



Engineers for a Sustainable World
PURDUE UNIVERSITY CHAPTER



Gashora Irrigation Project Critical Design Review

Global Team for Irrigation in Africa
Purdue University

National University of Rwanda

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Presentation Outline

- Update from Preliminary Design Review
 - Further Analysis
 - Capital Cost Considerations
 - Faculty Meetings Summary
 - Conclusions
- Simulation Program Overview
- Final Project Report Overview
- Looking Forward





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UPDATES FROM PRELIMINARY DESIGN REVIEW

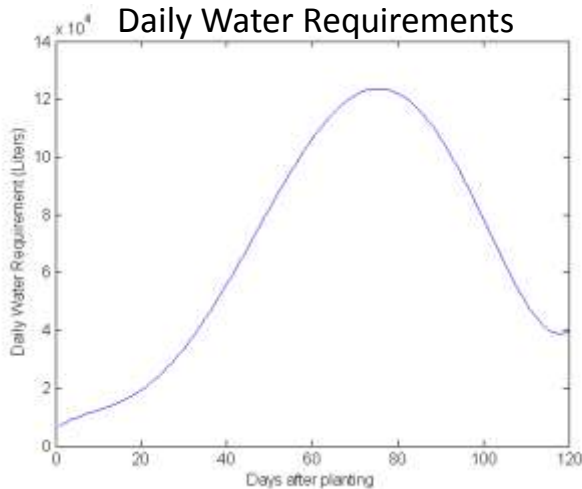
Preliminary Goals for Critical Design Review

- Improve detail in the following areas:
 - More detailed water requirements over time
 - Detailed map of field
 - Pressure regulation and analysis
- Select final design for irrigation system
 - Detailed system design
- Scale final design to maximize profit
 - Assistance provided by Ag-Econ supporting members
- Evaluate options for capital cost acquisition
- Perform detailed sustainability analysis

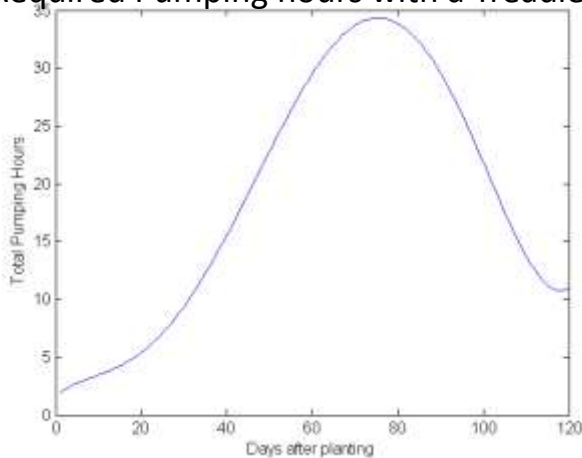


Further Analysis

Refined Water Requirements



Required Pumping hours with a Treadle Pump



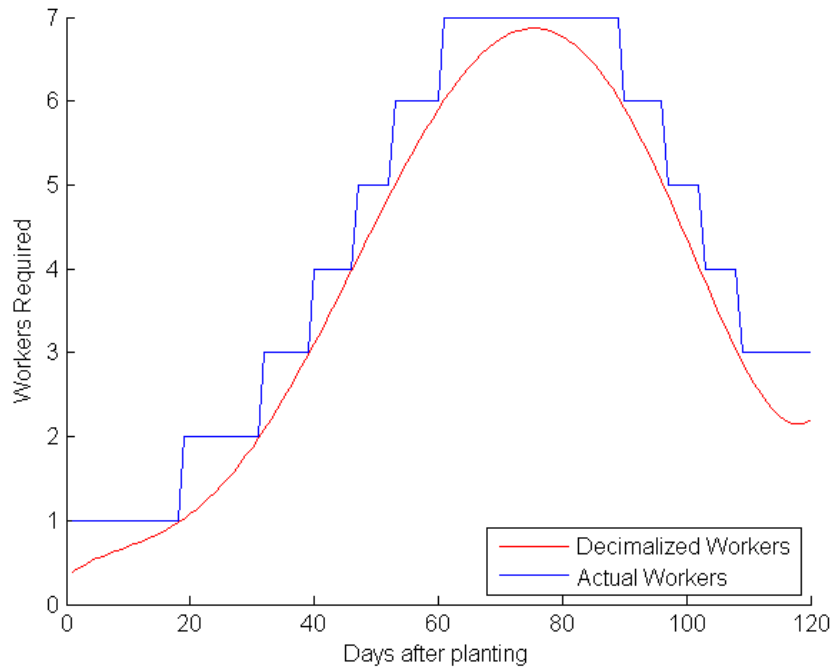
- Furrow irrigation was considered in more detail
- Detailed analysis provides the following requirements for each day of any scale of field:
 - Liters of Water
 - Pumping Hours
 - Number of Pumps
 - Number of Workers
 - Fuel Consumption



