Plenary Session on “Extension in ICT Overdrive”

Extension & GFRAS

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Agricultural Extension

• Women, who first domesticated-crop plants & thereby initiated the art & science of farming...

• History of human civilization is the history of extension science...

• Mesopotamian clay tablet (1800 BC)

Mobile phones (2013)
Agricultural Extension

1900’s- 1950’s - Experiments & Learning

1960’s-1970’s - Golden era

1980’s-1990’s - Decline & Disappointment

2000’s- 2010’s – Reinvention & Revisioning
Agricultural Extension & Its Challenges

• Food security & reducing poverty
• Natural resource management
• Market force & Gender issues
• Climate change

• Beyond information
• Pluralistic actors
• Agricultural Innovation Systems (AIS)

(GFRAS- New Extensionist, 2013)
GFRAS

Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services
GFRAS

Vision: RAS-effectively contributing to the sustainable reduction of hunger and poverty worldwide.

Mission: Provide advocacy and leadership on RAS within the global development agenda.

Functions:
• Providing voice for advisory services within global policy dialogues and promoting improved investment in RAS

• Supporting the development and synthesis of evidence-based approaches and policies for improving the effectiveness of RAS

• Strengthening capacity of actors and fora in RAS through facilitating interaction and networking
GFRAS’ “New Extensionist”

- Global view of extension and advisory services (EAS) clearly articulating and reinventing its expanded role within agricultural innovation systems (AIS).

- The view goes beyond strengthening individual skills to look at organisations and systems and their capacities.

- EAS include actors from public, private, and civil society who support rural dwellers in many ways.

http://www.g-fras.org/en/activities/the-new-extensionist

(Rasheed Sulaiman & Kristin Davis, 2013)
GFRAS Interest Group- ICTs4RAS

e-Extension

• Documenting & Sharing Best Practices
• Research and Evaluation
• Capacity Development
• Promote Networking
For more information:

www.g-fras.org