

**MINUTES OF THE STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION AND LEARNING WORKSHOP  
HOSTED BY WASAA, 2<sup>ND</sup> JULY 2014 AT  
GOLDEN PEACOCK HOTEL, LILONGWE**

**A. Members Present**

No.	Name	Sex		Cooperative/Institution	Position	Phone Number
		Male=M	Female=F			
1	Dr. Mary Shawa		F	MoGCDSW	PS	0999957992
2	Martha Banda		F	WASAA Zambia	District Representative	0964102092
3	Florence Phiri		F	WASAA Zambia	District Representative	0973864198
4	Esther Anna Banda		F	WASAA Zambia	District Representative	0977382401
5	Lucy Gondwe		F	ACE	Trade Facilitator	0888399379
6	ChikondiMkundika		F	AHCX	M/O	0884109637
7	ChamfoJalale		F	AHCX	M/O	0999945441
8	GetrudeNgoma		F	WASAA Zambia	Coordinator	0977672244
9	DeliweNgoma		F	WASAA Zambia	Board Member	+260978695728
10	Margaret Nyirongo		F	Mlimira Farming	Agro-dealer	0999589303
11	Blessings Saimoni	M		Tsogolo Media	Producer	0999958322
12	Patrick Njawala	M		Tsogolo Media	Photographer	088140687
13	L.Chirwa	M		WASAA	Farmer	0882172084
14	AlickPonje	M		Daily Times	Reporter	0888272944
15	FatsaniGunya	M		The Nation Newspaper	Reporter	0999600934
16	ChifundoChilongozi		F	AHCX	M/O	0993469300
17	Clement Mijoya	M		AHCX	MM	0211893288
18	Susan Huggins		F	UN Women	Analyst	0997957674
19	MadaChikopa	M		WASAA	Operations	0993033333
20	DanielChillima	M		AHCX	Trade and Investment Manager	0999446840
21	Eunice Kumwenda		F	MBC-TV	Reporter	0999600171
22	Felix Washon	M		MBC-TV	Cameraman	
23	Grace MijigaMhango		F	WASAA	Regional Chairman	0999953596
24	CalebeMumba	M		Madalitso Association	Chairman	0991969288
25	Vincent Kadzitcha	M		ASI	Training Manager	0996107000
26	Arthur Ngwende	M		ACE	Trade Officer	0999200861
28	Ezekiel Makalani	M		WASAA		0991019189
29	Gift Luwe	M		CADECOM Mzuzu	Project Coordinator	0999252679
30	Manuel Mang'anya	M		RLEEP	MSE Officer	0888892228
31	Flora Gondwe		F	GTPA	Administration Officer	0999393426
32	Dr. HM Njoloma	M		Green Belt	Agriculture Coordinator	0995250888
33	PriscaMsowoyaNyasulu		F	WOLREC	District Coordinator	0888377918
34	Mercy Mleme		F	Cooperative	Coordinator	0881560684
35	Mary Patrick		F	Farmer		0993488608
36	Jodie Baker		F	WASAA	Consultant	
37	Jessica Hum-Antonados		F	WUSC	Gender Programme Development Advisor	0996242857
38	Anil Dhakar		F	WASAA	Consultant	
39	Alice Gomonda		F	WUSC-Malawi	Sector Programme Officer	0888342068

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40	Julie Ndwiga	F	AGRA	Gender Coordinator	+254721204390
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42	Anna Nyandolo	F	WASAA Zambia	Coordinator	0978672380
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44	ThokozaniUnyolo	F	Afriseed	Managing Director	0999989223
45	LusekeroManyongo	F	WASAA Malawi	Project Manager	0992957019
46	Linda Magombo-Munthali	F	RLEEP	Commodity Specialist	0888618173
47	Felix Washon	M	MBC-TV	Cameraman	099955721
48	Olivia Khumbanyiwa	F	Office Assistant	WASAA Malawi	0881829960

