

**Water, Land, Ecosystems and Trade in
Staples (WaLETS):** *using regional trade in
staples for equitable food and nutrition security and
ecosystem services in the EAC*

Proceedings of the Stakeholder Meetings

Silver Spring Hotel, Kampala, Uganda

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Prepared by



regional solutions to local problems

Acronyms

AEZ	Agro Ecological Zone
C	Carbon
DAP	Diammonium Phosphate
EAC	East African Community
ESM	Eco System Management
FSIs	Farmers Support Institutions
IFDC	International Fertilizer Development Centre
GIS	Geographic Information System
KT	Kilimo Trust
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
MTTI	Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Industry
NARO	National Agricultural Research Organization
NaCRRI	National Crop Resource Research Institute
NEMA	National Environment Management Authority
NGOs	Non-Governmental organizations
PFCC-U	Parliamentary Forum on climate change-Uganda
P	Phosphorous
SEATINI	Southern and Eastern African Trade, information and Negotiations Institute
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
WaLETS	Water, Lands, Ecosystem and Trade in Staples

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1. Introduction

- 1) WaLETS is a two-year project that started in January 2015 and is designed to deliver three key research outputs:
 - a. **Gaps in public policy and institutional frameworks, and public and private investment strategies and plans in the EAC with respect to:**
 - i) balancing attention between food and other ecosystem services (especially, water flow out of land used for production of staples, erosion prevention and enhancement of soil fertility, carbon sequestration);
 - ii) enhancing involvement of women and youth in policy development and equitable access to benefits in the production and trading in food staples;
 - iii) enhancing food and nutrition security through trade between major agro-ecosystems at regional scale rather than through national and/or community self-sufficiency.
 - b. **GIS database and maps on:**
 - i) agro-ecosystem suitability and extent of differences in resource endowment and use for production of staple foods and other ecosystem services; and
 - ii) the optimal trade-supporting infrastructure required to support regional trade in staple foods, across different agro-ecosystems.
 - c. **Scenario analysis results and recommendations with respect to:**
 - i) long-term benefits, risks and trade-offs; and
 - ii) a win-win value proposition for all stakeholders to “crowd-in” the right/correct strategies and investments of governments; development funders and the private sector - in support of more trade-based approach for sustainable intensification in the production of staples.
- 2) The purpose of the stakeholder workshop was to present WaLETS project findings to the next users in order to solicit their views on the evidence generated and establish how it can be used to increase knowledge, change attitudes and practices in relation to food trade and sustainable use of the ecosystem so as to increase benefits to different gender groups as well as enhance food and nutrition security.
- 3) The workshop was held at Silver Spring Hotel, Kampala, Uganda on 1st November 2016. This workshop was attended by 28 participants from government institutions, NGOs, private sector, Universities and research institutions, and women & youth organization. (Participant list is on page 16):

- 4) The objectives of the workshops were to:
 - a) Present the evidence generated from the project in the last 18 month:
 - Scenario models
 - GIS database and maps
 - Policy analysis
 - Gender analysis
 - b) Gather the views of the participants on the evidence presented
 - c) Through group discussions with next users, generate ideas on how the evidence can be used/ implemented

- 5) The workshop started at 9.00 a.m. and this report provides the details of the discussions held.

- 6) The program for the workshop is shown below:

Time	Activity
8.00 a.m. - 9.00 a.m.	Participants arrival
9.00 a.m. - 9.05 a.m.	Welcome remarks
9.05 a.m. - 9.25 a.m.	Opening Remarks
9.05 a.m. - 9.25 a.m.	Group photo
9.30 a.m.- 10.30 a.m.	Presentation on WaLETS results
10.30 a.m.- 11.00 a.m.	Tea Break
11.00 a.m. - 12.00 a.m.	Q&A Session
12.00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.	Group discussion on how to take the WaLETS recommendations forward
12.30 p.m. - 1.00 p.m.	Group presentation
1.00 p.m. - 2.00 p.m.	Lunch and closing remarks

2. Questions, Comments, Views from participants after presentation of evidence

Organisation	Comment/ Question/ Views/ Remark	Response
1 MAAIF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How is it possible to undertake the valuation of an ecosystem? It is known that food sellers are already underpaid. Will valuation of ecosystem require policies or just good pricing? 	Yes, it is possible and some organizations, such as Uganda Wildlife Authority have already started attaching a value to ecosystem services. In addition, the environment policy has stipulated strategies to undertake valuation of ecosystem services.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In relation to crop suitability, has climate change been factored in? What are the other criteria used to determine the suitability and non-suitability? 	Yes. In developing the suitability classes for land quality, under each diagnostic factor - factor ratings to some degree considered weather variability.
2 Kulika Uganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What were the specific districts of focus during the suitability analysis? 	<p>The districts targeted were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kisoro and Kabale in the South Montane AEZ Palisa, Tororo, Iganga, Mayuge and Budaka in the Kyoga plain AEZ
3 Technoserve, Uganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why is there no valuation of ecosystem? Is that due to lack of capacity or lack of funding? 	The main issue is lack of skills and capacity of the institutions in charge such as NEMA and Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives but governments in the regions are now aware of the importance of valuing ecosystem resources.