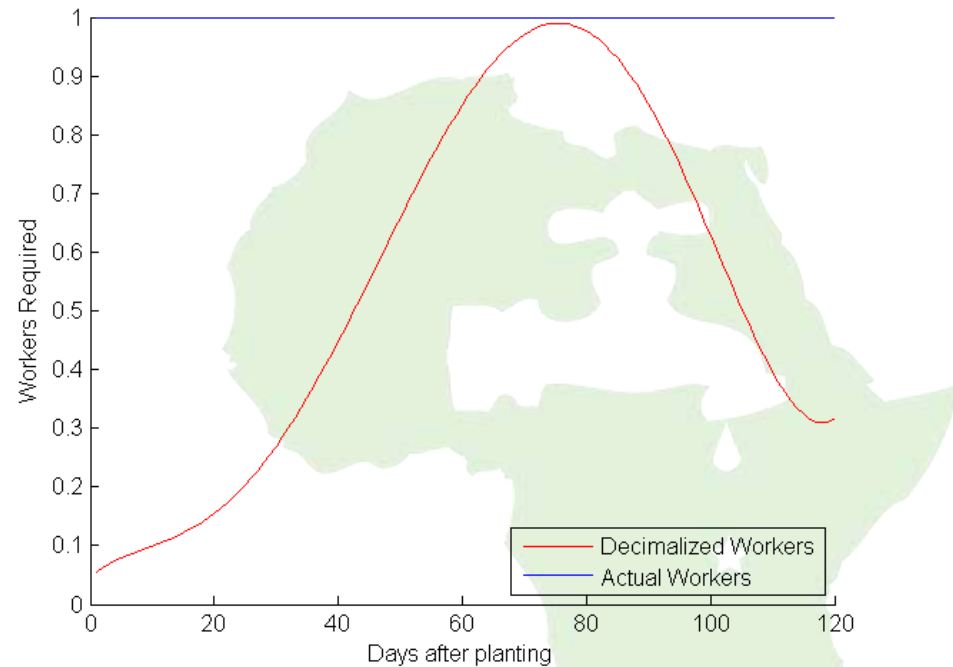
Further Analysis

Pump and Labor Requirements

Treadle Pumps



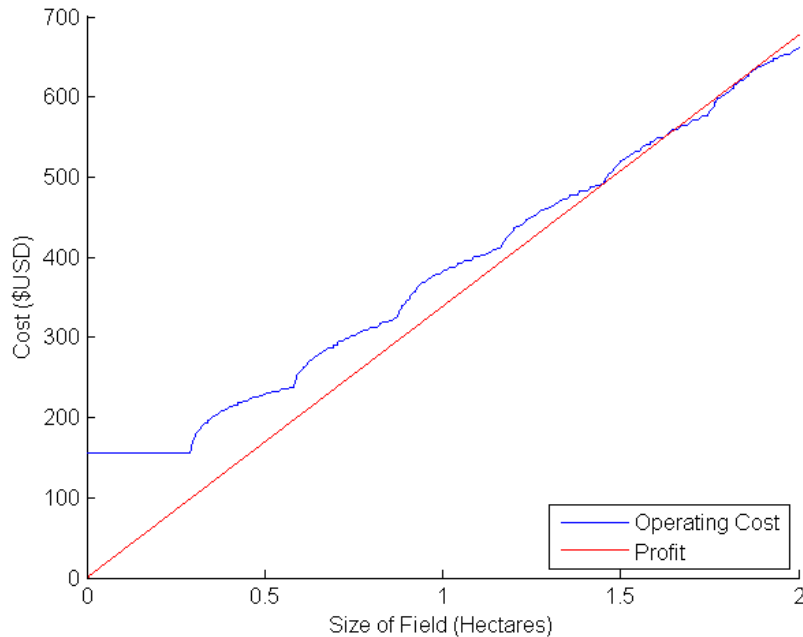
Gas Pumps



