

# Taking agricultural technologies to scale: Experience of the Africa RISING-NAFAKA partnership in Tanzania



RESEARCH PROGRAM ON Integrated Systems for the Humid Tropics

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## Introducing the legacy product

- The Africa RISING program has developed, validated and refined agricultural innovations that can enhance productivity for specific agro-ecologies in Eastern, Southern and Western Africa
- The best performing innovations are combined into information and technology packages and delivered (scaled up) through a network of public and private development programs and institutions
- The scaling model used, which is the legacy product, involves using a series of demonstration and learning sites (mother-baby-grandbaby) to promote the technologies and build capacity of the development partners. The model has been validated through the partnership of Africa RISING and NAFKA.

## Utility of the legacy product

- Working with development partners enables reaching more smallholder farmers than if research operated on its own (Figure 1)
- It creates an opportunity for mainstreaming into wider rural development programs, beyond operational research areas

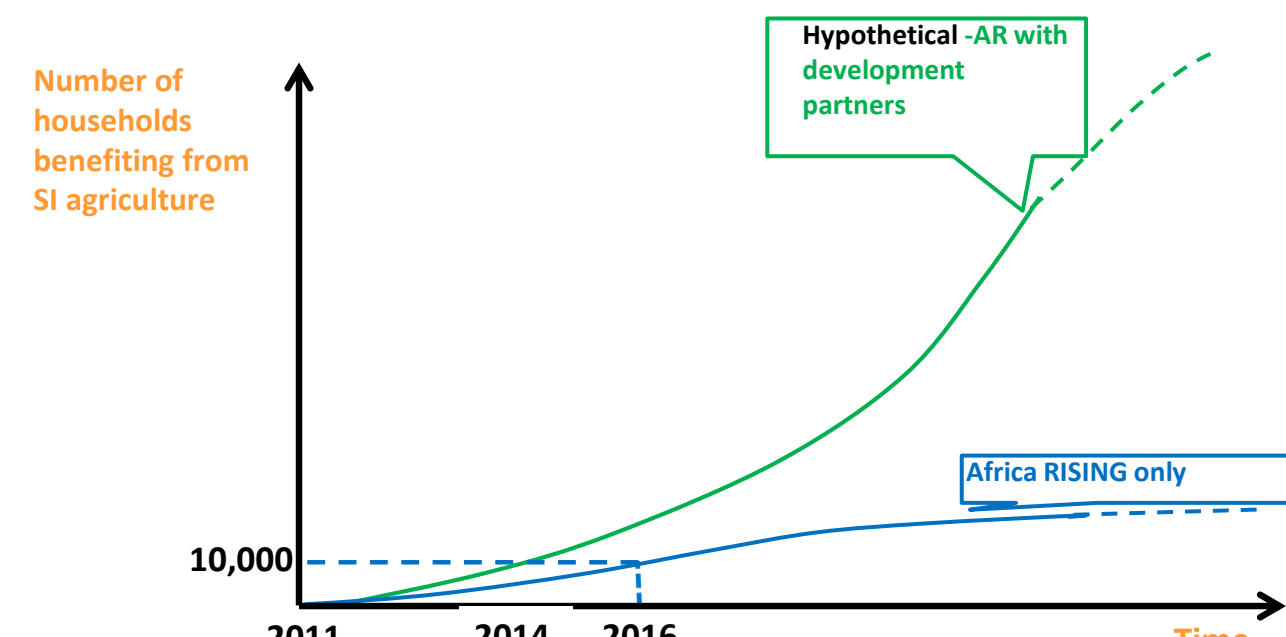
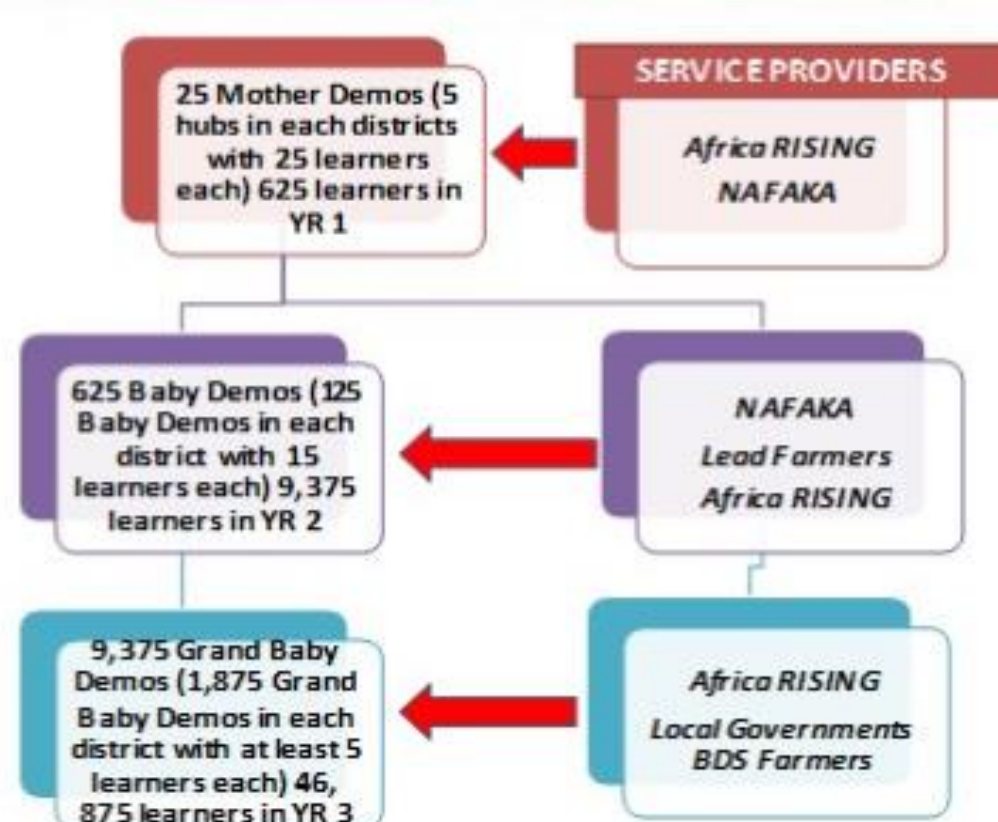


