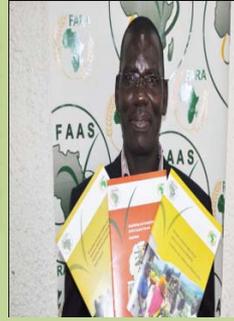


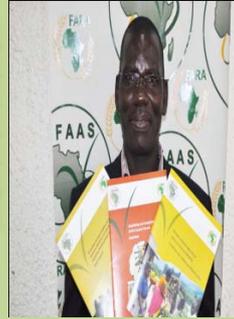
ENSURING FOOD SECURITY IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA A WAY THROUGH

**World Farmers Organization Rome
7th June 2012**

**Martin Eweg African Forum for
Agricultural Advisory Services (AFAAS)**

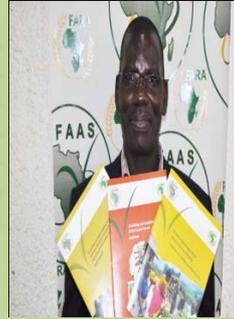


- Introduction and Background
- What are the core Problems?
- African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services
- Status quo
- Opportunities
- Where to in the future? Today's farmers tomorrow?
- Where is change required?
- Conclusion



Introduction

- 2012 = 7 billion people on the globe
- Where is the point of saturation?
- Wars over land, water and food
- How is it possible to sustain populations?
- Farmers hold the key.
- Farm smarter not more.
- Global events are unprecedented

