Facilitating Social Learning through Farmer Research Networks

Frank Tchuwa 22 January 2019



Outline

- FRNs in BBIII and BBIV projects
- Advancing actor participation in knowledge building
- Beyond traditional field days
- Filling in gaps in existing systems
- Then what?



From BBIII to BBIV project: Scaling FRNs

BBII project:
Few and
isolated FRNs
supporting soil
health

BBIV project: Scale FRNs (number and space)

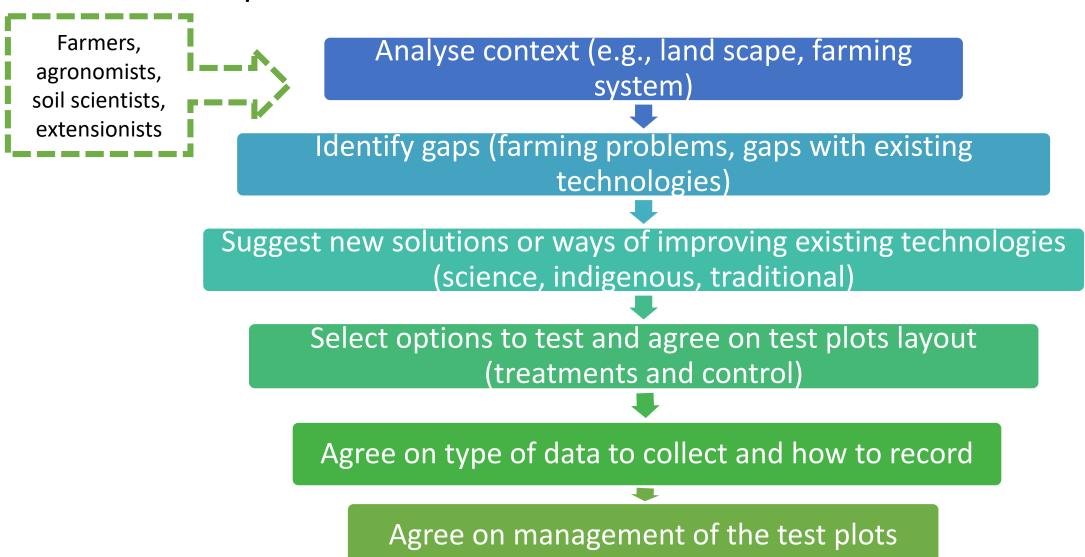
FRNs Institutionalised (linked to national extension system)

Strengthen partnership of multiple actors supporting soil health

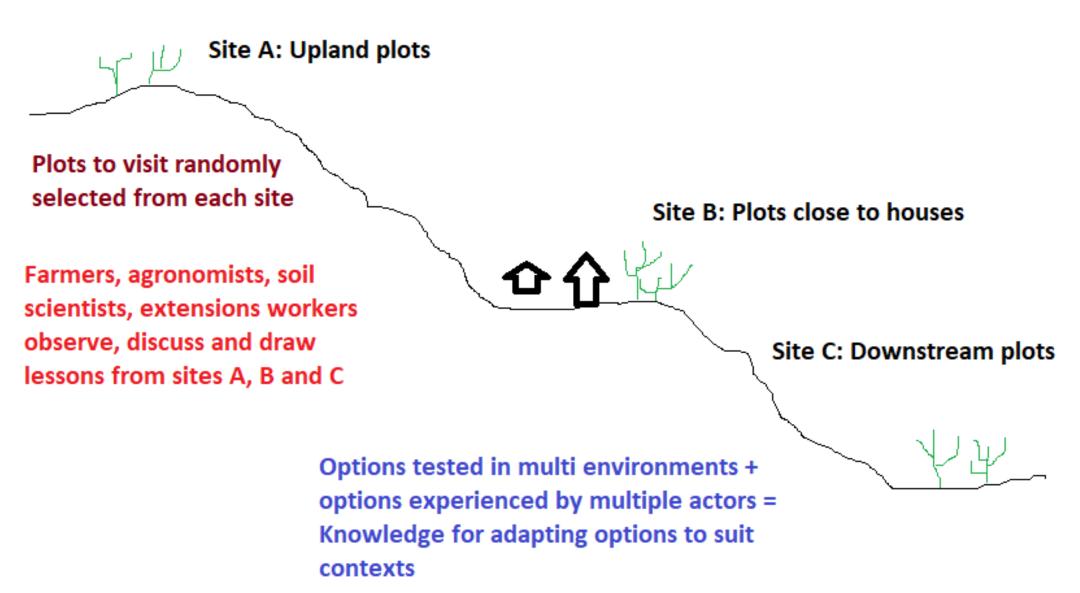
Generate soil health options suitable to diverse contexts (based on scientific, indigenous, and local knowledge

Improved soil health and livelihoods of small-scale farmers

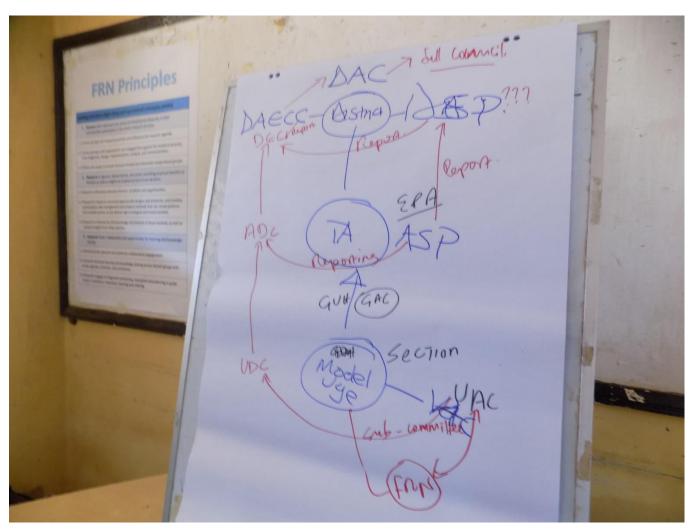
Building Knowledge together: Designing farm level experimentation



Multiple actors learning from multi-environments: Joint field interactions



Institutionalising FRNs from grassroots: The District Agriculture Extension Services System



- FRN as a catalyst for local agriculture development
- Source of information for farmers in the community
- Provide evidence on performance of options to national organisations

So what is next?

- Develop and improve on individual tools for facilitating FRNs
 - E.g., analysing data with farmers
- Gather evidence on the effectiveness of the FRNs on improving soil health
- Disseminate experiences and lessons from BBIII and IV projects

