Agriculture Research in Rwanda

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Kigali, 21 April 2017
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)
  - Weak 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)
• 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