



# Agriculture Extension Policies: Ghana and Bangladesh

Purpose of today's review/discussion

What is policy?

Analytical framework for policy review

# Ghana

- Policy Date: April 2001
- Policy Title: Agricultural Extension Policy (Final Draft)
- Total Pages: 25
- Development Process: Directorate of Ag Ext & consultant in consultations with regional level, other ministry, Dep't of Co-ops, District Ag Sub-Committees, private, NGO, and donors.

# Table of Contents

- Acronyms, Preface, Introduction
- General Background
- Agriculture Extension in Ghana
- The New Extension Policy
- Institutional and Financial Implications
- Appendices

# Game Changing Context

- Moving to decentralized system (late 1990's); local gov't responsible for extension
- Moving out of T & V (1990's)
- 1990's MOFA withdrew from procurement and distribution of inputs
- Public funding decreasing
- Private sector activity increasing (high- value crops; cost recovery)
- Cocoa extension unified – requiring working relationships between public/private
- HIV/AIDS, environmental degradation, poverty reduction to be addressed
- Role of extension changed (facilitating learning)



# General Approach of Policy Document

- Lots of background/contextual information
- Rationale for new policy
- Numerous guiding principles
  - Demand-driven, client-focused, pluralistic
  - Focus on small-scale farmers, particularly women, youth, physically challenged (gov't funded)
  - Open to new funding mechanisms
  - Decisions devolved to District Assemblies
  - Involve community in problem identification, planning, implementation, and evaluation of extension

# Guiding Principles (continued)

- Encourage private sector to finance and engage in EAS
- Ensure EAS is cost effective
- More pro-active in developing farmer business and marketing skills
- EAS monitored by District Assemblies along with MOFA and farmers to ensure quality of services provided by private sector
- HRD continuous and intensified


# Mission Statement of the Policy

- MOFA will work with regional and district administrations to ensure that extension services contribute effectively and efficiently to social and economic development through
  - Addressing needs of farmers
  - Using environmentally sustainable approaches
  - Raising agricultural productivity
  - Creating enabling environment for private sector delivery and funding of EAS

# Major Policy Issues Articulated

- Seven objectives – with strategies to achieve objectives
  1. Promote best farmer practices
  2. Support use of different approaches to extension
  3. Empower farmers through FBOs
  4. Operationalize the roles and responsibilities of the various levels (no info on what the roles are)
  5. Increase efficiency and cost effectiveness of public sector extension; ensure relevance of service
  6. Consider HIV/AIDS, environment, poverty reduction
  7. Continuously build capacity



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- Current situation: Policy being revised
  - Comments:
    - Mix of objectives and strategies
    - Objectives are meant to capture policy issues
      - some do, others seem to be goals