



ROLE OF AFAAS IN SCALING SCIENCE –BASED SOIL HEALTH CAPACITIES, INFORMATION AND PRACTICES FOR SUSTAINABLE INTENSIFICATION

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SLIDE APPROACH

INTRODUCTION (Key Concerns and Thoughts)

AGRICULTURA EXTENSION AND
ADVISORY SERVICES (AEAS) AND
SCALING WITHIN THE AFRICAN R&D
ECOSYSTEM

ABOUT AFAAS CONTEXT OF AARIEIS

ROLE OF AEAS IN SCALING



Key Concerns

Major Content
Challenges



Climate Change effect

Degraded soils and Low productivity

Increasing population particularly Youth population

Under-employment

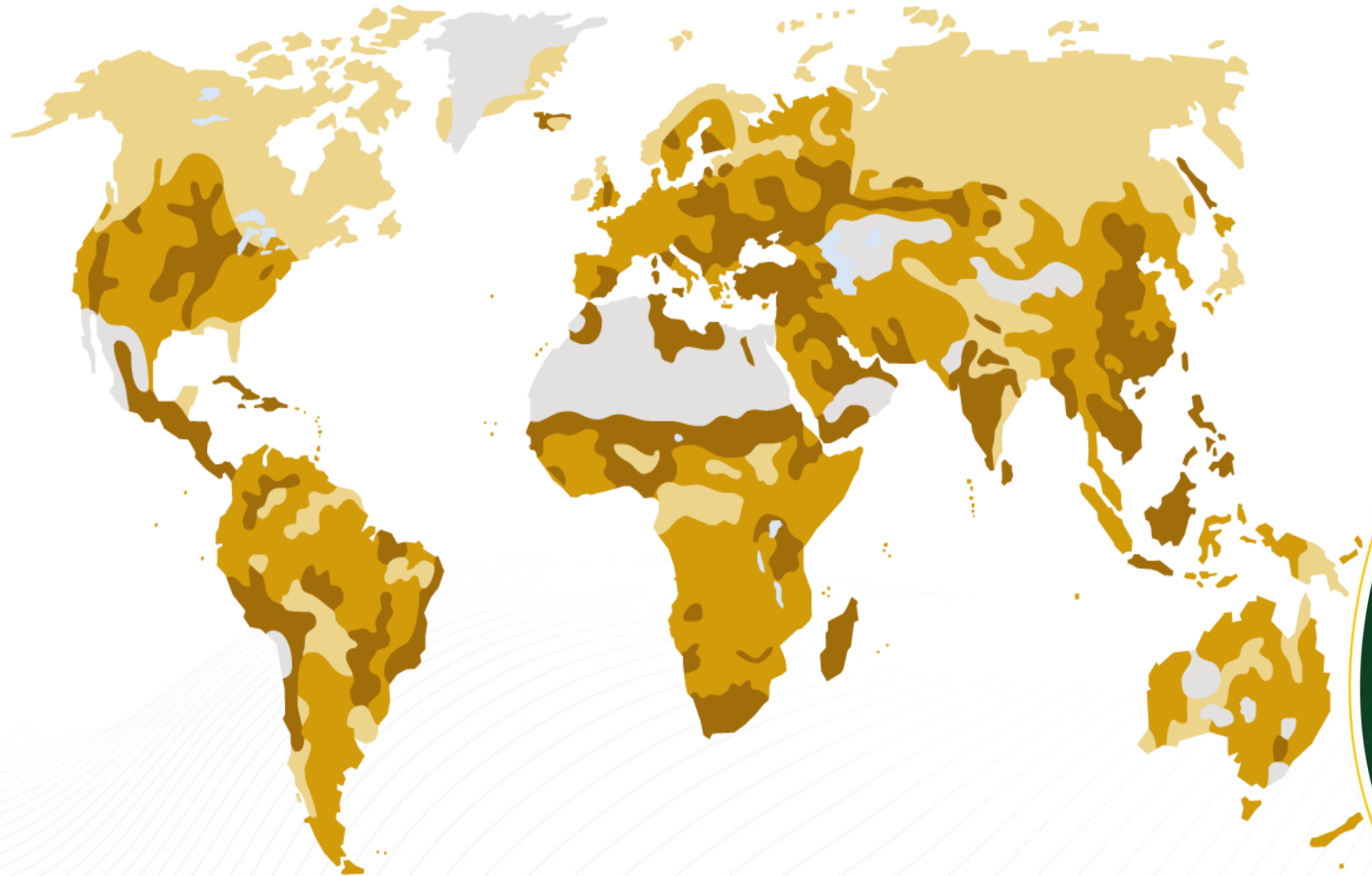
Nutrition



Key Concerns

Key

- Very degraded soil
- Degraded soil
- Stable soil
- Without vegetation



SOME THOUGHTS ON AFRICAN SOILS

- Africa soil is the core resource for sustainable agriculture,
- Africa soil is rich but also fragile; requires good handling for sustainable production;
- But there is Sub-optimal Research, Innovation, Human Capital and policy attentional



