

WOMEN ACCESSING REALIGNED MARKETS (WARM) PILOT PROJECT

END OF PROJECT EVALUATION REPORT



September 2012

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JIMAT Development Consultants

ACRONYMS

ACTESA	Alliance for Commodity Trade of Eastern and Southern Africa
ADMARC	Agricultural Development and Marketing Corporation
AGRESSO	Agricultural Gender Roles and Extension Support Services
AISP	Agricultural Input Subsidy Programme
AGRA	Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa
BTOR	Back-to-office Reports
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CISANET	Civil Society Agriculture Network
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
DADO	District Agriculture and Development Officer
ECA	School of Communication Arts-
UEM	Eduardo Mondlane University
EoP	End of Project
FAEF/UEM	Faculty of Agronomy and Forestry Engineering-Eduardo Mondlane University
FANR	Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources
FANRPAN	Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Analysis Network
FDC	Foundation for Community Development
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GPI	Gender Parity Index
GPS	Global positioning system
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Virus
HVI	Household Vulnerability Index
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MP	Member of Parliament
MTR	Mid-term Review
NASFAM	National Smallholder Farmers' Association of Malawi
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
PARP	Action Plan for Poverty Reduction
PIVA	Partner Institutional Viability Analysis
SWET	Story Workshop
TPA	Theatre for Policy Advocacy
TOR	Terms of Reference
UNAC	National Union of Peasants (Mozambique)
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WARM	Women Accessing Realigned Markets

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Executive Summary

A. Background and WARM Project Objectives

1. The project entitled “Women Accessing Realigned Markets (WARM)” was implemented by the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN) as a three-year pilot in Mozambique and Malawi starting in 2009 and ending on 31 May 2012. The project was funded by a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation of USD 900 150. FANRPAN leveraged funding from USAID and SDC to support the functions of the Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator, the Chief Executive Officer and the Communications team in the project.
2. The project was designed and launched in response to the plight of women farmers. Despite producing more than 90 % of the food in sub-Saharan Africa and bearing the bulk of the responsibility for agricultural labour, food processing and storage, women have very limited access to credit, labour, fertilizer, seed and other production inputs. As a result, agricultural productivity among women farmers remains low; leaving women farmers, especially women-headed households poor and more food insecure.
3. Overall, the pilot WARM project sought to mobilize, inform and empower women farmers by strengthening their abilities to advocate for agricultural policies and programmes that align input and output markets to women’s needs. It addressed this objective through the use of an innovative, culturally appropriate tool, Theatre for Policy Advocacy (TPA).
4. The WARM project had three key pillars: (i) the message; (ii) evidence; and (iii) development support. The first pillar, the *message*, which could be depicting the challenges facing women farmers, is conveyed through theatrical performances by community-based drama groups and post-performance dialogues with the audience.
5. Regarding the second project pillar, the *evidence*, the project used empirical evidence from research studies commissioned with the specific objective of generating scientific information on the challenges faced by women farmers which would feed into the development of content for the play scripts.
6. The third project pillar, *development support*, was designed to link women farmers with development agencies. It provided both parties with opportunities for shared learning during TPA processes, and facilitated rapid uptake and immediate application of project outputs by development programmes.
7. The TPA tool had a two-tier mechanism, combining theatre and policy advocacy into an applied theatre method, hence the term ‘TPA’. The first component of the TPA mechanism involved theatrical performances by trained women farmers designed to convey *strategically selected and packaged* messages with a specific target audience

(including, community leaders, district agricultural development officers, Members of Parliament (MPs) with potential to leverage policy changes that remove bottlenecks women farmers are facing in the agricultural value chain). In *post-performance dialogues*, the second component in the TPA process, community facilitators engaged the audience (community members, leaders, service providers and policy makers) in discussions to generate solutions.

8. In addition, the project packaged the emerging messages, challenges and solutions to inform policy dialogues at national, regional and international forums.
9. To capacitate all key stakeholders, the project supported the training of women farmers to participate in theatre performances as actors, and in policy advocacy as champions representing other women on issues affecting women farmers. It also trained agricultural researchers in participatory action research, equipping them with skills to analyze policy issues of concern to smallholder women farmers.
10. **Specific objectives** of the WARM project were to:
 - i. provide a platform for communities to dialogue on issues that affect women farmers' access to input markets,
 - ii. empower women farmers to play a more active role in driving the development agenda,
 - iii. align development research agenda to priority issues affecting women farmers,
 - iv. align input supply institutions and programs to needs of women farmers, and
 - v. bring women farmer concerns into national and regional policy debates.

B. Project Partners, Pilot Sites and Implementation Processes

11. In Mozambique, FANRPAN partnered with (i) the Foundation for Community Development (FDC) to identify the project sites, mobilize women farmers to participate in the project and to train farmers on policy advocacy, (ii) Eduardo Mondlane University-Faculty of Agronomy and Forestry Engineering (FAEF/UEM) (FANRPAN Country Node) for the research component and to facilitate policy dialogue between farmers, researchers and policy makers, and Eduardo Mondlane University-School of Communication Arts (ECA/UEM) for training farmers on community theatre.
12. In Malawi, the partners were (i) the National Smallholder Farmers' Association of Malawi (NASFAM) who assisted in identifying project sites, mobilized women farmers to participate in the project and trained farmers on policy advocacy, (ii) Civil Society Agriculture Network (CISANET) (FANRPAN Country Node) whose role was to facilitate policy dialogue between farmers, researchers and policy makers, (iii) The Story Workshop Education Trust (SWET) who trained farmers on theatre performance, and (iv) Bunda College of Agriculture who carried out commissioned research whose results were used to feed into policy advocacy through community theatre.
13. In Mozambique, the project was implemented in Boane and Marracuene districts, whereas in Malawi, the project was piloted in the districts of Lilongwe and Kasungu.

14. To achieve its objectives, the WARM project carried out a number of activities in collaboration with its implementation partners, and these included the following:
- Training agricultural researchers in participatory action research;
 - Supporting the trained researchers to undertake research (e.g., collection and analysis of agricultural productivity data from pilot sites to gather evidence on challenges facing women farmers);
 - Analyzing national agricultural input distribution systems and policies;
 - Packaging the research data and building databases on input supply and productivity;
 - Disseminating the research results;
 - Developing theatre scripts in partnership with experts in communication arts and applied theatre and based on research evidence gathered by the project partners;
 - Training women policy advocates and community theatre groups;
 - Organizing and staging theatre performances and post-theatre dialogues in target communities and other appropriate venues;
 - Documenting issues and challenges faced by women farmers, and disseminating the project outputs.

C. Rationale for the End of Project Evaluation

15. The End of Project Evaluation for WARM project was commissioned as part of a mandatory requirement under the grant agreement signed between FANRPAN and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Overall, the EoP sought to assess the quality of project design, implementation and the results. In the process of doing this analysis the EoP was expected to assess the effectiveness of the TPA tool, determine the extent to which project objectives were met and draw pertinent lessons and recommendations for future programming (with respect to scaling-up and scaling-out).
16. More specifically, the **objectives of the assignment** as stated in the Terms of Reference (Annex A) were to:
- Establish the extent to which the project has achieved its stated objectives (i.e. the level of achievement of activities, outputs and the overall objectives as stated in the project document), taking into account its target stakeholder needs;
 - Evaluate the adequacy of project implementation strategies, processes and structures, including assessment of the institutional and operational set-up and whether they were the best to achieve the project objectives;
 - Assess the success or failure of the Theatre for Policy Advocacy methodology, by identifying what has worked or has not worked and the sustainability of the achievements made by the investment; and
 - Identify key lessons and propose practical recommendations for consideration in guiding follow-up actions (i.e., up scaling and out scaling of the project in Malawi and Mozambique or other FANRPAN countries).

D. Study Findings

D1 Project Design

D1.1 *Relevance of Project to Existing Initiatives*

17. The objectives of the WARM project were consistent with FANRPAN's vision for 'a food secure Africa free from hunger and poverty' and its mission to 'promote effective food, agriculture and natural resources (FANR) policies'.
18. They were also aligned to the Government of Mozambique Gender Strategy for the Agricultural Sector and the Action Plan for Poverty Reduction (PARP, 2010-2014). These national strategy documents aim to address bottlenecks hindering smallholder access to agricultural inputs.
19. The findings of the EoP also confirm that the project objectives were supportive of the aims of the Malawi's Agricultural Input Subsidy Program (AISP). The program has been running since 2005 with the goal of improving smallholder farmers' productivity and food security through enhanced access to improved seeds and fertilizer.
20. At regional level, objectives of WARM were consistent with those of the Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Program (CAADP) Pillars 2 and 3. Under Pillar 2, CAADP seeks to increase market access through improved rural infrastructure and other trade-related interventions, whereas Pillar 3 supports programs that increase agricultural productivity in smallholder farming.
21. Globally, the areas of intervention of the project largely corresponded with the main strategies identified by the World Bank Report 2008 (World Bank, 2007) for increasing the contribution of agriculture to development, which are poverty reduction, strengthened market linkages, and innovations through science and technology. Equally, objectives of WARM were found to be in tandem with recommendations of the World Bank/FAO Gender in Agriculture Sourcebook, which support initiatives and policies that increase women's access to markets (World Bank, 2009), as well as the World Development Report (2012), which advocates for the enactment of policies that increase women's access to economic opportunities.

D1.2 *Clarity of Project Objectives*

22. The WARM project had a comprehensive project (proposal) document with a clear vision and purpose, a log frame with well-defined project objectives and expected outputs. Contract terms with implementation partners clearly outlined activities and expected outputs, as well as timelines.

D1.3 *Appropriateness of the TPA Tool and its Design Components*

23. Both pilot countries found the TPA as an effective advocacy tool for several reasons. It was found to be culturally acceptable. It worked well even in low literacy communities and applied theatre had some goodwill gained from previous successful application in both countries. Mozambique had a good history of using applied theatre in HIV/AIDS

educational programmes, and for promoting the smooth re-integration of war-traumatised victims into communities.

24. Combining theatre and advocacy made the tool more robust. Theatre strengthened cooperation between farmers and advocacy enabled women farmers to become more assertive and to use diplomacy when necessary.
25. However, implementing partners felt that the project needed to define mechanisms and allocate responsibilities for follow-up on commitments made at community level by decision makers, policy makers and service providers.

D 1.4 Institutional Arrangements

26. The project had a full-time Regional Coordinator reporting to the FANRPAN CEO, relevant support staff in the FANRPAN Communications Unit, and the Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator.
27. Regarding support for participatory action research (Bunda College of Agriculture-Malawi and UEM/FAEF-Mozambique) and theatre performances (Story Workshop-Malawi and UEM/ECA- Mozambique), implementers were relevant, capable and appropriately skilled.
28. At the grassroots level, NASFAM and FDC shared common objectives with FANRPAN especially on policy analysis and creating platforms for farmers to dialogue with policy makers. Consequently, the study concludes that FANRPAN's choice of NASFAM and FDC as implementing partners for the policy advocacy component was the right one. NASFAM is a farmer association focused on improving supply channels for farm inputs and linking farmers to output markets. FDC is an NGO operating countrywide and working with vulnerable groups, especially women and children. At the time of the EoP, FDC was running a Women's Economic Empowerment Project whose objectives included strengthening access of women farmers to markets.
29. Contracts with implementing partners were comprehensive in spelling out obligations and reporting timelines. Implementing partners largely met their commitments.

D 2 Project Inputs and Transactional Costs

30. Total funding for the WARM project amounted to USD 900,150.00. Overhead costs (indirect costs), at 15% of the modified project costs (costs excluding equipment), were in accordance with FANRPAN policy, and within international best practice standards. The proportion spent on overheads was modest and acceptable.
31. FANRPAN received a total of US\$ 900,150 from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF). FANRPAN also leveraged funding from USAID and SDC to support salaries for the Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator, the Chief Executive Officer and the Communications team. FANRPAN completed the pilot project within the allocated timeframe and the available resources were fully utilized. Total expenditure incurred during the project period amounted to US\$907,615, and this was only 0.83% above the original grant from BMGF. US\$377,860 of the total amount received was used for non-

salary programme activities. US\$529,755 of the total funds were used for project monitoring, personnel and administrative costs.

32. FANRPAN linked disbursements to achievement of milestones. This was good for financial accountability and the achievement of targets. The approach worked in most cases (where implementing institutions had institutions with abilities to pre-finance) and failed in a few cases (where institutions did not have a capacity to pre-finance, e.g., Bunda College).
33. FANRPAN demonstrated appropriate flexibility in carrying out a number of un-budgeted yet critical activities. These included the Mid-Term Review exercise and training of women farmers on advocacy. FANRPAN also facilitated the participation of women farmers in regional and internal platforms as opportunities arose. This was highly motivating and transformational on the part of the women advocates capacitated by the project. FANRPAN was able to secure funds from USAID to facilitate the above-mentioned un-budgeted for yet critical engagements.

D3 Project Execution Performance

D3.1 Project Inception

34. Timing for a number of inception activities was appropriate. The project was launched officially on the sidelines of the FANRPAN Regional Policy Dialogue in Maputo in September 2009. This was within three months of the June 2009 signature of the grant agreement. The venue and packaging of the launch at a high-level policy meeting with a wide spectrum of representation of stakeholders significantly promoted visibility of the project. In addition, the common visioning meetings organized for the project were close to schedule, including the Maputo meeting on 31 August 2010 (FANRPAN, 2011).
35. However, the negotiation and signature of agreements with implementing partners in the pilot countries took place between 25 May 2010 and 22 October 2010. The process of identifying and contracting partners took longer than originally planned and this was mainly due to unforeseen circumstances. Some of the contact persons in potential partner institutions who during the time of writing the project proposal had expressed interest to work with FANRPAN were no longer with the same institutions by the time the grant agreement for WARM was signed. This created a gap that necessitated FANRPAN to look for new partners.
36. Given the difficulties in identifying and negotiating new partnerships, and the fact that the project needed at least three partners in each country, the prolonged time for partnership establishment was justified, though the delays had a knock-on effect on the achievement of the first set of milestones.
37. To minimize knock-on effects on lined milestones, FANRPAN took the right management decision to maintain timelines for the remaining milestones. The time constraint, spurred

innovation among partners, as they adjusted their implementation approaches accordingly to proactively deal with the shorter time available to deliver outputs. For instance, in Malawi, implementers decided to overlap participatory action research with advocacy training activities and this was an effective strategy for efficiently managing the shorter time of implementation.

D3.2 Project Implementation

38. On participatory action research, Bunda College of Agriculture in Malawi combined participatory research studies with a follow-up study on agricultural input subsidies. This strategy enabled FANRPAN to exploit economies of scale that mitigated budgetary limitations (the requirement to have GIS data was a good strategy in improving the rigor of the analysis, but added costs rendering the study budget inadequate). Besides pooling funds, FANRPAN also collected two sets of data which complemented each other well in describing a more complete picture of the constraints that women farmers face in that country.
39. In Mozambique, delays in implementing the research component compelled the ECA/UEM to proceed to develop script storylines based on information gathered in post-performance dialogues that took place immediately after TPA performances introduced by students. Research results were used later to validate initial findings. Although this sequencing of activities used in Mozambique was different from what was originally planned it showed the flexibility of the project to adapt and address emerging challenges. This flexibility added a dimension of innovativeness that expanded the scope of the testing of the TPA tool. It also revealed the positive and proactive manner in which project managers addressed challenges as they emerged.
40. In relation to TPA training and community theatre performances, the planned approach was to establish and train community theatre groups in six sites (as stated in partner contracts). Implementers in Malawi were able to achieve this. They set up three community theatre groups in each of the two pilot districts, each group having the opportunity to perform once only. Mozambique implementers introduced modifications and devised a strategy to have two theatre troupes, one for each district, each performing in three villages. Although not foreseen, having two approaches for the TPA component enabled FANRPAN to test the tool more broadly and in different settings.
41. However, the evaluators note that due to this flexibility to vary the approaches between the two countries, FANRPAN missed the opportunity to test a specific approach on TPA in a consistent manner in two countries. What FANRPAN managed to achieve, which was also important, was to test the TPA tool using different approaches, but the applicability of each approach in different country contexts could not be tested as methodologies that were followed were different in each country. The question FANRPAN can answer is one of “which TPA approach works better than the other”, but cannot answer the question of “which TPA approach works in more than one country”. If FANRPAN had standardized the approach to TPA, it could have answered the second question but not the first. Both

questions are important to answer, and this experience suggests the need to incorporate the two aspects of testing in future designs of similar projects.

42. The variations in approach taken by the two pilot countries would suggest that perhaps FANRPAN needed to develop and enforce TPA procedures to standardize the testing of the tool in both countries and enable the project to compare results from the same approach in Malawi and in Mozambique.
43. Due to the flexibility to vary the approaches to TPA between the two countries, an important question, which can be answered, is: *whether every community has to have a theatre group to benefit from TPA performances?* Our conclusion based on the experience of Mozambique is that it could be more cost-effective to have travelling community theatre troupes covering several villages as opposed to having one group per community and having fewer performances. At the same time, the evidence from Malawi also shows that the advantage of having a theatre group in every community – the group can identify the issues affecting its community in a particular agricultural season quickly and come up with more relevant messages that take into account socio-cultural sensitivities in the area when packaging its messages.
44. By bringing several partners together who specialize in different aspects of development, to implement the TPA component, the project was able to enhance the collaboration between these national level partners, and some of the partners (e.g., Bunda College of Agriculture and The Story Workshop) had not collaborated before. Through WARM, the researchers and the development agencies could see the benefits of working together more closely. All four partners in Malawi found their collaboration in implementing the WARM project innovative and effective in delivering a more effective package of development support to the smallholder women farmers. The experience gained in implementing the project together showed that NASFAM and CISANET could work more strongly together and join forces in policy advocacy at national level. In addition, involving researchers in the work that The Story Workshop does enhances the relevance and quality of the messages conveyed through the community theatre performances.
45. The involvement of universities (EMU and Bunda College) also created golden opportunities for students to participate in real research work, which contributed to their attainment of post-graduate degrees. The WARM pilot project also created a rare opportunity for students from the Eduardo Mondlane University School of Communication Arts to participate in real-life research, and more importantly, interact with smallholder farmers within their communities and produce high quality scripts. This strengthened the quality of teaching of students pursuing studies in Communication Arts.
46. Coordination of these partnerships largely worked well and the evidence is that the relationships built during these processes will continue well after completion of the pilot project.

