

Tanzania Soil Health Consortium (TASHCO) Project

By:

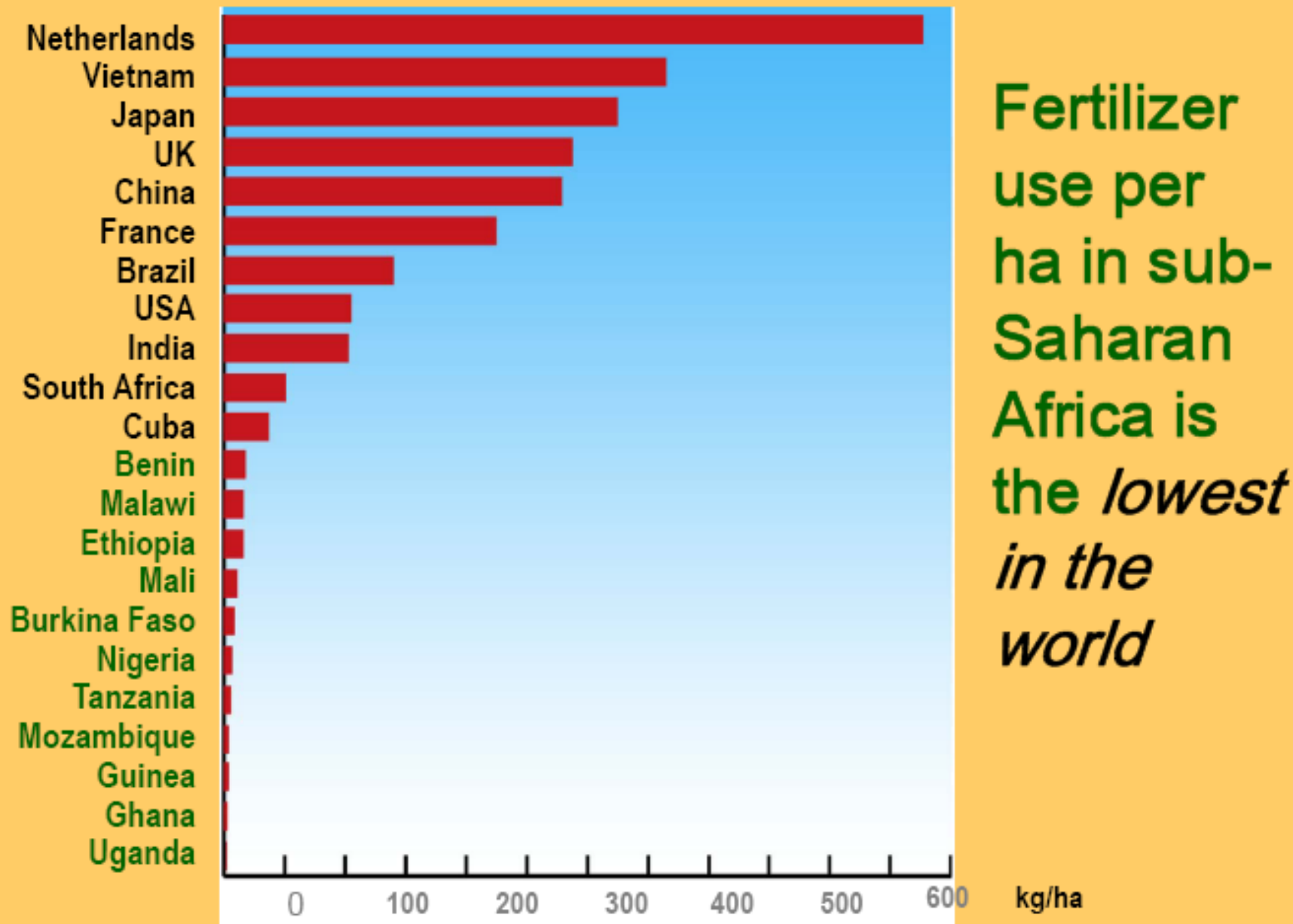
Stephen D. Lyimo

Rose M. Ubwe

Presented at the TASHCO Inception Meeting held on the 25th July 2013, at the Golden Rose Hotel, Arusha

