Role of field partner in implementation

UBA – Orientation Workshop

IIT Delhi

25 April 2018



Alok Kumar Gupta

President Surabhi Foundation



Partnerships are

becoming more sophisticated and an acknowledgment that there is more value in working together

it's not only about access to products, access to markets, access to knowledge or driven by limited CSR budgets

rather a focus on holistic partnerships that create sustainable impact for society, the state, and business

A field partner's role is



to bring together all relevant actors within a region

to overcome formal structures and to involve interest groups more equitably

to be a key instrument of local governance

to provide a mechanism to work together and to adapt their policies to better reflect the needs of people

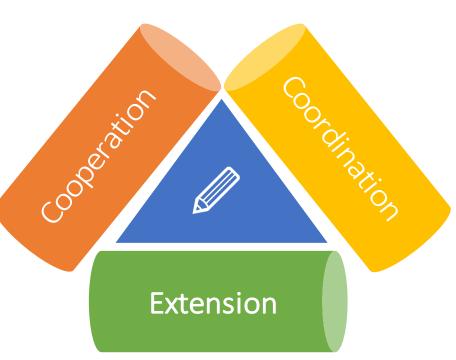
to bridge the gap between policy and implementation

to provide satisfying solutions in a complex society, where the policy frameworks in place often seem to be fall short

Responsibilities of field partner



- Field partners are required to develop cooperation among multiple stakeholders in the region they are operating.
- This can be done via forming FPOs or primary cooperatives and integrating them cooperatives federations



Coordination between knowledge providers and farmers, rural entrepreneurs, women groups

- Major role is to disseminate relevant information to farmers and rural entrepreneurs.
- Information could be technical, scientific and market related

Core values of partnership



Equity and respect

- respect each partner
- acknowledge their ideas
- harness each other's strengths

Transparency

- sharing of information
- clear communication
- honest discussions on difficult issues



Commitment

- partnership with good faith
- commitment to shared vision

Persistence

- trust and familiarity are build up over time
- need persistence and patience in difficult time

NEVER GIVE UP

Basis of a field partnership



Locally driven, or bottom-up

from the region
 where the need for
 better co-operation
 and co-ordination of
 activities is
 recognized

Policy driven, or topdown

 when someone at the central level considers the partnership approach to be the right one for the solution to a certain type of problem

Incentive driven

 in that money is offered for a certain type of activity

Partnership lifecycle framework



SELECTION

Partner identification
Resource mapping
Meeting & relationship
building
Partner Selection

EXIT

SUSTAINABILITY

Collaborating with new partners
Scaling up
Best practices
Exit assessment



Signing Agreement
Co-development
Governance framework
Progress documentation
Acknowledge partner's
objectives



Monitoring and
Evaluating
Accountability and
reporting
Capacity building
Course-correction

Succession in field partnership

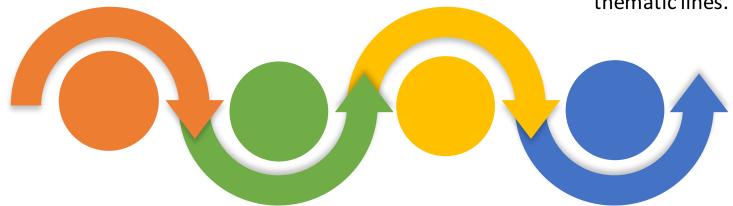


2. PRINCIPLES OF PARTNERSHIP

define partnership principles, targets and objectives

4. LOCAL NEEDS

the competences to be organized according to local needs not on hierarchical, sectoral or thematic lines.



1. MOBILIZATION AND INCLUSION

bring together all relevant actors to achieve wider understanding and approval of their policy

3. COMMON STRATEGY

partners should have consensus on a common strategy e.g. some issues might constitute a problem for one group but not be considered as a problem by others





Decide upon clear needs for partnership

- Define the issue the partnership will tackle
- Determine if partnership is the right choice
- Identify what the partnership needs in order to be successful
- Think about where to make the approach

Understand the partner well

- Investigate at both the operational and personnel level
- Assess the risks and rewards of partnership

Build and maintain trust

- Have honest conversations, use shared language, and listen to concerns
- Meet regularly
- Acknowledge and respect differences

Set out a clear vision of objectives, understanding of mutual benefit

- Align interests and objectives for the partnership
- Acknowledge individual benefit
- Set roles, responsibilities, and expectations at the beginning and manage throughout





Invest the time, people, and resources to manage the relationship

- Empower champions
- Develop a network of people who are committed to the partnership's success

Design for sustainability and implement for success

- Co-create an implementation strategy that lays a clear plan to reach the objectives
- Jointly develop a flexible governance structure to support a variety of solutions
- Decide on the time stamp of the partnership
- Give people time to seek internal commitment to solve problems
- Start focused to make sure it is scalable and replicable

Hold each other accountable and take corrective actions

- Regularly assess deliverables, time frames, and allocated resources
- When planned reality doesn't happen, learn from missteps and course-correct
- Focus on lessons learned for future success

Learn the 'Art of Exit'

- Go into the partnership understanding that it may not be successful
- Exit gracefully and celebrate the successes



Thank you!