

WB/SPC PACIFIC AGRICULTURE POLICY PLANNERS WORKSHOP

Research Extension Forum Outcomes & Draft Regional Extension Strategy

Holiday Inn, SUVA

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1. Research and Extension Forum Highlights (2015)
 - Key Outcomes
 - Research Priorities
 - Extension Priorities

2. Regional Extension Strategy (DRAFT)
 - Background/Purpose
 - Methodology/Process
 - Extension Challenges in the Pacific
 - Principles
 - Vision
 - Priority Areas (Regional and Sub-Regional and National)

Why Research and Extension Forum



- REAS are integral components for agricultural production and food and income security for rural communities.
- In the PICTs, REAS face many challenges to meet the increasing demands for effective services:
 - Declining public funding
 - reduction in staff and inadequate operational budgets.
 - low coverage
- Lack of favourable policies and limited linkage and synergy between research and extension programs.
- Strengthen its linkages and cooperation with a wide range of stakeholders and organisations.
- The purpose of the forum is to bring together REAS from the PICTs and key stakeholders and explore ways to dialogues and exchange information and explores opportunities to strengthening REAS

Also....



- Extension Summit 2005 Recommendations:
 - Formation of PIEN/PIRAS endorsed by MOAF in 2008
- Extension Summit 2009 Recommendations:
 - Strengthen Linkages between research and extension
 - Strengthen PIRAS through a governance structure
 - Linkages to other Regional/Global Networks
 - Strengthen PPPs
 - PIRAS needs a strategy

Theme “*Strengthening Agriculture and Forestry Research and Extension Linkages for Sustainable Food Security and Trade*”

Objectives:

- Discuss challenges, opportunities and key priority areas for Research, Extension and Advisory Services (REAS) in the region;
- Provide feedback on national and regional needs to strengthen extension services and the link between research and extension that could be included in a proposed Regional Extension Services Policy Framework that is being supported by SPC, EU-PAPP and GFRAS;
- Discuss the need to revive Pacific Island Research Advisory Services as a mechanism to strengthen REAS linkages, promote advocacy, strengthen collaboration and support for REAS;

Donors and Organisers



- Organisers – LRD-SPC, Gov of Samoa, SROS
- Funding Support – EU through PAPP, USAID through the International Food and Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and through the Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services (GFRAS).
- Additional Funding and Technical Support – FAO, the Asia Pacific Association of Educators on Agriculture and Environment Inc. (APEAEN), USP, ACIAR; SPC/USAID



Participants and The Process



- Participants:
 - Wide Stakeholders - Country Reps (Heads of Extension, Research, Livestock, Forestry); Academia, Private Sector, Farmer Organisations, NGOs, National Research Institutes, development partners
- The Process
 - Pre-Forum:
 - PAFPNet Monthly Query (Research and Extension)
 - Pre-forum Survey (R&E Priorities and Approaches)
 - Forum Process
 - Information sharing/Discussions on Key Thematic Areas (R&E)a
 - Distilled Issues (Research and Extension Priorities)
 - Prioritisation of issues/needs
 - Adoption of REAS Priorities & RES Framework



Key Outcome

- Apia Communique calling on a number of actions to strengthening REAS

Outcomes – Livestock Research Priorities

- Priorities
 - Conduct inventory of livestock research in the region over the last 30 years
 - Research greater use of **local ingredients for livestock feed**.
 - Research cereals, pasture and fodder crops improvement for **livestock feed**.
 - Conduct inventory, characterisation, multiplication and conservation of **local breeds** through a breed improvement programme to improve local breed production in PICTs
 - Explore better ways of managing and utilising livestock waste.
 - Promote **food safety** and **quality** for livestock products e.g. meat, eggs, milk.
 - Market research and economic cost-benefit analyses in the livestock sector.
 - Introduction of animal welfare concept to improve livestock husbandry practices in the PICTs
 - Establish an inventory of **local feed ingredients** in the PICTs.
 - Design better record keeping skills for non-record keepers.
 - Research on climate change adapted livestock housing designs.

