

MODULE 5: Agribusiness Management for Farmer Organisations**LESSON 5: Closing the Loop****TIME: 1 hour 30 minutes****AUTHOR: Prof. Francis Wambalaba**

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OUTCOMES:

By the end of this segment, you will have:

- Identified hindering and enabling factors in your own environment, your community, and any other prevailing environments.
- Discussed strategies for overcoming challenges and seizing the opportunities you face.
- Developed and defended a work plan for transforming your farming practices into firm practices.

INTRODUCTION:

In this lesson you are expected to tie together the essentials of how to transform a farm into a firm through a group project presentation. The project activities include investigation of specific hindering factors as well as the enabling environments based on your own experiences.

Instructions (5 minutes)

For this module, you are expected to reflect on topics covered in both this module and other modules and to consider lessons learned. Out of these reflections you should be able to develop a work plan based on your farming situation. The goal is to develop a realistic but **sacrificial** plan that will result in a fast transformation from a farm to a firm.

Activity 1



Individual Planning (30 minutes)



Take 10 minutes to compile an individual plan.

1. First identify any hindering factors. What issues hold you back currently from moving forward?
2. Identify enabling factors. What current circumstances will allow you to develop into a firm?
3. Think back across all the modules and identify the strategies that will allow you to overcome some of the hindrances and allow you to seize opportunities.

Think of strategies arising out of your study of:

- a. Policy and the agricultural sector;
- b. Economics.
- c. Entrepreneurship;
- d. ICT skills;
- e. Sustainable agriculture;

Activity 2



Class Presentation (60 minutes)



Present your plan and participate in the discussions that ensue. Also keep your plan open in front of you and refine it as you hear how others in the class have responded to this challenge. Incorporate the best of their ideas.

Conclusion



The real benefit of this course will be if you implement your plan. We challenge you to make the effort. Sacrifices will be involved and it will not always be easy but the end result should impact positively on both you and your family. Good Luck!