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WELCOME ADDRESS
BY PROFESSOR J. D. OLAREWAJU
DEAN, FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE, AHMADUBELLO UNIVERSITY, ZARIA,

It is my honour and privilege to welcome you most heartily to Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria on behalf of the ABU-SAFE Management Team. I must confess that we are delighted by the interest and support of the Vice Chancellor, which have been amply demonstrated by his physical presence here today at the opening ceremony of this Workshop in spite of other numerous commitments.

I welcome very warmly our beloved colleagues from Ghana, Benin Republic, Burkina Faso, Mali and Bayero University, Kano. I welcome our highly esteemed Heads of Departments here present.

I would like to single out the Executive Director of SAFE, Dr. Deola Naibakelao, Dr. Moses M. Zinnah and Dr. A. M. Falaki (the Country Coordinator for Sasakawa Global 2000 (SG-2000) Nigeria Project, and specially welcome you to ABU, Zaria. To our other distinguished Guests and members of the press, I welcome you all.

It is worthy of note that this is another opportunity for SAFE Managers to assemble for exchange of ideas, share experiences and update our knowledge of the SAFE-type program. I must say that the theme of this Workshop is timely. There could not have been any better time than now to start looking in-ward for alternative sources of funds when funding of most of the SAFE programs in the sub-region is fast sliding down. We have before us a great challenge. I therefore, commend SAFE for initiating this timely Workshop. Our deliberations in this Workshop will no doubt address this challenge. I must also assure my Vice Chancellor and the Executive Director of SAFE that with the caliber of people we have in this Workshop, we will look critically at the problem and proffer workable solutions.

I would like to express the gratitude of the Faculty of Agriculture and indeed ABU for the opportunity to collaborate in organizing this very important Workshop. To our foreign participants, during your stay in Zaria although brief, find time to interact with the people and visit places to see the diverse cultures of historic importance.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, once again, I welcome you to ABU, Zaria.

Thank you and God bless.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY PROFESSOR S.U. ABDULLAHI
VICE CHANCELLOR, AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY, ZARIA;

It is a great pleasure for me to welcome you all this morning to Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) on the occasion of the Sasakawa Africa Fund for Extension Education (SAFE) West Africa Regional SAFE Technical Workshop taking place in our great University. The Ahmadu Bello University is highly honoured to host this Workshop since this is the first time a West Africa Regional SAFE Technical Workshop is being held in Nigeria.

Agriculture is a key sector of the African economy. It is responsible for the production of food and fiber for the rapidly growing population, and raw materials for industries. Modern agriculture is however, becoming extremely complex and technology-driven, and thus requires the application of scientific principles to be able to produce the right quantity and quality of food and fibre.

One of the major prerequisites for enhancing the pace of agricultural development in West Africa is human resources development. Numerous studies have pointed out that poor training of field level extension staff is one of the critical factors impeding agricultural development in West Africa. There are several frontline extension workers in government and private services, most of whom lack adequate training. In order to tackle the problems of poor training of extension staff, the SAFE-type training program was initiated.

I observe that the theme of this year’s Workshop is “Beyond the Nippon Foundation Funds: Strategies for Long Term Sustainability of the SAFE programs in Africa”. There could not have been a better theme at this stage of the SAFE programs. As we all know, the SAFE programs are currently dependant on funding support mainly from the Nippon Foundation. But we also know that the funding support from the Nippon Foundation will not remain with us for ever. The need to start the search for sustainable sources of funds to support the SAFE programs when the funding support from the Nippon Foundation would have ceased cannot be over emphasised. The theme is, therefore, appropriate, topical and laudable at this stage of the SAFE programs in our sub-region. The theme is particularly in line with our thinking at Ahmadu Bello University. It is my fervent hope that the deliberations during these four days will bring forth more ideas that would contribute to the search for sustainable sources of funding the SAFE programs. I also hope that you will give the proceedings of this Workshop the widest possible circulation so that interested persons and governments can take advantage of your observations and recommendations.

I would like, at this juncture, to thank the Nippon Foundation for the SAFE initiative and financial support. The gains of the SAFE program at Ahmadu Bello University are numerous and are gradually being manifested among our Nigerian farmers. I have no doubt that the extension delivery services in Nigeria have significantly improved with the efforts of the Sasakawa Global 2000 (SG-2000) Project in Nigeria and we cannot expect
anything less with the two SAFE programs in Nigeria – one at ABU, Zaria and the second at Bayero University, Kano. We in ABU appreciate our association with SAFE and look forward to more collaborative efforts in our overall efforts at agricultural and rural development.

We are glad to have the participants in this Workshop as our guests for the next four days at Ahmadu Bello University. As part of your Workshop, the visitors from other countries will have the opportunity to interact with the participants from Nigeria. You will, therefore, be able to learn and exchange experiences with your colleagues. Please, feel free to avail yourselves of our facilities at ABU.

Distinguish ladies and gentlemen; it is with pleasure and pride that I associate myself with every aspect of your program during this Workshop, which I now declare open.

Thanks and wish you journey mercies back to your respective homes.
GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR, BAYERO UNIVERSITY, KANO, PROFESSOR A. M. JEGA OFR. REPRESENTED BY THE DEAN, FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE, BAYERO UNIVERSITY, KANO.

• The Vice-Chancellor ABU Zaria, ably Represented by DVC, Admin. Prof. Y. Nasidi
• The Executive Director, SAFE
• The Regional SAFE Coordinators, Present
• Deans and Directors from SAFE Program Institutions
• Ladies and Gentlemen

As the Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, Bayero University, Kano I have been in touch with the Vice Chancellor, Prof. A. M. Jega (OFR) on the preparation of this workshop, who up to the time we left Kano for Zaria, had the intention to personally be in this workshop. However, he had to be away to Italy on a very serious official engagement. He therefore instructed the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic, Prof. K. Ahmad to represent him. This testified to how committed the VC is with respect to SAFE Program in B.U.K. Arrangements were made for the DVC to attend the workshop on behalf of the VC. However, just before the beginning of the workshop, I was, called by the Personal Secretary to the VC that the VC wanted me to represent him as the DVC took ill this morning. He wanted me to send his personal apology for his inability to be with us this morning. The VC is particularly aware of the objectives and importance of the workshop. He expressed the hope and belief that the workshop will provide an opportunity for all participants from the SAFE operating institutions and Headquarters to share ideas, rob minds on expenses and challenges, with a view to strengthening the SAFE Program and to charter ways and means of sustaining the Program in the event donor fund ceased.

Gentlemen, the SAFE Program has just started in BUK with 35 candidates. The Vice chancellor is particularly impressed with the Program at UCC Ghana and is optimistic that the BUK Program, which is the youngest, will be a huge success. He is particularly happy with way SAFE puts emphasis on women who constitute a large number of our extension staff.

The VC concluded by wishing us a fruitful workshop and prayed that at the end of the workshop, the participants would find means and ways of sustaining this laudable Program. He prayed to Allah to safely return our guests back to their respective destinations. Thank you and God Bless.
CLARIFICATION OF WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

By

Moses M. Zinnah

(The SAFE Coordinator for West Africa)

Theme

“Beyond The Nippon Foundation Funds: Strategies for Long-Term Sustainability of the SAFE Programs in Africa”

General Objective

- To discuss and examine, within the context of the SAFE initiative, ways and means of improving and sustaining the formal training of mid-career agricultural extension workers in SAFE Program countries in West Africa.

Specific Objectives

- To share ideas and experiences regarding the opportunities and challenges of implementing SAFE Programs in each training institution,
- To better understanding of the off-campus practical experiential component which is a fundamental element of the SAFE initiative based on the experiences of the various countries,
- To propose practical ways of establishing and strengthening networks between and amongst institutions involved in the SAFE initiative, and
- To share ideas on means of sustaining the SAFE Programs beyond The Nippon Foundation Funds.

