

Elements of Implementing Innovation Platform

Dead sea workshop

15-17 September, 2014

Essential elements of IP

- Purpose
- Clear entry points
- Outputs of the IP
- Expected outcomes
- Activities
- Evaluation
- Methods
- Integration
- Resources

Purpose

- At the CRP level: Develop, implement and evaluate a process (*operational platform*) of multi-stakeholder engagement and dialogue (innovation platform) for effectively and efficiently linking research and development for sustained generation, dissemination and impact of AR4D in dry areas
- At the specific platforms for other actors, the purpose could be to build effective learning process that increases flow of information, knowledge and options, increase uptake and improve rural livelihoods

Establish the stakeholders forum

- Identify stakeholders
- Meet and negotiate
- Establish interests and understanding roles and contribution
- Organize meetings to develop action plans
- Establish a process of implementation and follow up

Entry point

- Initially, select relatively easy –but very relevant- entry point to start with -low hanging fruits-to get early success and to build trust
- Source of entry points:
 - A clear agricultural development (technological, institutional and policy) options should be identified for adaptation and out-scaling
 - Options can also be identified from wider global knowledge both outside research and from local knowledge
- The process can get more complex and include multiple interventions overtime as the process gains credibility and greater participation of stakeholders and community confidence increases

Outputs of the IP

- The main output of IP is an application (*through empirical example*) of the principles of multi-stakeholder community-based process with demonstrated greater effectiveness and efficiency of linking research to development

Expected outcomes

- The adoption of options (TIPOs) by the experimental community- is only a proof of concept or illustration of our IP approach - but not the ultimate outcome .

But to achieve sustained rural change- we need improvement in the delivery and service systems:

We need the adoption of the approach by national development institutions in large national development programs-

This will have much greater development impacts in terms of number of beneficiaries that work with agricultural research outputs and all supporting mechanisms (dissemination, credit, community development, gender equity, etc) and make research more relevant.

The outcome should eventually improve the lives of people... so it is not only at changes at institutional level (although a necessary condition) on the innovation system itself.

Activities

- List the activities in building and implementing the “learning” process of multi-stakeholder engagement , dialogue and pathways towards achievement of outcomes.
 - Stakeholder workshops
 - Community workshops
 - Training of staff
 - Communication activities
 - On-farm demonstrations
 - Linking with other research activities
 - Evaluation: see next slide

Evaluation

- Here the question is how to evaluate that the IP process implemented in the different sites (within this CRP) that it is superior to the current situation; what indicators to make that assessment and how to measure and validate this advantage
- This evaluation will be the evidence that will support the out-scaling of the IP process in the national programs
- How to establish the baseline before the process starts

Methods/tools

- Participatory diagnosis
- Community resource mapping
- Outcome mapping
- Stakeholder analysis
- Power and influence mapping
- Gender analysis
- On-farm trials
- Stakeholder perception surveys
- Adoption surveys
- Analysis of institutional capacities and needs
- Needs assessment tools
- Actor interaction toolkit
- Network mapping

Integration

- Make clear plan for linking other CRP DS research activities into the IP through participatory field demonstrations and trials; and clearly identified researchable problems as feedback to research

Resources *(facilitator/ broker)*

- Who will be responsible for sustained implementation of day-to-day planning and implementation of the activities of the platform;
- Are there field researchers dedicated for the facilitation of the process on continuous basis?
- This requires full time person with sufficient facilitation skills who builds relationships with all stakeholders