Agricultural Extension and Education for the Future

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What's going on in agriculture globally?

- Nutrition issues
- Trade protectionism
- Climate change "un-progress"
- Crises & conflict
- Entrepreneurship

Source: IFPRI Global Food Policy Report 2019 Synopsis. Washington, DC: IFPRI

What's ahead? Rural revitalization

- Rural livelihoods
- Women's empowerment
- Environment
- Energy
- Governance
- "Rurbanomics"

Source: IFPRI Global Food Policy Report 2019 Synopsis. Washington, DC: IFPRI

What does this mean for extension and education? Overview:

- Models
- Issues & hot topics
- Competencies

“Hey, Siri, what is the future of extension?”

Source: King, D. September 2018. Hey, Siri, What Is the Future of Extension? Journal of Extension 56(5).

Where is this perspective coming from?

- General trends seen globally
- Thoughts from key thinkers in the field
- Document search
    - JAEE
    - JIAEE
    - JOE
- ESEE 2019!

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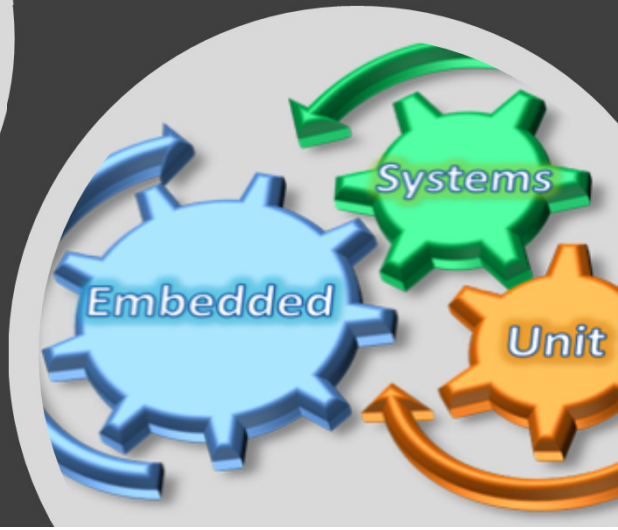
Models – Key elements

- Systems-based – Thinking holistically
- Sustainable – Being there for clients in the long term
- Scale – How to improve our reach?



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Models – Key elements – Systems thinking

