



# Future Agricultures Consortium

## Politics of Agricultural Extension Reform Processes in Africa

Institute of Development Studies

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## Presentation

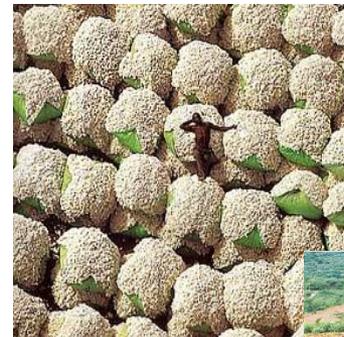
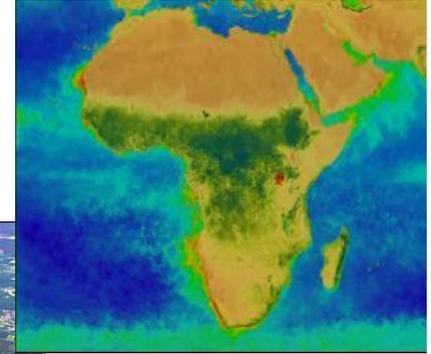
- Background on Future Agricultures
- Origins of work on the politics of agricultural extension reform
- Focus of workshop
- Key questions
- Programme and case studies
- Other presentations
- Future directions

# Future Agricultures Consortium



**Established in 2005....**

*“to encourage dialogue and the sharing of good practice by policy makers and opinion formers in Africa on the role of agriculture in broad based growth”*



## What makes FAC unique?

- *A central focus on the politics of agricultural policy processes* – critically examining the political economy of how and why policy decisions are made, the conditions for change and the practical and policy challenges of establishing and sustaining pro-poor agricultural growth

## Positioning and approach:

- **An independent voice** that challenges mainstream agricultural policy agendas
- **Sustained engagement** with policy change processes in alliance with **CAADP**
- **A diverse and decentralised network** providing academically-robust, policy-relevant research
- **Strong linkages between Africa and Europe**, as well as emerging powers in Asia and Latin America

# Future Agricultures Consortium

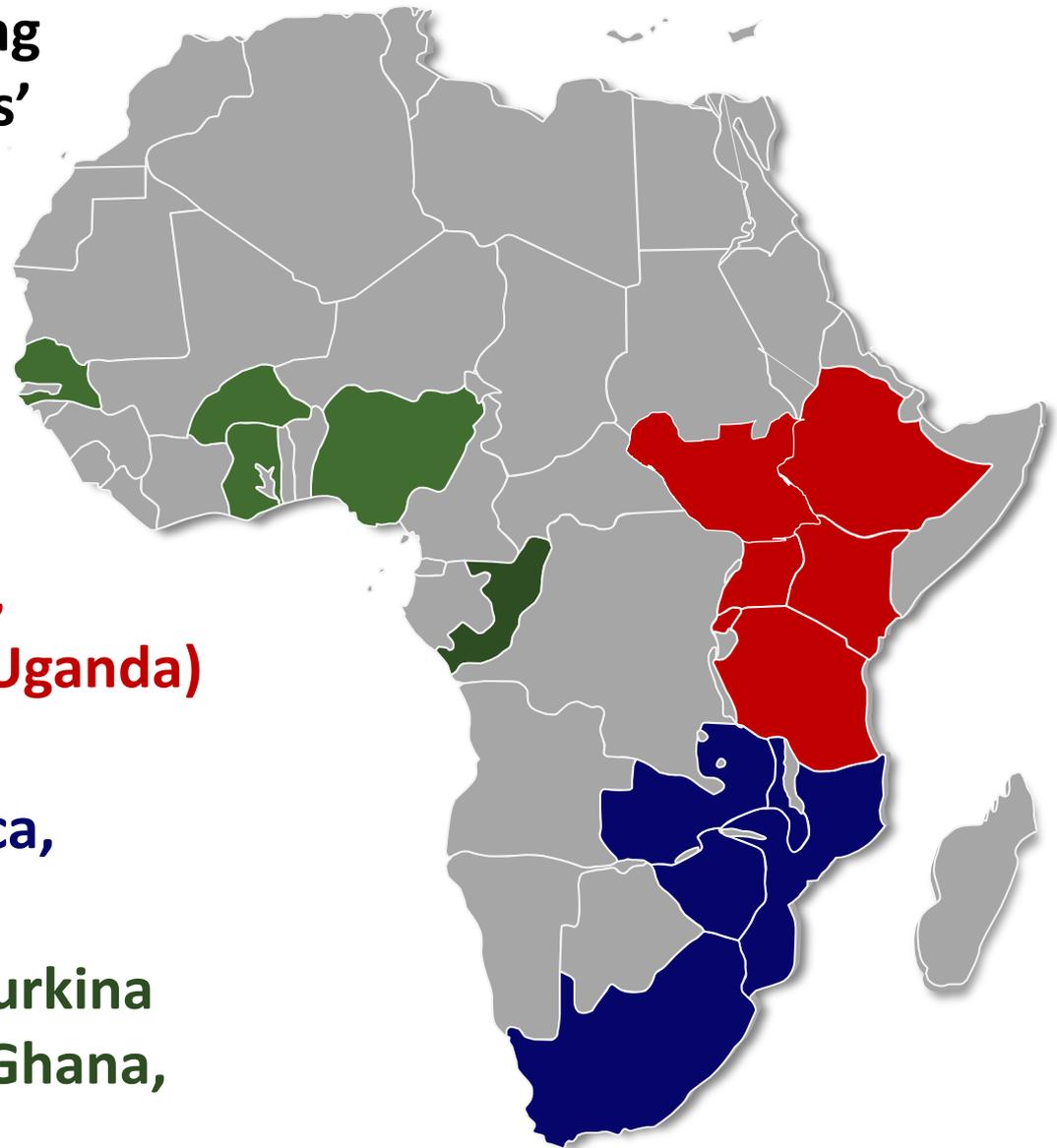
## Activities:

