

# ACIAR TREES FOR FOOD SECURITY PROJECT DISTRICT POLICY DIALOGUE MEETING; BUGESERA, RWANDA

27<sup>TH</sup>- 28<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2014

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

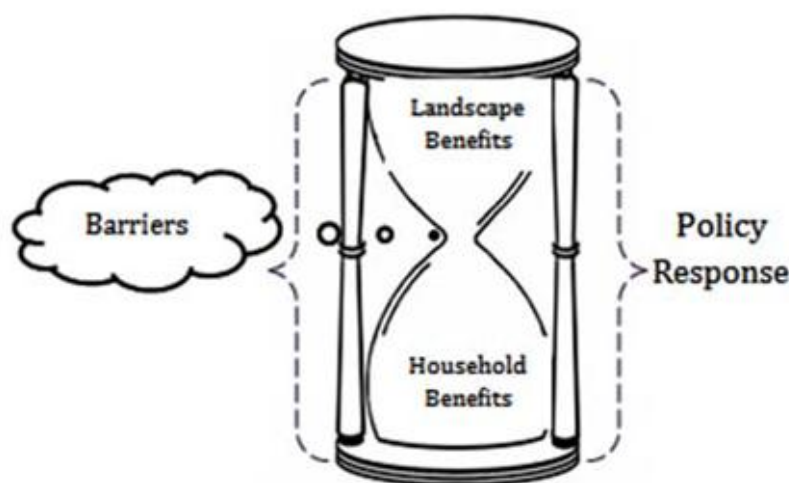
<b>ACIAR</b>	Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research
<b>MINEDCC</b>	
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organization
<b>RAB</b>	Rwanda Agriculture Board
<b>ICRAF</b>	International Centre for Research in Agroforestry
<b>SRI</b>	Strengthening Rural Institutions
<b>WVI</b>	World Vision International
<b>RNRA</b>	Rwanda Natural Resources Authority
<b>RDB</b>	Rwanda Development Board
<b>PSF</b>	Private Sector Federation
<b>CBO</b>	Community Based Organizations
<b>EDPRS</b>	Economic Development Poverty Reduction Strategy
<b>NUR</b>	National University of Rwanda
<b>REMA</b>	Rwanda Environment Management Authority
<b>RNA</b>	Rwanda News Agency
<b>FMNR</b>	Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration
<b>M&amp;E</b>	Monitoring and Evaluation
<b>NAMA</b>	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions
<b>CICA</b>	Centre for Information and Communication in Agriculture
<b>FONERWA</b>	National Climate and Environment Fund
<b>IFDC</b>	International Fertilizer Development Center
<b>NAEB</b>	National Agricultural Export Development Board
<b>HLI</b>	Higher Learning Institutions

## INTRODUCTION

The Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) and the Strengthening Rural Institutions (SRI) projects have been conducting district level policy dialogue meetings in Ethiopia and Rwanda through the Trees for Food Security (TFS) initiative. This report summarises the meetings that took place in Bugesera District, Rwanda. The overall objective of the meetings was to establish a policy framework suitable for scaling up the use of trees within farming systems in Rwanda and then scale out successes to relevant agro-ecological zones in other countries. The TFS initiative therefore is meant to enhance food security for resource-poor rural people in Eastern Africa through research that underpins national programmes.

## METHODOLOGY

The format of the participatory workshop was designed on the premise of the scalability of the benefits from the district or regional level to the national level, with recognition of the constraining policy factors to fully foresee the free flow of these benefits. This scenario can be visually articulated through an hourglass with recognition that the household benefits of increased adoption of trees on farm, could be scaled up through to landscape benefits. It is, however, the policy environment which provides the enabling environment through the removal of the constraints inhibiting the scalability of trees on farm. The workshop design explores the household benefits of having trees on farm, such as food supply, energy supply, shade, fodder for livestock etc. and the scalability of these benefits to a landscape scale of outcomes such as improved livelihoods, land rehabilitation, water supply systems, carbon sequestration, conservation etc.



## DAY ONE: DISTRICT LEVEL -MEETING

### Opening remarks and introduction to policy dialogues

The workshop began with round the room introductions to allow for participants familiarize themselves with each other. Through the session participants identified themselves, the organization they represent and their favorite tree with reason. This evoked responses of examples of fruit trees, fertilizer trees, Timber trees medicinal and pest control trees.

