

Bioversity achievements in Period 1

Activities Conducted, & Perspectives

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Collaborator(s):

PARTNER Summary

(10 to 15 lines of Partner achievement for Period 1)

Bioversity International is involved in work packages (WP) 1, 2 and 5 in Uganda. During period 1, activities related to WPs 1 and 2 were conducted. This section highlights the activities and achievements of Bioversity and partners in these work packages which were jointly coordinated with the National Agricultural Research Laboratories (NARL). Bioversity participated in the project inception meeting held in Cameroon in January 2018; WP1 pretesting of tools workshop in September in Uganda and WP2 Sensory panel training workshop also in Uganda in September. As part of WP1, Bioversity and NARL: completed a state of the knowledge (Sok) review focusing on desired product characteristics, demand segments, trends, and socio-cultural context for cooking banana; participated in piloting of tools and conducted farm level individual surveys and focus group discussions to characterize food consumption habits and preferences for men and women in Central and Western regions. In WP2, Bioversity contributed to the Sok. Two Masters students- Moureen Asasira (Makerere University) and Nelson Willy Kisenyi (Kyambogo university), were recruited and research costs will be shared with NARL. Moureen's thesis will focus on the trait preferences of urban banana value chain actors – she is finalizing her proposal and working on the data collection tools under WP1. Nelson will work on laboratory characterization and consumer preferences of local east African highland cooking bananas and hybrid varieties under WPs 1 and 2. He is currently working on his thesis proposal. Bioversity is complementing RTBfoods activities with the Breeding Better Bananas (BBB) project.

PARTNER activities

(Describe activities, collaborations between teams within the institution, project implementation)

In which WPs is the PARTNER team involved? For which activities conducted in Period 1? How is internally organized communication/coordination between WPs?

PARTNER participation in the different WPs & cross-WP interactions

Bioversity contributes to activities in WPs 1, 2 and 5. In Period 1, activities under WP1 and WP2 were conducted. In all project activities, Bioversity is working closely with NARL and has regular face to face meetings with NARL colleagues. In Uganda; CIP, NARL and Bioversity teams operate jointly as one project implementation team particularly supporting each other with general technical expertise especially during (a) customization of the project tools and methods to suit our specific commodities. NARL and Bioversity conducted the SoKs for WP1 and WP2 and jointly recruited two master's students where research costs will be shared. WP5 activities will begin in period 2.

WP1 activities in detail: Bioversity and NARL conducted a SoK on the desired product characteristics, demand segments, trends, and socio-cultural context for cooking banana which was submitted to the WP leader. Bioversity participated in the WP1 workshop on pretesting tools for activity 2 (gendered food mapping) and together with NARL conducted individual surveys, key informant interviews and focus group discussions with male and female farmers in Mbarara (Western region) and Luwero (Central region). We are in the process of coding and data entry. Scanning and upload of filled questionnaires will take place early next year.

WP2 activities in detail: Bioversity contributed to the SoK for WP2. An MS student was recruited who will contribute to activities in WP1 and 2.

PARTNER geographic implementation / strategy

In which countries (and sub-regions) is the PARTNER team conducting activities?

- Activities are being conducted in Uganda - Central region (Luwero) and Western region (Mbarara). These regions were selected because they are high producing and consuming cooking banana areas and link with the ongoing BBB project.

PARTNER Product Profile participation

In which product profiles the PARTNER team has been involved in Period 1? How & Where?

- Bioversity is working on the steamed matooke product profile and was involved in WP1 and WP2 activities. The team members have been mostly being involved in activities with gender, socioeconomic and food nutrition/science elements.

