



Skills for Agriculture-Cross-Roads on the way to Modernizing VET and AG Extension Services in Georgia

SDC-UNDP Project Overview Sophie Kemkhadze George Nanobashvili

Modernization of the VET and Extension System related to Agriculture in Georgia

 To contribute to the development of a system of high quality vocational training and extesnion services in agriculture that results in improved livelihoods of the rural population

 To assist in the design and development of an effective national system for the identification, assembly and dissemination of that knowledge necessary for stakeholders at all levels to be able to achieve desired goals for Georgia's food and agriculture sector

Main Directions

- The innovative development and delivery of high quality training and extension services to farmers;
- The establishment and strengthening of an institutional set-up that will be capable of taking over responsibility for the delivery of these services; and
- The setting up of a system that ensures the availability of a high quality workforce to deliver these services to farmers.

VET + Ag Extension

- Support to national level dialogue (national platform) for cooperation among public and private stakeholders in ag education
- Map and support development of the vision for multi-stakeholder system of VET and extension service providers
- Methodological advancement: developing and piloting various models of extension and VET that are more accessible, flexible and responsive to the needs of farmers
- New standards, modular programs for agricultural professions; new profession of farmer
- **VET teachers' professional development** concept/framework
- Institutional development of public VET colleges
- Target group: adults, farmers and multipliers

Service Providers and Multipliers

- Continuous learning and skills development system for multipliers (veterinarians, zoo-technicians, mechanization specialists, plant protection specialists), VET Teachers, extension consultants and other service providers
- Capacity development of public and non-public service providers
 - Quality and result orientation
 - Demand driven
 - Proactive approach and outreach

Implementation Phases

- 1. Studies, assessments and consultations
- **2.** The design and development of new models for training and extension
- **3.** Piloting and testing of newly developed models for training, extension, and public private partnerships (PPPs)
- 4. Analyses, assessments and consultations
- **5.** Training programmes and extension services consolidated under national ownership.

Various Levels of Intervention

Training of VET teachers and service providers

Capacities of public and private organizations in vet and extension provision

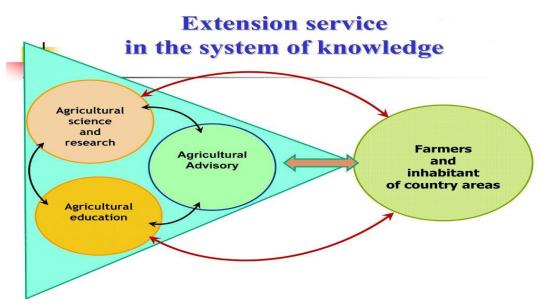
National platform to enhance national capacities for policy planning and coordination in VET and ag

Extension Provision – public good or opportunity for business development

- What is the optimal minimum of extension service provision?
- What is the business opportunity for extension provision?
- How to link various providers of extension services with those of the MoA?

Research – missing link in ag extension system

- Source of innovation
- Source of knowledge upgrade
- Demonstration and trial



VET & Extension – Engagement of Private Sector

- How to make VET responsive to the needs of private sector
- Cooperatives and associations as an entry point for extension
- Extension provision by the input suppliers and farmers

How to link the state extension services with other providers of extension?

- Scope of state extension services
- Variety of extension providers
- What are the modalities of linking these?

Decisive factors of system for high quality VET and extension services