Strategic Framework for Scaling in SIA

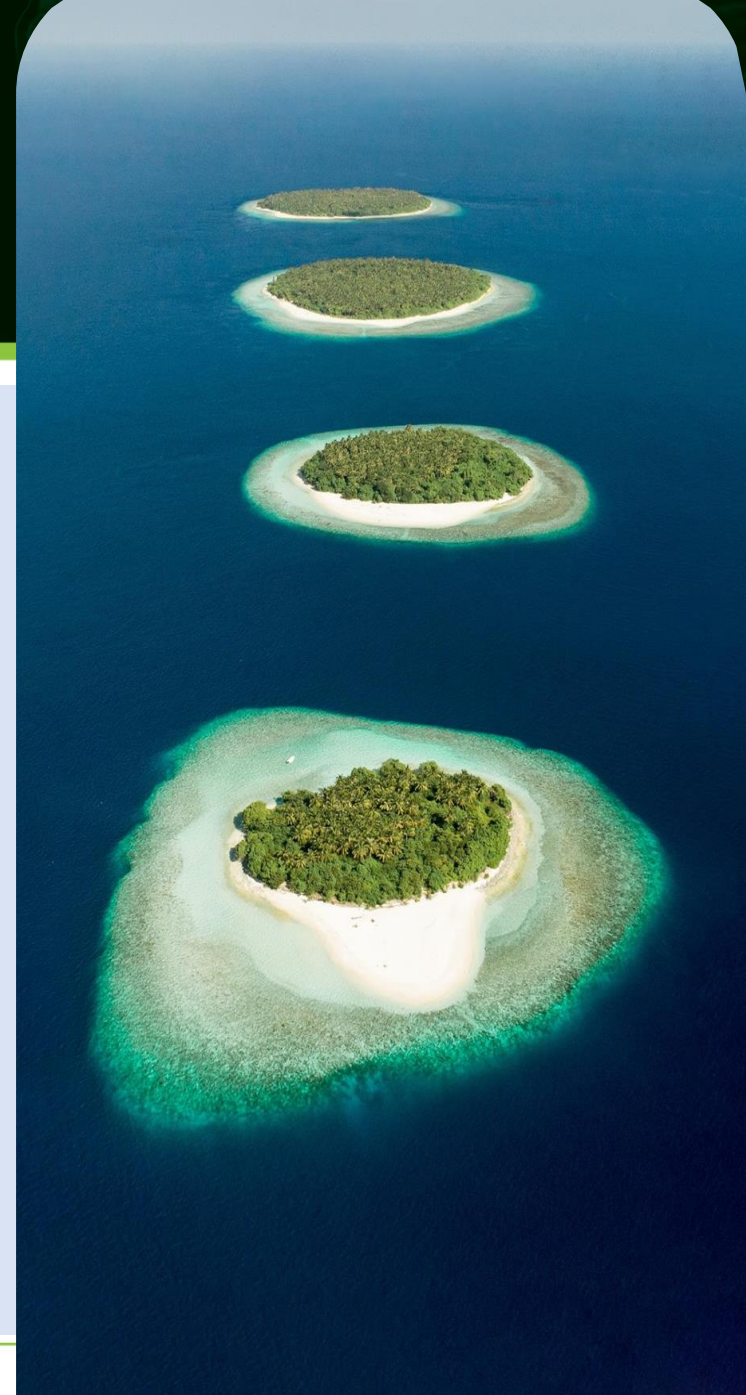
Scaling involves expanding the use of successful soil health practices across Africa to reach millions

- **Key elements of scaling:**
 - Sustained intervention and learning over time
 - Appropriate Policies and Institutional support
 - Technological innovation,
 - Human capital development,
 - Expand range of and Strengthen Capacity of Scaling Pathways
 - Continuous generation, dissemination and access of appropriate Knowledge and Information