INTRODUCTION

- Fertilizer use in the world has been increasing rapidly since the 1930's.
- But in Africa it remained static and diminishing in some countries
- Since late 1990's the trend in fertilizer use in Africa started changing, some countries recorded increase while others still remained static, and others even recorded reduction
- The average amount of fertilizer used in Tanzania is 7-9 kgs/ha



Sources: FAOSTAT 2003, Norman Borlaug 2004

A call for Integrated Soil Fertility Management in Africa

“ The soil nutrient losses in Sub-Saharan Africa are an environmental, social, and political time bomb. Unless we work up soon and reverse these disastrous trends, the future viability of African food systems will indeed be imperiled”

Dr. Norman Borlaug, 14 March 2003, Muscle Shoals, Alabama, USA

ABUJA DECLARATION (2006)

- Increase fertilizer use in Africa from 8kg/ha to 50kg/ha
- Increase fertilizer use in Africa by 50% by 2015

AGRA's GOAL

- Increase amount of fertilizer used by smallholder farmers by 30% by 2015
- Increase fertilizer use from 8kg/ha to 30kg/ha by 2015
- Make fertilizer affordable (Reduce price by 15% at farm gate) by 2015

JUSTIFICATION/RATIONALE FOR A SOIL HEALTH CONSORTIUM

- Many Soil Health/ISFM interventions released by NARS/International Centers not getting to farmers who are the target users
- Scanty appropriate (profitable) recommendable technologies in terms of agronomy and economics

JUSTIFICATION/RATIONALE

Cont...

- Institutions (NARS, International Centers) mandated to guide the farmers are not talking to one another
- Duplication of efforts and resources
- No one-stop shop/vehicle/institution for Soil Health/ISFM information in the country
- Hence need to form a Consortium at country level

Progress before TASHCO



Participants at the 1st Consortium meeting held on the 12th Dec 2009 at the Impala Hotel Arusha Tanzania

- ✓ Agreed to form the Consortium in the 1st meeting
- ✓ Called Minjingu Fertilizers Promotion Team at the 1st meeting
- ✓ Held a 2nd meeting on the 29th January 2010 at the Kibo Palace Hotel, Arusha
- ✓ Named Tanzania Soil Fertility Action Group (TASFAG) during 2nd meeting
- ✓ **Membership**-NARS, SUA, Extension services, Agro-dealers, Fertilizer and Seed Companies, Farmers' Groups & Associations, NGOs, Policy Makers, Special Program/Inputs sections MAFC, CNFA, African Conservation Tillage (ACT) network, AfSIS, TSBF, FIPS, AGRA, IPNI, ASHC, CGs centers, and any interested institution including individual farmers

Progress Cont...

- ✓ Agreed SARI to coordinate TASFAG
- ✓ Agreed on sources of P for micro-dosing and rates of P & N
- ✓ Developed templates for fertilizer applications during trials
- ✓ Agreed on important data to take and issues to consider during site selection-GPS, pH, soil sampling
- ✓ Agreed on soil/fertilizer sampling procedures and analysis
- ✓ Formed 4 sub-committees

Lead Institutions for TASFAG/TASHCO Sub-committees

S/N	Name of Sub-committee	Lead Institution	Co-Institution	Convener
1	Research and product development	Mlingano ARI	SUA	Dr George Ley
2	Extension, training and market access	SARI	Uyole ARI/Minjingu Mines Co	Rose Ubwe/Ignas Kullaya
3	Policy, advocacy and communication	Minjingu Mines Co	Inputs section/Special Programme MAFSC	Managing Director Minjingu Mines Co
4	Monitoring, evaluation and resource mobilization	TRENS Consultancy Ltd	AfSIS	Mr T.N. Kirway

Progress cont.....

- Organized and conducted TASFAG ARPM Feb 2011
- Shared costs among AGRA, AGRA GRANTEES & CNFA, Minjingu Fertilizers Company- self mobilization
- Resolved to develop and submit Proposal to form TASFAG to AGRA
- Formed a Task Force to develop the proposal
- Project No: 2009 SHP 014 funded the proposal write-up in April 2011
- Task Force proposed to re-name TASFAG as Tanzania Soil Health Consortium (TASHCO)
- Proposal submitted to AGRA in July 2011

Progress cont.....