## **B. Agenda**

1. Welcoming remarks
2. Speech by AGRA
3. Speech by Guest of Honor (Ministry of Gender and Child Development)
4. Viewing of Displays
5. Introductory Concepts to Gender WUSC
6. WASAA Malawi Presentation
7. Malawian Farmer Experiences
8. Millennium Promise Presentation
9. AHCX Presentation
10. Dr. Malindi Presentation on Extension
11. Zambian Farmer Presentation
12. ASI Presentation on Gender, ICT and Extension
13. WASAA Malawi Farmers Products Presentation
14. WASAA Zambia Farmers Products Presentation
15. Ecobank Presentation on Opportunities for smallholders to access finance
16. Closing remarks by AGRA

## **C. Meeting Proceeding**

The meeting was co-facilitated by Ms. Rachel Sibande, Chief of Party for Agribusiness Systems International (ASI) and Emma Kambewa of AGRA. She explained that the purpose of the meeting was to advance gender learning among partners and stakeholders, share experiences on gender mainstreaming, learn lessons on what has worked and what has not. Information obtained would help in formulation of projects and programmes that benefit women in WASAA countries.

### **1.0 Welcome Remarks**

- 1.1 WASAA Regional Chairperson, Grace MijigaMhango welcomed the participants to the meeting. She thanked AGRA and IFAD for sponsoring the meeting. She recognized the Principal Secretary from Ministry of Gender for her commitment to support Malawian rural women. She said that women devote themselves to 60 – 90% of agricultural activities yet when it comes to access to storage, and financial facilities, it's men who dominate. She explained that WASAA was therefore established to create an enabling environment for the African woman to share ideas to strengthen economic growth among women in agribusiness. The year 2014 is the the international year of women in Agriculture in Sub-Saharan Africa. She encouraged women to take center stage to defeat hunger. She asked Agra and IFAD to make this platform an annual event.

### **2.0 Speech by AGRA**

- 2.1 AGRA Representative from Kenya, Anne Mbabuu, congratulated WASAA for taking up the seed production challenge which emphasizes onproduction based onset standards. She encouraged women to transform agriculture to realize high

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yields. She pointed out that increased productivity in Africa tends to come as a result of increasing the size of farm land not production per hectare. She mentioned that smallholders face a number of challenges which includes; lower prices and reduced business capacity to access the profitable markets. She reminded women that when formulating seed systems programme, the market should always come first. She encouraged farmers to follow good agronomic practices. She observed that farmers in central Africa need support from organizations to do well. She highlighted the need for service providers to work closely with policy makers as key in enhancing synergies that should benefit the smallholder farmer among them women farmers. She pointed out that since the workshop was about learning and sharing on the gender dynamics in Agricultural extension, marketing and finance it is imperative to hear from the farmers as well who are at the base of the pyramid and was thus glad that farmers were well represented in this meeting.

### **3.0 Speech by Guest of Honor, Dr. Mary Shawa.**

- 3.1 She was pleased to hear what the different stakeholders were doing in advancing the gender cause. She recognized that, in Malawi there's tendency to follow the patriarchal system which leaves women behind thereby weakening the team spirit in the home. She also pointed out that gender analysis and gender mainstreaming should look at issues related to crop production. For instance, during fertilizer application, the man digs holes and woman puts fertilizer; when gardening, the man sprays chemicals the woman does watering; tobacco is considered man's crop while pigeon peas is perceived to be a woman's crop. She said that both men and women should work together to access the factors of production and maximize their use if we are to move from poverty to prosperity. As Ministry of Gender, she said they push for equality between men and women. In this regard, she asked AGRA to systematically support the farmers in production, storage, value addition, elimination of middlemen and exporting the seed produced to other countries by linking with Malawi Export Promotion Agency (MIPA). She also extended the call to researchers to work with WASAA to help produce better crops.