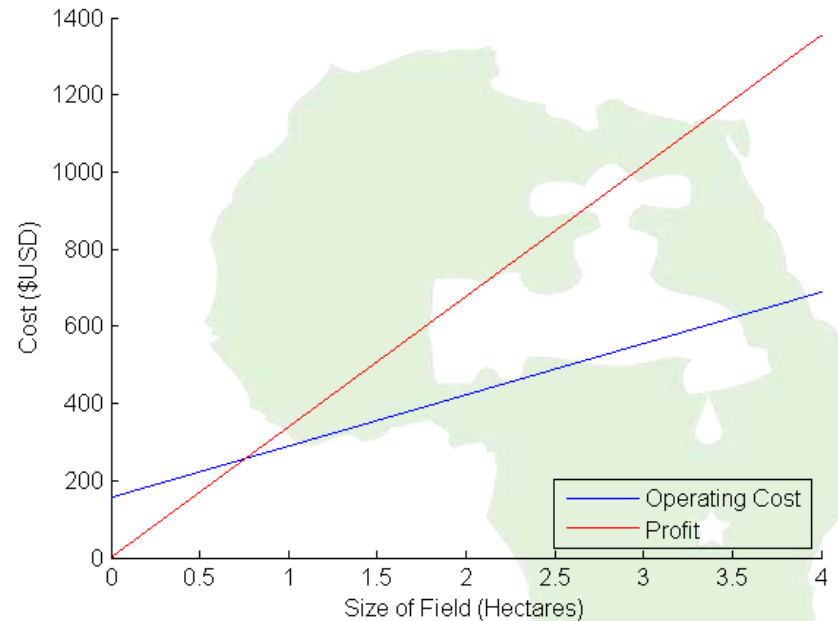
Further Analysis

Operating Cost vs. Size of Field

Treadle Pumps

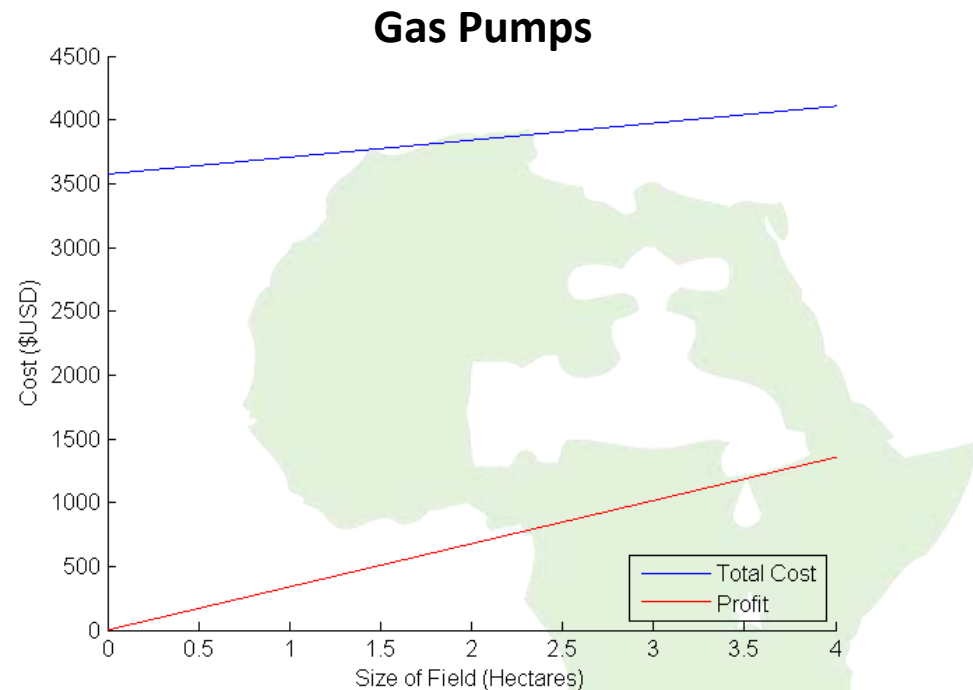
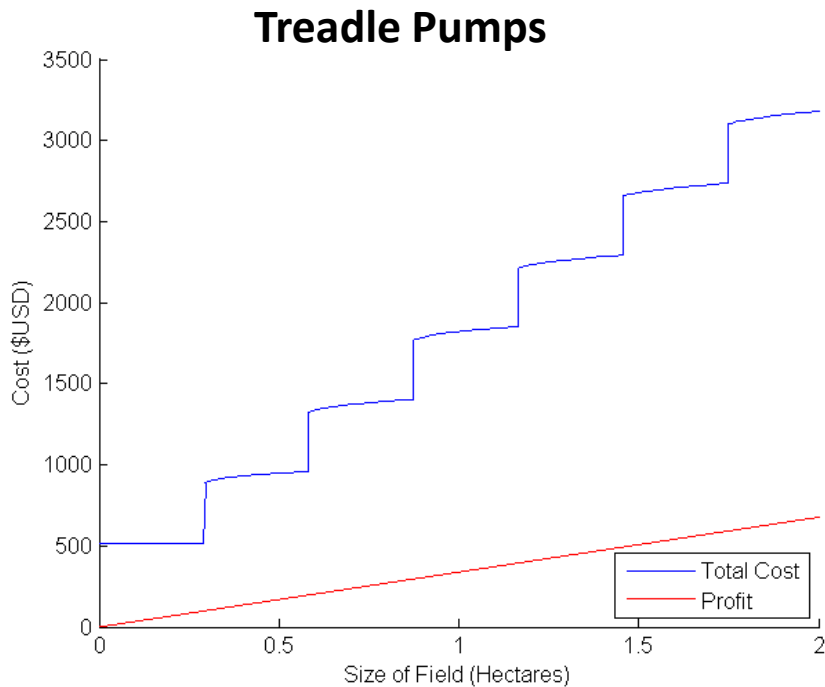


