
NA-USIP Roundtable:

Workshop on Adapting Agricultural Extension to Peacebuilding

May 1, 2012



United States Institute of Peace
National Academies

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Workshop on Adapting Agricultural
Extension to Peacebuilding

Conflict in Rural Settings



United States Institute of Peace
National Academies

Land Rights after Armed Conflict: Problems, Consequences, Opportunities

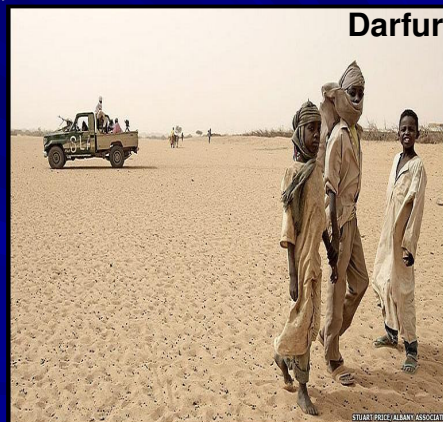
Jon Unruh
McGill University



What is post-conflict land tenure?

- Wars often about land:
 - Identity attached to land(s),
 - Ethnic cleansing of *areas*,
 - Forced dislocation,
 - Land confiscations & land, grabbing,
 - Legalized evictions.
- Land issues # 1 cause for return to war.

(UN War Torn Societies Project)



`Crisis land tenure` is very different than stable land tenure settings

- Thus land tenure solutions in crisis situations are also different.
- What may work well in stable, peaceful settings are very difficult to implement and in societies recovering from war.
 - Legal implementation, enforcement,
 - Fair access to courts, knowledge of law & legal options.

War & Land Rights Problems

- Control over lands with high value resources:
 - Diamonds, timber, minerals, rubber, cash crops,
- Deeply held land related grievances unresolved by a peace accord,
 - Conflict with bullets replaced by conflict over land,
 - Identity & ethnic-based attachments to land,
 - Restitution, retribution,
- Refugee & IDP return to home areas,
 - That is occupied by others,
 - Has landmines,
 - Has no agricultural assets,
- An aggravated disconnect for formal & informal tenure,
- Little ability to ‘prove’ claims to land,
- Opportunists, recovery historical claims.

If not dealt with...

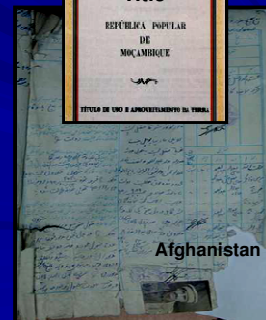
- Such problems lead to an accumulation of aggressively confrontational ways of pursuing land rights problems,
 - emerging from a divided society.
- The result is a build-up of:
 - competition,
 - inequity,
 - confrontation,
 - grievance,
 - resentment
 - animosity;
- With no legitimate, fair way to manage these through a country's legal system.



Formal (state) land rights after war

A combination of:

- Low trust – occupied one side in the war,
- Land related grievances,
- Collapse of institutions, services, judicial system,
- Destruction, looting & fraud in deeds, titles & records leads to a search for order & alternatives.



Informal (customary) land rights after war

- Often exists in a state of tension with other forms of tenure,
- Frequently develops to resist, evade, oppose other forms of tenure,
- Customary tenure itself can degrade, collapse, or become abusive in crisis situations,
- Customary system needs validity in state law.



The Overall Tenure Situation (informal, legal pluralism)

- Crisis-related approaches to:

- (Re)establishing,
- Securing,
- Defending,
- Proving,
- Confronting,

. . . *Claims to property, land,
homeland, territory*



- Parallels the general fracturing of societies into smaller postwar communities of shared:

- Experience, Survival, Ethnicity,
- Dislocation, Identity, Religion,
- (Re)location, Region, Opposition to other groups.

A Fundamental Problem:

- Formal law is difficult to connect with ‘day-to-day’ legal pluralism in postwar scenarios,
 - Which occurs on its own, informally & quickly,
 - Can be set against state law,
 - Does not wait for formal legislation,
 - Functions in an isolated manner.

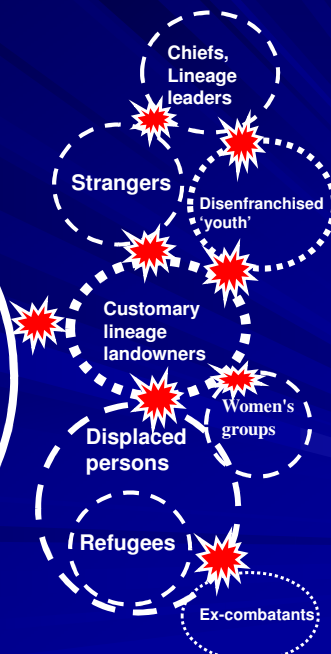


The Situation: A fractured, divided post-war society

State Law

- Govt &
- Donor coord.
- Postwar recovery
- Research
- Legal drafting
- Ministries
- Parliament
- Debate
- Passage?
- Regulations
- Enforcement
- \$\$\$\$\$