### **4.0 Displays**

- 4.1 Grain Traders and Processors Association (GTPA) showcased various non-GMO seed displays to WASAA members and stakeholders. GTPA deals with farmers, traders and processors both small scale and large scale respectively. Of particular importance to farmers was the fact that the association organizes markets for farmers.
- 4.2 WASAA Malawi showcased its products grown in Nkhata-bay. More interesting was a farmer who got 5kg of seed from WASAA and managed to produce 350kg of seed.
- 4.3 WASAA Zambia also had maize seed rich in carotenes and protein. The seed was raised organically. Out of the two maize varieties, the vitamin A rich maize tends to maintain its quality while the protein rich maize is still under study. The women showcased how they address food, nutrition and seed security at the same time doing farming as a business.
- 4.4 Auction Holdings Commodity Exchange (AHCX) clarified on how they link sellers and buyers to the markets. One of the challenges that they were facing with groundnuts on the markets was the issue of aflatoxin. Potential markets in South Africa could not be explored because of the absence of aflatoxinequipment in the country. AHCX observed that due to lack of information, a lot of opportunities are lost in commodity trade and the exchange is there to provide such information to farmers. The exchange showcased different commodities including sugar beans, soya, groundnuts and maize.
- 4.5 Agriculture Commodity Exchange for Africa (ACE) stand went through the warehouse receipt system with the farmers. To qualify for a warehouse receipt, a farmer needs to deposit a minimum of 5 metric tons. For farmers who cannot manage this they join hands to reach the minimum requirement. Once in the warehouse, ACE takes full responsibility of the grain in terms of storage management. The farmer also receives price alert SMS messages on prices that buyers are willing to pay. Farmers have the opportunity to use their commodity as collateral and access a loan of up to 70% of the cost of the grain at time of deposit into a warehouse receipt facility. When the commodity is sold, ACE recovers the costs associated with storage, handling and bagging costs plus the interest on the loan; the rest is given to the depositor (farmer). The WRS works on the premise that prices of grain tend to rise at certain times due to shortages and disasters to the benefit of the depositors.

### **5.0 Introductory Concepts to Gender by Jessica Hum-Antonopoulos and Jodie Baker**

- 6.0 Members were informed of the basic concepts in gender to help them mainstream gender in planning, monitoring, implementation and evaluation of different projects and programs. This was necessitated by the fact that 70% of

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agricultural workforce comprises of women and 80% of the food that is consumed is produced by women yet there are disparities on the issues of access, ownership and control of resources that leads to low level of production. It was learnt that equal opportunities to men and women might not necessarily result in equal impact on men and women. There is more support relevant to either men or women that needs to be factored in to maximize potential.

6.1 Reactions from members after the presentations were as follows;

- A member wanted to know how gender may help address constraints in agriculture especially in the project design.

**7.0 Building critical Agri entrepreneur Skills in Women in Agribusiness in Sub Sahara Africa Alliance by Lily Musaya, WASAA Malawi Programme Manager**

7.1 Members were informed that the project helps increase smallholder incomes through capacity building and promoting access to finance and markets. The project targets 60% women and 40% men as one of its gender mainstreaming strategies. Farmers participated in structured markets through two contracts namely seed supply to Fertilizer Input Subsidy Programme (FISP) and Presidential Initiative for Poverty and Hunger (PiPaH).

7.2 The project met a bigger challenge when men in one of the districts (Mangochi) opposed to be led by women and the group of 200 farmers disbanded leaving only 47 of which 5 are men who were loyal to the leadership.

7.3 Reactions to the presentation were as follows;

- A member wanted to know the role that FISP and PiPaH plays in WASAA programmes and whether WASAA on its own can manage to supply in the absence of these two big buyers.
- A member wanted to know how WASAA is balancing the business approach against the general environment characterized by subsidy and whether the farmers are really doing business.
- Another member asked why some programs in Malawi are targeting only women yet gender is also about men. The member said that inclusion of both men and women would create a good working relationship.
- A member asked on the perception of men on women leadership and how much have men accepted women leadership in various WASAA groups in the country.
- A member observed that most farmers are women who may also be affected by HIV/AIDS and wanted to know the strategies put in place to contain this? Also usage of income if women are getting support.
- A member wanted to know the reason some interventions in the programme are accommodating men like in Malawi when it was supposed to target women in Agribusiness.
- A member asked if 60 to 40 campaign included women in groups.
- A member enquired options put in place to ensure that farmers engage in structured markets
- A member commented that in Zambia, women are working on their own, and in some places there is pressure by men. WASAA does not compel on women membership but most groups comprised of 100% women.
- A member commented that there is no gender more important than the other. But in reality we have isolated one gender a little bit more significant than the other and at micro and macro level while one gender is left out. Other members commented that women should not be arrogant and pompous.
- A member asked the extent to which WASAA Malawi is documenting its success stories.

