INCEPTION REPORT

ON RESEARCH AND EXTENSION SYSTEMS OF ETHIOPIA

Submitted by: The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

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INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and Context

In May 2013, the Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and the Korea Rural Economic Institute (KREI) signed an agreement to strengthen Ethiopian research development and extension system under the project "**Research and Development of Agricultural Technology and Extension System for Ethiopia**".

Over the past decades the Ethiopian government has made various efforts to build the capacity of the research and extension systems and strengthen their linkage to improve technology adoption and productivity. The linkage between research and extension system plays a significant role in generation and dissemination of appropriate technologies.

The history of research and extension linkage in Ethiopia dates back to the adoption of a new extension approach called the Peasant Agriculture Development Extension Program (PADEP) by the Ministry of Agriculture in 1986, which immediately led to the formation of Research Extension Liaison Committees (RELCs) at the national and zonal levels.

However, following the change in government in 1991, a locally adapted Training & Visit (T&V) extension approach was adopted as a national extension system with major government financing until its replacement by the Participatory Demonstration and Training Extension System (PADETES) in 1995. Hence, with the inclusion of farmers, RELC was replaced by the Research-Extension-Farmers Linkage Advisory Council (REFAC). However, REFAC was found to be incomplete as it excluded other innovation actors.

As a result, in 2008, REFAC has been replaced by nationally initiated multi-stakeholder platform known as Agriculture and Rural Development Partners Linkage Advisory Council (ARDPLAC) in order to include other pertinent actors in agriculture and rural development. Later the name was changed to Agriculture Development Partners Linkage Advisory Council (ADPLAC). ADPLAC is organized at national, regional, zonal, woreda (district) and kebele (village) levels. The partners in the ADPLAC structure include public and private actors, including civil society organizations engaged in agricultural development.

Although it encompasses wider actors, the current ADPLAC is weak at fostering strong linkage among rural innovation actors. This is supported by a study in the Amhara region which concluded that only about 15% of the expected agricultural development actors'

linkages are strong. And the majority of the stakeholders have insufficient support for linkage creation (Demekech *et al.*, 2010).

The standout factors for the low performance of ADPLAC are insufficient capacity of the experts to promote linkages at all levels and inadequate policy to institutionalize and enable the platform. This project is a good opportunity to improve the capacity of ADPLAC, which will have a far-reaching impact on improving the capacity of experts, research and extension linkage, technology adoption and eventually on increased productivity

1.2 Scope and Objectives of the survey/research

1.2.1 Scope

For the project, a joint survey/research Team (hereinafter referred to as the "Team") will be formed of experts and program coordinators from Korea and Ethiopia. The Team will implement extensive survey and study on environment and current status of the development of agricultural research and extension system in Ethiopia with a focus on the nature of organic linkage between research and extension. The Team will also find out ways to initiate policy programs to create and strengthen agricultural research and extension organizations and related systems. In addition, relevant information and statistics will be accumulated for future collaborations. The Korean experts nominated by KREI shall join the Ethiopian team to implement the joint survey/research. (The details are defined in the Article Ⅲ, Section 1)

1.2.2 Objectives

The Project objectives are:

- To enhance Ethiopian public officials and experts' knowledge and understanding of research and development of agricultural technology and extension system through joint survey/research, training programs and workshops.
- To introduce and help public officials and experts get lessons from the Korean experience of developing agricultural research and extension system.
- To help foster and strengthen agricultural research and extension system in the end so that related research and extension organizations and their branches can work to

increase agricultural productivity and, as a result, enhance the economic and social status of farmers.

1.2.3 Research Questions

To meet the objectives of the survey, the following research questions will be addressed.

- How is information on farmer needs and technology problems fed into the research system?
- How does the research system interact with the extension system to transfer skills and translate research knowledge into extension packages/messages?
- How is information on research outputs/products systematically categorized and shared for dissemination?