Gas Pumps



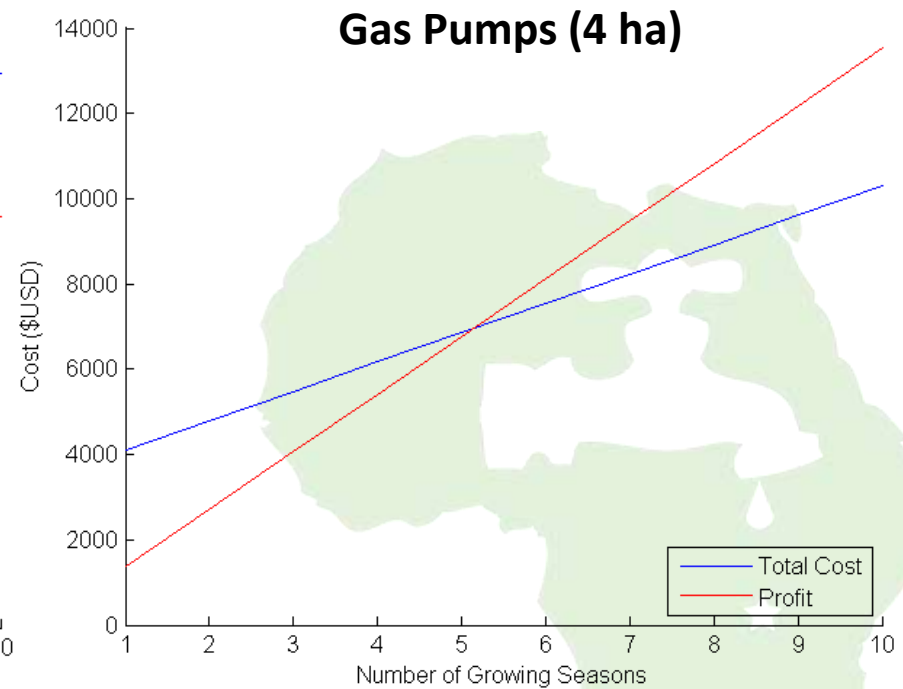
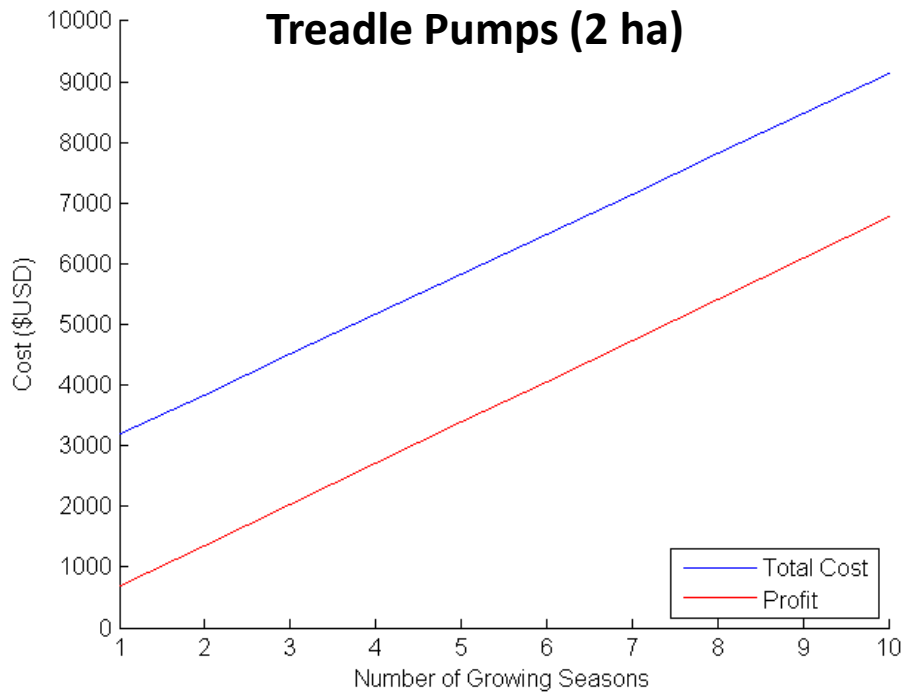
Further Analysis

Total Irrigation Cost vs. Size of Field



Further Analysis

Total Irrigation Cost vs. No. of Seasons



Analysis Summary

- For a 2 ha field:
 - Treadle and gas pumps have equal capital cost
 - Gas pumps have a lower operating cost than treadle pumps
- Gas Pumps
 - Begin to make a profit in the 5th growing season
 - Only have a one year warranty
 - High risk of failure due to improper maintenance and care
- Treadle pumps
 - 7 pumps and 7 workers are needed at the peak water requirements for a 2 ha field
 - Can only break even with operating cost at best
 - Cannot make up capital cost
- Neither option provides a feasible solution



Capital Cost Considerations

- Capital costs were not considered in detail in PDR
 - Allowed consideration of more expensive projects with the possibility of government subsidy
- Micro-Loan availability in Rwanda
 - Start around \$40 with 4-month payback
 - Interest can be over 100%
 - Not always readily available
- Sustainability of externally-funded projects
 - If farmers do not invest anything, they have less motivation to use the system
 - Availability of external funds is not consistent
 - USAID is no longer funding any irrigation in Rwanda
 - Current large-scale irrigation project uses 77% external funding from European countries
 - According to a pump supplier in Rwanda, pump supplies are very limited



Agriculture Meetings Summary

- Dr. Rabi Mohtar
 - Comments from meeting
 - Corn is one of the most water-inefficient crops
 - Make sure you understand the soil characteristics
- Dr. Gebisa Ejeta and Dr. Mitch Tuinstra
 - Comments from meeting
 - Why corn?
 - High water requirement and low market price
 - This system would not be built in the U.S.
 - The farm would be terraced and flood irrigation would be used
 - Look into cultivating horticulture crops
 - The water requirement vs. time plot is qualitatively correct



Post-PDR Conclusions

- There are no economically feasible solutions for the given constraints
- As a result of further analysis, the project has changed focus.
- Two main deliverables:
 - Create a MATLAB program to model the analysis performed
 - Provide a method of summarizing our analysis for future projects
 - Allow relaxation of constraints (i.e. different crops/water requirements, different field dimensions, different labor situations, etc.)
 - Write a comprehensive final report
 - Detail entire project and process
 - Provide conclusions and recommendations for future projects





