



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE AFRICA LEADERSHIP TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM
MAY 2012 ~ MONITORING AND EVALUATION AND EAST AFRICA

Monitoring and Evaluation Snapshot: CAADP is Reaping Results

Africa Lead engages the Champions for Change we train beyond the training itself. One way Africa Lead monitors the impact of the training is to use the Survey Monkey data collection tool to track the Champions' progress on their action plan implementation, networking, and knowledge dissemination effects of the training. Africa Lead sends a survey with structured questions every month by filtering Champions whose training date occurred six months prior. As of May 31, 2012, Africa Lead has sent the survey to 942 Module I participants. Of the 942 Champions, 677 completed the 6-month follow-up survey, which constitutes a 72 percent response rate.

In response to the question whether Champions implemented personal action plans prepared during the Africa Lead training, 68 percent reported positively, while 19 percent are in the process of implementing their action plans. Nine percent and four percent stated that they will not implement their action plans and did not respond the question, respectively.

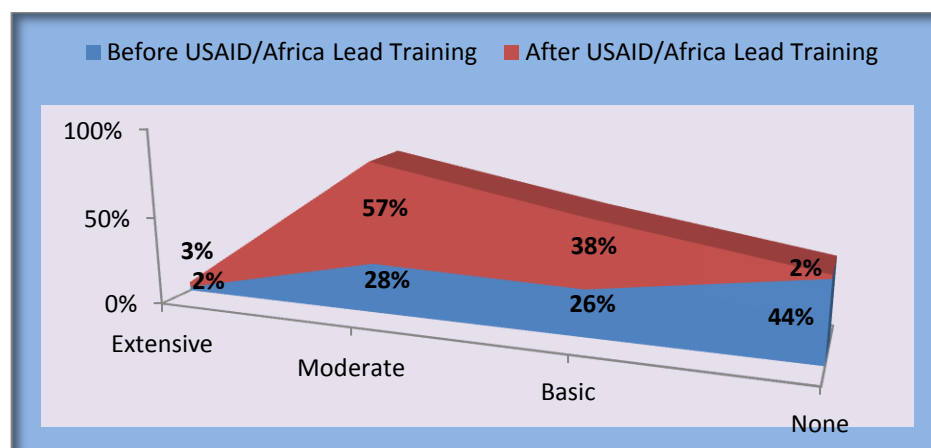
Champions were also asked to evaluate their level of understanding of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) before and after USAID/Africa Lead's training. The survey results indicate that 25%, 19%, 24%, and 2% of the responding Champions

had "none", "basic", "moderate", and "extensive" level of understanding of CAADP prior to Africa Lead's training. After the training, the data indicate that 42 percent of the Champions with no pre-existing knowledge in CAADP moved to the "basic" and "moderate" levels, leaving only two percent at the "none" level. Twelve percent of the respondents increased their knowledge to intermediate level, while 29 percent increased their CAADP understanding to "moderate" level. The graph below illustrates a significant growth in knowledge gains in CAADP after the training.

Champions also transferred knowledge gains to wider audiences including colleagues, stakeholders, farmers, and community leaders using cascaded trainings. About 45 percent of the Champions responded "yes" to the question "Have you given any

training based on Africa Lead's training?"

Networking is crucial for information exchange and innovation, thus Africa Lead seeks to understand the extent to which the training fosters networking. In response to the question whether participants would like to interact with Champions they met in their respective trainings, 77 percent reported that they would like to stay in touch with Champions met at the training. The 23 percent who expressed reticence blamed it on their lack of networking tools such as internet. Africa Lead is exploring alternative methods to address variable access to the Internet through SMS text messaging and more conventional phone and written communication in its Lessons Learned data collection. ■



At this moment, to what extent do you have an understanding of the CAADP?

Local Innovation Systems Improve Nutrition

As Executive Secretary of Women's Network for Rural Development (WNRD), ensuring food security of marginalized people is one of Odette Musengimana's goals. WNRD is a local non-profit organization in Rwanda engaged in supporting people affected by HIV/AIDS and destitute mothers. Ms. Musengimana, following Africa Lead's training, designed a new strategy to enhance food production among rural HIV/AIDS affected people. Ms. Musengimana advised farmers to prepare satellite stores to accumulate waste from goats. The purpose is to collect manure for the production of back-yard vegetable production while improving the nutrition status of HIV/AIDS affected farmers. To this end, Ms. Musengimana formed 60 women

farmers groups affected by HIV/AIDS and provided 50 goats for each group on a rotational credit basis. Ms. Musengimana said that "WNRD under my leadership played a pivotal role to reach over 600 women farmers in the next two years. So far, about 12 groups have practically benefited from the model and able to grow cabbages, tomatoes, onions, peppers, and potatoes. The model also enables growers to reduce medical costs through the consumption of nutritious food particularly for people with HIV/AIDS." Odette Musengimana credits Africa Lead with giving her the confidence and skills to apply effective leadership tools such as "*thinking outside the box*". ■

Visit us on the web at
www.AfricaLeadFTF.org

for the latest news, training descriptions, and our online database of upcoming short courses relevant to African agriculture professionals.

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What is Africa Lead?

A USAID-funded program – and part of the Feed the Future global food security initiative – that builds the capacity of African agriculture professionals to lead change in food security

Africa Lead supports the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) by providing 4 main services to participating countries and regions:

- Developing and delivering **training modules**:

CAADP Champions for Change: a 5 day course about CAADP and leading change, **Module 1**

A second 4 day course, tailored to each country, has been developed to equip CAADP leaders to operationalize investment plans, **Module 2**

- Providing logistical and financial support for other trainings and **innovative learning partnerships** that connect participants with institutional hosts, such as the *International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)*, the *World Food Programme*, and private sector agribusinesses.
- **Assessing capacity needs** of national and regional institutions, CAADP Country Teams, and National Agriculture Investment Plan implementation.
- Developing an **online database** of short courses relevant to African agriculture professionals.

RESULTS TO DATE

- ✓ 1,209 trained CAADP "Champions" from 29 countries (Module 1):
 - 545 in East Africa
 - 375 in West Africa
 - 254 in Southern Africa
- ✓ 155 trained in Module 2
 - 37 (Tanzania USAID/Forward)
 - 159 West Africa (Liberia, and Ghana)
- ✓ 109 people supported to attend various technical trainings
- ✓ 9 professional interns trained in agriculture show management and agribusiness management
- ✓ 11 national non-state actor workshops held to mobilize NGOs and private sector actors to participate in CAADP
- ✓ Facilitation and logistics preparation for various conferences and meetings
- ✓ 38 institutional capacity assessments
- ✓ 2 assessments of CAADP Country Team processes
- ✓ A short course database featuring over 480 upcoming offerings relevant to African agriculture professionals!