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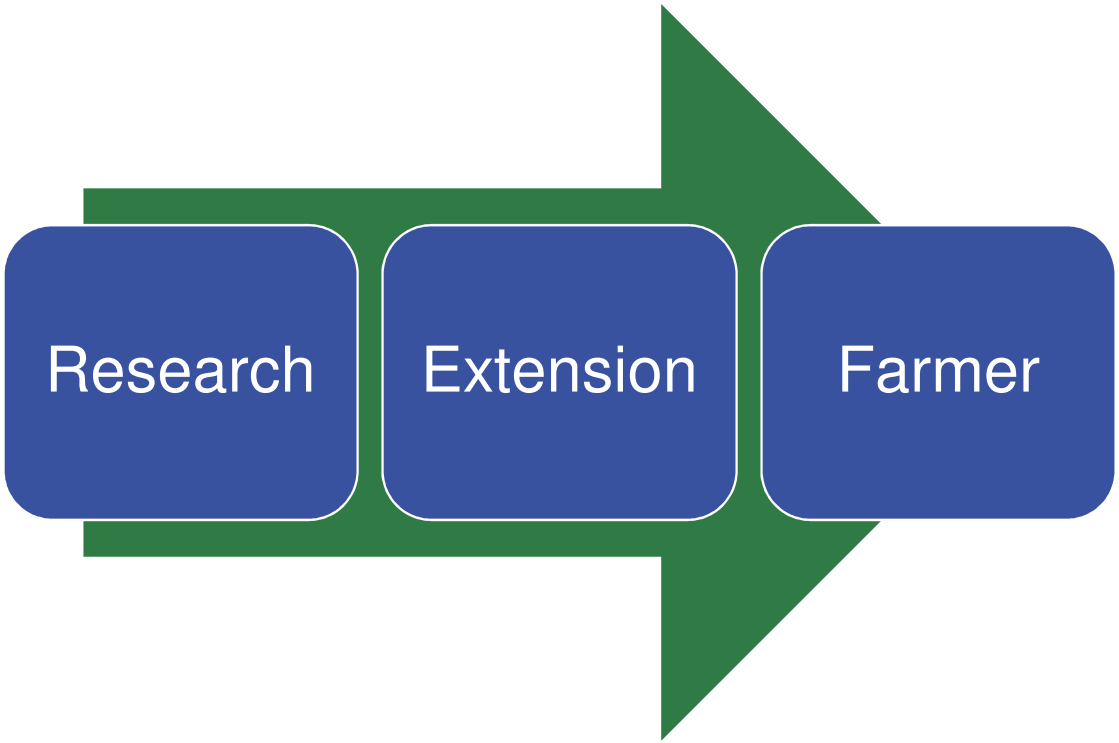
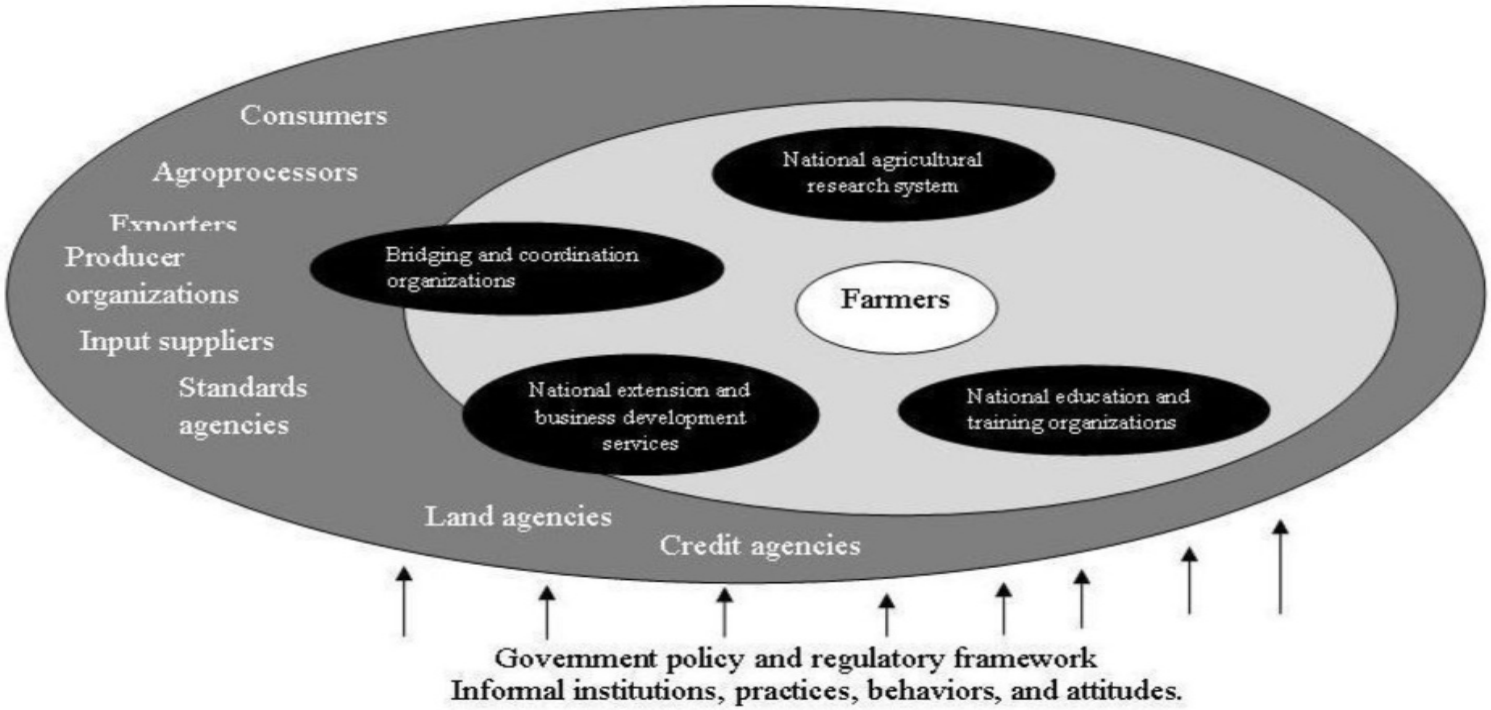
From transfer of technology…



…to agricultural innovation systems

Figure 1 An Agricultural Innovation System



Source: The World bank (2012) Agricultural Innovation Systems An Investment Source Book (Modified from Rivera et. al.n.d.)