Figure 1. Projections of households that would benefit from research innovations through Africa RISING alone (blue) and in partnership with development partners (green) in East and Southern Africa.

## How

- Introduction of the innovations uses the mother-baby-grandbaby demonstration model whereby learners (farmers and development personnel) at each level train their peers in a cascading mode, backstopped by staff from participating research and development institutions (Figure 2)

Figure 2. The Research and development model for innovation delivery and scaling as applied between Africa RISING and NAFKA



- Working in partnership is necessary for further scaling, and is guided by the following principles:
  - joint planning and continually identifying and engaging with new partners;
  - capacity building for, and deepening collaboration with, local institutions (including national agricultural research institutions);
  - using GIS for technology targeting; and
  - having a functional communication and coordination mechanism

## Results of the model when applied to the partnership between Africa RISING and NAFKA

- Application of the model started in 2014. By the second year of implementation, about 13,000 hectares of land were under improved technologies and 10,400 farmers had adopted the technologies. This was well beyond the projection in Figure 1.
- Our target is to have about 50,000 farmers adopting the technologies and 80,000 hectares of land under improved technologies by end of 2017
- Key to success are excellent coordination between the partners, commitment of team members and unwavering support of local institutions.

## Who is the legacy product useful for?

- CRP partners keen on having their technologies go to scale should adopt/adapt this product
- Development partners should use the product to enable integration of research outputs in development initiatives
- Donor institutions maximizing impact through synergies generated from investments in different supported institutions.

## Key Africa RISING – NAFKA partners

IITA, CIAT, CIMMYT, ICRAF, WorldVeg and ILRI – Development and validation of the technologies and innovations; testing the legacy product.

Agricultural Research Institutes in Tanzania – ARI Hombolo, ARI Dakawa and ARI Selian – Development and validation of the technologies and innovations; testing the legacy product.

ACDI/VOCA, FIPS Africa, MVIWATA, IFDC, CRS – implementers of NAFKA project in Tanzania; providers of the platform for applying the scaling model.

**Africa RISING:** Africa Research In Sustainable Intensification for the Next Generation.  
**NAFAKA:** Tanzania Staple Value Chains Project

## Key contacts

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