

# **Strategic Criteria for Rural Investments in Productivity (SCRIP)**

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**Background to SCRIP  
and  
objectives of the workshop**

**October 14-15, 2004  
Hotel Africana, Kampala**

**Samuel Benin**



# Background to SCRIP

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- USAID-Uganda Mission was developing its Integrated Strategic Plan (ISP 2002-2007); and key SO7, Expanded Sustainable Economic Opportunities for Rural Sector Growth
  - to assist Uganda to reduce rural-based poverty and sustain economic growth by expanding economic opportunities and increasing employment, income, and the viability of enterprises while halting environmental degradation and biodiversity loss
- Realized that developing sustainable and productive land use systems is essential
- Mission asked the IFPRI
  - to prepare a strategic planning framework for rural land use development in Uganda, which successfully integrates the country's agricultural growth and rural livelihood needs with responsible environmental management
- The “IFPRI approach” and associated analyses make up the Strategic Criteria for Rural Investments in Productivity (SCRIP)
  - Phases I & II April 2001-June 2003
  - Bridging phase up to December 2003
  - Annual work plan programme 2007



# SCRIP Phase I

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STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT OF LAND USE OPTIONS  
FOR UGANDA

Phase I Completion Report

MAIN REPORT

Submitted to USAID/Uganda

*The International Food Policy Research Institute*  
2033 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006

April 2002

## Addressed seven key issues:

- Identifying the best “private” land use options
- Estimating the benefits from these land use options
- Assessing the environmental impact of these land use options
- Balancing “private” and environmental goals
- Estimating benefits of “social” land use options
- Geographical targeting
- Monitoring progress

[www.foodnet.cgiar.org/SCRIP](http://www.foodnet.cgiar.org/SCRIP)



# SCRIP Phase II and Bridging Phase



[www.foodnet.cgiar.org/SCRIP](http://www.foodnet.cgiar.org/SCRIP)



## Agricultural Development Domains of Uganda

A development domain is the spatial representation of preconditions or factors considered important for rural development, and can be characterized using stratification criteria that, based on theory and previous research, determine the comparative advantage of rural areas with respect to theoretically occurring livelihood strategies. In Uganda, agricultural potential, market access and population pressure are used. These factors also cover a high degree of spatial heterogeneity and therefore, land from sites to spatial representation (mapping).

**Agricultural potential**  
Agriculture potential is an abstraction of many factors, including terrain, rainfall, soil type and depth, topography, presence of pests and diseases, etc., that influence the absolute (or relative to comparative) advantage of producing agricultural commodities in a particular place. There are variations in potential depending upon which commodities are being considered. Furthermore, agricultural potential is not a static concept but changes over time in response to changing natural conditions (such as climate change) as well as human-induced conditions (such as land degradation).

For simplicity, agricultural potential in Uganda is classified based on agro-climatic conditions (length of growing season, rainfall pattern and temperature) and altitude, considering production requirements for bananas as an indicator of potential for perennial crops and requirements for maize as an indicator for potential for annual crops. Agricultural potential can thus be classified according to whether rainfall is plentiful (both seasons) or minimal (one season), and whether such of these conditions are low, medium or high (Figure 1).

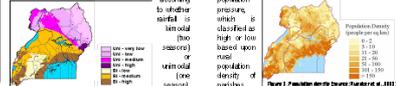


Figure 1 Uganda climate potential for maize production (based on agro-climatic conditions)

**Market access**  
Market access is crucial for determining the comparative advantage of a given location, given its agricultural potential. For example, a community with absolute advantage in producing profitable vegetables may have little or no comparative advantage (low profitability) in

vegetable production if it is far from roads and markets. Market access also is multi-dimensional (distance to roads, condition of roads, distance to urban centers, degree of connectivity, access to transport facilities, access to international markets, etc.) and dynamic. For simplicity, market access is classified as high or low using a measure of potential market penetration, based on travel time from any location to the nearest town or city, weighted by the population of the towns or cities (Figure 2).



