

# FOOD & BUSINESS APPLIED RESEARCH FUND

## [IMPROVED RESILIENCE THROUGH SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION OF GRAFTED TOMATOES (IRESO) – UGANDA]

### Consortium Members

**Julius C. Ssemyalo**, Country Projects Manager Uganda, Solidaridad.

**Jan Panman**, Sales Director, Enza Zaden Export BV.

**Anja De Feijter**, Executive Director, House of Seeds Ltd.

**Prof. Moses M. Tenywa**, CAES, Makerere University Kampala.

**Assoc. Prof. Herbert Talwana**, CAES, Makerere University Kampala.

**Africano Kangire** (PhD), Horticulture Programme, National Crop Resources Research Institute (NaCRRI).

**Sylvia Natukunda**, Business & Partnership Manager, AgriProFocus

### Impact activities and preliminary results

- 4,000 tomato smallholder and 500 youth have been mobilised to participate on project and regular stakeholder meetings.  
- Rootstock performance trials on-going at NaCRRI.

-1 Policy brief on grafted tomato and food safety.

### Project description

- Bacterial wilt is one of the key biotic stressors limiting the potential of Tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*) as a source of livelihoods for smallholder farmers in rural and peri-urban areas of Uganda.

#### Aim

- Grafting of tomato plus good agricultural practices leads to sustainable production, creation of jobs, increasing income and improving living standards of participating farmers and youths.

#### Goal

-Improve wealth, nutrition, health and resilience through sustainable production of grafted tomato with 4,500 beneficiary partners in Uganda.

#### Specific objectives

- Assess prevalence and socio-economic impact of bacterial wilt disease in Wakiso, Luwero, Mpigi, Mukono and Kabale Districts

- Bacterial wilt (*Ralstonia solanacearum*) performance trials with the resistant rootstocks provided by Enza Zaden Export B.V and one from National Crop Resources Research Institute

- Commercialize grafted tomato through the young plant raiser businesses.

- Build the capacity of 4,000 tomato smallholders and 500 youths in selected peri-urban and rural areas of Uganda

- Create awareness on potential of grafted tomato and better livelihoods

### Opportunities and challenges

- This grafted tomato project will contribute to Uganda' policy and practice efforts towards the reduction of chemical usage in Agriculture and particularly the fruits and vegetables sub sector.
- Safe food is a serious concern at both local and global levels.
- Tomatoes are an essential component of human health through providing essential vitamins A, C and E which are important anti-oxidants for the body and sight.
- The young plant raiser businesses will lead to a scalable and replicable youth livelihood model for Uganda amenable to impact investment crowding-in.
- Improvement in productivity and quality of tomato leads to increased incomes.
- Isolation and typifying of wilting causing pathogens in tomato using polymerase chain reaction (pcr) techniques is a challenge to the Project.



Figure1) Rootstock performance Trials,NaCRRI Figure2) Tomato demonstration, HoS