

Designing a capacity assessment study for GCP

SP5 Project: *“From Attractiveness to Feasibility - A Strategic Assessment of the Capacity to Develop and Adopt GCP Technologies”*

Carlos Tovar & Ria Tenorio

Email: tovar.carlosandres@gmail.com; m.t.tenorio@cgiar.org

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Background

Attractiveness

Identification of focus areas for GCP activities based on their potential contribution to the humanitarian and technical goals of GCP.

Assumptions:

- 1) GCP technologies will be successfully adapted to local conditions; and
- 2) farmers will adopt them.



Feasibility

Second phase evaluation: capacity of local institutions and farmers to realize the projected potential for GCP impact.



Attractiveness + Feasibility

- *In some areas the potential benefits may be very attractive BUT the feasibility of achieving them may be low.*
- *In other cases (e.g., different countries, farming systems, crops, etc.) the potential benefits may be smaller, BUT the feasibility might be higher*

Specific Components of the Project

Method/concept paper

Assessment of potential GCP impacts considering the existing measure of attractiveness (Hyman *et al.*, 2007) and measures of adaptation and adoption (feasibility).

Focus group review

(Survey planning and analytical design workshop held in Toronto, Canada in June 8-10, 2009)

- Validation of the conceptual approach proposed in the project design.
- Establishment of a standardized national survey instrument and protocol.

Country case studies

- Empirical work to test specific indicators of feasibility and their integration into an overall GCP priority-setting database. **National Survey.**
- Burkina Faso, Mali, Nigeria, Tanzania and Indonesia.

Extrapolation

- Extension of the case study approach and findings across all GCP priority regions/countries.

Main Factors and Data Sources

Driving Questions (Factors)	National Survey Data (Focus Groups)	Secondary Data
<p>How can we assess local scientific capacity for adaptive breeding?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personnel in commodity program • Research investments • Germplasm sources • Crop breeding infrastructure, technology, and capacity building • Use of participatory breeding activities (PBA) • Varietal release 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASTI¹: levels of spending, education, and staffing of NARS. • IFPRI data • GIPB²: budget allocation to plant breeding, varietal release, personnel data.
<p>How can we assess whether adequate technology delivery systems are in place?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seed production • Dissemination channels • Potential for participation • Government regulation/financial support • Investments in extension • Extension/awareness system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NARS • Seed system • Ministries of agriculture
<p>How can we likely ability of farmers to adopt new technologies?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labour availability • Capital base of farmers • Crop focus • Input use and access to processing technology • Marketed share of production • Adoption timeframe • Variety adoption and preferences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HarvestChoice¹ • GIS data • NGO • National agricultural surveys • Value chain reports • Market studies

National Survey

Toronto workshop
(8-10 June, 2009)

Expert consultation (4
case study leaders)

50 key indicators (5 thematic
areas):

- 1.crop breeding,
- 2.seed systems,
- 3.enabling environment,
- 4.household characteristics, and
- 5.adoption.

Metric and sources of
data

Crop Improvement

Seed Systems
and Extension

The image shows three overlapping survey forms. The top form is titled 'Crop Improvement' and has a sub-header 'From Attractiveness to Feasibility: A Strategic Assessment of the Capacity to Develop and Adopt GCDF Technologies'. The middle form is titled 'Seed Systems and Extension' and has the same sub-header. The bottom form is titled 'Household Characteristics, Enabling Environment and Adoption' and has the same sub-header. Each form contains various sections for data collection, including 'Sector Identification', 'Survey Dates', and 'Survey Area'. The forms are arranged in a stack, with the 'Crop Improvement' form on top, the 'Seed Systems and Extension' form in the middle, and the 'Household Characteristics, Enabling Environment and Adoption' form at the bottom.

Household Characteristics,
Enabling Environment and
Adoption

National Survey (contd.)

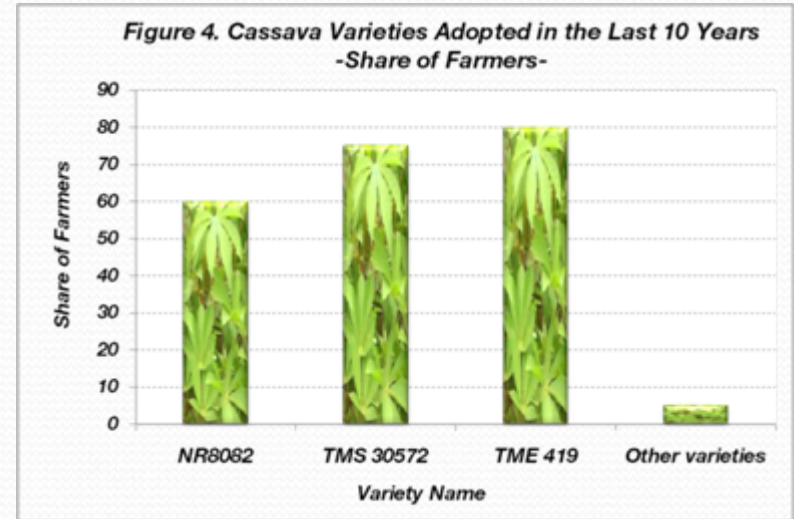
Focus Groups

- Several target groups: NARS, seed companies (private, parastatal), ministries of agriculture, universities, farmer associations, NGOs, and other specialized agencies.
- The methodology adopted for collecting information are documentary research and focus group discussions (FGDs).
- Each focus group is composed of approximately 8 people (experts/key informants) from the agencies mentioned.
- The case study leader (CSL) facilitates discussion with the purpose of reaching a consensus on each aspect of the survey (consistent interpretation of the questionnaire).

National Survey (contd.)

Early Results

- Data for two FGDs held in Northern and Eastern Nigeria for rice and cassava have been collected and reported by the CSL, including, among other information, varietal release, preference and adoption rates of improved varieties.
- Some of the data, especially research investments and staffing, are being currently cross-compared with secondary data from ASTI and GIPB.
- Although we see some gaps in the information provided so far, we have a fairly good idea on the status of the required capacities in the country to develop and adopt GCP technologies.



Challenges

- Implementation delays have been experienced
 - Awaiting formal notification on the selection of GCP Challenge Initiatives to guide case study country and crop focus for second phase of the GCP program.
 - Recruitment/contracting of country-based case study leaders.
 - Visa problems have limited travel of the study implementation leader as well as the ability of recruited CSLs to travel to project meetings.
- Higher than anticipated budget needs to conduct in-country focus group discussions
- On-going dialogue on project activities due to individual time differences and priorities. Country visits required to accelerate and harmonize data gathering and interpretation efforts.
- Implementation bottlenecks for CSLs in country

Project Quantifiable Outputs

- Validated, country-specific case studies of applying an integrated (attractiveness & feasibility) priority setting/targeting approach.
- A documented and tested approach for rapid assessment of the capacity of breeding programs, seed systems, and extension systems of national systems of relevance to the targeting and design of GCP national investments.
- Recommendations on how the GCP and CI Managers can utilize these approaches to further refine the GCP priorities, investment portfolio, and research activities over time.



THANK YOU!

Merci!