Forthcoming!

Reshaping Rural Extension

Learning for Sustainability (LforS)
An Integrative and Learning-Based Advisory Approach for Rural Extension

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Extension themes

- Awareness raising
- Capacity building
- Social mobilisation
- Monitoring & Evaluation

![Image of people engaged in activities]

![Another image of people engaged in activities]
Specific priorities of LforS

- Market orientation, yes - but more emphasis on subsistence-oriented production is needed.
- A livelihood approach is crucial, as farms and households closely interact and investments at either level will have effects on the other.
- Striking a balance between productive and reproductive extension themes.
- As decision-makers, small-scale farmers need to be oriented towards complex and changing framework conditions.
Structure of the LforS extension approach

**Basic components**

- pursued throughout the extension cycle and independent of specific extension themes:
  - Stakeholder dialogue
  - Organisational development
  - Knowledge management

**Activity lines**

- time-sequenced extension activities
  - Awareness raising
  - Capacity building
  - Social mobilisation
  - Monitoring and evaluation
Principles of the LforS approach

▪ Social and collaborative learning in multi-stakeholder learning groups
▪ Active and situated learning
▪ Consideration of community and farm level
▪ Enabling self-determined acting
▪ Developing problem-solving approaches at the local level
▪ Creating extension clients’ ownership of extension themes and organisation
Organisation of extension activities (extension cycle)

Example: Improving yields with farmyard manure

### Step 1: Manure Production

#### Capacity Building
- Training in construction of cowshed and production of manure

#### Social mobilisation for implementation
- Extensionists support implementation through contest and advice and farm visits
- Construction of stable and production of manure

#### Monitoring
- Assessment of quality and size of stables and quantity / quality of manure production

### Winter / Dry Season

### Step 2: Manure Application

#### Capacity Building
- Training in manure application, timing and requirements of different crops

#### Social mobilisation for implementation
- Extensionists support implementation through contest, advice and farm visits

#### Monitoring
- Manure application

### Early Spring / Rainy Season

#### Stakeholder dialogue

#### Organisational development

#### Awareness raising

### Late Summer / Rainy Season

#### Evaluation
- Final event, evaluate crop performance and yields

#### Monitoring
- Monitoring of adequate use of manure and yields

### Winter / Dry Season
Activity Line 1

Awareness raising

Goals
- Develop common visions
- Foster common understanding of problems
- Discover interconnections and dynamics
- Develop common problem-solving approaches

Tools and methods
- Simulation and learning games
- Diagnosis of cycles (e.g. water cycle)
- Vision mapping
ACTIVITY LINE 2

Capacity building

Goal
- Acquire concrete skills and knowledge required to implement problem-solving approaches

Tools and methods
- Practical workshops
- Photo series
- Participatory technology development
ACTIVITY LINE 3

Social mobilisation

Goal
- Encourage and motivate communities to implement extension themes

Tools and methods
- Implementation contest: communities implement extension themes, a monitoring commission evaluates the work done, the best achievements are rewarded
- Working with the media