

ADAFARM Project

Guide to develop the focus groups with farmers

A. About adaptation to climate change

1. Do you think climate change is happening? How is it affecting to the community? (have they heard before about CC?) If not, we can introduce the concept.

2. Do you think you need to adapt to climate change?

3. What adaptation practices do you know? How are you trying to adapt?

4. Are there differences between farmers on how they adapt?
 - i. Who adapts better, and who worse?
 1. Differences between families
 2. Differences between villages
 - ii. Why?

B. About access to information

Draw a diagram with:

1. What would you need to adapt better, to improve your yields? (provide them with examples).

Resources needed
a. Access to credit
b. Access to market
c. Access to storage facilities /
d. Access to technology
e. Access to improved seeds
f. Access to fertilizer
g. Irrigation system
h.

2. Who should in your opinion be involved in providing you those resources?

3. From that list, do you need information about any of them?

Information needed
a. How to obtain credit/loan facilities

b. Where to sell farm products /how to sell, marketing issues
c. How and/or where to store/preserve my farm products
d. How/ Where to get implements/tools/machinery
e. Where to get seeds for cultivation (Better adapted seeds)
f. Where to get fertilizer
g. Post-harvest activities
h. Agronomic practices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to do an efficient use of fertilizer and other chemicals • Pest and disease control / pesticide application /identification of diseases and pests • Planting methods • Adapt to Climate change
i. Access to knowledge
j. Better information about prices of products
k. New crops

4. Farmer’s information seeking behaviour. What do they do to get new information? How do they get new information? Who do they ask for agricultural information?

Sources of information	
a. Personal experience	Internal system (Community)
b. Friends, neighbours and relatives	Internal system (Community)
c. More experienced farmers / Fellow farmers / Contact farmers	Internal system (Community)
d. Farmers cooperatives or associations	Internal system (Community)
e. Extension agents	External system
f. Community meetings	Internal system (Community)
g. Community leaders, Age grades	Internal system (Community)
h. NGOs or government projects (if present in the area)	External system
i. Bank	External system
j. Agro-based industries salesmen	External system
k. School teachers	External system

5. Aka their perception about how strong is the connection: based on the quality and frequency of the exchange of information. +++: very useful and frequent exchange; - low useful and low frequency of exchange of information.

6. How do they get information from those sources?

Means of information provision
a. Oral communication
b. Demonstration fields/visits
c. Radio
d. Mobile phone (phone, messages)
e. Mobile phone (internet)
f. Mobile phone (social networks: whatsapp, facebook, other)
g. (Mobile extension) film shows
h. Television
i. Internet / Computer
j. Libraries

k. Church
l. Conference/workshops/seminars
m. Posters
n. Newspapers and magazines
o. Extension leaflets (reports, newsletters)
p. Agricultural journals

Once we have the map:

7. How do farmers use that information? Please, give me 5 Examples of how they have implemented new information. (how they use the information) (from the 5 most important connections).

8. How and to whom do they transfer information? How do farmers interact for exchanging information, knowledge, resources with:
 - Other farmers
 - With other interactions/institutions/partners
 - The government?

9. Importance of leading farmers. Do they have leading farmers? (Farmers that are very good, and could spread new knowledge between other farmers).

10. Do you know any agrarian institutes or agrarian educational institutions? Do you think they are important?

11. How could agricultural information provision be improved?

12. What are the main limiting factors for improving agricultural performance (productivity and sustainability)?

13. Is the information the farmers get from the government relevant to them?

IF THERE IS TIME AVAILABLE

1. What are the main limiting factors for agricultural information provision? You can answer by filling the following table using a scale of 0 to 5 (5 = the most important; 0 = not a barrier):

Barriers / limiting factors for agricultural information provision	Importance/bigger problem
a. State of roads	
b. Availability of vehicles to transport agricultural officers	
c. Capacity of the agricultural officers	
d. Farmers illiteracy	
e. Lack of visitation by agricultural extension officers	
f. Lack of agricultural information materials	
g. Language barrier (own/native language)	
h. Lack of (personal) radio	
i. Lack of (personal) television	
j. No nearby library	
k. Lack of access to computer	
l. Outdated information	
m. Poor format of information carrier	
n. Lack of funds to acquire information/Low income	
o. Lack of awareness on existence of different information sources	
p. High cost of ICTs	
q. Lack of electricity	
r. Lack of information service centres	
s. Lack of willingness to look for information	
t.	
u.	

2. Do farmers want to get/receive information? Yes/No. Would be farmers willing to pay for it? Yes/No (“No”: for those who need information to improve their productivity but are not able to pay for it because of financial constraints, and who appeals the government to offer such service).