

Experience with applying the Legume CHOICE tool

1. When did you most recently apply the tool? In which communities and with how many farmers?
 - The tool was most recently used on 26th May 2015
 - In smallholder farmers accompanied by legume CHOICE project in village of Mulengeza, Bushumba Centre, Madaka and Luduha
 - 18 farmers from each village, in total 72 farmers participated in this exercise
2. How did it go? Was the tool easy to apply and were the instructions clear? What difficulties were encountered?
 - The exercise went for 4 hours maximum ; 6 farmers were picked from each typologies
 - Instructions were clear but the technician person who is applying the tool should pay more attention to them and go deeper into questions
 - The first day the tool was not easy to apply farmers didn't have more knowledge about BFN, and there were some confusion when for farmers on pair wise ranking on **Function consider more important** and **Problems consider more important**
3. Did application of the Legume CHOICE tool help to inform the current set of legume interventions that are being applied in field sites? If not, give an indication of why this is.
 - For the side of DR Congo yes, the results from the tool were confronted into long discussion within the project and we had to take in account agroecological and social factors of these species Pigeon pea which always came out the first was dropped because it could not fit in the agroecological conditions but Field pea, Groundnut and soybean for grain legumes were maintained, leucaena in the call of forage tree legumes was also captured for the growing season.
4. What do you see as the next steps in refining the Legume CHOICE tool and making it more useful?
 - The list of all legumes in each county should be included and well defined, then experts should see how to link the agroecological and social requirements of each legume species into the tool especially (DRC, Ethiopia and Kenya).

5. Would there be merit at this stage in conducting trainings on the use of the tool with external stakeholders? If not, when should we conduct trainings and what needs to happen before we carry out trainings?
- Yes training is needed for the tool, two month before the beginning of the rain season, for DRC I will suggest December 2015 to prepare the next short rain season that will come in Early February 2015.
 - We have in place a new research technician who replaced Isaac in early August 2015; this might be also a good opportunity for him to learn more about application of the tool