Part of the introduction included explaining the main purpose and agenda of the policy dialogue meeting. The main purpose of the process was to develop a policy framework that would help facilitate the scaling up of adoption of trees on farm for food security. The entire process would engaged participants into a scenario analysis where they would identify policy related benefits and barriers that supported or inhibited scaling up adoption of trees on farm. The scenario analysis was in four critical steps as displayed in figure 1 below:

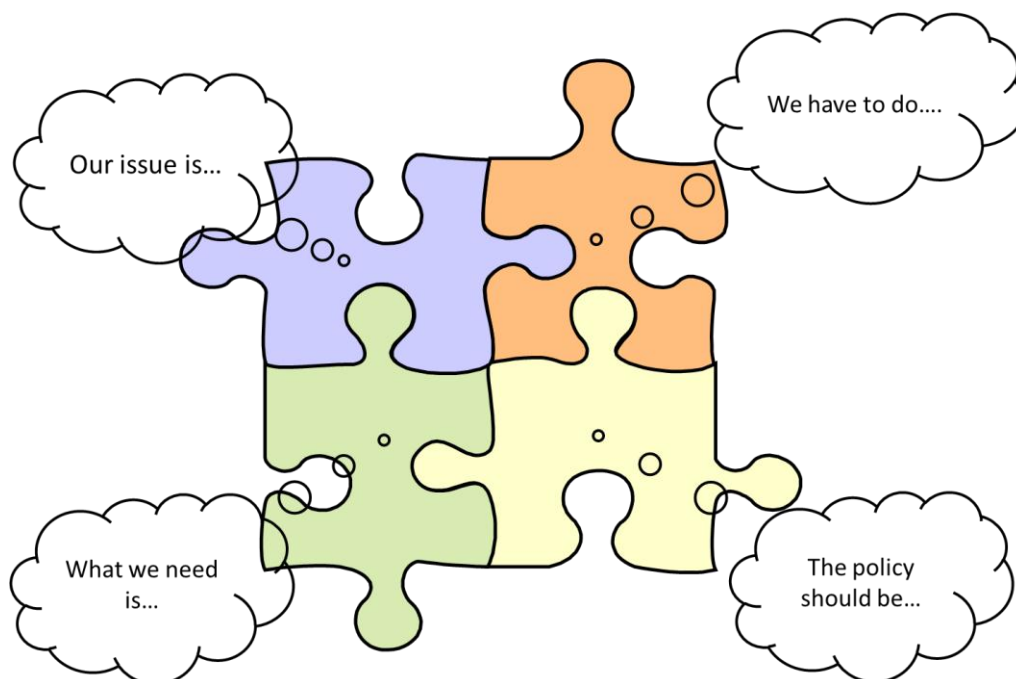


Fig 1: The policy dialogue jigsaw



During this process, six key elements were described as necessary in addressing the issue of scaling up adoption of trees on farm. Figure 2 below displays the elements and how they interlink to address the issue.



Fig 2: Elements for policy dialogue considerations

## Setting the scene

### Benefits and Barriers

The participants were grouped into three to discuss and identify the benefits and barriers of having trees on farm according to three categories namely: economic, social and environmental. This activity was done using colored zopp cards that symbolized the different categories as follows:



1. Economic benefits and barriers (yellow zopp cards)
2. Environmental benefits and barriers (Blue zopp cards)
3. Social benefits and Barriers (pink zopp cards)

### Presentations of group work: Benefits and barriers of trees on farm

The three respective groups presented their findings in a plenary session. For each category outlined namely: Economic, Social and environmental; similar results from the different groups were clustered.

