

Feed the Future: Innovation Lab for Integrated Pest Management Trip Report

Country(s) Visited: ETHIOPIA

Dates of Travel: 1 – 6 November 2016

Travelers' Names and Affiliations: Bonaventure January, Sokoine
University of Agriculture

Purpose of Trip: To attend Project annual meeting in Addis Ababa

Sites Visited: The meeting was conducted in Addis Ababa at the Friendship
International Hotel

Description of Activities/Observations:

The workshop was opened by Dr. Tadele Tefera (Country head ICIPE-Ethiopia) and welcomes the director of Crop System from KALRO, Dr. Paddy Likhayo from Kenya to chair the meeting. We had several presentations from project partners from Kenya (Maize), Ethiopia (maize and chick pea) and Tanzania (maize and rice) including the challenges and future plans. Five PhD students (two from Tanzania, two from Ethiopia and one from Kenya) presented their proposals during the meeting for improvement. All the presentations were discussed by all participants and valuable comments were given. I presented my PhD proposal with the title 'Management of rice stem borers in low land rice ecosystem in Tanzania' and get several comments for improvement.

One of the main comments given was on one of my objective which was about effect of spacing and Nitrogen fertilizer in management of rice stem borers. Members gave suggestions of checking whether the variety which I am going to use for the trials have full package for specific spacing, fertilizer and stem borer management so that I cannot go against the founder of the variety by recommending type of spacing and Nitrogen fertilizer rates to use as the way of managing stem borers.

I become impressed on the way the project is trying to reduce rice and chick pea pests and diseases by using environmentally friendly approaches. I also learned on push pull technologies from using climate smart plants as I was previously not aware on what the technology was about, but after attending the workshop I become aware and I can even apply it at my place.

Before closure of the workshop the Director of Crop system from KALRO who was the main speaker of the meeting presented the summary of the presentations and workshop in general. She was very impressed with the presentations especially from the students' proposals as every student includes a preliminary survey in their studies to assess farmers' perception as these could give valuable information on the problem that farmers are facing and how are they trying to solve them.

Training Activities Conducted:

Program type (workshop, seminar, field day, short course, etc.)	Date	Audience	Number of Participants		Training Provider (US university, host country institution, etc.)	Training Objective
			Men	Women		
Workshop on annual review and planning meeting	3-4 Nov. 2016	23	21	2	Project coordinator and project partners	To review implementation of year 1 project activities and planning for year 2 activities

Suggestions, Recommendations, and/or Follow-up Items:

The meeting was good and fruitful for my proposal. It was completed on time as planned.

One comment I had is on arrangement for travel, when booking for flight need also to check for the flight route. For example we had a very long journey from Tanzania to Ethiopia as the flight route starts from Dares salaam- Nairobi – Djibouti – Ethiopia. This makes us to wake up too early and arriving too late at Addis Ababa. I would suggest next time a direct flight to be booked in order to avoid spending too much time in airport and to arrive on time.

List of Contacts Made:

Name	Title/Organization	Contact Info (address, phone, email)
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