

agriculture 2018

SOLUTIONS FORUM

Organized by



中华人民共和国农业农村部
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China

Co-organized by



农业农村部规划设计研究院
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Nanjing, China
15th – 17th Nov 2018



“...enhancing partnerships to develop and sustain agriculture and fisheries...”

Population : (2017) est 198,000
Total land area: 2841.sq.km



Key Questions

- What are the agriculture goals and challenges in the country?
- How ICTs can help meet agriculture goals and overcome challenges?
- Need for partnering between agriculture and ICT stakeholders.

Current Situation

- Have Agriculture Sector Plan 2016-2020
- **E-voucher for payment. – World Bank Project**
- ICT strategy for administering and monitoring the ministry's ICT equipment and services and some information systems or database systems.
- Have a drone but limited knowledge of using it.
- Data collection and analysis for any census and survey done by Statistics Bureau of Samoa
- Have 2 Fisheries databases remotely access from the SPC and FFA to update relevant Fisheries data. (inshore and offshore)
- A portal for Fisheries staff to update vessel licenses.
- Mailing list for VMS created within the ministry's email system.
- Not enough human capacity to perform the technicality of e-agriculture.
- Use Advisory sections of technical divisions to directly deal with farmers and fishers.
- No direct linkages between the ministry ICT services with stakeholders
 - Using of EMAIL for communication
 - Website.

Agriculture Sector Plan Strategic Framework (2016 – 2020)

National Vision

- Improved Quality of Life for All

Sector Vision

- A Sustainable Agriculture and Fisheries Sector for Food Security, Health, Prosperity, Job Creation and Resilience

Sector Goal

- To Increase Food, Nutrition and Income Security



Sector Strategic Policy Objectives:

1. To ensure a priority focused agriculture sector operating within a stable and coherent enabling policy and legislative framework
2. To ensure an increased stable supply and consumption of domestically produced nutritious food products for both rural and urban communities
3. To enhance private sector capacity in improving production, productivity, product quality, value adding and marketing
4. To strengthen capacities in rural communities, land owners, farmers and fishers to use natural resources in a sustainable way and increase sector resilience to natural disasters and climate change

National Level

- The Samoa Strategy for the Development of Statistics 2011-2021 directly determines the breadth and depth of the evidence base for all sectors planning and monitoring.



Agriculture Sector Plan 2016 – 2020

“...enhancing partnerships to develop and sustain agriculture and fisheries...” **THEME**

A primary aim of the plan is to

“strengthen government partnerships, particularly with the private sector, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and development partners, to leverage agriculture’s potential to promote enhanced health, prosperity, job creation and resilience. Successful implementation of the plan will contribute to achieving the national vision of improved quality of life for all and to advancing Samoa’s attainment of the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”.

Key Agriculture Challenges

- Digital information about agriculture are scattered within each technical division's database that are left silos.
- Not a priority within the ministry given that in the Sector Plan, that considers utilising ICT as a support service to each main objectives and functions to the sector nationally.
- Statistics data of agricultural survey are collected and analysed by the Bureau of Statistics of Samoa.
- Not enough ways or forms to disseminate relevant information to the public esp farmers and fishers and organisational stakeholders.

Challenges cont'd

- Operating in a multi-institutional and multi-organizational context has proven to be one of the most difficult challenges for implementing the sector-wide approach in agriculture.
- A critical need is to ensure that there is a strong coordination system in place with adequate government leadership of the sector, therefore the institutional arrangements for sector coordination will be strengthened.

