



Key elements of the IDRC STEP and CTA Digital Support awards



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**Start Them Early Project Planning Workshop
Session 3: Achieving STEP's objectives**

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IDRC Project Goal

Provide the basic understanding for better directing secondary schools and their students toward careers in modern farming, agribusiness and agro-industry, ...

... and initiate the core of a new African agribusiness club movement similar to those providing direction to youth elsewhere in the world.

Five Objectives of the IDRC Project

1. Understand gender differentiated aspirations of young people and how this influences their career choices in agribusiness.
2. Evaluate the capacities of secondary schools to advance agribusiness development and develop models for different rural settings.
3. Test a model of youth-led clubs devoted to agribusiness development with 6 schools, targeting 1000 students and monitor their impacts.
4. Establish a network of youth-led pilot agribusiness enterprises and monitor their development.
5. Build capacity to document and scale out lessons from the research to other stakeholders and schools.

Goal and Activities of CTA Digital Support Award

Need: To innovatively support youth seeking to enter and remain engaged into modern agribusiness

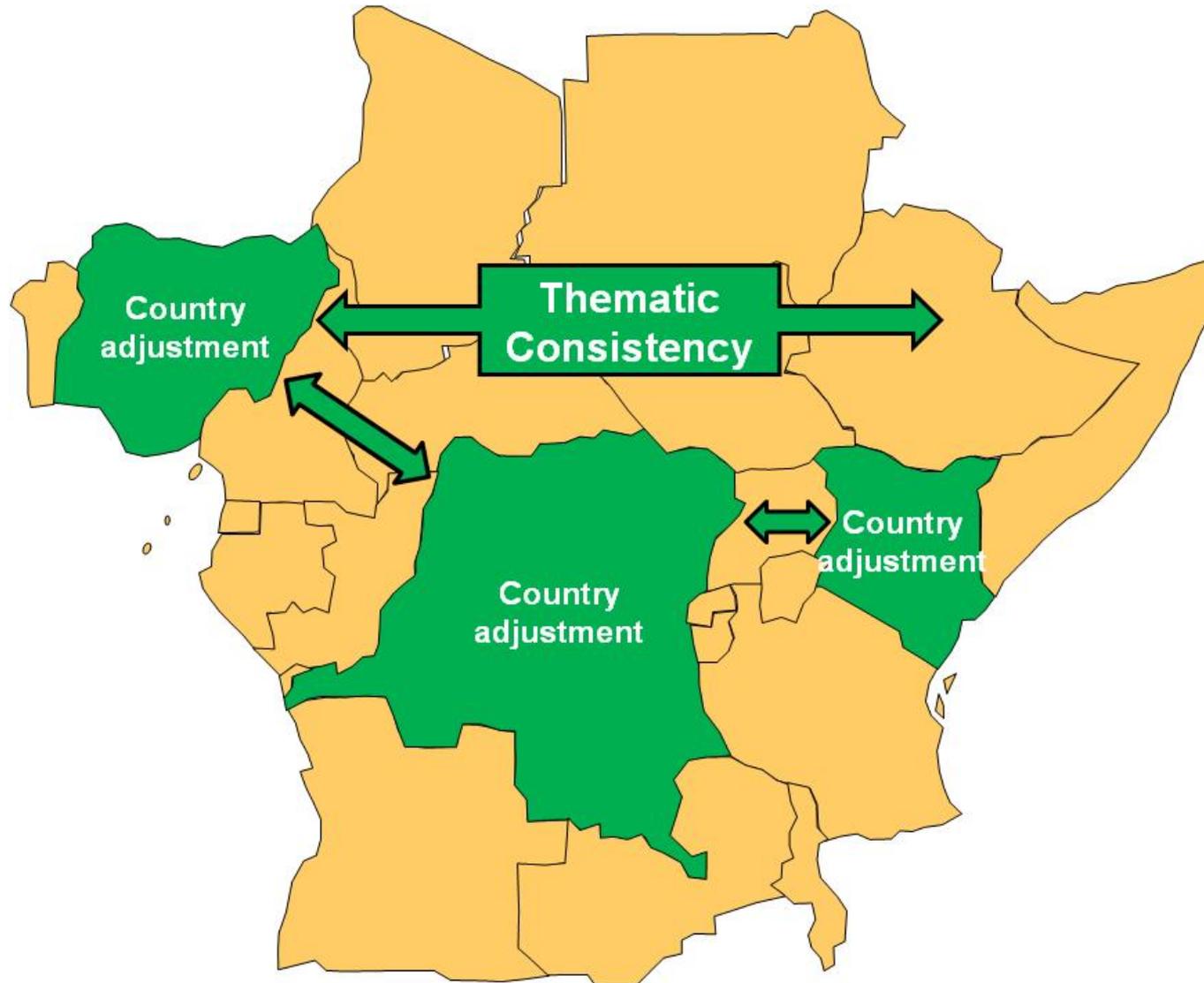
Impact: Capacity building is provided and comprehensive digital platforms are developed that support youth agribusiness clubs in three African countries

Activities:

1. Production of ICT components for the agricultural training curriculum to be developed .
2. Provision of ICT devices for the agribusiness clubs.
3. Organisation of ICT training activities for the youth in the three countries.