Outcomes – Forestry Research Priorities

- Research Priorities
 - Facilitate an inventory of agro forestry research in the region in the last 20 – 30 years.
 - Research how **agroforestry** can help address healthier **diets** and lifestyles.
 - Identify mechanisms for integrating agroforestry into farming practices.
 - Build understanding in applying **agroforestry** systems to climate change adaptation.
 - Identify and promote native and introduced trees that meet production and ecological aims, as well as suiting our traditional systems.
 - Determine the nutrient and other deficiencies of various **agroforestry** systems and work out corrective measures.
 - Highlight the costs and benefits to farmers of **agroforestry** versus mono cropping.
 - Share knowledge on **value adding** for seasonal crops e.g. breadfruit.
 - Promote suitable species for conservation and tree planting schemes.
 - Document the traditional Micronesian **agroforestry** systems.

Outcomes Crops Research Priorities



- Taro – post-harvest research, salinity, taro beetle (pest & disease), genetic resources, nutrition of leaves, **value-adding**
- Sweet potato – pests, nutrition, **value-adding** (market access)
- Vegetables – off-season (protective cropping), pests, PGR, organic (suitable production)
- Breadfruit – **value adding** (market access), pests, PGR
- Coconut – **value adding**, pests
- Fruits & Nuts (Banana – pests; Citrus – pests, salinity; Papaya – **market access**)

Prioritised Research Areas



- Value added products (High)
- Market Accessibility & utilisation (High)
- Pests and Diseases (High)
- Plant Genetic Resources (Medium)
- Off seasons production (Vegetables) (Medium)
- Agroforestry - Integration with livestock systems (Medium)
- Livestock Feed (Medium)

1. PIRAS revived - Purpose:
 - Networking and sharing of information
 - Professional development
 - Representation of Members
2. Agreed on a PIRAS Logo
3. Board Members
 - Tokintekai Bakineti representing Micronesia
 - Michael Ho'ota representing Melanesia
 - Brian Tairea representing Polynesia
 - Seumanutafa Dr. Malcom Hazelman – representing Farmers Organizations
 - Prof. Mohammed Umar representing USP
 - SPC representative
 - Dr. Christine King – International Linkages
 - Mulitalo Penaia Saena – representing Private Sector
4. Going Forward
 - Governance Structure (to be finalised)
 - Plan of Work – Priority areas defined
 - PIRAS Web Portal
 - RES Framework



PIRAS_1.mp4 (Command Line)





Questions, Comments, Additions on these priorities?

Regional Extension Strategy



Land Resources Division

The Pacific Islands Extension Strategy

Strategic Priorities in
Agricultural Advisory and
Extension Delivery 2015-2020

*Dr Christine King
Dr Chris Jacobson
Dr Salend Kumar*



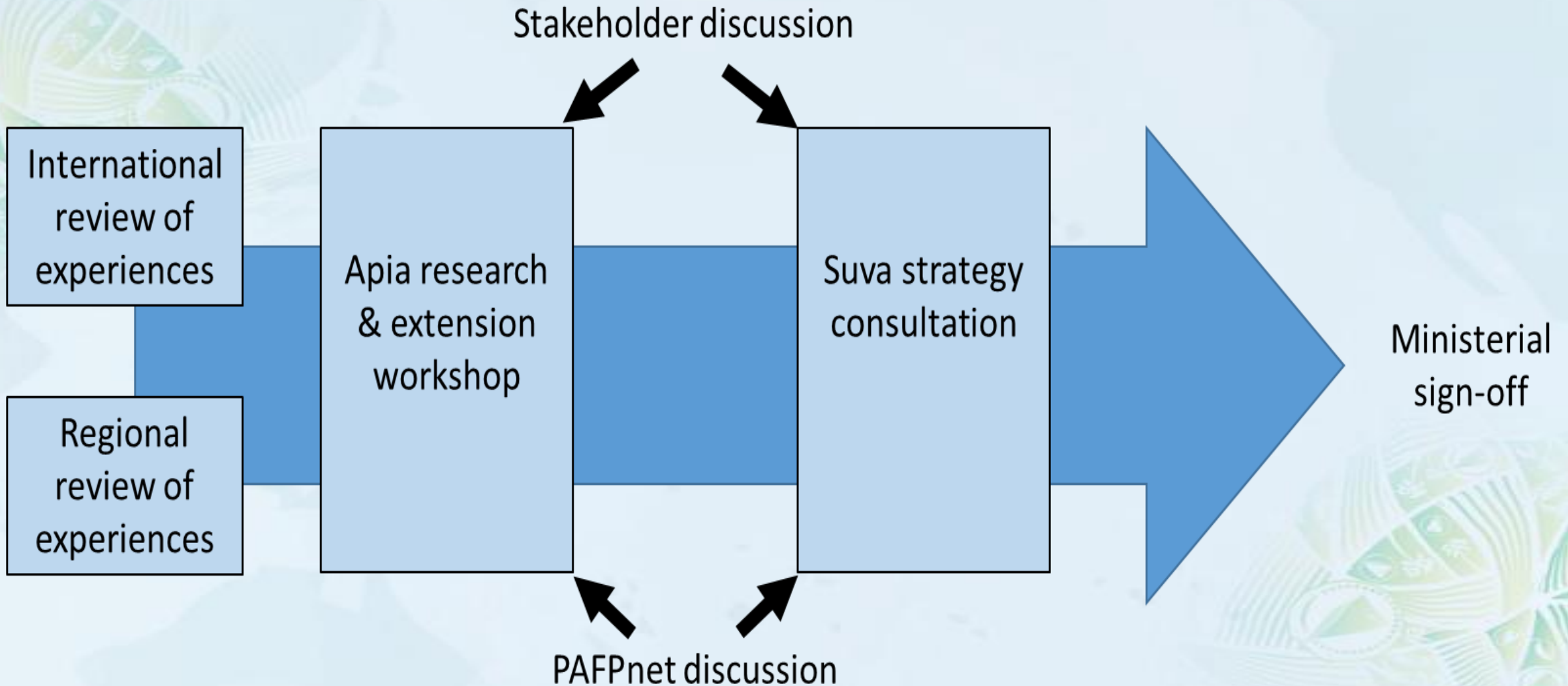
Extension Excellence, Resilient Communities



