



FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

BEST FIT EXTENSION APPROACHES FOR HONDURAS

What

The Feed the Future Developing Local Extension Capacity (DLEC), in partnership with CARE Honduras in coordination with Agricultural Science and Technology unit (DICTA) from Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG) studied the status of the supply and demand of extension in Honduras and provided recommendations for best fit approaches to extension in Honduras.

Why

Honduras is primarily dependent on agriculture and livestock and needs to strengthen its extension systems to ensure food production and export earnings. DICTA which is in charge of quality, coverage and policy support for extension requested support to identify the strengths, gaps, key ecosystem actors and recommendations to better serve its mandate of promoting rural extension.

How

DLEC first identified gaps within Honduras' extension system by conducting a study based on Best fit Analysis methodology, after which it used both primary and secondary research to study the demand for extension (especially by coffee, cacao, avocado and basic grains producers) and supply of extension (by national and international & public/



private service providers and vocational technical centers and associations). It also helped build DICTA's capacity in conducting such studies and using the associated learnings.

Timeline

First Phase: August - December 2016

Second Phase: August 2018 - March 2019

Partners

DLEC, CARE, DICTA (Agricultural Science & Technology Unit)



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Results

The study indicated:

- 1) the need for joint planning to enable synergies across the fragmented set of actors, methodologies and models;
- 2) producers are not organized and their demands are not adequately considered at the time of designing programs and policies;
- 3) there is need to generate graduation models for validated extension approaches to ensure quality;
- 4) Government needs to continue investing in capacity building across policies and strategies, planning, and monitoring and evaluation

The engagement also resulted in the formation of the rural advisory and extension services Forum in Honduras, where public and private actors converge, discuss and analyze how best to serve producers.



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