



Develop Practical Procedures to Improve income and higher market Potential of Food Crops through Investment in Value Addition Technology

TECHNOLOGY DESCRIPTION OF VALUE ADDITION

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

Value-added agriculture refers to manufacturing and production processes by which the values of primary agricultural commodities are increased, thereby increasing the economic value and consumer appeal of an agricultural commodity. It also involves the process of transforming the raw agricultural product into something new that changes a product from its original crude form, and as a consequence, improving the revenue potentials of producers. This technology includes intensive farming and extending an agricultural product's potential which doesn't require large expanses of land to achieve profitability; adding value to a product is important for maximizing profit. In Liberia, we have not yet optimized the economic benefits of agricultural products due to several impediments, including inadequate knowledge of appropriate value-adding technologies, and lack of infrastructure facilities. Value addition is an important concept and approach in today's business environment where innovation in farming and agricultural food processing are important to remain competitive and to optimize returns from an enterprise. It has the potential to create jobs, especially at a time when unemployment is widening. Adding value to products gives recipients many choices in selecting products as per their need.

CLIMATE RATIONALE FOR VALUE ADDITION TECHNOLOGY

The technology contributes to adaptation needs by ensuring the availability of food crops all year round especially for rural people thereby improving farmers' incomes and enabling farmers save more money. The technology also contributes to national environmental development priorities by preventing pollution through reducing wastage of agricultural products. It creates the opportunity for product diversification which could fill in food deficit and at times during the offseason of crops.

AMBITION OF VALUE ADDITION TECHNOLOGY

SCALE FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND TIME-LINE

It is envisioned that by 2027, at least 30% of the farming population would be capacitated, have access to and start using this technology. The goal and objective for the deployment and diffusion of Value Addition Technology in the Liberian society are to guarantee the availability of food crops all year round especially for rural farmers. Additionally, is to ensure farmer's incomes and savings are improved. Achieving these objectives will require the involvement of key national stakeholders including policy and decision makers, Agro-industrial institutions and actors, research and training institutions, Agricultural NGOs, and Civil Society Organizations. Gender mainstreaming is at the core of the implementation of this technology.



EXPECTED IMPACTS OF VALUE ADDITION TECHNOLOGY

Even though Value Addition technology is somewhat new to Liberia, it is anticipated that it will impact the agriculture sector as follows;

- It will reduce wastage of agricultural products thereby preventing pollution.
- Improves farmer's income level and bring about economic stability.
- Improves income of both the producers and sellers of agricultural products.
- It has a higher market potential as there is a greater need to save time and money.
- It guarantees the availability of food crops all year round especially for rural people.

POLICY ACTIONS FOR VALUE ADDITION TECHNOLOGY IMPLEMENTATION

EXISTING POLICIES IN RELATION TO THE TECHNOLOGY

- Food and Agriculture Policy and Strategy 2008
- National Food Security and Nutrition Strategy 2009
- Liberia Agriculture Sector Investment Program 2009
- The New Policy for Agricultural Advisory Services of 2009

PROPOSED POLICIES TO ENHANCE TECHNOLOGY IMPLEMENTATION

- Ensure financial and lending institutions provide reduced interest rates or even free-interest loans to firms, entities and entrepreneurs with proven and predictable needs and desire for purchasing implements
- Revisit existing policies, laws, and strategies to conform them to current realities
- Ensure existing policies and strategies appertaining to said technologies are implemented
- Mainstream financial incentives for local entrepreneurs into the Liberia Economic Recovery Plan (LERP)
- Integrate tax adjustment and exemption into its processes

COSTS RELATED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES

The technical and financial supports require for the implementation of this technology is **USD125,000.00**

USEFUL INFORMATION

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