Organisation	Comment/ Question/ Views/ Remark	Response	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is obvious that men are concentrated at the marketing node while women are at production level. There is a need to enhance awareness to both men and women towards the benefits of involving women in marketing and men in production. 	<p>The comments were appreciated and Dr Stella Okello, the gender specialist, added that all those comments were embedded in the WaLETS gender report.</p>
4	Parliamentary forum on climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What were the policies reviewed during the study? 	<p>A list of Uganda policies/ Strategies and Action plans reviewed was displayed.</p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which type of investments are appropriate? Shouldn't irrigation be a priority? 	<p>While irrigation is important, there is need to look at the profitability aspect and whether the crop being irrigated is indeed agro ecologically suitable to the area of production.</p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the issue of involvement of women in ESM, there are environment committees at community level with two thirds of members being females. 	<p>The information is appreciated. However, most of these committees are inactive and poorly facilitated or resourced. Thus, we need to move away from just mentioning the numbers to action.</p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In relation to crop suitability, sometimes government or donors support farmers without considering the crop suitability. Is it possible to know exactly which crops are suitable where and for what 	<p>This research is a pilot study. It never got into specifics of varieties and only considered two agro ecologies using three crops. There is indeed a need to widen the geographical area while increasing the number of crops so as to</p>

Organisation	Comment/ Question/ Views/ Remark	Response
	varieties?	provide suitable alternatives for areas where the crops are suitable or unsuitable.
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What were the indicators used to come up with figures on food security indices? 	More than 40 indicators are used by UNICEF and these were considered as reported by the Global Food Security Indices Reports. Some of the indicators include: food accessibility, food availability etc.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do people continue destroying the environment? 	There are several factors why they do so such as: limited evidence to show the disastrous effects of degradation, weak policies and failure by governments to enforce the stipulated guidelines. In addition, there are hardly any tangible incentives for the resources users to protect the environment.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In relation to crop suitability should we only concentrate on physical suitability or also consider the economic aspects? 	If trade could be fully supported, the economic aspects complement the biophysical suitability well. In Kenya for example, areas of abundance are not able to supply areas of scarcity due to inefficient trading patterns. That is why you find farmers growing maize even in non-suitable areas thereby stressing the environment, while in other regions of Tanzania for example maize in bumper harvest seasons sometimes goes to waste.

Organisation	Comment/ Question/ Views/ Remark	Response
1. National Crop Resources Research Institutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One of the approaches NARO uses in research is developing demand driven varieties. That is the reason why we target breeding rice varieties for cool areas like Kabale as the communities there have requested to support them in rice production. This research in a way contradicts the way we do things. 	<p>I am glad you see the contradiction. You know that the more we manipulate the environment, the more we stress it. NARO can mainstream the WaLETS approach in its research agenda by supporting Kabale to grow crops like Solanum potatoes and climbing beans that are well suited to cool weather and then encourage trading with areas like Eastern Uganda that are agro ecologically suitable for rice production. That will minimize ecosystem degradation while supporting functional trade in staples and ultimately improve food security.</p>
2. Economic Policy Research Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to understand the mismatch in agro ecologies better, what is currently grown in the stated districts? What should be grown (Suitable) compared to the current? 	<p>The project did not undertake a detailed assessment to establish the various crops grown in each agro ecology under study. Nevertheless, the developed maps clearly indicate that Kyoga plains is suitable for maize, rice and beans. On the other hand, the Southern Montane is suitable for climbing beans but not bush beans and rice.</p>
3. College of Agriculture & Environment Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the parameters you used to measure the crop suitability? Why is the suitability going down yet the 	<p>These include: Total rainfall in growing period; Mean temperature in growing period; pH, Topsoil organic C; Topsoil</p>

Organisation	Comment/ Question/ Views/ Remark	Response
	fertilizer use is very low?	<p>available P; Slope angle; and Soil drainage</p> <p>Suitability is not only determined by fertilizer use and soil factors such as pH. As stated above, there are other factors such as temperature, slope angle etc.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What specific recommendations can you give us to move from marginally suitable to highly suitable? Is the use of DAP and other chemicals? 	<p>DAP can contribute to increasing soil acidity overtime provided it is not used judiciously. Practicing agro forestry and using integrated soil fertility management approaches could lessen the stress on ecosystem.</p>
4.	<p>Uganda Development Trust</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The research should have gone further to provide information that farmer can use. It would be better to have weather prediction in order to plan production and trade.
5.	<p>African Women Economic Policy Network</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was shown during the presentation that Rwanda has high rankings in including women in all sectors. How was Rwanda able to handle this so that we can learn from them?
		<p>The recommendations are noted. However, WaLETS was more focused on providing evidence to the next users (like you the participants) who will ultimately support the farmers to integrate ecosystem, trade and gender issues.</p>
		<p>The gender report includes a case study on Rwanda. Mainly, the success came from a deliberate effort by the government to formulate and implement gender responsive policies and strategies that among others promote equal rights to natural resources ownership and usage such as land is owned by both men and</p>