SLOW



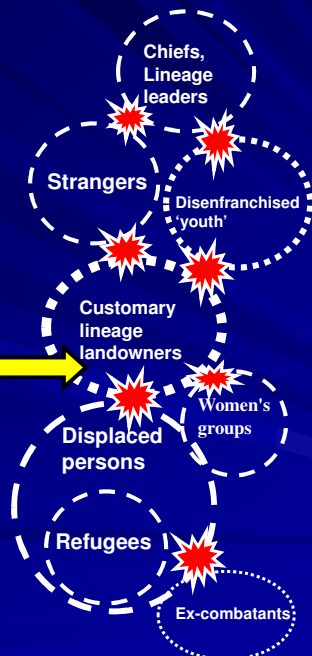
FAST

The Need: An interface role

State Law

- Govt &
- Donor coord.
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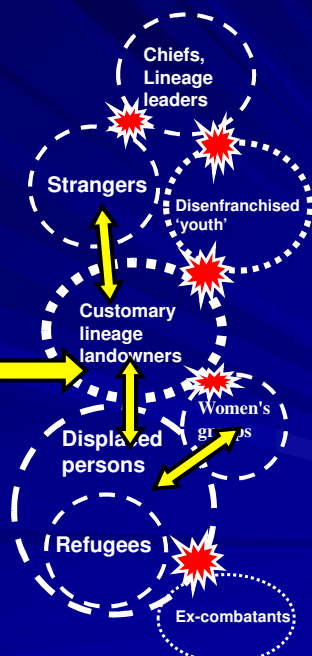
FAST

The Need: An interface role

State Law

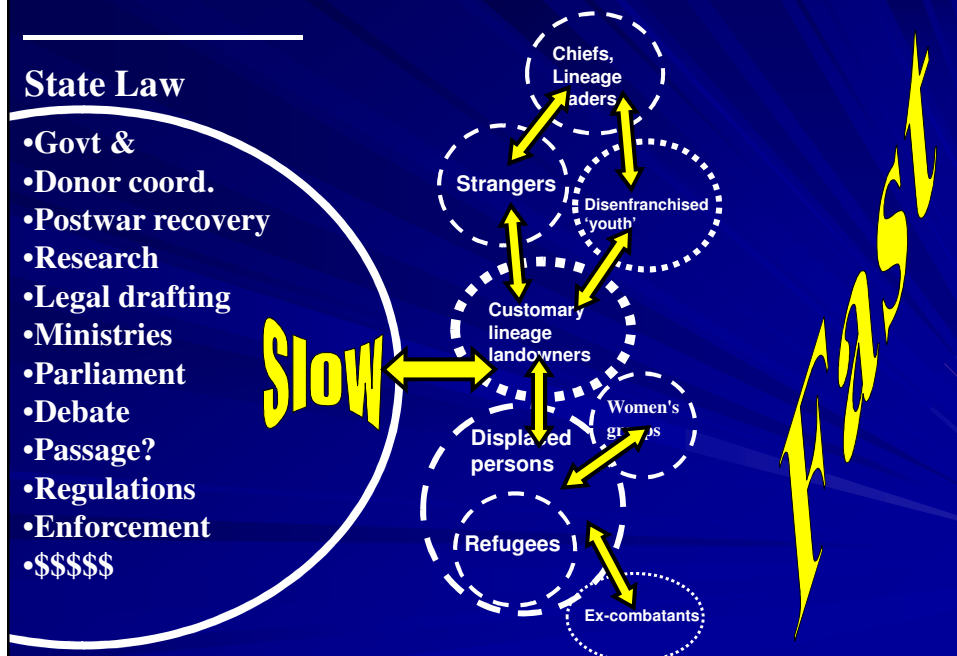
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- \$\$\$\$\$

SLOW



FAST

The Need: An interface role



An 'Interface' Role

- An actor present in the rural areas and:
 - Is part of the state . . . but not seen as part of the STATE
 - Has a mandate about a 'safe' topic (agriculture)
 - Is accepted by local communities
 - Knows where & who in government to go to start a process of:
 - Complaint
 - Dispute resolution
 - Registration
 - Knows who & what in government to avoid, work around.
 - Can conduct a `brokering` role between a local community and:
 - State law
 - Other local communities

Needed Activities

- Packaging evidence to be usable in state law:
 - Customary,
 - Upgrading,
- Encourage certain ‘natural’ processes that make customary institutions relevant to state law,
- Make parts of state law:
 - Understandable
 - Work for communities