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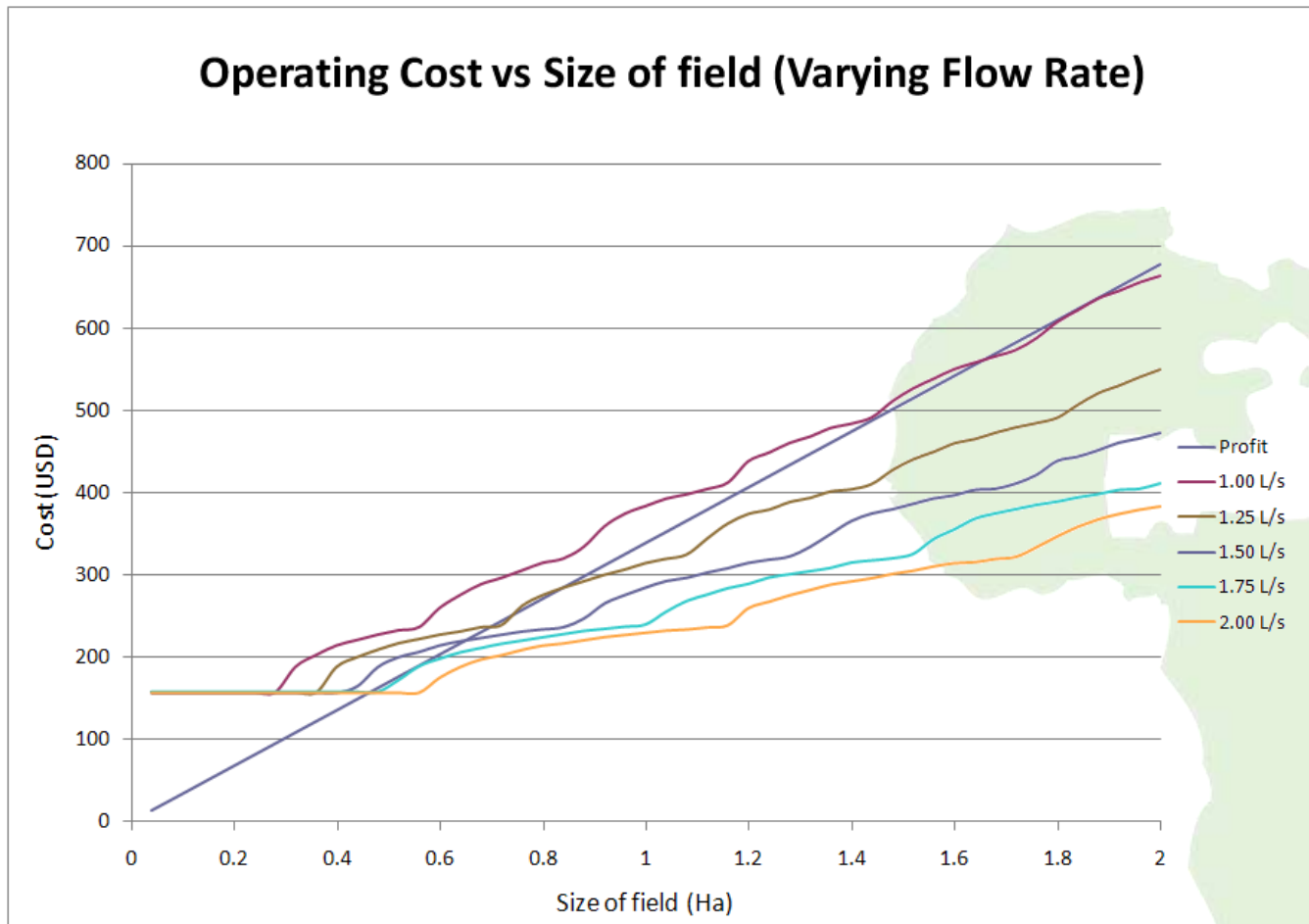
SIMULATION PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Simulation Program Overview

- Program's Purpose:
 - Provide a method of summarizing research and analysis for future projects
 - Allow relaxation of constraints
 - Different crops/water requirements, different field dimensions, different labor situations, etc.
 - Easily explore feasibility of different situations
 - Highlight direct areas for improvement



Example of Program's Purpose: Highlight Profitable Improvements



Program Target & Customers

- Target application: future projects in Gashora
- Primary customers:
 - Future ESW-Purdue design groups
 - Other ESW-USA / EWB-USA projects and groups
- Secondary customers:
 - National University of Rwanda
 - Agronomy / Irrigation Faculties
 - Minister of Agriculture for Rwanda

