INCENTIVES FOR ADVANCING SUSTAINABLE BIOMASS ENERGY

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During the National dissemination and policy engagement workshop on identification of practical incentives for advancing sustainable Biomass Energy Production within Central Forest Reserves and Forest Landsapes in Uganda.

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Benefit from incentives for investment in biomass energy production

- In the recent past, as a tree planter, I realized there was need to invest in biomass
- It was first as a way of diversifying the market for the wood lot.
- Many of the tree farmers in their Management plan indicate earnings to be coming from Timber, Poles and round wood.
- This seemed to flood the market thus reducing the demand as many people had ventured into tree growing
- I also ventured into resin tapping and sell to expand the market for my trees which didn't work

Benefits and incentives

- I have been a beneficiary of SPGS for some time now.
- The incentive here was the support for plantation maintenance.
- In the year 2015 Under the GCCA project, I also benefited as a biomass tree planter.
- With support from FAO under the GCCA project I planted 5ha Eucalyptus and 5 Grevelia sp intended for biomass



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- It was incentivized by a retort Kiln which was built in the plantation.
- At this point I realized it was an opportune moment to salvage from my thinning as well
- Instead of thinning to waste, it was now thinning to biomass utilization
- I have since then produced about 1000 bags of charcoal out of my thinning which I believe if all did the same would reduce the burden on the natural forests and wood lands with regard to energy demands

Cont.

- In the year 2016, I was introduced to the green charcoal project by the District Local government.
- The project aimed at reducing barriers to sustainable charcoal production
- Under this project I was give 4 casamance Kilns to boost my efforts in efficient conversion methods
- In the subsequent year, the same project constructed a retort Kiln as well.
- My farm was also a demonstration for many
- I have a store for charcoal and a pile for firewood

Experiences and /lessons learnt

- The market impact a lot on options for biomass investments
- Biomass technologies are not common
- Transport impacts on the willingness and market prices for Biomass
- Commercial forestry can not be delinked from Biomass production

Key emerging issues and recommendation to advance private sector investment in the biomass production and utilization

- NFA should in the allocations consider allocation of land for specifically biomass production
- Ministry of water and Environment should advance projects for biomass in schools, Churches and hospitals because they have land and are main consumers
- Due to population explosion there is need to advance technologies to produce more in a small area since land is inelastic

Thank you