D3.3 Monitoring, Learning and Evaluation System

47. The quality of monitoring and learning was high. In addition to an in-built broader monitoring and evaluation system used by FANRPAN for its various activities, FANRPAN developed a specific M&E plan for WARM for monitoring progress against the set milestones. Personnel from the FANRPAN M&E unit, guided by the FANRPAN CEO and Project Coordinator, participated in joint monitoring of the project. This included periodic visits to field sites. Furthermore, the M & E unit was fully involved in the mid-term review of the project in July 2011.
48. Each implementation partner had contractual obligations to submit quarterly progress reports to FANRPAN, and a project completion report on the overall performance of the project and detailing lessons learned. In addition, implementers were involved in common visioning, reflection and joint planning meetings whose agenda included lessons learning and sharing of best practices.
49. National and regional policy dialogues organized by FANRPAN offered additional opportunities for reflecting on progress, sharing of lessons learnt and soliciting new wisdom. Finally, the project had an end-of-project evaluation in-built into the design.
50. In assessing the quality of the project's M&E system, the EoP concludes that the system was robust. Outputs of the M&E work fed into decision making on how to improve implementation. The only gap noted was in relation to the delayed preparation of the project-specific M&E plan. The plan was prepared almost one year into project implementation.

D4 Output Delivery

51. Under capacity building for participatory action research, the project was able to train 13 researchers from Malawi, Mozambique, S. Africa and Zimbabwe. Of these trainees, 6 (or 46%) were women and this was a notable achievement given the short duration of implementation.
52. In relation to training of women farmers to become policy advocates, the project trained 14 women in Malawi and 18 in Mozambique. These numbers are high considerable that WARM was breaking relatively new ground.
53. On training on community theatre performance, the project trained 133 women farmers to become actors in Malawi. In Mozambique, due to the change in approach, only 18 people were trained. Of these, thirteen were from the farming community and the other five were university students undertaking studies in applied theatre.
54. The research studies to review and establish the impact of agricultural input distribution and support systems culminated in two detailed reports and information databases, one

for Mozambique, and the other for Malawi. This provides important baseline data for comparisons with future interventions.

55. The TPA performances in Malawi attracted sizeable crowds totaling 9,460 people. Women constituted 58% of the audience. The presence of a large proportion of men (42%) was a success in itself. It clearly demonstrated that communities did not perceive the project as a “women’s club”. Mozambique TPA events attracted a total audience of 3,797 and women made up 66% of this number.
56. The project funded women farmers and project implementers to engage in various high-level national, regional and international policy dialogue platforms. Documentation of lessons learnt included publications on what WARM was all about and its major achievements in a wide range of media platforms.
57. For WARM, FANRPAN created for the project a dedicated web page (www.fanrpan.org/themes/eachproject/warm/) on the organization’s website for purposes of disseminating project outputs and resource materials. The site is highly visible, easy to reach, comprehensive, and has a layout that is appealing and effective. Some project materials currently available on the site include the Gates Foundation Gender Impact Strategy for Agricultural Development and the World Bank/FAO Gender in Agriculture Sourcebook.
58. Use of Geographical Positioning Systems (GPS) in the Malawi study provided a sound basis for future tracking and monitoring of each farmer. However, rather than confine data collection to female-headed households during studies on agricultural productivity, it would have been more appropriate for both countries to collect gender-disaggregated data so that the baseline status of women farmers could have been contrasted with that for men and untangle gender-related disparities.

D5 Project Outcomes/ Impacts

59. Due to the short implementation period, it was still too early to expect the project to have achieved some measurable impacts. The EoP Evaluation therefore focused on outcomes and the analysis was at two levels. At the macro-level, it assessed institutional/environmental or systemic changes in terms of re-alignment of policies in support of women farmers. At the micro-level (i.e., household and community levels), the evaluation assessed changes that had taken place in support systems, and levels of access to services by women farmers.

D5.1 Project Outcomes at the Macro-level

60. In Malawi, through TPA activities, the project successfully linked farmers to policy makers, decision makers and service providers. Farmers were able to meet the minister of agriculture and parliamentary committees. Farmers also engaged with extension staff, gender specialists, farmer organizations, input service providers, researchers, and policy makers/members of parliament (MPs) and dialogued on critical constraints that farmers wanted addressed.

61. The various policy makers, decision makers and service providers whom the farmers met made several pledges during post-performance discussions especially in Malawi. At Chimpenzu village, the sitting member of parliament (Honorable Kuthloya) pledged to support the Wills, Inheritance and Deceased Estates Bill in parliament during its tabling. In Sokelele Village, the local MP, Mr. Kamanga, pledged to support the same bill. Subsequently, the Bill was approved and has since become law.
62. Benefits also accrued to partner institutions. In Mozambique, students studying Applied Arts staged the introductory TPA performances. They conducted 18 performances altogether. The exercise presented opportunities for students to apply theory to practice, an unintended project spinoff. As a result, the leadership of the University (the Head of ECA-UEM) realized that students needed community exposure and incorporated this aspect into the school curriculum.
63. In Malawi, the project linked researchers to decision makers, and in addition, the researchers gained skills in using the Household Vulnerability Index (HVI) tool, another unintended benefit. HVI is a tool developed by FANRPAN with the help of consultants (Development Data). It is a livelihoods assessment tool that uses five household asset indices (social, labour, financial, physical, environmental) to determine the level of household vulnerability.
64. Results from the agricultural input subsidy programme confirmed the need for the Malawi Government to institute an exit strategy for households that graduate out of food insecurity with time.
65. At the global level, in recognition of FANRPAN's ingenuity in introducing theatre to assist women farmers in championing policy advocacy, the World-Watch Institute nominated the WARM project as one of the 2011 Innovations that Nourish the Earth. Processes used in the project were documented as key contributions to the eminent 2011 State of the World Book, **'Innovations that Nourish the Planet'**.
66. The project has also attracted extensive coverage from diverse media houses that include international electronic media houses (e.g., the BBC and Aljezeera) and print media (e.g. the Guardian Newspaper, the Namibia Economist), among others. NEPAD and FARA were among many development agencies that featured WARM outputs in their communications media. Key constraints highlighted by women farmers included limited access to credit, high post-harvest losses due to distant markets and high transport costs, domestic violence which militated against their participation in decision making in the home and their control over productive resources such as land and finance, non-availability of appropriate seed. Among the solutions suggested by women farmers were: (1) mechanisms of accessing credit should be simplified for farmers; (2) creation of local more reliable markets for farmers (greater involvement of government); (3) increasing support for agro-processing to extend the shelf-life of farm produce; (4) strengthening of input supply systems to avail appropriate inputs (e.g., seed); and (5) stronger involvement

of the local authorities in mobilising communities to address the issue of domestic violence.

D5.2 Project Outcomes/ Impacts at Household and Community Level

67. The study found evidence that women in post-performance dialogue audiences overcame own inhibitions and traversed social norms. For instance, Chewa women publicly articulated issues despite social norms that discourage women from addressing public gatherings in the presence of men.
68. The WARM project enhanced information flow to and among women that under normal circumstances would not have reached them. For instance, in Marracuene district (Mozambique), communities became aware of the existence of seven million meticaïs earmarked for district development, and in Malawi, they became aware of the ‘Wills, Inheritance and Deceased Estates’ Bill, then under consideration in parliament.
69. Capacity building in policy advocacy gave rise to individual women with abilities to articulate women farmer issues in high-level policy dialogues. The example of Teresa Sumbane who effortlessly and diplomatically engaged President Armando Emilio Guebeza of Mozambique during a presidential dialogue at State House, is testimony to the skills gained. The issue of land rights presented during the April 2011 presidential dialogue has resulted in a follow-up at provincial level in which the President urged administrators to prioritize this issue in their work.

D6 Utility

70. All implementation partners validated the relevance of the WARM project and the effectiveness of the TPA tool in enabling women farmers to communicate their challenges to leaders, decision makers and policy makers.
71. As a result, the project has brought crucial policy issues affecting the women farmers into the public debate at the community, district, national, regional and international levels. The TPA tool has attracted global recognition for its innovativeness over a very brief three-year period of implementation.
72. To consolidate the impact of the project, there is need to widen geographical coverage of the intervention within pilot countries (scaling out) and outside these countries (up scaling). The project is ready for replication in other African countries. The experience of the pilot project confirms that the TPA tool would work well even in countries where the adult literacy rate is low, illiteracy affects a larger proportion of women farmers, and socio-cultural barriers hinder women’s progress.

D7 Sustainability

73. FANRPAN did not create parallel structures for implementation of the WARM project but, instead, used existing institutions with mandates that are similar to roles assigned to them under the pilot project. In both countries, the work sponsored through the pilot project showed good prospects for sustainability after project termination.

74. Theatre groups are likely to continue with support from local partner institutions. For example, in Mozambique, women from Boane district have created three more scripts reflective of the challenges they are grappling with, including one on HIV/AIDS. In addition, they used advocacy skills acquired through the pilot project to engage local leadership to set up a neighbourhood security system that is working well. The system has strengthened local structures that are fighting crime.
75. At the time of the end-of-project evaluation, theatre groups in Malawi had taken the initiative to package and stage a new generation of theatre performances, producing new scripts to address marketing constraints encountered during the 2011/12 soya bean marketing-season.
76. The FANRPAN – Household Vulnerability Index (HVI) tool that was applied in the study of farmer livelihoods will continue to be used by students and university lecturers in their research projects, it will also continue to help implementers in the monitoring of impact of their development projects.
77. In Malawi, trained women advocates will continue with their work by participating in policy dialogue platforms organized by NASFAM.
78. Extension workers were involved and will continue to use TPA groups for delivery of agricultural extension messages.

E. Challenges and Lessons Learned

E.1 Challenges

79. Turnover of key contact persons in institutions originally identified for partnership with led FANRPAN to identify new partners. The process of identifying suitable national partners for the WARM project needed more time than originally envisaged, which shortened the time for implementation of project activities on the ground, but once FANRPAN secured the partnerships, implementation went on smoothly.
80. Researchers in both Mozambique and Malawi experienced challenges in finding historical data relating to input distribution and subsidy programmes.

E.2 Lessons Learned

81. Implementation of a project (such as WARM) which combines, research, theatre and advocacy requires participation of many national level partners. Identifying and negotiating with these partners takes time and between 6-16 months would be required for partner identification and common visioning during the inception phase.
82. Use of the TPA tool enables detailed discussions to take place not just on farming but other social issues of concern to the community as well. The tool allows the audience to disclose and discuss these issues freely since the issues are not personalized.

83. Early sensitization and involvement of decision makers in the project is crucial if they are to fully participate in subsequent policy dialogues and respond positively to research findings. Hence, initial mapping and sensitization of key stakeholders should precede introduction of the TPA.
84. To maximize turnout, scheduling of TPA activities should be in the dry season, when farmers have completed cropping and other wet-season activities.
85. Linking disbursement of funds to deliverables works in a situation where FANRPAN makes advance payments sufficient to meet costs of activities required to produce the milestones that will trigger subsequent payments, or where the implementing partners have some capacity and willingness to pre-finance some of the activities to produce the milestones that will trigger additional payments. If advance payments are insufficient to cover activities needed to produce the milestone that trigger subsequent payments then a vicious cycle sets in whereby on one hand, the implementing partner is not able to deliver the milestone and on the other hand, FANRPAN cannot disburse another tranche until the partner has fulfilled the contractual obligation of delivering the milestone.

F. Missed Opportunities

86. An opportunity was missed to **introduce the project early to relevant and crucial national level policy makers and leaders of institutions providing services to farmers** so that research findings could have been fed into decision-making processes more effectively.
87. The project **lacked a holistic and well-coordinated advocacy strategy** – how to take issues identified through the TPA performances and post-TPA dialogues to relevant decision makers using multiple channels and media. In Malawi for instance, some of the decision makers (such as the managers of the Agricultural Development and Marketing Corporation) needed clearance from central government first to attend the TPA performances at community level. In most cases, they did not turn up and there was a need to follow them up separately using other methods of policy advocacy. There was no specific strategy on how to follow-up such stakeholders, especially those that are very sensitive to criticism by a group (public) but may be willing to make some adjustments if approached separately.
88. The opportunity to **follow-up commitments made by policy makers during post-TPA dialogues** was missed because this activity did not have a specific budget allocated to it. Ideally, it should have been one of the roles of the FANRPAN national node in the pilot country or the institution that was responsible for training women farmers as advocates.
89. The project would have benefitted from **stronger links and collaboration with service providers** during implementation, to facilitate a more rapid uptake of project outputs, and faster re-alignment of input services to meet the needs of women farmers.

90. Studies on agricultural productivity and agricultural input subsidy programmes could have collected **gender-disaggregated data**, rather than confine data collection to female-headed households. This former approach would have provided a more effective baseline for the analysis of gender-based interventions, and improvements to the gender parity index (GPI).

G. Conclusions and Recommendations

G1. Conclusions

91. Use of the TPA tool **effectively empowered women farmers to voice their concerns**, allowing the identification of key challenges in each pilot community, which the project effectively packaged and disseminated for purposes of influencing the development agenda at local, regional and international levels.
92. The project **succeeded in imparting skills for participatory action research among researchers based at universities within the pilot countries**, implementing studies on agricultural input support policies and programs, and in the assessment of agricultural productivity in each of the pilot countries. However, more rigor in the analysis of constraints confronting women farmers could have been achieved and more perspectives revealed had gender disaggregated data been collected.
93. Through a combination of extensive media coverage and the use of national, regional and international policy dialogue platforms, FANRPAN succeeded through WARM **in bringing women farmer concerns into national and regional policy debates**.
94. The **pilot project was successful, and funds permitting, is ready for scale up, within the pilot countries and in new countries**.

G2 Recommendations for the Current Project Period

95. FANRPAN should follow-up partners who are still to submit the outstanding outputs (e.g., Mozambique Dialogue Proceedings Report).
96. FANRPAN should share information with current implementing partners concerning initial ideas and plans for Phase 2 of the WARM project. This should include soliciting inputs of partners into the design of the follow-on phase, spelling out the nature of support FANRPAN would need from them and what partners recommend for improvement of the partnership.

G3 Recommendations for Utilizing the Pilot Project for Future Interventions

97. The TPA tool has worked well with implementation partners. However, some adjustments in the design of the TPA approach are required. Firstly, to strengthen effectiveness of the intervention, the project needs to increase women policy advocates within each target community, who then facilitate post-performance dialogues.

98. Second, the Evaluation recommends a fewer number of more mobile community theatre groups coupled with a larger policy advocacy group, both well trained and institutionally anchored. This approach is crucial for funding, regular evidence gathering that feeds into the renewal of script storylines, group practice and improvements to theatre performance. Imbedding the activities of TPA groups within the work programmes of local NGOs involved in policy advocacy may also help with sustainability of financial support for the groups.
99. Third, the period of implementation should ideally be increased to at least 4 years, at the same time incorporating into the project design the component of establishing stronger links with the private sector to facilitate a more rapid uptake of project outputs and enabling the project activities to become fully institutionalized in the agriculture value chain and achieve policy change.
100. To ensure messages remain current and the high level of interest in performances is sustained the project should seek to establish a mechanism to institutionalize and maintain the tripartite partnership between performing groups, researchers, and development agencies to feed new scripts to the system, relevant to emerging issues.
101. Radio is one of the most common means of communication in the targeted rural communities (more than 95% of farmers own radios in Boane and Marracuene, Mozambique). Hence, the project should explore the use of short-wave radio programs to complement the TPA tool in increasing geographical coverage and reducing roll-out costs.
102. To further enhance benefits from media coverage of the project activities, an increased use of the local print and electronic media to enhance the reach of messages from community theatre performances is recommended within the targeted countries.
103. Use of Geographical Positioning Systems (GPS) in collection of baseline and impact assessment information on farmers livelihoods, and agricultural production and marketing constraints at the household level should be encouraged by the project in all countries of implementation, so should more efficient, technology-based methods of data capture such as the use of SMART phones or portable data assistants (PDAs).
104. Considering that markets for inputs and outputs are increasingly becoming liberalized in the Eastern and Southern Africa region, policies that enable farmers to take advantage of the new opportunities availed by reforms and those that protect them from the negative effects of market integration are needed. FANRPAN should mobilize more resources for funding of interventions such as the WARM Project that enable farmers to participate in problem identification and prioritization, formulation of solutions, and advocating for changes in policies and programmes that address farmers' concerns.
105. In designing and mobilizing resources for WARM Phase 2, FANRPAN should explore the opportunity to mainstream the use Theatre for Policy Advocacy in all relevant policy

advocacy activities envisaged under its thematic programmes, and possibly starting with HaSSP.

1. Introduction

1.1. Challenges Faced by African Women Farmers

Women farmers produce 90% of the food in sub-Saharan Africa (World Bank 2007). They also carry the brunt of the burden of food processing and storage. Despite this critical role, women farmers have limited access to credit, labour, fertilizer and other production inputs, leading to low yields. In addition, they face hostile markets when selling their produce. Because of these challenges, female-headed rural households tend to be poorer and more food insecure than their male-headed counterparts.

Though focus on the challenges of women farmers in Africa is increasing, the number of the rural poor continues to rise, in contrast to East Asia and the Pacific, which have started recording declining poverty (World Bank, 2007). Yet, when presented with opportunities, African women farmers have often advanced the frontiers in agricultural productivity and food security. Families in which women farmers are empowered and have greater access to production inputs are often healthier, they have more children attending school, their incomes are higher, and have improved agricultural productivity ([www.thp.org/what we do/program overview/empowering women](http://www.thp.org/what_we_do/program_overview/empowering_women)).

In response to the challenges faced by women farmers, the Food, Agriculture, Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN) formulated the project entitled “Women Accessing Re-aligned Markets”. It was implemented as a pilot project in Mozambique and Malawi over a three-year period (2009-2012) with financial support of USD 900 150 from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The project’s overall goal is to improve agricultural productivity by increasing women farmers’ access to input and output markets. The period of implementing the pilot project ended on 31 May 2012.

