The African Leafy Vegetables value chain: Organisational linkages

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HORTINLEA Framework

Importance of African Leafy Vegetables

African leafy vegetables Production in 2012 – 2014

What is the Problem?

- Low Productivity;
- Uncoordinated research efforts;
- Disconnect in the innovation dissemination pathways;
- Poor linkages among and between the actors along the value chain;
- No stand alone policy guidelines for African Leafy Vegetables (ALVs).

Material and Methods

Graph Theory (Pemmaraju and Skiena, 2003; Gross and Yellen, 2005; Biswal, 2008):
- The Linkage Matrix maps cross-component linkages relating to a specific goal;
- The goal of this system is to develop, diffuse, and apply new or improved technologies.

Linkage Matrix : 7 X 7 matrix

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(5) Policy guidelines will be useful in promoting the Marketing and Value addition organisations will influence the diffusion of innovations along the value chain.

Fuzzy set theory (Chen and Hwang, 1992): relative importance criteria: crisp scores

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\mu_{\text{max}}(x) = \begin{cases} 
1, & \text{Strong} \\
0.75, & \text{Above average} \\
0.5, & \text{Average} \\
0.25, & \text{Moderate} \\
0, & \text{Weak}
\end{cases}
\]

\[
\mu_{\text{min}}(x) = \begin{cases} 
0, & \text{Non-existent} \\
0.25, & \text{Weak} \\
0.5, & \text{Moderate} \\
0.75, & \text{Above average} \\
1, & \text{Strong}
\end{cases}
\]

Conclusion

- The ALVs value chain organisations require dissemination pathways that provides mechanisms for feedback.
- Strengthen/Empower the Marketing and Value addition organisations will influence the diffusion of innovations along the value chain.
- Policy is critical and its role needs to be emphasised.
- Policy guidelines will be useful in promoting production and utilization of these vegetables.

References


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