



OSA Workshop CC, September 8-12, 2014 / JKA

## Field Visit ACRE - Kilimo Salama, Sept 9, 2014

### Group visited

- Location Gichiche (Embu)
- Saving/Lending
- Started 10 years ago under a government supported program
- About 20 members (10 f; 4 m); 0.5-2 acres
- Average age > 40 years?
- With Kilimo Salama since the outset (2010) (all are members)

**=> Typical representation of beneficiaries?**



# Experiences/Challenges (1)

## What they told us...

- **Weather forecasting and rain measurement systems**
  - old traditional systems known (flowering of certain plants, insects) but with limited use; at the same time access to new forecasting system limited too (internet, distribution of information)
  - Doubts – weather station
  - Rainfall and production pattern has changed (long-short season; different traditional grain crops during short season in earlier times- not covered by insurance system (sorghum, millet, pulses)
- **Registration** (position sms sending: not from home but from the field)
- **Use of different packages** (but mainly combination: seeds, fertilizer, pesticides not sure whether for maize only)
  - payment/compensation received for early planting contracts; no compensation for late planting contracts

# Experiences/Challenges (2)

- **Increase of premium price not well understood**  
(transition from Kilimo Salama-ACRE)
- **Market access; value addition; post-harvest**
- ? .....

## **In general positive feedback:**

- **More knowledgeable,**
- **higher production due to use of certified seeds and other such as fertilizers and pesticides**
- **feel more secure;**
- **can plan better:**
- **entered national health system insurance afterwards,**
- **?....**

# A few observations

- **Different packages including also other crops** (under development?)
- **Linking insurance system to value chain development programme** and/or other programmes – holistic approach (markets)
- **Communication / Information** (transition Kilimo Salama to ACRE) role and responsibility of farmer (business approach; who pays for what)
- **Access to weather information** (other information)
- **How to include e.g. young farmers with less savings?**
- ...?

# Open Questions

- **Products ?** (packages/combinations (seeds, fertilizers, chemicals), by group or individual, choices, ?)
- **Kind of crops and Livestock?**
- **Savings, profit, (livelihood questions – impact)**
- **....?**

# Organisation Field Visit

- **Long travel, limited insights reduced to meeting with one group**
- **Other places that could have been shown:** households, fields, partners such as aggregators (agrodealers, MFI, NGOs, ...), weather station, data analysis/processing system at ACRE office (?), 2nd group with young farmers, ....
- **Specific introduction to the field visits** (to get a better understanding about the products introduced and in use, ...)
- .....?

# New friends