Postwar East Timor Presence of Evidence

For formal tenure system (local administration) and two customary villages with reintegrating IDPs

| Form of Evidence | Local Administration | Community 1 (conflict) | Community 2 (less conflict) |
|--|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Trees planted on the land | 96% | 88% | 100% |
| Terraces | 95% | 68% | 84% |
| Irrigated locations | | 65% | 93% |
| Houses and buildings | | 94% | 90% |
| Accounts of clearances | | | 73% |
| Fences | | | 93% |
| Rock markers | | | 90% |
| Paths | | | 57% |
| Division of land | | | 94% |
| Oral accounts | | | 93% |
| Oral accounts of clearances | | | 67% |
| Inheritance | | | 90% |
| Past allocation | | | 93% |
| Formal certificate in name of government | | | 97% |
| Long term use of prev. unconflict | | 39% | 70% |
| Medium/short-term occupation without title | 39% | 13% | 33% |
| Agricultural lease from government | 56% | 42% | 57% |
| Indonesian letter for land ownership | 53% | 58% | 70% |
| Receipt of tax payment | 69% | 51% | 67% |

*Packaging Evidence:
...easier than we think*

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| Terraces | 95% | 68% | 84% |
| Irrigated locations | 80% | 65% | 93% |
| Houses and buildings | 82% | 84% | 90% |
| Accounts of clearing land from forest | 58% | 39% | 73% |
| Fences | 82% | 81% | 93% |
| Rock markers | 83% | 81% | 90% |
| Paths | 61% | 58% | 57% |
| Divisions around rice fields | 73% | 75% | 94% |
| Oral accounts supporting traditional claims | 91% | 91% | 93% |
| Oral accounts of other witnesses | 83% | 58% | 67% |
| Inheritance claims | 92% | 55% | 90% |
| Past allocation by traditional leaders | 83% | 87% | 93% |
| Formal certificate from government | 82% | 84% | 97% |
| Long term use of prev. uncultivated land | 60% | 39% | 70% |
| Medium/short-term occupation without title | 39% | 13% | 33% |
| Agricultural lease from government | 56% | 42% | 57% |
| Indonesian letter for land ownership | 53% | 58% | 70% |
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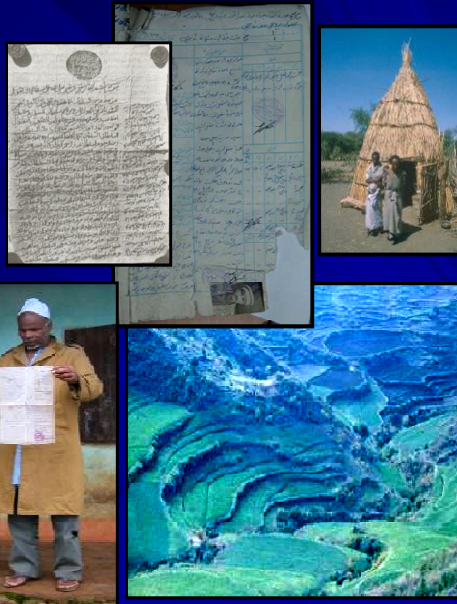
Postwar East Timor Presence of Evidence

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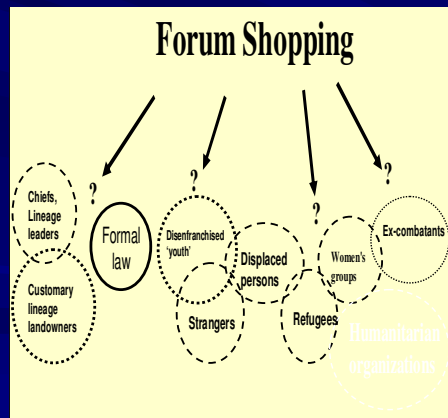
Upgrading

- From what already exists,
- From informal, indirectly relevant, miscellaneous documents,
- Broad forms of 'evidence of occupation,'
- Makes an argument.

