



Sesame sector strategic issues

World café for group discussion

Gondar, 16 May 2014

Priority challenges for SBN



1. Access to credit
2. Quality, value addition and marketing
3. Productivity improvement
4. Crop rotation for farming system sustainability

Access to credit

- Number one constraint
- Currently, formal finance institutions serve a limited population
- Many, in particular smallholders, turn to informal sources for credit, which comes at high cost
- The formal sector misses out on a market share of as much as 1.5 billion birr
- How can the formal sector supply 1.5 billion birr timeously to credit seekers?
- Which organisations and/or individuals are knowledgeable and resourceful for forming a taskforce to address this topic?

Quality, value addition and marketing

- In the past, demand for sesame has been high
- Incentives for quality production and value addition are weak
- Global production has increased
- Anticipate price decline, increased competition and greater demand for quality
- How can SBN prepare for an international market that demands quality, and how can producers and processors be rewarded?
- Which organisations and/or individuals are knowledgeable and resourceful for forming a taskforce to address this topic?

Productivity improvement

- Research has developed a strongly evidence based package for improved sesame production
- Regional BoAs & SBN SP have ambitious plans to go to scale in demonstrating on FTC and farm
- Many stakeholders need to be involved, including farmers, DAs, woreda offices and regional stakeholders
- How can SBN ensure implementation is well coordinated?
- How can SBN share the experiences and knowledge generated with all farmers in NW Ethiopia

Crop rotation for farming system sustainability

- Evidence indicates declining trend in sesame yields
- Soil fertility and pest incidence is worsened by monocropping
- Crop rotation is an important practice for sustainable yield and risk management
- However, farmers see little attraction in cultivating alternative crops
- How can SBN promote crop rotation and incentives to invest in alternative crop production?
- Which organisations and/or individuals are knowledgeable and resourceful for forming a taskforce to address this topic?

World café for group discussion

- 4 topics x 2 groups on each = 8 groups
- For each group a facilitator and scribe should be elected – they are responsible for facilitating the discussion and taking notes
- Each group has the assignment of answering the two questions posed
- There are 2 rounds to a world café

Round 1

- The group has to answer the 2 questions in 30mins
- The facilitator needs to ensure that questions are elaborately answered
- The scribe has to capture the answers on flip chart sheet(s)
- After 30mins the group will swap its members with the other group on the same topic
- The chair person and scribe stay behind to explain to their new group members the answers

Round 2

- New group members now have 15mins to share their discussion and answers from the first round with the facilitator and scribe
- The facilitator and scribe will collect the new information and develop a shared and balanced answer to each of the two questions
- To ensure that the answers are in agreement, after the 15mins have passed, the 2 chair persons and 2 scribes will sit together to consolidate a single presentation to the plenary