**8.0 Gender Mainstreaming by Abigail Misesa from Millennium Villages Project.**

8.1 The project made significant partnerships with Farm Radio, WFP, Market Linkages Initiative and Agricultural Commodity Exchange. The project championed cereal banks among cooperatives. The project mainstreamed gender strategies at all levels of implementation, monitoring and evaluation. As a result the project improved the participation of women and vulnerable groups in agricultural production.

8.2 Challenges include dry spells in Mzimba which affected demonstration plots applied with fertilizer but for those that applied manure the impact was less. Termite attacks also affected the cereal production. One of the lessons learnt was that field days promoted by MLI increased participation in project activities. For men taking babies for weighing were given a tablet of soap as encouragement and this helped improve care for under-fives.

8.3 Reactions to the presentations were as follows;

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- A member wanted to know the options put in place to ensure that farmers participate in structured markets
- A member wanted to know if provision of inputs to farmers was not like handouts to the farmers and how would they ensure sustainability
- A member commented that staff training in gender would be commendable.

**9.0 Financing Smallholder Farmers, a case for AHCX by Danie Chilima, Trade and Investment Manager.**

- 9.1 Auction Holdings Commodity Exchange is involved in storage management and commodity trade brokerage. One of the operations that AHCX engages in is warehouse receipt system and financing. Under WRS the farmers are able to access loan up to 80% of the cost of commodity during the time of depositing.
- 9.2 Challenges faced include; resistance from farmers, perception that it's expensive, liquidity shortages, knowledge of product and no warehouse receipt law.
- 9.3 Reactions to the presentation were as follows;
- A member wanted to know the premium that a farmer gets if they present graded commodity as opposed to ungraded.
  - Another member wanted to know if the exchange offers mobile market price information services for free.
  - A member asked if farmers are charged anything for putting commodities into the warehouse.
  - A member asked if banks insist on law in WRS when lending against WRS.
  - Another participant wanted to know if gender dynamics are followed when selling produce at the markets.
  - A participant asked why there is a sharp rise in warehouse receipt capital financing.
  - Participants wanted to know progress of the warehouse receipt financing bill.
  - A member asked if farmers were consulted on the bill.

**10.0 Gender Mainstreaming Policies in Extension Services for Smallholder Farmers by Dr. Malindi.**

- 10.1 Gender policies in extension can be looked at from Welfare Approach, Women and Development Approach, Gender and Development Approach, Agriculture Sector Wide Approach and Gender HIV AIDS (GHA) Strategic Focus.
- 10.2 The current low female extension worker numbers is due to policies in the past which did not favor women. But current pluralistic approaches encourage more partners from civil society organizations to field both male and female extension workers.
- 10.3 We need to make use of the 4 Is and 4 Ps to address 4 Es i.e. HOW: 4 I's into 4 Ps Identification, Internalization, Integration and Institutionalization (Process for content) and 4Ps – Policy, Programs, Plans and Partnerships including clientele in their Gender categories to come up with 4 E's ( Efficiency , Equity , Empowerment and Equality Outcomes
- 10.4 Reactions to the presentation were as follows
- A member wanted to know how to move forward with 4Is and 4Ps.
  - A member wanted to know why harness the approaches in the historical order
  - A member commented that men in the farms do not work together with their families because of drinking and requested that there should be trainings in gender mainstreaming in the rural areas.