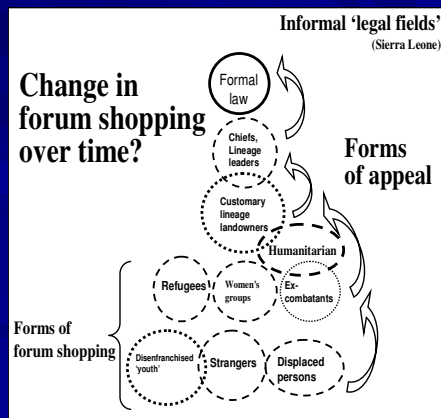


Encourage Certain Processes Legal Pluralism

- Forum shopping

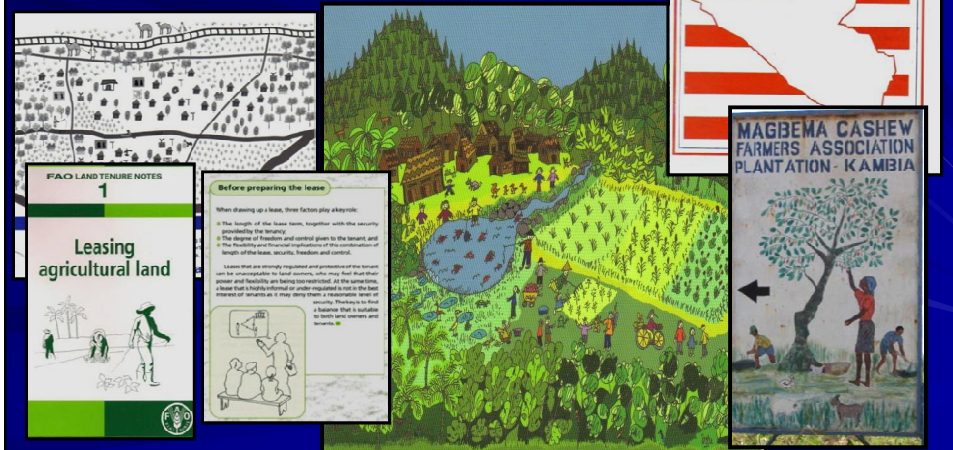


- Forms of appeal



Make parts of state law

- Understandable,
- Work for communities.



The 'Broker' Role

The pieces exist & the examples are there,
...but accidentally

- What is needed is a more purposeful, pervasive effort:
 - Sierra Leone: Customary law officer,
 - Zambia: Law development commission,
 - Karamajong Cluster: Veterinary efforts,
 - Landmine affected countries: mine action activities & documents.
- Take advantage of what is there.

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Afghanistan PEACE Project

Pastoral Engagement, Adaptation and Capacity Enhancement

Conflict Resolution Program



Conflict Resolution Component

Why focus on solving land access issues for extensive livestock producers (Kuchi)?

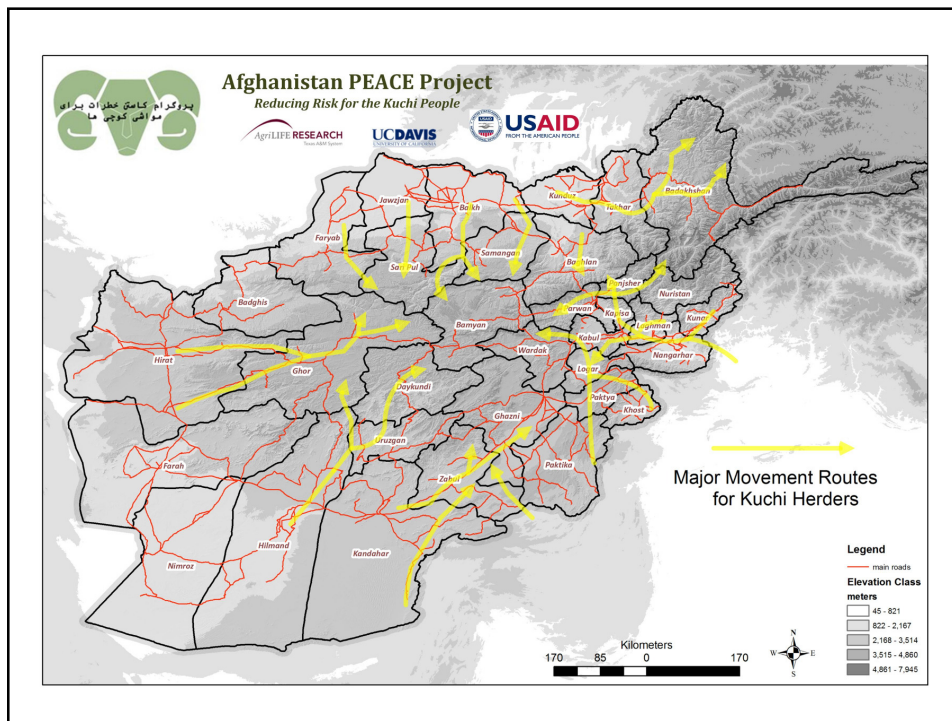


The best land management information or veterinary health care will not help improve livestock production if herders cannot access important rangelands

Where to start?

Understanding the Conflicts

- Our focus was centered on conflicts related to extensive livestock production in Afghanistan
- Results of an assessment survey of producers listed insecurity along the migration routes as the number one risk for their livelihood
- Conflicts that have erupted along the migration routes are very complicated (some politically driven, others simply lack of communication)
- Relationships between villagers and herders have suffered during years of war
- Community leaders claimed that they wanted to resolve the conflicts and they wanted peace





Greatest threats to migrations are:

insecurity related to loss of relationships



....and uncontrolled land conversions

What was needed to solve conflicts along migration routes?

- Train and Support Kuchi Leaders to resolve land conflicts for their people
- Reestablish the relationship between Villagers and Herders
- Seek out local Village and Kuchi leaders that would work together to resolve conflicts and build peace

Provincial Shura Support



Independent General Directorate of Kuchi (IGDK)
Independent Department under the President. Provincial Directors in
31 Provinces responsible for representing and assisting Kuchi
Communities

Joint Trainings



President's Advisor on Tribal Affairs (Peace Commission)
Commission mandated to solve problems between Kuchi and Villagers. Trained
over 500 leaders. 75 Peace Ambassadors

Improve Sustainability



Independent General Directorate of Kuchi (IGDK)
Young Kuchi Leaders intensively trained to be able to train others and initiate
Peace Shuras in their communities.

