How Does my Extension System Rate?

Extension

Agricultural Extension involves communicating with farmers so that they can access useful information to improve their livelihoods. Good extension starts with the target group and their needs and then involves effective communication of relevant (validated) solutions. Farmers then assess and adopt (relevant to their circumstances).

Evaluate your extension system

Assess the elements required for a successful extension system:

Element	Who involved	How done	Evaluation (1 = Poor, 5 Excellent)
Problems, needs and opportunities identified and prioritized			
Research implemented to address needs and wants			
"Solutions" validated under target conditions			
Recommendations packaged and easily understood			
Credible, validated, relevant information easily available to **intermediaries***			
Credible, validated, relevant information easily available to **farmers**			
Required Inputs and credit available			
Infrastructure and markets adequate			
Feedback collected on recommendations, needs and extension process			
Policies supportive of work			

* Those communicating recommendations to farmers

Players	Roles and evaluation
Government research	
Government extension	
NGOs/civil society	
Private sector	
Commodity boards	
Farmer groups	
Other	

Suggestions to improve: _____

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