**11.0 WASAA Zambia – Empowering Women through Agribusiness by Deliwe Ngoma**

- 11.1 The major activity is capacity building in agro dealer development and seed multiplication in soya, groundnuts and pigeon peas. The farmers are provided with inputs such as seed and equipment on loan.
- 11.2 The challenges faced are lack of sponsorship, capital, mobility and poor loan repayment culture.
- 11.3 Effective 2014/2015 farming season, WASAA Zambia will rebrand its activities through provision of certified seed to farmers, agro dealer development partnerships with Strengthening Agricultural Inputs and Output Market in Africa (SAIOMA) project, link seed producers to other markets apart from WASAA.
- 11.4 Reactions to the presentation were as follows;
- A member wanted to know how FISP and PEPFAR are reaching out in WASAA Zambia.
  - One member observed that in Zambia Tonga region is highly polygamous society and men sit at the edge of agriculture production. Currently women have started sitting back as well which is a threat to advancing agricultural development agenda. The member wanted lessons to learn from this and the way forward.

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- A member wanted to know why women do not access better loans and markets.
- A member commented that those that buy should not buy on credit or loan.
- The partnership with SAIOMA is crucial.

**12.0 Gender, ICT and Agriculture by Rachel Sibande, ASI Chief of Party.**

12.1 Technology for Extension to Smallholders project is a complementary extension delivery service to smallholders through use of SMS.

12.2 The project has developed content on maize, groundnuts, soya, pigeon peas, cassava, banana, cotton, tomato, rice, cattle, goats, pigs, chickens, aquaculture/fisheries, gender, HIV/AIDS and nutrition which is sent to extension workers and farmers via SMS.

12.3 In terms of capacity building, the project has managed to meet its targets by training 2,106 extension workers, 29% of which were female, 22,086 lead farmers, 31% being women and 451 NGO staff, 28% being women as well.

12.4 To contain the disparities there is need to enhance efforts to train and deploy a balanced agricultural extension agent workforce of both men and women. Also build capacity of communities to provide opportunities to both men and women farmers to take up leading roles in society. Finally encourage efforts to educate the girl child and keep them in school longer so women are empowered to afford ICT tools and to use them.

12.5 Reactions to the presentation were as follows:

- The members wanted to know if the data on Gender and ICT was validated and wanted to know the source before quoting it.
- A member wanted to know what has been the experience on gender and other cross-cutting issues regarding SMS messages.
- A question was raised on why the project did not deliberately provide cell phones to women to help narrow the gap with their male counterparts.

**13.0 WASAA Malawi Farmer Presentation by Mercy Mleme**

13.1 Mercy Mleme is a widow with two children and has rented out 25ha of the total 75ha land that she holds for free to WASAA women farmers who cultivate maize, soya, pigeon peas and groundnuts in Machinga district.

13.2 The farmers lack extension services to better adapt to climate change. A government extension worker comes once a month while NGO extension workers from Nasfam make frequent visits.

13.3 The group sales to vendors who use altered measuring cups and tampered weighing scale. ADMARC depots are not functional despite having all structures in place and the middlemen are the only alternative for farmers. She suggested that ADMARC sheds and warehouse be rented out to cooperatives and associations.

13.4 Aware of the warehouse receipt system, farmers want to engage in that to benefit from access to finance, trusted storage and market price alerts.

13.5 The Cooperative possesses a warehouse and WASAA has provided seed enough to cultivate 25ha of land. WASAA has been bringing visitors to the site since they are role models.

13.6 The cooperative helps bale out members by paying 48% of loan in case one is incapable.

13.7 Reactions to the presentation were as follows

- Members wanted to know if the 75 ha of land is cultivated communally and also whether other farmers are charged for the use of that land.
- A member wanted to know the reason that the cooperative leaves its own warehouse and deposits in a rented warehouse
- In view of the subsidies currently in place, a member wanted to know how WASAA would guarantee that the seed is being sold at prevailing market price and ending of subsidy programme cannot jeopardize their programmes. A member commented that the farmers have been trained on basic, breeders and certified seed production and subsidy programme is just a stepping stone. Besides, Unilever is prepared to take all crude oil from farmers but what remains is for a partner to provide a plant.