Organisation	Comment/ Question/ Views/ Remark	Response
		women.
6. Young farmer coalition of Uganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further to the issue raised on crop suitability, people are biased by cultural crops. How can we overcome this? 	There is need to provide evidence on benefits of crop suitability and subsequently sensitize the communities on trade-offs between promoting cultural crops like sorghum in Kabale and saving the ecosystem resources.
Other submissions/ contributions		
7. Parliamentary forum on climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a need to distinguish what is necessary and what is economic. Irrigation should be considered as a necessary investment rather than economic investment 	Agreed
8. Uganda Export promotion board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women are facing many challenges when it comes to cross border trade. These include lack of capital and skills. In addition, there is more instability in women groups. For them to succeed there is need of strengthening their capacity. 	Agreed, and in addition, women lack access to information on trade
9. Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new trade policy is under formulation and will cater for all the environment and gender issues. In addition, the Ministry of Trade is helping women in: 	Well noted.

Organisation	Comment/ Question/ Views/ Remark	Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some tax waivers adopted under the EACM protocol. (For instance, goods not exceeding US\$ 2000 are not subject to taxes) • Trade information desks have been introduced at all border points (Busia and Mutukula) • Cross border trade associations of women are being trained on good practices of trade. • According to the new Public Financial Management Act 2015 of the government of Uganda, each budget will have to be gender balanced. 	
10.	SEATINI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women are continuing to smuggle yet some taxes have been waived. The main issue is that the information desks at border points are not efficiently utilized. • Another issue is about seasonal cross border traders. They don't follow developments being made in cross border trading rules and regulations. 	

3. Outcomes of Group Discussions

Next User Category 1: Government Departments

What are the practical options for your programs to incorporate research findings on sustainable environment management as well as women and youth in terms of access and use of resources of land and water?

Views from the Government group discussion

1. Development of a Food Ecosystem Protection policy addressing:
 - Subsidies
 - Tax waivers
 - Pricing. The policy should ensure that valuation of the ecosystem services used in producing food should be reflected in the final food prices and thus mechanisms should be clearly laid out by the policy to value the ecosystem services.
2. To institute an intergovernmental ecosystem pricing committee which will coordinate valuation of ecosystem services in different sectors. This will be made of:
 - MAAIF
 - Trade and Industry
 - Finance
 - Water and Environment
 - Energy and Minerals
3. Incorporate an eco-trade component in national curriculum to address:
 - Awareness
 - Ecosystem valuation
 - Mind-set in technology use, fertilizer use and fair trade.

Next User Category 2: Farmers Support Institutions (FSIs) & NGOs

What does the government need to do to ensure that ecosystem resources used in food trade are incorporated in pricing/valuing of food commodities?

Views arising from the group discussion (FSIs and NGOs)

1. Formation and strengthening of environmental clubs for youth and women at both local and Nation levels to become stewardship for advocating for ecosystem services valuation for inclusion in food pricing.
2. Building strong linkages between Youth and Women with private sector for financial access and technologies to invest on land.
3. Policy and advocacy for women and youth tailored environment management and resource access
4. Strengthen coordination among civil society groups targeting environment resources.

Next User Category 3: Women & Youth

What strategies/support do you need to have to ensure increased access by women and youth to ecosystem resources and their participation in food trade?

Views from the Women and Youth arising from the group discussion

1. Conduct gender sensitive and ecosystem analysis before any intervention
2. Track the implementation of the 30% provision for women's participation in government programs both at district and national level. The programmes include participation in politics, formal employment and sharing of resources in the country.
3. Develop and disseminate simplified information materials on food trade and ecosystem management to accessible points and time for youth and women. The information should be disseminated at the right time of the activity e.g. At planting, marketing and trading
4. Involve men in capacity building about the potential women and youth in food production, trade, for improved livelihood of their households.

Next User Category 4: Private Sector

How can the private sector be assisted to adopt sustainable utilization of ecosystem resources in the agriculture value chain?

Views arising from the group discussion

1. Create awareness coupled with the economic benefits (Monetary value) of sustainable ecosystem management
2. Incentivise compliance in the use of sustainable ecosystem resources e.g. Carbon credits,

fair trade schemes, certification
3. Capacity building of private sector on the role of ecosystem management through trainings, role play and through exchange visits in sectors where ecosystem management has been given priority such the Uganda wild life Authority.