Challenge cont'd

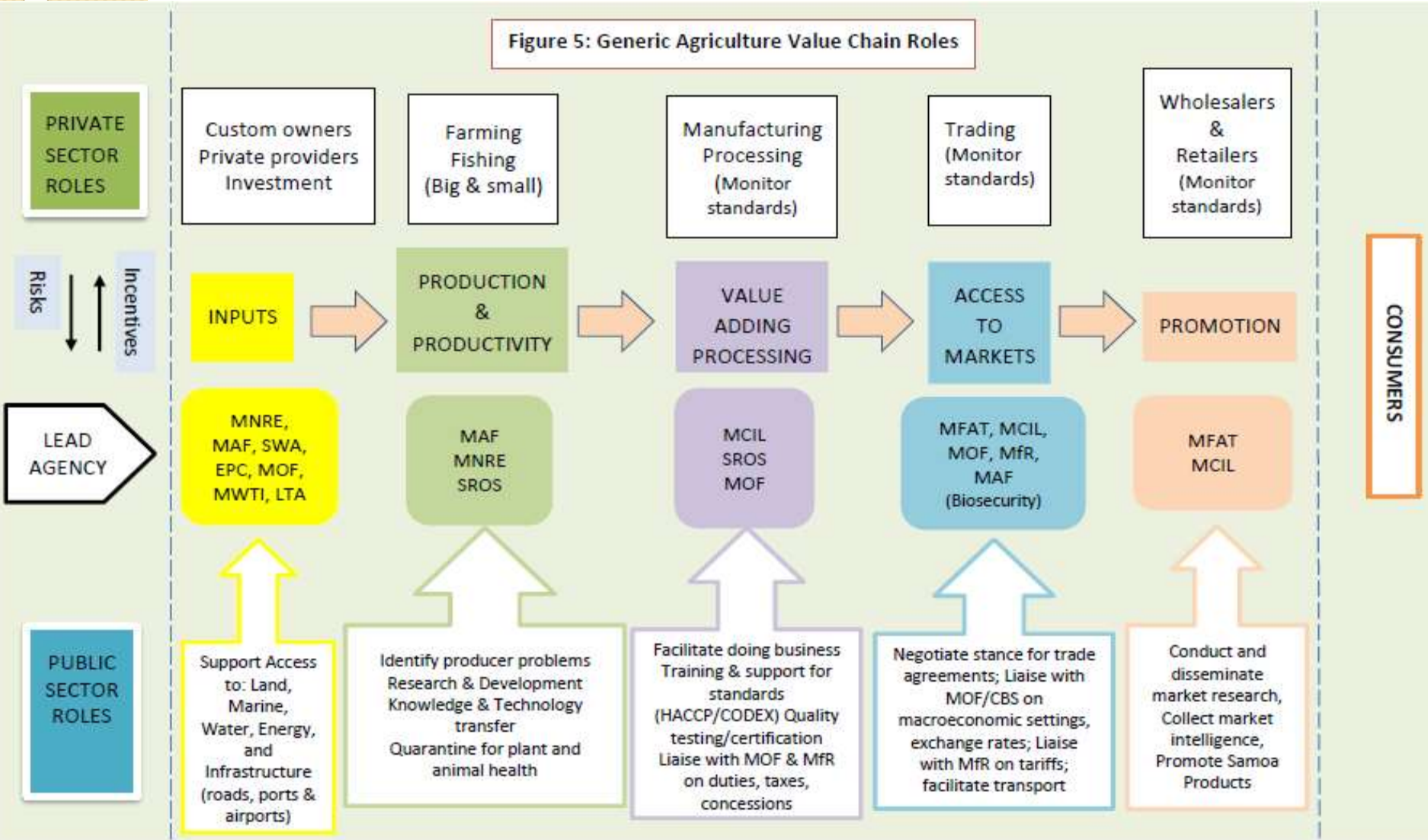
- Limited institutional strengthening and financial resources to adapt ICT techniques and tools.
- The DBS has found it generally difficult to reduce lending interest rates given its relatively high costs of capital and high operating costs. A major issue now faced by the DBS is the difficulty in recovering loan funds particularly from tourism sector clients.

How ICTs can help meet agriculture goals and overcome challenges?

- The approach to delivery of extension services, to ensure coverage for small subsistence, semi-commercial and commercial farmers, will be broadened to involve a variety of arrangements of public, NGO and private players with information being made available from a variety of sources including **increased use of ICT systems and mobile phone networks** .
- Creating an e-communication platform for the ministry to communicate on specific issues so that relevant parties can access. (eg) Deploying a web portal, social media tools such as slack app.
- Creating an electronic information platform for the ministry and its stakeholders to view and access relevant reports or information needed.
- Using of the ministry's website and facebook page and other web 2.0 tools to disseminate information to farmers and fishers.
- Adopt E-agriculture strategy framework to guide the ministry of how to overcome these challenges from successful stories.

Existing MAF partners

Figure 5: Generic Agriculture Value Chain Roles



Need for partnering between agriculture and ICT stakeholders.

- ISPs – CSL, Bluesky, Digicel, Netvo, Lesa's Telephone Services
- Mobile Service Providers – Bluesky, Digicel
- Regulator – Drone registration
- MCIT – National policies on ICT services.
- ITU – financial and training
- FAO – guidance, financial and training.

Overall....

- Samoa MAF has deployed ICT tools for easing accessing and disseminating of information however, there was no formal guide such as this E-Agriculture Strategy framework.
- Therefore...
 - Looking forward to collaborate with those with successful stories and solutions in deploying of E-Agriculture Strategy.
 - Some eager organisations who wishes to offer financial support and training....



FAAFETAI LAVA...THANK YOU

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