- **Producing cutting-edge, policy relevant research** → linking national debates to wider regional discussions on the new agricultural agenda in Africa
- **Building on solid long-term partnerships** → adding value through synergies and collaborative, multi-country, comparative research and policy engagement activities
- **Fostering critical debate on agricultural policy in Africa** → serving as a communications and networking focal point

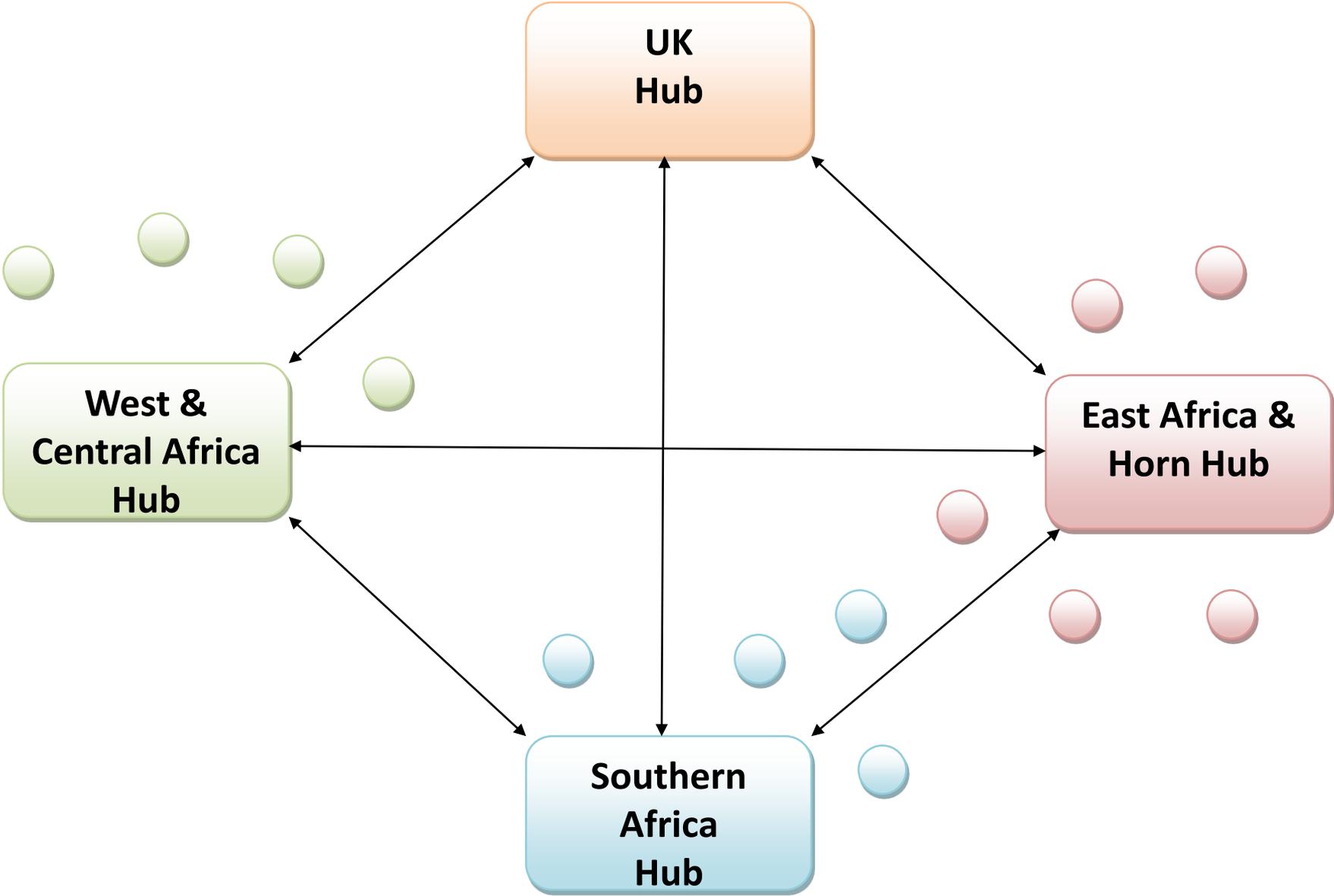


# Partners and Countries

- 90+ researchers and young fellows are 'FAC members'
- Africa: 39 universities, research institutes and related organisations
- UK + Rising Powers
- East Africa and the Horn: **Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, (Uganda)**
- Southern Africa: **Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia**
- West & Central Africa: **Burkina Faso, Congo-Brazzaville, Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal**