1.3 Duration

Duration of the Project will be five months (1st June to 30st September, 2013) that starts from the date when the project is initiated upon the signing and exchange of the document (RoD) between 2 parties: KREI on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Korea and the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), on behalf of the Ethiopian government.

METHODOLOGY

Agriculture in Ethiopia, like many developing countries, is characterized by small and fragmented holdings. And the most viable way of increasing farm level production is through intensification of farming. In this regard the agricultural research and extension systems have greater role to play. The research system has to develop agro ecology specific and affordable technologies while the extension system is expected to use proven methods to demonstrate and disseminate the technologies. The linkages between the research and extension system is equally important to be given due emphasis and strengthened.

Therefore, capacitating research and extension systems, being one of its key result areas and recognizing the need for better linkage between the systems for increased adoption and farm level productivity, with the support of KREI of the Republic of Korea, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia has initiated a critical study on research and development of technology and extension system.

2.1Methods of Data Collection, Analysis and Survey Site

2.1.1 Study Objectives

Data collection and analysis will be performed in order to gather primary and secondary data and information as well as to see and understand present situation of agricultural research and extension systems and other issues concerned in Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

The objectives of the study are to:

- Find out ways to initiate policy programs to create and strengthen agricultural research and extension organizations and related system
- Accumulate relevant information and statistics for future collaboration

2.1.2 Data Collection

- Survey and interviews will be conducted in order to gather information and relevant baseline data regarding; the capacity of agricultural research and extension systems to generate and disseminate appropriate technologies; and the organic linkages between the broader rural innovation actors with specific emphasis on **the linear research-farmer-extension linkage** in the country.
- Secondary data and information will be collected through desk reviews and interview at the federal and regional levels. The data collection process will be detailed with KREI expert for more effectiveness.

2.1.3 Data analysis

To drive insights the collected data will be analysed using descriptive statistics like tables, ratios, graphs, etc. and whenever necessary, to model and analyse correlations, statistical and econometric software such as SPSS and STATA will be employed.

2.1.4 Survey Sites and Investigation

The survey will be conducted at the federal and regional levels (at the regional level, the four major regions: Oromiya, Amhara, SNNP and Tigray will be studied). And the institutions surveyed and interviewed will be: federal & regional agricultural research and extension institutions, selected private and non-governmental actors in research and extension, international research institutes and key personnel in the system.

2.2Limitations

Research and extension systems are dynamic and complex with a wide spectrum of linkages with various agricultural and non-agricultural institutions. Given the time frame and resource availability the study is focusing and trying to address the top priorities to enhance effectiveness and efficiency of the agricultural research and extension system. However, a similar future study has to concentrate on analysis of the whole agricultural system and its enabling environment to design an impactful capacity building strategy for the research and extension systems.

WORK PLAN

Tentative working plan

No.	Activities	Starting (week)	Responsible	Completion
1	Prepare questionnaire form and group discussion	early July,	Team work	
2	Collection of data and data analysis	1st-2nd August,	Team work	
3	Mid-term report	1st September,	Team work	
4	Final draft	3rd October,	Team work	
5	Final report	4th November,	Team work	

LIST OF JOINT SURVEY/RESEARCH TEAM

No.	Name	Organization	Position	Duties	Phone
1	Fisseha Zegeye	Institute of Agricultural Research (EIAR)	Associate Researcher	Team leader	251 912 661685
2	Daniel Gulti	Agricultural Transformation Agency (ATA)	Research and Extension Program Analyst	Member	251 911 752406
3	Fisseha Teshome	Ministry of Agriculture (Agricultural Extension Directorate)	senior expert/case worker	Member	251 912 076826
4	Derese Teshome	Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research (EIAR)	Associate Researcher	Member	251 9744540

BUDGET PLAN

Indicative Budget (Approximately)	US $
Staff Perdium and Accommodation during survey	4,000
Fuel cost	3,000
Consumables (photocopying, telephone, stationary etc.)	1,000
Statistician consult and translation	500
Coffee/tea during group discussions	500
Total Estimated Budget	**9,000US $**