Programme Fact Sheet

Facts at a glance

Lead implementing partner: SNV Kenya

Impact areas:
1. Functioning Irrigation Acceleration Platforms
2. Improved use and access to smart water products and services
3. Improved access to finance
4. Increased access to SWS-related knowledge and demand created
5. Business linkages created and companies (Dutch/Kenyan) investing into improved SW-services and products

Programme Cost: 6 Million

Funding by: EKN Kenya

Partners: MetaMeta, Aqua for All, Practica, KIT

Duration: April 2016 to March 2020

Linkages to other SNV and Partners programmes:
1. HortiM pact
2. KM DP
3. MAMASE
4. DryDev

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Objectives

Contribute to increased water productivity in agriculture and increased income and food security through the development of a dynamic and sustainable ‘Smart Water Solutions’ (SWS) sector in Kenya, adequately serving small and medium-sized entrepreneurial (SME) farmers. The target is to increase water productivity by 20% for 20,000 SME farmers (at least 50% women), for them to have secured water access for production and become more resilient to climate change.

Overarching Approach

Farmer-led, market-based and women-empowering are the guiding principles for promoting smart water for agriculture as part of the entire value chain. The smart water solutions that are promoted concern market-based options, both products and services, that will address specific women priorities, save water and energy and serve sustainable resource use, but also in many cases reduce labour and inputs, mitigate weather related risks, promotes off-season production opportunities, which makes them extra attractive.

Target Beneficiaries

- Small and medium-sized entrepreneurial (SME) farmers in the programme target counties - Uasin Gishu, Nakuru, Nyeri, Meru, Laikipia and Machakos. Final counties will be determined at the end of a six month inception phase
- Suppliers and providers of smart water solutions - Kenya and Dutch private companies and entrepreneurs as well as NGOs and County agencies that have supportive role

Key Results

- Agricultural water productivity to increase with 20%
- 20,000 SME-farmers to adopt SWS, at least 50% women.
- 5 counties linked with 1 or more sustainable Irrigation Acceleration platforms, covering 200,000 farmers, promoting SWS. The programme will also initiate a platform at national level for impact at scale.
- Choices of smart water products & services doubled at county and lower level.
- 200 key SWS providers and suppliers (people) strengthened for improved service delivery to SME-farmers.
- 12,500 farmers access finance for SWS, with at least five providers of financial services.
- Over 8 million people aware of SWS through Shamba Shape Up.
- 10 Dutch companies and more Kenyan companies supported to invest into SWS sector.
**Programme Impact Area**

To operationalise the approach and achieve the key results, the programme will implement five priority impact areas.

- **Facilitate and form Irrigation Acceleration Platforms** in the targeted geographical areas which facilitate multi-stakeholder collaboration, where supply and demand side meet and interact, where innovation will be supported to more adequately satisfy the needs of farmers, and where private sector, farming communities and actors of the enabling environment engage.

- **Improve the use and access to smart water products and services**, including an increased range of SWS options to be available at local level, widely demonstrated to farmers, and supplied by strengthened private sector delivery systems.

- **Support improved access to finance**, which is a requirement for adoption of SWS, even by entrepreneurial farmers, and certainly if the programme wants to realise impact at scale. Various kinds of financial institutions need to be engaged to provide services, while the programme will also seek the development of new financial products.

- **Increase the access to SWS-related knowledge and create demand.** The possibilities of and opportunities provided by adopting SWS need to be widely shared to create substantial demand, creating a market for private sector suppliers to cater for. This will support upscaling of the results.

- **Create business linkages and companies (Dutch/Kenyan) investing into improved SW-services and products.** Increased dynamics and innovation are expected from supporting companies to enter and invest in the SWS sector in Kenya.

Gender and Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) are cross-cutting issues, receiving prominent attention in all outcomes. Most of the farm work is done by women, but they face different challenges in adopting SWS. A clear gender strategy will be developed and implemented that will ensure full participation of women throughout the programme implementation process and lead to concrete gender outcomes.