



## Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resource Management Collaborative Research Support Program

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### Trip Report: Tanzania 5-9 February 2012

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**Purpose:** To contribute to USAID/CGIAR's Project Implementation Workshop on Sustainable Intensification of Cereal-based Farming Systems in East and Southern Africa

**Sites Visited:** White Sands Hotel, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

#### **Description of Activities**

We participated in plenary and breakout sessions learning about the IITA-led project objectives and implementation strategy. The research program will address two distinct production systems: the maize-legume-livestock integrated farming systems of eastern and southern Africa, and the rice-based inland valley systems in the national rice basket of Tanzania. Multiple partners, including the national programs of Tanzania, will be involved in project implementation. The maize-legume work will build on that initiated by CIMMYT and ICRISAT through the Sustainable Intensification of Maize-Legume Cropping systems of Food Security in Eastern and Southern Africa (SIMLESA) focusing on Tanzania, Malawi and Mozambique. The rice production work will focus on systems in northwest Tanzania in the area between Mwanza and Shinyanga led by AVRDC. Each of these projects will be developed on the basis of coordinated efforts involving multiple donors, regional organizations, partner universities, the private sector, national and international research institutes and non-governmental organizations.

We provided our insights and shared experiences from similar work that SANREM is conducting under LTRA-10's project, Conservation Agriculture for Smallholder Farms in Uganda and Kenya. While there is considerable spillover potential between the two projects, unfortunately no direct linkages could be made with activities in Uganda and Kenya. The large number of partners involved and narrowed target zone precludes tangible linkages at this stage of project development. Nevertheless, significant contacts have been established with a wide range of

potential future partners and colleagues working in the same scientific and development domains.

The first day of the workshop focused on getting to know one another and listening to the presentations on the concept notes, monitoring and evaluation plans, USAID's Feed the Future research strategy, linkages with CAADP and other international partners. These presentations clearly outlined synergies and alignment of the project activities with the R4D initiatives. The second through fourth days of the workshop involved small working group sessions and plenary restitutions which addressed various aspects of research design, implementation and priority setting.

The program has significant FtF targets to be achieved. These include:

- 100% increase in overall system productivity in target areas
- Reduce farmers risks from seasonal production variability by 50%
- 75% reduction in harvest and post-harvest losses
- 50% value addition to the harvest
- Lifting x thousand people out of poverty
- Eliminate the hungry season in target populations

These targets were modified somewhat over the course of the workshop to be more consistent with what could be accomplished through research toward achieving these goals. Potential early win projects were also identified in order to have some successes to report by the end of the first fiscal year (September 2012). Monitoring and Evaluation will be led by IFPRI with a significant GIS component to track successes by site and relate them to recommendation domains within the region.

### **Suggestions and Recommendations**

We will keep in touch with colleagues involved with or supporting this project as it moves forward to assure that all synergies and spillover possibilities are taken into account in our work in the region.

**List of Contacts Made:**

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