Expected Outcomes

- The challenges and opportunities in the implementation of the SAFE Programs would be identified.
- Mechanisms for long-term sustainability of the SAFE Programs beyond The Nippon Foundation Funds would be identified.
- Mechanisms for forging networks between and amongst the SAFE institutions would be outlined.
GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE ‘SAFE’ INITIATIVE IN AFRICA

By

Dr. Deola Naibakelao

The Executive Director of SAFE Programs in Africa

Introduction

- SAFE is a product of Sasakawa Global 2000 agricultural programs in Africa.
- Necessity to up-grad skills of mid-career extension staff.
- SAFE was established in 1991 by SAA.
- SAFE became a legal entity in 2003.

SAFE’s Aim

The aim of SAFE is to bring African agricultural universities and colleges much more squarely into the agricultural and rural development process by:

- Strengthening their capacity to offer new innovative formal continuing education programs for mid-career agricultural and rural development workers; and
- Expanding and strengthening the skills of frontline agricultural and rural development workers to serve the needs of smallholder farm families.

Major Achievements

- Nearly 2,000 mid-career extension staff have graduated from SAFE institutions and are playing various strategic leadership roles in their extension organizations in their respective countries.
- The SAFE initiative has grown from 1 pilot program in Ghana in 1993 to 14 programs spread across 9 countries in West, East and Southern Africa.
- Universities, MoA, farmers and NGOs perceive the training as relevant to their needs and interests.
SAFE Program Institutions (1993-2008)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SN</th>
<th>Name of University/College and Country</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>University of Cape Coast, Ghana (B.Sc.)</td>
<td>B.Sc.</td>
<td>1993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Haramaya University, Ethiopia (B.Sc.)</td>
<td>B.Sc.</td>
<td>1996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Makerere University, Uganda (B.Sc.)</td>
<td>B.Sc.</td>
<td>1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sokoine University, Tanzania (B.Sc.)</td>
<td>B.Sc.</td>
<td>1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Kawadaso Agric. College, Ghana (Diploma)</td>
<td>Diploma</td>
<td>1999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Rural Polytechnic Institute for Training and Applied Research (IPR/IFRA), Mali (Maîtrise)</td>
<td>Maîtrise</td>
<td>2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Ahmadu Bello University, Nigeria (B.Sc.)</td>
<td>B.Sc.</td>
<td>2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Polytechnic University of Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso</td>
<td>Licence</td>
<td>2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>University of Abomey-Calavi, Republic of Benin (Licence)</td>
<td>Licence</td>
<td>2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Bunda College of Agriculture, Malawi (Diploma)</td>
<td>B.Sc.</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Hawasa University, Ethiopia (B.Sc.)</td>
<td>B.Sc.</td>
<td>2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Samankgo Agricultural Centre, Mali (Diploma)</td>
<td>Diploma</td>
<td>2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Makerere University, Uganda (B.Sc.)</td>
<td>B.Sc.</td>
<td>2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Bayero University-Kano, Nigeria (B.Sc.)</td>
<td>B.Sc.</td>
<td>2007</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Challenges

- There are rapid changes in the institutional environment in which extension functions.
- Privatization of public extension services;
- Public/private partnerships in provision of extension services;
- Generalist training vs. specialist training;
- Universities must adjust their training to cater for these new clientele groups.
- High demand for admission into the program vis-à-vis the limited annual intakes (average of 30 students per class); the challenge is how to expand the program and still maintain quality, especially the SEPs.
- Inadequate resources for sustaining programs also pose a challenge. The outreach/off-campus programs (SEPs) are resource-intensive (e.g. teaching staff and funds).
• Limited number of qualified female candidates for admission into the program. The average annual female intake in the SAFE program is 20%, which is diminishing yearly in all participating institutions.

• Expanding collaboration with other extension service providers (especially private sector) remains a challenge.

• Reporting the impact of the SEPs to help stakeholders (both public and private extension service providers) to help them understand the connections between training and outreach programs, and incorporate the SEPs tools into their extension management practices is also a major challenge.

Looking Towards the Future

• SAFE institutions should maintain the core pillars of the SAFE initiative: (1) focus on mid-career candidates; (2) demand-driven curriculum; (3) student-centered, community based experiential learning, especially the off-campus SEPs.

• SAFE should adjust its programs to respond to the shift from public agricultural extension to pluralistic system that combines public financing with outsourcing arrangements with private enterprises for the delivery of services.

• This will require new training formats, including shorter sandwich/modular courses and distance education approaches.

• SAFE should broaden its scope and introduce new programs to develop skills of extension staff in higher-value commodities produced for both domestic and international markets, farm management, value chain enhancement, agro-processing, livestock systems management, information and communication technologies, and micro and small scale enterprise development.

• SAFE institutions should form alliances with other donors to get additional funding to consolidate and expand the impacts of their outreach (extension) activities.

Conclusion

• This workshop provided another unique opportunity for us to appreciate the progress and impacts of the SAFE programs in West Africa.

• It also gave us the opportunity to seek ways and means of overcoming the emerging challenges in order to remain responsive to our mission of providing quality training programs for agricultural and rural development change managers and agents.

• SAFE management and The Nippon Foundation are committed to working with all partner institutions.
UPDATE ON THE SAFE PROGRAM IN THE INSTITUTE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
TRAINING FOR BETTER PRODUCTION
STATUTE, BURKINA FASO

By
Professor Antoine Some and Dr. Valérie Bougouma
Head, Department of Agricultural Extension
Institute of Rural Development, Polytechnic University of Bobo-Dioulasso
Burkina Faso

INTRODUCTION

IDR is an Institute of Polytechnic University of Bobo-Dioulasso founded in 1973

Objectives

- To train students (future Engineers) in Rural Development;
- To undertake research in rural development and agricultural production;
- To train PhD students;
- To train students at various postgraduate levels.

Five (5) Training Options

- Agronomy
- Animal science
- Forestry
- Sociology and rural economy
- Extension

Admission

- Exam for the students (university degree awarded after two-year course of study)
- By selection for the professional workers
Organisation of the Training

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First year</th>
<th>Second year</th>
<th>Third year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• 75 % general courses</td>
<td>• 25 % general courses</td>
<td>10 months of practical training period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 25 % specialized courses</td>
<td>• 75 % specialized courses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 6 weeks of practical</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>training period</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PhD training
- Integrated natural resource management
- Animal science
- Crops science
- Plant Protection
- Soil Science

Forestry science
- Sylviculture
- Fishery science
- Management of Wild animals

PhD training
- Applied Biology and biological systems model

Achievements
- More than 3000 engineers have graduated
- Publications, thesis, scientific reports are available

Challenges
- Insufficiency of training equipment (books, computers)
- Insufficiency of Technical equipment for practical training
- Lack of logistics (vehicles)
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Eleven memorandum of understanding with other Universities

- École Internationale de l'Agriculture Larensten
- Université de Georgie (USA)
- CNEARC de Montpellier (France)
- Université de Toulouse (France)
- Université de Roskilde et Copenhague (Danemark)
- Université de Liège (Belgique)
- Université Collège of London
- École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (Département Génie Rural)
- Université d'Amsterdam (Pays-Bas)
- Université de Wagennigen (Pays-Bas)
- Faculté d’Agronomie de Gembloux (Belgique).

