

SAFE-World Project/Initiative Summary

Country: Uganda.

Project/Initiative Title: Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries - South West Region Agricultural Rehabilitation Project

Nos. farmers: 72,000

Hectares: 490,000

Agro-Ecological Zone: VII/VI

Improvement types

1x	2	3	4	5x	6x	7	8	9x
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Success and Limits to spread

Success	Limits
1a, 1b, 2a, 3b, 5a	5a, 6a

A. Key Impacts

A1 – Productivity

	Before/Without	After/With	% change
Banana			50-100
Potato	6000 kg/ha	20,000 kg/ha	233

A2 – Impacts on natural capital

- ?? The project has had no adverse impact on the environment, biodiversity and health.
- ?? Cultural control of banana weevils advocated by the project has proved a very effective and cheaper method compared to chemical control using marshal.
- ?? Soil erosion by water, which had formed gullies, has been effectively controlled by 60% of banana farmers who have adopted.

A3 – Impacts on local community (social capital)

- ?? Products are realising higher and more stable farm incomes through sale of surplus produce.
- ?? Producers associations/groups have been formed to strengthen bargaining position so as to get better prices all year.
- ?? Producers are wealthier as ascertained through household Impact Surveys. They own more saleable assets and have improved their living standards as a result of higher incomes.
- ?? Over 60% of farmers in project area of 22,400 km², trained in soil and water conservation, however adoption highest in banana growing areas.

A4 – Impacts on households and individuals (human capital)

- ?? The food situation has changed from a food deficit one to a surplus one for Irish potatoes and bananas for growing households and urban consumers.
- ?? Surplus production is marketed and food wastage (bananas) at peak harvest is no more as there is a ready market.
- ?? With proper mulching and harvesting of run-off plantations have enough moisture for

all year round protection even in unusually long dry periods

A5 – Key changes in farm / regional system

- ?? Through control of banana weevils and screening Irish potato varieties for yield and disease tolerance the following impacts have been realised.
- ?? Yield increase due to 50-100% in bunch size for bananas and increase of Irish potato yield from 6 ton/ha to 20-30 t/ha, an increase of over 300%.
- ?? All year round production of bananas due to increased soil moisture content as a result of mulching, increased soil organic matter content and instituting soil and water conservation measures.
- ?? Improved banana management has been adopted by 60% (approximately) of the growers which number 120,000 households totaling 840,000 persons in the project area, and banana hectareage is estimated at over 818,854 ha in project area.
- ?? Irish potato varieties are grown in three major areas by about 70,000 households on some 35,000 ha.

B. Types of Sustainable Agriculture Improvements

- Type 1: Better use of available renewable natural capital
- Type 2: Intensification of single sub -component of farm system
- Type 3: Diversify by adding new productive natural capital and regenerative components
- Type 4: Better use of non-renewable inputs and technologies
- Type 5: Social and participatory processes leading to group action for making better use of natural capital
- Type 6: Human capital building through training-learning programmes
- Type 7: Access to Finance
- Type 8: Add value by processing to reduce losses and increase returns
- Type 9: Add value by direct or organised marketing of produce to consumers

	Yes/No	Narrative
Type 1	x	Selection, multiplication and distribution of high yielding varieties of Irish potatoes. Demonstration of low cost banana weevil control without and with imported chemicals. Both methods being equally effective the cultural control method has proved popular as it does not involve costly chemicals.
Type 2		
Type 3		
Type 4		
Type 5	x	?? The project used group approach to popularise and speed up adoption of new methods and varieties. ?? On-farm trials and demonstrations for potatoes and bananas were based on groups of farmers used as contact groups. ?? Proven varieties were multiplied using selected farmers and bought back for distribution to individuals or groups of farmers
Type 6	x	
Type 7		
Type 8		

Type 9	x	
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C. Key Lessons: Success, Spread and Constraints

C2 – Aspects of local/national context contributing to success

- ?? Back up by research centres which continually screen new genotypes to replace those varieties which degenerate i.e. potatoes in this case.
- ?? Trade liberalisation policy, free of controls coupled with improvement of surface of road network for marketing purposes.
- ?? Several roads were improved by the project and other projects which facilitated movement of produce from rural producers to markets (mainly urban).

C3 – Limitations preventing spread

- ?? Failure to maintain feeder roads in good condition which limits access to markets for both bananas and potatoes which are heavy and bulky.
- ?? Declining soil fertility, ineffective soil and water conservation especially in potato growing areas which are high altitude densely populated with 250-300 persons per km² and acreages of 0.5 ha per farm family of about 7 people on average.

D. Contact Point for Project/Initiative

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