Next User Category 5: NARS & IRO & Universities

1. What are the options for ensuring that ecosystem and gender issues are effectively mainstreamed in agriculture research?
2. How can the research evidence generated on sustainable intensification be effectively improved for use by farmers, private sector and policy makers?

Views from the arising from the group discussion

1. Full involvement of women and youth in: Idea generation, Development, Implementation, Evaluation and Priority setting
2. Breeding varieties that are efficient in use of water and nutrients
3. Use of technologies that are non-soil and water polluting
4. Involve stakeholders at critical stages of research
5. The research results on crop suitability should be integrated into the extension service programs and be given priority during information dissemination to farmers
6. Regular promotion of technologies such crop varieties and agro-inputs that are agro ecologically suitable as well findings on scenario modelling

4. Participant list

	Institution	Name	Title	Tel no.	Email
FSIs & NGOS					
1	Uganda National Farmers Federation UNFF	Ms. Aminah Ocham	Administration officer	256 751 70 0940	antonykisambira@gmail.com
2	Young Farmers Coalition of Uganda	Ms.Trust Kirungi	Chief Executive Officer	256 774 35 3900	Kirungi.trust@yahoo.com
3	African Women Economic Policy Network	Mr. Hordius Mulimira	Program Officer	256 755 60 9994	mulimirah@yahoo.com
4	TechnoServe-Uganda	Mr.Charles Mugoowa	Monitoring and Evaluation Manager	256 752 81 3656	cmugoowa@tns.org
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6	CHAIN-Uganda	Mr. Yafesi obanga	Program Officer	256 774 79 3111	admin@chainuganda.org
7	Kulika, Uganda	Ms. Magdalene Amujal Ogwang	Head of Programs	256 755 51 7892	magdalene@kulika.org
NARS & Research Institutes					
8	National Crop Resources Research Institute (NaCRRI)	Ms. Stella Okello	Social Economist-Rice	256 702 37 5527	seokello@gmail.com
9	HarvestPlus Feed The Future Program	Mr.Charles Musoke	Seed Systems Specialist	256 772 40 8793	charlesmusoke@yahoo.com
10	National Crop Resources Research Institute (NaCRRI)	Dr Kasozi Lwanga	National Maize Breeder	256 704 58 8630	kclwanga@gmail.com
11	National Agriculture Research Laboratories	Mr. Fred Kabuye	Coordinator-Uganda Soil Health Consortium (USHC)	256 772 50 1949	fmkabuye@gmail.com
12	International Fertilizer Development Centre-IFDC	Mr. Nkwasiwe Anthony	National Agronomist	256 757 28 8388	dlukungu@ifdc.org

Private Sector					
13	Uganda Development Officer	Mr. Ayub Asingataba	Project Officer	256 777 79 3213	ayub@udet.co.ug
14	ACHILIS Uganda LTD	Mr. Winifred Thembo	Head of Agri Business-	256 705 50 8548	thembowilfred@gmail.com
Universities					
15	Uganda Christian University	Dr. Apolo Kasharu	Senior Lecturer,	256 759 94 2843	kasharu@hotmail.com
16	Makerere University	Dr. Alice Amoding	Senior Lecturer	256 782 35 5494	amodinga@gmail.com
Govts Depts					
17	Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Industry (MTTI)	Mr. Zackey Kalega	Principal Commercial Officer	256 702 84 1805	kalegazackey@gmail.com
18	MAAIF	Dr. NIYITEGERA Blair Emmanuel	Plant health inspector	256 782 85 3865	blairemmanuel@gmail.com
19	MAAIF	Mr. MUKWABA Erisa	Agricultural Inspector	256 779 12 9414	erisamuk@gmail.com
20	Parliamentary Forum on Climate Change-Uganda (PFCC-U).	Mr. Nicholas Businge	Program Officer	256 782 45 4695	
21	Parliamentary Forum on Climate Change-Uganda (PFCC-U).	Ms. Christine Kaaya	Program Coordinator	256 414 37 7708	kaayact@gmail.com
CGIAR					
22	International Potato Centre	Mr Gerald Kyalo	Research Officer	256 700 43 1623	gpkvalo@gmail.com
Donors on Sustainable intensification of Agriculture					
23	Netherlands Embassy	Mr. Josaphat Byaruhanga	Senior Advisor for Agriculture	256 772 91 8372	Josephat.Byaruhanga@minbuza.nl
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26	Economic Policy research Centre	Ms. Anita Ntale	Research Analyst		antale@emog.org
27	Uganda Export promotion Board	Mr. Sam Leochenge	EME	256 772 93 3010	
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29	Kilimo Trust	Ms. Lilian Githinji	Program Officer	256 783 32 3328	lgithinji@kilimotrust.org