GRADUATES EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Public administration
- Rural development projects
- Non Governmental Organisation
- Producers Organisations
- Private enterprise
- International organisms

STUDENTS CURRENTLY IN TRAINING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Sub Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd year</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st year</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Continuing Education

- 50 candidates for 2007-2008
- IMPACT (SAFE) contd
- Logistics
- Teaching and learning materials
- Training of lecturers
- Financial support
- Renovations of facilities
- Exchange visits
- Curriculum development etc
- Partners
- Lecturers
The partners

- The Technical Ministries: MAHRH, MRA, MECV.
- The Universities: UO, Katibougou/Mali.
- Other Ministries: MESSRS, ONG, projets.

Challenges and Opportunities

- Continuing Education for 50 agents of the Technical Ministries in 2008;

Funding and Sustainability

- Technical Ministries: financial support for equipment and functioning
- University: Overtime allowance for permanent lecturers
- IDR: financial support for logistic

Implication of Partners

- The technical Ministries: Lecturing and co financing, elaboration and adoption of curriculum
- University: lecturing and the facilities
- SAFE: Financing and technical back up including lecturing.
- Plans at the national level to sustain the Program

Experience & lessons learnt from SAFE Program to lunch other emerging programs

- Program financing strategy
- Elaboration of program curriculum
- Program sustaining strategies
- Establishment of training Program
- Mobilization of human resources
Licence professionnelle en vulgarisation – conseil agricole au BENIN

By
Dr Simplice Davo VODOUHE

Faculté des Sciences Agronomiques

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Total 600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Female 85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professors and lecturers</td>
<td>Total 65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Female 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Support staff                         |                | 40
| 1st year student LMD                  | Total 180; Female 30 |
|                                       | LPVCA 20       |
| Number of students graduated          |                | 1075
| since the faculty creation (1975)     |                |

Employment of the recipients

- Proportion of recipients in the different sectors of activities
  - 60 % in the public sector
  - 20 % in NGO
  - 3% in self employment
  - 1% in international organisms
  - 16% in private sectors

- Many of recipients of the FSA have been and are ministers, members of parliament and members of ministry cabinet. There are three FSA recipients who are ministers in the present government

Presentation of the « Faculté des Sciences Agronomiques » de l’UAC

- There are five departments
  - Department in charge of vegetable production
  - Department in charge of animal production
- Department in charge of natural resource management
- Department in charge of Nutrition, human foods
- Department in charge of Economics, sociology, anthropology and communication

- Support activities units
  - The laboratories
  - Experimentation farms
  - Centre for biostatistics
  - Centre for development support (Centre d'appui au Développement): interface between academician and development word

**Activities carried out by the faculty**

- Engineer training in agricultural science
- Master Program
- PhD Program
- Specialised program
- Formation continue for farmers in different fields such as nutrition, animal raising, fish, agric council

**Brief description of DESAC**

- Two sections
  - Rural Economics
  - Sociology, anthropology and communication

- Staff
  - 13 lecturers
  - 2 research assistants
  - 4 doctorate students

- Research activities
  - Land reform, farmers organisations, gender issue, ecohealth and agriculture, interventions issues in rural areas, urbanization and agriculture, sacred forests

- Organisation of the LPVCA
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Group of themes</th>
<th>Disciplines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st YEAR</td>
<td>1st Semester 2nd semester</td>
<td>Basic science</td>
<td>Math, physics, chimie, science de la vie et de la terre, economy, eaux et matériaux, Sociology, management, communication, science de la vie et de la terre, science de la production agricole et animale, stage professionnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st YEAR</td>
<td>2nd semester</td>
<td>Principales compétences pour un socioéconomiste spécialité</td>
<td>Economy, sociology, gestion des ressources et projets, stage professionnel (analyse des système de production, developpement des ressources humaines, vulgarisation – conseil, diagnostic/analyse des sysèmes agraires, stage professionnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd YEAR</td>
<td>5th Semester 6th Semester</td>
<td>Spécialité (mention du diplôme)</td>
<td>Vulgarisation, aspects politiques de la production agricole et animale, introduction au stage hors campus et stage hors campus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Stage Professionnel**

- Découverte des Exploitations et Services Agricoles (DESA): Unités Domestiques de Production (UDP) + structures d’intervention
- Analyse des systèmes de production agricole, animale et halieutique
- Analyse d’une entreprise agricole et d’intervention en milieu rural
- Identification et recherche sur projet professionnel en milieu réel avec soutenance du rapport

**Partnership**

- Main partners are the
  - Ministry in charge of agriculture
  - Private enterprises
  - Producers
  - Others department within FSA
Others university faculties

Contributions

Material supports for students through their accommodation, subsistence allowance in the field, field supervision, sharing experiences (conferences), giving lectures.

Sustainability issue of the LPVCA in FSA

- Registration fees
- Training reform, LMD and sustainability
  - All training in the faculty is changed to become LMD
  - LPVCA is not anymore isolated and lecturers are not perceiving the LPVCA as a project but part of the training of the Faculty
  - Schedule of the complete appropriation of the LPVCA: three year time, the LPVCA will have the same statute like other courses
- Contribution of the MAEP and private enterprises
  - Contribution of the MAEP
  - The rise of the training need of extension workers in the MAEP due the willingness of the Nation President to really develop agriculture: recruiting field staff and investment in agriculture

Future challenges

- Adaptation of the training for short term training
- Lack of transportation means at the faculty for field work
- Politics decision on registration fees
UPDATE ON SAFE PROGRAM AT AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY, ZARIA, NIGERIA

By
Dr. J. G. Akpoko

Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology,
Faculty of Agriculture, Ahmadu Bello University

INTRODUCTION

Commencement/Student Admissions

- First set of students in the 2002/2003 session.
- ABU is in its fourth batch of its students.
- Admission is open to all qualified serving agricultural or rural extension workers.
- Preference is on candidates from the northern States.

Duration of the Degree Program

- The duration of the program is two-and-half (2½) years involving on-campus and off-campus activities.

Criteria for Admission into the Program

- To qualify for admission into the program, a potential candidate must satisfy the following minimum criteria:
  - Have minimum credit pass in Higher National Diploma in agriculture or related field of study from a recognized Institution plus four (4) “O” level passes, which must include English Language and Mathematics;
  - Be a serving agricultural or rural extension worker of at least, two years of post diploma experience;
  - Be nominated/recommended by his/her employer, and
  - Screened/selected by ABU.
**Broad Courses Currently Covered**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sociology, Extension/Communication</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Economics</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Engineering</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agronomy</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Science</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crop Protection</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant Science</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil Science</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shared Courses</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General (SEPs/ Seminars)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tours/Field Visits</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FOCUSED STATES**

Currently, preference is on candidates from the Northern States, but students can also be admitted from other States. Table 1 shows the distribution of students per State.

**Table 1: Students Admitted per State between 2002/03 & 2006/07 academic year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bauchi</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Benue</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sokoto</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Kogi</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gombe</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>FCT, Abuja</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaduna</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Kano</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adamawa</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Yobe</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katsina</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Borno</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zamfara</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Niger Republic*</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jigawa</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>72</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Foreign student*
AVAILABLE HUMAN RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

- The program is housed in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology
- Uses the human resources and facilities available in the Faculty of Agriculture/Institute for Agricultural Research.
- Additional specialized teaching staff are sought from the National Agricultural Extension and Research Liaison Services (NAERLS), the National Animal Production and Research Institute (NAPRI) and the Iya Abubakar Computer Center.
- Thus, a pool of experienced lecturers is in place.
- The ABU-SAFE program boasts of 95% of current teaching staff being Ph.D holders.

MAIN FEATURES OF PROGRAM

- Emphasizes new teaching methodologies such as “learning by doing” where the student is the center of attention and the teacher becomes facilitator.
- Supervised Enterprise Projects (SEPs), is at the foundation of the Program.
- Students spend about 4 – 5 months (30%) of the training period on the SEPs.
- The Program is responsive and demand-driven
- Purposeful and has to be supported by employers of prospective candidates.
- At the end of training, the graduates go back to their working places better equipped as executors and managers of the extension system.
- Involves principal stakeholders (ABU, employers/sponsors, SAFE, farming communities, private and NGOs.

