



AFRICAN FORUM FOR AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY SERVICES



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A SIDE EVENT ON POST-HARVEST MANAGEMENT DURING THE 7th GFRAS ANNUAL MEETING,

Promotion of Post-Harvest Management through organization of agricultural shows and seed fairs

Aimé KAZIKA, writer proposals and fundraising,
Humana People to People Congo,
3RD OCTOBER, 2016, LIMBE, CAMEROON

What are agricultural shows and seed fairs?

- ❑ In many developing countries, agricultural fairs including seed fairs have been traditionally a center of the informal system of local markets, which offer enormous opportunities to many agricultural trades.
- ❑ In recent years, seed fairs and agricultural shows are increasingly structured and thus become the overall expression of the rural world.
- ❑ They have become both an opportunity and a place to meet and exchange ideas, knowledge and know-how for the rural populations of the region, particularly in the fields of agriculture, environmental management, biodiversity and climate change.

□ Kind of fairs seed and agricultural show are used:

1. Open day with fairs of seeds...



2. Fairs seeds of maize



3. Agricultural show, Equateur province, in DRC



How are they organised in a way that gives post-harvest management prominence?

- ❑ Generally, the sustainable management of agriculture is focused on the crop agricultural, but, the state of post-harvest management is very low due to the weakness of the agricultural sector in the DRC, with a significant loss of old varieties that have disappeared in areas.
- ❑ Through these experiences of seed fairs and organization of agricultural, the small farmers are emphasized to have opportunities to bring their knowledge
- ❑ Thus, the seed fairs and agricultural shows are quite suitable for raising awareness of the importance of protection of seeds, to contribute to the fight against food insecurity, the fight against poverty and the preservation of biodiversity

What are the experiences and insights so far of your organisation (Humana People to People Congo) in using agricultural shows and seed fares to promote PHM

- ❑ Humana People to People Congo, is one of Congolese NGO which helps small farmers to grow their incomes through crop and breeding.
- ❑ HPP-Congo works with farmers in a famous program called, « Farmers Club » in agriculture sector. So, the population still practices traditional agriculture due to lack knowledge and means.
- ❑ HPP-Congo implemented a Farmers' programme in 6 provinces of DRC for a period of 7 years, it reach now a days, 26,000 farmers.

- ❑ The farmers are divided in 4 Units of 250 farmers each. A unit/project is made of 5 clubs with 50 farmers per club. Each unit is led by a farmer's instructor or project leader. Each club will elect among its members a committee of 5 literate members to organize and coordinate the activities of the club.

- ❑ In the project, many activities are organized by the farmers clubs members with the farmer's instructor or project leader and committee members as training, learnt new agriculture techniques, diversify and increase their production of cassava, maize, beans, groundnut.

- ❑ The farmers organize Open days and seeds fairs , its a day the farmers had to tell about what the farmers can produce, and their experiences from Farmers' clubs to others on conservation and management of Post-Harvest Management.

What is the potential of scaling out agricultural shows beyond the project?

- ❑ Implication of small farmers is a way of to growp up agriculture sector and improve incomes.
- ❑ Thus, beyond the project, seed fairs and agricultural shows are increasingly structured and become the overall expression of the rural world.
- ❑ Promotion of agricultural shows can be used by famers by self and the don't necessity much money and few organization.

How can they be financed in a sustainable way (without support through the project)

- ❑ The first step is to identify all the important social actors who can participate in the process of Promotion of Post-Harvest Management; these are the key networks from the formal sector (breeders, seed companies and policy makers).
- ❑ The second step is informal local network, with small farmers, in the process of Promotion of Post-Harvest Management.
- ❑ Finally, direct communication and exchange between the two systems to build local capacities, for sustainable knowledge exchange includes scientists, technicians and politicians will bring their inputs to the network of scientific and empirical knowledge

Fairs of seeds (fruit and tree) in Popokabaka,
Bandundu province, at 27-30, April 2011.



My participation at the agricultural show and seeds fair, at Kinshasa, 21-25, September 2016



Conclusion: Key of the presentation

- ❑ Reduction of Post-Harvest Losses (PHL) along food chains can provide a cost-effective means of promoting food and nutrition security.
- ❑ Seed fairs and agricultural shows are increasingly structured and thus become the overall expression of the rural world.
- ❑ Agricultural fairs including seed fairs have been traditionally a center of the informal system of local markets, which offer enormous opportunities to many agricultural trades.
- ❑ Farmers Club is one of agriculture programme with promotes Post-Harvest Management through organization of agricultural shows and seed fairs.

**Thanks for your
attention!**