Figure 2 Potential market penetration (based on travel time to nearest town or city)

**Population pressure**  
Population pressure affects the labor intensity of agriculture by affecting the land/labor ratio, and may induce innovations in technology, markets and institutions, or investments in infrastructure. Population pressure affects the comparative advantage of labor-intensive pathways of development, and refers to various types of measures. Average population density is taken as an indicator of population pressure, which is classified as high or low based on population density (persons per square km) (Figure 3).

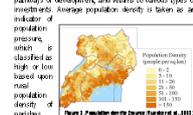
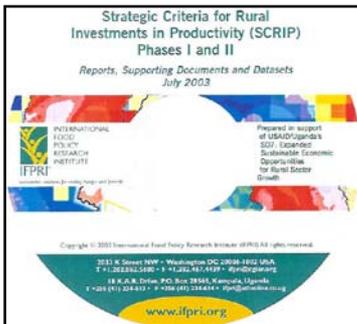


Figure 3 Population density (persons per square km) in 2002

**Developmental domains**  
The three dimensions, agricultural potential, market access and population pressure, interact with each other in complex ways. Population pressure tends to be higher in areas with a greater agricultural potential or greater market access, as people tend to move to such areas in search of better opportunities. If a population pressure may have contributed to land degradation, thereby

## Research activities/analyses:

- Potential development pathways and sustainable land management practices
- Technological, institutional and policy strategies for sustainable land management
- Economic benefits of alternative livelihood strategies
- Agriculture-focused economy-wide model
- Development opportunities for dairy sub-sector
- Marketing infrastructure and constraints in input and output markets
- Strategies for alternative growth scenarios in coffee and cotton production and export
- Soil degradation and land use dynamics and technologies for sustainable intensification in southwestern Uganda
- Market feasibility of land use options
- Alternative development strategies for fisheries sector
- Soil nutrient balances in farming systems



CD-ROM

## Briefs

# SCRIP Programme



## Strategic Criteria for Rural Investment in Productivity

### Background

Governments and development funders have difficulty in developing effective strategies and making sound investment decisions due to the multiplicity of goals, the complex interrelationships between these goals, and the broad array of interventions needed. As investment decisions become more complex, so too do analytical and information needs for development of the strategies, and updating and improving them over time. These and associated problems are exacerbated by the weakness of available data, analytical tools and paucity of trained policy analysts.

The *Strategic Criteria for Rural Investment in Productivity* (SCRIP) program has been helping to fill these gaps in Uganda. SCRIP is a six-year USAID-funded program that started in April 2001, and is implemented by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).

### Purpose

- To provide analytical and research support to inform the design and implementation of core programs supporting USAID-Uganda's *Expanded Sustainable Economic Opportunities for Rural Sector Growth* (SO7), and to a lesser extent programs supporting *Improved Human Capacity* (SO8) and *More Effective and Participatory Governance* (SO9).
- To provide decision-making support to other partners, including Government of Uganda policy makers (e.g. through the *Plan for Modernization of Agriculture* sub-committees), national institutions, and private sector entities.
- To form a building block of IFPRI's broader *Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System* (SAKSS) for small farmer-led agricultural growth in Africa, under the *Initiative to End Hunger in Africa* (IEHA).

### Objectives

1. To provide quantitative information at regional and sector levels of the prospective growth, food security, and environmental impacts of alternative land use strategies, including specific commodities, and to identify significant trade-offs between these potential outcomes where they exist.



2. To demonstrate how land uses and conditions are likely to change over time in response to changes in population pressure, market conditions, policies, technologies, public investments and local institutional and social arrangements.
3. To provide a practical way of reconciling, for policy and investment purposes, regional and national land use aggregates with the diversity of conditions that exist at the local level.
4. To provide guidance on how to reconcile the sometimes conflicting interests and decision-making rights of the individuals and communities who manage natural resources with the concerns of national policy makers and the international development community.
5. To provide a set of practical indicators that can be used to monitor the growth, poverty, food security and environmental impacts of future land use strategies.
6. To provide timely, detailed, and accurate data on farming systems, land use patterns, natural resource extraction and livelihood strategies.