### Economic, environmental and social benefits and barriers of trees on farm

Benefits:		
Economic	Environmental	Social
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Fertilization</li> <li>✓ Firewood and charcoal</li> <li>✓ Fodder</li> <li>✓ Timber</li> <li>✓ Stakes for climbing beans</li> <li>✓ Handicrafts</li> <li>✓ Bee keeping</li> <li>✓ Medicine</li> <li>✓ Poles for home building</li> <li>✓ Production of Fruits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Erosion control</li> <li>✓ Break the wind</li> <li>✓ Produces a shade</li> <li>✓ Ornamental</li> <li>✓ Soil fertility</li> <li>Improvement and soil acidification</li> <li>✓ Hydrology regulation</li> <li>✓ Ecosystem</li> <li>✓ Oxygen production</li> <li>✓ Rain</li> <li>✓ Reduction of emissions (Carbon dioxide).</li> <li>✓ Improve microclimate of an area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Medicine</li> <li>✓ Reduce the work of women and children to fetch firewood.</li> <li>✓ Ornamental</li> <li>✓ Protection against bad spirits</li> <li>✓ Shading</li> <li>✓ Land delimitation</li> <li>✓ Handcrafts</li> </ul>
Barriers:		
Economic	Environmental	Social
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>× Lack of seeds</li> <li>× Trees can decrease crop yield if not well managed</li> <li>× Shortage of land</li> <li>× Lack of skills</li> <li>× Take long to harvest</li> <li>× Compete for nutrients with certain crops</li> <li>× Lack of markets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>× Deforestation</li> <li>× Drought</li> <li>× Termites</li> <li>× Inadaptability of species</li> <li>× Weak extension services</li> <li>× Lack of care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>× Lack of commitment and skills of people</li> <li>× Instability: Trees may be stolen by people who did not produce</li> <li>× Can create conflict on boundaries with neighbors</li> <li>× Theft</li> </ul>





### Opportunities identification

In 3 groups, the participants were asked to identify opportunities (existing enabling environment) facilitating adoption of trees on farm and mechanisms (additional tools and processes needed) to scale up adoption of trees on farm. The opportunities were documented on a flip chart and the mechanisms on white Zopp cards.

<i>Group 1</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Government policy that favors agroforestry</li> <li>✓ Some budget allocation to tree planting</li> <li>✓ Available skilled technicians in agroforestry field</li> <li>✓ Available schools of forestry for agroforestry</li> <li>✓ Available institutions (good) and NGO working in the field of agroforestry (ICRAF, WVI, RAB, NUR) (research based institutions)</li> <li>✓ Available institutions in charge of seeds productions</li> <li>✓ Culture or community based activities that enhance tree planting</li> <li>✓ Tree day in Rwanda for mobilizing farmers to plant trees</li> <li>✓ Laws that prohibit deforestation</li> </ul>
<i>Group 2</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Government policy/law promoting plantings and management of trees</li> <li>✓ Gazettement of protected areas for tree plantations</li> <li>✓ Free distribution of tree seedlings</li> <li>✓ Establishment of government tree nurseries at sector level</li> </ul>
<i>Group 3</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ The government provides agroforestry seeds/nurseries</li> <li>✓ Available extension services from district level (RAB/Minagri) to cell level</li> <li>✓ The existence of NGO's committed in tree plantation</li> <li>✓ Willingness of the government</li> <li>✓ National tree day</li> <li>✓ Community work (Umuganda)</li> <li>✓ The government policy (REMA, RNA)</li> </ul>



### Identification of mechanisms

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the adoption of farmers to monitor the trees</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agroforestry field demonstrations</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity Building</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fast growing trees</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distribution of tree seedlings to meet farmers needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distribution at village level</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sufficient available seeds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the number of nurseries</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research of tree adaptability to the region</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site specification (allocate tree where it can adapt)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reforestation i.e. Gishwathi</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote renewable energies eg. Biogas, Cooking stoves</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase skills on tree management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmer Sensitization</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trainings</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop strong extension service</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mobilization of farmers</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Involved local government in existing tree monitoring</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To follow the rules and regulation that prohibit deforestation</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishment of forest/tree management committees</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate the Quality of tree supplied</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the budget allocated for M&amp;E</li> </ul>	

## Prioritization of issues

Based on the activity of setting the scene through identifying benefits and barriers of trees on farm as well as the opportunities and mechanisms needed for the scaling up of adoption of trees on farm, key themes were highlighted and clustered based on importance and linkages as follows:

- Capacity building for identification of suitable tree species and benefits on farm
- Government driven incentive programs for positive tree management, to support management practices such as FMNR
- The availability and diversity of tree species distributed through government programs.
- Market access and opportunities for tree based products
- Security and theft issues of mature trees.