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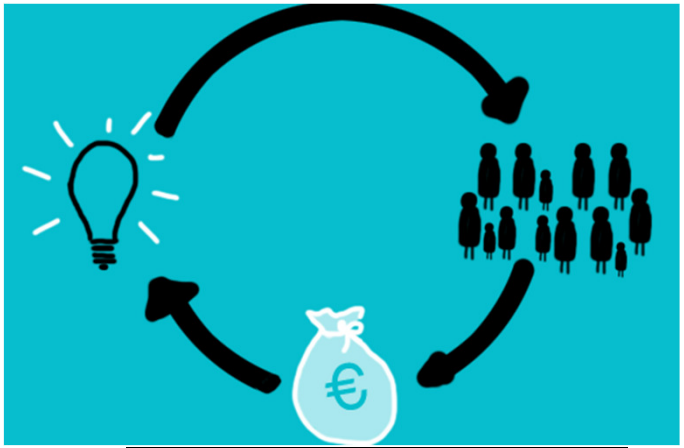

Models – Key elements – Sustainability

- Cost-sharing
  - Privatization, semi-privatization
  - 4P (public-private-producer partnerships)
  - Extension business models
  - Impact farming
  - Crowd funding

Models – Extension – Scale

- Volunteer farmer model or “lead farmer”
- Digitally-enabled (ICT-based) extension

Models – Extension – Lead farmer

Photo credit: Pius Lutakome

Models – Extension – Digitally-enabled

- Approaches using ICTs to enhance work
- NOT replacing people with machines or data
- Information delivery plus:
  - Access to finances and services
  - Monitoring and evaluation of services and staff
  - Capacity building for farmers and extension

Source: Grant McCarty, Illinois Extension

Models – Education

- Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)
- “Agripreneurship”
- Farmer field schools
- Learning competence (Mulder 2017)

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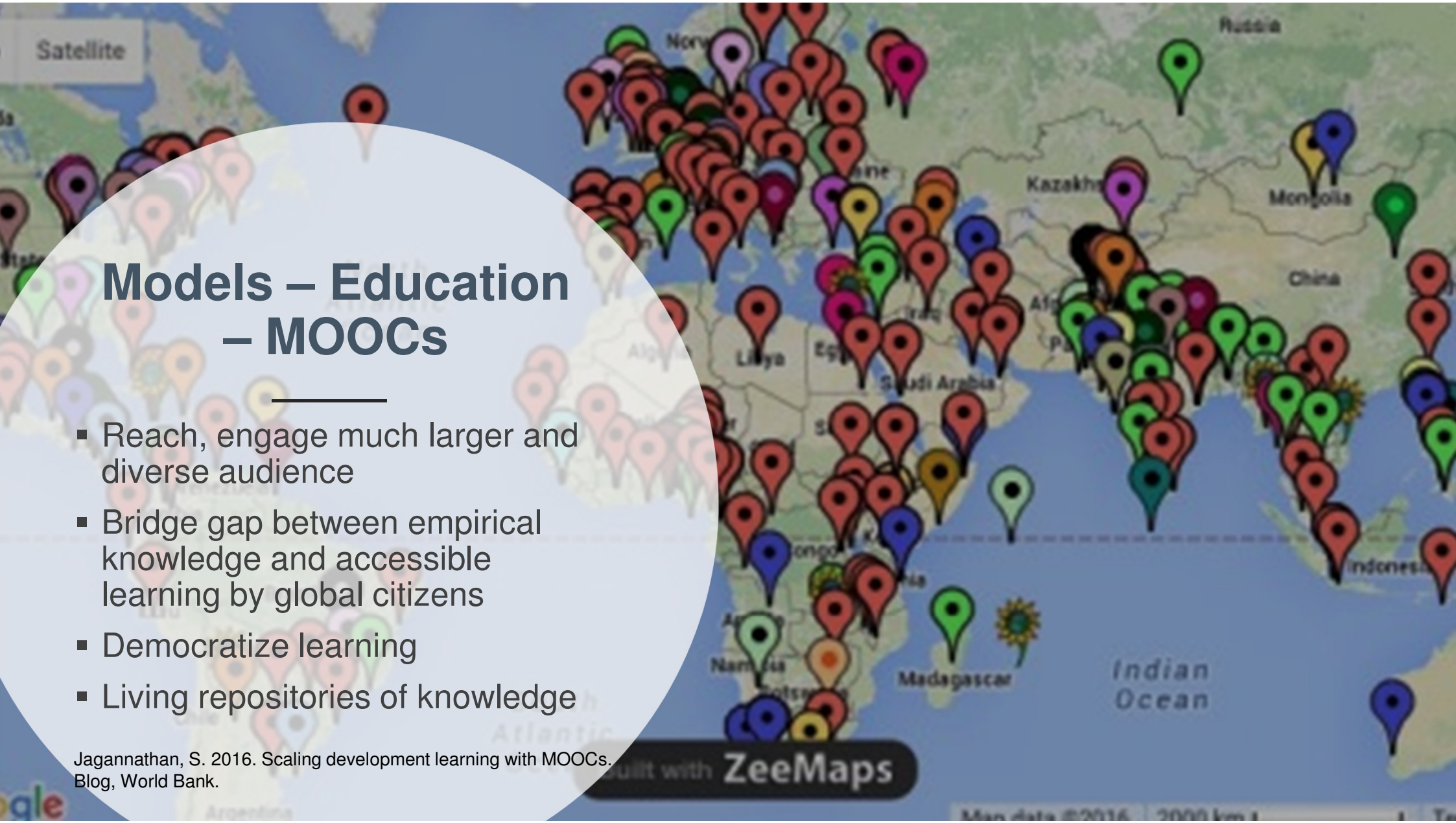

