

# Reflections from the Field in Mozambique

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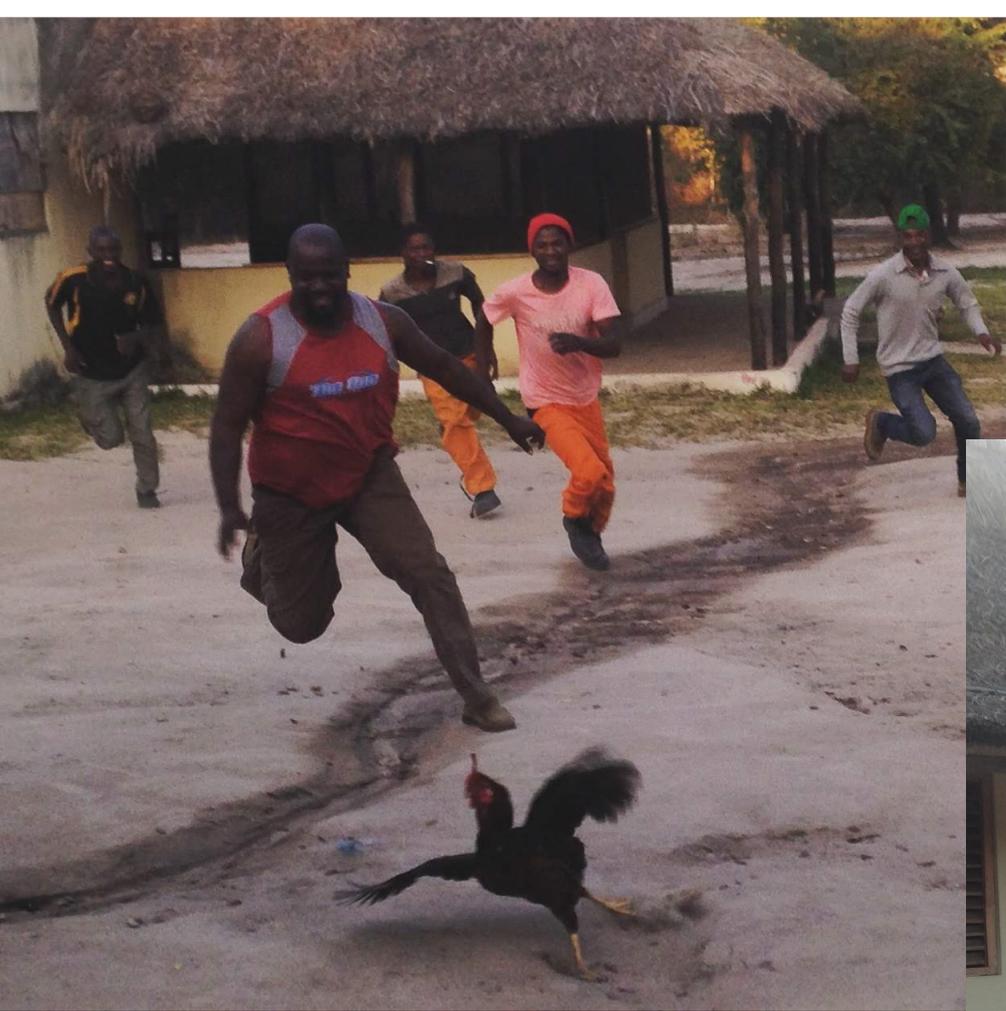


