



Module 7: Introduction to Facilitation for Development

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Summary

Module Overview

The ultimate aim of agricultural extension professionals is to influence development change in the societies where they work. In the agricultural innovation systems (AIS) context, this change will be stimulated by better relationships between actors. It is therefore imperative that you (as an extension professional) endeavour to develop good facilitation skills to increase your effectiveness.

This module introduces you to facilitation for development. It covers: 1) the relevance of facilitation for development in the context of AIS; 2) facilitating change in individuals, groups, and organisations; 3) facilitating multi-stakeholder engagements; and 4) brokering strategic partnerships and networking.

Module Learning Objectives

At the end of this module, you will be able to:

1. Explain the concept of facilitation for development as a core function of extension profession in agricultural innovation systems.
2. Employ appropriate methods and tools of facilitating change in individuals, groups and organisations.
3. Design processes and methods of facilitating Innovation platforms and other multi-stakeholder engagements.

Module Performance Outcomes

Upon completing activities within this module, you will have:

1. Recognised the importance of facilitation for change and the core competencies require in the practice of extension profession.
2. Employed appropriate methods of facilitating change in individuals, groups, and organisations.
3. Increased confidence in designing processes to facilitate innovation platforms and other multi-stakeholder engagements.

Unit I: The Relevance of Facilitation for Development in the Context of AIS

- Understanding facilitation for development.
- What it is facilitation for development?
- Desired attributes of facilitator for development.
- Technical skills of a facilitator for development.

Unit II: Facilitating Change in Individuals, Groups, and Organisations

- Self-discovery to realize our potential.
- Managing group dynamics and working together.
- Supporting organizational change processes.

Unit III: Facilitating Operational Level Multi-stakeholder Engagements

- Arrangement for multi-stakeholder interactions.
- Visualising innovation platforms.
- Policy engagement platforms.

UNIT IV: Brokering Strategic Partnerships and Networking

- Brokering linkages and strategic partnerships.
- Learning alliance and networking.