- Aug 2011 AGRA proposed to identify an institution which would oversee/coordinate all countries' consortia
- Feb 2012 AGRA identified the International Plant Nutrition Institute (IPNI) to coordinate the countries' consortia
- Organized and conducted TASFAG ARPM Feb 2012
- **Costs shared by AGRA GRANTEES, CNFA, Minjingu Fertilizers Company- shows determination and commitment for Consortium**

Progress cont..

- ✓ AGRA organized a one-week write shop for the countries' consortia coordinators in March 2012 to formally write the project proposals
- ✓ Proposal's revisions in June 2012
- ✓ Presented ISFM research findings to the Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Water; and also the Regional Consultative Committee (RCC) for Manyara Region in July and September 2012 at Minjingu Mines
- ✓ Probably contributed to the inclusion of Minjingu Mazao fertilizer in the National Inputs Voucher System



Tanzania Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Water
visiting Minjingu Mines Company in July 2012

Progress cont..

- ✓ Proposal approved in December 2012
- ✓ **Project No: 2012 SHP 017 IPNI - Tanzania**
- ✓ **Conducted a sub-committees' meeting on the 15th March 2013 in Dar**
- ✓ **Regional Inception Meeting on the 21-22 March 2013 in Nairobi**
- ✓ **Conducted baseline survey**

TASHCO

- **IPNI Project Title:** Strengthening the implementation of the Country Level Soil Health Consortia to enhance dissemination of integrated soil fertility management technologies in East and Southern Africa
- **Country Consortium:** Up scaling Integrated Soil Fertility Management (ISFM) practices in Tanzania through formation of Tanzania Soil Health Consortium (TASHCO)
- **The overall objective/goal of the project is to increase crop productivity, food security and income in smallholder farming systems through improved access and dissemination of harmonized ISFM information by stakeholders in agriculture research and development.**

❑ Funding Agency: AGRA –SHP

❑ Coordinating Agency: IPNI

❑ Project Duration: Feb 2013- January, 2016

❑ Budget: Submitted:- 291, 311 \$

Approved: - 247, 867 \$

❑ Main Budget items affected: consultancies, meetings & training, communication, equipment, M&E, travel, personnel

❑ Management Team

-Secretariat/Coordinating Unit- Coordinator/
Focal point, asst focal point/advisor, 2 support
staff (data management) based at SARI

- 4 Sub-committees

TASHCO objectives/results & activities

S/N	Objective/result	Activities
1	Improved access to ISFM information by key stakeholders (policy makers, extension staff, inputs providers etc)	Conduct an inception meeting and solicit findings/results from different partners working on ISFM
		Develop databases on ISFM/fertilizer recommendations for different types of soils, Agro-Ecological Zones (AEZs) and farming systems
		Link the databases to websites of national, regional and international information and knowledge providers.

S/N	Objective	Activities
2	Enhanced capacity in harmonizing and consolidating ISFM innovations	Conduct a ToT for some researchers and other agents on how to develop the harmonized innovations
		Develop and consolidate the harmonized innovations
		Produce and distribute harmonized ISFM innovations

S/N	Objectives	Activities
3	Enhanced dissemination of ISFM innovations by developing knowledge products	Conduct ToT on how to prepare the identified knowledge products
		Produce and disseminate ISFM knowledge sharing products (brochures, leaflets, booklets, etc)
		Organize annual review and planning meetings
		Participate in Agricultural Shows

Benefits/Advantages for forming TASHCO

- ✓ Minimize duplication of efforts and consequently improve the use of limited resources among the zones and different partners.
- ✓ Enhance collaboration with and increase prospects of developing joint communication within stakeholders/clients who are often the same for all the projects
- ✓ Develop joint protocols for demonstrations and trials that the stakeholders will conduct in different locations.

Benefits/Advantages cont...

- ✓ Bring and build transparency, trust and a clear understanding of programs and projects on soil and land management related issues in the country that are funded by various donors, and thus build synergy and leverage each other's resources.
- ✓ Help collect and collate legacy data that is needed to develop fertilizer recommendations.
- ✓ Develop/strengthen the technical and delivery capacity of the members.

Acknowledgment

- MAFSC/DRD/ZDRD (N)
- AGRA
- IPNI
- Sub-committees' members
- Task Force- proposal zero draft
- AGRA SHP Grantees and Non-Grantees
- All institutions/members

Thanks for your attention