Changing the way we think about and do scaling

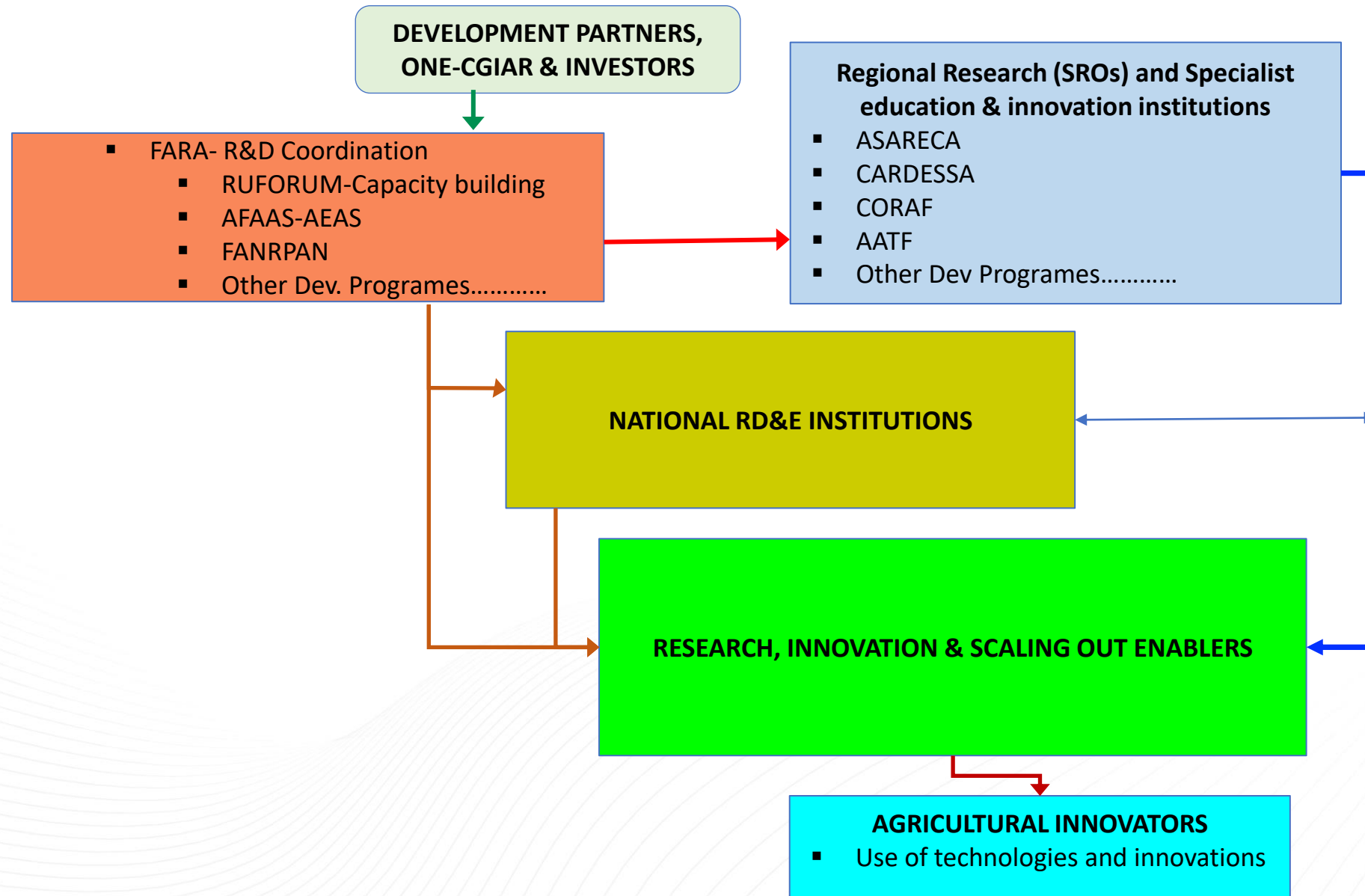
- Scaling initiatives have led largely to islands of very local short-lived success that do not lead to lasting change in the system
- Consider the resource waste, and how much more resources are currently planned to "scale what works."



AGRICULTURA EXTENSION AND ADVISORY SERVICES (AEAS) AND SCALING WITHIN THE AFRICAN R&D ECOSYSTEM



AFRICAN RESEACH, INNOVATION AND EDUCATION (AARIEIs) ECO-SYSTEM



National

The AARIEs operate within the National Agricultural Systems (NAAS) in areas of research, capacity development, innovation, and scaling out processes .

NAS' Roles

Enabling Environment, Institutional and organizational set up and strengthening

Research, Capacity Development, Innovation & Scaling-out processes

National repository of technologies & methods available for scaling-out

Sub-grants awarded to enabler institutions & members

Oversight & M&E of the funded projects

National-level partnership building

Brokerage & business incubation service to members

CIKM etc.....



ABOUT AFAAS CONTEXT OF AARIEIS



- AFAAS is the continental platform for scaling & mutual learning and innovation among Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services (AEAS) providers across Africa.
- Works within a wider collaborative framework on the African Agricultural Research, Innovation and Education Institutions (AARIEISs) and Partner Organisations
- AUC mandate on AEAS thus scaling AEAS

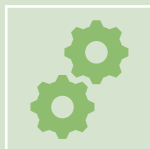
AFAAS- 24 countries with 5382 members (4853 individuals, 60 CSOs; 32 academic institutions; 15 media organisations, and 22 private companies).