Models – Education – MOOCs

- Reach, engage much larger and diverse audience
- Bridge gap between empirical knowledge and accessible learning by global citizens
- Democratize learning
- Living repositories of knowledge

Jagannathan, S. 2016. Scaling development learning with MOOCs. Blog, World Bank.

Models – Education – Agripreneurship

- Burgeoning populations, rural youth, lack of education
- Formal job sector cannot keep pace!
- Need entrepreneurial mindset in agriculture – agripreneurs!
- Role for education
  - Formational training
  - Continuing education and upskilling
  - Ag technical and vocational education

Models – Education – Farmer field schools

- Group-based adult learning approach
- Participatory learning via experimentation
- Not a new approach but tremendous evolution
- Junior field schools, climate, farmer field and life, business schools…

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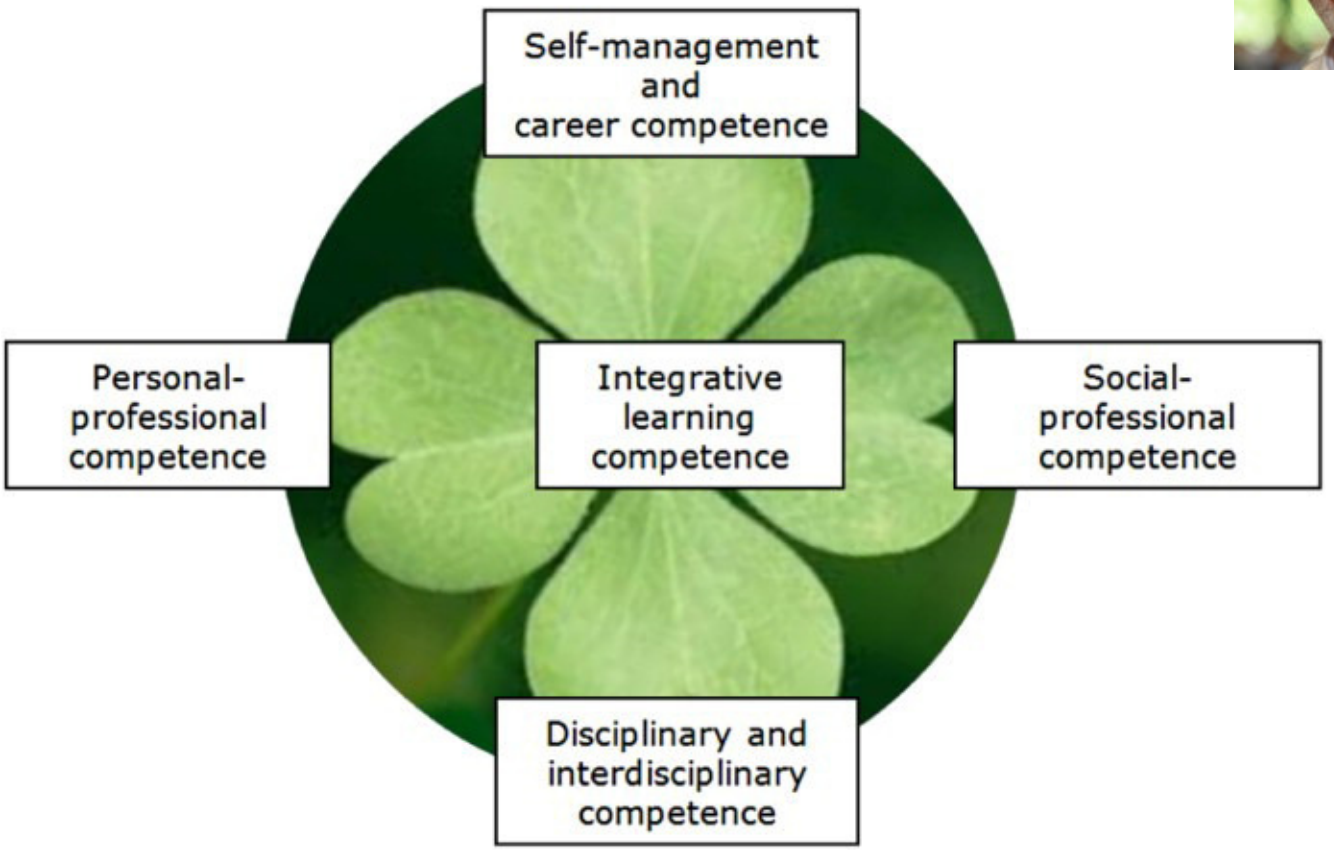
Five-Component Future Competence Model