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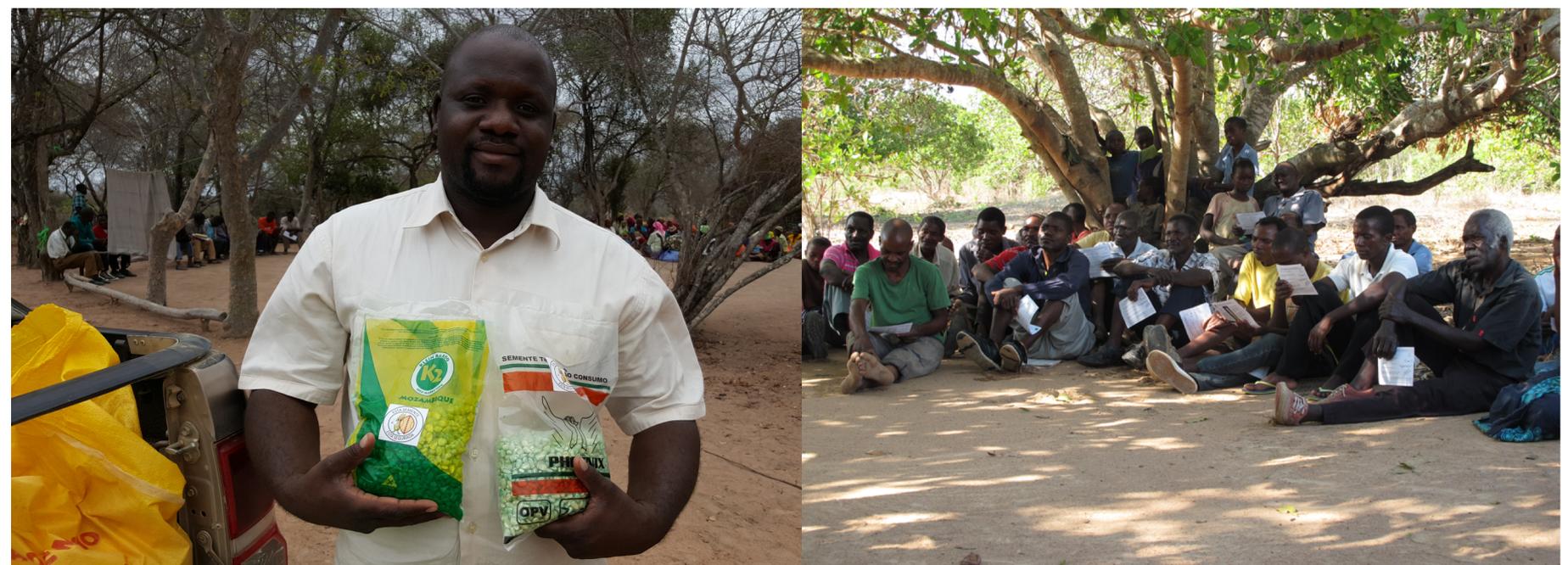
# Study Communities are Challenging: Remote

- Most communities remote with minimal access to improved seeds and other inputs.
- When improved seeds are available, they are often not available for on-time planting.



# Research Team Received Well in Communities

- Given lack of access, farmers very excited that research team showed up in communities with seeds for sale.
- Overall engagement in community meetings very positive.
- Given lack of extension services, farmers very happy to learn about new maize varieties from team and especially seed company reps.



## Farmers Don't Have Much Liquidity

- Most farmers showed up with some cash, but very little
- Maintaining affordability crucial (may explain preference for OPV over more expensive hybrid)
- To effectively deliver in these communities requires solving difficult logistics of selling small quantities to many farmers.
- Can't yet rely on cell phones and mobile money because not enough farmers have cell access (hopefully will change rapidly)



# Farmer Comprehension of Maize Cycle and Risk

- Farmers' understanding of maize cycle consistent with CIMMYT presentations;
- Most worried about poor rainfall at establishment and pollination.
- Strong positive response to visual aids showing DT advantage during midseason drought
  - DT cobb full kernels;
  - Non-DT cobb with very few kernels



# Farmer Comprehension of Index Insurance

- Farmers' understanding of index insurance was pretty good;
- But it took a lot of work!
- Community meetings worked well, but it's expensive to:
  - Organize and convene meetings;
  - Develop educational material;
  - Translate material to MANY local languages!

