FARMER INNOVATIONS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION; EXPERIENCES FROM UGANDA

Shared at the Market Place at TOSTAN in Senegal on 16th May 2016

By Harriet Ndagire and Joshua Zake (PhD)
Environmental Alert, P.O. Box 11259 Kampala, Uganda, Tel: 0414510215;
Website: http://www.envalert.org
Email: ed@envalert.org or joszake@gmail.com

C/o PROLINNOVA-Uganda Secretariat
Introduction

- Climate change and variability impacts greatly affects farmer livelihoods.

- Farmer innovations in agriculture and natural resources management can contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation.

- There are various farmer innovations that have been identified and tested.

- These are developed as part of the CLIC-SR project implemented in Nakasongola District (in Nakitooma and Nabiswera Sub counties) and Moyo District (in Aliba and Metu Sub counties) in Uganda by KULIKA-Uganda and Environmental Alert
Objectives of the project.

The project’s objectives among others is to, ‘Strengthen the resilience to change of smallholder communities, especially the women, by improving their innovative capacity and thus their livelihood security through Participatory Innovation Development.’
Farmer Innovations for Climate Change Adaptation
The Transitional bee hive

*Made using bamboo, timber, old iron sheets, cow dung and nails.

*Tested and compared with convectional hives (e.g. KTB, traditional types...).

*Initial results indicate that it has better colonization compared to other types of hives. It requires 2-3 weeks to colonize, while KTB requires 2-3 months.

*It's affordable to farmers and has high potential for replicability. Thus, 1 transitional hive costs 60,000/= Uganda shillings equivalent to 18 USD while 1 KTB costs 200,000/= Uganda shillings equivalent to 60 USD.
Economic water use in the tree nursery bed

It difficult to manage a tree nursery bed in a location with water scarcity like Nakansongola district

*Raising seedlings in sunken nursery bed, with the soil mixed with composed manure. But lined with a polythene sheeting to economize water lose through leaching.

*This saves on water utilization, thus seedlings are watered 2 times a week for the first month and thereafter required watering once every week.

*The seedlings were growing faster and 83% of the seedlings survive till transplanting.

*Seedlings can survive for at-most 2 weeks without water.
Bulking of ghee by a pastoral women's group for income generation

*These are wives of pastoral, who do not own cattle. But receive a share of 2 litres of milks every day. They bulk (i.e. about 50 liters daily) it as a group for production of ghee.

*They market the ghee as a group, thus negotiating better prices and earn more income

*They add value to milk, which would have got spoilt due to immediate market, into a product which has longer shelf life (i.e. ghee).

*This has improved household incomes for these women and their families.

NB: The comprises of 25 members (i.e. 23 women and 2 men)
Moving forward

- Farmer Innovation should be promoted/supported (small funds, technical backstopping…).

- More innovations should be identified and documented.

- Policy engagement through dialogues with policy and decision makers at different levels should be conducted to influence decisions for promoting local innovations.

- More targeted awareness should be created about the farmer innovations and their contributions to climate change adaptation.
Thank you for listening!!

Asante sana!!