

QUICK TECHNOLOGY EVALUATION SHEET

This sheet is designed to assess the viability and potential range of application for a technology.

The objectives are to:

1. Clarify the target users (audience) for the technology and the problem being addressed
2. Articulate requirements for and benefits of the technology
3. Identify where the technology could be applied and cost implications

1) Target users and their needs

Who are your target users? (consider gender)

What fraction of possible users could **realistically** adopt and benefit? (consider gender)

What problem does your intervention solve?

Have the target users **widely** expressed interest in the problem? (Consider who was asked? Gender?)

2) Summary description of new and old practice and how easy is it to implement?

| New practice (consider who is involved?) | Present practice (consider who is involved?) | Note any major differences |
|---|---|----------------------------|
| | | |

What are the major inputs required for the new practice?

Are inputs **easily** available
(Do input providers exist)?

Yes

Could be an issue

Are inputs **readily** affordable?
(Consider gender)

Yes

Could be an issue

Is more Labor or capital required?

Yes

Could be an issue

Is credit (if needed) readily available and affordable? (Consider gender)

Yes

Could be an issue

Is the technology **easy** to understand and test? (Consider gender)

Yes Could be an issue

Note any fragile parts or maintenance needs?

How much training is required?

3) Solution - Where does it fit?

List any specific environmental conditions needed – e.g., climate, soil type, etc.

List any socio-economic conditions required (e.g., capital, market, infrastructure, culture)

4) Solution - Benefits?

Is there a definite market for product excess or better price for better quality? Yes Maybe

Type of benefit: Yield change? Yes, % _____
 Quality change? Yes
 Other (e.g., labor reduction,...)
 (If labor, are there gender aspects?)

Is benefit **obvious** to other farmers? Yes No Maybe

How long does it take to recover costs of the technology?

5) Risks?

Specify any possible risks?

What might limit adoption or testing?

Is there any environmental impact? Yes – specify: _____
 No
 Maybe/unknown _____

6) Economic analysis - Cost comparison of new and old practices

| Requirements | Present practice (\$) | New practice (\$) |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Labor (Male/Female) | M F | M F |
| Inputs required | | |
| Capital requirements | | |
| Operating costs | | |
| Credit costs | | |
| Other | | |
| Total | | |

7) Marginal Rate of Return (MRR)

| | New – present (\$) |
|----------------|--------------------|
| Net benefit = | |
| Marginal cost= | |

Marginal rate of return (MRR) = Net benefit/Marginal cost*100 (%) = _____

Note: 40% is often cited as a minimum MRR to attract farmer interest.

8) Conclusion

What factors might you need to address to ensure success and technology spread?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____