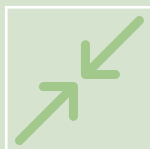
STRATEGIC PILLARS



Strengthening and expanding network and knowledge management capacities;

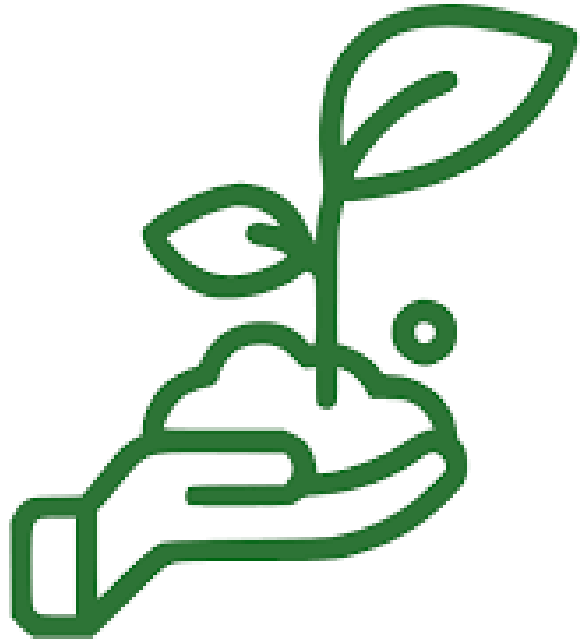


Developing capacities for outreach and scaling out technologies and Innovations;



Facilitating advancement of AEAS.

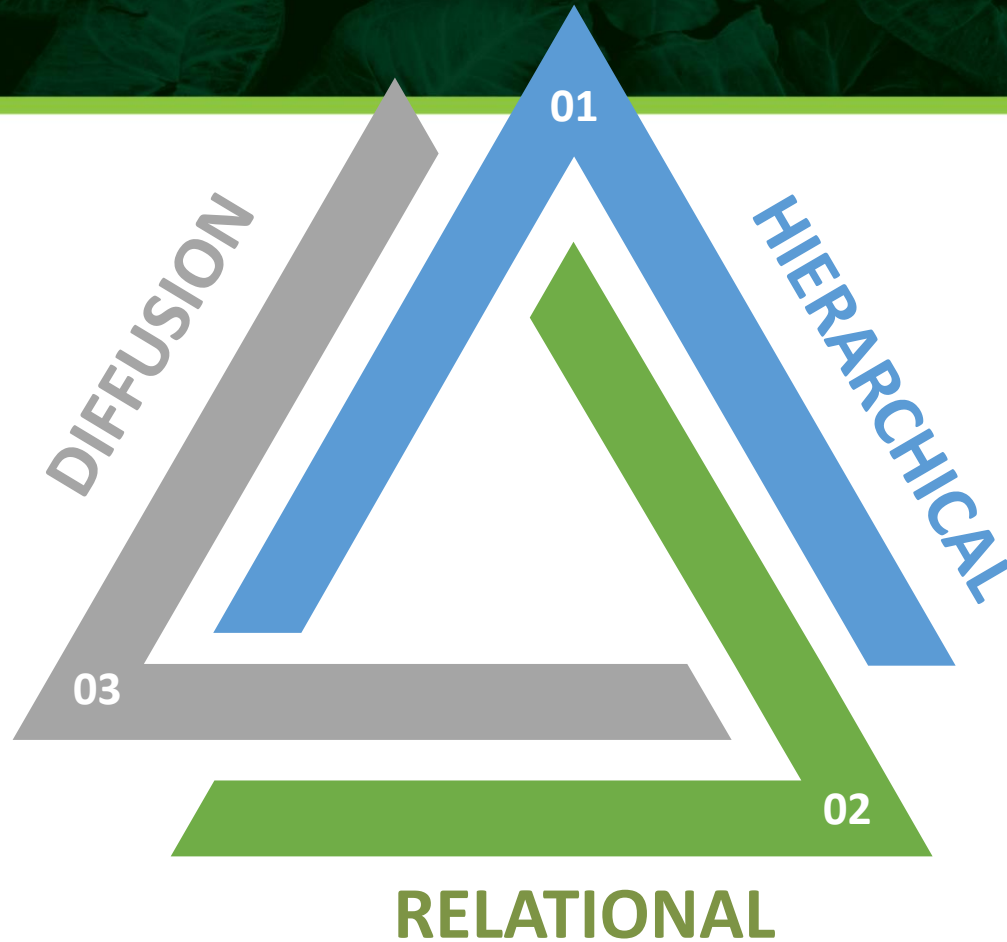




ROLE OF AEAS IN SCALING



KEY APPROACHES FOR SCALING SOIL SCIENCE TECHNOLOGIES INNOVATIONS:



01

HIERARCHICAL

Scaling through top-down, planned programmes that are often driven by strong central leadership.

