



Farmer Market School

DFM seminar April 21, 2023

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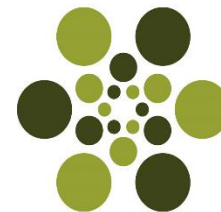
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**Millions of smallholder farmers feed huge urban populations
– but can sometimes hardly feed themselves**



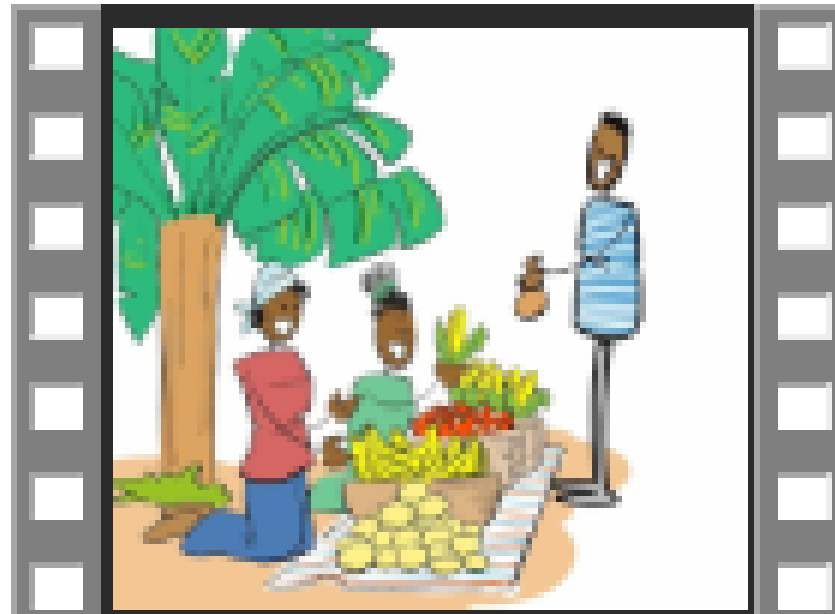
Improving the productivity, profitability, and sustainability of smallholder farming is one of the main pathways out of poverty (WB)



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Farmer Market School – the movie



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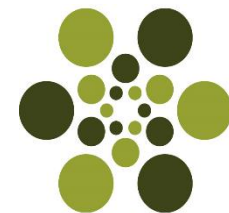
Key characteristics of the FMS approach

- FMS uses participatory training methods (good facilitation is **very** important)
- Farmers analyse and select existing crops with market potentials
- They develop value chain maps for these crops through own research (= discovery learning)
- They establish contact with value chain actors through visits and dialog and start to establish business relationships
- Farmers will **pay** for the costs related to their participation in the FMS training
- **Farmers should start with the market – not production!**



Impact – general livelihood

- Improved general happiness with life
- Improved self-confidence
- Improved household situation
- Improved health of the family



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Impact - gender

- Improved knowledge of the market
- Increase in value-addition
- Increase in collective marketing
- Increase in income and savings

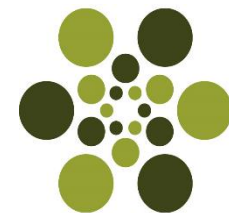


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Impact – household

- Improved sharing of management of HH economy
- Improved sharing of decisions on what to grow
- Improved savings (through VSLA)



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FMS in various contexts

- Agriculturist, agri-pastoralist and pastoralist
- FMS implemented with and without production approaches
- Refugee settlements in Uganda
- Fragile environments – for instance Sudan and South Sudan
- Asia



Status and Future

- 1000 FMS groups established mainly in Africa
- Linkage of FMS and market system approaches
- FMS in nexus and other contexts
- Further development, dissemination and uptake by FAO, Danida extension services and CSOs



Many thanks!



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