



“The New Extensionist”: Roles and Capacities to Strengthen Extension

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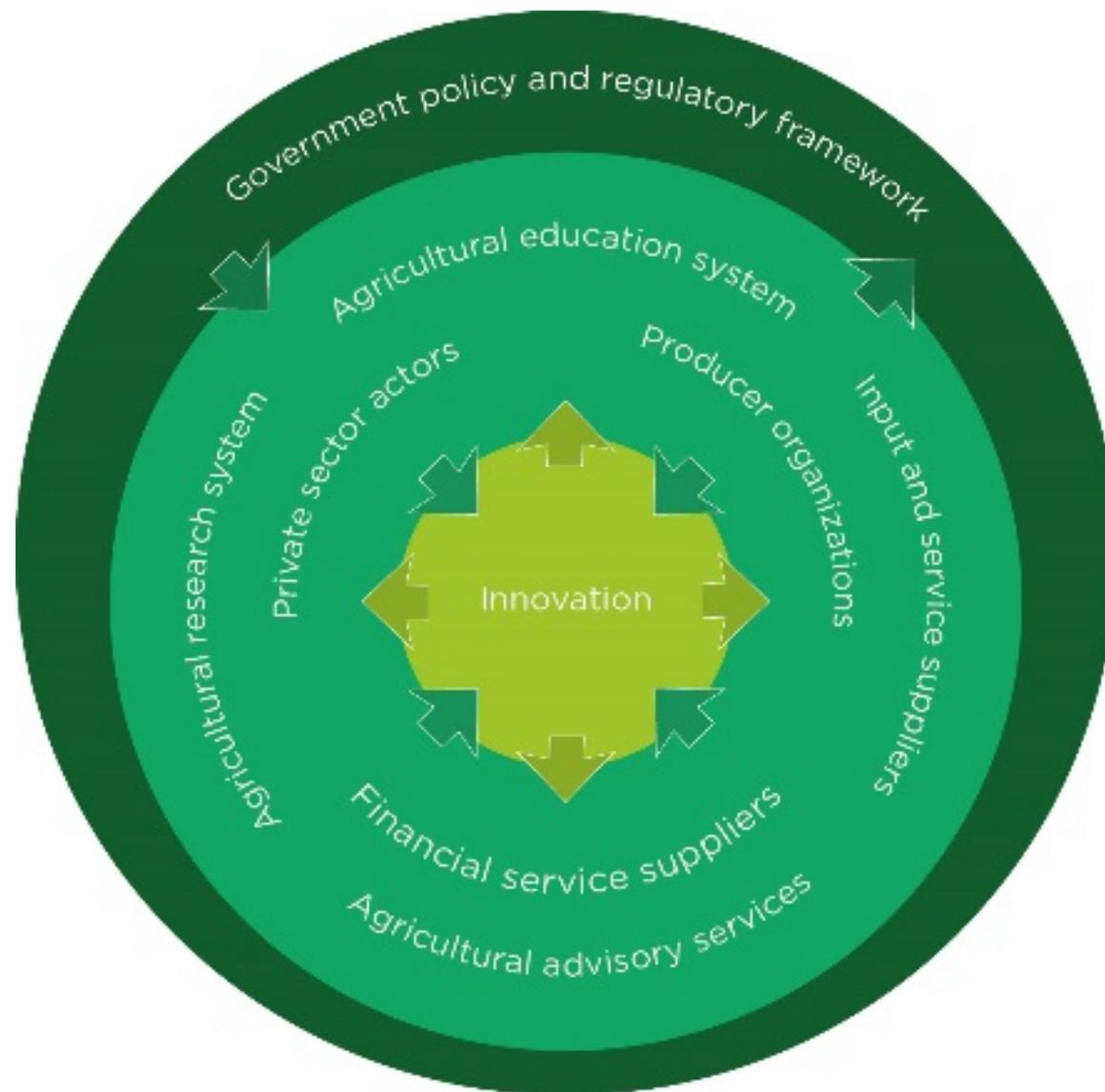
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MEAS Symposium 2015

“Strengthening Extension and
Advisory Services for Lasting Impacts”



Organizing Principle: Innovation Systems





Wide Range of Roles for Extension

Extension collectively performs wide range of roles

- developing networks
- organizing producers
- facilitating access to credit
- input & output services
- convening innovation platforms
- facilitating knowledge management
- promoting gender equality
- supporting adaptation to climate change
- disseminating new knowledge through training & demonstrations

New Extensionist Professional

- Generalist vs. specialist
- Technical vs. functional skills
- Extension agents have special set of competencies
- Extension is science, art, profession
- Defining core competencies for the profession

Core Competencies – Modules (1)

1. **Introduction to the New Extensionist**
2. **Adult learning and behavioural change**
3. **Agricultural entrepreneurship**
4. **Communication for innovation**
5. **Facilitation for development**
6. **Value chain extension**

Core Competencies – Modules (2)

7. **Extension paradigms, methods, approaches, and tools**
8. **Extension program management**
9. **Professional ethics**
10. **Community mobilization**
11. **Farmer institutional development**
12. **Gender and youth issues in agricultural extension and rural development**
13. **Dealing with change**