There is an explicit link to the IDRC Project but with its own Activities, timeframe and reporting requirements

The STEP approach: Common youth advancement themes across three very different country settings.



Combined Program objectives, activities and deliverables (Objectives 1 to 3)

Objectives	Activities	Deliverables
1. Understand gender differentiated aspirations of young people, their attitudes towards agriculture and how this influences their career choices (IDRC).	<p>1.1. Assemble a working group to compose the STEP Gender differentiation strategy</p> <p>1.2. Test the contents of the Gender differentiation strategy and provide its findings within STEP knowledge management</p>	<p>Prepare a youth & gender differentiation strategy</p> <p>Test strategy and differentiation findings</p>
2. Evaluate the capacities of secondary schools in different countries and settings to advance instruction and extracurricular activities related to agribusiness development and develop models for different rural settings (IDRC).	<p>2.1. Evaluate capacities and identify agribusiness models in DR Congo</p> <p>2.2. Evaluate capacities and identify agribusiness models in Kenya</p> <p>2.3. Evaluate capacities and identify agribusiness models in Nigeria</p>	<p>Identify and advance 2 schools (or clubs) in DR Congo</p> <p>Identify and advance 2 schools (or clubs) in Kenya</p> <p>Identify and advance 2 schools (or clubs) in Nigeria</p>
3a. Test a model of vocational curricula and youth-led clubs devoted to agribusiness development and monitor their impacts (IDRC). 3b. Train and empower students to change their mindset toward agriculture as a business (CTA).	<p>3.1. Test the model through training activities in DR Congo.</p> <p>3.2. Test the model through training activities in Kenya.</p> <p>3.3. Test the model through training activities in Nigeria.</p>	<p>2 schools (or clubs) targeting 248 students over two years</p> <p>2 schools (or clubs) targeting 248 students over two years</p> <p>2 schools (or clubs) targeting 248 students over two years</p>

Combined Program objectives, activities and deliverables (Objectives 4 & 5)

Objectives	Activities	Deliverables
4. Establish a network of youth-led pilot agribusiness enterprises and monitor their development and impacts on changing youth attitudes towards agriculture (IDRC)	4.1. Establish youth-led pilot agribusiness enterprises in DR Congo	Establish at least 4 learning enterprises in DR Congo
	4.2. Establish youth-led pilot agribusiness enterprises in Kenya	Establish at least 4 learning enterprises in Kenya
	4.3. Establish youth-led pilot agribusiness enterprises in Nigeria	Establish at least 4 learning enterprises in Nigeria
5. Provide youth with the information and technologies needed to develop profitable, modernized farming (CTA). Note this is a one-year project only.	5.1. Assemble and distribute a suite of ICT training and agribusiness support tools	At least 12 learning tools distributed to three countries
	5.2. Install computer learning stations in DR Congo	At least two learning stations at two different locations
	5.3. Install computer learning stations in Kenya	At least two learning stations at two different locations
	5.4. Install computer learning stations in Nigeria	At least two learning stations at two different locations

Combined Program objectives, activities and deliverables (Objectives 6 and 7)

Objectives	Activities	Deliverables
6. Build capacity to document and scale out lessons from the research to other stakeholders and schools (to inform curriculum development) in the three target countries and beyond (IDRC).	6.1. Assemble and distribute curricular materials and monitor their effectiveness	Curriculum established and accompanying training tools distributed to 3 countries
	6.2. Conduct and complete M.Sc. Research project in DR Congo	MSc proposal is approved, research conducted and thesis submitted in DR Congo
	6.3. Conduct and complete M.Sc. Research project in Kenya	MSc proposal is approved, research conducted and thesis submitted in Kenya
	6.4. Conduct and complete M.Sc. Research project in Nigeria	MSc proposal is approved, research conducted and thesis submitted in Nigeria
7. Establish STEP project administrative and coordination services	7.1. Conduct Compact administrative duties and disburse funds to operational partners	Project management office established and financial and communication links established
	7.2. Develop reporting tools and establish Compact Monitoring and Evaluation activities	M&E framework developed, templates distributed and results compiled
	7.3. Fulfill STEP technical and financial reporting requirements	Quarterly and Annual Reports submitted in Years 1 and 2

Conclusions

1. STEP offers a solution to the reorientation of “younger” youth toward careers in agriculture.
2. Its Program consists of complementary inaugural projects from IDRC and CTA, with a “top-up” from the DG’s office.
3. The projects are combined into seven objectives and their 22 respective activities .
4. Activities have both thematic and geographic components each with a budget, timeframe and “deliverable”.
5. First the workshop shall consider the thematic components (Sessions 3, 4 & 5), and later the geographic (three country) components (Sessions 6, 7 & 8).

... and thanks for your attention