

It is not easy to change the mindset of adult people whose mind has been formed through decades of experiences. However, there are county government staff who are aware of it with knowledge, experience, and skill to lead farmers to mindset change through the SHEP Approach. Eventually, their team succeeded in empowering farmers, and guiding farmer groups to come up to a higher stage -- "Mswahili", SHEP PLUS



*It's a challenge to provide training to farmers, especially in an area that had been previously dealing with stakeholders that facilitate farmers with cash to attend training sessions. The situation is made more difficult when you don't even provide free inputs. It's not easier even where staff had also been used to the hefty payments when they provide trainings to farmers. One needs a lot of persuasive skills to be heard.*



It is important to analyse the situation you are intending to influence in terms of what the issue is, strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities. For groups used to 'handouts', situation can be difficult because to just get them sit and listen can be a very tall order.

Thanks to the SHEP Approach that designed method of getting farmers to listen. The members of the model farmer groups that adopted the technology packages have indeed greatly improved their income by as much as 400%. Livelihoods have improved, quality of life changed positively and even more development partners attracted to these groups.

The department is adopting the approach in other areas as farming of cereals and industrial crops e.g. cotton. -Mr. Omijah, SCAO, Rachuonyo North Sub County



Mr. Omijah