Win more, lose less:
Capturing synergies between SDGs through agricultural research

Strengthening the Science-policy Interface in the Face of increasing complexity

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Panel on Quality of Research for Development QoR4D

Prescriptions for enhancing the science-policy interface
A Large Variety of Agents in Agriculture

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“...the place of scientific evidence in policy-making is neither straightforward nor guaranteed...”
(Gluckman, 2016)
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The THIRD AGENT: the Research Implementer/ Policy Facilitator / Knowledge Broker

Collaboration, Communication, Integration, Wide Dissemination

- Reduce the “distance” between rigorous research by producers and fuzzy information of consumer or policy maker
- Push for collaboration between research and policy
- Close the communication gap
- Ensure integration of research into policy
- Provide and ensure wide dissemination of the results

Knowledge “Translation”

Producers

Consumers
The Project Cycle of Research
Insights from RIA @ IFAD

- **EX ANTE:** We promote Legitimacy Project Selection Relevant for IFAD Operations and Portfolio
  - Promote Dialogue with the Regions in project selection,
  - we engage with Regional Economist
  - We work with Portfolio Managers

- **DURING:** We promote Scientific Credibility
  - Rigorous Impact Assessment using Ex-Post Quasi-Experimental methods
  - We plan Ex-Ante Experimental approaches
  - We receive inputs from users of research

- **EX-POST:** We ensure Effectiveness
  - Impact Assessment (IA) Report: The main report, which details the Theory of Change of the project and the methodology, and provides an in-depth presentation and discussion of the results of the assessment;
  - Impact Assessment Brief: A four-page brief presenting the key details and findings of the assessment;
  - Impact Assessment Infographic: A two-page graphic presentation of the key findings of the assessment
  - We share the results via regional workshop
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IFAD & CGIAR (2013-2018)

- **No. of grants approved**
  - IFAD: 39
  - EC: 20
  - IFAD-EC: 11

- **Amounts approved**
  - IFAD: $57,000,000
  - EC: $45,000,000
  - IFAD-EC: $53,000,000
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CONCLUSIONS

• The market for knowledge fails because there are problems on the producer and consumer sides.

• This "last mile" problem cannot be resolved until researchers ask relevant questions and communicate answers properly and until policy makers see the value of evidence and using it.

• IFAD & CGIAR: we expect to fund grants that ask questions that are relevant for the type of work that IFAD does with governments in the field.