

**Contributions of Bilateral programs to  
national development agendas:**

**The Case of REALISE program**

MANDEFRO NIGUSSIE

# Overview

---

**Agriculture for Ethiopia**

**Optimal vs. Sub-optimal environments**

**Policies and strategies**

**Engagement of Primary Change Agents**

# Breaking vicious cycle of chronic food insecurity

---



**Technology  
push**



**Institutional  
innovation push**



**Market pull**



**Partnership  
model**

# Clear innovation pathways

---

## Participatory problem definition and planning

- **PRA,**
- **Baseline,**
- **Scoping studies**

## Well-defined technology validation procedures

- **Testing and validation**  
(screening technology based on Productivity, profitability, farmers preference, gender and nutrition, sustainability and environmental safety )
- **Demonstration**
- **Pre-scaling**
- **Package development** – locally adapted and context specific

## Result oriented (start with the end in mind)

- **Yield increase**
- **Dietary diversity**
- **Income improvement**
- **Market linkage**
- **Social inclusion** (women & youth)

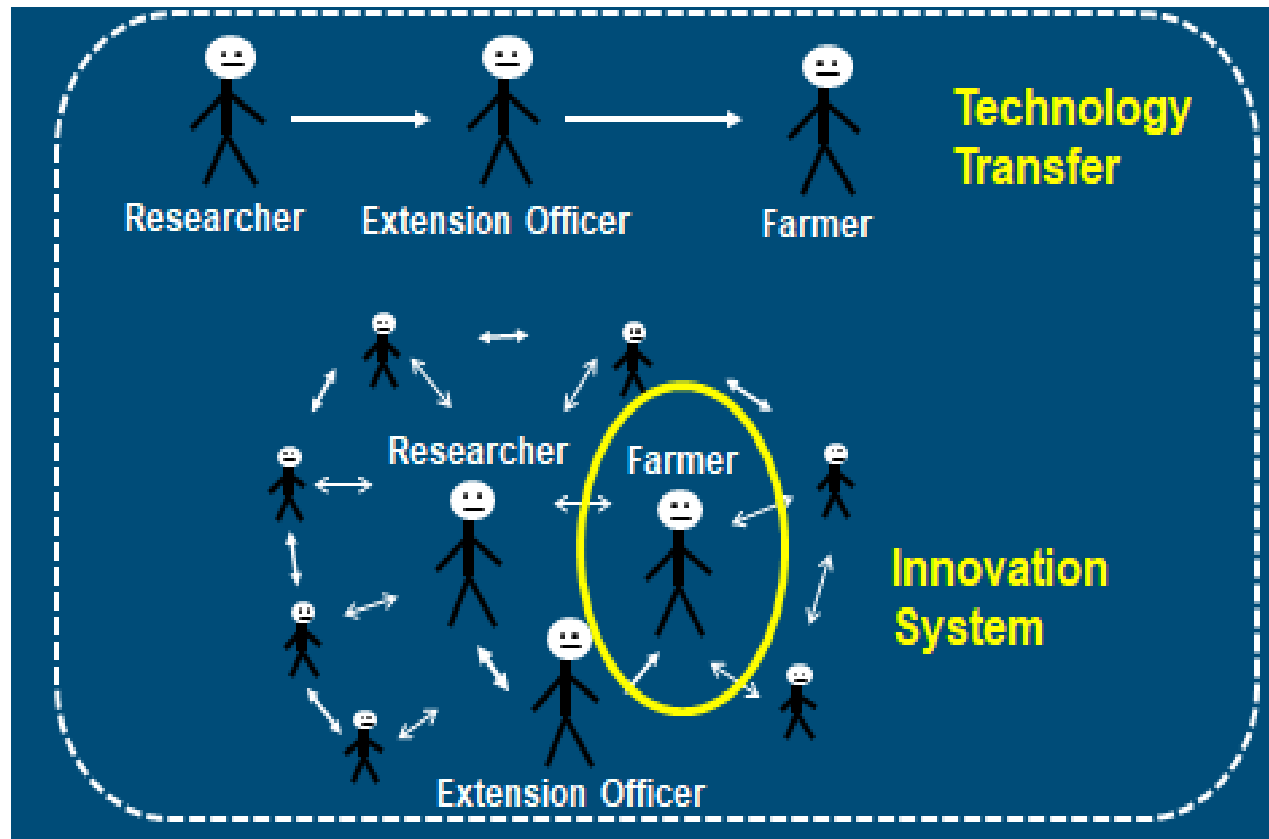
## **Unique institutional arrangement**

- **National Advisory board- it brings the key partners as strategic decision making unit (MoA, EIAR, PSNP)**
- **Regional advisory board- in the regions the advisory board brings BoA, RARIs, University and Disaster Risk management commission (PSNP)**
- **Seconded staff- Research, Extension, livelihood experts of PSNP contribute to institutionalization of learning and cross fertilization of ideas.**
- **Working with primary actors – DAs, FTCs**

## **Appropriately focused**

- ❑ **Clear target (30% yield increase; 30% female participation, best fit practice identification and handing over)**
- ❑ **Clear geographical focus (chronically food insecure areas)...*61 Woredas***
- ❑ **Well defined target communities (PSNP farmers)**
- ❑ **Strong partnership & coordination (HLIs, Research, Extension & PSNP)**
- ❑ **Begins and ends with evidences!**

# Multistakeholder engagement



- **Linear technology transfer model** emphasizes single source of knowledge
- **Innovation system model** acknowledge the multi-actor role in identifying and disseminating innovations
- **Participatory approach** ensures sustainable

**Emphasis on  
both 'Hardware'  
and 'Software'**

## **Technology dimensions**

- **Crop varieties**
- **Use of other inputs**
- **Good management practices etc.**

## **Institutional dimensions**

- **Policy making bodies**
- **Research institutions**
- **Extension and advisory service providers**
- **Financial service providers**
- **Community-based organizations**
- **Food system actors**





**The philosophy of REALISE is based add value**



**Aligning interventions is critical (shared goal, responsibility & accountability)**



Aligning to Gov ongoing work  
as a strategy for better impact

**Complementarity**  
**Synergy & Harmony**



**Positive, better and sustainable changes**

**Layering  
instead of  
duplicating**

# The way foreword

- **Evidences generated tell us that such initiatives can *increase productivity and income of SHF, improvement areas in systems, processes, perceptions, partnership & leadership***
- **Improving the research processes by having the end in mind is critical)**
- **Big ideas and mega projects are required for transformation (Subsistence thinking is an obstacle for growth)**
- **Fostering strong partnership: *Edu-R-E linkages***
- **Generating evidences, synthesizing context specific reports and *sharing with key actors***  
(work on data-information-wisdom linkage)
- **The brain powerhouses should play leading role in *transforming agriculture and food systems of Ethiopia.***
- **Science, technology and innovation based development!**

**Thank you**

---