

IFA INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP on Effective Last-Mile Delivery


10-12 February 2010, New Delhi, India

INITIATIVES ON AGRICULTURAL KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

Rebbie HARAWA

AGRA, Kenya



	<h2>Initiatives on agricultural knowledge transfer</h2>
	<p>Rebbie Harawa, PhD Program Officer, Soil Health Program</p> <p>IFA International Workshop on Effective Last-Mile, February 10-12, 2010, New Delhi, India</p>

	
	<p>AGRA is working to achieve a uniquely African Green Revolution</p> <p>Vision: A food secure and prosperous Africa achieved through rapid, sustainable agricultural growth based on smallholder farmers who produce staple food.</p> <p>Mission: To trigger a uniquely African Green Revolution that transforms agriculture into a highly productive, efficient, competitive and sustainable system to assure food security and lift millions out of poverty.</p>

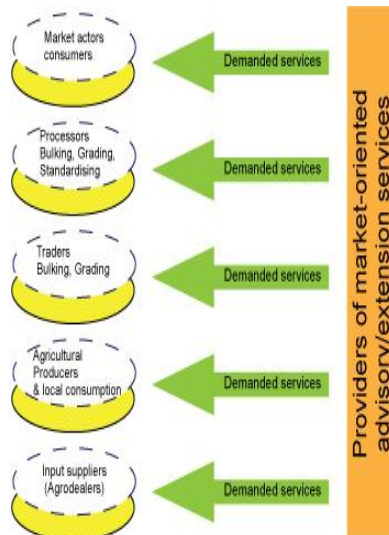
AGRA COUNTRIES

East Africa	Southern Africa	West Africa
Ethiopia Kenya Rwanda Uganda Tanzania	Malawi Mozambique Zambia	Burkina Faso Ghana Mali Niger Nigeria

A value chain approach to extension

- All of AGRA's current Programs (Seed Program, Soil Health Program, and Markets Access Program) have been (or are being) designed within a value chain context with "demand" forming the basis of intervention of the different programs.

Growth through the provision of extension services along the whole value chain



Source: (Adapted from Neuchatel Initiative, 2008)

A 'plurastic' extension approach

- Engaging various stakeholders which include the public sector extension, research, private corporate sector, farmers' organizations, co-operatives, NGO's, para professionals, small agri-business, self-help groups, input/agro dealers and suppliers, electronic and print media and information technology.
- Extension strategies with focus on farmer groups, farmer organizations and women's organizations

Capacity building of the extension systems

- Support to extension training with focus on smallholder farmers and participatory methods that are linked to improved technologies such as integrated soil fertility management (ISFM) -AGRA will train 3,000 extension workers over the next 3 years.
- Demonstration and adaption of ISFM systems to local conditions and farming systems
- Capacity development in terms of strengthening innovation process, building linkages between farmers and key players (eg. agro-dealers), nurturing young interest to fill gaps formed by rural exodus and aging farmers and to sustain manpower along the agricultural value chain.