

Building Capacity, Local Knowledge and Policy Support in Agriculture for Sustaining and Scaling up the Millennium Villages Project in Sauri, Kenya



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Objectives of the Project

Objective 1:

To conduct a brief review and analysis of the institutional and sustainability gaps in the MVP in the agriculture sector in Sauri

Objective 2:

To document and conceptualize an approach to filling some of the specific gaps identified in these analyses

Objective 3:

To develop and refine a new approach to addressing institutional and sustainability gaps, help adapt the resulting approach to the Sauri context

Objective 4:

To conduct a strategy workshop in Sauri with some MVP staff and local and district government officials facilitated by the Maseno University/SIPA team.

Background on Sauri, Kenya

- First Millennium Research Village
- Conglomerate of 11 villages, 5000 people, western Kenya - 99% Luo; Dholuo, Kiswahili, English.
- Governed by a chief, assistant chief, village elders, Councilor.
- Agriculture is primary livelihood; 60-70%(Siaya District) live on \$1 a day; 20% of children under five underweight; malaria prevalent
- Part access to electric grid, functioning rail line, no landline, limited water supply
- Since MVP - Community development, first bumper harvest, school feeding program
- On track to meet the MDGs



Methodology

- **Key Informant Interviews**
 - MVP, Sauri team
 - MDG Center, Nairobi
 - UNDP, Kenya
 - National and Local Government Officials
- **Focus Group Discussions**
 - Women's Group
 - Agriculture Committee
- **Household Visits (Interviews)**
 - MV1
 - MV2
- **Observations**
 - Kibuye Market
 - Project sites
 - Village



Key points from the field study – January

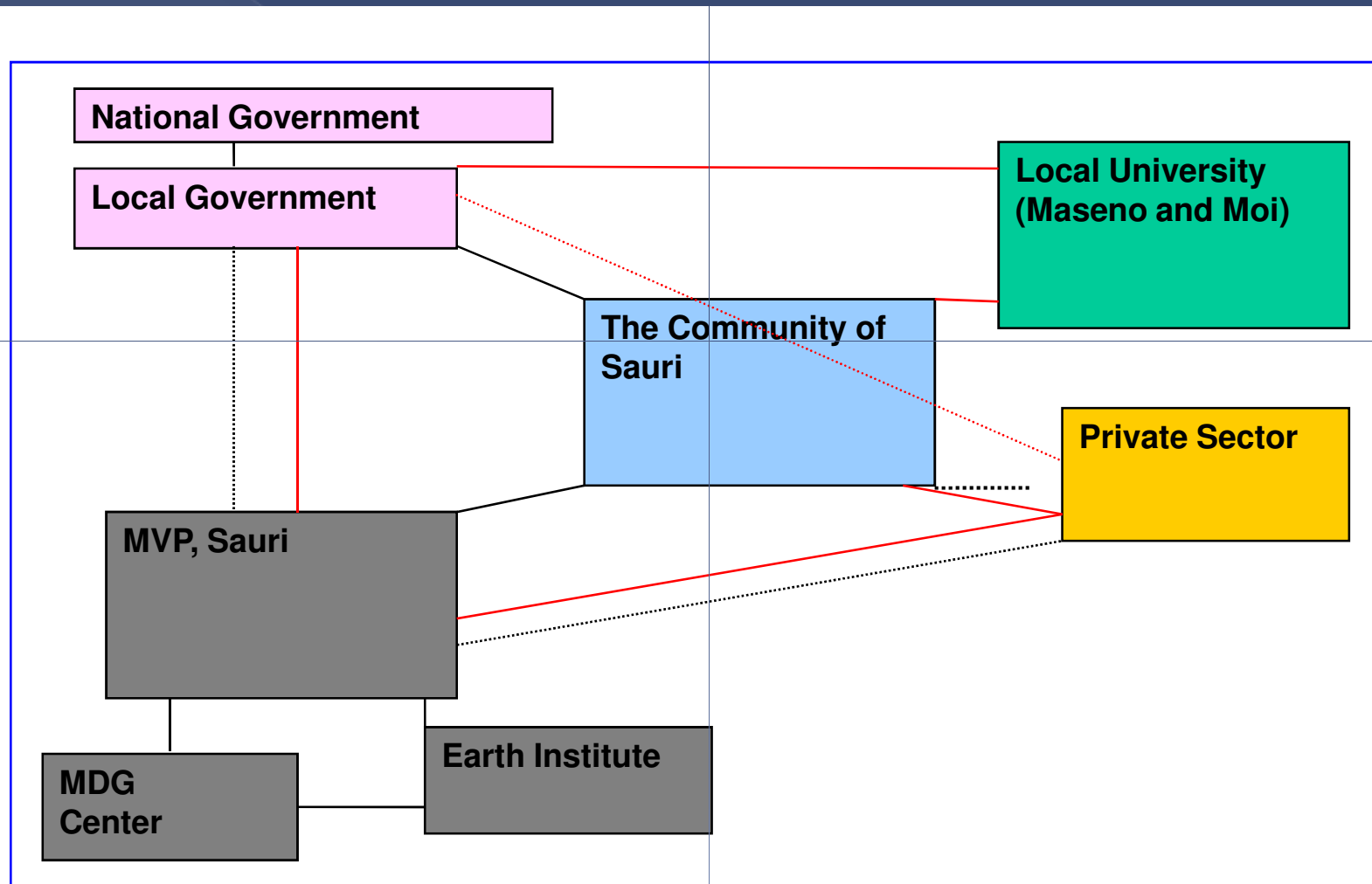
Positive findings towards achieving sustainability and scalability:

- Common acknowledgement and appreciation of MVP intervention by communities and local government
- Success in several agriculture interventions (improved farming methods, increased yield, increased income from diversification etc.)

Challenges towards achieving sustainability and scalability:

- Limited partnership between MVP and other key stakeholders i.e: local government, private sector, local universities
- Aid dependency of Sauri communities, especially those who are closer to the project
- Structural constraints in community development (committees, groups)
- Limitation to the inclusion of certain groups in the communities

SIPA Team Strategy For Sustainability and Scalability : Workshop with Key Stakeholders to Develop Partnerships and Combined Strategies



- **Questions to be Decided Through Further Research and at the Workshop**
- Does/can MVP align with the government's development policy?
- What are the challenges to build a clear partnerships between MVP and other stakeholders?
- How can the MVP incorporate their model in the micro level into their development policy in the macro level?
- Will the workshop inviting local (and central) government and other agricultural stakeholders be a good channel to promote sustainability and scalability?



Thank you