

Reflections on institutions to guide up-scaling of successful practices and interventions

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Reflections influenced by:

- Efd institution building
 - SLM workshops in Ethiopia
 - TerrAfrica CBF work
 - This workshop
- => A sketch for Efd

Objectives of “institutions”

- Collect and keep relevant data (repository)
 - Knowledge sharing
 - Analyze/synthesize data to:
 - Identify promising technologies;
 - Support upscaling (why successful?)
 - Propose scale of interventions
 - Targeting interventions
- => Efficiency, equity, sustainability

Challenges

- Complex agricultural system
- Interdisciplinary research needed
- Weak formal links between various institutions
- Different “languages”
- Institutional capture/incentive structures
- Lack of capacity and resources

Changing paradigms

1. Conventional agriculture to sustainable agriculture
2. From linear research to extension link – to network of interacting actors.

Broader set of actors

- Researchers (int'l, national, local)
- Policy makers/politicians
- Civil servants in line ministries
- Farm organizations/NGO's/farm groups
- Commercial enterprises
- Media

A sketch for Efd

- Networking at local/regional level between local universities, ag research, extension, NGO's and others. (Menale is champion)
- Common framework for assessing innovations
- Strong centers for data repository, synthesis, running targetting tool (GIS/CBF etc)
- Jointly defined long-term collaborative research on SA/tenure
- Independent impact evaluation.
- Broad communication to multiple actors!