**14.0 WASAA Zambian Farmer Presentation by Martha Banda**

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14.1 Cultivates maize, groundnuts, beans, soya and fruits on a 34 ha piece of land. Their group lacks better extension services, market access and financial services.

14.2 The extension officers are given big catchment area such that they make a single visit a month. For a farmer to be visited, they have to demand for the service and also pay for fuel of the extension worker.

14.3 Buying points are far about 50km away and they do late payments.

14.4 Loans target those already in business since they demand collateral, plus weekly repayments despite having high interest rates.

14.5 Reactions to the presentation were as follows;

- A member asked on investment opportunities available for farmers
- A member wanted to know the how much of the agricultural loans goes into the markets

**15.0 Ecobank Presentation on Opportunities to Access Finance by Smallholders by xxxxxx and xxxxx**

15.1 Ecobank has two accounts available to farmers. The first one is personal account with book balance of MK1, 000 which charges MK700 per month. The second one is business account with book balance of MK5,000 and charges nothing. Repayment period for agricultural loans is 12 to 24 months and interest is 36% per annum.

15.2 Reactions to the presentation were as follows;

- A member wanted to know where the stocks should be stored for the bank to finance under WRS and also whether the bank needs a collateral manager.
- A member from Agricultural Commodity Exchange commented that their organization works with banks as well and farmers should not be bothered with collateral since the commodity acts as collateral itself. ACE has Mpamba and if you lack transport any Kulima Gold Depot (Rab Processors) will provide including warehousing facilities.
- A member asked on the flexibility of loan borrowing and repayment by banks. The member observed that there are other credit institutions which are put farmer groups in turmoil for failure to repay. Other members commented that farmers should get loans which they can afford to repay since the credit institutions are in business.
- A member asked if monthly bank charges on a specific account were fair to farmers
- Since agriculture activities tend to follow a certain calendar and in view of warehouse receipt system, a member wanted to know if agricultural loans would be repaid over a period of over 12 months.
- A member wanted to know the maximum amount set by the bank for a cooperative to borrow and the interest rate, loan repayment period and in case of default and in absence of WASAA, who will repay.

**16.0 Closing Remarks by Anne Mbabuu, AGRA**

16.1 Thanked all members for their participation. She said that having shared information on the best practices and networking, the next forum would be hearing success stories.

16.2 She assured WASAA members that at IFAD meeting, she will be presenting a very short summary to advance the cause of WASAA among the UN members.

16.3 She appreciated WASAA leadership for organizing the event, AGRA and IFAD for their support, Emma and Rachel for facilitating, the Hotel Management for their services, team on displays for value addition with good production. She stressed that a kilogram of seed costs 3 to 4 times the value only that you need to stick to standards.

**RECCOMENDATIONS FROM LESSONS LEARNED**

1. There is need to enhance PPPs, engage policy makers and service providers in extension, marketing and access to finance if gender disparities in these areas are to be addressed.
2. Smallholder farmers must always be consulted on issues that relate to them; in formulating solutions to challenges that they face and not necessarily boardroom or conference deliberations without the farmer's voice alone.

