

Technical Advice in Sustainable Agriculture

Focus on small holder farmers In most developing countries, food and commodity production depends on small holder farmers. They often lack funds to buy inputs like fertilizers and pesticides. Sustainable agriculture is a viable way for them to improve their livelihood without exhausting natural resources. However, these farmers are not familiar with sustainable agricultural practices. That is why technical advice, training and capacity building are crucial elements in developing sustainable agriculture.

Technical knowledge through local professionals Technical advice increases the knowledge of farmers about sustainable agricultural practices. Moreover, the participatory approach of technical trainings allows farmers to learn from each other and to include their own experiences into the course. The field officers who give advice and training are not just extension agents; they provide information, they empower farmers to obtain inputs, they experiment with the farmers, stimulate them to define best practices, they work on quality management. They are used to work with male farmers, just as much as with female farmers.



Focus on results Translating principles of organic agriculture into practical courses and manuals, stimulating farmers to improve their organic products and entrepreneurial skills: we focus on obtaining results, such as better farming methods and higher incomes for farmers in tropical Africa. We are used to taking into account the complex local conditions. Due to our systems approach we are able to provide solutions that work.

Conservation agriculture in Sierra Leone and Liberia An illustrative example of our technical service is our project with Care Sierra Leone and Care Liberia. In this project we provide training courses on conservation agriculture, beekeeping, fruit drying, fish farming and animal husbandry. We also offer courses on participatory technology development and assist in the design, monitoring and evaluation of demonstration plots. Our work leads to new concepts of conservation agriculture that work within the local contexts of Sierra Leone and Liberia.



System approach In farming systems, all factors are related to each other : soil fertility to yields, the organic matter content to the capacity of the soil to retain water, the pollination by honey bees to the yields of food crops. We take this complex and interconnected system into account and that is our starting point for our methodology regarding technical advice, capacity building and trainings. Thanks to this broad approach, we increase competences of farmers that pays off in practice.

Do you want to know more about our services? Please contact

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