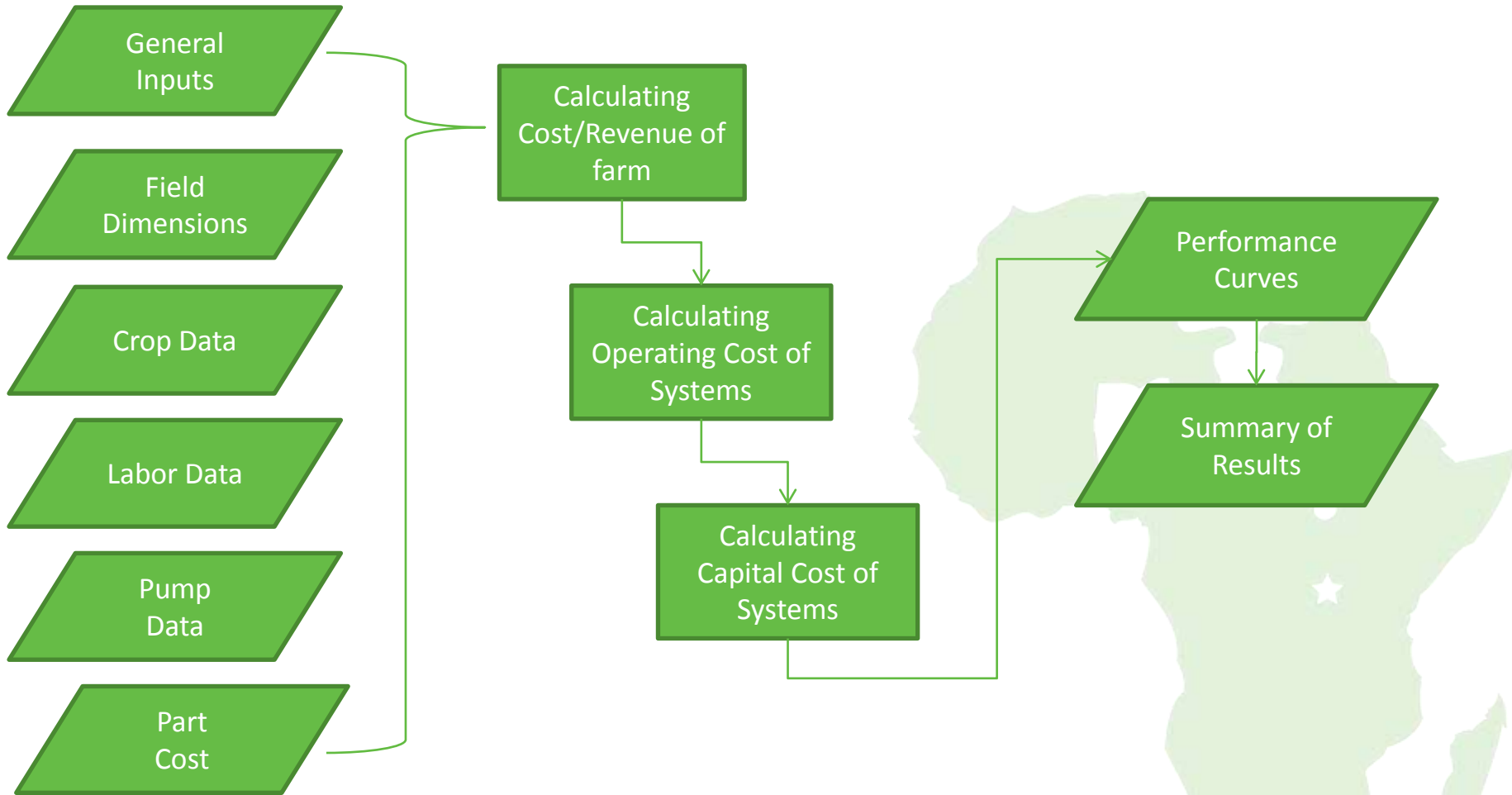


Program Deliverables

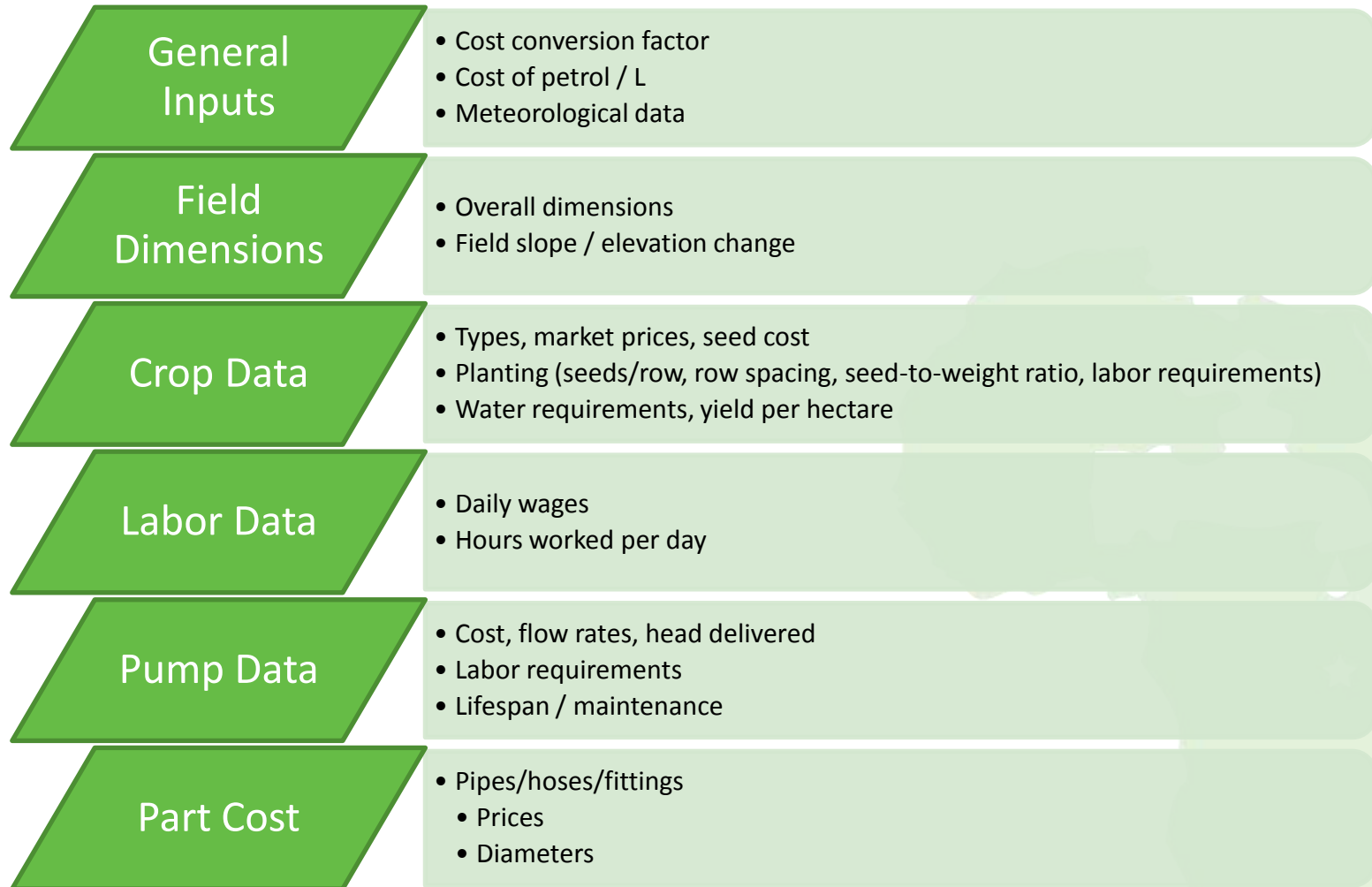
- All customers: sample test cases and values
- To customers with MATLAB available:
 - MATLAB code and instructions for modifying inputs and executing program
- To customers without MATLAB available:
 - Detailed flowchart and guide for manually calculating equations
 - Can also be used to adapt for another programming language or calculation medium