Afghans helping Afghans



Sanayee Development Organization (SDO)
Local NGO experienced in delivering peace-building and conflict resolution skills
that go beyond the traditional methods used in Afghanistan

Guidance and Facilitation



PEACE Project

Devoted to extensive livestock production with the goal of reestablishing secure movement of sheep and goats along the migration routes

Lessons Learned

- Better to facilitate a conflict resolution effort than appear to be directing it
- Work with people that the community already trusts
- Pick your partners wisely, particularly government partners
- Any development project that involves agriculture and natural resource management can potentially create conflicts

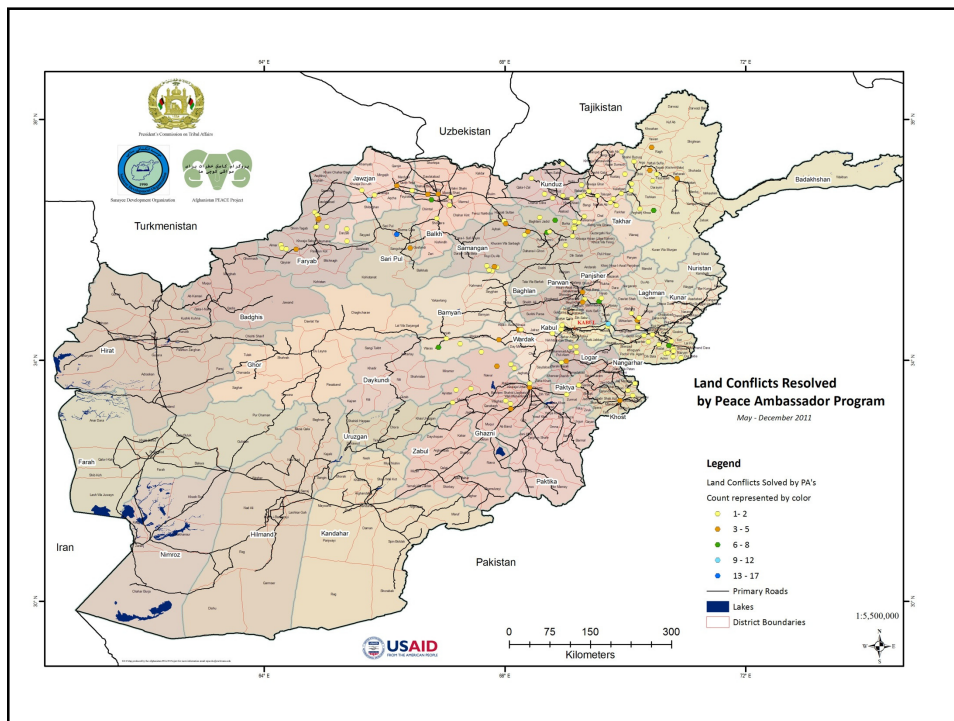


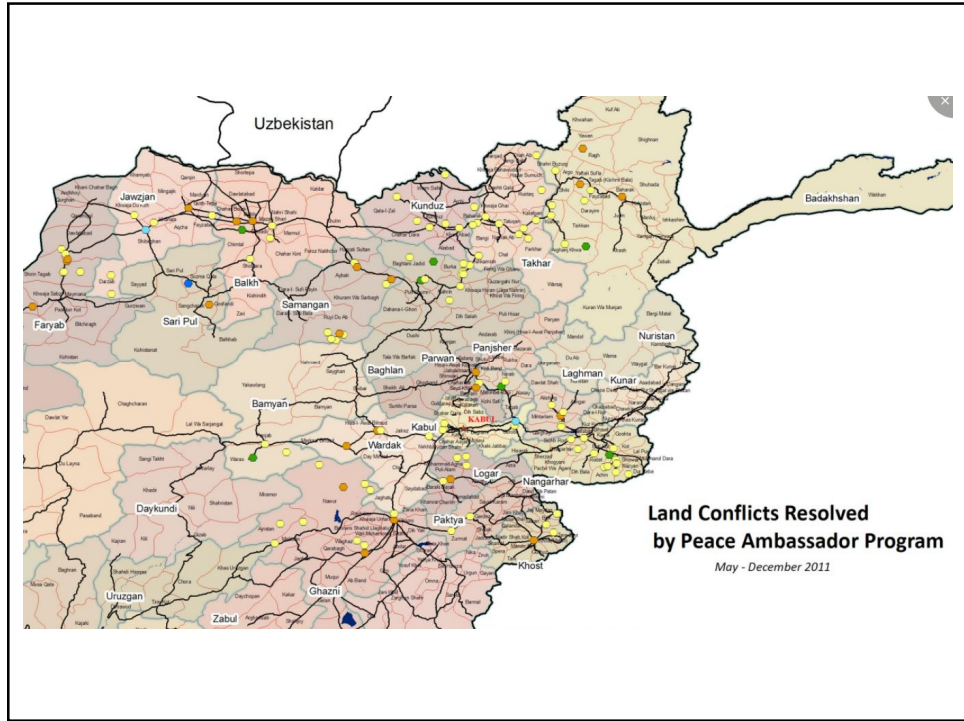
This project was made possible through support provided by the United States Agency for International Development, Mission to Afghanistan through Cooperative Agreement No. 306-A-00-06-00521-00 to the University of California Davis, and support from the USAID/Office of Agriculture through Grant No. PCE-G-00-98-00036-00 to the Global Livestock Collaborative Research Support Program, University of California, Davis. Additional support is provided by the collaborating institutions.

