Drip Technology Transfer In Senegal To Limited Skilled Farmers---Are They Ready???
Pre-conceived notions before training:

1. **Drip Irrigation will not work in Africa!!!!**

2. **The training material is beyond the capabilities of the trainees!!!**
Senegal

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/West_Africa
Enablers

Government of Senegal

Farmer to Farmer for Agriculture Education and Training Program

National Agency for the Promotion of Youth Employment (ANPEJ) in Senegal

Note: The volunteer assignment was funded by USAID and the Farmer to Farmer Program.
Traditional Method-- Watering Can

New Method-- Drip Irrigation

Photo Source: IDE Low-Pressure Drip Irrigation Brochure. www.ideorg.org
Silane Farm--Failed Drip-Irrigated Farm
Moving from Watering Can to Drip Water Tank
Djilack Farm - A Successful Drip-Irrigated Farm

T-Tape with 30 cm emitting orifice spacing
Soluble Fertilizers Mixed and Injected Into the Drip System

Mixing Tank

Injection Pump
Djilack Farm--14 mt/ha bean yield with drip versus 7 mt/ha without drip
Classroom Activities

Presentations—soils, plants, fertilizers

On-hands exercise—soil texture

On-hands exercise—soil pH, conductivity

Instruments to measure soil pH, conductivity
Plant nutrition and Fertilizers--
What Does 46-0-0 and 13-0-45 Mean???
Methods of Injecting Fertilizers into Drip Irrigation Systems

- Positive Displacement Electric Pump
- Venturi Method
- Dosatron Water Powered Pump
- Pressure Differential Injection Method
Notion 1 -- Drip Irrigation will not work in Africa!!!! Not true!! Here’s the evidence:

- Successful vegetable growers using drip
- Successful agri-input dealers selling drip, fertilizers and seeds
Notion 2--The training material is viewed to be beyond the capabilities of the trainees.

Not True!!
Trainees were like sponges soaking up the knowledge.
Cell Phone—A new way to soak up knowledge
Take Home Lesson from Training Exercise

Technical Savvy Interpreter

A MUST!
Another Take Home Lesson

- Limited technical skills by farmer trainees can be “trumped” by their drive, enthusiasm and desire to learn.
Contact Information

Steven Kovach
Florence, Alabama, USA

Email: steven.kovach@comcast.net

Phone: 256-764-2715 (home); 256-710-3926 (cell)