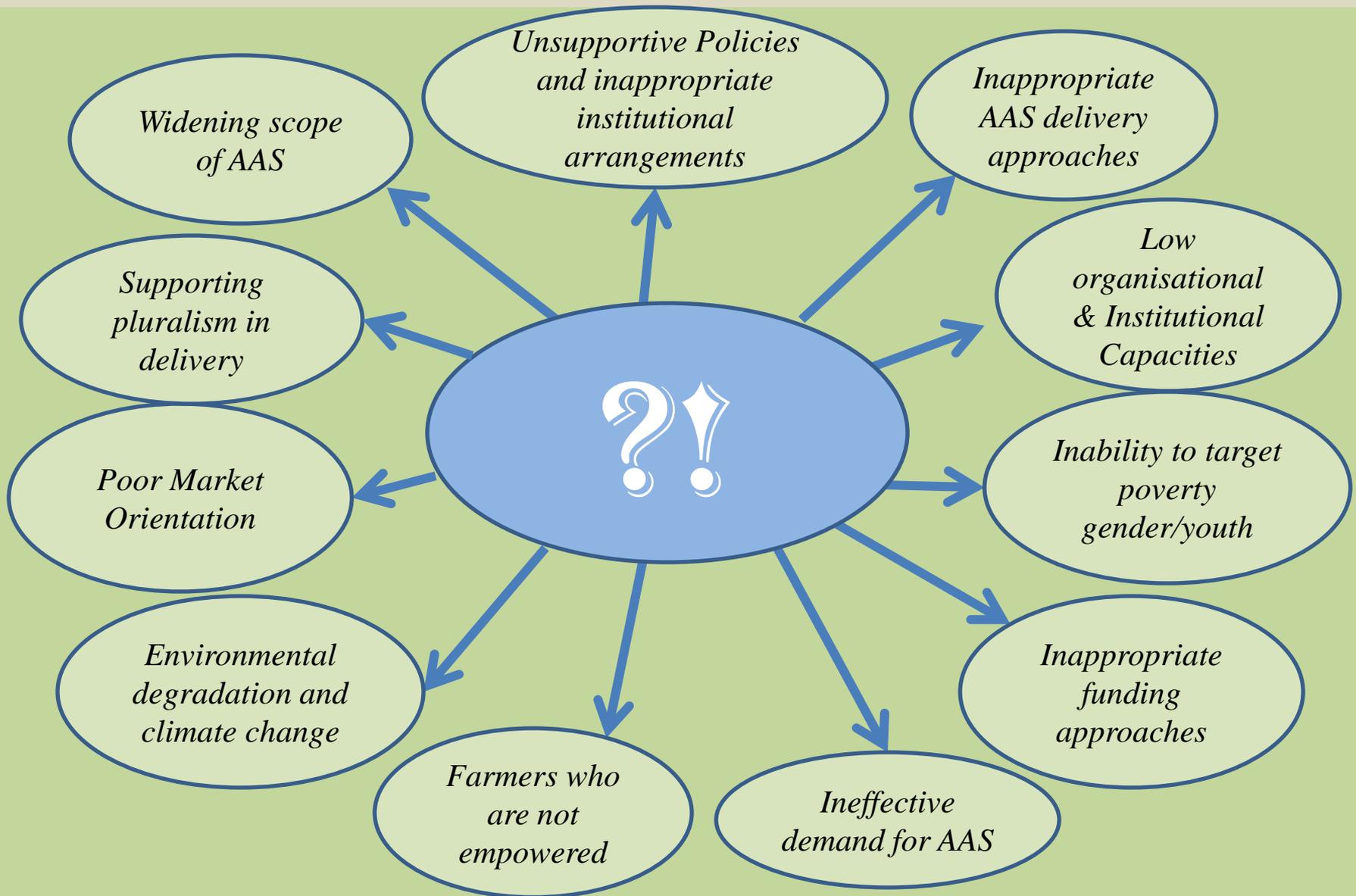


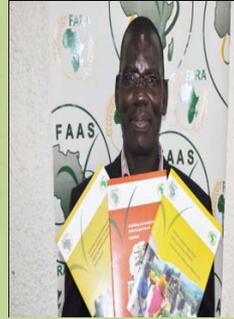
Background

So Just how do we find a way through?

- Global sufferance from food insecurity
- Farming patterns have been affected
- Sustainable use of resources
- Transformation into modern economies requires agricultural development
- Engaging research, Extension and Agricultural Advisory services (AAS) of Private and Public sector is critical
- Renew the client service provider relationship
- Land reform – How do farmers who have been disenfranchised

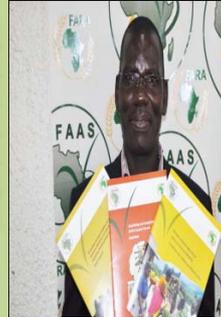
So What are the challenges?





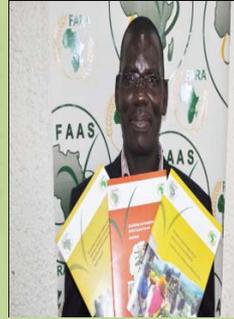
What are the core Problems?

- No continent-wide framework for supporting institutional development
- Lack of mechanisms to develop synergies between countries, regions
- Poor mechanisms for Information exchange and experience sharing
- Low capacity of AAS to address current challenges
- Ad hoc mechanism in networking and partnership building
- Reactionary rather than planned advisory programmes
- Lack of capacity to contribute to overall agricultural development agenda
- Political interference and little value chain participation