Principal Investigators:

- Montague W. Demment, University of California, Davis
- Michael Jacobs, Texas A&M University, AgriLife Research Center.

Collaborating Institutions: University of California, Davis; Texas A&M University; Sanayee Development Organization; Mercy Corps; President's Commission on Tribal Affairs, Afghanistan; and the Independent Department of Kuchi.





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Extension in Fragile Societies



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Extension

Challenges, Needs
and Opportunities



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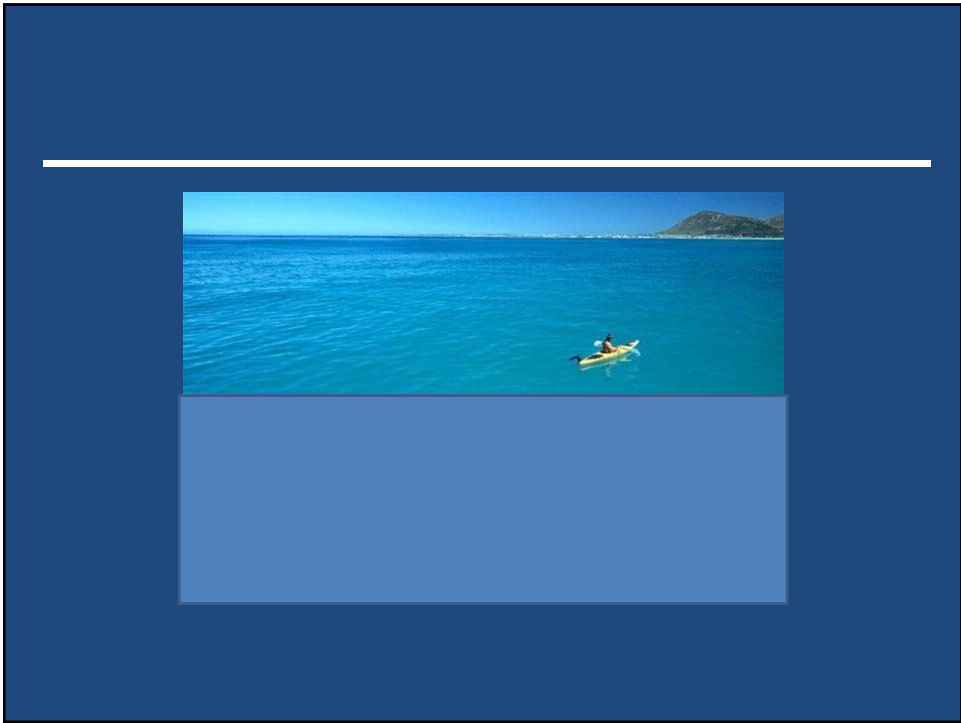
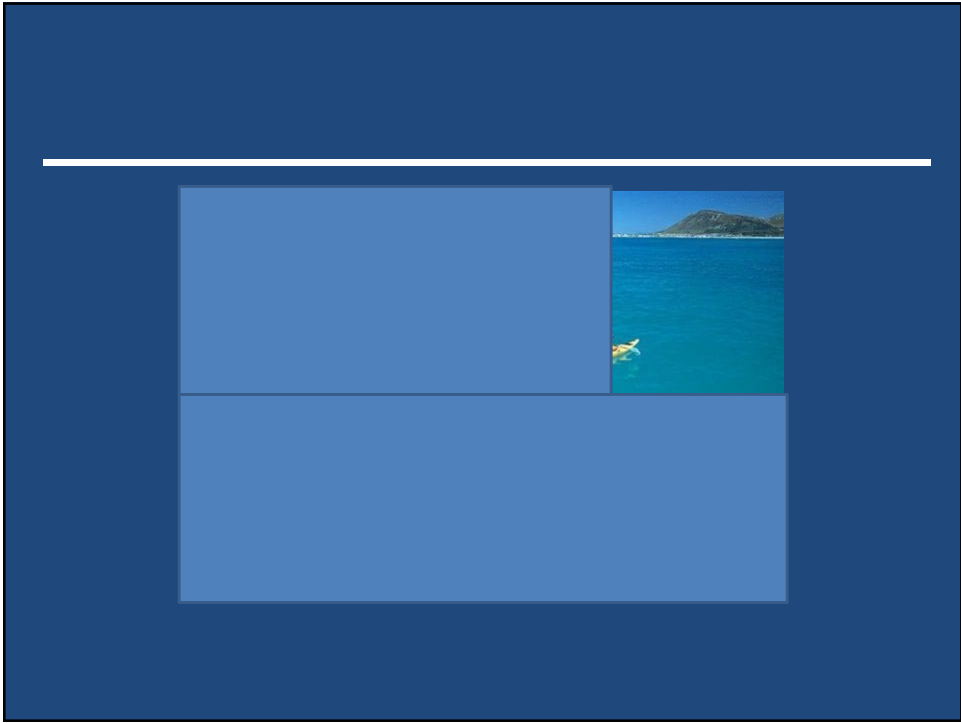
Mark Bell, PhD
Director,
International Learning Center