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Martin_Mulder



Mulder, M. 2017. Five-Component Future Competence Model. JAEE 23(2): 99-102.

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Issues: Youth

- Ages 15-24 (UN)
- 1.2 billion; 1.8 billion by 2050 (35% in Africa)
- Aging workforce
- Agrotourism: an opportunity?
- Clientele and providers of extension

Source: Patrice Diamen

Issues: Climate change and risk

- Mozambique cyclones
- Cyclone Fani, India
- JAEE special issue
- GFRAS annual meeting “Role of [extension] in Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management”

Source: Mahesh Chandra

Issues: Nutrition

- Rising malnutrition rates
- Nutrition-sensitive food systems, extension, education needed
- Extension infrastructure, presence = opportunity for addressing nutrition
- Integrate nutrition into agriculture extension curricula

*Dia, L. & E. Kuyper. 2018. The Integration of Nutrition into Agricultural Training Institutions. INGENAES.
**Fanzo et al. 2015. Integration of Nutrition Into Extension and Advisory Services: A Synthesis of Experiences, Lessons, and Recommendations. Food and Nutrition Bulletin 2015, Vol. 36(2) 120-137

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Issues: Mental health

- Social farming
- Care farming
- Pedagogic farms
- Farmers and stress

How far does extension go?

See papers from ESEE 2019 by Król, Cukur et al., McAuliffe et al.

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Capacities and competencies

- Technical competencies
- Functional competencies
- Organizational competencies/leaders
- Emotional competencies
- Professionalism

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Capacities and competencies

New Extensionist Learning Kit

http://nelk.g-fras.org/index.php/en/

Organizational capacities and competencies

- Adapt, respond, identify future needs
- Solve complex problems
- Partner, collaborate, network, build alliances
- Reflect and learn
- Lead in change
- Advocate, engage in strategic & political processes

Davis & Sulaiman. 2014. The New Extensionist: Roles and Capacities to Strengthen Extension and Advisory Services. Journal of International Agricultural and Extension Education 21(3). 6-18.
FAO. 2012. FAO Corporate Strategy on Capacity Development. Rome: FAO.
Windon, S. 2019. Assessing Leadership Development Needs for Modern Extension Organization. Acireale, ESEE.

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Emotional competencies

Emotional intelligence:
Capacity to reason and analyze emotional information

- Self-awareness
- Self-management
- Empathy
- Relationship management

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Emotional intelligence (EQ)

- "Accounts for nearly 90% of what sets high performers apart from peers with similar technical skills and knowledge."*
- What are agricultural education and extension organizations doing with emotional intelligence of their staff?

* Laura Landry, 3 April 2019. "Why emotional intelligence is important in leadership." Harvard Business School

Professionalism, regulation, certification

- France – issues on who can be advisors
- EU – CECRA
- New regulations and certification for pluralistic providers
  - Uganda
  - South Africa

SACNASP
South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions

cecra
a product of iaib
Certificate for European Consultants in Rural Areas

Extension and Education for the Future

- Sustainable & scaled
- ICT-enabled
- Youthful
- Agripreneurial
- Emotionally intelligent!
- Changeable change agents