1.2. Rationale and Profile of the WARM Project

Due to a combination of logistical, cultural, and economic factors in Africa, women rarely feature in decision-making processes and local governance systems. As a result, their specific needs as women farmers do not commonly reflect in local and national agricultural policies, or in designs of agricultural research and development programs. This limits women’s access to input and output markets, leading to low agricultural productivity, which ultimately restricts the ability of women to fend for their children and families. Low literacy levels characteristically associated with African women further restrict opportunities for them to articulate their needs and grievances. In the two countries where WARM was piloted, Malawi and Mozambique, the 2010 statistics showed total adult illiteracy rates of 26% (www.unicef.org/infobycountry/malawi.statistics.html) and 45% (www.unicef.org/infobycountry/mozambique.statistics.html/) respectively, with a large male-female gap. For instance, 60% of women in Mozambique are illiterate (World Development Report, 2012).

Accordingly, the pilot project sought to mobilize, inform, empower and strengthen women farmers' ability to advocate for agricultural policies and programmes sensitive to their needs. The project made use of an innovative advocacy tool, Theatre for Policy Advocacy (TPA), to overcome pipeline challenges of low literacy and socio-cultural norms that hinder women from expressing their needs to those in authority at family, community and national level and increase their access to technological information, credit, agricultural production inputs (such as seed and fertilisers), and output markets.

In Mozambique, the project was implemented in two districts, Boane and Marracuene, each with approximately 8 village sites. In Malawi, two districts were selected (Lilongwe and Kasungu) and three villages were selected to host the project in each of the districts.

Expected outcomes from these project endeavors were community-owned solutions that align input and output markets, arising from the full involvement of policy makers, decision makers and service providers and their increased understanding of the challenges facing women farmers, and the solutions that they seek. Such interventions were expected to increase agricultural productivity and incomes in the long term, leading to an improvement in living standards for women and children. The ideas and solutions obtained from the process were to inform (i) local development plans driven by local authorities and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), (ii) national policy and research agenda, (iii) regional and international investment plans.

Specifically, the project objectives were to:

- i. provide a platform for communities to dialogue on issues that affect women farmers' access to input markets;
- ii. empower women farmers to play a more active role in driving the development agenda;
- iii. align development research agenda to women farmers' issues;
- iv. align input supply institutions and programs to women farmers' needs; and
- v. bring women farmer concerns into national and regional policy debates.

1.3. The Theatre for Policy Advocacy (TPA) Tool as the Project's Theory of Change Model

In order to give voice to women farmers concerns, the WARM project used an innovative tool, Theatre for Policy Advocacy (TPA) which combines a number of roles. The TPA creates a platform that gives voice to women farmers to articulate messages by using of theatrical performances. By using dramatized song, dance and narrative, it enables women to convey to authorities and service providers the problems they face using communication channels that are both culturally acceptable and non-confrontational. Use of drama would empower illiterate women who would otherwise find it difficult to convey or receive information and messages in written form.

In addition, messages would be amplified from the dramatization of situations and visual projections. Theatrical events facilitate the mobilization of community leaders, service

providers and policy makers, and create opportunities for women to foster dialogue with them. The TPA tool incorporates facilitated dialogues with the audience immediately following the theatrical performances in which community members lead discussions on themes, challenges and messages evoked and conveyed by the dramatic acts. These dialogues involve various stakeholders, for instance the youth, adults, women, men, community leaders, the business community, NGO staff and parliamentarians. Participants subsequently proceed to design action plans and identify individuals and organizations who advocate for action in the achievement of identified solutions. These post-performance dialogues constitute a critical component of the project and are designed so that the solutions derived from the dialogues are community-owned and acceptable to them, hence of greater impact if targeted in development initiatives and policy formulated to address their concerns.

In addition to providing a platform for women to convey their message across, the project has two other pillars: the evidence, and development support (Figure 1). The project ensured that the messages in storyline scripts dramatized in TPA performances were research-validated by working with data from agricultural researchers and policy analysts. Such data collected using participatory action research methodologies identified agricultural productivity challenges at community level. Using an evidence-based approach ensured that real, genuine issues received priority, and that researchers and development agencies became familiar with the verified issues of concern to women. By leveraging its policy research and analysis skills, FANRPAN subsequently packaged the messages to inform policy dialogues at national, regional and international forums involving policy makers, researchers, farmer organizations, development NGOs and the private sector.

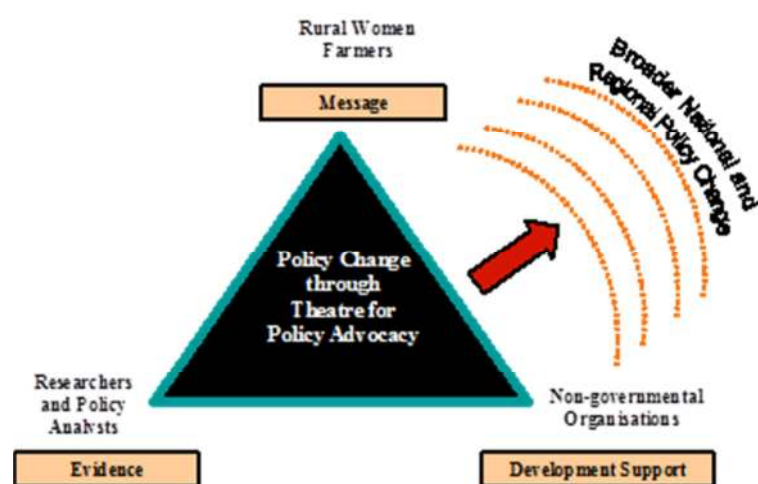


Figure 1: WARM Project Model

Source: FANRPAN, WARM Project Design Document

Using the third TPA pillar, development support, the WARM project provided capacity-building assistance to women farmers through collaboration with development partners on the ground. The involvement of development agencies and NGOs with ongoing long-term development commitments to communities complemented programs, besides leveraging resources and positively influencing the way development partners engage women farmers in their work. In

addition, development agencies supported the identification of women farmers for drama groups, and subsequent training of the women in TPA performances and in policy advocacy.

The TPA tool has a two-tier mechanism, combining theatre and policy advocacy into an applied theatre approach, hence the term 'Theatre for Policy Advocacy'. By using this model, the project hypothesized that information dissemination and dialogue processes would enable transmission of genuine concerns to policy makers and other service providers, leading to the revisiting of various policies and programmes affecting women farmers and appropriate adjustments to address their needs.

These adjustments were expected to influence the realignment of markets to increase disposal of produce by women, increase access to credit, seeds and fertilizers, and improve agricultural productivity and livelihoods. An illustration of the model (Figure 2) depicts the various stakeholder loops the TPA tool connects and supports, finally leading to increased agricultural productivity, the ultimate goal of the WARM project. It is important to note that the project provided capacity building support to all three pillars, by training drama groups in acting, women champions in policy advocacy and researchers in participatory action research.

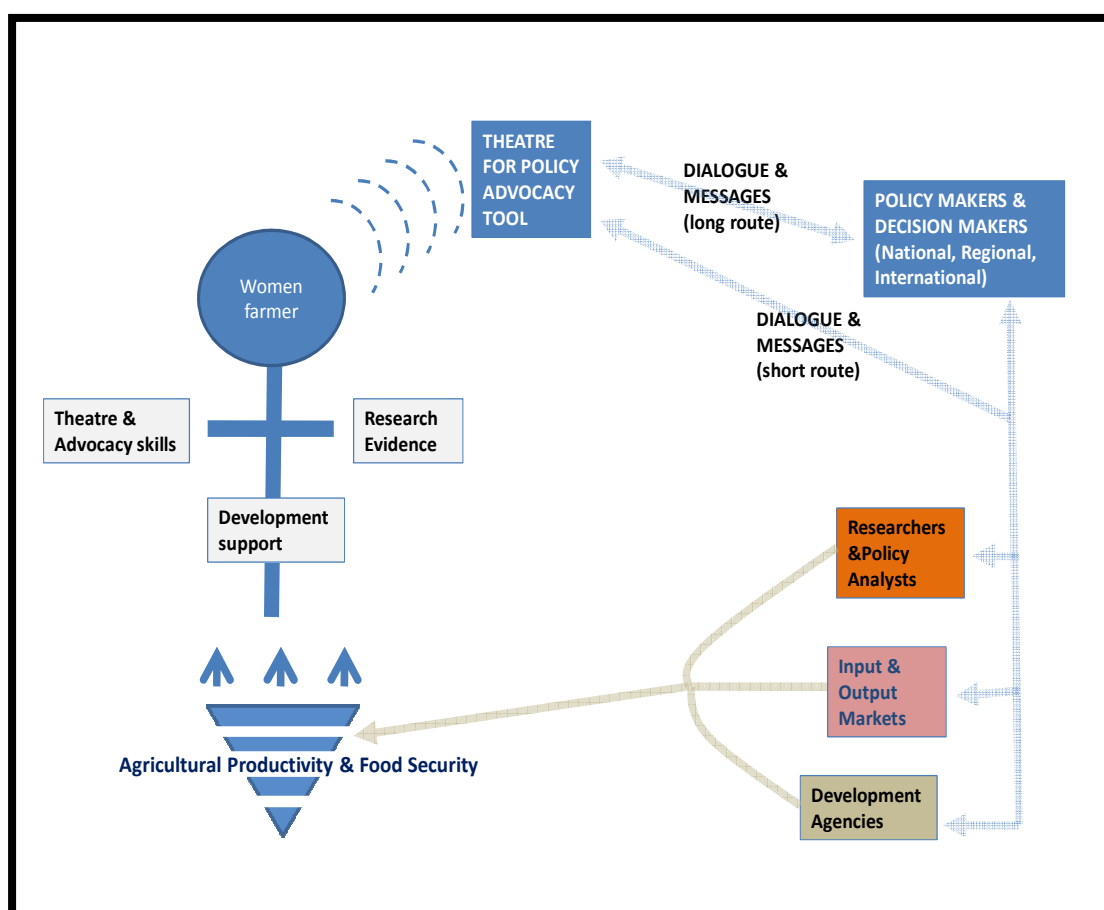


Figure 2: Stakeholder loops supported by the WARM TPA tool to increase agricultural productivity

1.4. Project Implementation Strategy

To achieve project objectives, FANRPAN, in collaboration with identified implementation partners, implemented a number of activities. Specifically, the project:

- trained researchers from selected universities in each country in participatory action research. Trained researchers subsequently led survey initiatives to establish agricultural productivity data and constraints confronting women farmers;
- partnered research institutions who conducted an analysis of input distribution systems and policies at national level. They then packaged the data for updating the supply and productivity databases, as well as for dissemination to the public;
- developed theatre scripts with the involvement of implementation partners with expertise in communication arts and applied theatre. The messages incorporated in script storylines emanated from evidence gathered through participatory action research conducted by the universities;
- identified policy advocates and theatre groups with the involvement of development partners working with women farmers on the ground, and subsequent trained the selected women in policy advocacy and drama performance skills; and
- staged theatre performances and post-theatre dialogues in target communities as pinnacle activities, and in addition documented and disseminated outputs from the project.

FANRPAN implemented the project in Mozambique and Malawi by collaborating with development organizations, research institutions and universities, organizations with expertise in theatre arts and applied theatre for development (Table 1), as well as various regional and international organizations.

Table 1: Roles of WARM Key Implementation Partners

Agency	Key Stakeholder Role in Implementation of the WARM Project
FANRPAN Secretariat, Pretoria South Africa	• Implementing and overseeing the project; administration and regional coordination • Identifying partners at the national and local levels • Liaising with partners • Organizing regional policy dialogues • Regional, international and national outreach to support the project and disseminate project outputs and lessons learnt
Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM)	• FANRPAN Node-host • Identifying resources and partners at the national and local levels • Convening national policy dialogues • Disseminating project outputs and lessons learnt
The Civil Society Agriculture Network (CISANET)	
Eduardo Mondlane University, Faculty of Agronomy and Forestry Engineering (FAEF-UEM)	• Conducting research studies • Participating in the TPA process in rural communities • Documenting the process and its outcomes • Training researchers in participatory action research • Identifying national and regional policy options that
Bunda College of Agriculture	

Agency	Key Stakeholder Role in Implementation of the WARM Project
	meet the needs of women by relating data generated at the community-level to national statistics and policies
Eduardo Mondlane University-School of Communication Arts (ECA-UEM) Mozambique	Contributing the TPA component of project through: • Directing TPA professional performances • Identification of acting talent and training • Development of scripts in partnership with women farmers and development experts • Staging performances • Facilitating post performance dialogues • Coordinating country theatre groups
Story Workshop (SWET), Malawi	
Foundation for Community Development (FDC)	• Coordination of country teams • Serve as liaison to the community and participate in setting up the TPA community dialogue platforms • Assist in identification of local talent and women farmer champions • Refine their own programs based on impediments identified through the TPA • Help empower and motivate women farmer advocates
Smallholder Farmers' Association of Malawi (NASFAM)	

FANRPAN utilized its node-hosts in Mozambique, Eduardo Mondlane University (Universidade Eduardo Mondlane)-Faculty of Agronomy and Forestry Engineering, and the Civil Society Agriculture Network (CISANET) in Malawi, to identify project partners and run advocacy dialogues (Table 1). At the local level, selected farmer communities worked with two development agencies in each country; the Foundation for Community Development (FDC) in Mozambique, and National Smallholder Farmers' Association of Malawi (NASFAM) in Malawi. These organizations provided a link between the project and farmer communities. Besides the responsibilities stated in Table 1, expectations were that they would also redefine their development agenda based on outputs from the WARM project. The Eduardo Mondlane University, Faculty of Agronomy and Forestry Engineering (FAEF/UEM) Mozambique, and Bunda College of Agriculture, University of Malawi had the role to conduct research in respective countries hence inform TPA themes, among other roles.

Eduardo Mondlane University-School of Communication Arts (ECA/UEM) Mozambique and Story Workshop (SWET) in Malawi constituted stakeholders responsible for the TPA component processes such as script development, directing and staging performances, and coordinating theatre groups at country level.

1.5. End of Project Evaluation and Terms of Reference

Since the Project was ending on 31st May 2012, FANRPAN commissioned an End-of-Project (EoP) Evaluation to learn from the implementation experience as well as fulfil funding requirements. In addition, this Summative EoP Evaluation was commissioned to determine the extent to which project objectives were met, document lessons learned, and provide recommendations for up scaling and out scaling of the WARM project. Specifically, objectives of this evaluation were to:

- Establish the extent to which the project has achieved its stated objectives (i.e. the level of achievement of activities, outputs and the overall objectives as stated in the project document), taking into account its target stakeholder needs,
- Evaluate the project implementation strategies, processes and structures, including assessment of the institutional and operational set-up and whether they were the best to achieve the project objectives,
- Assess the success or failure of the TPA methodology, by identifying what has worked, has not worked well, and the sustainability of the achievements made by the investment,
- Identify key lessons and propose practical recommendations for follow-up actions i.e. key recommendations for consideration to be taken into account in the up scaling and out scaling of the project in Malawi and Mozambique or other FANRPAN countries.

The full Terms of Reference (TORs) for the evaluation appear in Annex A.

2. Study Approaches and Limitations

2.1. The Study Conceptual Framework

The Consultant chose to use the logic model as a conceptual framework (Figure 2) for the evaluation due to two reasons. Firstly, FANRPAN used the logic model framework in previous evaluations including the WARM Mid-term evaluation (MTR) in July 2011. Hence, this choice will create a shared understanding in the evaluation processes and criteria used. Secondly, the logic model characteristically has specific focus, which in the case of this study, enables a concise evaluation, as requested by the client.

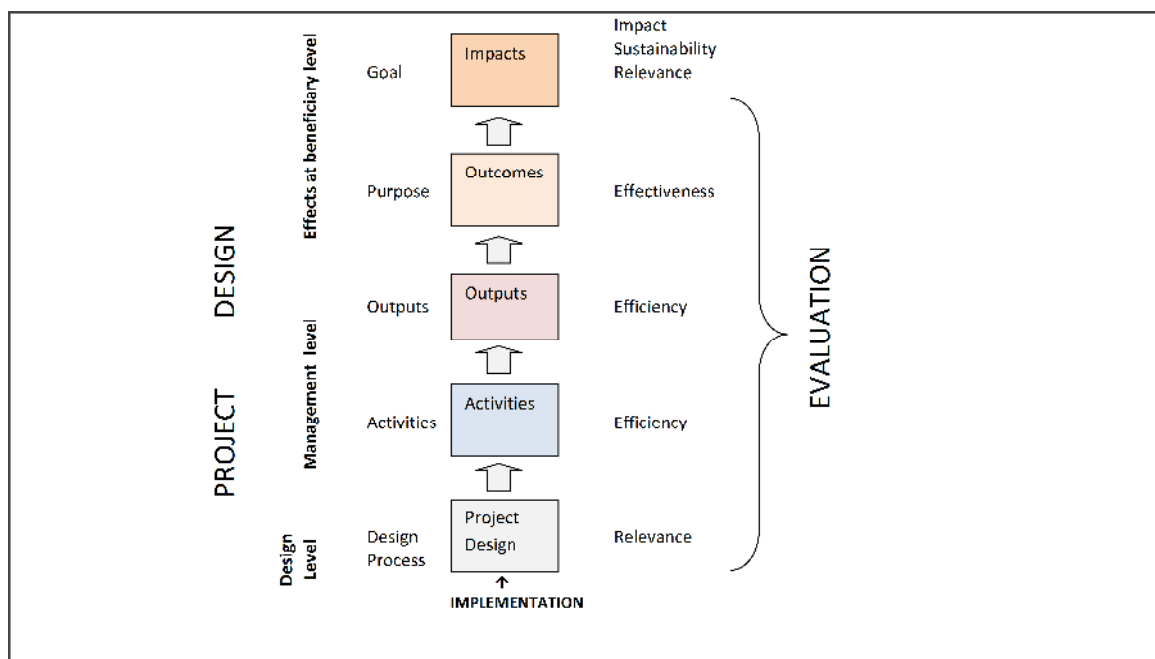


Figure 3: The logic model will provide a structural framework for the evaluation

Generally, use of the model provides a conceptual framework upon which an evaluation can lay open a project's theory of change, looking at the processes during project implementation, the effects of activities and inputs on the outputs, outcomes and impacts.

Accordingly, the study, guided by the logic conceptual framework, used evaluation criteria of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability in analyzing the study results and the influence of implementation processes. More emphasis was on outcomes since it was too early to assess the impacts. The study also gave attention to project design and implementation, so that the results of the pilot project in the two countries would inform next steps in terms of up-scaling project activities.