# Regional Hubs & Networks



# A Productive Partnership

- **Produced more than 100 working papers and policy briefs** + multiple special journal issues and books
- **Convened over a dozen high-profile workshops and conferences** – recent: Youth and Agri-Food, Land Grabbing x 2; upcoming: Political Economy of Agricultural Policy in Africa
- **Supported promising graduate and post-graduate researchers** to work with FAC mentors on political economy issues

# 10 Core Themes

1. Brazil and China in Africa
2. Climate change
3. Commercialisations
4. Gender & social difference
5. Growth & social protection
6. Land
7. Pastoralism
8. Young people & agri-food
9. Policy processes
10. Science, technology & innovation

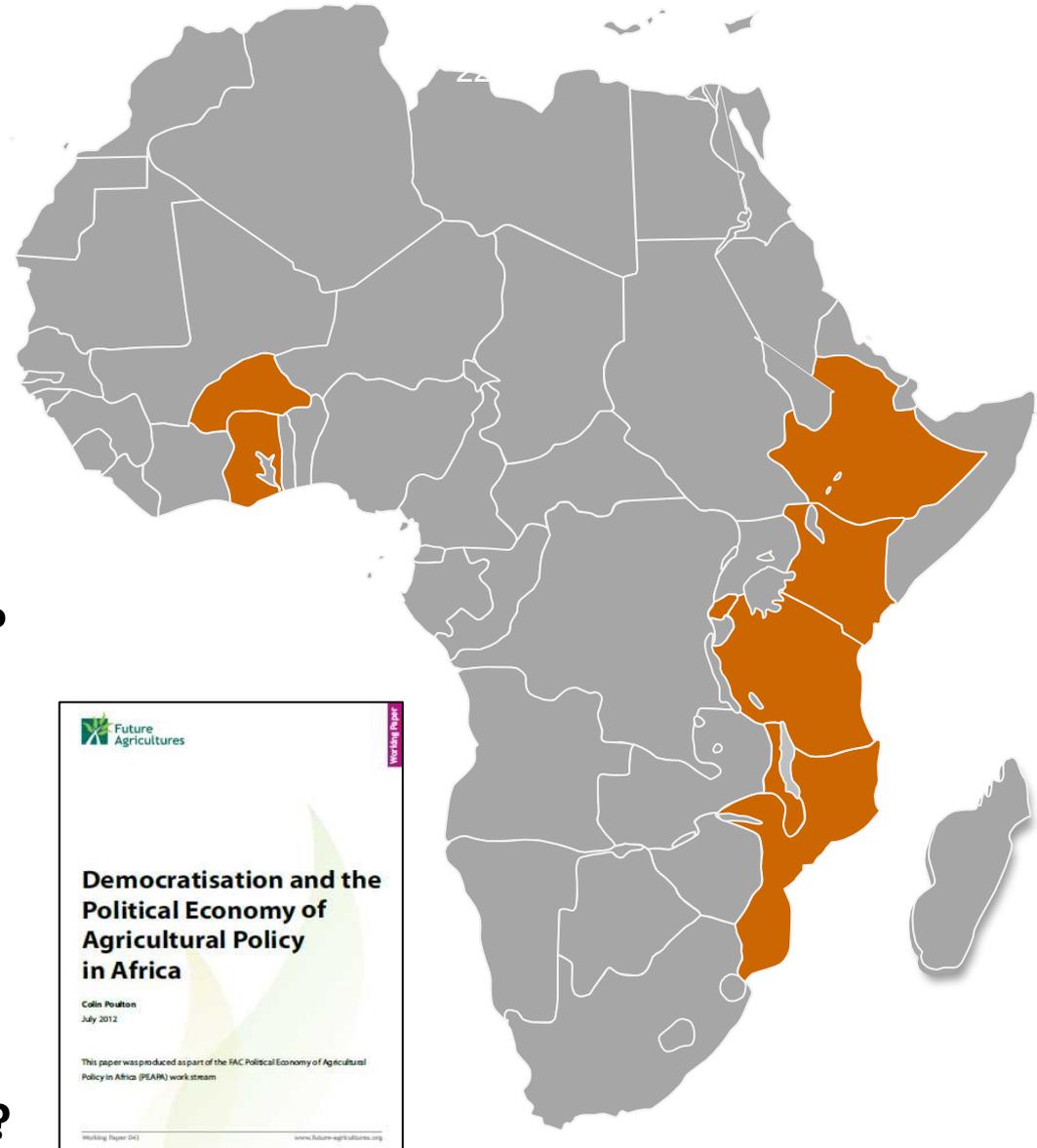
*Assuming that effectiveness of policy is a major determinant of agricultural performance...*

