ISSUES AND PRIORITIES IN AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION

Principles and Practices for Sustainable Outcomes

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DEFINING EXTENSION

• “Extension is defined broadly to include:

• all systems that **facilitate access** of farmers, their organizations and other market actors to **information, knowledge, and technologies**;

• **facilitate** their **interaction** with partners in research, education, agri-business, and other relevant institutions;

• and **assist** them to develop their **own** technical, organizational and management skills and practices.”
Historical Classic Approach – Top Down

- Ministry of Agriculture
  - Research Division
  - Extension Division

Local agricultural system

Farmers

USAID
The U.S. Government’s Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative
PLURALISTIC EXTENSION

- Recognizes diversity of farmers and farming systems

- Characterized by coexistence of multiple public, private, and mixed extension systems and services – but all of which benefit from some degree of coordination and regulation that facilitates interaction.
III. PRIORITIES FOR EXTENSION

• Climate Smart Extension

• Extension for Resilience Programming

• Digital Extension

• Youth and Gender Sensitive Extension

• Integrating Nutrition Programming into Agricultural Extension Services

• Extension to support Scaling activities

• Developing Local Extension Capacity – formal and informal system linkages, Public sector, Private sector, PPP
III. PRIORITIES FOR EXTENSION

- Climate Smart, Resilient, Digitally-enabled, Gender Sensitive, supportive of Youth and integrating Nutrition, in a locally sustainable and potentially scalable manner is = to GEP (Good Extension Practices)
Current Example #1

Donor

$\downarrow$

International Implementing Partner

$\downarrow$ Training

Lead Farmers

$\downarrow$ Training

Multiple Farmers
Multiple Farmers
Multiple Farmers
Multiple Farmers

Local agricultural system
Current Example #2

Donor

$\rightarrow\text{International Implementing Partner}

\rightarrow\text{Input Dealers}

\rightarrow\text{Farmers} \quad \text{Farmers} \quad \text{Farmers}

\rightarrow\text{Processors}

\rightarrow\text{Farmers} \quad \text{Farmers} \quad \text{Farmers}

Local agricultural system
Financially Sustainable

Services provided are not dependent on donor funding. Typically, sustained by a revolving budget for the public or private sector provider. Examples include fee for service (animal para-vets) or producer group funds used for extension services.