HIV/AIDS on agricultural production and food security, especially among rural households remains unexplored. It is however clear that diseases, including HIV/AIDS, have expanded poverty levels in Zambia by contributing to decreased agricultural productivity and increased household food insecurity. What is less clear, but thought provoking, is precisely how these impacts have occurred and, more importantly, precisely what coping mechanisms could be introduced to bring about an increase in agricultural productivity and household food security. It is on this premise that an IP-protocol on "Effect of HIV/AIDS on agricultural production and food security" has been envisaged and commenced. The project will, in the context of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, develop, test and disseminate mitigating strategies that address issues of environment, gender and rural youth, and information management as these relate to agricultural productivity and household food security. Among the first activities to be implemented will be; (1) the desk review of previous studies of HIV/AIDS impact on agriculture and related activities and; (2) development of study tools and selection of partner communities. The guiding implementation principle will be to promote and support cross-sectoral collaboration on all crosscutting issues the project will endeavour to investigate, test and disseminate. All interested and willing stakeholders are invited to participate.

For more information about the IP Phase II activities in Zambia, contact the lead organization: The Farming Systems Association of Zambia, email: fasaz@zamnet.zm, chamusimbi@yahoo.com or mndiyoi@zamnet.zm

The IP is carrying out similar activities in Uganda and Namibia:

NAMIBIA

In Namibia IP partners are currently in the final stages of developing the research framework for the impact study of HIV/AIDS on agricultural production and household food security. A reconnaissance survey was conducted in Caprivi, Kavango, Oshana and Kunene regions of Northern agro-ecological zones in June. A pre-rapid rural appraisal was carried out in these regions using the problem tree analysis approach and led ultimately to the choice of a suitable region in which the baseline survey could be conducted. In all places visited, unstructured, informal interviews were conducted with various stakeholders and other knowledgeable persons including some community members. A research team has been recruited and the training of enumerators, community PRA

and baseline survey will start 17 June. In addition, they have started with the desk study. An executive committee and a team of experts are advising in the overall research process. For more information, please contact the lead organization in Namibia:

Africa Institutional Management Services (AIMS), Department of Special Projects

Contact persons: Reinhold Xoagub (Director - AIMS) and Imms Namaseb (project coordinator), tel: (264 61) 245917, fax: (264 61) 241914 and e-mail: aims@iway.na or aims@iafrica.com.na or Adelheid Awases (advisor and consultant), e-mail: iprog@mweb.com.na

UGANDA

Uganda is currently in the process of developing the research framework for the impact study, covering such things as the sampling strategy, area selection, indicators, and questionnaires. The field testing of the questionnaires and the actual fieldwork will start by the end of this month. For more information, please contact the lead organization in Uganda:

The National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS)

Contact persons: Dr. Silim Nahdy, Executive Director - NAADS, phone: 256-041-345440, fax: +256-041-347843 and e-mail: naads@utlonline.co.ug and Catherine Barasa (National Co-facilitator), e-mail: barasa@infocom.co.ug

NEW IP PUBLICATIONS DEVELOPED DURING PHASE I

New information materials

The IP has produced some new information materials. To obtain copies of the IP leaflet, fact sheet or poster, please send an e-mail to: Integrated-Programme@fao.org.

UGANDA: Study on support to transfer, adoption and dissemination of labour saving technologies

Improved forage chopping, farm/household water lifting and small scale irrigation technologies have been adopted and promoted for use under Uganda's conditions. The adoption and dissemination tend to be slow. In addition, knowledge of the appropriateness, relevance and effectiveness of such technologies has hitherto been lacking. A study was conducted to assess the constraints on adoption, transfer and dissemination of the selected forage chopper and treadle pump technologies, as well as their strengths and the opportunities they provide for reducing the farm workload and raising household livelihoods with particular focus on women and youth. Findings of the study confirm that the improved forage chopper attributes have the potential to address the constraints encountered by farmers in forage chopping. Farm water conveyance and pumping constraints lead to intensive labour use practices and poor livestock productivity, and there is a need for water acquisition technologies. Roof rainwater harvesting is rarely invested in by

most farmers although it was evident from households with roof water collection capacity that their water constraint was grossly reduced. Slow adoption to this technology shows that there is a need to explore a range of methods to deliver agricultural engineering extension messages to the farmers.