Program Flowchart

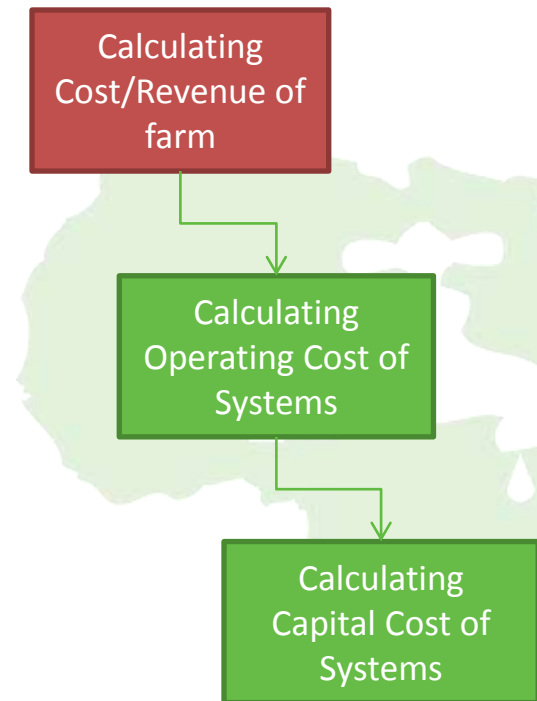


Program Inputs



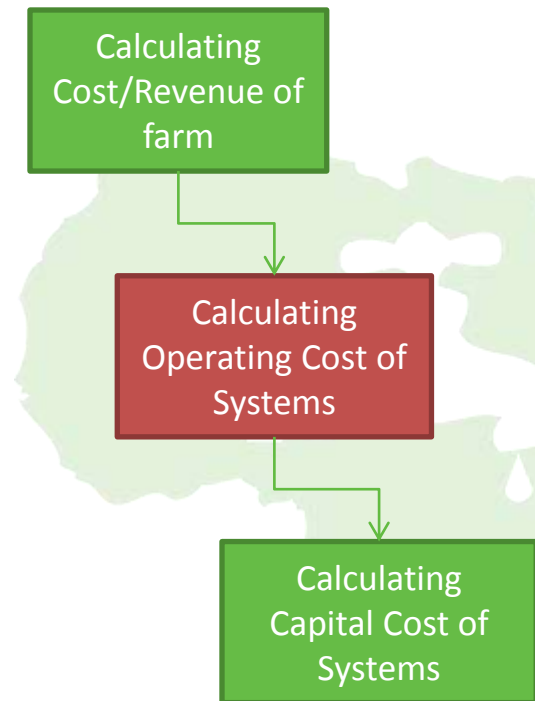
Program Calculations

- Cost/Revenue of Farm
 - Inputs:
 - Field dimensions, crop data, labor requirements
 - Assumptions:
 - Costs are linearly scalable
 - Planting specifications (distance between rows, etc)
 - Markets are available
 - Outputs:
 - Profit per hectare
 - Profit per day



