



RESCAP Weekly Progress in SEPTEMBER 2014

RESCAP stands for “Rural Extension Service Capacity Advancement Project through PaViDIA Approach”

Extension Service in Action!

Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock

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Date	Main Activities in This Week (■ HQ, ■ Northern ■ Lusaka)	News around
8 Mon	■ ■ Meeting with the Terminal Evaluation Team ■ Preparation of Terminal Evaluation	<div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: blue; font-size: 1.2em; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <i>Terminal Evaluation Team in Northern Province</i> </div> <p>The Terminal Evaluation Team for the RESCAP is in Northern Province to evaluate the degrees of the achievements of the Project and its impacts in the Province. The team is led by Mr. Sato, Senior Advisor from the JICA HQ and Mr. Chongo, Ag. Chief Extension Officer from the MAL HQ with five other members from the MAL HQ, JICA HQ, and the JICA Zambia Office. The team met Provincial Agricultural Coordinator for Northern Province, Mr. Andrew Banda and senior staff of the MAL Northern Province. The team also met the Ag. District Agriculture Coordinator/Senior Agriculture Officer before making field visits to several villages in Luwingu Districts to meet farmers who benefited from the service of Extension Officers and observed some of Appropriate Technologies such as implements for rice and demo for irrigated Irish Potato. They also visited the Kasama Farm Institute where mushroom production and bee keeping trainings are offered to small scale farmers. The terminal evaluation continues until 20th September 2014.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">    </div>
9 Tue	■ Meeting with the Terminal Evaluation Team ■ Extension Strategy follow up Workshop in Lusaka Province ■ Preparation of Terminal Evaluation	
10 Wed	■ Meeting with the Terminal Evaluation Team	
11 Thu	■ Evaluation Field Visit to Luwingu District(Northern Province)	
12 Fri	■ Evaluation Field Visit to Chinsali District(Muchinga Province)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Project Terminal Evaluation (31st August – 20th September) ➤ Joint Coordinating Committee meeting (18th September) ➤ Meeting with PACOs on extension service management (25 September TBC) ➤ Management Training Workshops for Principals of Farmer Training Centres (FTCs) (Postponed to Sept/October TBC) 		<div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red; font-size: 1.1em; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <i>Extension Service Delivery in Northern and Muchinga Province on ZNBC!</i> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p>The documentary TV programme of Extension Service Delivery in Northern and Muchinga Provinces was aired on the Lima Programme on 5th September 2014 by the ZNBC. This 20-minute programme showed the improvement of extension services to small scale farmers including appropriate technologies such as mushroom, bee keeping, rice production and so on which RESCAP has supported for the last 5 years.</p> </div> </div>

Economic and Non-Economic Impacts of Improved Extension Service

From the Impact Assessment Survey of RESCAP

In the Impact Assessment Survey of RESCAP (IAS), farmers were asked on the various aspects of extension services including their satisfaction of extension service, their participation and acceptance of extension service, their agriculture activities, their income and assets, and their level of livelihood improvement. It is expected that some of the variables are supposed to have relationship among them each other. For example, appreciation of extension service tends to have more farmers to accept the advices from extension service. There could be relationship between good extension service and good results of agriculture. Especially the relationships between the improved extension service and the other variables are important to know the structure of impacts of extension service.

To know the relationships, the IAS employed a path analysis using Structured Equation Modeling (SEM). SEM can retrieve each level of relationship in a structured model.

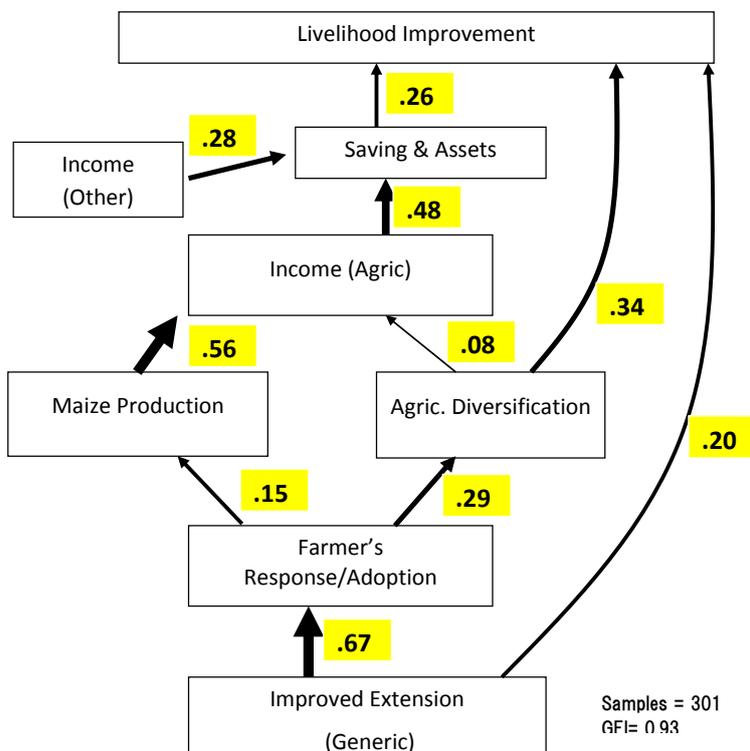


Figure 1: Relationship of Variables in a path analysis SEM (Structure Equation Modelling)

Concerning the interpretation of each number as “standardized path coefficient”, an absolute value of less 0.10 is considered as small effect, a value around 0.30 is considered as medium effect and a value of more than 0.50 will be considered as a large effect.

It is very interesting to see several “paths” of effects of improved extension service. One is through agriculture production through farmers’ response/adoption to the livelihood (here called “Economic Impacts”), although it is a bit weak and the lines especially through “Maize Production” are not significantly linked. Besides, there are two paths to link more directly to “Livelihood improvement”. One is through “Agriculture Diversification”. “Agriculture Diversification” is not strongly linked with “Income (Agriculture)”, because it seems that “Income (Agriculture)” is more influenced from “Maize production” than diversification. Crop diversification is linked directly to livelihood improvement of farmers. This can be explained that diversification provides some security of life of farmers by giving various options even if one main crop (maize) production is encountered with some risks. The other one is a direct link between “Improved Extension” and “Livelihood Improvement”. This link can be considered because farmers are feeling “secured” when they can have access to extension officers even if they do not see the direct benefits such as increased production immediately. These “non-economic” impacts of extension service are very evident, because these “direct” links of extension service to livelihood improvement are as powerful as the one with “Saving & Assets”.

One of the interviewed farmers (Ms. Yaunde, Kalabo) explained a non-economic benefit of extension service by saying “My CEO helps me very much whenever I have a problem. She (CEO) normally visits my farm and assists me. I think her advice made me and other farmers happier. I am also feeling proud because I built my confidence with her guidance on how to manage my farm more effectively.”



A draft report is available from the HQ office.
Request to : rescap2010@gmail.com

Today's Laugh? Wrong farmers

