Upscaling Climate Smart Agriculture and Post Harvest Loss Assessment in Malawi

ACCRA ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

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INTRODUCTION

ADVERSE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

➤ A lot of run-off
  ➤ Soil and Nutrient Erosion
  ➤ Accumulation of Water in low lying areas e.g. The Shire Valley
  ➤ This has lead frequent flooding hence crop & livestock loss

➤ ON POST HARVEST
  ➤ Farmers loose grain and products, they already harvest
  ➤ Silent catalyst of hanger in households
ADVANCES ON CSA & PHLA

ON CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE

- Policy developed and it is being implemented
- Designated LRCD that advocates Climate Smart Practices
- Government running annual campaigns on use of Manure and CA
- Programs under CCARDESA such has APPSA release technologies that are Climate Smart including:
  - CA
  - Re-use of Waste Water in Rice production (Drainage water re-use)
  - Drought Tolerant Maize
  - Seven different types manure have been generated for crop production
ON POST HARVEST

- Structured Laboratory studied are being conducted to assess the damages and control procedures.
- There is advocacy in integrated pest and disease control e.g. use of Aflasafe for g/nuts.
- Indigenous Knowledge System and practices are being embraced and promoted: E.g. Use of common herbs to control pest and diseases.
Up Scaling CSA

- Popularising CSA Framework among all stakeholder
- Capacity building on CSA practices and implementation
  - Training, filed demonstrations, field days, Farmer Field School
- Need for more resources
  - Efforts are being done by projects e.g. Sustainable Agricultural Productivity Programme (SAPP), ASWAp – SP, Malawi Drought Resilience Project (MDRP)
- Research
  - Technologies that have been released need to be popularised e.g. varieties, water saving technologies
- Improved coordination in the implementation of CSA
The PHL figures available are only on maize.

Losses reported are mainly only on storage rather than the whole PHL chain.

LGB and MW are major storage pests of maize.

Contributing towards a 15.7% (PHL Report 2011).

Though over 40% of farmers treat maize with either synthetic or liquid formulated insecticides.

Currently, some studies are focusing on other crop e.g. Legume crops.

Methodologies need to be looked into.
Post harvest losses assessments

- Capacity building to the farming clientele on good technologies for post harvest losses
- These technologies include use of
  - PICs bag,
  - Release of biological predators such as TN that feeds on LGB eggs
  - Use of Silos and Containers
  - In the case of beans, use and promotion of bean varieties tolerant to bean Bruchid (Bean Weevil)
- Structured field assessments on crop losses
Post harvest losses assessments cont...

- Aggregation and Sharing of data and results on crop losses have not been thorough.
- Crop loss assessments leave out other stages along the chain:
  - Appropriate assessment need to consider losses on:
    - Transportation/Threshing/Winnowing/Pest Damage/Rotting
  - A special initiative has to be put in place to pool results of losses of different crops: CGIARs/DARS/Crops Dept/LRCD
- Field loss assessments must be linked with laboratory crop loss assessments.
THANKS FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION