



AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY ADOPTION AND RELATED POLICY ISSUES IN GHANA

Presentation by

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AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY ADOPTION AND RELATED POLICY ISSUES IN GHANA

Outline

- National Agricultural Research System
- Supporting policies for agricultural research
- Constraints to the adoption of research results
- Current Strategies addressing these constraints
- Policy issues



National Agricultural Research System

NARS in Ghana

- ❑ 9 out of the 13 CSIR institutes (e.g. CRI, SARI, OPRI, FRI, ARI)
- ❑ Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana
- ❑ BNARI of the GAEC
- ❑ 5 Public Universities (e.g. University of Ghana, KNUST)
- ❑ 6 Agricultural Colleges
- ❑ MOFA Technical Directorates
- ❑ NGOs, Private Sector
- ❑ Some Laboratories

Attempts to Develop A National Agricultural Research Policy

- ❑ **CSIR (Advises Govt on S&T policy)**
- ❑ **Planning and Analysis Group** (no report produced)
- ❑ **Technical Committee on Agric., Forestry & Fisheries** (Report not focused on Agric. Research Policy)
- ❑ **NARP** (formed NARC to formulate policy & prioritise research activities)
- ❑ **NARP produced NARSP (1999-2003)**



Research Focus for NARS

- ❑ Improved planting material
- ❑ Improved agronomic practices
- ❑ Post-harvest technologies
- ❑ Animal, fisheries & aquaculture research

Policies Supporting Agricultural Research

- ❑ 2 of the 5 pillars of the framework of the CAADP of NEPAD
- ❑ GPRS II
- ❑ National Trade Policy (NTP)
- ❑ National Science and Technology Policy
- ❑ FASDEP

Constraints to the adoption of agricultural research results

- ❖ **Farmer Characteristics** (e.g., gender, high illiteracy, old age)
- ❖ **Institutional Factors** (e.g., low access to credit, inputs, information, markets, post harvest facilities, funding for tech. development, transfer and promotion, no incentives, weak collaboration)
- ❖ **Technological Factors** (e.g., inappropriate technologies, expensive and labour-intensive)

Constraints to the adoption of agricultural research results (cont)

Table 1 Reasons why some users did not adopt some technologies

Technology	Reason for non-adoption
Processing bambara groundnuts and rice, improved storage structures, solar dryers	Capital intensive
Chorkor smoker (low catches of fish), sweet potato and cassava flour (no markets)	Non-profitable
Making tomato puree, processing cassava flour, processing soy beans, fetching water to raise home gardens.	Too cumbersome and time consuming

Source: Opare-Obisaw and Awumbila (2006)



Strategies Addressing Constraints

Credit

- ❑ Micro-credit And Small-scale Loan Fund (MASLOF)
- ❑ Millennium Challenge Account (MCA)
- ❑ Export Development and Investment Fund (EDIF)
- ❑ Inventory Credit schemes (Technoserve, ADB)

Extension

- ❑ Participatory Technology Development and Extension (PTD&E) and Farmer Field Schools project
- ❑ Research-Extension-Linkage Committees (RELCs)
- ❑ AgSSIP - FBO and Extension Development Funds

Strategies Addressing Constraints (cont)

Marketing

- ❑ Export Marketing and Quality Awareness Project (EMQAP)
- ❑ E-commerce Project
- ❑ Root and Tuber Improvement and Marketing Programme (RTIP II)

Inputs

- ❑ Horticultural Export Improvement Initiative (HEII)
- ❑ NERICA Rice Development Project
- ❑ BioPlantlets Ghana Limited

Strategies Addressing Constraints (cont)

Post harvest Tech.

- ❑ Agricultural Machinery Industrial Service (AMIS) Project
- ❑ Village Infrastructural Project

Old age & illiteracy

- ❑ FCUBE & Youth in Modern Agriculture Programme

Appropriate & marketable technologies

- ❑ CSIR now commercializing research & providing incentives for technology transfer

Other strategies are outlined in the FASDEP, NTP and NS&TP



Policy Issues

- Support local development and promotion of inputs to minimize cost and promote timely delivery.
- promote strong collaboration researchers, policy makers and users of technology
- Emphasize more on demand-driven technologies



Policy Issues Contd

- ❑ Support the continuous training of agricultural researchers to ensure quality research output.
- ❑ Actively promote the utilization and consumption of locally produced agricultural and processed products
- ❑ Facilitate the development of competitive and innovative products



Policy Issues Contd

- Facilitate production of agro-processing equipments and storage facilities.
- Encourage NGOs to play an active role in appropriate technologies transfer.



THANK YOU