GENDER ISSUES

- Admission is currently skewed in favour of the male gender.
- This is not deliberate, but as a result of inadequacy of qualified female candidates.
- The number of female in the first batch of students’ admission was one; in the second and third batches were two and one, respectively.
- The forth batch has four registered female students.
# Total Students by Year and Sex

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total students</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002/2003</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004/2005</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005/2006</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006/2007</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>64 (89%)</td>
<td>8 (11%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## SOURCES OF FUNDS

- SAFE provides the funds for major teaching activities and equipments
- ABU pays salaries of the staff
- The students’ sponsors pay full salaries of the students

## ROLES OF PARTNERS IN SUPPORT OF THE PROGRAM

- Expected to work in collaboration with SAFE, Ministries of Agriculture/Agricultural Development Projects (ADPs)/NGOs (Employers/Sponsors), University of Cape Coast, Ghana/bilateral organizations and farmers.
- The designated roles of these partners in the Program include the following:

### I. ABU

- Provides leadership in the development and implementation of the training curriculum in consultation with other stakeholders.
- Provides and support the needed staff, largely within its current staff strength to run and support the program.
- Provides space and facilities for classrooms, hostels and recreation facilities.
- Ensures standard and equity in the selection, admission, supervision and assessment of students as well as quality of curriculum.
- Evolves and ensure the mechanisms for the sustainability of the program.
- Provides support for staff to attend international conferences and workshops to exchange ideas and experiences.
II. SAFE

- SAFE provides funding to complement ABU efforts.
- Assists to develop and implement the curriculum.
- Promotes networking activities between ABU and other African Universities.

III. The Expected Roles of the Ministries of Agriculture / Agricultural Development Projects (ADPs)/NGOs (Employers/Sponsors)

- Participate in curriculum development.
- Nominate and sponsors candidates for the training Program.
- Participate in the planning and implementation of the students off-SEPs.
- Provide inputs for SEPs’ implementation.
- Provide co-supervision and assessment of SEPs.

IV. University of Cape Coast and bilateral organizations

- Promote networking activities between ABU.

V. Farmers

- Provide the fields and inputs for SEPs’ implementation.
- Provide field management of SEPs.
- Provide co-supervision and assessment of SEPs.

Expected Outputs of the SAFE Program

- Create and strengthen interactions between training Institutions and employers of agricultural extension workers.
- Teaching staff become better exposed to field situations, thus broadening their perceptions and experiences as trainers.
- The involvement of employers/sponsors in training activities also provides better opportunities in designing and implementing appropriate and demand-driven curricula.
- Enhanced skills and knowledge of serving mid-career extension workers.
- Improved African Universities’ curricula.

THE OFF-CAMPUS SUPERVISED ENTERPRISE/EXPERIENCE PROJECTS (SEPs)

- The SEPs’ implementation often comprises of the following activities:
- A field trip
- A mini workshop to further highlight key SEPs’ issues.
- Selection of topics by students in consultation with their employers.
- Vetting and approval of topics.
- Departure of students from campus to conduct SEPs.
- Verification of field logistical problems.
- Supervisory and evaluation visits to students’ SEPs by teams of supervisors and evaluators.
- The choice of SEP topics is influenced by the beneficiaries; i.e. farmers, employers/sponsors, and the students themselves.

THE ABU-SAFE MANAGEMENT
- The management hierarchy of the ABU-SAFE program is as follows:

The University Management
- The Vice-Chancellor, as Chief Executive and Academic Officer, with support of Senate and Directorate of Academic Planning and Monitoring has the overall responsibilities of:
  - Ensuring the vision, objectives and quality of Program are maintained
  - Providing leadership and commitment foci for the Program
  - Providing the necessary environment and facilities for training
  - Facilitating staff development for smooth implementation of the Program

The Faculty Management
- The Dean of Faculty and the Faculty Board have mandate subject to the University management to:
  - Regulate teaching and study activities connected with the Program
  - Ensure that the focus, objectives and commitments are maintained
  - Consider and recommend to University management proposals and outputs regarding admissions, teaching and examinations
  - Oversee the quality and conduct of teaching environment and facilities.

The Department
- The Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology (DAERS) housed the Program. The Head of Department has the responsibility for:
- Assigning staff to teaching and supervision duties.
- Implementation of approved Program activities.
- Maintenance of teaching facilities provided for the Program.
- Initiating in consultation with the Dean and Coordinator, proposals concerning the Program.
- Ensuring that high academic quality is maintained.

The SAFE Program Coordinator
- The Coordinator, in consultation with the Head of DAERS and Dean of Faculty, assist the University to:
  - Coordinate communications and activities with/among stakeholders.
  - Provide and receive advices and recommendations on matters of the program.
  - Prepare and submit reports to ABU and SAFE.
  - Draft proposals, annual plans and budget for the Program.
  - Ensure proper custody, use and maintenance of the facilities provided for SAFE program for effective implementation.

The SEPs Coordinator
The SEPs Coordinator, in consultation with the Head of DAERS and SAFE Program Coordinator, is responsible for:
- Ensuring the submission and preparation of SEPs proposals by students.
- Ensuring the conduct of SEPs’ seminars by students.
- Drawing up plans and budgets for SEPs supervision.
- Preparation of pre- and post-SEPs evaluations and reports.

Faculty Board Standing Committee
The Faculty Board Standing Committee comprises of all Heads of Departments and is responsible for:
- Reviewing progress of program activities.
- Advising/making recommendations on implementing the Program to the Faculty Board/ABU and SAFE.

Supervised Enterprise/Experience Projects Committee
The SEPs Committee comprises of nominated representatives of all the Departments and is responsible for:
- Reviewing progress of SEPs activities.
- Considering and approving SEPs’ proposals.
- Making recommendations on SEPs matters to the Faculty/ABU and SAFE.

**The Stakeholder Management Committee**

The Stakeholder Committee brings together representatives of the major stakeholders.

The Committee is responsible for:

- Reviewing annual progress of Program activities.
- Considering and approving proposals for the next year.
- Making recommendations to the Faculty/ABU and SAFE.

**NETWORKING /LINKAGES WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS IN THE SEARCH FOR STRENGTHENING THE SAFE PROGRAM**

The Program is in partnership with University of Cape Coast (UCC) in Ghana

- This partnership has facilitated two of ABU staff to be granted Sabbatical Leave by the UCC, in April, 2006.
- A staff of UCC has also been offered a Ph. D. admission with part time teaching job commencing from January, 2007.
- Similarly, two students from Mali are under-going a one year intensive English language training in preparation for admissions to pursue M.Sc. degrees in Agricultural Extension and Rural Sociology.

**BENEFITS/ACHIEVEMENTS**

The SAFE Program at ABU, even at this early stage, has made some impact including the following:

- Created experience in the art of developing responsive training curriculum.
- Improved the teaching-learning process.
- Provided instructional facilities: separate accommodation, classrooms and computer room, vehicles, computers, printers and fax machine, and other aids for teaching.
- Broadened the perception and orientation of staff in teaching and management of mature student Program.
- Promoting a feeling of joint ownership and pooling of ideas.
- Improved the spirit of partnership and willingness to pool resources.
The ABU-SAFE program has graduated its first and second batch of students with the following results:

2005/2006 Graduates
- First Class Division = 3
- Second Class Upper Division = 10
- Second Class Lower Division = 6

2006/2007 Graduates
- Second Class Upper Division = 9
- Second Class Lower Division = 9

The gains of the SAFE Program is gradually being manifested even among farmers through the SEPs, with the reported high level of enthusiasm shown on the approach by farmers and some States on the production (e.g. Jigawa State on rice per boiler and Kano on Milk Cooperative Society).

PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES
- Four major challenges emerge from the SAFE experience at ABU, Zaria.
  - The first is students’ sponsors unwillingness to sponsor SEPs.
  - The second is lack of people understands of the nature of the Program
  - The third is the level of commitment of other Stakeholders:
  - The fourth is problem of funding:
- Currently the Program is being implemented mainly with financial support from SAFE.
- Sponsors are not yet adequately sensitized on their roles particularly in support of SEPs
- Inability to effectively implement other key elements of the program such as field trips and special lectures.
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE FUNDING OF THE SAFE PROGRAMS IN NIGERIA

- There is the need for intensive sensitization/enlightenment to educate potential sponsors.
- In the face of dwindling SAFE financial support, the question of sustainability of the ABU-SAFE Program has continued to be an issue that must be resolved. A catalogue of alternative funding sources have been suggested by concerned individuals including the following:
  - Fund raising from governments, Non-governmental Organization (NGOs), Individual philanthropies, etc
  - Farmers full participation in funding of SEPs in the spirit of participatory extension system and farmers empowerment.
  - The immediate constituency of the farmer is the Local Government Area and the primary occupation of the people is farming. The Local Government Council should, therefore, co-finance the SAFE Programs in Nigeria.
  - The National Food Reserve and Security Agency of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development as the agency charged with the responsibilities for coordinating extension activities in this country has a stake in insuring adequate financial support of the SAFE Programs in Nigeria. Consequently, the National Food Reserve and Security Agency should enact adaptable and sustainable policy that will make it compulsory for the Agricultural Development Projects (ADPs) to support the implementation of the SAFE Programs. There should be some kind of a law that will enable the ADPs to have an annual budget to support the implementation of the SAFE programs.
  - Advantage should also be taken of available funds such as the Education Trust Funds (ETF) to support the SAFE programs.
  - Advantage should also be taken of available funds with local finance institutions interested in agricultural development.
  - Linkages have been the subject of much discussion for sustaining the SAFE Program. The need forge some kind of linkages with local NGOs/Private Commercial extension agencies and International agencies (e.g. Winrock International, FAO, IITA, IFAD, African Development Bank, USAID, United Nations, European Union, Canadian International Development Agency -CIDA, Japan International Cooperation Agency –JICA, etc) and other Donor Agencies/International Finance Institutions in agricultural development is also here suggested.
Update on the SAFE Training programs in Mali

By: Prof. Kardigué Coulibaly

Head, Department of Economics and Social Science Polytechnic Institute for Training and Applied Research, and

Mr. Robert generated or Bertha Samanko Agricultural Centre, Mali

- Training in Agricultural Extension in Mali began operating in October 2002 through a partnership between SAFE, the Ministry of Agriculture through the National Directorate of Agriculture and the Ministry of Education through the Institute Rural Technical Training and Applied Research of Katibougou.
- The training is done at two levels:
  - The Technician Certificate in Agricultural Extension;
  - The Technician Certificate in Agricultural Extension;
  - The Extension Master Agriculture.
- The Technician Certificate in Agricultural Extension
  - The training takes place Technician Certificate Agricultural Learning Center (FAC) Samanko, under the Ministry of Agriculture.
  - This training began in October 2006.
  - It lasts for two years and the technical staff (12 years of study)

Teaching staff at Samanko

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classes</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The first batch students will be graduated in September 2008.
- Lecturers: Lessons are taught by twenty teachers, mainly at Master level
- The IPR / IFRA in Katibougou is currently taking care of all academic activities
- SAFE provides technical and financial support
- Trainees from Ministries of Livestock and Fisheries, Environment and Sanitation are under studying.

Challenges and opportunities

- Challenges
  - maintaining and increasing the number of female students in the program
  - stronger involvement of other national partners
  - development of relations with similar institutions
- Opportunities
o strong support from authorities
o granting of a budget from government for the program
o experience of the IPR / IFRA in Katibougou
o existence of an enabling framework for consultation

o The program is extremely important in Mali. It will play a key role in the agricultural extension system.
o Appropriate solutions to the challenges mentioned allow its consolidation and sustainability.

II. THE EXPERTISE IN AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION

- It provided higher education at the Polytechnic Institute of Rural Training and Applied Research (IPR / IFRA in Katibougou) under the Ministry of Secondary and Higher Education and Scientific Research.
- It began in October 2002.
- Its duration is 4 years

Graduates

- Graduates are currently working in various rural development services and agricultural training centers. Some have already been promoted to positions of responsibility.
- Graduates have formed alumni association, and with their counterparts from Burkina Faso, a magazine called The Sahelian Agricultural popularizer whose 1st edition was published.

Currently enrolled students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classes</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st A</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd A</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd A</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 A</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Women constitute only 12%, which is below expectations.

Faculty

- The training is delivered by a faculty of over 30 people, including twenty are holding a doctorate. It uses in some cases external resources. They must be substantial, particularly as extension specialists and rural sociology.
Partners

- The main partners are naturally the National Directorate of Agriculture and SAFE.
- Contacts were made with almost all departments of the country’s rural development.
- A dynamic partnership has been established with IFC Mali (Center for Study and International Cooperation, Canada). Through this partnership, the program has received training and audiovisual equipment.
- We intend to develop partnerships with institutions SAFE. It started with the program in Burkina Faso.

Challenges and opportunities

- Challenges
  - consolidation of technology village
  - low female intake
  - developing partnerships around the program
  - the development of emerging programs
- Opportunities
  - government commitment and partner
  - the new partnership PAC / BMGF
  - Graduates of the program
- Networks
  - Internally the program has several actions with other structures such as other departments, the Centre for Continuing Education, Centre for agroforestry in the Sahel
  - The program is a member of UNITERRA which operates under the auspices of the IFC. The network links institutions in partnership South - South and South - North pursuing the same objectives
  - It is appropriate to realize the network of institutions SAFE

- Means and financing strategies and sustainability of the program
  - consolidation and development of technology village, including the establishment of a revolving fund
  - new infrastructure and acquiring equipment to generate resources (rooms, typography machine ...etc)
  - demonstrate the relevance and impact of training in order to be taken over by the State Budget
  - development of partnership with other institutions

- The conditions seem conducive to the development of other emerging programs given as:
  - IPR / IFRA form agronomists, animal scientists, water and forests, senior technicians in various fields of agriculture, animal husbandry, development;
• the Department of Social and Economic Sciences (home of the SAFE Program) is currently working towards the opening of other sectors (Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Policy Analysis)

**Conclusion**

• In five years of existence the SAFE program in Mali has evolved quite rapidly.
• The impact of this training on rural development, rural and beneficiaries have started to be felt.

We would like to sincerely thank SAFE and the Nippon Foundation for all the support given to our place for well-being of the people of Mali, as well as the opportunity to exchange visit at ABU.
SAFE PROGRAM AT UNIVERSITY OF CAPE COAST AND KWADASO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE IN GHANA

By
Dr. Festus Annor-Frempong (UCC) and Kwadwo Kontoh (KAC)

Background
- Sasakawa Africa Association in collaboration with University of Cape Coast (UCC), the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) and Winrock International launched the maiden innovative B.Sc. Agricultural Extension Degree Program in Ghana in 1993
- In 1999 the Diploma in Agricultural Extension was started at Kwadaso Agricultural College, Kumasi.