The participants focused on 3 for policy action discussion::

- Capacity building for identification of suitable tree species and benefits on farm
- Government driven incentive programs for positive tree management, to support management practices such as FMNR
- The availability and diversity of tree species distributed through government programs

## Stakeholder identification and mapping

The 3 groups based on the prioritized issues identified stakeholders based on their importance in addressing the issue.

Issue	Very important	Important	Less important
Trees for mitigation of climate impact and tree management	✓ REMA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Local Government</li> <li>✓ RAB</li> <li>✓ FONERWA</li> <li>✓ NGOs – ICRAF, IFDC</li> <li>✓ Media</li> <li>✓ NAEB</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Ministry of Education</li> <li>✓ Army and Police</li> <li>✓ Environmental clubs</li> </ul>

incentives			
Capacity gaps and land sizes	✓ RAB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ HLI</li> <li>✓ NGOs</li> <li>✓ Local Government</li> <li>✓ RNRA</li> <li>✓ REMA</li> <li>✓ PSF</li> </ul>	✓ CBOs
Availability and diversity of tree species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ RAB</li> <li>✓ NAFA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ District</li> <li>✓ NGOs</li> <li>✓ Farmer trainers</li> <li>✓ Cooperatives</li> <li>✓ Sector</li> <li>✓ Environmental village committees</li> <li>✓ Private sector</li> <li>✓ Schools</li> <li>✓ Media</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Mining operators</li> <li>✓ Industrial areas</li> <li>✓ Urbanism operators</li> </ul>



## Policy workplan development

The 3 groups developed work plans that would highlight policy recommendations around the key issues that they identified.

Issue	Current initiative	Action	Why	Resources	Key stakeholder s	Tradeoffs	Linkages
<b>Trees for mitigation of climate impacts and tree management incentives</b>	1. Supply of free seed by the government 2. Free extension services 3. Government policy e.g. Economic Development Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS), Vision 2020 increase forest cover to 30%, Performance contract per district to farmers to plant a certain number of trees per year	1. Increase the number of nurseries in the villages	Reduce the distance of access to tree seedlings	Seeds and other planting equipment  Training on nursery management	Local authorities, RAB NGOs e.g. ICRAF, REMA Local cooperatives and environmental clubs Farmers	Additional resources to train farmers on tree nursery management	Erosion control Source of energy Income source Carbon sequestration Soil fertility
		2. Incentives for tree planting and management	To encourage more farmers to be dedicated to tree planting	Agricultural equipment	Local government NGOs		Large scale occupation by trees.
		3. Increase monitoring of success of the	Create/strengthen/motivate all sectors	Budget for follow up mechanisms			



