Research Toward Impact: How Innovation Labs are designed with impactful outcomes in mind

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Fundamental Research

Adaptation

Pilot scale testing/technology transfer

Scaling up

High yielding climate resilient cowpeas

Mobile App for soil fertility management

Index based insurance

Hermetic storage

New castle disease resistant chickens

Mobile based cess payment system

Dry blanching technique

Trichoderma

Impact
Impact = f(A x B)

• Two key parameters determine ‘impacts’ of research
  - Adoption (A) -- the use and uptake of research outputs
  - Effect size (B) -- the benefit per unit of adoption of a research output in relation to an existing practice / technology

• Larger the values of these two parameters (A and B), larger will be the ‘impact’

• If zero or low effect size (benefit) per unit of adoption  → No adoption  → No impact
Research towards impact:
1. Ensuring a positive Effect Size (B)

Requires:

• **Good science** embedded in the research output (i.e., the breakthroughs, the inventions and discoveries, etc.)

• **Performance at the end-user level** (i.e., socio-economic conditions, and policy environment, etc.)

• Relative to existing or alternative practice / technology available to them (*the counterfactual*)

How? (Metrics)

- On-farm trials
- Efficacy studies
- Randomized controlled trials
- Pilot studies
Research towards impact:
2. Ensuring large scale adoption (A)

Requires
• Awareness
• Access
• Availability
• Affordability
• Demand

How?
- Conferences, policy forums
- Sensitization and learning events
- Partnerships
- Innovative (and low-cost) methods for extending technologies
- Communication
Research Adaptation Pilot scale testing Scaling up = Impact

Universities, NARS, IARCs, private sector

Partnerships

Government, NGOs, private sector, farmer organizations, entrepreneurs, consumer groups

Research + = Impact

Adaptation

Pilot scale testing

Scaling up

Impact

Discovery (B)

Dissemination (A)
Thank you