March 23rd 2016 ANRM Task Force Call

Attendees

Andrea Mottram, Mercy Corps
Gitau Mbure, World Vision
Eric Carlberg, Mercy Corps
Abby Love, Mercy Corps
Dan Norell, World Vision
Marea Pappas, Food for the Hungry
Afia Agyekum
Adrienne Todela, CORE Group
Nestor Mogollon, ADRA International

Notes

Update on Key ANRM Activities

- TOPS Regional Agriculture Specialist
  - Eric Carlberg is now stationed in Kampala, Uganda as the TOPS Regional Agriculture Specialist
  - Working to increase dialogue and cohesion between field and HQ activities
  - Evaluating and helping facilitate local and regional technical networks
  - Contact him at ecarlberg@mercykorps.org for further information or with any questions

- Core Competencies Resource List
  - TOPS is developing lists of key resources to support each ANRM Core Competency Area
  - First module sent to ANRM TF members for review – send feedback by April 1st
  - Contact Abby Love at alove@mercykorps.org for more information

- Resilience Design Training and Toolkit development
  - Training in Zimbabwe April 4-8: Resilience Design in Smallholder Farming Systems
  - Working with Brad Lancaster, Warren Brush, and Tom Cole to create framework and toolkit for this work

- TOPS Knowledge Sharing Meeting – Uganda September 2016 (exact dates TBD)

ANRM TF Survey Results – Key Findings

- What do you find most beneficial about the ANRM Task Force?
  - Reviewing and learning about key documents, tools, trainings, etc.
  - Attending presentations/webinars on technical topics

- What makes the ANRM TF unique?
  - Focus on FFP / DFAPs

- How often should we meet?
  - Quarterly

- What would you like the ANRM Task Force to focus on for the next 18 months?
  - Facilitate sessions on best practices, especially climate adaptive agriculture, gender and youth empowerment, agriculture and nutrition
• Off-farm livelihoods
• Savings groups
• Youth
• Sustainability and profitability
• Create list of key resources for each thematic that people can easily refer to
• Inclusive value chains
• And more!

• Moving forward, TF will meet quarterly, and try incorporating a discussion piece around a technical topic each meeting. Let us know if you are interested in presenting/leading a discussion at our next meeting.
  • Additionally, we’re sending the core competencies resource list out to the TF for review before sending it to the broader community.

Presentation on Demonstration Plots

• Gitau Mbure, Senior Technical Advisor, Agriculture and Natural Resource Management for World Vision
  • “Management of agriculture demonstration plots - what are we learning?”

• Demo plots come in all shapes and sizes
  • The purpose of the plot should determine its size, design, and performance evaluation
• DFAPs unable to clarify what the purpose of the demo plot is, affecting the execution and outcome of those plots.
  • Clarity of purpose - we should be working with research groups, etc. to improve this
  • Selection of practices – mentioned in TOPS FFS guides. Need to do a needs assessment to make sure there is alignment between farmer needs and project practices
  • Budgeting/logistics: make sure timing works with planting schedules
  • Accessibility – women/etc. how do we make sure they are included and not marginalized?
  • Sign boards/record keeping: how do we make sure to show what is being shared?
  • Risk management– theft, animals, etc.
  • Consistency – agreeing to do a certain type of plot in different areas and what do we do with that info at the end of the season?
  • Sustainable learning – how do we ensure learning post plot?

• Other thoughts from participants
  • Have you seen barrier analysis done with demo plots?
    • Not really. ANRM is yet to fully embrace barrier analysis.
  • Does WV have a standard “lead farmer” model globally?
    • Why are some lead farmers so engaged in leading demo plot and others are falling behind?
      • Interesting area to look at
    • No standard that cuts across all countries.
- What one organization does affects other organizations (e.g., lead farmers paid more from one organization than another)
  - It's important to equip staff with the information they need to help these succeed
- We will continue the discussion on demonstration plots on a discussion board next month