### Activities

1. Reassessing Development Hotspots and Priorities
  - Population, production and poverty hotspots
  - NRM and biodiversity impacts; agricultural expansion and intensification hotspots
2. Formulating and Evaluating Potential Investment Options
  - Commodity-focused technology and competitiveness studies
  - Economy-wide impacts on income, growth, and poverty (CGE analysis)
  - "Access" analyses: transactions costs, technology choice, and productivity
3. Strengthening Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of Rural Development Activities
  - Socio-economic baseline indicators and evaluation of related M&E options
  - Environmental baseline indicators and evaluation of related M&E options

Originally conceptualized as a short-term activity for the ISP; evolved into a longer-term partnership

## Purpose

- To provide analytical and research support to inform the design and implementation of core programs supporting USAID-Uganda's SO7
  - APEP, PRIME, SCOPE
- To provide decision-making support to other partners
  - Other SOs, GOU policy makers, national institutions, private sector entities
- To form a building block of IFPRI's broader SAKSS for small farmer-led agricultural growth in Africa, under the IEHA

# SCRIP Implementation

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- **Annual work plans, based on dialogue with**
  - SO7 implementing partners
  - USAID-Uganda Mission
  - Other SO teams
  - GOU policy makers
  - National institutions
  - NGOs
  - Private sector entities
- **Partnerships in research**
  - Makerere University (MUINER, Agricultural Economics, Botany)
  - Other national institutions (NARO (KARI), UWA, UBOS)
  - NGOs (Africare, Ecotrust)
  - Other CGIAR centers (ILRI, ICRAF, Foodnet)
  - Other international institutions (WRI, UNEP)
- **Annual results reports and dissemination of findings**

# Objectives of workshop

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- **Present new analyses, results and ideas; and obtain feedback for improvement**
- **Discuss and obtain priority areas for the 2005 SCRIP work plan**
- **Discuss and obtain priority areas for IFPRI's broader research and knowledge support program for Uganda**
- **How?**
  - Presentations
  - Papers/Briefs
  - Discussions
  - Priority-setting questionnaire
  - Workshop evaluation form

# Questionnaire and evaluation form

## QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PRIORITY SETTING

Please take a few minutes to reveal which of the following IFPRI Strategic Research Themes you feel will contribute the most to strategy development and implementation and achievement of poverty eradication in Uganda (using a scale of: 1=least important, ..., 5=most important)

Strategic Theme (current/exploratory projects)	Rating				
	1	2	3	4	5
1. Global food situation and scenarios of policy risks and opportunities					
2. Globalization, retail food industries, and trade negotiations related to food and agriculture					
3. Managing natural resources of importance to food, nutrition, and agriculture					
4. Food systems in disaster prevention and relief, and rebuilding after crises					
5. Appropriate roles of state, markets, and civil society in food, agriculture, nutrition and NRM policy					
6. Food and water safety issues					
7. Policies addressing hidden hunger, enhanced food and diet quality for poor people, and the nutrition transition					
8. Policies and interventions for sustainable poverty reduction and nutrition improvement					
9. Cross-cutting research on country and regional food, nutrition, and agricultural strategies					
10. Food and nutrition-related science and technology serving poor people					
11. The future of smallholder farming in efficient and equitable food systems					
12. Urban-rural linkages in efficient and equitable food systems					
13. Knowledge systems and innovation					
14. Communications and Capacity Strengthening					



Medium-Term Plan, 2005-07

For more information about IFPRI's strategic themes and research, please see IFPRI's Strategy and Medium-Term Plan (2005-07) at <http://www.ifpri.org/about>

## SCRIP WORKSHOP EVALUATION

Please take a few minutes to tell us how you feel the workshop went (using a scale of: 1=low, ..., 5=high)

	Rating				
	1	2	3	4	5
<b>Presentations</b>					
1. Clarity of presentations					
2. Relevance of presentations to poverty reduction in Uganda					
<b>Discussions</b>					
3. Stimulating					
4. Clarity of issues for policy communication					
5. Clarity of issues for further research or analyses					
<b>Documents</b>					
6. Usefulness of SCRIP documents					
7. Usefulness of other IFPRI documents					
<b>Other</b>					
8. Meeting venue and facilities					
9. Catering services					

### General Comments

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*Mwebale nnyo!!!*

*Thank you!!!*

