



Integrated Support to Sustainable Development and Food Security Programme in FAO

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No. 5/May 2003 UPDATE

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ACTIVITIES

IP IN THE PARTNER COUNTRIES

National stakeholder workshops

The two-day national stakeholder IP-workshops have been successfully organized in Namibia (11-12 February), Uganda (3-4 March) and Zambia (14-15 March). The workshops were well attended with between 30-60 participants. The Minister of Agriculture opened the workshops in Zambia and Uganda, and in Namibia the FAOR did the official opening. The attendance of interested representatives from several ministries, districts/local governments, bilateral organisations, NGOs, research institutions, UNDP and UNAIDS contributed with valuable experience and knowledge to the workshop outcomes.

Based on the preliminary findings from the IP baseline surveys carried out since August 2002, the workshop participants came up with some of the following ideas of cross-sectoral responses to mitigate the impacts of HIV/AIDS on agricultural production, food security and rural livelihoods:

Uganda	Namibia	Zambia
-Promote livelihood diversification (e.g. training; saving/credit schemes; micro-enterprises) -Youth mobilisation and capacity building (e.g. apprenticeship and vocational training) -Develop HIV/AIDS information	- Youth mobilisation and capacity building (e.g. leadership/organisational training; specific training modules related to food and nutrition, vegetable gardening and small enterprise development) - Prevention of asset stripping (e.g. training; IEC) - Building sustainable	- Economic empowerment of vulnerable households (e.g. saving/credit schemes; agribusiness; revolving funds for livestock; promote cash crops and IGA; training) - Skills training for youth - On-farm food

messages and strengthen district agriculture extension services to incorporate HIV/AIDS concerns	agriculture targeting households vulnerable to HIV/AIDS (e.g. horticulture; nutrition; training; IEC)	processing and utilization (e.g. nutrition campaigns and traditional food) - Promote less input and labour demanding production and technologies (e.g. fruit trees; bee keeping)
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Cross-cutting activities:

- Strengthen collaboration at (and between) national and district levels
- Building capacity of formal/informal rural service providers to incorporate HIV/AIDS concerns
- Advocacy and mainstreaming of HIV/AIDS concerns into the agricultural sector strategies and plans

Copies of the workshops reports can be obtained by contacting the national partners (see contact information below) or contact the IP/FAO at: integrated-programme@fao.org.

Press-coverage of the workshops:

- HIV/AIDS: Discussing FAO Study, Ugandan Minister Cites Threat To Farming, New Vision (Kampala): http://www.journalaids.org/international_reports/04032003d.htm
- HIV/Aids Impact On Agriculture Worries Kisamba, New Vision (Kampala): <http://allafrica.com/stories/200303040070.html>
- Low Agro Output Blamed On Aids, The Times of Zambia (Ndola): <http://allafrica.com/stories/200303140372.html>
- AIMS at Sustainable Development, New Era, Windhoek (No URL. Contact IP to obtain a copy.)

Survey reports

The first draft reports have been submitted to FAO-Headquarters by all three countries (Uganda, Zambia and Namibia) and are in the process of being finalised. The IP at FAO-Headquarters is currently undertaking further comparative data-analysis among the countries with regard to the most vulnerable households, such as female/widow headed and child headed households, and those fostering orphans.

District and community feed-back meetings

The IP partners in Uganda and Zambia are in the process of reporting back the results and recommendations from the national workshop to the communities involved in the surveys and stakeholders at district level. The main aim of this is to get their

feedback on the findings, elicit their recommendations, and prioritize the selected mitigating strategies. The district-level meetings will set up local IP support groups and identify where the IP intersects with their ongoing activities and programmes. Agreements will be made between the IP and partners at district and national level on possible areas of collaboration, contribution and assistance. The main role for the IP will be to add value to, and create synergies with, ongoing initiatives. IP-Namibia has successfully carried out these feedback meetings, and they are in the process of formulating small, feasible follow-up activities. The IP at Headquarters is currently identifying and mapping possible FAO partners and ongoing programmes/ activities at HQ and at country level in the search for collaborating partners, joint activities, and how IP can add value to their activities. We welcome your inputs and ideas in this planning process.

Develop and test mitigating strategies

Based on the outcomes and recommendations from feedback meetings, the IP will narrow down the scope to a few activities that can be successfully implemented and monitored by the end of 2003.

For more information about the IP activities in:

- Namibia, contact Imms Namaseb, IP-coordinator at Africa Institutional Management Services (AIMS). Tel: +264 61 245917, fax: +264 61 241914, e-mail: iprogram@web.com.na.
- Uganda, contact David Mawejje, National IP-facilitator (d.mawejje@scukuga.co.ug) or Dr. Silim Nahdy Executive Director at National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS). Tel: +256-041-345440, fax: +256-041-347843, e-mail: naads@utlonline.co.ug and URL: <http://www.naads.or.ug/>
- Zambia, contact Coillard Hamusimbi, IP coordinator at the Farming Systems Association of Zambia (FASAZ). Tel: +260-097-787078, e-mail: fasaz@zamnet.zm or chamusimbi@yahoo.com and URL: <http://www.fasaz.org>

Publications

Folder on HIV/AIDS, agricultural and food security

The IP will soon publish an information folder (8 pages) with some preliminary findings from the IP surveys in Namibia, Uganda and Zambia. The findings clearly illustrate that the impact of the HIV/AIDS epidemic is slowly eroding food security, damaging rural livelihoods and exacerbating poverty. These negative trends are interlinked. To solve some of these problems, cross-sectoral action and collaboration are needed. To obtain a copy, please contact the IP.

Events

IP presentations

Based on the survey findings, an important activity for the IP is to influence policymakers and development-planners at macro level to integrate HIV/AIDS concerns into their agricultural sector/rural development plans and policies.

The IP had the opportunity to present some of the findings from the surveys at a Roundtable organized by UNIFEM on Economics and Rights: Interconnections in the context of HIV/AIDS and Feminized Poverty in New York on 30 April (in preparation for the ECOSOC High-level session on integrated approaches to rural development 30 June-2 July in Geneva). Sissel Ekaas, Director of FAO's Gender and Population Division was invited to serve as a panel member and her presentation on the linkages between HIV/AIDS, gender and food security was well received.

Upcoming events where the IP may have an opportunity to present some of its findings are:

- A round-table-workshop on Mitigation of HIV/AIDS-impacts through agriculture and rural development organized by FAOSAF, OXFAM-GB and GTZ-SNRD in Pretoria, South Africa, 27-29 May.
- A roundtable organized by UNAIDS on HIV/AIDS and rural communities during ECOSOC in Geneva, 2 July.

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