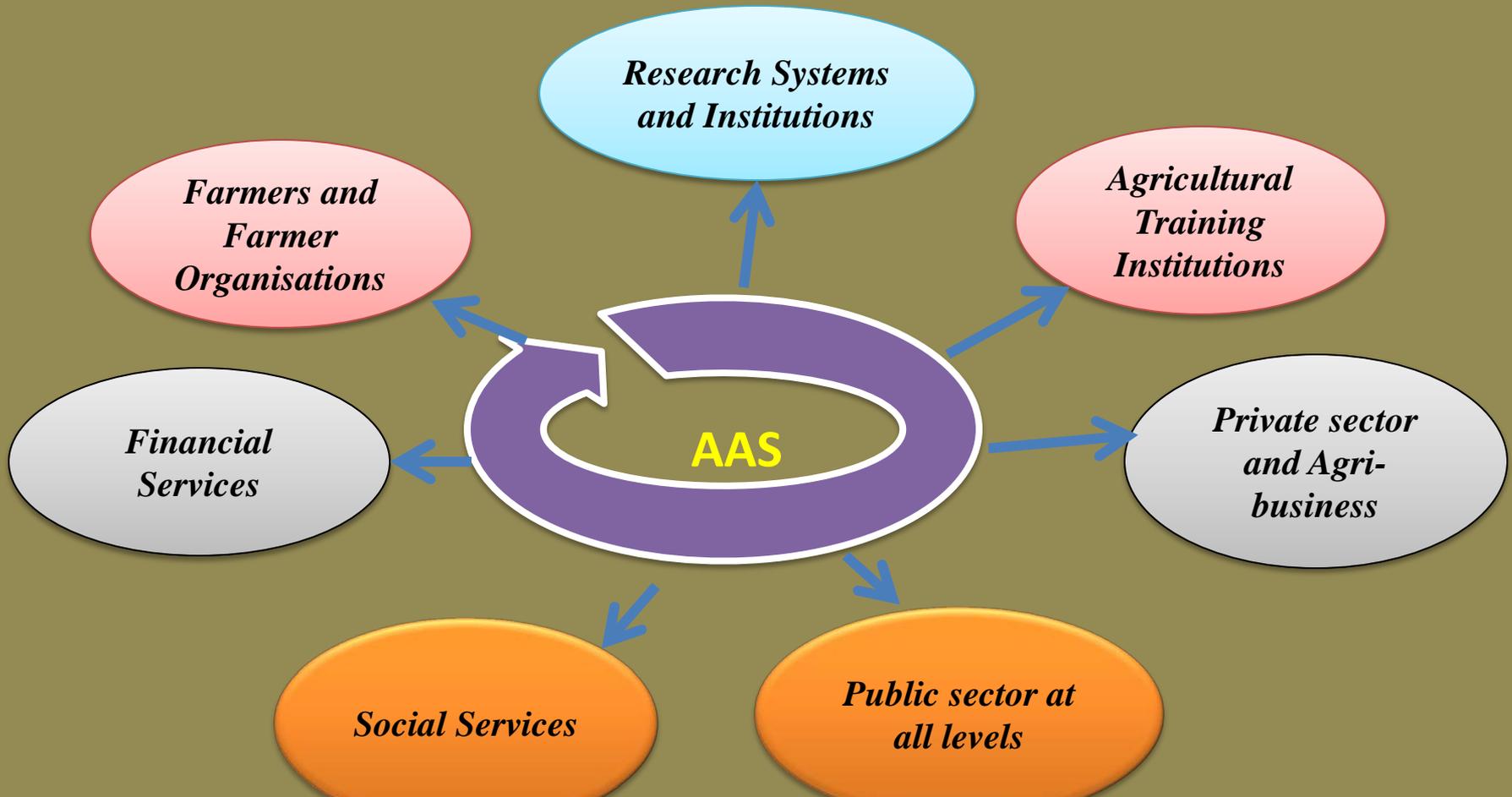


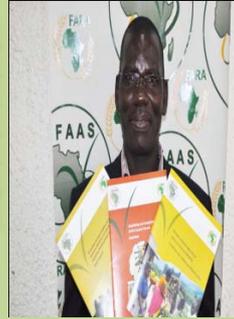
African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services

- Support sharing of experience, “best fit” practice, information and knowledge on AAS at Continental level
- Mobilize experts from within Africa to respond to the specific demands and challenges of AAS at country, regional and continental level
- Support for country AAS to ensure that FAAP principles are applied within the CAADP process
- Backstop country-level AAS to focus on AAS issues with pragmatism
- Support and facilitate partnership development, regional, continental and global levels for rural and agricultural development
- Represent AAS at continental and international forums and