SPC
Secretariat
of the Pacific
Community

 **University of the
Sunshine Coast**
Queensland, Australia

Methodology/Process



Purpose



- Providing a coherent regional framework for RAS (Regional and Sub-regional) priorities, and a process for country specific application;
- Acknowledging and clarifying roles and responsibilities of the diversity of stakeholders who contribute to RAS ensuring that the effectiveness of extension approaches can be easily assessed;
- Advocating for and streamlining investment in RAS in the Pacific Islands;
- Institutionalizing support for agricultural advisory and extension services by providing strategic guidelines to develop supportive and conducive institutional and policy frameworks; and
- Working with PIRAS to enhance the effectiveness of networking, knowledge sharing and capacity building for extension so that livelihood and agri-systems resilience is enhanced.

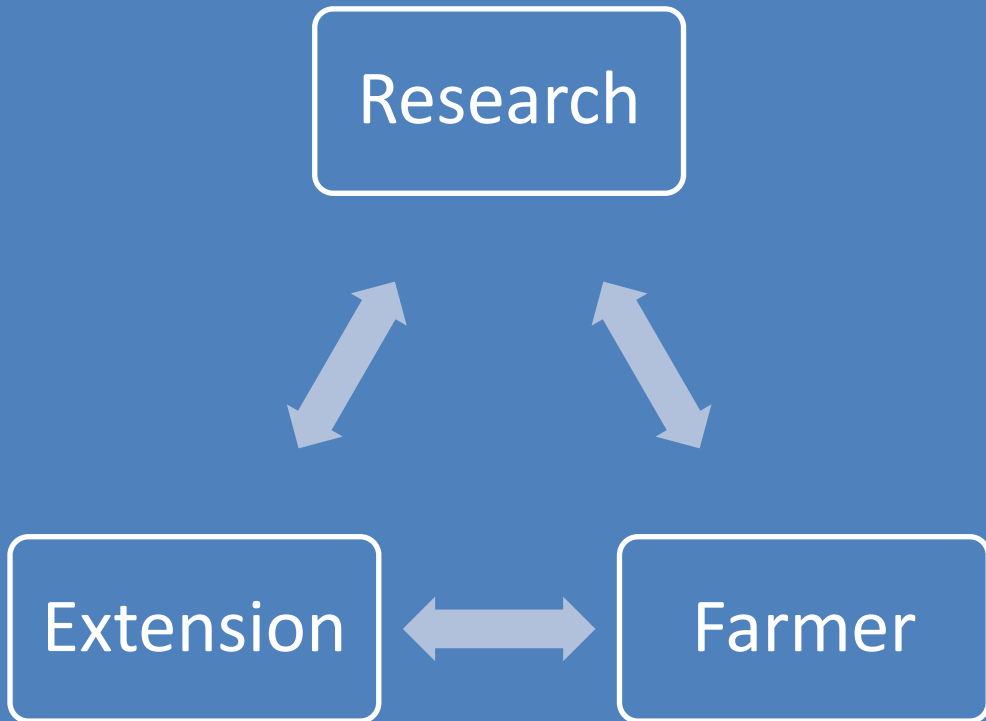
International Context



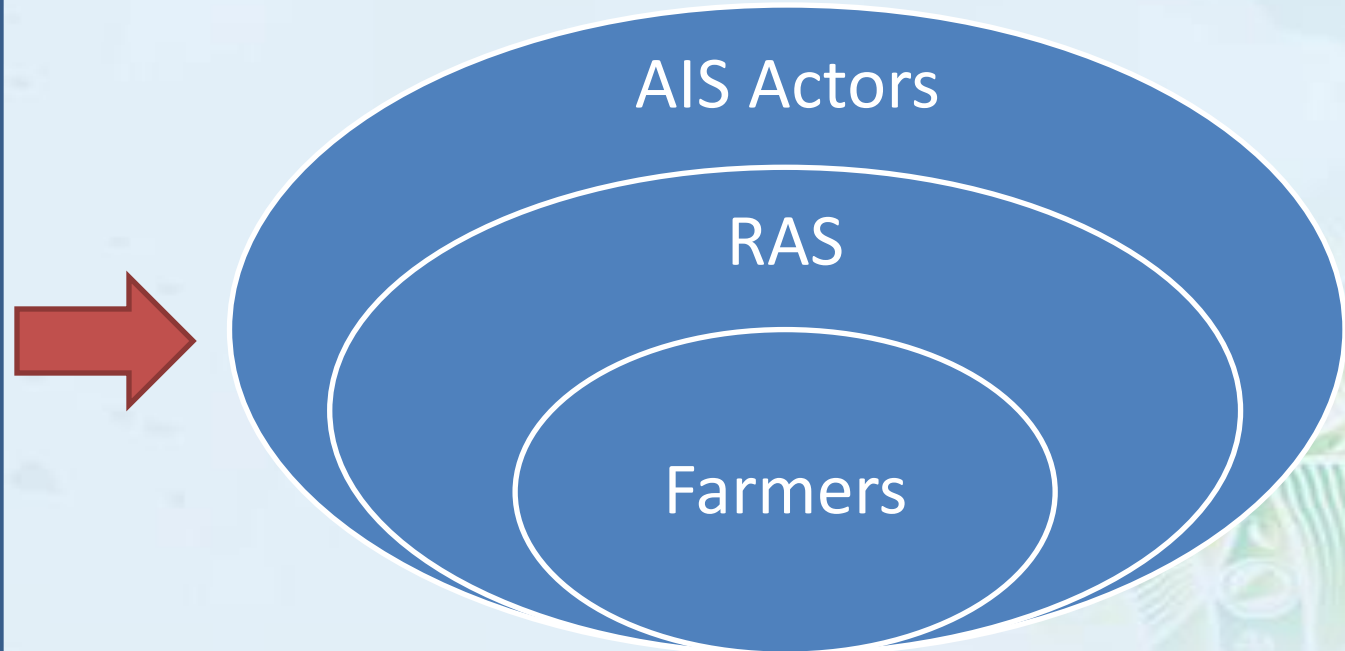
Technology Transfer



Agri Knowledge and Information System Approach



Innovation Systems Approach



Extension Challenges in the Pacific



- **Communication between Stakeholders**
- **Moving beyond subsistence agricultural and forestry economy**
- **Research and Extension Linkage**
- **Education & vulnerable Groups**
- **Support for agricultural advisory services**
 - Expanding demands
 - Declining public support; negative perception of extension
 - Strengthen Partnerships for better impact
 - Capacity Building

Areas of capacity building (ACIAR, SPC, 2009)



Agri-Husbandry

Pest and Disease; Soil Fertility; Research Methods; Marketing; Trade; Food Processing; Farm Management; Environment and Climate Change; Livestock Extension; Crop Production; Analytical Skills; Technical Skills.

