

ATSAF - CGIAR++ Junior Scientists Program

Final Report

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Supervisor at University: Dr. Heinz-Peter Wolf

International Agricultural Research Center: International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)

Country: Kenya

Supervisor at IARC: Dr. Christopher Ochieng Ojiewo

Start and end date of stay at IARC: 07 Apr – 20 Sept 2023

Title: Diagnosis of critical bottlenecks of varietal adoption, scaling up and turnover of selected dryland cereals and legumes

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INTRODUCTION.

I am very much pleased and I take this humble opportunity to express my gratitude to ATSAF for granting me an opportunity to carry out my research with an international agricultural research institute.

The program has enabled me to connect and interact with top notch scientist and state of the art facilities at international maize and wheat improvement centre (CIMMYT), a prerequisite for professional development.

The opportunity also enabled me to be a member of CIMMYT academy something that has added value to my profile, having been awarded with certificate of completion from the academy.

The research grants from ATSAF made it possible to collect sufficient data for my Master thesis and I am sincerely grateful for the support.

CIMMYT HOST DEPARTMENT.

At CIMMYT I was hosted by Partnerships & Seed Systems Lead, Dr. Christopher Ojiewo who also doubles as my first supervisor and second supervisor Dr. Geoffery who is in charge of Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Specialist at CIMMYT regional office in Nairobi- Kenya. I must admit that the team was friendly and was ready to assist whenever there was need.

Through the support I was able to carry out my research successfully. Through the team, I also learnt some econometric models using STATA as a statistical software for data analysis.



DATA COLLECTION.

METHODOLOGY

I was able to collect data from 100 households using questionnaire as the primary data collection tool. The data was collected across all the six wards of Gem SubCounty.

Excel and stata were the main statistical tool that was used for data analysis.

The analysis included.

1. Gross Margin analysis of the Sorghum
2. Varietal adoption, turnover and scaling up of IESV sorghum variety.
4. Determinants of Market participation among sorghum farmers in Gem Sub County.

EVALUATION OF THE INTERNSHIP

Success.

I was able to complete my internship and collect sufficient data for my master thesis. The internship also gave me an opportunity to interact with international research organization and learnt more from an international perspective. I also learnt how to work with statistical softwares for data analysis particularly Stata.

Challenges

1.Transport

Due to high cost of fuel prices, and the fact that I was relying on public transport for movement, I found it considerably costly to move around the research area.

2.Accommodation

Accommodation was also another main issue. Since the CIMMYT regional offices is located at the capital of Kenya (Nairobi), Finding accommodation was not an easy task.

Opportunities

1. Social Network

Through the interaction with the CIMMYT staff and lead farmers in the research area. I managed to build a good network.

2. Member of CIMMYT Academy

I was also enrolled in the CIMMYT Academy and awarded with the Certificate of completion.

Conclusion

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to ATSAF for making my research and internship possible and successful through the research grants. I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to CIMMYT for hosting me and providing the technical support necessary for the research.

I also extend my gratitude to my University Weihenstephan Triesdorf and my Supervisor Prof Heinz Peter for their immense support.

APPENDIX



1. After first interview with a lead farmer in North Gem



2. Traversing the interior part of the Village to interview the farmers in West Gem. The background shows the sorghum crops at the weeding stage and banana plants.



3. Interviewing a Sorghum farmer at his home residence in Central Gem.



4. Trekking down the hilly terrain to reach more farmers in the interior part of South Gem.



5. Visited one of the farmers farm in East Gem who had a mixed farming. The background shows kales, maize and sorghum plants.



6. winding up with a team of enumerators from Ministry of Agriculture (Gem Sub County) in Yalla ward, Gem.