Strategic partners in AAS

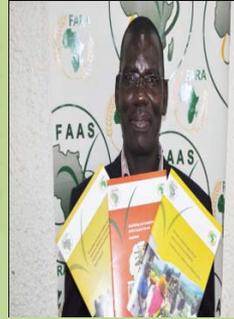




Status quo

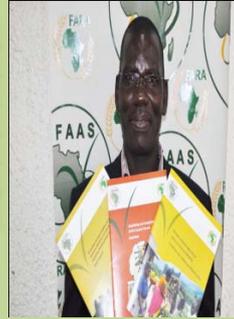
Why is there food insecurity in the region with respect to AAS?

- Inadequate adaptation and capacities of AAS to address the changing and complex role of AAS
- Inappropriate supportive policies, institutional and funding mechanisms that recognize complexities
- Inadequate support to demand driven and pluralistic AAS to address diverse demands



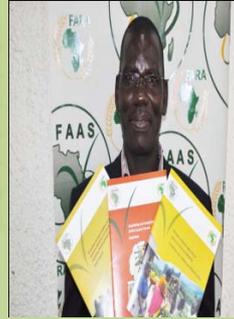
Status quo continued.....

- Inadequate attention to farmer empowerment and accountability
- Paying attention to cross cutting issues (climate change, gender etc,)
- Inadequate support to AAS network and platforms - (information and knowledge management, capacity, synergies between countries, innovative approaches and tools etc.)
- Weak linkages and inadequate mechanisms in networking



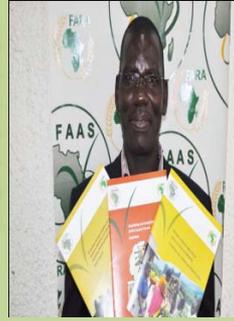
Opportunities

- Greater recognition of extension as a driving arm for agricultural development in the region.....
- Emergence of Agricultural Innovation Systems and participation of AAS actors
- Increasing scope for Pluralistic delivery of extension and advisory services
- Emergence of decentralization, recognition for services
- Development of national level platforms for setting and driving national AAS agendas



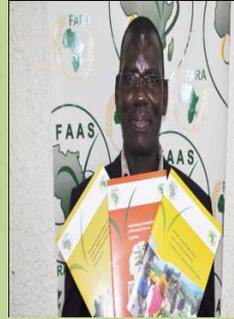
Opportunities

- Integration of strategic monitoring, self evaluation and knowledge management by most institutions
- Beginning of a strong private sector to drive technology delivery while creating market linkages
- Emergence of supportive Global Platforms and networks (GFRAS etc)
- The changing global political environment and Institutional mechanisms – CAADP, FAAP, SROs etc.



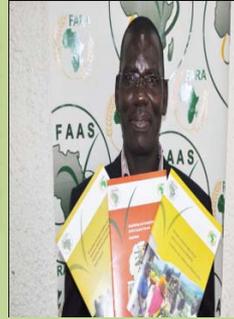
So where to in the future?

- Developing supportive policies and institutional systems
- Promoting Pluralism in service delivery, requisite capacity strengthening and appropriate funding mechanisms
- Promote “best fit” practice, approaches, tools and lesson learning across countries and regions
- Strengthen AAS networking platforms at various levels
- Develop and strengthen partnerships at various levels for synergies and greater outcomes and impacts
- Support emergence of strong farmer institutions and Private sector participation.



Conclusion

- AAS Plays an important facilitative and catalytic role in agricultural and rural development
- Appropriate policy development by all governments
- Strengthening platforms for the formation of affiliated AAS in all countries
- Provides a channel through which farmers' needs can be identified and addressed in a holistic manner
- Appropriate policies and institutional mechanisms needed to address the current challenges



Thank you all for your kind attention

<http://www.afaas-africa.org>