

Rwanda Warehouse Receipt System

Presentation to the Joint Leadership Network
for African Agriculture

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Case Overview

- Video introduction
- The issues
- Project goals
- Project stakeholders
- Innovations
- Challenges & Opportunities
- Key take-aways

The Issues

- Low maize yields = low income & food insecurity
- National priority to increase maize yields (Crop Intensification Program)
- Farmers' need for cash while crops in field empowered traders ("kotsa imyaka")
- Needed intervention to identify constraints and opportunities for increased yields and income in Rwanda's largest district, Nyagatare





Project Goals

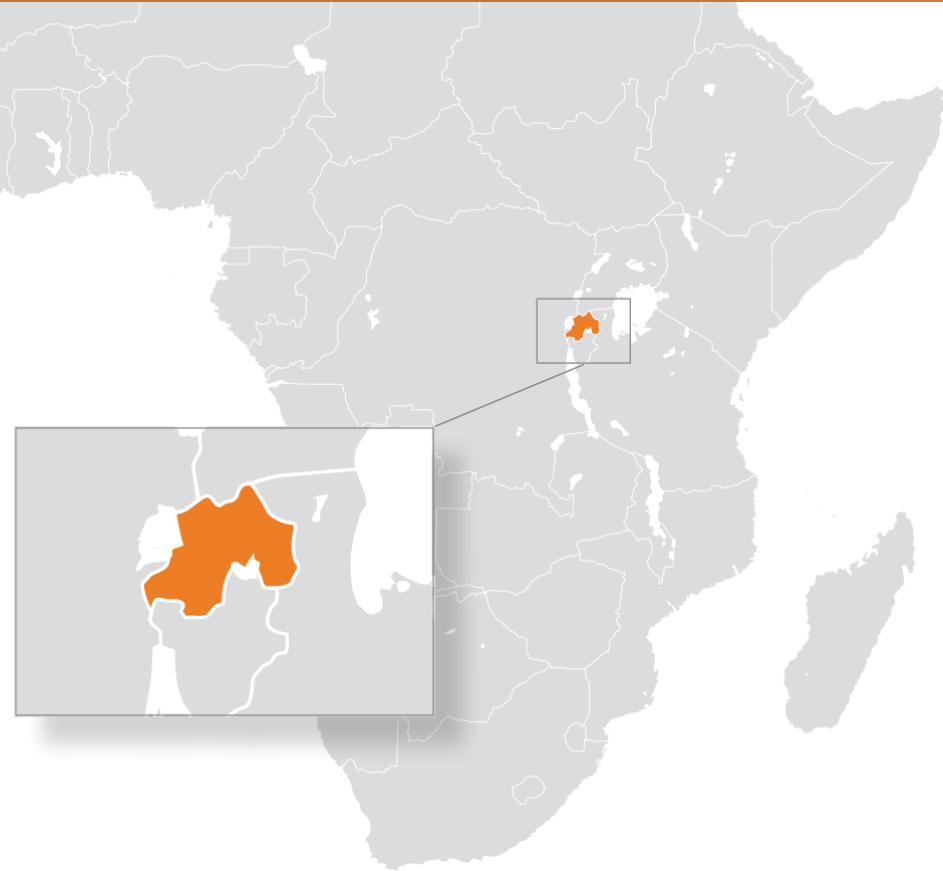
- Improve yields and quality of harvest
- Provide farmers with access to post-harvest storage facilities to reduce losses
- Identify new buyers for large quantities of maize and more lucrative markets
- Facilitate farmers' access to credit

MAIZE NETWORK

RESEARCH INTO USE • RWANDA

Project Stakeholders

- **RIU Rwanda** (Platform facilitator)
- **Government:** Ministry of Agriculture (national & district)
- **Agricultural experts:** Umutara Polytechnic University & Rwanda Development Organization (extension services)
- **Private sector:** traders, input retailers, seed multipliers, banks, micro-finance
- **Civil society:** farmers & cooperative (NYAMIG)
- **NGO:** World Food Program's Purchase for Progress (P4P)



Innovations

- Market-oriented warehouse receipt system
- Create company to promote interests of farmers (NYAMIG)
- Committed buyers
- Roots-up change



CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

- **Scale**
 - Limited participation
 - Financial & environmental sustainability
- **Inclusion**
 - Equitable access for farmers (across size & gender)
- **Replication**
 - Crop Intensification Program important catalyst for change
- **Possibilities for expansion**
 - To Rwanda's Eastern Province (NYAMIG & D-IMF)
 - Nationally (Sarura Commodities, Ltd.)
- **National government support**
 - Organization of 416 sectors by Ministry of Agriculture to visit and replicate cooperatives
- **Sustainability**
 - Project continued after donor exit (through elected committee.)

Key take-aways

Illustrates power of **value chain approaches**:

- to take advantage of boosts in productivity, needed **storage**, quality **standards**, **financing** mechanism, and dedicated **buyer(s)**
- **Innovations** were required across value chain to achieve successes
- **Multi-stakeholder engagement** critical to success

REALIZING THE POTENTIAL OF AFRICAN AGRICULTURE

Innovations in Market Access for Smallholder Farmers



May 2013

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Thank you for your attention

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