

Title: Development of an extension strategy for the Gates Foundation

Date: 2008

Client: Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Country / Region: Africa

CEPA advised the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) on the development of a new strategy aimed at improving the effectiveness of farmer extension service delivery in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Extension systems serve a crucial role in transferring technologies (including improved varieties of seed and fertilizer) and knowledge (including crop agronomic practice and soil fertility management) to smallholder farmers. CEPA worked with a range of extension experts and Program Officers from the BMGF to identify the key intervention points to enable the Foundation's existing investments to realize their intended farmer-level impact and to propose a series of new grants aimed at enhancing the delivery of new technologies and knowledge.

CEPA staff spent 3 months carrying out detailed analyses of 9 African countries, developing case studies of potential investments, carrying out a literature review and expert interviews, and providing strategic and financial and economic impact modelling input into the process of defining this new multi-million dollar intervention.

Links:

- [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation](#)