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3. Both men and women are an integral part of advancing the gender cause and bridging the divide. Strategies that have failed due to sabotage from one sex e.g. men that abandoned cooperative due to ascension of a woman to power must be reviewed through dialogue and engagement of the people to ensure collective efforts.
4. Equal opportunities might not necessarily entail same results to both men and women; there is need to identify specific needs in supporting men or women farmers before deployment of interventions. For example in accessing extension services; women might prefer female workers more from male extension workers; if this is the case then even if both men and women smallholders are attached to male extension agents only; the result would not be the same as the women's preference has not been addressed.
5. Extension service delivery must be upscaled to reduce the high ratio of extension agents to smallholders. Also; extension agents deployed must be balanced by gender to cater for different needs of both male and female farmers.
6. There is also need for relevant stakeholders to equip extension agents with skills, resources and incentives to deliver excellent services to the farmers.
7. Farmers must be sensitized on financial /loan management and investment to ensure maximized potential in growing the money loaned and discipline in repaying for loans if microfinance institutions are to open up and consider less punitive requirements for farmers to access loans.
8. Here is need to integrate smallholders into structured marketing platforms where they can negotiate for better prices and sell volumes for a significant profit than rely on spot sales with vendors and middle men.
9. Women smallholders ought to be supported to create a conducive environment within which they can participate in such structured trading platforms by building their capacity and equipping them with knowledge, skills and information. Their male counterparts ought to be encouraged to consider farming as a family business to ensure participation of both men and women when it comes to marketing unlike the current scenario where men take center stage. This should trickle down to managing of income at household level to be considered as a family initiative.
- 10.

**Appendix 1: Expectations**

1. Learn how WASAA is bridging the gap in addressing gender disparities in the rural areas of Malawi
2. WASAA to also focus on grains not only seed
3. Bring out ingenious mechanism to make an all gender inclusive plan in farming business that ensures the female gender takes lead and benefits more but does not desalinate the male gender more often viewed as a leader by our cultural and religious values
4. To come out clearly on what progress has been made for the Malawian women farmer as regards access to markets.
5. To share experiences on challenges faced by women farmers and map way forward on how to address the same. Meet new faces.
6. To learn more about the experience of gender mainstreaming for linking women farmers to extension services and general aquaculture development
7. For the empowerment of women, appraisal analysis to pick out all strengths and weaknesses to better WASAA objectives.
8. To learn gender mainstreaming strategies that other organizations are analyzing in their projects especially in linking farmers to finance and markets
9. After this meeting we are going to do better in our groups
10. Identifying potential strategic partnerships for implementing WASAA's gender and value chain development goals
11. I look forward to move/increased awareness of the availability of structural markets eg. AHCX that is providing an end to end solution for commodity trading for the benefit of farmers especially women targeted by WASAA.
12. I would like to learn how AHCX and ACE have linked women farmers to markets. Also how issues of HIV are being addressed in AGRA considering the women are the ones mostly affected by HIV.
13. To get our developmental partners commitment in resource mobilization so that we can reach out to many women.
14. To see more strategies for coordinated efforts in mainstreaming gender in our core business



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15. To have more knowledge in gender empowerment and to have well wishers to assist farmers with loans and find a good market for selling of crops. To get our development members to introduce us to donors.
16. To learn from all the different stakeholders present. Sharing lessons learnt, good practices and recommendations for better integration of gender into agricultural programmes and policies.
17. After this stakeholder consultation and learning workshop our expectation is to gain more knowledge in agribusinesses that women can do
18. Financial prospects of smallholder farmers in Malawi and Zambia
19. Bring out ingenious mechanism to make an all gender inclusive plan in farming business that ensures female gender takes lead, benefits more but does not trample down on the fact that the male gender is viewed as a leader culturally.
20. Access to structured market
21. Access to finance to get more seed and at good time
22. To learn how other players in legumes value chain are mainstreaming gender in their interventions and how effective have the approach been
23. Difficulties faced by women farmers and how to overcome these difficulties
24. To link us to markets and training in good leadership
25. Learn more about agribusiness. Establish relationships with key stakeholders that can provide better markets to farmers
26. Identify key stakeholders that provide farming resources to women.
27. To know more in agriculture, loan repayments and linking farmers to better markets.
28. Loan facilities and trainings in our areas
29. To know more about agribusiness
30. Learn gender mainstreaming strategies used by women groups in accessing markets.
31. Interact with key stakeholders that are assisting farmers to be linked to better structured markets. Learn what extension service providers are doing and what their challenges are. Identify opportunities which our organization AHCX can explore. Through questions towards AHCX and ACE presentations, get a feedback and learn about people's expectations, knowledge and perceptions about WRS.