02

RELATIONAL

Scaling through networks, social links and informal groupings that aim to promote the accumulation of social capital through decentralization, participatory methods, and empowerment techniques

03

DIFFUSION

Scaling motivated by individual interest leading to individuals' actions, “**mediated in a marketplace for goods, services, and ideas**” (----> resulting in diffusion of technologies to others)

*Reference: Ajayi M. T, Fatunbi A. O and Akinbamijo O. O. (2018).
Strategies for Scaling Agricultural Technologies in Africa. Chapter 2.
Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA), Accra Ghana*



DRIVERS OF SCALING OUT AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGIES

Policy & Organisational Framework

Enabling Environment & Formal and informal structures for effective coordination, resource mobilization and facilitate collaboration

Human Capacity and Capital

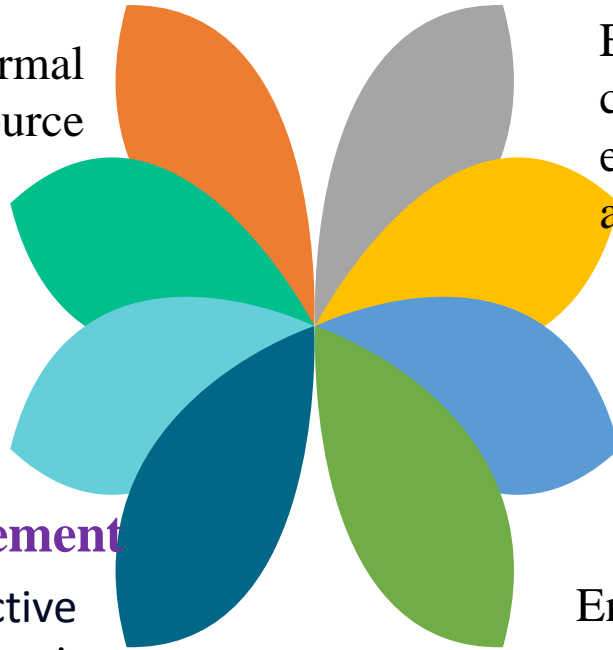
Developing & mobilizing human stock of knowledge, skills and expertise for scaling technologies and innovations.

Communication & Knowledge Management

Organizing, creating, using, and sharing collective knowledge and information for learning, innovation and improvement

Marketplace for Demand to Meet Supply

Creating a marketplace where demand for technologies, innovations and associated products and services meet supply



Provides Employment and Job Creation

Ensure scaling out technologies & Innovation create employment and jobs, thus stimulating economic growth and diversification in the agricultural sector.

Methods, Approaches, and Tools

Deploy Participatory approaches and innovative tools to enhance the adoption and diffusion of technologies and innovations.

Funding & Funding Mechanisms

Ensure adequate and appropriate funding and funds flow mechanisms for research, and innovations and capacity building.