PARTNER Personnel involved & Students activities

*List of Personnel involved in RTBfoods project in Period 1 (WPs + Country + Product Profiles implication):
(For more accuracy you can refer to: Tab “3a) PERSONNEL COSTS” of Partner Financial Report)*

List of personnel involved

Pricilla MARIMO (WP1 and WP2, Uganda; Bioversity WP1 coordinator and overall RTBfoods focal point. Involved in tools development for WP1)

Beatrice Ekesa (WP1 and WP2, Uganda; involved in WP2 activities particularly recruitment of Nelson Kisenyi and technical backstopping for WP2 activities that the student will be undertaking)

List of Students involved in RTBfoods activities in Period 1:

NAME Surname	Master Student or PhD or Post-Doc	Subject Title	University of affiliation	Fellowship Starting Date	Fellowship Ending date	Tutor(s) in RTBfoods project
NELSON WILLY Kisenyi	Master student	Biophysical and Physicochemical characterization of cooking bananas and consumer preferences	Kyambogo University	Sept 2018	Sept 2019	Pricilla Marimo (Bioversity), Moses Matovu (NARL) Kephass Nowakunda (NARL) Beatrice Ekesa (Bioversity)
MOREEN Asasira	Master student	Urban consumer's preferences for cooking banana	Makerere University	Sept 2018	Sept 2019	Kenneth Akankwasa (NARL); Pricilla Marimo (Bioversity) Kephass Nowakunda(NARL)

PARTNER Travels: Participation to RTBfoods meetings & International Events on RTBfoods budget

(For more accuracy you can refer to: Tab “3b) TRAVEL COSTS” of Partner Financial Report)

Number of People or List of NAMES	RTBfoods meetings	International / Regional Conferences	Dates
1 person	RTBfoods inception meeting		21-29 January 2018
3 people	WP1 Pretesting of tools workshop and piloting of tools in the field		10-14 September 2018
2 people	WP2 Sensory panel training workshop in Uganda		16-22 September 2018

PARTNER Capital Equipment or investment (co-investments)

List of equipment acquired on RTBfoods budget (e.g. texturometer, RVA, pHmeter, etc.)
(For more accuracy you can refer to: Tab “3d) EQUIPMENT COSTS” of Partner Financial Report)

- NA

PARTNER Training participations (within RTBfoods framework and other trainings)

Training Title / Topic	WP concerned (if training within RTBfoods framework)	Country	Dates	List of Participants NAMES
WP1 Pretesting of tools workshop and piloting of tools in the field	WP1	Uganda	10-14 September 2018	Daudi Mubiru Nelson Willy Kisenyi Moureen Asasira
WP2 Sensory panel training workshop in Uganda	WP2	Uganda	16-22 September	Beatrice Ekesa Nelson Willy Kisenyi Moureen Asasira

PARTNER Sub-awards & Consultants

List of Sub-awards + WP concerned + Purpose. (For more accuracy you can refer to: Tab 3c) **CONSULTANT COSTS** and “3f) SUB AWARDS COSTS” of Partner Financial Report)

- Costs for the MS student (N. Kisenyi) were covered as consultant costs

PARTNER Other Sources of Support for RTBfoods activities

Which complementary / partner projects (other sources of fundings) contributed to RTBfoods activities in Period 1?

- Bioversity own contribution for Period 1 was USD427. These funds were used to cover a 2% CSP cost sharing percentage. Bioversity is obliged to pay this to the CGAIR System Management Office on all research grants.

PARTNER List of Publications, Conference communications, Manuals, Leaflets, Posters, etc.

- NA

PARTNER Gaps & Constraints faced

Which challenges faced in implementation of RTBfoods project within the PARTNER institution?

Risks identified & Risk mitigation proposed?

- Communication was at some point overwhelming. Suggest streamlining communication process/protocol- it would be more manageable if communication is through WP leaders and product champions.

- Due to the limited budgets, Bioversity is collaborating with other research partners in particular NARL to cover research costs and also linking activities with the BBB project.

PARTNER Perspective & Internal organization for Period 2

Which planification for the PARTNER team in Period 2 across WPs, Product profiles (& countries)?

- In period 2, Bioversity will continue to collaborate and share the product (steamed matooke), research costs and expertise with CIP and NaCRRI but particularly with NARL where we share research activities and students.