

SKiM

Strengthening Knowledge Management
for Greater Development Effectiveness
in the Near East, North Africa,
Central Asia and Europe



SKiM 2020 Steering Committee Meeting

Jeffrey Alwang
alwangj@vt.edu
Virginia Tech

17th December 2020, SKiM 2020 Steering Committee Meeting



Procasur



Objective: Demonstrate Value of KM to Decisionmakers

- Value for KM comes from the value of a decision made with KM compared to the value of the decision made without KM
- This value is determined by the “state of the world” (SOW) and uncertainty about it=> access to knowledge reduces this uncertainty
- Why is “value” important?
 - Prioritize KM & invest in different KM measures
 - Enhance KM according to its functions
 - Provide “good” information
 - Lowers cost of obtaining information

The Value of Alternative Agricultural Research Programs

- (Successful) Research leads to reductions in cost of production (cost per unit of output)
 - Examples: Improved wheat varieties that resist diseases; management research to use water more efficiently
 - Cost per unit of output: Either yield increases or cost reduction/avoided input use
- With diffusion of technology, lower cost of production induces a rightward shift in the commodity's market supply
- Economic benefits emerge: Consumers gain (lower market prices); producers gain (lower cost of production)

Current year activities

Design methodology and data collection instruments

Compile data

Crop production: Area planted, quantity harvested, by year

Historical and current data on agricultural research

expenditures and full-time equivalent scientists by crop and discipline

Conduct interviews with scientists and research leaders to determine expected returns from different research programs

Proposed 2021 KM Developments and Initiatives

- Data collection in Sudan (completed by end-January 2021)
- Run several scenarios
- Presentation to research committee (late 2021); measure changes in perceptions about state of the world => value of change
- Finalize two papers—conceptual framework and case study

SKIM

Strengthening Knowledge Management
for Greater Development Effectiveness
in the Near East, North Africa,
Central Asia and Europe



Thank You



Procasur

