

The Principal CAVS 10th June, 2015

Report on Exhibition of Kenya Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services

The theme of the above forum was Harnessing and Enabling of Capacity in Agricultural Extension and advisory services Delivery for better impact.

During the launch it was made clear that the National Government has to work closely with the devolved governments at county level to ensure proper involvement of the existing extension staff at the counties.

The governor Nyeri County Nderitu Gachagua who chairs committee in Agriculture and lands at the governors council graced the occasion. The official launch was done by the Permanent Secretary state department of Fisheries prof. J. Ntiba. He stressed the need for taking agriculture as a business by transforming subsistence farmers commercial farmers and making a registration of all farmers by the ministry of agriculture for effective monitoring and advisory.

The Vice Chancellor Egerton University gave a presentation on agricultural advisory services his university offers via the nation news paper titled seeds of god. He stated that this was the contribution of extension services directly to the farmers across the country.

The University of Nairobi through College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences played its vital role of out- reach via the exhibition of its innovations. It was **the only University** which had an exhibition booth during the launch. CAVS here took the advantage of taking exhibition to the counties and exhibiting in Nyeri county at a time when many people had gathered in the county for the beatification ceremony of Sis Stefan. Indeed among the guests invited were farmers from different counties. CAVS took this opportunity to take groups of farmers on the role of SEMIs in food security by enhancing capacities of farmers and farmer groups who engage in certified seed production.

Dr. Kinama below takes questions from visiting farmers on seed production and processing by SEMIs at CAVS stand green Hill, Nyeri County



The demand for the displayed SEMIS seeds was very high and hope that they would reach Kabete to buy the seeds as we only had samples or exhibits. It was also made clear to farmers that SEMis trains small groups as shown in the SEMIs brochures which they took.



Groups of farmers flock University of Nairobi, CAVS stand to buy seeds during the launch of Agricultural advisory services at Green hills, Nyeri County



Agricultural extension staffs seek guidance on choosing Masters Degree programs at UON, CAVS stand at Green hills hotel, Nyeri County



Potential post graduate students visited CAVS stand and took time to know the role it plays in training manpower in all sectors in the agriculture value chain starting from Certificate to Phd levels. He farmer took time to understand to know the role played by SEMis in provision of seeds and capacity building in the seed sector. Prof Ntiba challenged CAVS to go full blown and commercialize seed production and processing taking advantage of the existing infrastructure and well trained manpower at CAVS

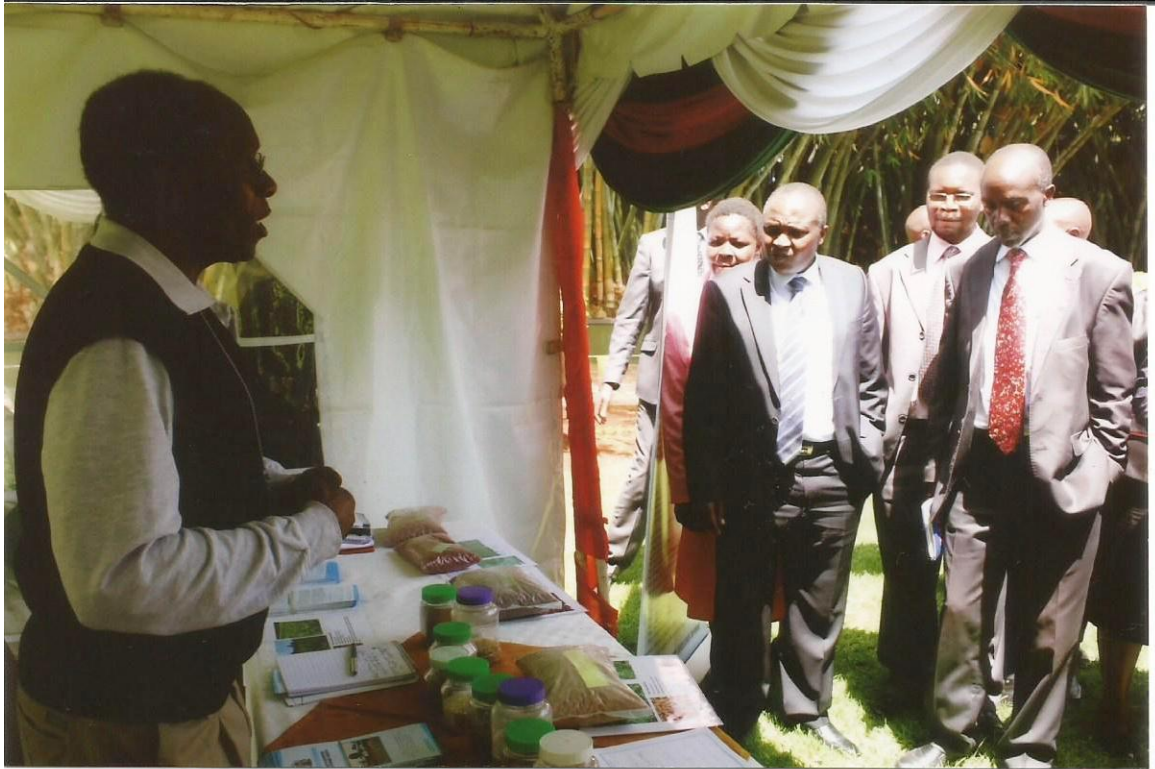


A prospective PhD candidate seeks guidance on doing it by research ad thesis which is in line with the requirements of her employer.

PROF Ntiba engage Dr Kinama on role of CAVS in agricultural advisory services and commercial seed production at Kabete Campus for food security and nutrition in Kenya and beyond at Green Hills Hotel, Nyeri county



On display were the many seed varieties developed by CAVS at the University of Nairobi



The Permanent Secretary state department of Fisheries Prof. J. Ntiba in company of Ministry of Agriculture officials visit University of Nairobi, CAVS stand at Green hills Hotel, Nyeri at launch of National Forum for Agricultural Advisory services. Dr Kinama engages the Principal Secretary on the role of CAVs in agricultural technology development and capacity building.

He noted that the University had a large pool of developed technologies on many patented seed varieties for use in making local farmers commercial

Among the stakeholders and potential post graduate students were ministry staff, KALRO research staff and NGO staff. This created interest on post graduate courses.

This exhibition is in line with the university exhibition objectives of taking it to counties

Dedan Kimathi University, Karatina University and a big niche of students targeting to study at the university of Nairobi. This was also an opportune moment to come to Nyeri county when big crowds had come for Sis Stefan beatification ceremony by the Catholic Church.



Prof Chemingw'a and Dr Kinama discuss the available seed technologies exhibited at Green hills hotel while a farmer below takes advice on SEMIs seed production and management.