2.2. Study Methodology

The methodology used was guided by the TORs and covered all aspects of the project, as described in the project proposal, to establish if the planned activities and expected outputs had been achieved, as well as document success case studies arising as a result of the project interventions. The Evaluation was carried out in three phases described in detail below:

- **Phase 1: Desk Study**

An initial desk study referred to key documents such as the project proposal, financial reports, periodic reporting documents, back-to-office reports (BTOR), baseline and field reports, training reports, and contract agreements. Information obtained from this exercise informed the overall evaluation process, development of research tools, and writing of the Inception Report.

- **Phase 2: Field Visits with Project Manager and Partners**

The study obtained information using a participatory approach. Although to some extent the study made use of quantitative data collection techniques, it predominantly depended on qualitative research methodologies. Briefings with the FANRPAN project manager preceded all fieldwork. Field visits also included observation of pilot sites for clues on issues to follow through during subsequent discussions with respondents, as well as for triangulation to confirm findings.

A focus group workshop involving implementation partners (Annex C) preceded visits to beneficiary communities in both Malawi and Mozambique. To elicit key information and output data, the study used a combination of group work and plenary presentations in the focus group workshops. Partners in both Malawi and Mozambique completed a short structured questionnaire designed to obtain additional information (Annex D).

Discussions held with beneficiary communities, theatre groups or the local leadership were either in form of key informant interviews, or as focus group discussions (FGDs). Both formats used semi-structured questionnaires to guide the process. Focus Groups Discussions (FGDs) are a good method of building consensus amongst respondents hence were a useful tool in this study. The focus groups consisted of

women farmers where possible, whereas choice of key informants depended on stakeholder roles in the project.

- **Phase 3: Data Analysis and Reporting**

An inception report was submitted five days after commencement of the assignment and consisted of the evaluation design which detailed the study approach, data collection methods and instruments. A set of key questions were included, and these had major focus on project output targets, outcomes and impacts. In addition, the inception report contained the study implementation plan detailing the layout plan and timelines. Data collating, data cleanup and analysis followed the fieldwork.

2.3. Study Limitations and Mitigation Measures

The time allocated for field visits was limited to two days in each pilot country, which presented some challenges on collection of adequate data to enable an objective and comprehensive evaluation. However, use of a focus group workshop approach in each country created an efficient methodology of meeting all implementation partners at once, instead of individual visits that would have demanded more time than was available. In addition, the study requested completion of a structured questionnaire by implementation partners as follow-up to the study visit. The completion of questionnaires was of significant assistance in the case of Mozambique, where documentation of processes during project implementation was rather weak.

The presence of the External Evaluator at the Mozambique National Dialogue also mitigated effects of limited time as part of the data and information on stakeholder opinions on the performance of the project were collected during this meeting.

3. Study Findings

3.1 Project Design and Implementation Approaches

3.1.1. Relevance of Project to Existing Initiatives

a. Alignment with FANRPAN Objectives

The WARM project objectives are in alignment with the FANRPAN vision for ‘a food secure Africa free from hunger and poverty’ and mission to ‘promote effective food, agriculture and natural resources (FANR) policies’. FANRPAN executed the project under the Agricultural Productivity and Markets programmatic area, which this evaluation deems appropriate.

b. Relevance to Local and Global Initiatives

The evaluation study found that the WARM project shares its objectives with a varied number of local, regional and global initiatives that place emphasis on supporting smallholder farmers in general and women farmers in particular to increase access to agricultural production inputs and to strengthen market linkages. Most of the related initiatives leverage agriculture as a development platform and share common objectives to increase economic activities and reduce poverty especially targeting vulnerable women and children.

Mozambique has enacted a Gender Strategy for the Agricultural Sector whose aim is to promote gender equity regarding access and control of production resources and sharing of benefits. The Action Plan for Poverty Reduction (PARP) currently running in Mozambique (2010-2014), aims to address smallholder access to agricultural inputs, among other objectives. Similarly, the Government of Malawi initiated the Agricultural Input Subsidy Program (AISP) promoting subsidized smallholder access to improved seeds and fertilizer. The program, which has been running since 2005, has been associated with increased levels of food security and reduced malnutrition since its inception.

At the regional level, objectives of the WARM project dovetail those of CAADP (Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development program) Pillars 2, 3 regarding improved market access and increased productivity for smallholder farmers. The objectives of CAADP Pillar 2 are to increase market access through improved rural infrastructure and other trade-related interventions (www.nepad-caadp.net/pillar-2.php). Increasing agricultural productivity in smallholder farming is one of the key aims of the CAADP Pillar 3, and supports achievement of the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 1 which is concerned about reducing extreme poverty and hunger in half by 2015 (www.nepad-caadp.net/pillar-3.php).

Globally, WARM areas of intervention largely correspond with the drivers identified by the World Bank Report 2008 (World Bank, 2007) for increasing the contribution of agriculture to development, which are poverty reduction, strengthened market linkages, and innovations through science and technology. Equally, the objectives of WARM are in tandem with the World Bank/FAO Gender in Agriculture Sourcebook, which supports enabling initiatives and policies that increase women's access to markets (World Bank, 2009), as well as the World Development Report (2012), which supports the enactment of policies that increase access by women to economic opportunities.

c. Choice of Pilot Countries and Sites

The pilot countries chosen represent many African countries regarding the high dependency on agriculture, and the challenges they face in accessing production inputs and produce markets. Notwithstanding, these two countries depart significantly from the rest of Africa in the severity of need in some specific areas. Rural Mozambique endures very low literacy levels and has more female-headed households than most Africa countries. Use of agrochemicals and improved seed is minimal, and only a few households own farming implements. In Boane and Marracuene, the two Mozambican districts hosting the WARM project, 90% of the households are female-headed and 43 % of these are illiterate (Manguambe, Mario and Magaia, 2012). Only 10% of farmers use pesticides, 25% apply fertilizers and over 73% have no access to extension services. Being in Maputo province and only 30 kilometres from Maputo city centre possibly makes the two districts atypical of the average rural districts in Mozambique. Nonetheless, the Government of Mozambique has identified Boane as a strategic agricultural district, and the challenges women farmers in the two districts are just as severe and reflective of typical situations elsewhere.

Malawi suffers acute land shortage problems, unlike Mozambique. This makes land access more difficult for women since they occupy a subordinate position in respect of land ownership

rights under local cultural norms. In the project sites of Kasungu and Lilongwe districts, 82.6% of respondents are female-headed, which is comparable to Mozambique. However, Malawi has a higher literacy level than Mozambique, being at 74% (www.unicef.org/infobycountry/malawi.statistics.html).

In setting up the pilot project, FANRPAN was planning to package and disseminate WARM project results using national and regional forums, policy dialogues, and appropriate media outlets. The medium-term plans are to apply the lessons learned to replicate the project in other states in the SADC, the Common market for Eastern and Southern African (COMESA), and Africa-wide.

The Evaluation confirms that the choice of pilot countries and project sites were appropriate, making results extrapolative to other countries in the region. The basis for the conclusion lies in the similarities in the nature of challenges women farmers face across many African countries, comparative social and economic statistics, shared historical legacies, shared cultures and strong economic ties.

3.1.2. Clarity of Project Objectives

The WARM project had a comprehensive project (proposal) document with clear vision and purpose, as well as a log frame with a clear outline of project objectives and outputs (Annex B). Legal contract documents clearly state activities and expected outputs, including the number of performances and district allocations. There is no rigid format to follow for the TPA processes, and this allowed innovativeness and variations in approach between Malawi and Mozambique. This is acceptable for pilot purposes, but a tightening up in the procedures is required during scaling up and scaling out to sustain quality standards and ensure that outcomes are more predictable. A simple approach to ensure compliance with the TPA implementation processes and procedures would be to include the approaches in future contract documents signed between the WARM project and implementation partners.

3.1.3. Appropriateness of the TPA Tool and its Design Components

Both pilot countries find the TPA tool appropriate as an effective advocacy tool for several reasons. First, the model is culturally acceptable in that a strong historical tradition exists in the community in which theatrical performances of song, dance and story-telling are used to communicate and address sensitive issues affecting disadvantaged community members. For instance, the WARM beneficiary village of Mnduka (Kasungu District-Malawi) hosts 'Chikondano', a 30-member community-based drama group in existence prior to the WARM project. Secondly, TPA is deemed strongly appropriate in communities where literacy levels are low, and conventional means of articulating concerns through oral and written means are less effective. Thirdly, applied theatre in its own right has been successfully used in other circumstances to address social problems and many examples are documented that attest to this attribute. For instance, Mozambique has a recent history of using applied theatre in HIV/AIDS educational programmes. Applied theatre has also been used in Mozambique to re-integrate war-traumatised victims into communities (Davido Jose, ECA-Mozambique).

Documentary evidence also strongly suggests the tool's effectiveness and endorsement based on the level of media coverage (see Section 3.5), regional and international recognition. For instance, the Mid-Term Review Report (FANRPAN, 2011) ascribes the comments: 'Congratulations on this innovative project' to Carlos Seré, Director General - International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) (Email: c.sere@cgiar.org; 29 July 2009 07:31 AM) among many other high-level commendations.

The tool as applied in the WARM project departs in a strong way from theatre for community action (TCA) used extensively for instance in Zimbabwe where Amakhosi Theatre Company applies it as a tool for social change (FANRPAN, 2009). Two critical differences separate the TPA from the TCA as a tool for community action. Firstly, TPA incorporates messages validated by research findings. Secondly, information and ideas generated during theatrical performances undergo further scrutiny during policy analysis exercises and the project packages them for sharing at policy dialogue platforms. Combining theatre and advocacy techniques makes the tool more robust since each has its own complimentary attributes (FANRPAN, 2009). Theatre assists when people are cooperating; advocacy provides a tool for assertiveness and diplomacy, it does not necessarily depend on cooperation (Davido Jose, ECA- Mozambique).

Implementation partners in Malawi found the tool relevant at community and national level (Table 2). The tool had added advantage in validating action research results. Challenges were identified in effectiveness of women-to-men communication, especially in the Chewa communities of Malawi whose cultural barriers strongly subjugate women. Observations were that Chewa women within theatre groups were freer to express themselves than individual women who perhaps felt vulnerable. The solution proposed was joint training of women and men. Implicitly, scripts would of necessity incorporate men among storyline characters.

Table 2: Assessment of the TPA tool by implementing partners

Level	Score	Comments by Partners
Women-to-women	1	What advocates and actors presented was representative of day-to-day experiences of women farmers
Women-to-men	3	Cultural barriers are a serious challenge; women in drama were freer to express themselves than individual women standing up on their own in the Chewa communities of Malawi
Community	1	Worked well, culturally appropriate (e.g. local villager in Kasungu able to pose a question to the Minister of Finance, MP; validated research findings
Women-to-community Leaders	1	Generally new concept; information and issues accepted by the community leaders. Traditional authority invited women to his court on land issues.
District	-	Needed more holistic form of dialogue on (a) needs of women, (b) how to take issues to the district (c) who among implementers follows issues up?
National	1.5	Turn up of policy makers was good, e.g. in Malawi chair of Parliamentary Committee acknowledged the messages and gave positive feedback. Follow-up of resolutions a gap
Regional	-	Trained theatre groups did not participate in any regional platform- missed opportunity
Women-to-service providers	4	Agro-dealers deliberately left before dialogue session in Malawi

1-Excellent, 2-Good, 3-Satisfactory, 4-Poor

Whilst in Malawi the project succeeded in bringing key persons such as traditional leaders, District Commissioner representatives, District Agricultural and Development officers (DADO), ADMARC (Agricultural Development and Marketing Corporation) officers, Agricultural Gender Roles and Extension Support Services (AGRESSO) officers and other critical authorities, Mozambique was not as successful in drawing influential people except at community level. Nevertheless, WARM TPA activities in Mozambique received recognition from the highest office when FDC leadership was invited to organize a presidential dialogue. Two WARM women policy advocates attended and successfully engaged the country president on issues of importance to women.

Despite the strong approval ratings for the TPA tool among implementing partners, implementing partners felt that the project needed to define mechanisms and allocate responsibilities for follow-up on commitments made at community level by decision makers, policy makers and service providers.

3.1.4. Were Institutional Arrangements Appropriate?

(a) Project Management and Follow-up

The initial design of the project included a full-time Regional Coordinator and two full-time National Project Coordinators, one in each country (FANRPAN, 2009). Additionally, plans were that two FANRPAN directors (Research and Voice), whose posts were then vacant, would provide support and guidance to the WARM Regional Coordinator in the respective areas of research and communications (social marketing, media, information management, coordination of policy dialogues). These directors would report to the FANRPAN CEO, and provide a 25% time effort on the project. Though the anticipation was that FANRPAN would have filled the posts by the time WARM came on stream, financial limitations prevented recruitment. Full-time national coordinators would have had to work with existing FANRPAN national nodes and WARM implementation partners to run the project. However, due to financial limitations, the project had to halt the filling of national coordinators' posts, and instead selected implementation partners with community links as national coordinators. Accordingly, coordination responsibilities went to the FDC and NASFAM respectively for Mozambique and Malawi.

Despite these changes, the project successfully coordinated activities through the offices of the WARM Regional Project Coordinator and the FANRPAN CEO, leading to the full implementation of the project. This is a commendable feat considering that the Mid-Term Report documented that 14 months into project implementation, the funding organization had concerns about the project's preparedness in getting back on track to meet all milestones and objectives (FANRPAN, 2009). At that stage, the project was running behind milestones due to a nine-month delay in identifying and completing MOUs with implementation partnerships that created a knock-on effect on other implementation activities. The WARM project made a conscious decision to plan to meet milestones that had passed, but avoid making adjustments for milestones ahead. The successful implementation of this tactical decision gives testimony to the relevance and effectiveness of the national project coordinators chosen in both Mozambique and Malawi.

The regional project coordination team made several visits as reflected in the back-to-office reports. Initial visits included assessment and identification of implementation partners. Subsequent visits included monitoring and support visits, which sometimes involved participation in field activities such as the research orientation workshop and field research activities in Malawi, and participation in the Mozambique and Malawi training of policy advocates workshops. The team also actively participated in the Mid-term evaluation activities in both countries. These monitoring visits were sufficient to provide adequate information for project oversight at regional level, since periodic submission of progress reports and documentation processes by implementers provided additional monitoring.

(b) Suitability of Implementing Partners

The participatory action research partners were relevant faculties in respective University Departments in each country, being Bunda College of Agriculture-University of Malawi and Faculty of Agronomy and Forestry Engineering-Eduardo Mondlane University-Mozambique (UEM-FAEF). The implementing partners chosen for the research component were appropriately suited to the assigned roles.

Equally, Story Workshop in Malawi, and School of Communication Arts (ECA/UEM) in Mozambique, the implementing partners for the theatre performance component were relevant, capable and appropriately skilled. FANRPAN node-hosting institutions in both Mozambique and Malawi had limited involvement in the WARM project and this was a deliberate design construct. The project did not have a budget allocation for the node-hosting institution, as these had no contract-bound specific roles in the WARM project. Their involvement was based on general obligations and roles that they have as FANRPAN country node-hosts, and FANRPAN expected them to convene national policy dialogues and assist in constructing policy messages for advocacy purposes.

Though grassroots-based WARM implementation partners for the WARM project have strong farmer links as required by the project, they belong to contrasting institutional categories. NASFAM in Malawi is a farmer organization, whereas in Mozambique FDC is a development agency. This could potentially have sustainability implications since continued existence the development agency is highly dependent on availability of funding. FDC mitigated this potential weakness by working closely with the National Union of Peasants (UNAC), a farmer organization, on the WARM project. Both organizations have official partnerships with FANRPAN, formalized with Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which suggests a strong convergence in overall goals with FANRPAN.

For instance, NASFAM shares with WARM its goal on improving supply and distribution channels for farm inputs and supplies and additionally has the objective to 'ensure policy issues reflect the issues and concerns of members through dialogue with regional offices'. The FDC is a non-profit, non-government organization whose objective is to strengthen the capacity of disadvantaged communities such as vulnerable women and children. Its projects relate well to the WARM objectives. For instance, besides coordinating the WARM project in Mozambique,

the FDC is currently implementing a Women's Economic Empowerment Project at a national scale and one of the project objectives is to facilitate market access for women farmers.

Achievement of the fourth objective of the WARM project required partnerships with service providers, and this aspect should be strengthened in the future. In addition, a stronger role for node hosts should also be envisaged especially in taking up policy issues to higher-level policy dialogue platforms and to follow-up specific policy issues with relevant stakeholders using the most appropriate communication strategy.

(c) Existence of Contracts

Contracts with implementing partners were comprehensive in spelling out obligations and timelines, as well as reporting times. Hence, the interests of FANRPAN and the funding organization were adequately covered. Indeed, the implementing partners largely met their obligatory commitments.

3.2 Project Inputs and Transactional Costs

Total funding for the WARM project amounted to USD 900,150.00. Funding for implementing partners in Mozambique and Malawi appear in the budget as consultancy fees. This line item, amounting to 27%, included training of researchers, research activities and database creation, analysis of existing policies on input distribution systems, mobilization and training of women advocates and drama groups. Budgeted equipment costs were for the purchase of digital cameras, voice recorders, video editing software, computers and two project vehicles, one for each pilot country.

Table 3: WARM Project Budget, Accruals and Expenditure (March, 2012)

	Budget Line Item	Project Budget	%	Amount spent	%	Variance
1.	Total Personnel ¹	354,000	39%	355,258	101%	(1,258)
2.	Travel	61,000	7%	59,259	97%	1,730
3.	Consultants ²	246,000	27%	196,393	80%	49,607
4.	Workshops	48,000	5%	48,537	101%	(536)
5.	Supplies	10,000	1%	5,000	50%	5,000
6.	Sub-total of Modified Direct Costs	719,000	80%	664,457	92%	54,453
7.	Indirect Costs on Modified Direct Costs ³	107,850	12%	92,657	86%	15,192
8.	Sub-total of Modified Direct Costs & Indirect Costs	826,850	92%	757,114	92%	69,735
9.	Equipment	73,00	8%	63,895	87%	9,405
10.	Total Direct Costs	792,300	88%	728,352	92%	63,948
11.	Total Indirect Costs	107,849	12%	92,657	86%	15,192
12.	Grand Total Costs	900,150	100%	821,009	91%	79,140

¹Includes all personnel activities with direct relevance to the WARM project.

