



# Africa RISING - Ghana

Sustainable Intensification of Cereal - based Farming System  
in the Sudano - Sahelian Zone in Ghana



## Report of the Africa RISING Ghana Community Analysis Workshop, Tamale, Ghana, 9, 10 and 22 May 2012

**Wednesday, 9 May**

### **1.1. Introduction**

The workshop was opened by Mr. I. Gyamfi (IITA Country Manager). He briefed participants on the objectives of the workshop and the USAID-funded sustainable intensification of cereal-legume farming systems in northern Ghana. He then asked participants to introduce themselves by mentioning their names, the district/region they came from, and the institutions they work with.

### **1.2. Participants**

Thirty-four staff of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA) and the Savanna Agricultural Research Institute (SARI), two consultants (Drs. I. Y. Dugjie and MIA Teli) from Nigeria, the IITA Country Manager and M. M. Dawuda from College of Agriculture Education, University of Education, Winneba, participated (see attached).

### **1.3. Presentations and discussions**

The consultants made power point presentations in turns on Participatory Research and Extension Approach (PREA) and Community Analysis (CA) approaches and their objectives. They explained the principles of CA and the various tools that can be used, namely: Livelihood, Market, and Resource analyses and Problem Census/Prioritization analysis. The pair wise method of problem analysis was explained.

The various topics which were presented were discussed. Questions asked included what facilitators should do in situations where there are no registered Community-based organizations (CBO's) to work with. Dr. Dugjie explained that the facilitator should assist the community members to form one. Mr. Roger suggested that a scoring scale of 1-5 be used instead of the 1-10 for ease of interpretation.

## **Thursday, 10 May**

### **2.1 Presentations**

Dr. Dugjie posed questions to find out if participants could recall the lessons learnt the previous day. He revisited the PREA approach and emphasized that the PREA has been adopted for the project. He also stressed that preparation and submission of reports is key component of the project and participants should take serious note of that. Farmer and Agricultural Extension Agents training would be carried out as part of the programme to improve their knowledge and equip them with improved technologies.

Dr. Teli made a presentation on Resource Analysis, Seasonal Calendar and Institutional Analysis. He emphasized that the facilitators should ensure they conduct SWOT analysis of the farmer-based organizations (FBOs) in the communities. They should also select lead farmers and seed producers for the communities. He explained 'Community Action Plan'.

### **2.2 Simulation of Community Analyses**

The participants were divided into two groups. Each group selected some members who acted as IITA enumerators and the others represented community members. The consultants supervised the simulations and offered guidelines to improve the performance of the roles played by the enumerators. Each of the groups went through the various analyses and discussed their observations. The groups reconvened after three hours of the exercise.

### **2.3 Planning for field data collection and logistical arrangements**

Three regional groups were formed to undertake analysis of 20 communities per region. The regional groups were further divided into two, making a total of six groups. Group leaders were selected and each group provided tentative dates for the field work. Logistical arrangements and allowances for the enumerators were also discussed. Field data collection commenced on Monday 14<sup>th</sup>, May 2012 and end on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2012. The consultants monitored data collection in the various communities. The two-day workshop ended at 17:50 hours on Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2012.

## **Tuesday, 22 May**

### **3.1 Data presentation**

The participants reconvened at the same venue on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2012 for brief discussion of the field experiences and presentation of data collected. They were joined by Dr. Irmgard Hoeschle-Zeledon the Coordinator of Africa RISING Project based in IITA-Ibadan, and Mr. Chris Legg and IFPRI consultant assisting with the characterization of the project sites.

### **3.2 Community Action Plan**

Key constraints affecting crop and livestock production in the 60 communities were identified by participants. Community action plan consisting of farmer and researcher managed trials and demonstrations were designed to address the constraints.