Agriculture Research in Rwanda

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Country Science in Agriculture Profile - Rwanda

- Science in Agriculture Institutions
  - Rwanda Agriculture Board
  - University of Rwanda
    - CAVM
    - CST
  - University of Agriculture and Technology of Kibungo (UNATEK)
- Current Science in Agriculture Capacity
  - Human Resource Capacity
    - 103 scientists at RAB (19 PhD holders, the rest MSc holders)
    - 199 academic and research staff at UR (20% PhD holders)

Country Science in Agriculture Profile - Rwanda

- Infrastructural Capacity
  - Laboratories
    - RAB (Rubona, Rubilizi, Musanze)
    - UR (Huye, Busogo, Nyagatare)
  - Experimental fields – on station – 15 stations in the country (RAB)
  - Ongoing rehabilitation of research stations, including installation of irrigation facilities
- Financial Capacity
  - GoR: this Fiscal Year, about 1.5 billion Frw. Next Fiscal Year, about 3.5 billion
  - Externally Funded: about 1 billion, consisting of numerous small projects (about 50 small projects/subprojects)

National Agriculture and Food Security Priorities - Rwanda

- National Agriculture and Food Security: Key Challenges
  - Crop pests and diseases (e.g. Cassava Brown Streak Disease, Banana xanthomonas wilt, Armyworm, etc)
  - Week seed systems, resulting in seed importation, with associated risks (diseases introduction, delayed planting, seed viability, poor adaptability, etc)
  - Limited raw material to supply growing agroindustry, e.g.: soybean, cassava, maize factories, fruit processing
  - Drought – erratic and short rains, especially in the eastern and southern Rwanda
- National Agriculture and Food Security Priorities – Key Interventions (current)
  - Crop Intensification Program – averagely, Frw 10 billion per year
    - Distribution of seeds and fertilizers
    - Land use consolidation
    - Proximity extension services
    - Postharvest handling and storage

National Agriculture and Food Security Priorities - Rwanda

- Research for Development of varieties and seed systems –averagely, Frw 1 billion per year, Government funded
- Fiscal Year 2018-2019: Government funded research project on soil health and climate resilience –Frw 6 billion
- Livestock Intensification Program – averagely, 7 billion per year, Government funded
  - Animal Nutrition
  - Animal Improvement
  - Animal Health
- One cow per poor family and one cup of milk per child
- Dairy Development Project - USD 65 million (IFAD support)

National Agriculture and Food Security Priorities - Rwanda

- Land husbandry, irrigation and mechanization projects – averagely Frw 10 billion every year
- Partnerships to leverage S3A at national level
  - The Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
  - National Commission on Science and Technology: National Research and Innovation Fund
  - National research collaboration: RAB, UR UNATEK, etc, e.g. through joint research projects
  - CG Centers operating in Rwanda, e.g. IITA, CIP, CIAT, Harvest Plus
  - Increasing private sector involvement to support research e.g. -Private Sector Driven Agricultural Growth (PSDAG) project
  - Development partners: IFAD, USAID, Netherlands Kingdom, KOICA, JICA, etc

Key Expected National targets/outcomes for S3A

- Significant contribution towards attainment of 8.5% annual agriculture growth (Vision 2020, EDPRS, SPAT)
- Significant contribution to poverty reduction
  - Vision 2020 Target: below 20% poverty, from 44.1% in 2011
- Contributions of agriculture and agroindustry to national economy– expected significant contribution towards attainment of national targets:
  - 11% annual economic growth
  - 28% export growth, annually

Key stakeholders, agric/science initiatives, Instructional framework to drive the S3A at national level

- Key stakeholders
    - National Commission on Science and Technology
    - Knowledge institutions: RAB, UR, UNATEK, CG Centers
    - Extension system: Twigire Muhizi – farmer to farmer learning
    - Farmers, Farmers' organizations, e.g. Imbaraga
    - Finance institutions: BRD, Banque Populaire, SACCOs
- S3A Advocacy (Communications) at national level
    - National Commission on Science and Technology support
    - Organization of consultative workshops
        - Soon scheduled workshop on Biotechnology & Biosafety (spearhead by RAB, UR, MINEDUC, REMA, NCST, CIP)

Key stakeholders, agric/science initiatives, Instructional framework to drive the S3A at national level

- National Consultation - Possible Date
  - May 2017: Biotechnology & Biosafety Workshop, directly linked to the S3A
- Further support from ASARECA/FARA
  - Advocacy
  - M&E
  - Contribution to facilitating consultative workshops
- Date to submit the Action-Plan Template
  - By End of May 2017

Thank you for your attention