²Included training of researchers, research activities and database creation, analysis of existing policies on input distribution systems, mobilization and training of women advocates and drama groups.

³Indirect costs were applied on Modified Direct Costs (direct costs excluding equipment) as prescribed by funding requirements.

Overhead costs (indirect costs), at 15% of the modified project costs (costs excluding equipment), was as directed by FANRPAN policy. The budget costs for personnel (39%) were within the normal range as prescribed by the funding organization, and included all costs directly relevant to the WARM project including full time staff and other staff input. Three budget categories varied by more than 10%: (i) Supplies (ii) Consultants, and (iii) Equipment. An under-expenditure of \$5,000 on a total supplies budget does not warrant any concerns, since the total item budget was ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), hence small. Moreover, the budget accruals apply up to March 2012, which was two months before the end of project. Hence, usage of funds under this line item remained feasible in the remaining period. The project under spent the Equipment budget by 13%, and has a saving of \$9,000.00, due to proactive price comparisons (FANRPAN, 2011), which resulted in savings. FANRPAN staff implemented two activities due for support by consultants, resulting in \$10,000 savings for each, and partly explaining the 20% variance against the consultants' budget line item. The activities included identification of field sites and training of researchers. Outstanding activities such as the end-of-project evaluation are likely to reduce variances below 10%.

To its credit, the project carried out a number of unbudgeted yet critical activities. These include the Mid-term review exercise, women advocacy training and several ad hoc advocacy engagements, such as the International Women's Day celebrations.

FANRPAN linked disbursements to delivery of milestone activities. This was good for financial accountability as well as encouraging achievement of milestones, and it worked in some cases but failed in other cases. For instance, FAEF/UEM found it difficult to meet the requirements in time for critical activities, which added delays to project implementation. In the case of Bunda College of Agriculture, for instance, the initial disbursement(s) were not sufficient to achieve the corresponding milestones and this further delayed completion, which had knock-on effects on further disbursements, thereby creating a vicious cycle, which the college had to break using other resources. Not every implementing partner had this option of pre-financing. To avoid similar delays in future, the project has to identify alternative approaches that, besides protecting funds and ensuring delivery, the method adopted also guarantees timely delivery of work. The lesson learnt here is that linking disbursements to milestones works when the amount disbursed is enough to cover planned activities.

In addition, implementing partners raised the concern that a sizeable proportion of the disbursements came late after critical activities were due since linked milestones appeared late in the implementation cycle. In the case of NASFAM and FDC, contract commitments were for 50% disbursement of funds in September 2011, eight months before project termination. Similarly, a third of the Story Workshop, UEM/FAEF, UEM/ECA and Bunda College of Agriculture funds were committed for release at this late point-September 2012. Hence, the project needs to reconsider milestone timelines and timing of budget disbursements during up scaling of the project.

3.3 Project Implementation

3.3.1 Project Execution Performance

a. Project Inception

Timing for a number of inception activities was good. This includes the official project launch held in Maputo, which occurred in September 2009, three months after the signing of the WARM project grant in June 2009. Training of researchers in participatory action research in Maputo in August 2009 was also on schedule. Holding of common visioning meetings were close to schedule, including the Maputo meeting of 31 August 2010 (FANRPAN, 2011).

However, identification of partners and signing of contracts took place between 25 May 2010 and 22 October 2010, implying that the project took one year to take-off after its launch in 2009. Given that, the WARM project has an in-built structural requirement of at least six partnerships for successful implementation across the two pilot countries, the prolonged time taken to identify and establish partnerships is understandable. However, since the project had several key milestones scheduled for completion early in the project initiation period, this affected roll out. Knock-on effects on lined milestones included the identification of project sites, achieved in March 2010, nine months behind schedule. Other delayed activities included collection of agricultural productivity data, and national research studies on agricultural input support policies and programmes.

To the credit of implementation partners, they made a number of important adjustments in response to the decisions taken by FANRPAN to maintain timelines for pending WARM milestones. In Malawi, implementing partners overlapped participatory action research activities with women advocacy training to achieve project goals over shortened time. In Mozambique, the initial work of introducing theatre into the communities, developing scripts and training community actors commenced before research results became available. Notwithstanding, research results were used later to validate evidence incorporated into preliminary script story lines.

Training of community actors and the staging of performances were during the cropping period of October to December 2010 in both Mozambique and Malawi. The late project take-off influenced timing for this activity. Implementing partners were of the view that the best timing would have been during the July to September off-season period when farmers are not too busy with agricultural activities.

A clear need exists for an adjustment of timelines and milestones to accommodate identification of implementation partners during up scaling of the WARM project, as experiences during the current piloting phase have demonstrated that it can be a prolonged process. Most implementing partners however felt that an implementation period of three years is adequate for a full cycle, ECA/UEM. Though ECA/EUM met its obligatory contract requirements of six performances in Mozambique, they hold the view that the theatre groups would require more than three performances. In this extra time, artists would gain further

exposure to performing, more rehearsals, additional professional mentoring and monitoring for them to avoid professionalism pitfalls such as using poorly crafted storylines on sensitive issues.

b. Implementation Processes for Participatory Action Research

The responsibility for evidence gathering to feed into TPA script messages, lay with the Faculty of Agronomy and Forestry Engineering, Eduardo Mondlane University (Mozambique), and Bunda College of Agriculture, University of Malawi. Scheduling of the research component was for early completion, before end of 2009, to allow use of research evidence in the formulation of messages. Whereas Malawi conducted the research studies in September 2010, the Mozambique team (FAEF/UEM) implemented them in July 2011.

In Malawi, research came first, together with the women-issues-and-challenges paper generated through the training of women advocates and these informed the generic script. Story Workshop validated the information from the research/women-issues paper with the community before finalization of the storyline script. After validation, Story Workshop went back to the community to train the groups for theatre performances.

Apart from completing participatory research studies in Malawi, Bunda College of Agriculture had another FANRPAN follow-up study on agricultural input subsidies hence the sampled beneficiaries were largely the same, except for the add-on of NASFAM women clubs in the first study. Site selection was as determined by the previous study. Bunda College of Agriculture already had a list of Extension Planning Areas and a list of farmers targeted by the previous study. Hence, the two exercises were jointly run. This brought efficiencies that mitigated budgetary limitations. Besides pooling funds, FANRPAN collected two sets of data that told a more complete story.

In Mozambique, serious delays in implementing the research component compelled the ECA/UEM to proceed in developing script storylines based on post-performance dialogues implemented during student performances. Nonetheless, Mozambique used results from the participatory action research, when they finally became available, to validate preliminary conclusions.

c. Training and Implementation processes for Women Advocates

Training of women policy advocates was a critical project component of the TPA strategy. Besides training women farmer champions in critical advocacy skills, access to research findings and policy expertise strengthened their abilities to identify, package and voice issues of concern to women farmers. The responsibility for this aspect of the project, both identification and training, fell on the FDC in Mozambique, and NASFAM in Malawi, development partners linked with farmers at grassroots level.

In the Malawi case, training activities were in September 2010, during formation of TPA groups. NASFAM subsequently participated in the development of the storyline scripts, hence contributed to the validation of TPA messages. Although one trained advocate participated in the TPA performances and was an effective facilitator of the post-performance dialogue,

exploitation of synergies in combining outputs of capacity building activities in theatre performance and in advocacy, was not extensive in Malawi.

In Mozambique, training of women advocates occurred in March 2011, after formation of the TPA groups. Several advocates were members of the TPA groups. Regardless of the order pursued, integration of skills imparted from capacity building activities for actors and of policy advocates seems logical, and Mozambique more extensively integrated these skills in TPA performances.

d. Training and Implementation Processes in TPA

There are many complex aspects to applied theatre. TPA, as practiced under the WARM project, appears to draw from many theatre approaches, principles and traditions such as Forum Theatre, Research-based Theatre and Applied Theatre, Theatre for Education, Theatre for Community Action and Theatre for Development. The approach used during WARM performances borrows from Forum Theatre, starting with introductory statements by the facilitator, then the performance, and finally facilitated post-performance dialogues. The process goes through stages of acting, exploring, collective analysis or reflection, then decision-making (www.pepol.info/docs/casestudies/RO%20-%20Forum%20Theatre.pdf.)

Facilitation approaches for post-performance dialogues as used in Mozambique followed four different techniques. A (i) debate facilitated by the ‘joker’, then (ii) replaying of key scene to refresh audience memory, (iii) hot seating technique where the protagonist is invited to respond to questions from the audience and (iv) ‘spect-actor’ where an audience member replaces and plays the role of the actor, suggesting solutions to solve the presented problem. Only techniques (i) and (iii) were used, as it was felt that (ii) and (iv) needed more experienced actors and jokers (FARNPAN Final Report WARM_TPA_MOZ_Rogério 30 Abril.doc). The decision to remove some elements of the TPA mechanisms suggests that limits in available resources constrained training and rehearsals.

The approach planned by the WARM project to replicate community theatre groups in each pilot site was achieved in Malawi (three community theatre groups in each district, performing once only). In the Mozambique case, though contracts stipulated formation of six professional community theatre groups, resources would not permit replication of the Malawi approach. In Mozambique, ECA-UEM staff visited the community to identify issues, went back to develop the script, and in developing the script they used secondary data, then worked with students to dramatize the script, testing the message. Nine introductory students’ performances were conducted in each district (as stipulated in the contract with FANRPAN), before the community women-groups were ready for performances. Subsequently, ECA-UEM proceeded by devising a strategy to have a theatre troupe for each district, each performing in three areas.

The different implementation approaches taken by the two countries provide further opportunity to refine the TPA approach. An important question that the WARM project has to answer is whether every community has to have a community group to benefit from TPA performances? The approach taken by Mozambique may be necessary to consider as it allowed more exposure to individual actors (three performances per individual member), hence created

opportunity for actors to hone their skills. If the project were to take this approach, it would need a corresponding increase in trained policy advocates for each community, with relatively less overall project costs.

3.3.2 Partners' Implementation Approaches

By bringing together several organizations with diverse programmes and activities to implement the TPA processes, the project enhanced partnerships in each of the two pilot countries, and gave synergies in resource outlay, shared learning and project outputs. Coordination of these partnerships largely worked well and the evidence is that the relationships built during these processes will continue after completion of the WARM project.

Some variations in approach were evident between pilot countries, which had several effects, including on the pace of project roll out. In Malawi, community sensitization, and the identification of candidates for drama and policy advocacy ran parallel to participatory action research activities. In essence, Malawi's Bunda College of Agriculture, Story Workshop and NASFAM shared the research tool. This joint implementation saved time and financial resources. Savings in Malawi arising from joint implementation enabled the project to create six theatre groups, one for each district, as planned by the project.

In Mozambique, Research and TPA partners carried activities separately, hence the research component lagged behind. To save costs, Mozambique created two travelling community drama groups to cover six districts, becoming more or less TPA troupes. In pursuing equity considerations, the WARM project gave similar budget allocations for each partner category across the two countries. Relatively higher costs in Mozambique affected the Mozambican teams, as project activities were more expensive to run. In responding to the challenge of financial resource limitations, a challenge shared between the two pilot countries, Mozambique took a different approach to Malawi, deciding to introduce modifications to the TPA processes.

The variations in approach taken by the two pilot countries suggest a need for FANRPAN to develop standardized TPA procedures, for consistent results. An important question is whether every community has to have a theatre group to benefit from TPA performances? Our preliminary conclusion, even in the absence of a rigorous cost-benefit analysis, is that it is more cost-effective to have travelling community theatre troupes covering several villages.

3.3.3 Monitoring, Learning and Evaluation Systems

In addition to an in-built monitoring and evaluation mechanism in the FANRPAN structures, the WARM project had an M & E plan. Personnel from the FANRPAN M & E unit, guided by the FANRPAN CEO and Project Coordinator, participated in joint monitoring that included visits to field sites. Furthermore, the M & E unit was fully involved in the implementation of the mid-term review in July 2011.

Each WARM implementation partner had contractual obligations to submit quarterly reports to FANRPAN on progress against plans, and a final report evaluating the project and detailing lessons learned. Partners were also involved in common visioning, reflection and joint planning meetings whose agenda included lessons learning and sharing of best practice. In addition to

the national policy dialogues and regional dialogues that offered further opportunities for lesson sharing, the project had an end-of-project evaluation built into its implementation plan.

Based on the foregoing, the WARM project had a robust monitoring, learning and evaluation systems whose only weakness was that a clearly drawn out M & E plan specific to the project only became available close to a year into project implementation.

3.4 Output Delivery

An extensive body of outputs emerged from implementation of planned project activities. In addition to training community members in theatre performance and policy advocacy, the project trained research partners on participatory action research (Table 4). Furthermore, FANRPAN commissioned country studies in both Malawi and Mozambique (Table 5), staged TPA community performances (Table 6), packaged project outputs and messages, and articulated them at national, regional and international forums (Table 7).

Capacity building activities in participatory action research resulted in the training of 13 researchers from Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa and Zimbabwe (Table 4). Notably, six women (about 50%) were among the trained. Training outputs included 14 policy advocates in Malawi and 18 in Mozambique. In addition, Malawi trained 133 community women as actors, whereas Mozambique trained 18 actors, composed of 13 community women and 5 university students of applied theatre.

Table 4: WARM Capacity Building Outputs

Output Area	Country	District	Village	Outputs		
				Female	Male	Total
Researchers trained in action research	Malawi Mozambique S. Africa Zimbabwe			6	7	13
Farmers trained in policy advocacy	Malawi			9	5	14
	Mozambique			12	6	18
Farmers trained in drama performance	Malawi ¹	Lilongwe	Chimphedzu	12	5	17
			Tidi	16	4	20
			Sokelele	10	8	18
		Kasungu	Nyamayajiwa	13	7	20
			Mduka	12	18	30
			Kankowa	16	12	28
		Sub-total		79 (59.4%)	54 (40.6%)	133 (100%)
	Mozambique ²	Boane		7	-	7
		Marracuene		6	-	6
		Sub-total		13 (100%)	-	13 (100%)
Student drama group ³				3	2	5

¹Six groups formed and trained in Malawi, one per village; ²Two District drama groups formed and trained in Mozambique; ³One student drama group trained in Mozambique.

Table 5: WARM Research Outputs

Research Output	Country	Description	Responsibility	Implementing Partner	Status
Analysis of Agricultural Inputs Distribution Systems and Policies for Mozambique	Mozambique	Report and Policy brief Database	João Mutondo, Bruno Araújo & Meizal Popat. Edited by Paiva Munguambe & Mário Chilundo	FAEF/UEM	Done
Collection of Agricultural Productivity Data	Mozambique	Report Database	Munguambe Paiva, Emilio Mario & Chilundo Magaia	FAEF/UEM	Done
Theatre Script	Mozambique	Storyline scripts	Dadivo José, Orlando Govo and Rogério Manjate	ECA/UEM	Adopted
Posters	Mozambique	Poster	FANRPAN communications team	FANRPAN	Released
Fliers	Mozambique	Flier	FANRPAN communications team-	FANRPAN	Released
Refereed Journal Articles	Mozambique	Journal Article		ECA/UEM	Draft
Analysis of Agricultural Input Distribution System for Malawi	Malawi	Report and Policy Brief	Kamwana B C, Mvula R T, Khaila SC	Bunda College of Agriculture	Done
Impact of Farm Input Subsidy Fertilizer and Hybrid Seed on Productivity & Livelihoods in Malawi-a case study of Dowa, Kasungu & Lilongwe Districts	Malawi	Report	Ronnie T. Mvula, Bonnet C. Kamwana, Tendayi Kureya, Mufaro Masuka	Development Data & Bunda College of Agriculture	Done
Theatre Script	Malawi	Storyline script	Andrew Samati, Faith Phiri and Takondwa Kaliwo	Story Workshop	Adopted
Posters	Malawi		Ronnie Mvula and Bonnet Kamwana	Bunda College of Agriculture	Released
Non-refereed journal articles	Malawi	Publication		Bunda College of Agriculture	Released (unconfirmed)
AGRIDEAL: Women WARMing Africa		Magazine	FANRPAN	Agriconnect	Released

Table 6: Summary Audience Attendance at Theatre Performances in Malawi and Mozambique

MALAWI ¹				
District	Village	Audience Attendance		
		Women	Men	
Lilongwe	Chimphedzu	720	480	
	Tidi	1240	760	
	Sokelele	885	615	
Kasungu	Nyamayajiwa	480	300	
	Mduka	1740	1260	
	Kankowa	500	480	
Total		5565 (58.8%)	3895 (41.2%)	
Grand Total for Malawi		9460		
MOZAMBIQUE				
District	Village	Site	Audience attendance	
			Women	Men
Audience Attendance at ECA Group Performances ²				
Boane	Guegueue	25 de Setembro	103	56
	Xitevele	Makombo	118	73
	Txonissa	Tinhalene	79	53
	Eduardo Mondlane	1 bairro	57	29
	Mariam Gouabi	Mahubu 2	122	83
	Massaca 2	Massaca 2	92	49
	Matola Rio		120	75
	Mulotane	Mulotane	152	84
	Mulotane	Gumbane	158	97
Marracuene	Samora Machel	Nyongonyane	154	86
	2º Bairro /	Nyongonyane	125	98
	3º Bairro / Xipunganine	Nyongonyane	167	96
	Ngalundi	Bobole	114	62
	1º Bairro	Nyongonyane	164	73
	Massinga	Localidade Sede	109	58
	Phaindi	Matalane	117	70
	Sibakusi	Matalane	83	49
Audience Attendance at Theatre Performances by Local Women Group ³				
District	Village	Audience attendance		
		Women	Men	
Boane	Massaca 2, Xinonanquila, UCAB	273	160	
Marracuene	Massinga, Sibakusi Phainde	229	217	
Totals for Mozambique		2 536 (66.7%)	1 261 (33.3%)	
Grand Totals for Mozambique		3797		

¹Six groups formed and trained in Malawi, one per village; ²A student drama troupe of 5 staged theatre performances in Mozambique before the training of women drama groups; ³Two district theatre groups were formed and trained in Mozambique and each group staged performances across three villages.