Partnerships and Collaboration

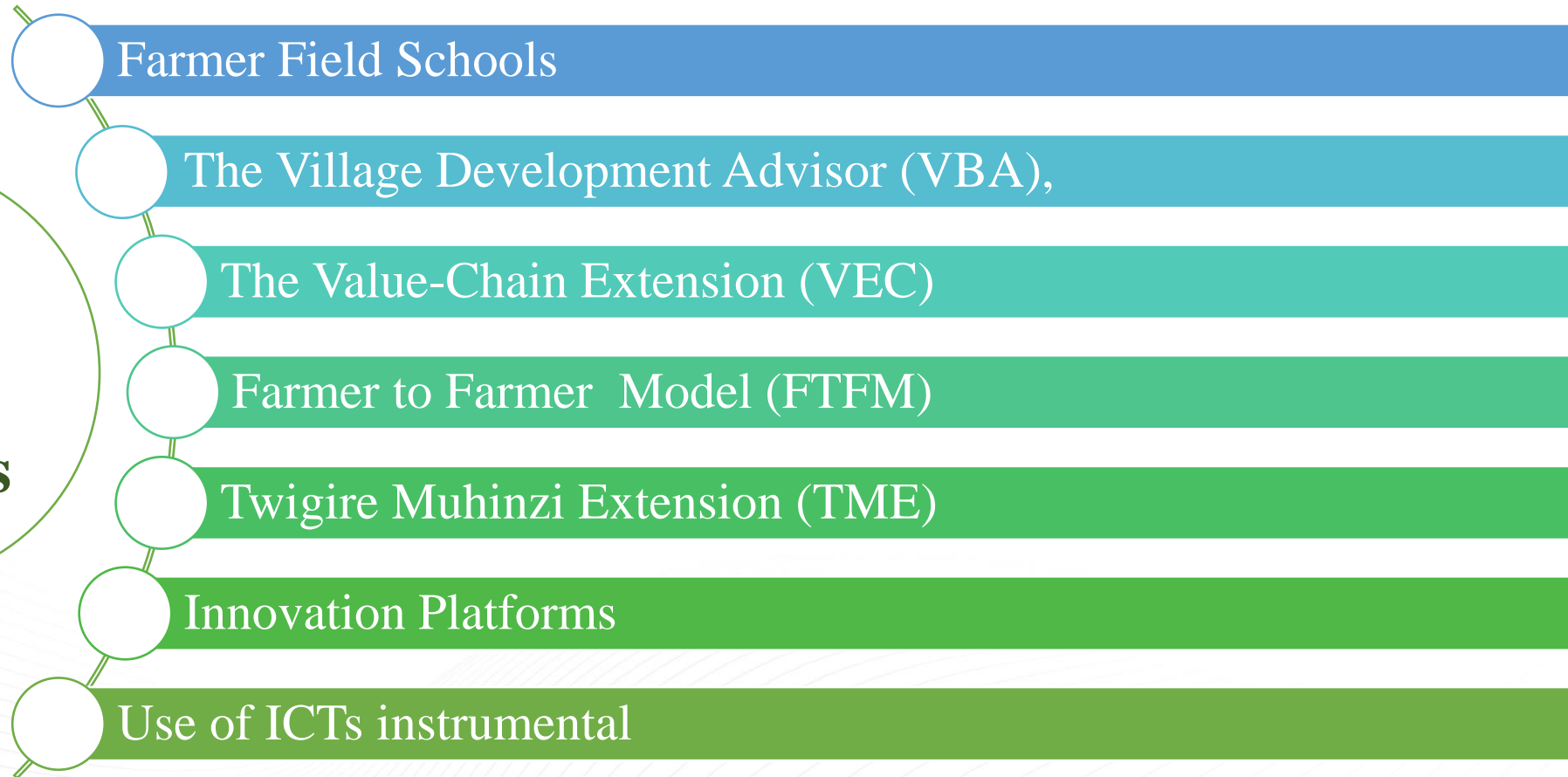
To ensure scaling up and out technologies and innovations – specifically mobilizing & optimizing resource use, shared expertise and capacities, lesson learning, joint, implementation etc.

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY AND EXTENSION METHODS/MODELS

No “best fit practice or a magic model” for all situations and countries. Best models need to be flexible, participatory, and sustainable (“smart”) to meet conditions of different countries and farming systems.

Some examples;

AEAS Models & Methods



NOTE: The use of ICTs is essential for enhancing the effectiveness of AEAS, regardless of the specific extension method being used. Some AEAS methods are championed by architectures hence, these need to be objectively studied to contextualize .

Challenges and potential solutions in AEAS delivery

Challenges

Inadequate enabling policy and Institutional arrangements

Poor Coordination & Islands of interventions

Diversity & Dynamism of needs for soil science knowledge by extension agents

Poor Access, disconnected knowledge systems & limited availability of appropriately packaged content

Unavailability of platforms for experiential learning

Inadequate expert pool of capacity and knowledge

Limited resources and impact data

Generic Solutions

Enabling Policy and Appropriate Institutional Arrangements at all levels

Develop Marketplace for soil science Capacity development and information services

