

Government, academia and private sector" partnership in technology development

Project closure on Adaptation and promotion of Refractance
Window Drying Technology for production of high quality bio-
products.

By

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Introduction

- Globally, MSMEs are the backbone of economies in that they provide jobs that are distributed across countries and are inclusive of women and youth generally among others
- MTIC has participated in the Project through mobilizing the farmers, processors, fabricators and other policy makers (MDAs).
- Ministry has promoted the interactions among the triple helix actors- Academia, Business Community and Government through a number of activities including Research and Development, Policy and Strategy formulation, participating in trade fairs and exhibitions, and capacity building/ Skills training and business management.
- The Ministry through other programs such as RIDP supported Agro-processing enterprises; constructed cross border markets to facilitate trade across borders/ exports and facilitated processors with Product certification through UNBS.
- Government has provided financing to farmer groups and other processors through different schemes, such as Emyooga; SACCOs, and recently it will through the PDM

MTIC Contribution to Strategic Agenda and Interventions

- ❖ Ministry contributes towards the NDP III majorly to the agro-industrialisation, manufacturing and private sector development programmes in the area of MSMEs Development;
- ❖ **Agro-Industrialisation** by supporting MSMEs in value addition to agricultural raw materials, markets processed and improved quality agro-value added products;
- ❖ **Manufacturing Programme** this new technology supports MSMEs to create backward and forward linkages with manufacturers for supply of **quality** raw materials and/or as off takers of the manufactured products;
- ❖ **Private Sector Development Programme** by training SMES to sustainably lower their costs of doing business and build competitiveness and strengthening their organizational and institutional capacity to drive their growth;

Activities done during the Project

- Collaboratively, we mobilized and conducted the capacity building of farmers and cooperatives and other SMEs on value addition, the applied technologies and mitigation of post-harvest losses.
- Facilitated the networking and linkages of farmers to Local District Officials, agro-processors and large traders, markets for farmers using innovative and enduring ICT platforms,
- Conducted Research and Product Development: technology tested, products tested and feed back provided for further modification. In collaboration with partners such as Makerere University MAK, MUBS; KYU; Research Institutions. MDAs that were collaboratively involved include: UNBS, UIA, UEPB, MTAC, MAAIF, MoLG, District Commercial Officers, District Production Officers and the private sector; Information was shared about produce in different Districts and how it can be improved: These districts included: Luwero, Budaka, Mbale, Jinja, Bududa, Kampala
- MTIC mobilized MSMEs for the training programs, sensitization about the new technology involving different categories.
 - I. Fabricators with a view to replicate other machinery
 - II. Processors: producing and drying mangoes, puree, pineapple, Jackfruits, passion fruits, etc

Activities Cont'd

- Enhancing technology development by promoting utilization of Common user facilities, Coordinate and Train MSMEs in cluster based approaches, skills & technology transfer, credit & savings; and market linkages.
- Supported MSMEs in Processing techniques, and resource efficiency practices in collaboration with the Uganda Cleaner Production Center (UCPC) and other organizations for Good Manufacturing Practices
- Provides technical advice and linking MSMEs to agri-business and business incubators.
- Supports initiatives to increase youth and women's participation & networking: design strategy to integrate gender in all the activities
- Govt is promoting construction of Industrial parks, and that all Industries to be directly connected to 3phase for the purpose of electricity reliability and optimizing of costs

Activities Cont'd- Policies and Strategies

- The Government is promoting Green Manufacturing Practices through the implementation of the Green Manufacturing Strategy 2020/21 - 2024/25: For boosting resource productivity, environmental sustainable performance and competitiveness. This was launched in 2021
- The Ministry is developing the Packaging and Branding Strategy. This will boost competitiveness in both the local and internal markets
- The Collaboration is involved in the review and formulation of the New MSMEs and Entrepreneurship Strategy with the support from UNCTAD.
- The Ministry developed the Good Manufacturing Practices Manual

Challenges faced

- High cost of the Machinery developed.
- Lack of a Common User Machinery for production outside Kampala.
- Capacity building in skills, manufacturing of components, maintenance and servicing is highly needed
- Covid-19 pandemic disrupted the activities due to lock downs and restrictions on large gatherings
- More research is still needed especially for utilizing sustainable energy sources (solar) into three Phase electricity
- Limited Market access, especially the export markets
- Climate Change for the producers.

Conclusion

- The Ministry would like to thank the sponsors of the Project, the partnering academic institutions, Makerere University College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences: School of Food Technology, Nutrition & Bio-Engineering, Research and Development institutes for their continuous work, transfer, diffusion and uptake of new technologies and the MSMEs.
- Programs on Agro-Industrialization and markets for processed products are growing.
- The triple helix module platform of government, academia and business has proven to work.
- The Government of Uganda recognizes the contribution of Micro, Small and Medium scale enterprises, R&D and Innovations

Recommendations

- Strengthening the implementation of the Green Manufacturing Practices is highly needed.
- There is need to continue training the youth and women in the utilization of new technology boosting markets and product development
- There is need to strengthen the Agribusiness Incubators, R&D, etc
- More funding is required to establish the Common User Machinery in other regions.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION.

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