Table 7: WARM Advocacy Dialogue Platforms

Date	Platform	Coordination
National Platforms		
Jan 2011	National Policy Debate on “What do women farmers need” (<i>Debate was aired on Malawi’s MBC radio one</i>)	Story Workshop and NASFAM
April 2011	Presidência Aberta e Inclusiva - CSO Dialogue with the President of Mozambique, President Armando E. Guebuza at the Statehouse	FDC
Oct. 2011	International Rural Women’s Day celebrations in Marracuane, Mozambique	FDC
Dec. 2011	WARM National Policy Dialogue, Malawi	CISANET
April 2012	International Day of Peasant’s Struggle, Marracuene	FDC
April 2012	WARM National Policy Dialogue in Maputo, Mozambique	FDC, UEM
Regional Platforms		
Nov. 2009	FAO Regional Workshop on Rethinking Regional Food Security in Sub-Saharan Africa in the Post-2008 World, Nairobi Kenya	FAO
May 2010	ACTESA 3rd Stakeholder Meeting, Lusaka, Zambia	ACTESA
April 2011	COMESA Regional consultative forum on gender, agriculture and climate change, Lusaka, Zambia	COMESA
June 2011	FANRPAN Annual Partners Meeting in Pretoria, South Africa	FANRPAN
Sept. 2011	FANRPAN Annual Regional Policy Dialogue, Mbabane Swaziland	FANRPAN
Oct. 2011	10th African Crop Science Society (ACSS) Conference, Maputo Mozambique	UEM
International Platforms		
Jan. 2011	Washington, USA January 2011 – Worldwatch Institute 15th Annual State of the World Symposium and launch of the State of the World 2011: Innovations that Nourish the Planet book	Worldwatch Institute
Nov. 2011	Salzburg, Austria - Global Seminar for Session 484, Transforming Agricultural Development and Production in Africa: Closing Gender Gaps and Empowering Rural Women in Policy and Practice	Salzburg Global
Dec. 2011	UNFCCC COP17 in Durban, South Africa, December 2011 – Rural Women’s Assembly held on the side-lines of the COP17	UNFCCC
March 2012	Wellcome Trust Workshop on Impact of Global Environmental Change on Food/Nutrition and Water in relation to Human Health	Wellcome Trust

Research studies to review and establish impact of agricultural input distribution and support systems (specifically policies, strategies and programs) on agricultural productivity and food security culminated in two detailed reports and information databases, one for Mozambique, and the other for Malawi (Table 5). Studies on input distribution systems mainly focused on seed and fertilizers. The study reports reflect substantial detail and provide useful documentation chronicling recent historical developments, and the prevailing situation in both countries. This provides baseline data for comparisons with future interventions.

Malawi had an additional follow-up study on a fertilizer and seed input subsidy study with a specific focus on Dowa, Kasungu and Lilongwe Districts, which largely correspond with the districts of focus in the WARM project. The Malawi study had a micro-focus approach relating to geographical targeting (including use of the GPS). It was time-bound (covering two seasons (2008/9 to 2009/10)) and provided clearer insights on the impacts attributable to input support programs and policies applied over the specific period. Use of Geographical Positioning Systems (GPS) in the Malawi study provides a strong basis for tracking and monitoring each case, and a strong build-up of baseline data. This approach should extend to cover all future WARM countries and target communities.

However, the participatory action research exercises could have achieved greater efficiencies by collecting gender-disaggregated data for both pilot countries had it not confined data collection to female-led household only. This would have allowed cross-gender comparisons, and an analysis of gender-related disparities. This also applies to the study on Input Subsidy Supply systems.

The project staged six TPA performances in Malawi (Table 6; Figure 5). The TPA performances attracted sizeable crowds (Figure 4) totaling 9 460, and women constituted 58% women of the audience. The presence of a large proportion of men (42%) was healthy and demonstrated that the project was not being perceived as a women's club, but rather an event for full community involvement. In Mozambique, 24 TPA events were staged, six by the professional community groups. An audience of 3 797 attended, 66% being women. Slightly fewer men attended in Mozambique (36%) than in Malawi (42%). This may suggest negative perceptions by Mozambique men; hence, the project may need to interrogate this to dispel negative perceptions.

The project supported participation of its stakeholders in several national, regional and international policy dialogue platforms (Table 7). WARM partners coordinated some of the engagements. In both the International Rural Women's Day Celebrations (October 2011), and the International Day of Peasant's Struggle (April 2012), women policy advocates trained under WARM in Marracuene participated and voiced their concerns using placards and posters.

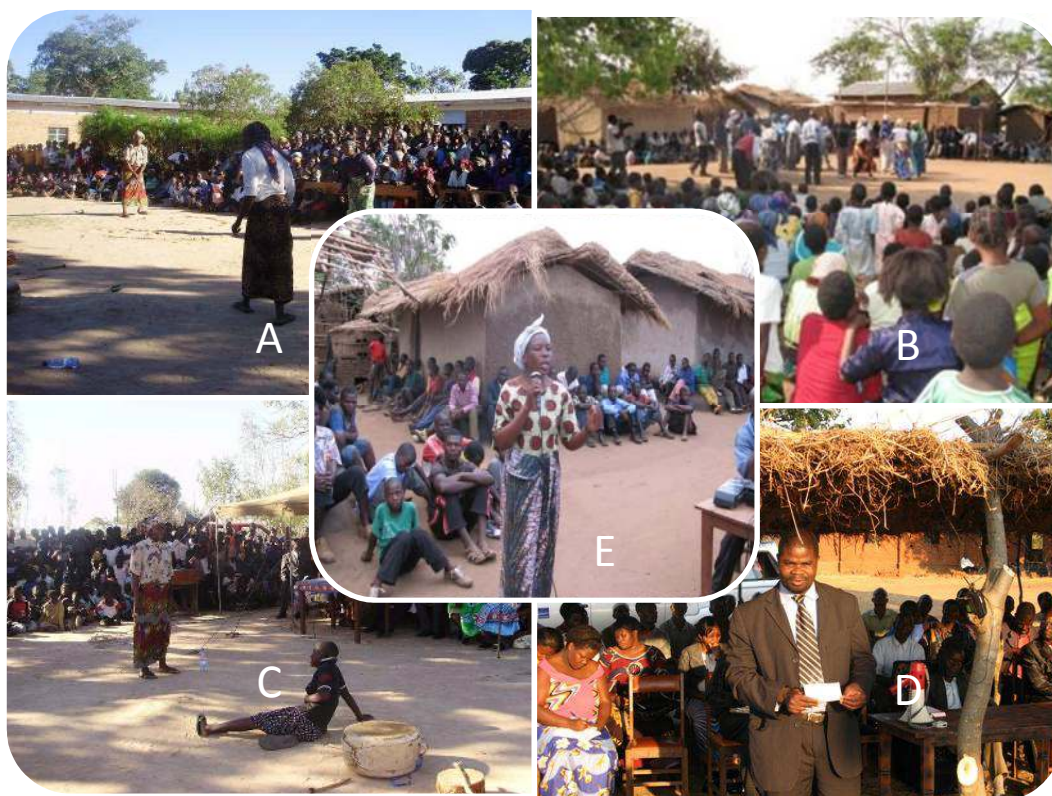


Figure 4: WARM TPA Performance Scenes in Malawi

Notes: A-performance at Mnduka Village, Kasungu; B-Performance at Chimphedzu Village, Lilongwe; C-performance in Kasungu District; D-Member of Parliament responding to a post-performance question at Tidi Village, Lilongwe; E-Post-performance dialogue at Sokelele Village, Lilongwe.

Source: FANRPAN

The WARM project made use of the opportunity availed by the FANRPAN-coordinated Regional Partners Meeting in Pretoria, and the FANRPAN Annual Regional Policy Dialogue-Mbabane, Swaziland (September 2011) to share its outputs. In addition, WARM used its regional platforms associated with FANRPAN regional partners, COMESA and ACTESA for the same purpose.

The project created a dedicated address on the FANRPAN website: www.fanrpan.org/themes/each_project/warm/. This has been an effective platform for disseminating project outputs. The site is visible and easy to reach. It has very comprehensive information and is has a good layout with details on:

- project lifespan
- donor
- contract amount
- project objectives
- focus countries
- Role of hosting institution, project activities
- Project material

Some project materials currently available on the site include the Gates Foundation Gender Impact Strategy for Agricultural Development and the World Bank/FAO Gender in Agriculture Sourcebook.

3.5 Project Outcomes/Impacts

In setting up the WARM project, FANRPAN's justification is that at the macro-level, this will lead to enhanced understanding among decision makers, policy makers and service providers, of the challenges and special needs of women farmers. This would result in institutional/environmental or systemic changes to address gaps in policies and practice, and re-align agricultural input delivery systems and developmental programmes in support of women farmers. At the micro or household and community levels, when supportive programs and services become available, this would lead to increases in agricultural productivity and incomes, which in turn improves household welfare.

Although it is rather early for project impacts to show, nonetheless, the study focused at the two levels of impact in its analysis. At the macro-level, it assessed institutional changes in the re-alignment of policies in support of women farmers. At the micro-level, assessments were for changes in support systems, and levels of access to services by women farmers.

3.5.1. Project Outcomes at the Macro-level

At national level, the project TPA processes have enabled women farmers to engage and communicate issues with decision makers, policy makers and input service providers. In Malawi, community engagements were with government extension personnel, gender specialists, farmer organizations, input service providers (agro-dealers), research organizations, policy makers/members of parliament (MP)/parliamentary committees and decision makers.

Leadership made several pledges and commitments during facilitated post-performance discussions especially in Malawi. At Chimpenzu village in Lilongwe District, the sitting member of parliament, Honorable Kuthloya, made a pledge to support the Wills, Inheritance and Deceased Estates Bill in parliament during its tabling. In Sokelele Village, the local MP, Mr. Kamanga, pledged to support the same bill. Subsequently, the Bill passed into law as enough support for it existed, some of it most likely from the two MPs.

In Mozambique, the FDC received special nomination to coordinate the President's "Open presidency" special session in April 2011 on the 'Role of civil society in development with special emphasis on gender equality'. This invitation was in part recognition of the work of the FDC as a WARM implementation partner. Two women policy advocates sponsored by the WARM project attended the session. Also in Mozambique, persistent presentation of the issue of land rights during the April 2011 presidential dialogue referred to earlier, resulted in a follow-up at provincial level where the presidential office urged the administrators to prioritize this issue in their work.

In addition, benefits accrued to partner institutions. TPA introductory performances were staged by students of Applied Art who conducted 18 performances altogether. The exercise presented opportunities for students to apply theory to practice, an unintended project spinoff. As a result, the University realized that students needed community exposure, as expressed by the ECA-UEM head. In Malawi, the project brought researchers into contact with decision makers, and in addition, the researchers gained skills in using the Household Vulnerability Index (HVI) tool, another unintended benefit. HVI is a FANRPAN-developed

livelihoods assessment tool that uses five household asset indices (social, labour, financial, physical, environmental) to determine the level of household vulnerability.

At the global level, the Worldwatch Institute nominated the project as one of the 2011 Innovations that Nourish the Earth, in recognition of the TPA as an innovative tool that empowers women to engage leaders, service providers and policy makers in solving their problems (See Text Box 3.3A). The TPA processes were documented as key contributions to the eminent 2011 State of the World book, 'Innovations that Nourish the Planet'.

Box 3.5A: The WARM TPA recognized among 'INNOVATIONS THAT NOURISH THE PLANET'

In 2011, the WARM project received nomination in the State of the World 2011: Innovations that nourish the planet (www.worldwatch.org/sow11) for its TPA tool recognized as an interactive model for facilitating women to engage leaders, service providers, and policy makers in advocating for appropriate agricultural policies and programmes.

Held at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington D.C., the Worldwatch Institute's 15th Annual State of the World Symposium (www.worldwatch.org/node/6561) hosted leading thinkers on agricultural development, hunger and poverty alleviation. The symposium takes place following the release of Worldwatch's eminent publication, State of the World 2011: Innovations that nourish the planet.

The project proceeds to translate its findings into 20 languages and shares these globally with agricultural stakeholders, among them government ministries, policy makers, community networks, farmers, non-governmental organizations and development agencies.

As additional sign of recognition for the innovativeness of the TPA tool, the WARM Project was one of two 'voices from the field' that were invited to present on the project work during the World Symposium.

Source: FANRPAN

The project has attracted extensive media coverage from diverse media houses (Table 8). International news and electronic media houses that featured project outputs included the BBC and Al Jazeera. Regional electronic media included the Zimbabwe Community Radio. Print media at international level included the Guardian Newspaper, and at the regional level, articles on the project appeared in newspapers such as the Namibia Economist. Development agencies equally took notice; NEPAD and FARA featured WARM outputs, among others.

To enhance benefits from media coverage of the project activities, the project needs to deliberately attract additional attention from the local print and electronic media within pilot and beneficiary countries, whilst maintaining the grip on regional and international media.

Table 8: WARM Project Media Outreach and Coverage (2009-2012)

No.	TITLE OF ARTICLE	PUBLICATION (AND LOCATION)	DATE
	FANRPAN AgriDeal Magazine – WARMING Africa	FANRPAN AgriDeal Magazine	September 2012
1.	International Women's Day 2012 - African women: champions of climate-smart agriculture	TrustLaw	Mar. 2012
2.	Five Innovations that Are Working to Empower Women	EcoWatch	Jan. 2012
3.	Empowering Women Farmers Could End World Hunger	The Cultureist	Dec. 2011
4.	Women are Central to Feeding Africa	BBC News	April 2011
5.	5.1 Women Farmers: Voiceless Pillars of African Agriculture	NEPAD Food Security	Mar. 2011
	5.2 Women Farmers: Voiceless Pillars of African Agriculture	CTA Website	Mar. 2011
	5.3 Women Farmers: Voiceless Pillars of African Agriculture	CAADP News Press Release	Mar. 2011
	5.4 Women Farmers: Voiceless Pillars of African Agriculture	Reuters Press Release	Mar. 2011
	5.5 Women Farmers: Voiceless Pillars of African Agriculture	Swazi Observer Newspaper	Mar. 2011
	5.6 Women Farmers: Voiceless Pillars of African Agriculture	Universal Rights	Mar. 2011
	5.7 Women Farmers: Voiceless Pillars of African Agriculture	Farming First	Mar. 2011
6.	What Works: Increasing Food Sovereignty	We Blog the World	Feb. 2011
7.	Integrated Approaches to Development Action through Communication Strategies (conference paper)	IFPRI Conference	Feb. 2011
8.	Worldwatch Report Reveals Real Agricultural Solutions	Common Dreams	Jan. 2011
9.	Farmers are Integral to People's Health and the Planet's Health, says State of the World 2011 Symposium	State of the World Dispatch	Jan. 2011
10.	Theatre Giving African Women Farmers Greater Voice	New Agriculturalist	Dec. 2010
11.	But Who Can Listen?: FANRPAN Launches Theatre for Policy Advocacy Campaign in Rural Malawi	Nourishing the Planet blog	Nov. 2010
12.	Will Africa Feed Itself?	Leadership	Sept. 2010
13.	Empowering Women Farmers To Advocate For Policy Change	CropLife Africa	Sept. 2010
14.	Practical Actions to Enhance the Participation of Women in the Purchase for Progress Pilot Program	Purchase for Progress paper	Sept. 2010
15.	Innovative Ways of Hearing Farmers' Voices	Huffington Post	June 2010
16.	Acting It Out for Advocacy	Progressive U.org	May 2010
17.	FANRPAN: Working to Connect Farmers, Researchers, and Policy Makers in Africa	Nourishing the Planet	Mar. 2010
18.	We Need to Realize Africa's Potential on Agriculture	Guardian UK	Feb. 2010
19.	Fighting for Africa's food security	Al Jazeera	Feb. 2010

Women Accessing Re-Aligned Markets (WARM) Project: End of Project Evaluation

No.	TITLE OF ARTICLE	PUBLICATION (AND LOCATION)	DATE
	FANRPAN AgriDeal Magazine – WARMING Africa	FANRPAN AgriDeal Magazine	September 2012
20.	Women Accessing Realigned Markets (WARM)	SOUL BEAT : Edutainment	Jan. 2010
21.	Community Theatre as a Tool for Policy Advocacy	Zimbabwe Community Radio	2010
22.	Linking Community Theatre and Rural Development for Women	Farming First	Sept 2009
23.	East & Southern Africa	CropLife Africa/Middle East	Sept 2009
24.	Initiative to Give Women Farmers Voices	FARA	Aug 2009
25.	Theatre to Empower Women Farmers in Southern Africa	One World South Asia	July 2009
26.	FANRPAN Supports Women Farmers	Future Agricultures	July 2009
27.	27.1: Southern Africa: Song and Dance to Empower Women Farmers	All Africa.com	July 2009
	27.2: Southern Africa: Song and Dance to Empower Women Farmers	Inter Press Service	July 2009
28.	FANRPAN Launches Project to Strengthen the Capacity of Women Farmers' influence in Agricultural Policy	PRGA Programs	July 2009
29.	Initiative to Give Women Farmers Voices	Namibia Economist	July 2009

Source: FANRPAN

Notes: Refer to ANNEX E for Website link to each article

3.5.2. Project Outcomes/Impacts at Household and Community Levels

The study found evidence that women in post-performance dialogue audiences overcame own inhibitions and traversed social norms of seeking consent from male family members, especially husbands to speak in public during post-performance dialogues. This occurred because the subject of discussion became the theatre protagonists rather than them as specific individuals in the community. Hence, TPA provided protection against political and social harassment by transposing individual identities onto actors.

The WARM project enhanced information flow to and among women that under normal circumstances would not have reached them. Lack of information on which to base decisions is a common challenge, which partially explains the choice of inappropriate agricultural practices that lead to low yields among women farmers. For instance, target communities became increasingly aware of an existing fund of seven million meticals earmarked for district development in Marracuene, Mozambique because of the WARM project. In Malawi, an example of increased information flow brought by the project relates to the inheritance of land by women. When this issue came up during post performance dialogues as a critical issue affecting women farmers' sustainable access to land, a local MP advised that a bill granting women rights of inheritance had been tabled in parliament as the bill on 'Wills, inheritance and deceased estates'. When the draft bill eventually passed into law, the women promptly received information on the development.

Capacity building in policy advocacy gave rise to individual women with abilities to articulate women farmer issues in high level policy dialogues as demonstrated by Teresa Sumbane (See Text Box 3.3B) who effortlessly and diplomatically engaged the Mozambican President Guebeza during a presidential dialogue at State House.