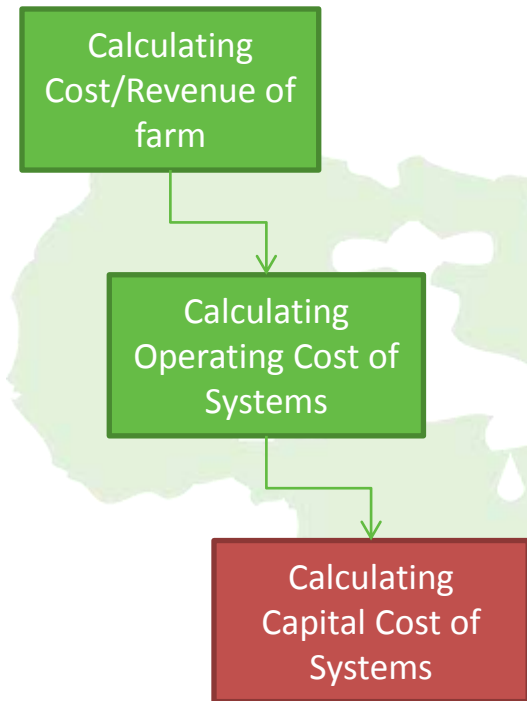
Program Calculations

- Operating Cost of Systems
 - Inputs:
 - Field dimensions, labor costs, water requirements, pump data, part data
 - Assumptions:
 - Labor is always available
 - Labor is considered on daily and not hourly basis
 - Petrol is available to farmers
 - Outputs:
 - Operating Cost vs. Time
 - Total Operating Cost per Season



Program Calculations

- Capital Cost of Systems
 - Inputs:
 - Field dimensions, water requirements, pump data, part data, irrigation data
 - Assumptions
 - Quoted prices remain constant
 - Supplies are available
 - Outputs:
 - Capital Cost vs. Field Size
 - Type of irrigation to be used
 - Irrigation Schedule



Program Outputs

Performance Curves

- Operating costs vs. size of field
- Capital costs of systems vs. size of field
- Total costs of system vs. size of field
- Total costs and profits vs. number of growing seasons

Summary of Results

- Pump(s)
 - Specific pump to use
 - Quantity of pumps
- Labor requirements
- Amount of piping and hose required
- Irrigation type
- Percentage of field irrigated
- Pressures at outlets





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FINAL PROJECT REPORT OVERVIEW

Final Report

- Purpose
 - Document the process for future groups
 - Summarize research findings
 - Explain analysis & conclusions
 - Provide recommendations for future work
- Target Audience
 - Original project customers
 - Future research teams
 - Future groups looking to irrigate farms in Africa



Final Report Outline

- Executive Summary
- Introduction
 - Background Information
 - The Project
 - The Global Team
- Assessment Trip
 - Interaction with Farmers
 - Interactions with NUR Administration and Local Government
 - Field Specifications
 - Constraints
- Research Summary
 - Pumping
 - Storage
 - Distribution
- Evaluation of Research
 - Performance Analysis
 - Sustainability Analysis
 - Economic Analysis
- Program / Model
 - Assumptions & Process
 - Inputs/Outputs
 - Customer / Audience
- Conclusions
 - Irrigation in Bugesera, Rwanda
 - Global Teaming Reflections
- Recommendations for Future
- Appendices
 - Model Test Cases
 - Analysis of new technologies
 - Program operations manual





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LOOKING FORWARD

Detailed Timeline

March and April Simulation Highlights

		March						April																		
		23	24	25	26	27	30	31	1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24
		Week 11					Week 12					Week 13					Week 14					Week 15				
Project Tasks and Milestones		M	T	W	R	F	M	T	W	R	F	M	T	W	R	F	M	T	W	R	F	M	T	W	R	F
Simulation Program																										
Decide on Format of MATLAB Program																										
Create General Inputs File																										
Create Crop Inputs File																										
Create Field Dimensions Input File																										
Create Labor Data File																										
Create Part Cost File																										
Create Pump Data File																										
Farm Profit/Revenue Calculations - MATLAB																										
Operating Cost Calculations - MATLAB																										
Contact Farmers w/Questions																										
Capital Cost Calculations - MATLAB																										
Outputs - MATLAB																										
Refine Crop Data																										
Refine Overall Inputs																										
Final Copy of Program Completed																										



Key Upcoming Dates

- April 13, 2009 – ESW-Purdue Club Callout
 - Several interested members
 - Will be used to continue current project as well as to find and cultivate new projects.
- April 29, 2009 – Final Presentation
 - Simulation Program Delivered
 - Final report and project reflections due
- May-June 2009 – Possible Return Trip



May/June Trip to Rwanda

- Original plan: implement irrigation system
- New plans:
 - If simulation yields suitable system, implement it
 - If not:
 - Use trip to build a better information base and find answers to questions we are currently seeking
 - Supply capital cost of a smaller system and implement for testing and research purposes
 - Work on other ESW-USA projects in area
 - Research other possible projects with NUR



Questions That Need To Be Answered

- Originally told government mandates that corn be grown
 - Is this still the situation?
 - Does this include Season C?
- Are there other crops besides beans and corn for which the farmers have access to seeds and markets?
- Are crops used for profit or subsistence?
- What other possible sources of capital are there?
- Do the farmers anticipate working their own farm? Any other possible sources of free labor?
- How much profit is made when inter-cropping is used?
- How much are the farmers willing to invest in a system?*
- Are the hired workers able to work more/less than 5 hours?
 - If so, how much does the wage change?





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QUESTIONS?



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Critical Design Review Appendix

Global Team for Irrigation in Africa

Purdue University

National University of Rwanda



International Pump Availability

- Original Assumption: Pumps available in US/Europe are available in Rwanda for an increased cost
- The shipping companies do not guarantee passage through customs nor provide transportation to the site
- The shipping costs from West Lafayette, IN to Kigali, Rwanda are prohibitively high if a cheap pump could be acquired from outside of Rwanda
 - 70 lb package (24" x 24" x 24")
 - USPS: \$988.00
 - FedEx: \$2331.23
 - UPS: \$1444.20