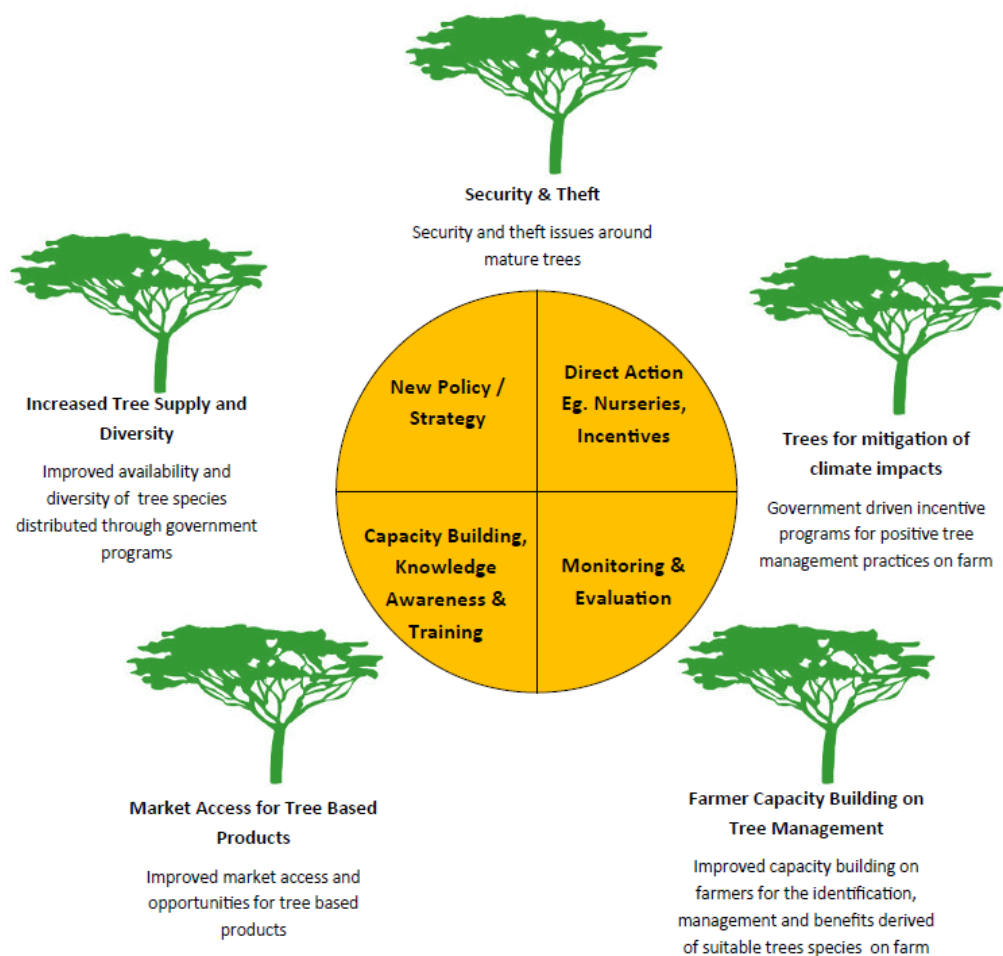
		trees planted and enforce as required	to follow up on trees planted				
<b>Increase capacity building of farmers to allow land productivity</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land use consolidation policy</li> <li>Farmer Field Schools</li> <li>Farmers promoters at village level</li> <li>Compost demonstration sites at all level</li> <li>National tree day</li> <li>MINEDCC: one tree per child</li> </ol>	1. Develop training centers for farmer promoters	Provide training to farmers	Incentives.  Infrastructure.  Training module.	RAB  World Vision  Center for information and communication in Agriculture( CICA)	Land use competition	Climate change mitigation.  Erosion control  Food security  Income increment per household
		2. Mass mobilization	Create awareness of farmers on the adoption of trees	Booklets, radio, TV	Rwanda Broadcasting Agency, CICA, RDB		
		3. Develop site specific tree recommendation study	Correct species to correct site	Infrastructure  Researchers	RAB, ICRAF, RANRA	Competition for nutrients and water	



<b>Increase the diversity and availability of tree species</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nurseries available at sector level</li> <li>National forest policy</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the diversity of tree species in existing nurseries (access to new species)</li> </ol>	<p>Avoiding consequences of tree mono culture</p> <p>Encourage the farmers on planting new species in farms for acquiring new agroforestry technologies</p>	<p>Trainings</p> <p>Farmer Field Schools</p> <p>Tree seeds and nurseries</p>	RAB District ICRAF RNRA NGOs	Not applicable	<p>Climate mitigation</p> <p>Capacity building</p> <p>Soil conservation</p> <p>Improvement of crop yields</p> <p>Natural beauty</p>
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing strategy on tree adaptability at national level (adaptability in different agro-ecological zones)</li> </ol>	<p>Based on researches, the strategy will help to plant the trees in the right agro-ecological zones</p>				
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Train farmers on new tree species utility uses of the area</li> </ol>	<p>Create awareness on new tree advantages/uses for the farmers</p>				

## Key Policy Findings

A summation of the key findings from the regional policy dialogue workshop are presented in the following diagram indicating the five key issues and general policy recommendations identified to facilitate the adoption of trees on farm.