What is agricultural extension?

Extension is getting knowledge to farmers,
so that they will make a positive change

What's this?







Point

- Seen different parts of the picture
- Different perspectives





(Some) Challenges

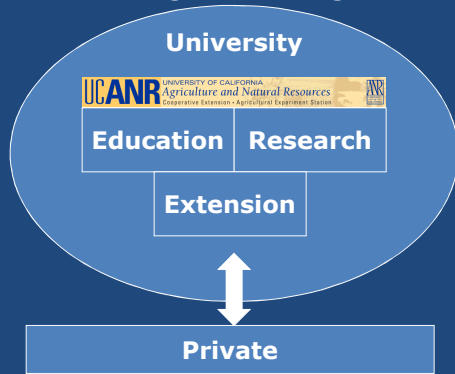
Illiterate \neq not intelligent

- Literacy and education
- Credit and input availability
- On-farm economies
- Client numbers
- Infrastructure & markets
- Institutional strengths and linkages

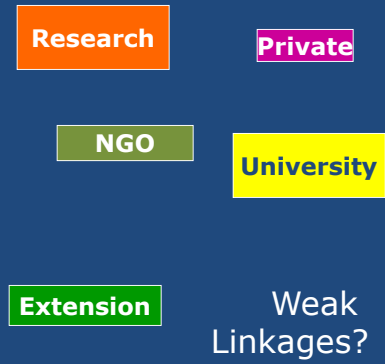


Challenges Institutional strengths

Developed - US
Strong and integrated



Developing



Needs for Successful Extension



Technical knowledge

Markets

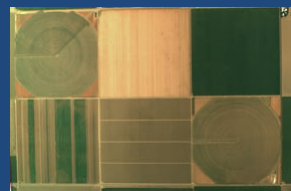
Extension Approach

Institutional Issues

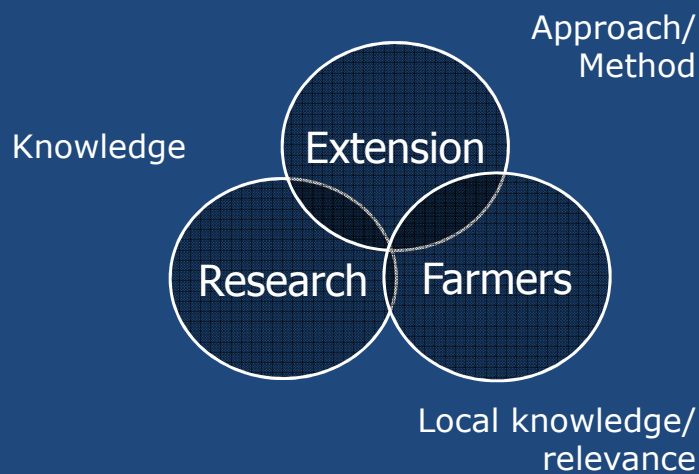


Need 1: Technical Knowledge

- Technical skill
 - If you have no technical skills what can you offer?
 - Credible and neutral



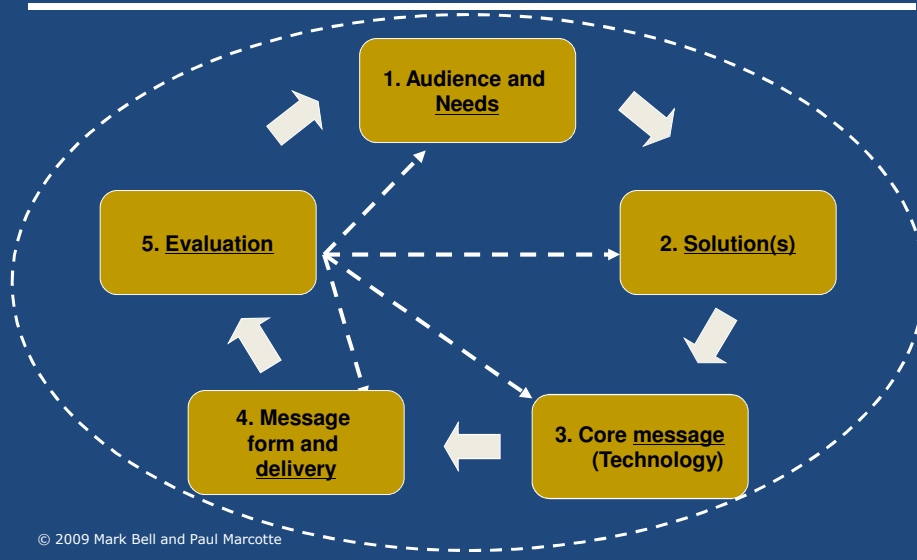
Need 2: Participatory Approaches to Extension



