

**BUSINESS, SCIENCE, SUPPORT AND EXTENSION FOR SMALL,
MEDIUM AND LARGE, SCALE AGRICULTURE-TOWARDS
ACCELERATED WEALTH CREATION IN MALLAWI**

BY

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Preamble

- Agric matters are matters of life
- Until agriculture is fixed in any nation, whatever is fixed remains unfixed
- A nation is what her citizens eat for nourishment
- Subsistence farming is not capable of feeding citizens on sustainable basis
- Therefore, to transit from crude farming to scientific/commercial agriculture, extension is the critical game “changer.”

KEY WORDS

- Business- Enterprising mind-set for profit
- Science-Factual knowledge deployment to produce agric solutions
- Support-To give assistance field actors
- Extension-Dissemination of proven , relevant and useful information
- Wealth creation- To treasure up, by creating values that meet needs

The importance of extension in modern farming

- Attitudinal change for sustainable positive transformation
- Critical linkage between research (technology generation) and farmers (technology end-users)
- Technology/innovation profiling ,adaptation and dissemination(deployment) for adoption
- Feedback on technology usage
- Facilitation, promotions and advocacy
- Eye on the ball, for what's trending

Transition in extension services tools

- Traditional extension
- Electrical tools
- Mass media
- Electronics
- ICT
- Web /social media
- Mobile APPs
- A I
- ETC

The challenges of crude farming

- Ignorance about the science of agriculture
- Low productivity and production
- Use of crude farming tools
- Drudgery
- Stigma
- Not profit oriented
- Un attractive to youths/women
- Food insecurity

Opportunities in scientific, business/commercial farming

- Driven by enterprising spirit
- Thinking on purpose/demand driven
- Meeting needs
- Value creation
- Scaling
- Low cost of production
- High output/profit
- Enhanced livelihood

Agripreneurship ideals

- Enterprising spirit
- Creativity
- Innovation
- Opportunity
- Foresight
- Insight
- Focus
- Purposeful

Areas of supports to farmers

- Conducive production environment
- Capacity building
- Knowledge management
- Access to friendly /low interest rate agric credits
- Infrastructures e.g feeder roads, logistics, power, markets
- Formation of viable commodity/farmer associations
- Policy formulation and legislation

Wealth creation path way

- Navigate need-idea-plan-organize-manage-product
- Have the ability to formulate an effective venture team
- Think out side the box and get out of the box
- Willingness to take calculated risks-in terms of time , equity or career
- The vision to recognize opportunity where others see chaos, contradiction and confusion
- Develop the “I can do” spirit
- Put decision to action

Youths engagement

- Has to be intentional
- Engagement by empowerment , not peanuts
- Leverage on ICT
- Harvest graduates of Agric institutions
- Mechanize agric
- Take value chain approach in the sector
- Remove drudgery by deploying simple labor saving devices
- Reward excellence and champions

Lessons from African countries

- EGGYPTY- Scientific agriculture
- KENYA- Farmer association
- NIGERIA- Strong extension structure/NFHL

Opportunities in Malawi in modern farming

- Good climate
- Good and healthy soils
- Good level of literacy
- Peaceful country
- Vibrant young population
- Good markets
- Other natural resources

Conclusion

- Fixing agriculture must intentional
- Scientific/commercial farming is the way to go
- Climate smart agriculture, leveraging on digital tools
- Decision does not change anything but action on decision leaves nothing unchanged
- So let's take deliberate actions

APPRECIATION

THANKS SO MUCH FOR YOUR
ATTENTION