Box 3.5B: Policy Advocate Teresa Alexandre Sumbane

Teresa Alexandre Sumbane is a beneficiary of the WARM capacity building initiative in policy advocacy run in Marracuene District, Mozambique. Besides, she is an active member of the community theatre group using the Theatre for Policy Advocacy tool to articulate issues and challenges facing women farmers in Marracuene District.

Born on October 6, 1982 in Marracuene district, Teresa has 7th grade schooling, is a single mother of two girls and derives her livelihood from farming. She was orphaned at 19 years. At this tender age and with very little background knowledge, she started farming to sustain her young family. With a quiet determination and exceptional leadership, the 30-year old has constantly been in the fore front seeking and protecting farmer rights.

She helped to establish the Alfredo Namitete Association, which joined the National Union of Peasants (UNAC) as platforms to fight for the rights of the peasants' movement in Mozambique. After joining UNAC, she helped prevent the expropriation of 100 hectares of the association's land from a foreign investor. "Local authorities wanted to give the investor our land. We fought to prevent it and succeeded", says Teresa. In between representing her community, she runs a market garden on a 2-hectare plot (growing cabbage, carrots, cucumber, onion, maize and sweet potatoes).

Following her training in the WARM policy advocacy capacity building programme, Teresa has gained exceptional ability to engage with leaders and articulate women farmers' issues in high-level policy advocacy platforms. In April 2011, she represented her community in a presidential dialogue of Civil Society Organizations with Mozambique's President Guebuza, where she clearly presented her views regarding rural women concerns. She urged President Guebuza that in his next visit to Marracuene he should go to places not prepared by protocol to see the reality on the ground!

Her concerns for the women farmers are no longer restricted to her community. When the Consultant met her in

Marracuene in May 2012, she had recently been to Brazil in solidarity with rural farmers in commemorating La ViaCampesina. This is a global movement with more than 200 million peasants, small to medium-sized farmers, landless people, women farmers, indigenous peoples, migrants and agricultural workers.

She sees many challenges that are still outstanding, among them unfair markets for community produce, and difficult access to seeds.

Source: EoP Evaluation

For projects that involve changes in attitude, visible impacts take long to show. Despite this, WARM project impacts have started emerging. In Mozambique, women from Boane have demonstrated initiative by collaboratively creating three more scripts reflective of the challenges they are grappling with, including one on domestic violence. In addition, Boane has experienced successes in neighbourhood security by engaging leadership using acquired advocacy skills, which has resulted in strengthened anti-crime structures and deployment of reinforcements.

Through the work of women policy advocates, and the TPA processes, clear messages have begun to emerge from the communities (Table 9), and this is likely to influence policies and programmes that support agricultural input systems in a significant way.

Table 9: Examples of Clear Messages Emerging From TPA Post-performance Dialogues in Mozambique and Malawi

District	Challenge	Detail	Community Solution
Boane, Mozambique	Access to credit facilities	The incapacity of women farmers to write down their needs and plans is having an effect in accessing the “ <i>Fundo de Investimento de Iniciativa Local (FIIL)</i> ”	Mechanisms of accessing credit must be simplified for the farmers
Boane, Mozambique	Produce Spoilage	Produce spoilage due to distant markets, lack of dedicated markets, transport shortages	Creation of the local markets; greater involvement by Government, process of commercialization and creation of transformative industries to buy products and value-add
Boane, Mozambique	Low producer prices	Weak unions and advocacy skills for organizational influence; Weak unions and skills for negotiations on exchange processes resulting in low prices imposed by the agro-dealers	Capacity development initiatives by Government and development agencies
Boane, Mozambique	Domestic violence	Domestic violence and lack of adequate support for women farmers by their partners, systems or policies	The local authorities could be more intensive in mobilizing the entire community in finding solutions to the problems related to domestic violence
Marracuene, Mozambique	Lack of Appropriate Seed	Lack of appropriate seed and know-how on improved seed- and fertilizer-based production techniques	Increased extension support by Government

District	Challenge	Detail	Community Solution
Marracuene, Mozambique	Lack of Initiative	The lack of local initiatives/ programs	Experience exchange among farmers
Lilongwe, Malawi	Gender violence	Culturally-induced gender based violence	Victim support units and centres
Lilongwe, Malawi	Malpractices related to coupons/voucher Allocation	Malpractices affecting access by women at ADMARC input markets and access to vouchers/coupons	Government has to introduce mitigation measures
Lilongwe, Malawi	Women access to land	Very few women farmers own land in the communities	Introduction of appropriate empowering policies and bye-laws
Malawi Women Advocates	Access to technologies	Lack of access to new and limited/dwindling Extension Services	Enhance the participation of lead farmers
Malawi Women Advocates	HIV/AIDS	Impact of HIV/AIDS	New ways of farming that are less labour intensive

3.6 Utility

All implementation partners validated the relevance of the WARM project and the effectiveness of the TPA tool in enabling women farmers to communicate their challenges to leaders, decision makers and policy makers.

As a result, the project has brought crucial policy issues affecting women farmers into the public debate at the community, district, national, regional and international levels. The TPA tool has attracted global recognition for its innovativeness over a very brief three-year period of implementation.

To consolidate the impact of the project, there is need to widen geographical coverage of the intervention within pilot countries (scaling out) and outside these countries (up scaling). The project is ready for replication in other African countries. The experience of the pilot project confirms that the TPA tool would work well even in countries where the adult literacy rate is low, illiteracy affects a larger proportion of women farmers, and socio-cultural barriers hinder women's progress.

3.7 Sustainability

In both countries, the work sponsored through the pilot project showed good prospects for sustainability after project termination.

FANRPAN did not create parallel structures for implementation of the WARM project but, instead, used existing institutions with mandates that are similar to roles assigned to them under the pilot project.

In Mozambique, women chosen by the FDC and UEM /ECA to act or train in policy advocacy were deliberately from the National Union of Peasants (UNAC) structures so that the theatre groups would remain within existing institutional structures on termination of the project. Since UNAC as an association deals with rural education and farmer empowerment, it made their choice especially appropriate and

relevant. These women also had a history and experience of working together. Hence, rapport would be easy to build. In participating in the Rural Women's day festivities and staging performances on their own initiative, this act by women of Marracuene is reflective of an intervention that has become sustainable.

Theatre groups are likely to continue with support from local partner institutions. For example, in Mozambique, women from Boane district have created three more scripts reflective of the challenges they are grappling with, including one on HIV/AIDS. In addition, they used advocacy skills acquired through the pilot project to engage local leadership to set up a neighbourhood security system that is working well. The system has strengthened local structures that are fighting crime.

At the time of the end-of-project evaluation, theatre groups in Malawi had taken the initiative to package and stage a new generation of theatre performances, producing new scripts to address marketing constraints encountered during the 2011/12 soya bean marketing-season. Children also expressed strong interest in participating in the theatre performances, not only as part of the audience, but as active performers and as the future generation of farmers. This confirms the strong relevance of the innovation and high potential for sustainability.

The FANRPAN – Household Vulnerability Index (HVI) tool that was applied in the study of farmer livelihoods will continue to be used by students and university lecturers in their research projects, it will also continue to help implementers in monitoring impacts of their development projects.

Researchers from Bunda College of Agriculture, Malawi indicated that policy research would continue but it would widen to cover other topics. Since Story Workshop is now aware of evidence-based script development, its quest for research evidence would foster the continued partnership with Bunda College of Agriculture. In addition, the Extension arm in agriculture was involved, and since it is a permanent institutional feature, this introduces some level of sustainability to the intervention.

In Malawi, trained women advocates will continue with their work by participating in policy dialogue platforms organized by NASFAM.

Extension workers were involved and will continue to use TPA groups for delivery of agricultural extension messages.

4. Challenges and Lessons

4.1. Challenges

Funerals and rainfall sometimes reduced turnout of audiences at community theatre performances.

Turnover of key contact persons in institutions originally identified by FANRPAN as possible implementing partners caused the latter to identify new partners. The process of identifying suitable national partners for the WARM project needed more time than originally envisaged, which shortened the time for implementation of project activities on the ground, but once FANRPAN secured the partnerships, implementation went on smoothly.

In Malawi where GPS was in use to map beneficiaries and enable future tracking, no GPS coordinates existed from previous studies, which created challenges in tracking beneficiaries for accurate measurement of impact.

Researchers in both Mozambique and Malawi experienced challenges in finding historical data relating to input distribution and subsidy programmes.

4.2. Lessons Learned

Implementation of a project (such as WARM) which combines, research, theatre and advocacy requires participation of many national level partners. Identifying and negotiating with these partners takes time and between 6-16 months would be required for partner identification and common visioning during the inception phase.

Use of the TPA tool enables detailed discussions to take place not just on farming but other social issues of concern to the community as well. The tool allows the audience to disclose and discuss these issues freely since the issues are not personalized.

Early sensitization and involvement of decision makers in the project is crucial if they are to fully participate in subsequent policy dialogues and respond positively to research findings. Hence, initial mapping and sensitization of key stakeholders should precede introduction of the TPA.

To maximize turnout, scheduling of TPA activities should be in the dry season, when farmers have completed cropping and other wet-season activities.

Linking disbursement of funds to deliverables works in a situation where FANRPAN makes advance payments sufficient to meet costs of activities required to produce the milestones that will trigger subsequent payments, or where the implementing partners have some capacity and willingness to pre-finance some of the activities to produce the milestones that will trigger additional payments. If advance payments are insufficient to cover activities needed to produce the milestone that trigger subsequent payments then a vicious cycle sets in whereby on one hand, the implementing partner is not able to deliver the milestone and on the other hand, FANRPAN cannot disburse another tranche until the partner has fulfilled the contractual obligation of delivering the milestone.

5. Missed Opportunities

An opportunity was missed to **introduce the project early to relevant and crucial national level policy makers and leaders of institutions providing services to farmers** so that research findings could have been fed into decision-making processes more effectively.

The project **lacked a holistic and well-coordinated advocacy strategy** – how to take issues identified through the TPA performances and post-TPA dialogues to relevant decision makers using multiple channels and media. In Malawi for instance, some of the decision makers (such as the managers of the Agricultural Development and Marketing Corporation) needed clearance from central government first to attend the TPA performances at community level. In most cases they did not turn up and there was a need to follow them up separately using other methods of policy advocacy. There was no specific strategy on how to follow-up such stakeholders, especially those that are very sensitive to criticism by a group (public) but may be willing to make some adjustments if approached separately.

The opportunity to **follow-up commitments made by policy makers during post-TPA dialogues** was missed because this activity did not have a specific budget allocated to it. Ideally, this should have been one of the roles of the FANRPAN national node in the pilot country or the institution that was responsible for training women farmers as advocates.

The project would have benefitted from **stronger links and collaboration with service providers** during implementation, to facilitate a more rapid uptake of project outputs, and faster re-alignment of input services to meet the needs of women farmers.

Studies on agricultural productivity and agricultural input subsidy programmes could have collected **gender-disaggregated data**, rather than confine data collection to female-headed households. This former approach would have provided a more effective baseline for the analysis of gender-based interventions, and improvements to the gender parity index (GPI).

6. Conclusions and Recommendations

6.1. Conclusions

Use of the TPA tool **effectively empowered women farmers to voice their concerns**, allowing the identification of key challenges in each pilot community, which the project effectively packaged and disseminated for purposes of influencing the development agenda at local, regional and international levels.

The project **succeeded in imparting skills for participatory action research among researchers based at universities within the pilot countries**, implementing studies on agricultural input support policies and programs, and in the assessment of agricultural productivity in each of the pilot countries. However, more rigor in the analysis of constraints confronting women farmers could have been achieved and more perspectives revealed had gender disaggregated data been collected.

Through a combination of extensive media coverage and the use of national, regional and international policy dialogue platforms, FANRPAN succeeded through WARM **in bringing women farmer concerns into national and regional policy debates**.

The **pilot project was successful, and funds permitting, is ready for scale up, within the pilot countries and in new countries**.

6.2. Recommendations for the Current Project Period

1. FANRPAN should follow-up partners who are still to submit the outstanding outputs (e.g., Mozambique Dialogue Proceedings Report).
2. FANRPAN should share information with current implementing partners concerning initial ideas and plans for Phase 2 of the WARM project. This should include soliciting inputs of partners into the design of the follow-on phase, spelling out the nature of support FANRPAN would need from them and what partners recommend for improvement of the partnership.

6.3. Recommendations for Utilizing the Pilot Project for Future Interventions

3. The TPA tool has worked well with implementation partners. However, some adjustments in the design of the TPA approach are required. Firstly, to strengthen effectiveness of the intervention, the project needs to increase women policy advocates within each target community, who then facilitate post-performance dialogues.
4. Second, the Evaluation recommends a fewer number of more mobile community theatre groups coupled with a larger policy advocacy group, both well trained and institutionally anchored. This approach is crucial for funding, regular evidence gathering that feeds into the renewal of script storylines, group practice and improvements to theatre performance. Imbedding the activities of TPA groups within the work programmes of local NGOs involved in policy advocacy may also help with sustainability of financial support for the groups.
5. Third, the period of implementation should ideally be increased to at least 4 years, at the same time incorporating into the project design the component of establishing stronger links with the private sector to facilitate a more rapid uptake of project outputs and enabling the project activities to become fully institutionalized in the agriculture value chain and achieve policy change.
6. To ensure messages remain current and the high level of interest in performances is sustained the project should seek to establish a mechanism to institutionalize and maintain the tripartite partnership between performing groups, researchers, and development agencies to feed new scripts to the system, relevant to emerging issues.
7. Radio is one of the most common means of communication in the targeted rural communities (more than 95% of farmers own radios in Boane and Marracuene, Mozambique). Hence, the project should explore the use of short-wave radio programs to complement the TPA tool in increasing geographical coverage and reducing roll-out costs.
8. To enhance benefits from media coverage of the project activities, FANRPAN should increase the use of the local print and electronic media to enhance the reach of messages from community theatre performances within the targeted countries.
9. Use of Geographical Positioning Systems (GPS) in collection of baseline and impact assessment information on farmers livelihoods, and agricultural production and marketing constraints at the household level should be encouraged by the project in all countries of implementation, so should more efficient, technology-based methods of data capture such as the use of SMART phones or portable data assistants (PDAs).
10. The partnership with universities for the research component should continue stronger given the positive spinoffs of the project in creating research opportunities for students at both the undergraduate and post-graduate studies levels.
11. Considering that markets for inputs and outputs are increasingly becoming liberalized in the Eastern and Southern Africa region, policies that enable farmers to take advantage of the new opportunities availed by reforms and those that protect them from the negative effects of market integration are needed. FANRPAN should mobilize more resources for funding of interventions

such as the WARM Project that enable farmers to participate in problem identification and prioritization, formulation of solutions, and advocating for changes in policies and programmes that address farmers' concerns.

12. In designing and mobilizing resources for WARM Phase 2, FANRPAN should explore the opportunity to mainstream the use Theatre for Policy Advocacy in all relevant policy advocacy activities envisaged under its thematic programmes, and possibly starting with HaSSP.

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Annexes

ANNEX A: Terms of Reference for End of Project Review for the FANRPAN

Women Accessing Realigned Markets (WARM) Project

1. Introduction

The Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN) is a multi-stakeholder, multi-national policy network that supports the development and implementation of better food, agriculture and natural resources (FANR) policies in Southern Africa. In 2009 FANRPAN received a grant of USD900150 from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to implement the Women Accessing Realigned Markets (WARM) project. The pilot project seeks to strengthen women farmers' ability to advocate for appropriate agricultural policies and programmes. The goal is for women farmers to have access to assets such as knowledge, technology, credit and better seeds, fertilizer and other inputs by ensuring that local and national policies and services address their needs. The project is being implemented in selected communities in Malawi and Mozambique. As the project ends on the 31st of May 2012, FANRPAN is seeking to recruit a consultant to undertake an end-of-project review for this project.

2. Objectives of the assignment

The overall objective of this end of project review is to provide FANRPAN and partners with sufficient and accurate information to make an informed judgment about the performance of the WARM project –the extent to which project objectives are consistent with the priorities of the smallholder women farmers and other stakeholders (relevance); how well the project performed in delivering against objectives (effectiveness); and how economically resources have been converted into results (efficiency). The consultant will be expected to use the project log frame (Annex 1) as a starting point for reviewing the project

The specific objectives of the assignment are to:

- Establish the extent to which the project has achieved its stated objectives (i.e. the level of achievement of activities, outputs and the overall objectives as stated in the project document), taking into account its target stakeholder needs.
- Evaluate the project implementation strategies and processes and structures, including assessment of the institutional and operational set-up and whether they were the best to achieve the project objectives;
- Assess the success or failure of the Theatre for Policy Advocacy (TPA) methodology, by identifying what has worked, has not worked well, and the sustainability of the achievements made by the investment.
- Identify key lessons and propose practical recommendations for follow-up actions i.e. key recommendations for consideration to be taken into account in the up scaling and out scaling of the project in Malawi and Mozambique or other FANRPAN countries.

3. Scope of the review and proposed methodology:

The assignment will cover all aspects of the project, as set in the project proposal, to establish whether the planned activities and anticipated outputs have been attained, and to document success stories emanating from the project's interventions. While maintaining independence and neutrality, the review shall adopt a participatory approach. Therefore, the proposed methodology will entail consultations and focus group discussions with key stakeholders, in addition to both desk review and field visits to the project implementation areas. Both qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection may be adopted to obtain primary data from the project beneficiaries, implementers and stakeholders.

The consultant will be expected to provide a detailed evaluation design that includes key evaluation questions, key indicators, sources of data/information, and data collection methods and instruments, and a detailed evaluation implementation plan, including key tasks, activities and timelines. Furthermore, the review shall be structured in respect to the following evaluation criteria: relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability against original project objectives, taking into account the realities on the ground; and the extent to which the project addressed the needs of its stakeholders.

4. Expected deliverables:

- Inception Report – This shall be prepared and submitted within 5 days after signing the contract. The Inception report shall include the proposed evaluation design, implementation plan and timelines.
- Final Report – This shall be submitted to FANRPAN 15 days after the completion of the country consultations. The Final Report shall have incorporated comments and suggestions from FANRPAN and implementing partners, as well as any other data not fully captured at the time of writing the draft report. The report should be precise and should have a maximum of 25 pages, excluding annexes. The format shall be agreed with FANRPAN after signing the contract.