Need 3: Broad Skill Set



Need 4: Process Driven Approach



Need 5: Institutional Elements

Elements required for success

- Personnel
 - Salary
 - Training
 - Evaluation
 - Motivation
- Institutional relationships
- ...



Opportunity



- Adjust extension based on local conditions
- Draw on the diverse array of (potential) players
- Emerging tools in ICT
- Basis for peace building activity

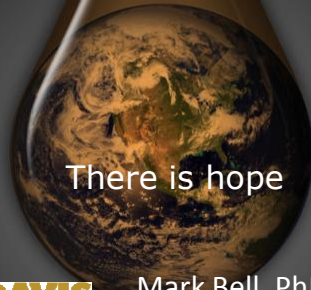


e-Afghan Ag
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Extension

Challenges, Needs and Opportunities



There is hope



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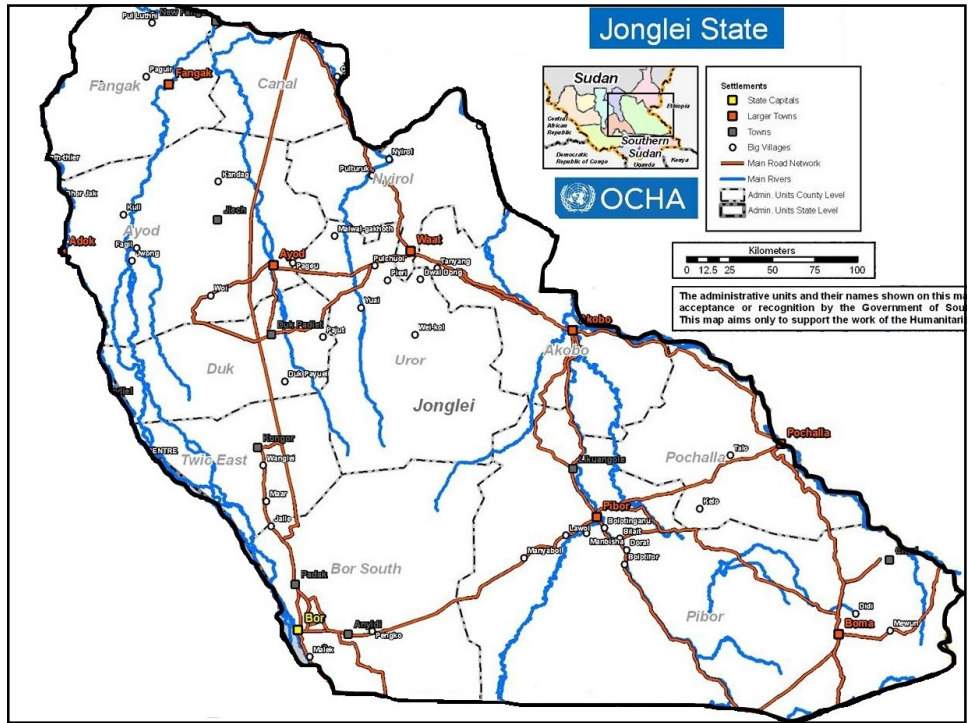
Observations and Thoughts on Extension in South Sudan

Jim Conley

Senior Agriculture Advisor

USDA Civilian Response Corps





Caught Between Two Worlds



Extension in South Sudan

- Building the organization
- Staffing patterns
- Language requirement
- Typical education
- Job description
- Participation in development (Jonglei)

Extension in South Sudan Constraints

- Patronage “deadwood”
- National budget, war
- Lack academic connection
- Accountability
- Zero resources







Problems Created by Conflict

- Loss of
 - life
 - property
 - productivity
 - opportunity
 - social capital



Examples of Extension in Conflict Mitigation

- Community policing
- Community & Economic Development
 - improved agriculture
 - new opportunity introduction
 - artisan enterprise
- Environmental issues
- Community Ag Councils (DRC)

Potential Role for Extension South Sudan

- Early warning
- Building social capital
 - bonding & bridging
 - assessing/monitoring
- Serving as an “honest broker”
- Economic development
- Group facilitation
- Conflict resolution

Possible Models for Conflict Mitigation

- Yei Agricultural Training Center model
- NGO “buddy system” model
- Ministerial specialist
- Work “away from home”
- Women empowerment
- Barefoot College (TED.com)
 - Skills, knowledge & resourcefulness exists internally, look within & listen

Energized Youth



Returning Diaspora



Women Farmers



Thanks

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