ict4ag
the digital springboard
for inclusive agriculture

Plenary Session on
"Extension in ICT Overdrive"

Extension & GFRAS

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gfras
global forum for rural advisory services
forum mondial pour le conseil rural
foro global para los servicios de asesoría rural

aesa

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)

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GFRAS

Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services

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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

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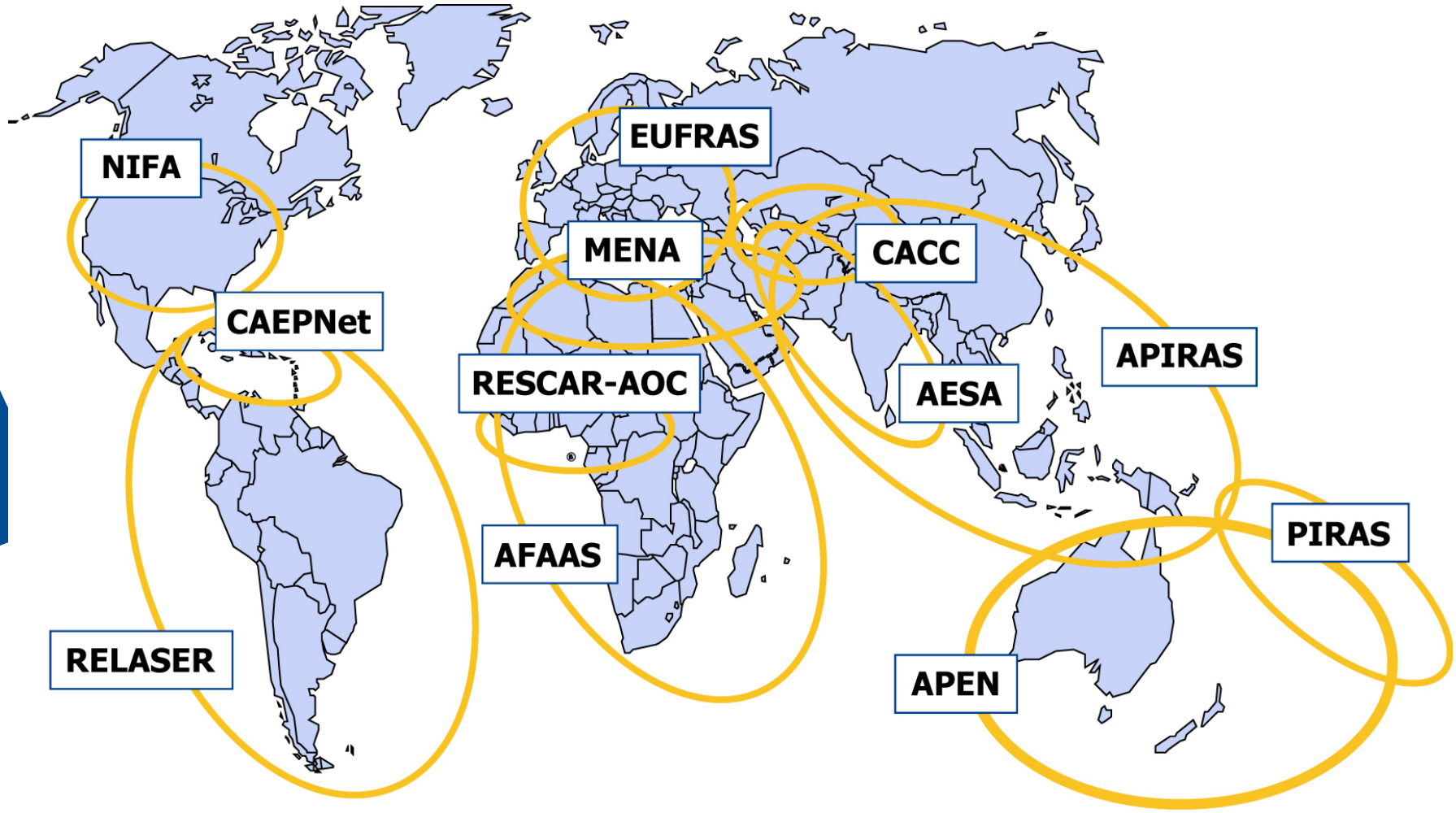

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GFRAS' "New Extensionist"

- *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

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For more information:

www.g-fras.org

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