Impact of the SAFE programs in Ghana
Table 1: Current students enrolled in the Programs in Ghana

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Kwadaso Agricultural College</th>
<th>University of Cape Coast</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graduates and their Post-Graduation Roles and Responsibilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAFE Graduates from Ghana</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sex</td>
<td>B.Sc.</td>
<td>Diploma</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>80.3%</td>
<td>218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>261</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Graduates, by and large, have attained higher supervisory positions (Directors, managers and officers at the regional level).
- Most of the graduates are District Development Officers (DDOs), who supervise the Agricultural Extension Agents (AEAs).
Twenty-Seven (27) Lecturer, Senior Lecturers and Associate professors from various Departments were involved in teaching and supervision of Students in the B.Sc. SAFE Program in 2006/2007 academic year.

Five (5) teaching staff are at various stages of completion of their Masters degree Programs, the number is inadequate to ensure smooth running of the SAFE Program.

The issue of high staff attrition rate at KAC will need to be addressed. The problem has to do with very poor conditions of service in the civil service (MoFA, Ghana)

**Supervised Enterprise Projects (SEPs)**

- 73 SEPs were implemented by SAFE programs in 2007/2008 academic year. This include one (1) in Mozambique, two (2) in Nigeria.
- The average estimated cost of individual student’s SEP is about US$1,000. This is sponsored by students themselves, support from MOFA, NGOs, and District assemblies
- The cost of supervision per student on off-campus SEPs is estimated at US$530.00
- An average SEPs budget per year was of US$13,393.04.

**Level of support and involvement of stakeholders**

- International organizations such as Sasakawa Africa Association (and its affiliates), and Winrock International Institute for Agricultural Development,
- University of Cape (Faculties and Departments) and Kwadaso Agricultural College,
- Bilateral agencies such as USAID, German Technical Agency for Development (GTZ),
- Non Governmental Organizations (World Vision International, Techno serve, Heifer International, PROLINOVA Southern Ghana),
- Parastatal agencies (Agricultural Development Bank),
- District Assemblies,
- Private sector (large or commercial agribusiness enterprises, farmers, market-women),
- Ministry of Food and Agriculture (extension professionals, prospective students),
- Students and graduates,
- Other Universities (SAFE and non-SAFE) and
- Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs).
The nature and level of participation

- Financial contribution towards construction and rehabilitation of infrastructure and purchasing of vehicles and SEPs.
- Sharing of experiences with students in the current issues course of the Program.
- Provision of teaching and learning materials, sponsorship of workshops and conference, partial scholarships for students and staff training/development and facilitating the development of MOU among SAFE institutions.

Challenges of the Program

- Ensuring sustainability of field activities
- Financing of SEPs
  - KAC will find it very difficult in the next two years to obtain vehicles to supervise students' SEPs in view of the bad state of their vehicles.
  - Remuneration of lecturers at realistic rates for their invaluable contributions to the conceptualization, design, implementation, and evaluation of SEPs.

Technology Village

- The vision and mission are not shared among faculty members of the School of Agriculture.
- Devoting time in the curriculum for students to test technologies before implementation on field.
- Adequacy of funding the facility.

Female enrolment in Diploma and B.Sc. programs in Ghana

- Extremely low with a female: male ratio of 1:4
- Enrolment into the programs is exclusively dependent on the number of eligible females MoFA

Full participation of Stakeholders

- Inadequate follow-ups to strengthen partnerships
- No formally signed MOUs
- Inadequate resources and programs
- Transfer of officers/personnel who have initiated partnerships at the community level
- Non-commitment or interest in SAFE program activities
Recruitment and Retention of Academic Faculty

- Support for short-term academic staff development in terms of funding for workshops, seminars and short courses. This is not easily forthcoming.
- Large student numbers in other programs at UCC where lecturers teach put a lot of pressure on staff involved in SAFE program.
- Motivation of staff from internally generated funds.
- Inadequate staff accommodation and office space.
- KAC faces major difficulty in staff recruitment. The Principal does not have autonomy to hire teaching staff. This is done by civil service in Accra.
- High attrition of staff at KAC due to unattractive conditions of service.

Opportunities of the Programs

- Production of highly trained and qualified agricultural extension professionals to improve agricultural extension delivery in the sub-region.
- Graduates are going to be highest decision-makers in the Ministries of Food and Agriculture.
- Contribution to changing the landscape of agricultural extension (training and delivery).
- The SEPs and rural development. If properly financed the approach could be adopted by the institutions as its formal development outlet.
- Forging linkages with potential stakeholders, The SAFE programs have created opportunities

Existing (or planned) networks

- UCC has signed formal MOUs with:
  - University of Abomey-Calavi in Benin
  - Polytechnic University of Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso
  - Rural Polytechnic Institute for Training and applied Research and Samanko Agricultural Centre in Mali
  - Ahmadu Bello University in Nigeria
  - Bayero University-Kano in Nigeria

Funding mechanisms for implementing and sustaining the SAFE program

- The SAFE program in Ghana is mainly funded from domestic sources.
• The Sasakawa Centre complex, namely the chalets, restaurant, conference facility, and student hostel have been used to support of the SAFE program at UCC.

• Fees paid by Students

• There are plans to expand the chalet facility at UCC.

• Students are KAC are to pay for the cost of field supervision of SEPs by Lecturers
Background to the SAFE Program at BUK

- SAFE Program came into being in BUK, Nigeria in 2007 following the application written by the BUK Management and subsequent approval of Sassakawa Africa Association (SAA) to establish another SAFE Program in Nigeria to complement the existing one in Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) Zaria.
- In May 2007, a stakeholder workshop was held in BUK where major stakeholders were invited to review and fine-tune the draft curriculum of B.Sc. Agricultural Extension Degree Program.
- The first batch of 41 candidates (37 male and 4 female) were admitted during the 2007/2008 academic session.

Student enrolment in the SAFE Program during the 2007/2008 academic session

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registered candidate</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>91.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8.57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Staff Strength

There are 48 teaching staff in the Faculty of Agriculture, BUK Nigeria, (44 male and 4 female) with the following breakdown:

1. Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension:
   - Agricultural Economics: 12 (25.00%)
   - Agricultural Extension: 7 (14.58%)
2. Department of Animal Science: 11 (22.92%)
3. Department of Agronomy: 18 (37.50%)
4. In addition, there are 7 technical (supporting) staff
Support and Involvement of Stakeholders

- University pays all emoluments of academic and other supporting staff who are in SAFE activities.
- The University provides separate accommodation to SAFE students.
- Major stakeholders in the 19 Northern States of Nigeria and Abuja (specifically, ADPs and Ministries of Agriculture and NGOs) had been visited for sensitization and to seek for their full participation in the Program.
- All the stakeholders visited welcome the Program and pledged to support it.
- The major stakeholders (ADPs, Ministries of Agric, Ministries of Local Governments, etc) have given full support to their staff who are currently students, by paying in full registration fees and other expenses, including payment of their full salaries.

Challenges of the Program

- Entry requirement of 5 credits and above (including Mathematics and English) as required by the National University Commission (NUC), Abuja.
- Battling with NUC who wants the program to be jacked up to 3 years (6 semesters) instead of 2½ years (5 semesters) already proposed.
- Low number of women applicants.
- Non of the 41 candidates admitted is from the private sector or NGO
- Inadequate staffing especially trained Agricultural Extension Lecturers.
- No written commitment received yet from any of the stakeholders especially on how to sustain the Program after the NIPPON Foundation withdraw their support.