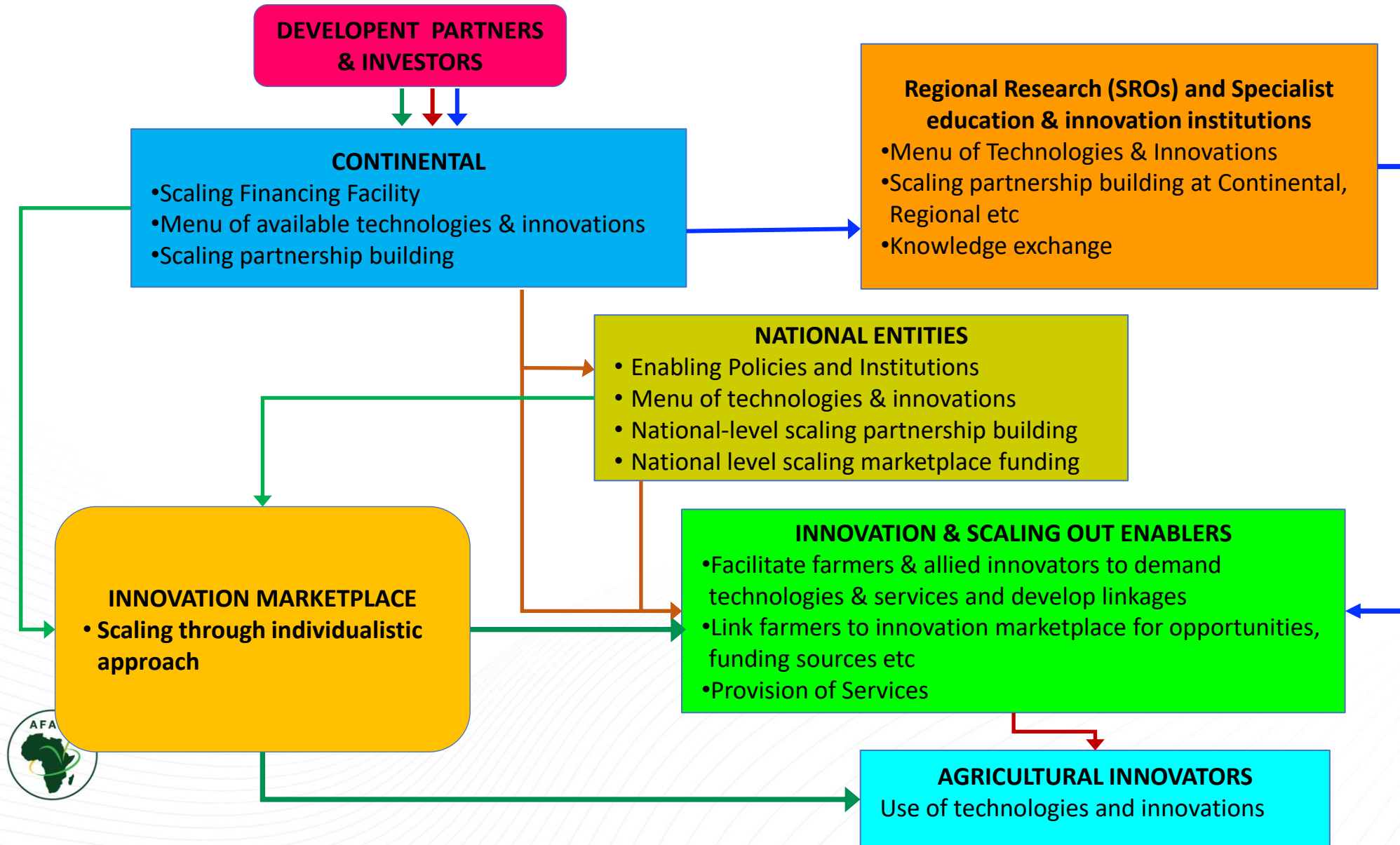
Networking, collaboration and partnerships