## APPENDIX I

### WORKSHOP EVALUATION

What worked well	What did not work well
✓ All presentation was good	× Group allocation was good but should have considered representation of each Woreda
✓ Good care	× Time keeping was a problem
✓ More training necessary	× We were not issued with a notebook
✓ Lessons was very well	× Lack of visual tools to stimulate discussion and demonstrate concepts being discussed
✓ Respect of time (time management)	× Produce the training module
✓ Facilitator was very good	✓ Time was not enough
✓ Time management was appreciated	✓ The hotel was not organized because their change the conference room on the day 2
✓ All participant was motivated	× Few days for such interesting topics
✓ Experience sharing	× The duration of training was very short, we need other training on this year
✓ This training was needed	× We need field visit (some demonstration on what we learnt).
✓ We learnt many things	× Social affairs, document support for trainees
✓ We had got new lesson and good care	× We need training module for all presentation.
✓ Groups work and time management	× The interpreter was translated by mixing English or other language
✓ Good methodology of presenters	× We need enough time for group discussions
✓ Gives skills	× Limited time of training comparing to the role of trees.
✓ Numbers of participants	× We need to talk in our language then we make a translation
✓ Timing	× The trainers use only English
✓ Good presentations(presentations was well explained)	× All was good
✓ Every participants get time to give their ideas	× Days were few
✓ Dynamic participation of participants	× Study tours are needed to witness what achieved (Gishwati restoring)
✓ Presentation done very well	
✓ Trainers have high skills and knowledge for training	

✓ Presentations and interventions was clear	
✓ Groups discussions	
✓ Every participants get time to give their ideas	
✓ All presentation was interested and increasing the seedlings is a very good idea	
✓ Time respected	
✓ All topics covered	
✓ The workshop was participatory	
✓ Trees for mitigation of climate impacts	
✓ Tree management in incentives.	

## APPENDIX II

### WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

#### DRAFT Policy Dialogue Workshop

Rwanda

27 & 28<sup>th</sup> May

#### DAY ONE

9.00-10.00	Welcome and Introductions
10.00-10.30	Project Overview and Intended Workshop Objectives
10.30-10.45	Morning Tea
10.45-12.30	Building the Knowledge Tree <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Benefit &amp; Barrier Identification</li><li>- Opportunities and Mechanisms Identification</li></ul>
12.30-1.30	Lunch
1.30-2.15	Identification of emerging themes
2.15-3.00	Stakeholder identification and mapping
3.00-4.00	Identification of current policy mechanisms

#### DAY TWO

9.00-10.00	Policy & Project initiative presentations
10.00-1.00	Policy Workplan Development and Synergy Identification

**APPENDIX III****ATTENDANCE LIST**

<b>No</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Qualification/responsibility</b>	<b>Organization/Institution</b>
1	Athanase Mukuralinda	Country Representative	ICRAF Rwanda Office
2	Amini Mutaganda	Researcher/ACIAR	RAB
3	Nkinzingabo J.Dieu	District Agronomist	Bugesera District
4	Mbarushimana Venerand	Sector Agronomist	Nyudo Sector
5	Byiringiro JMV	Private Nursery	Nyundo Sector
6	Olivier Rukundo	Staff of World Vision	Bugesera District
7	Nsengiyumva J.Damascene	Private nursery in Gishwati	Rubavu District
8	Habiyakare Theoneste	Private Nursery	Karago Sector
9	Karangwa Thimothee	Sector Agronomist	Karago Sector
10	Gakwavu Thomas	RAB	Bugesera District
11	Habiyaremye Siriaque	Private nursery	Gashora Sector
12	Nzogiroshya Louis	Private nursery	Juru Sector
13	Karehe Bienfait	Executive Secretary	Karago Sector
14	Mugabire Daniel	Sector Agronomist	Gashora Sector
15	Mutabazi Alfred	Sector Agronomist	Rweru Sector
16	Ntakirutimana Salvator	Sector Agronomist	Juru Sector
17	Nzabonimpa Felix	ACIAR/RAB Technician	RAB(Nyabihu &Rubavu districts)
18	Mwungura Marc	ACIAR/RAB Technician	RAB Bugesera District
19	Iwacu Sylvie	District environment officer	Bugesera District
20	Munyaneza Jean Paul	Finance&Administaration	ICRAF-RWANDA
22	Ufitamahoro Marcelin	Driver	ICRAF
23	Nsabimana Samuel	Driver	RAB