Social

Facilitation skills; Attitudes; Motivation; Negotiation; Cooperation; Traditional Ways; Group Dynamics, Value Farmers Experience; Involvement; Understanding of Traditions.

Areas Needing Capacity Building

Service Delivery

Participatory Methods; ICT; Awareness Campaigning; Community engagement; Information Dissemination Skills; Computing Skills; Communication Questionnaire and Survey Skills; Sharing Knowledge; Networking Training and Education; Problem solving; Prioritizing; Gender; Participation

Administration

Report Writing
Project Management
Project Proposal Writing
Monitoring and Evaluation
Leadership
Documentation
Management
Policy
Governance
Decentralization
Accountability
Transparency
Ethics

Principles



- **Sustainable:** local **food security and nutritional** needs are met
- **Inclusive:** local needs, including those of **vulnerable groups**, are a starting point
- **Connected:** **shares information** at and between local, national, sub-regional and regional scales
- **Outcome-based:** forward thinking seizing new and **innovative** opportunities
- **SMART:** builds education, **training and capacity** in an efficient way
- **Appreciative:** recognises the skills, **knowledge** and experiences of **farmers** and extension workers
- **Implementable:** reflects **resources** and **capacities**, focussing on core priorities
- **Facilitative:** provides guidance to be adapted to **context** rather than prescriptions



Vision

Extension Excellence, Resilient Communities

- ***Extension Excellence*** - best fit practices, partnerships, learning centres, placing farmers at the centre, systems focus; evidence based and innovation
- ***Resilient Communities*** - build the capacity of individuals and communities to improve food and income food security

Who is involved?



Stakeholder group	Role
Regional governmental groups, e.g. SPC	SPC has taken a lead role in the development of this strategy and their ongoing commitment to providing will be critical to its success
Regional and national non-governmental groups and networks, e.g. PIRAS, GFRAS	Drive networking, learning, communication and co-ordination at the regional scale
PICT National Governments	Endorse and provide resources for regional, sub-regional and national strategies and for Regional Extension and Advisory Services more broadly, and support linkages on cross-cutting issues (e.g. agricultural education)
International Aid and research and extension organisations (e.g. ACIAR, FAO, IFAD)	Provide funding, scientific and technical knowledge that addresses regional priorities of mutual interest and benefit
Educational providers (e.g. universities, schools)	Provide education and vocational training that ensures clear career pathways, extension skill development and passion for agricultural development
Co-operatives (e.g. Federated Farmer organisations)	Identify and communicate farmer needs and support best practice agricultural development through lesson sharing
Sub-regional and Non-Governmental Organisations	Work with a range of stakeholders to ensure the needs of all, including the most vulnerable, are incorporated
Private enterprise	Work with regional extension advisory services to provide skills and mentoring that enables farmers to bridge the gap between subsistence agriculture and market based agricultural economies

Strategic Regional Priorities



- **7.1** Build capacity to effectively service growing demands on agricultural advisory services and extension
 - Individual, Institutional and Systems
- **7.2** Enhance regional co-ordination and evidence based practice
 - Information and knowledge sharing on best fist practices
- **7.3** Develop coherent policy frameworks, institutional support mechanisms, and monitoring and evaluation processes
 - Policy Support and alignment to sub-regional and national specific contexts
- **7.4** Enhance stakeholder coordination and engagement to ensure inclusiveness
 - Recognising vulnerable and disadvantaged groups
- **7.5** Support a shift beyond subsistence farming toward agribusiness and agroforestry that bolster rural livelihoods
 - Commercialisation of small holders through strong partnerships
- **7.6** Embedding education and research within service delivery
 - Professionalism and ongoing training program through strong partnership with educational institutions

Sub-regional and Country Specific Priorities

- **8.1 Providing the right services**
 - Review and evaluation of extension models for consistency and efficiency
- **8.2 By the right team**
 - right messages, messengers, right platforms
- **8.3 In the right place**
 - farmer centered with systems and infrastructure support
- **8.4 In the right way**
 - multi-stakeholder partnerships and ongoing capacity building
- **8.5 At the right time**
 - Effective in responding to demands

Next Step



- Further Consultation with Stakeholders
- Validation Meeting planned for 13-15 October, Nadi 2015
- Final Consultation – Until next HOAFS/MOAF Meeting
- Submission for Endorsement by HOAFS/MOAF



WELCOME COMMENTS and INPUTS!

Thank you