

KENYA FAP recommendations

A total of 7 key recommendations to address deficiencies and/or opportunities in the FAP area of Kenya's seed system have been developed by the assessment team and vetted with stakeholders. The recommendations are roughly, but not strictly, listed in order of importance or recommended sequencing.

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| Recommendation #1: Studies on extension models |
| Description |
| Support studies of functional private & public extension models in the world and share findings with stakeholders and government through convenings. This study findings may convince the government to increase public extension financial resources and institutional support to both public and private sector extension agents to improve quality, frequency, and outreach of agricultural extension services in more effective and efficient ways to reach all farmer households. These studies can also include a focus on gender and youth inclusivity in extension services. |
| Estimated cost and/or key determinants of costs |
| The associated costs include hiring an expert to carry out studies on public & private extension models that are functional, and farmers are benefiting from them in the world. |
| Recommendation #2: Training and capacity building |
| Description |
| Provide regular training to public and private extension officers and subject matter specialist (SMS) through programs such as in-service training programs, as well as providing widely and freely available training and support materials both physical and online. |
| Estimated cost and/or key determinants of costs |
| The associated costs include: 1) hiring an expert to carry out the training, 2) bringing together public and private extension agents in one location and 3) developing training materials |
| Recommendation #3: Knowledge management |
| Description |
| Establish an online resource database of all relevant extension and agricultural training materials that can easily be accessed by both farmers and extension workers that include lessons on agronomics and cultivation (soil health, seed choice, soil and seed match, agronomic practices such as fertilizer application and spraying) as well as harvesting, post-harvest handling and processing, and marketing. |
| Estimated cost and/or key determinants of costs |
| Costs of developing an online extension resource database including yearly hosting cost and maintenance |
| Recommendation #4: Advocacy |
| Description |
| Strengthen Kenya National Farmers' Federation (KENAFF) and county farmer associations to have a voice for advocating with government on extension issues |
| Estimated cost and/or key determinants of costs |
| The associated costs include: 1) convening meetings, 2) gathering and developing evidence and 3) developing training materials |

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| Recommendation #5: Private sector inclusivity |
| Description |
| Support strong partnerships between the national/regional government, private extension service providers (e.g., village-based agents, seed company extension workers) and farmers in designing extension plans and programs |
| Estimated cost and/or key determinants of costs |
| Cost of designing extension plans and strategies |

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| Recommendation #6: Feedback mechanisms |
| Description |
| Develop a two-way feedback mechanism between farmers and research institutions such as KALRO and universities where farmers can give their feedback on variety development. |
| Estimated cost and/or key determinants of costs |
| Cost of developing a two-way technological feedback mechanism and cost of promoting of the technology via radio campaign |
| Additional comments, if needed |
| This recommendation may also be considered under the thematic area on Quality Assurance |

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| Recommendation #7: Farmer outreach communication |
| Description |
| Identify, support and scale functional farmer outreach communication channels such as MbeguChoice, Shamba Shapeup radio program so that they can reach a lot more farmers |
| Estimated cost and/or key determinants of costs |
| The associated costs include: 1) radio campaigns to popularize identified farmer outreach channels, 2) platform maintenance and hosting and 3) studies to determine the usage of these channels by farmers |