5. Management Arrangements

The consultant will report directly to the FANRPAN Chief Executive Officer (CEO) through the FANRPAN Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator and the WARM project Manager.

6. Duration of Contract

This contract will be valid from date 1 May 2012 to 31 May 2012.

ANNEX B: Women Accessing Realigned Markets (WARM) Project Logical Framework

OBJECTIVES	MEASURABLE INDICATORS (QQT)	MEANS OF VERIFICATION (MOV)	IMPORTANT ASSUMPTIONS
GOAL (PROGRAM OBJECTIVE) Improve agricultural productivity by increasing women farmers' access to input and output markets	– Increased national agricultural productivity	– Food Balance Sheet from national Vulnerability Assessment Committees VACs	
PURPOSE (PROJECT OBJECTIVES) - To provide a platform for communities to dialogue on issues that affect women farmers' access to input markets - To empower women farmers to play a more active role in driving the development agenda - To align development research agenda to women farmers' issues - Align input supply institutions and programs to women farmer needs - To bring women farmer concerns into national and regional policy debates	– Theatre for Policy Advocacy (TPA) methods embraced by communities as an effective method for articulating challenges and solutions – Women farmers advising development organizations on priority needs – Women farmers have increased access to inputs and outputs markets – More women farmers participating in policy engagements	– Reports of TPA engagements at community level – Plans of development initiatives addressing specific challenges of women farmers – Profiles of agro-dealer clients – List of participant and list of key speakers at policy events	
Objective I Outputs: - Project awareness created among all stakeholders - Theatre scripts developed based on data from action research, secondary data and community consultations - Community introduced to TPA concept - Community issues and challenges of women farmer access to input markets documented in script form	– Like minded organizations endorse the project and partner with FANRPAN in implementing project activities in Malawi and Mozambique within the first quarter of project launch – 6 communities in Malawi and Mozambique mobilized and engage in Theatre for Policy Advocacy (TPA) activities in year two of the project – Community members use the TPA tool to engage local leaders on development issues by end of year two of the project – Community issues articulated and theatre scripts developed based on these issues in the first quarter of year two	- MOUs and contracts signed - TPA process reports and documentaries - Theatre scripts	- Process of partnership building will be a smooth one - Communities embrace TPA

Women Accessing Re-Aligned Markets (WARM) Project: End of Project Evaluation

Objective II Outputs: 1. Women knowledgeable on policies and institutional arrangements for accessing inputs 2. Community and women in particular use TPA dialogues to articulate policy challenges 3. Women farmers trained on policy advocacy	– More women take leadership roles and are heard in relevant community decision-making organizations and fora – Policy makers aware of issues affecting women – Women equipped with skills to effectively communicate issues – Women and community in general equipped with knowledge / evidence for policy advocacy – 10 women advocates mobilized – District theatre groups formed in project areas in Malawi and Mozambique – Women farmers hold key positions in farmer unions at regional level (e.g. SACAU) and at national level (NASFAM in Malawi and UNAC in Mozambique) – More women have adequate supplies of inputs timeously – NGOs align development interventions to community needs	- Report of training workshop - Profiles of women advocates - Profiles of district theatre group - Draft policies that reflect challenges faced by women farmers - Reports of engagements were women farmers articulated their challenges	- Women farmers are free to participate in the training workshops
Objective III Outputs: 1. Researchers equipped with skills to "listen and understand" community voices 2. Information on input distribution systems updated 3. Agricultural productivity information packaged in databases 4. Databases available at national universities for pro-active policy analysis	– Researchers from Mozambique and Malawi trained on participatory action research methods – Research agenda defined in line with community needs – Capacity of local universities to collect community-level data and link it with national statistics enhanced – Policy analysis generates policy options that inform input policies and distribution mechanisms – Agricultural productivity information made available for output markets including P4P program and food security early warning systems	- Training report - Research plans that reflect community needs - Databases	- Researchers are open to new ways of doing research
Objective IV Outputs: 1. Lessons learnt and project impact documented with recommendations for scaling up and scaling out 2. Lesson learning and sharing of best practices with project team, other partners at national & regional levels 3. Lesson learning and sharing of best practices with	– Awareness raised on issues affecting women farmers – Lessons learned used to improve project implementation – Lessons learned lead to better programming for input supply systems and a conducive policy environment for women farmers	- Publications (academic and media) highlighting project findings - New development initiatives - Profiles of Agro-dealers'	- The project is a success

Women Accessing Re-Aligned Markets (WARM) Project: End of Project Evaluation

project team, other partners at national & regional levels		clients	
Objective V Outputs: 1. Project outputs packaged with clear policy recommendations 2. WARM project outputs and key policy recommendations based on stakeholder inputs disseminated 3. Regional service providers/policy makers are made aware of issues 4. Harmonization of policies at regional level Women and community are more knowledgeable about constraints in other countries and can form regional coalitions 5. Region and global wide awareness of challenges and potential of realignment of markets through programs such as P4P, ACTESA and AGRA	– Stakeholders in Malawi & Mozambique informed on input supply mechanisms, challenges faced by women farmers and potential solutions – Stakeholders from 19 COMESA countries and 13 FANRPAN member states receive information on input supply mechanisms, challenges faced by women farmers and potential solutions – National service providers/policy makers are made aware of issues affecting women	- Policy advisory notes - Dialogue proceedings - Policy reform	
ACTIVITIES	INPUTS	MEANS OF VERIFICATION (MOV)	IMPORTANT ASSUMPTIONS
Objective I Outputs: 1.1. Project launch 1.2. Regional Theatre script prepared by Amakhosi 1.3. Regional Theatre for Policy Advocacy (TPA) performance by Amakhosi 1.4. Community theatre script developed	– Workshop Facility (includes venue, accommodation, refreshments and meals) – Stationary – Project Concept Note (include all appendices – budget, objectives, timeline etc) – Contract with Amakhosi to prepare scripts (with detailed TORs and timeline) - Performance venue - Supporting actors – Dinner	Invoices Contract Reports	
Objective II Activities: 2.1. Identify and train women innovators, opinion leaders and entrepreneurs 2.2. Community theatre groups trained (six in Malawi and six in Mozambique) 2.3. TPA performances 2.4. Research results disseminated to community	– Workshop Facility (includes venue, accommodation, refreshments and meals) – Stationary – Contract with training facilitators – Contract with professional national theatre groups (Malawi and Mozambique) – Publications budget	Invoices Contract Reports	

Women Accessing Re-Aligned Markets (WARM) Project: End of Project Evaluation

Objective III Activities: 3.1. Training of researchers in community action research 3.2. Analysis of input distribution systems & policies 3.3. Agricultural productivity data collected 3.4. Input supply and productivity databases updated & information disseminated	– Workshop Facility (includes venue, accommodation, refreshments and meals) – Stationary – Contract with research institution – Contract with training facilitators	Invoices Contract Reports	
Objective IV Activities: 4.1. Project M&E and engagement with service providers 4.2. Mid-term review 4.3. End of project review	Travel schedule for all M& E engagements Contract with consultant undertaking project review	Invoices Contract Reports	
Objective V Activities: 5.1. Sharing of project lessons at national and regional level 5.2. FANRPAN nodes convene national policy dialogues 5.3. Regional policy dialogue convened around TPA 5.4. WARM results and policy recommendations distributed at national & regional level	– Workshop Facility (includes venue, accommodation, refreshments and meals) – Stationary – Contract with dialogue facilitators	Invoices Contract Reports	

ANNEX C: List of Key Informants

List of Key Informants from FANRPAN Secretariat Consulted

Name	Institution
Dr Lindiwe Majele Sibanda	CEO, FANRPAN Secretariat
Mrs Sithembile Mwamakamba	WARM Project Coordinator

List of Key Informants Consulted in Malawi

Name	Institution
Ronnie Mvula	Bunda College of Agriculture
Stanley Khaila	Bunda College of Agriculture
Bonnet Kamwana	Bunda College of Agriculture
Beatrice Makwenda	NASFAM
Takondwa Kaliwo	Story Workshop

List of Participants in the Mozambique Focus Group Discussion Workshop

Name	Institution
Bruno Arango	UEM/FAEF
Paiva Manguambe	UEM/FAEF
Marta Cumbi	FDC
Mario Chilundo	UEM-FAEF
David Jose	UEM/ECA
Sithembile Ndema	FANRPAN
Chris Nyakanda	JIMAT Development Consultants

List of Key informants Among Theatre Groups and Women Advocates, Mozambique (Boane)

Name	Surname	Role in WARM Project
Alfabeto	Bié	Trained Advocate
Manuela	Massinga	Trained Advocate
Sofia	Guambe	Trained Advocate
Maria	Simbine	Member of Drama Group
Marta	Mahumane	Member of Drama Group
Felismina	Sitoi	Member of Drama Group
Otilia	Duvane	Member of Drama Group
Palmira	Simão	Member of Drama Group
Elsa	Sitoi	Member of Drama Group
Albertina	Tila	Member of Drama Group
Elisa	Mondlane	Member of Drama Group

Women Accessing Re-Aligned Markets (WARM) Project: End of Project Evaluation

Name	Surname	Role in WARM Project
Elisa	Manhica	Farmer
Dudu	Munguambe	Farmer
Mateus	Cossa	Farmer
Carla	Augusto	Farmer
Celina	Cabo	Farmer
Cacilda	Figueiredo	Farmer
Olivia	Jossefa	Farmer
Alzira	Jose	Farmer
Marta	Azevedo	Farmer
Alice	Mawelele	Farmer
Sebastião	Dimande	Farmer

List of Key informants Among Theatre Groups and Women Advocates, Mozambique (Marracuene District)

Name	Surname	Role in WARM Project
1. Teresa	Sumbane	Member of Drama Group
2. Ninita	Machava	Member of Drama Group
3. Alice	Matine	Member of Drama Group
4. Ana	Tuaia	Member of Drama Group
5. Maria	Luis	Member of Drama Group
6. Joaneta	Nguenha	Member of Drama Group

ANNEX D: End of Project Evaluation Questionnaire for Implementers

WARM Project Evaluation: May 2012

INSTRUCTIONS for Implementation Partners:

Please complete relevant sections and leave blank spaces where questions are inapplicable.

Name:	Organization:	E-mail:
	Designation:	Mobile contact:
Output 1		
i. What were your roles in the WARM project?		
ii. Are there strong alternatives to the TPA intervention logic used in WARM? Yes/No Explain.		
iii. Did the implementing partners have adequate institutional backing for their involvement in the WARM programme?		
iv. Where the resources made available to the project for implementation adequate? If not, what areas suffered as a result?		
v. What were the main challenges at inception? Was implementation performance according to expectations? If yes, what were the positives? If not, what were the main challenges during implementation?		
vi. What mechanisms were used to keep costs at a minimum and increase value for money?		
vii. How many theatre scripts did your institution produce that were used in WARM?		
viii. How many additional scripts completed beyond basic project commitments?		
ix. How many theatre performances did you stage during the period of project implementation as required by the project?		
x. How many additional theatre performances did you conduct beyond project expectations?		
xi. How extensively have women farmers used the tool as a platform (give numbers of performances and distribution per district)?		

xii. How many women farmers have been reached by the project (Give numbers of audiences if available)?
xiii. Are post performance dialogues a standard addition in applied theatre for advocacy and development models? (Yes/No) Explain. xiv. Are the target communities in a position to sustain the combination of theatre performance and post-performance dialogues without external intermediation to combine the two processes? (Yes/No) Explain.
xv. How is the TPA viewed amongst like-minded organizations, community members including males, service providers, development agencies, public service organizations and policy makers? Explain the effects of the attitude taken by these stakeholders on project implementation?
Output 2
xvi. How many women policy advocates have your institution trained in the project?
xvii. What selection criteria were used in identifying candidates for training?
xviii. How many training workshops have been held in each district? xix. What have been the challenges and lessons learned in training women policy advocates?
xx. Has the role of women policy advocates extended beyond the TPA platforms during the implementation period? Give explanations.
xxi. Are there any examples/reports/cases studies where TPA groups/ women took own initiative in hosting additional theatre and advocacy campaigns, or made further improvisations to scripts to incorporate overlooked or emerging issues?
xxii. To what extent is this programme sustainable in the absence of further external intervention? xxiii. What options are available for consolidating the skills level, and numbers achieved?
xxiv. How many draft policy documents have been formulated that reflect enhanced concerns for women

farmer challenges and promote action plans that provide solutions to the articulated issues in the WARM project? Give detailed descriptions.

Output 3

xxv. Give the numbers of beneficiaries of capacity building initiatives on participatory action research under the project?

xxvi. Give numbers of beneficiaries in capacity building initiatives on policy analysis under the project?

xxvii. How have participatory action research and policy analysis skills been institutionalized?

xxviii. Are there any unintended benefits that accrued to implementing partners from the training?

xxix. Quantify the number of databases and information packages created or updated.

xxx. What are the quantities of poster types, fliers, brochures and newsletters published in local languages and containing project-generated results? How many journal publications have emerged from the project work?

Item	No	Item	No
Posters		Newsletter	
Fliers		Refereed journal articles	
Brochures		Non-refereed journal articles	

xxxi. Has agricultural productivity information been made available to other existing development initiatives, output markets for instance P4P program, or food security early warning systems?

xxxii. How many times have action research and policy advocacy personnel from implementing partner institutions participated in local, national or regional policy dialogues related with WARM?

xxxiii. How many papers and presentations have been made at such dialogues?

Output 4:

xxxiv. What was the response action plan for 2 key recommendations directed at each implementing partner of the WARM project during the mid-term review (MTR) of July 2011?

xxxv. What is the current status of each action point on the response plan? xxxvi. If no action was taken, what were the challenges and constraints? Has the project been effective in making follow-up on addressing recommendations?
xxxvii. Has there been improved programming for input supply systems and improvements in policies that create conducive environments for women farmers during the project implementation period?
xxxviii. Give 3 recommendations for improving project implementation in the current period? xxxix. What are the recommendations for utilizing the results of the pilot for future interventions at local, national, and regional level?
Output 5
xl. How many policy briefs have emanated from programme-related activities?
xli. What dissemination activities have been mounted for WARM project outputs and policy recommendations? Have such activities been based on materials generated with stakeholder input?
xlii. Have there been any regional coalitions formed by local women farmers emanating from enhanced knowledge of constraints in other countries and the need for policy advocacy at regional level?

THANK YOU

ANNEX E: Website Links to WARM Project Media Coverage

No	Website link
1	http://www.trust.org/trustlaw/blogs/international-womens-day-2012/african-women-champions-of-climate-smart-agriculture/
2	http://ecowatch.org/2012/five-innovations-that-are-working-to-empower-women/
3	http://www.thecultureist.com/2011/12/30/empowering-women-farmers-could-end-world-hunger/
4	http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-13049176
5.1	http://www.nepad.org/fr/foodsecurity/news/2103/women-farmers-voiceless-pillars-african-agriculture
5.2	http://knowledge.cta.int/en/Dossiers/CTA-and-S-T/Developments/International-Women-s-Day-2011-Women-Farmers-Voiceless-Pillars-of-African-Agriculture
5.3	http://www.caadp.net/news/?m=201103
5.4	http://www.trust.org/...womens.../women-farmers-voiceless-pillars-of-african-%20agriculture
5.5	http://www.observer.org.sz/index.php?news=22142
5.6	http://www.universalrights.net/people/stories.php3?start=2&category=live
5.7	http://www.farmingfirst.org/.../raising-the-profile-of-women-farmers-on-%20international-women's-day/%20-
6	http://www.weblogtheworld.com/countries/africa-africa/what-works-increasing-food-sovereignty-2/
7	http://2020conference.ifpri.info/files/2010/12/feek_movingforwardcomm.pdf
8	http://www.commondreams.org/view/2011/01/19-10
9	http://www.commondreams.org/view/2011/01/19-10
10	http://www.new-ag.info/news/newsitem.php?a=1818
11	http://blogs.worldwatch.org/nourishingtheplanet/but-who-can-listen-fanrpan-launches-theatre-for-policy-advocacy-campaign-in-rural-malawi/
12	http://www.leadershiponline.co.za/articles/environment/803
13	http://www.croplifeafrica.org/uploads/File/forms/countries/malawi/training_reports/Report,%20OIPM%20Training,%20WARM%20Project%20-%20Malawi.pdf
14	http://home.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/reports/wfp229144.pdf
15	http://www.huffingtonpost.com/danielle-nierenberg/innovative-ways-of-hearin_b_590740.html
16	http://www.progressiveu.org/category/blog-categories/women-accessing-realigned-markets?quicktabs_1=2
17	http://blogs.worldwatch.org/nourishingtheplanet/fanrpan-working-to-connect-farmers-researchers-and-policy-makers-in-africa-fanrpan-farmers-agriculture-africa-food-agriculture-and-matural-resources-policy-analysis-network-women-accessing-realigned-m/
18	http://www.guardian.co.uk/katine/katine-chronicles-blog/2010/feb/10/africa-agriculture-sithembile-ndema/print
19	http://english.aljazeera.net/focus/2010/02/201029113234906173.html
20	http://www.comminit.com/en/node/308882/304
21	http://www.zicora.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=123:community-theatre-as-a-tool-for-policy-advocacy&catid=40:blog&Itemid=60
22	http://www.farmingfirst.org/2009/09/linking-community-theatre-and-rural-development-for-women/
23	http://www.croplifeafrica.org/uploads/File/forms/communication/newsletter/2009/newsletter-september_2009.pdf

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24	http://www.fara-africa.org/media/uploads/library/docs/FARA RPMII August 2009 .pdf
25	http://southasia.oneworld.net/globalheadlines/empowering-women-farmers-in-southern-africa
26	http://www.future-agricultures.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=317:fanrpan-launches-project-to-strengthen-the-capacity-of-women-farmers-influence-in-agricultural-policy-and-development-programmes-in-southern-africa&catid=478:other-news&Itemid=478
27.1	http://allafrica.com/stories/200907061299.html
27.2	http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=47530
28	http://www.prgaprogram.org/Newsletter/Newsletter%202009/July/Newsletter%20issue47.htm
29	http://www.economist.com.na/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=18853:initiative-to-give-women-farmers-voices&catid=539:general-news