Opportunities of the Program

- There will be more well trained and qualified graduates in the field of Agriculture in the few years to come which will certainly move Nigerian Agriculture forward.
- The Program gives opportunities for more collaboration and networking with sister Universities, Governmental and Non Governmental bodies, e.g. ABU-Zaria, SG 2000 Nigeria Project, Bill and Melinda Gate Foundation, Winrock Foundation, etc.
- Provides an opportunity for staff exchange (sabbatical, visiting, part-time, etc.).
- Provides opportunity for mutual interaction between the staff and the students (staff impart theoretical/practical knowledge and in turn learn from the field experiences of the students).
• There is opportunity for staff development academically through publications in peer reviewed journal during SEPs.

Existing (or Planned) Network with other SAFE Universities and Agencies

• Joint ABU/BUK SAFE Management Committee already established.
• The Program collaborate and work hand in hand with SG 2000, Nigeria Project, Winrock Foundation and Bill/Melinda Gate Foundation.
• The University signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with University of CAPE Coast (UCC) in Ghana.
• Formation of Stakeholder Forum is in the pipeline.

Funding Mechanism of the Program

Domestic Sources:
• BUK provides lecturers, some of the teaching facilities (lecture venues, laboratories, studio) and also made purchases and renovations to meet the requirements for NUC verification exercise which was conducted in December, 2007.

External Sources:
• SAFE provided fund for sponsoring stakeholders workshop in May, 2007.
• SAFE provided teaching materials and equipment in the last quarter of 2007.
• SAFE provided fund as running cost for the Program in the first quarter of 2008.
• Sensitization visits to stakeholders across the 19 States of the Northern part of Nigeria were funded by SAFE in 2007.
• Workshop on adult teaching was also funded by SAFE in 2007.

Conclusion

• SAFE as innovative capacity building Program provides an opportunity for gingering agricultural growth and development in Nigeria in particular and other SAFE hosting countries in Africa.
• SAFE also provides an excellent opportunity for the establishment of collaborations and networking between and amongst Universities/Colleges in African Sub-region to share ideas with a view to making Africa’s Agriculture forward.
Workshop Theme: “Beyond The Nippon Foundation Funds: Strategies for Long Term Sustainability of the SAFE Programs in Africa”

General Objective
- To discuss and examine, within the context of the SAFE initiative, ways and means of improving and sustaining the formal training of mid-career agricultural extension workers in SAFE program countries in West Africa.

Specific Objectives:
- To share ideas and experiences regarding the opportunities and challenges of implementing SAFE-type training programs in each training institution,
- To provide better understanding of the off-campus practical experiential component which is a fundamental element of the SAFE initiative,
- To propose mechanisms and strategies for planning, and implementing the extended off-campus practical experiential component based on local resources,
- To propose practical ways of establishing and strengthening networks between and amongst institutions involved in the SAFE initiative, and
- To share ideas on means of sustaining the SAFE programs beyond The Nippon Foundation Funds.

Expected Outcomes:
- The challenges and opportunities in the implementation of the SAFE programs would be identified.
- Mechanisms for long-term sustainability of the SAFE programs beyond The Nippon Foundation Funds would be identified.
- Mechanisms for forging networks between and amongst the SAFE institutions would be outlined.

GENERAL COMMENTS FROM WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS
The general comments and observations made by participants and responses to some of the issues raised during the presentation of country reports are summarized as follows:
A. GENERAL COMMENTS

- Treating SAFE as special among the programs in institutions has implication/problems such as gaining the commitment of staff from other departments in the institutions to SAFE Activities, resources for SAFE activities, remuneration for staff who are engaged for SAFE activities, etc. I am happy Benin is making effort to integrate SAFE with other programs.

- Just curious about a problem you envisaged with the possibility of creation of Agricultural Universities in your country. Are the Faculties of Agriculture in the existing universities going to be transferred? Agricultural Universities have also been created in Nigeria but the Faculties of Agriculture in the universities that existed before the Agricultural universities were created remained. So if you’ll adopt this I don’t see any problem with the creation of the Agricultural Universities.

- The suggestion of using satisfactory performance of a SAFE program rather than number of years of existence to stop funding support is really paramount and should be well examined by the Workshop.

B. PARTICIPATION OF STAKEHOLDERS IN SAFE PROGRAMS

For full participation of stakeholders there is the need to convince the stakeholders as to the relevance of SEPs to the community. SEPs provide a conduit for the transfer of innovations/technologies from the universities and research institution to the communities. The question is "Was there any attempt to monitor the adoption rate of these technologies or innovation tested and found acceptable by the communities. This is because you need to convince the stakeholder with facts if we are to carry them along.

C. FUNDING OF SEPs BY STUDENTS AND FARMERS

- Need to give due recognition to the various ways farmers contribute towards the implementation of the SEP activities. For example, farmers contribute by way of their time, land, equipment and at times refreshment to supervising teams that visit students at their project site. What rather needs to be done is to identify real 'needs' and encourage farmers to provide more support and avoid any notion of formalization of the contributions of farmers to support the SEP activities.

- There is the need to exercise a lot of caution in allowing students to sponsor SEPs supervision.

- This is necessary as there may be spillover effect on the credibility of the program

- The suggestion that farmers should help in funding SEPs is not feasible looking at the financial background of most of our farmers.
• If the students are to pay for SEP supervision, how much fees are you going to charge students that will not discourage potential students especially if regular students are going to pay less.
• Asking students to contribute separate money for SEPs’ supervision may cause some problems. Rather, the amount should be paid as part of the students’ fee.
• Integrating the SAFE programs, especially the SEPs activities into main University program to receive funding from the University’s budget stressed.

D. SUSTAINABILITY OF SAFE PROGRAMS
• Participants comments summarized suggest that SAFE programs should be mainstreamed into the overall university program, and the comments below suggested some steps to accomplish this.
• Sustained advocacy activities among vice chancellors of hosting universities and institutions
• Use of the mass media to sensitize stakeholders and the general public on the activities of the SAFE program.
• Interact with politicians especially those in the national assembly with special responsibility for education to sensitize them on SAFE programs.
• Package and publicize the successful SEP projects in the mass/public media.
• Emphasize SAFE programs especially successful SEPs’ work during advocacy since all protocols for establishing the program appears to be silent on this.
• Initiate projects/investments to generate internal funds for SAFE programs.

E. STAFF DEVELOPMENT
Noting that in some institutions/universities lecturers in extension education were not adequate to meet the need of the SAFE program in extension related courses the general view of participants is summarized in the following comments as follows:
• Retain and train the best alumni of the SAFE program to become members of staff of the SAFE program.
• Exchange of academic staff among host universities and institutions to strengthen areas of weakness.
• Sponsorship through scholarship and fellowship to train academic staff in areas of specific needs.

F. NETWORKING AMONG HOST INSTITUTIONS AND THEIR STAFF
A summary of comments suggested the following steps to ensure sustainability and continuity.

- SAFE head office should provide a line budget for activities under the proposed network.
- Set up a coordination unit to manage from the SAFE head office in Ethiopia.
- Contributions to the newsletter should focus on from whom, on what subject and what length of time. It should also include write-up on specific topic of relevance to Agriculture, the SAFE program and other rural development issues.
- The newsletter should be widely distributed to reach all members of the network even in the remotest part of the country in which members would find themselves.
- Provide opportunities for joint proposals from colleagues from other universities.

G. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S COMMENTS

The executive Director’s comment on the proposed networking and newsletter were as follows:

- Suggested the network and its funding should be institutionalized.
- A coordination unit be set up to plan the activities of the network to enable SAFE incorporate these in its annual budget.
- The idea of newsletter is welcome and could contribute in consolidating the proposed network.
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

BENIN (University of Abomey-Calavi)
- Prof. Jean Claude Codjia, Dean of Faculty of Agronomic Sciences
- Dr. Davo Simplice Vodouhe, SAFE Coordinator

BURKINA FASO (Institute of Rural Development, University of Bobo-Dioulasso)
- Prof. Antoine Some, Director, Institute of Rural Development
- Dr. Valérie Bougouma, Head, Dept. of Agricultural Extension

GHANA
- Dr. Festus Annor-Frempong, SAFE/SEPs Coordinator, University of Cape Coast
- Mr. Kwadwo F. Kontor, Principal, Kwadaso Agricultural College

MALI
- Prof. Mamoutou Traore, Deputy Director & Director of Academic Affairs, IPR/IFRA
- Prof. Kardigué Coulibaly, Head, Dept. of Economics & Social Sciences, IPR/IFRA
- Mr. Oupré Robert Berthe, SAFE Coordinator, Samanko Agricultural Centre
- Mr. Amadou Cheick Traore, Program Coordinator, Agricultural Extension, National Directorate of Agriculture

NIGRIA
Ahmadu Bello University (ABU)
- Prof. J. D. Olarewaju, Dean of Faculty of Agriculture
- Prof. Ben Ahmed, Head, Dept. of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology
- Prof. O. Alabi, Head, Dept. of Crop Protection
- Dr. I. Y. Amapu, Head, Dept. of Soil Science
- Dr. M. F. Ishiyaku, Head, Dept. of Plant Science
- Dr. M. Mahmud, Head, Dept. of Agronomy
- Dr. G. E. Jokthan, Head, Dept. of Animal Science
- Prof. I. Ramalan, Head, Dept. of Agricultural Engineering
- Dr. Joseph Gambo Akpoko, SAFE Coordinator
- Dr. T. M. Kudi, SEPs’ Coordinator

Bayero University-Kano (BUK)
- Dr. Sani Miko, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture
- Dr. S. A. Musa, Head of Dept. of Agricultural Economics and Extension
- Dr. M.I. Daneji, SAFE Coordinator
- Dr. A. Sulaiman, SEPs’ Coordinator
SAFE MANAGEMENT

• Dr. Deola Naibakelao, SAFE Executive Director
• Dr. Moses Zinnah, SAFE Program Coordinator for West Africa
• Dr. Mercy Akeredolu, SAFE Coordinator for Burkina Faso and Mali
• Mr. Tesfaye Waku, SAFE Program Officer

RAPPORTEUR

• Mr. William Ghartey, ABU/UCC SAFE Ph.D. Fellow, Ahmadu Bello University

SPECIAL PARTICIPANTS

• Prof. Shehu U. Abdullahi, OFR, Vice-Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University
• Prof. A. M. Jega, OFR, Vice-Chancellor, Bayero University-Kano
• Dr. A. M. Falaki, Country Coordinator, SG2000/Nigeria Project
Sunday, April 20, 2008:
Arrival of participants in Zaria, check in at Zaria Hotel

Monday, April 21, 2008
0800 – 0900  Registration of workshop participants
0900 - 1000  Official opening program
  Chairman: Dr. A.M. Falaki, Project Coordinator, SG2000/Nigeria
  MC: Dr. S. Miko, Dean, Faculty of Agric., Bayero University-Kano
  Chair’s opening remarks
  Welcome Address: Prof. A. Olarewaju, Dean, Faculty of Agric., ABU
  Opening Address: Prof. Shehu U. Abdullahi, Vice-Chancellor, ABU
  Remarks: Dr. Deola Naibakelao, SAFE Executive Director
  Remarks: Prof. A. M. Jega, Vice-Chancellor, Bayero University-Kano
  Chairman’s closing remarks
  Group photograph
1000 – 1030  Refreshments

SESSION I
Chair: Prof. Ben Ahmed, Head, Dept. of Agric. Economics & Extension, ABU

1030 – 1145  Introduction of workshop participants (self-introduction)
1100 – 1110  Clarification of the objectives and outcomes of the workshop
  Dr. Moses Zinnah, SAFE Program Coordinator for West Africa
1110 - 1140  General Update on the SAFE Program in Africa
  Dr. Deola Naibakelao, SAFE Executive Director
1140 – 1210  Update on the SAFE Program at University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin
  Dr. Simplice Vodouhe, SAFE Coordinator
1210 – 1240  Questions/comments on the presentation
1240 – 1400  Lunch break
1400 – 1430  Update on of the SAFE program at Polytechnic University of
Bobo-Dioulasso in Burkina Faso

Dr. Valérie Bougouma, Head, Dept. of Agricultural Extension

1430 – 1500 Questions/comments on the presentation

1500 – 1530 Coffee/tea break

SESSION II

Chair: Prof. Mamoutou Traore, Deputy Director & Director of Academic Affairs, Polytechnic Institute for Training and Applied Research, Mali

1530 – 1615 Update on the SAFE programs in Ghana

Joint presentation by Dr. Festus Annor-Frempong, SAFE Coordinator, University of Cape Coast & Mr. Kwadwo Kontor, Principal, Kwadaso Agricultural College

1615 – 1645 Questions/comments for clarification of issues raised in the presentation

1645 – 1700 Wrap-up & announcements

1700 – 1830 Free time for inter-institutional meetings/discussions

1900 – 2000 Dinner

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

SESSION III

Chair: Prof. Jean Claude Codjia, Dean, Faculty of Agronomic Sciences, University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin

0900 – 0930 Update on the SAFE programs in Mali

Joint presentation by Prof. Kardigué Coulibaly, Head, Dept. of Economics and Social Science, Polytechnic Institute for Training and Applied Research & National SAFE Coordinator, & Mr. Oupré Robert Berthe, SAFE Coordinator, Samanko Agricultural Centre

0930 - 1000 Questions/comments for clarification of the presentation

1000 – 1045 Updates on the SAFE programs in Nigeria:

Dr. Joseph Gambo Akpoko, SAFE Coordinator, Ahmadu Bello University

Dr. M.I. Daneji, SAFE Coordinator, Bayero University-Kano

1045 – 1100 Questions/comments for clarification of the presentation

1100 – 1130 Coffee/tea break
SESSION IV
Chair: Dr. Moses Zinnah, SAFE Program Coordinator for West Africa

1130 – 1230  Formation of small working groups; clarification of the terms of reference of the working groups based on the objectives and outcomes of the workshop; groups to meet briefly to select chairs & secretaries.

1230 – 1400  Lunch break
1400 – 1500  Work in small groups
1500 – 1530  Coffee/tea break (small groups to continue work)
1530 – 1600  Work in small groups
1730 – 1830  Free time for inter-institutional meetings/discussions
1900 – 2000  Dinner

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

SESSION V
Chair: Dr. Mercy Akeredolu, SAFE Coordinator for Mali & Burkina Faso

0900 – 1000  Plenary session - Presentation of small group reports
1000 – 1100  Plenary session – Discussion of small group reports
1100 – 1130  Coffee/tea break
1130 – 1200  Summary of the workshop and adoption of workshop communiqué
1200 – 1215  Workshop evaluation
1215 – 1245  Official closing ceremony for the workshop

 Remarks by senior representatives of participating SAFE institutions
1300 – 1400  Lunch
1400 – 1800  Tour of ABU Campus and other tourist sites in Zaria
1900 – 2100  Dinner

Thursday, April 24, 2008: Trip to Bayero University-Kano

0700 – 0900  Travel to Bayero University-Kano
0930 – 1300  Meetings with BUK administration & staff
1300 – 1400  Lunch
1430 – 1630  Travel back to Zaria
1900 – 2000  Dinner

**Friday, April 25, 2008**
- Early Departures for participants from Benin: Abuja-Lagos-Cotonou.
- Free time for those not traveling - program to be planned later.

**Saturday, April 26, 2008:**
- Attend ABU graduation ceremonies.

Final departures for participants from Ghana, Burkina & Mali: Abuja-Lagos-Accra