Platform for content generation and “many-to-many” communication and engagement

Increase Capacity and Knowledge pool at all levels

Work on indicators, data collection

ORGANISATIONAL SYSTEM FOR SCALING



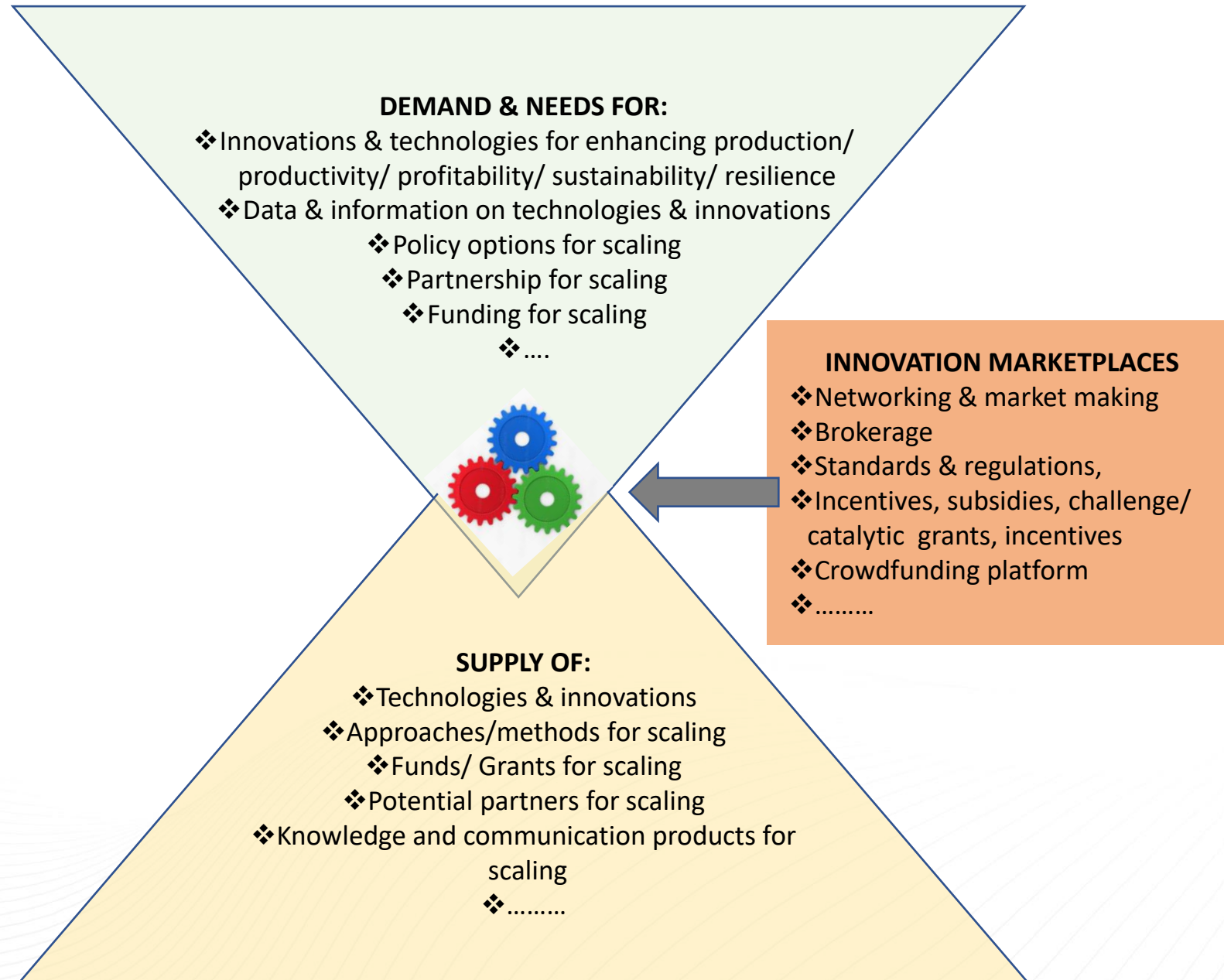
A FRAMEWORK FOR HUMAN CAPITAL FOR SCALING TECHNOLOGIES AND INNOVATIONS

CATEGORY OF ENABLERS	CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT
DONORS, PARTNERS & INVESTORS	
CONTINENTAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Menu of CD Opportunities and services • CD Partnership building • Capacity development Financing Facility
RESEARCH, INNOVATION & EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Developing/ promoting new scaling methods & approaches and training curricular through expansion
NATIONAL ENTITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CD through replication approach ▪ Menu of CD services and opportunities ▪ National-level CD partnership building ▪ CD Financing Facility and CD of members ▪ National level marketplace for CD funding
INNOVATION & SCALING OUT ENABLERS –AEAS providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CD of farmers and allied innovators ▪ Facilitate farmers/ allied innovators to demand CD services ▪ Link farmers to funding from the marketplace/ other sources
INNOVATION MARKETPLACE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CD through individualistic approach/ diffusion
AGRICULTURAL INNOVATORS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enhanced innovation capacity

FRAMEWORK FOR SCALING COMMUNICATION & KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT and MEL

CATEGORY OF ENABLERS	FRAMEWORK FOR SCALING COMMUNICATION & KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT	FRAMEWORK FOR MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF SCALING
DONORS, PARTNERS & INVESTORS		
CONTINENTAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CIKM Financing budget, governance • Central website portal/ Integrated tools and Platforms • Engagement (workshops, conferences,) • Overall generation of communication products • CIKM partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ M&E Financing budget ▪ M&E General guidelines and tools ▪ Repository of data/ indicators of agric. Innovation ▪ Commissioning M&E studies and research ▪ Overall M&E reports and knowledge products
RESEARCH, INNOVATION & EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Thought leadership and foresight content ▪ Thematic conferences & workshops ▪ Studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Studies on impact of technology scaling ▪ Research M&E scaling methods and approaches
NATIONAL PLATFORMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National-level CIKM budget ▪ Cloned websites linked to portal ▪ Commissioning content generation for national context ▪ National engagement (Workshops, meetings,...) ▪ Customizing/ adapting tools and platforms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National-level M&E budget, National scaling data ▪ Adapting M&E guidelines and tools to ▪ Commissioning national-level M&E studies ▪ National engagement (Workshops, meetings,...) ▪ Overall M&E reports and knowledge products
INNOVATION & SCALING OUT ENABLERS –AEAS Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Content generation (synthesis of news, stories, experiences,..) and Engagement (learning and sharing workshops, meetings, ..) 	M&E of tech and innovation uptake, and job creation
INNOVATION MARKETPLACE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Virtual Social Networking Platform. (individual/ organizational dashboards, collaborative tools, social content generation, knowledge resources, social data,...) 	Qualitative & quantitative: Network growth, Technology diffusion & Job creation
AGRICULTURAL INNOVATORS	❖ News ❖ Stories ❖ Experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Data and information on: *Innovation, Job creation *Livelihood change * agri-food system resilience

BUILDING A MARKETPLACE FOR SCALING TECHNOLOGIES AND INNOVATIONS



THANK YOU

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