- Which policies get implemented in a particular context – and why?
- Why might implementation of a particular policy prescription lead to differential outcomes?
- How does the political economy of regional/national agricultural policy processes affect sub-national/local level processes?

# Policy Processes

## Key Questions:

- What determines which policies and investments for agricultural development are 'politically feasible' in different contexts?
- How do political economy factors influence how donors engage with agricultural policy?
- How do political economy factors influence the outcome of CAADP processes?
- How do political economy factors support / constrain the policy options to promote smallholder commercialisation?



# Science, Technology & Innovation

## Key Questions:

- How does the political economy of innovation processes shape agricultural R&D in different settings?
- What public and private actors and interests are influencing debates and policy decisions on Africa's new Green Revolution agenda – and whose voices are excluded?
- How can the agricultural R&D process be governed so that it works for poor producers?



# Politics of Agricultural Extension Reform

## Focus:

- Bring together expertise from the FAC Policy Processes and STI Teams
- Examine the political economy of agricultural extension reform processes and how these are playing out in different contexts
- Engage with key policy actors who are pursuing these reform agendas



# Politics of Agricultural Extension Reform - Workshop



- 1. Present preliminary findings from 4 country studies and a background study to a small group of 'critical friends' to refine analyses and draw out important lessons on the politics of extension reform processes**
- 2. Invite complementary presentations by participants**
- 3. Identify emerging issues around the politics of extension reform agenda that FAC and other collaborators might wish to pursue in future**
- 4. Plan a special panel session where the results and policy recommendations will be presented at FAC's Annual Conference on the *'Political Economy of Agricultural Policy in Africa'* to be held in South Africa in March 2013**

# Politics of Agricultural Extension Reform - Questions



- 1. Why is agricultural extension back on the agenda and who are the key actors and interests driving this?**
- 2. How have the narratives about agricultural extension and rural advisory services changed over time and what is the current dominant framing of the debate? If there are alternatives, what are they and who is behind them?**
- 3. What are the policy lessons from past attempts to reform governance structures of extension services and how have these changes affected accountability and performance of both the national public extension system and other related services?**

# Politics of Agricultural Extension Reform - Questions



4. **How has the role of the Ministry of Agriculture evolved over time** in relation to these reform processes and how is it likely to change in future?
5. **Where and under what conditions has the rhetoric about ‘pluralistic extension systems’ been matched by effective coordination of these services** and where have political interests and competing agendas prevented this from happening?
6. **Where and under what conditions are agricultural extension agents being used as a tool of electoral politics to mobilise and influence the rural vote** and how has this political role affected the agents’ ability to play an effective developmental role (i.e. provision of public goods)?

# Programme – Day 1



## FAC Country Studies – Preliminary findings and discussion

1. **Ethiopia - *The Politics of Control: Are agricultural extensionists being used as political agents to influence the rural vote?* – Colin Poulton**
2. **Ghana - *Extending Political Clientelism: The impact of patronage on agricultural extension services' reforms* – Kojo Amanor**
3. **Kenya - *Eternal Pilots: The challenges to ownership and the scaling-up of pilot extension initiatives* – Hannington Odame**
4. **Malawi - *Missing the Owner's Manual: Fertiliser subsidies without extension services* – Blessings Chinsinga**

## Reflections on Day 1 & Emerging Issues for Day 2

# Programme – Day 2



- **Brief Recap of Day 1 & Review of Day 2 Programme**
- **FAC Background Study on the Politics of Extension** - *The historical origins and current patterns of how these politics are playing out regional and international levels* – **Miguel Loureiro**
- **Presentations by Other Participants** – *Lessons from other cases and analyses of past, present and future trends in agricultural extension reform processes*
- **Emerging Issues and Common Points of Interest**
- **Preparations for Panel Session at FAC PEAPA Conference in South Africa**