ZAMBIA: Adoption of promising potential oilseed production and village level processing technologies: A case study of the Yenga Oil Press Processor

The survey assesses the effectiveness and efficiency of the Yenga Oil Press (YOP) technology transfer linkages and the technology appropriateness for small holder farmers of the YOP as a means of income generation, nutrition security, and sustainability of the promotion of engendered oilseed promotion technologies for the resource poor farmers in Zambia. The survey is intended to assist stakeholders in coming up with technology dissemination strategies necessary for sustainable YOP adoption and utilization at national and regional level. The study shows that promotion of the YOP has contributed to enhanced income and improved nutrition to the YOP owners and affordable sources of cooking oil for the local consumers at household level. There has also been increased demand for improved cultivars of sunflower seed, higher demand for YOP, and enhanced national level and regional stakeholder collaboration.

ZIMBABWE: Strengthening the Pluralistic Agricultural Extension System: A Case Study

The agricultural extension system in Zimbabwe is characterized by a multitude of actors, perceptions, objectives, practices and strategies. The levels of pluralism and uncoordinated extension services at the grass-roots level have led to lower outputs and confusion at an expense to farmers. To improve effectiveness, avoid duplication and wastage of scarce resources, it is necessary to increase collaboration and coordination. A study was conducted in Phase I to examine the current status of the public and private extension services providers. The study proposes a number of collaboration strategies that could improve coordination and linkages between various service providers. The strategies for achieving effective linkages and sustainable development require a thorough understanding of institutional and organizational politics, because organizations often have divergent and sometimes complex and hidden agendas.

NAMIBIA: The status of urban and peri-urban agriculture in Windhoek and Oshakati

Because of the lack of data on urban and peri-urban agriculture, a study was carried out in two cities in Namibia. The objective was to produce a list of current farming activities, assess the levels of utilization of the produce, explore the socio-cultural aspects of urban farming, determine the gender specific constraints in urban and peri-urban agriculture and to devise strategies for efficient peri-urban farming and transfer of the knowledge gained to other urban areas in Namibia. The study showed that urban and peri-urban

agriculture is practised by over 70% of the residents of Windhoek and Oshakati, and that over 23 types of vegetables and fruit trees are grown on tiny plots. Most of the produce is consumed by the household and contributes to improvement of their nutritional status. The absence of policy on urban and peri-urban agriculture is seen as a serious constraint towards its intensification and development, and it was recommended that the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Rural Development in consultation with the municipalities and the Ministries of Environment and Tourism and Regional and Local Government and Housing and other stakeholders evolve a policy on urban and peri-urban agriculture.

WHAT'S COMING UP

UGANDA: Women's World Congress

The 8th International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women will take place from **21 to 26 July, 2002** at Makerere University in Kampala. Uganda is the first African country to host this congress. The congress is organized around the main theme "Gendered Worlds: Gains and Challenges". This theme provides an opportunity for a broad reflection on the state of women and gender issues taking stock of achievements, challenges and opportunities. It enables discussions focused on both differences and similarities and offers positive pointers for future action for gender equity and equality. The program sub-themes, including gender and agriculture, have been carefully selected to ensure the congress special focus on the African Perspective, Young Voices, Celebrating Multiculturalism and Diversity, and North-South Perspectives.

The IP will participate in a panel Thursday July 25 at 10.30 to 12.30 hrs, at the Faculty of Forestry and Nature Conservation with the theme: **Gendering Agriculture and the Environment**, and the panellists are:

Elizabeth Kyewalabye - Engendering the Curriculum for Livestock Health Service Providers; F.J. Esegu - Engendering Natural Resources Management; Forough Olinga - Experiences in Holistic Gender Approach in Agricultural Development in Cross-sectoral Development; Enock Mugabi - Engendering Agriculture.

For information about the congress see:

<http://www.makerere.ac.ug/womenstudies/congress2/index.htm>.

Comments or questions? Please contact webmaster at integrated-programme@fao.org
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