

Human and Institutional Capacity Building: Adding Value to SANREM Outputs

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innovATE

Innovation for Agricultural Training and Education

<http://www.oired.vt.edu/innovate/>



Some key points...



Need for agricultural education and training (AET or ATE)?

- Population expands; food production must rise
- Global food production must increase 70% by 2050 to meet our needs.
- USAID seeks to make investments in AET

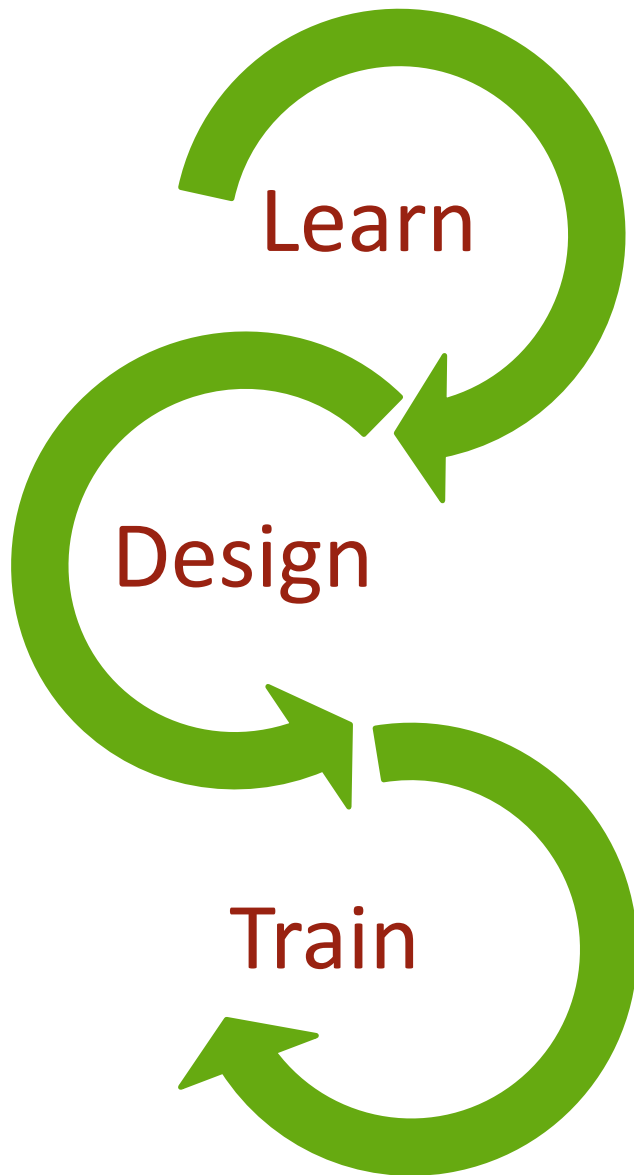
Who is innovATE?

The program is implemented by a consortium of US universities:

Virginia Tech with:

- Tuskegee University,
- Penn State University, and
- University of Florida
- Others to be added





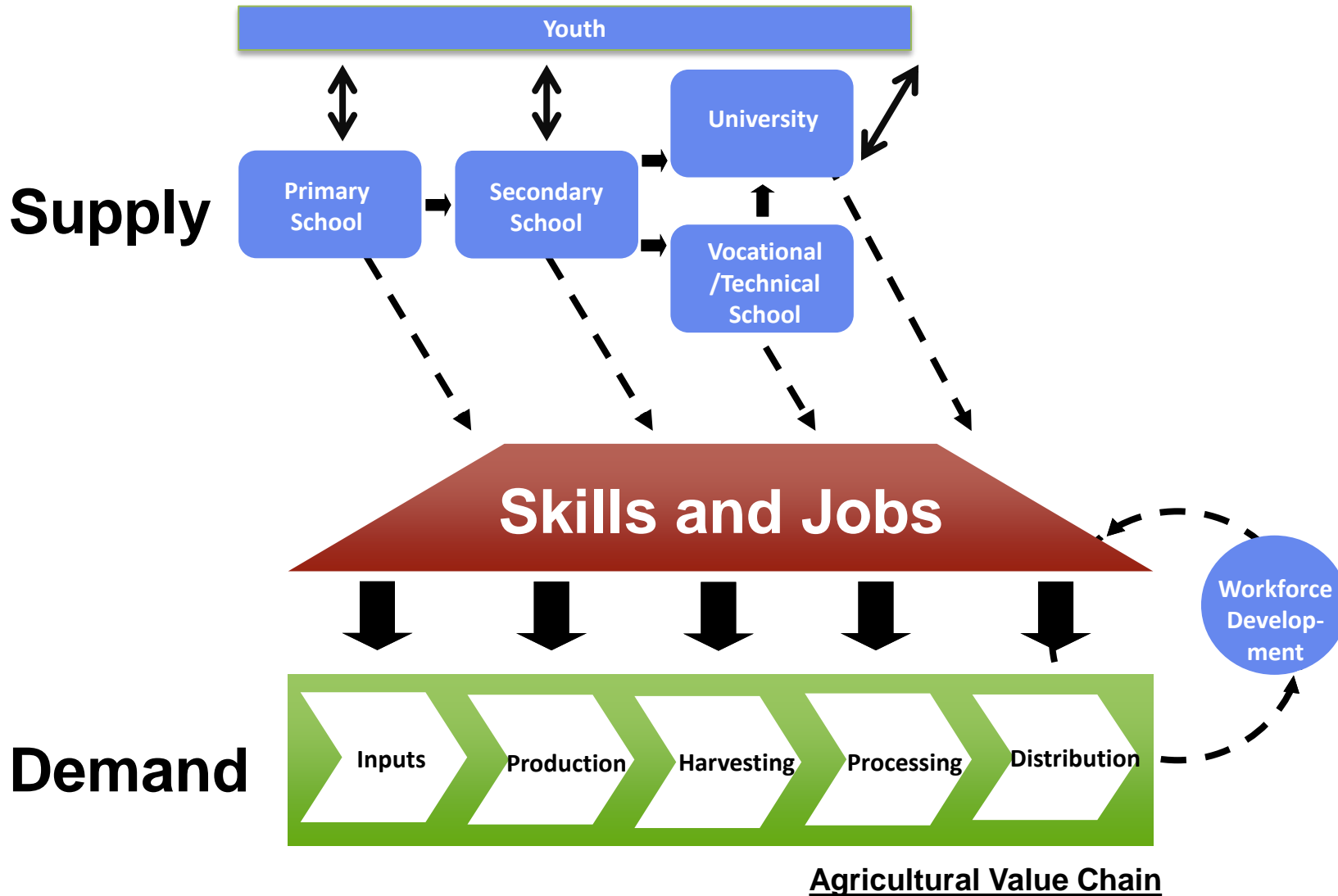
The program has three integrated components—LEARN, DESIGN, and TRAIN—that aim to strengthen the full range of institutions that train and educate agricultural professionals in:

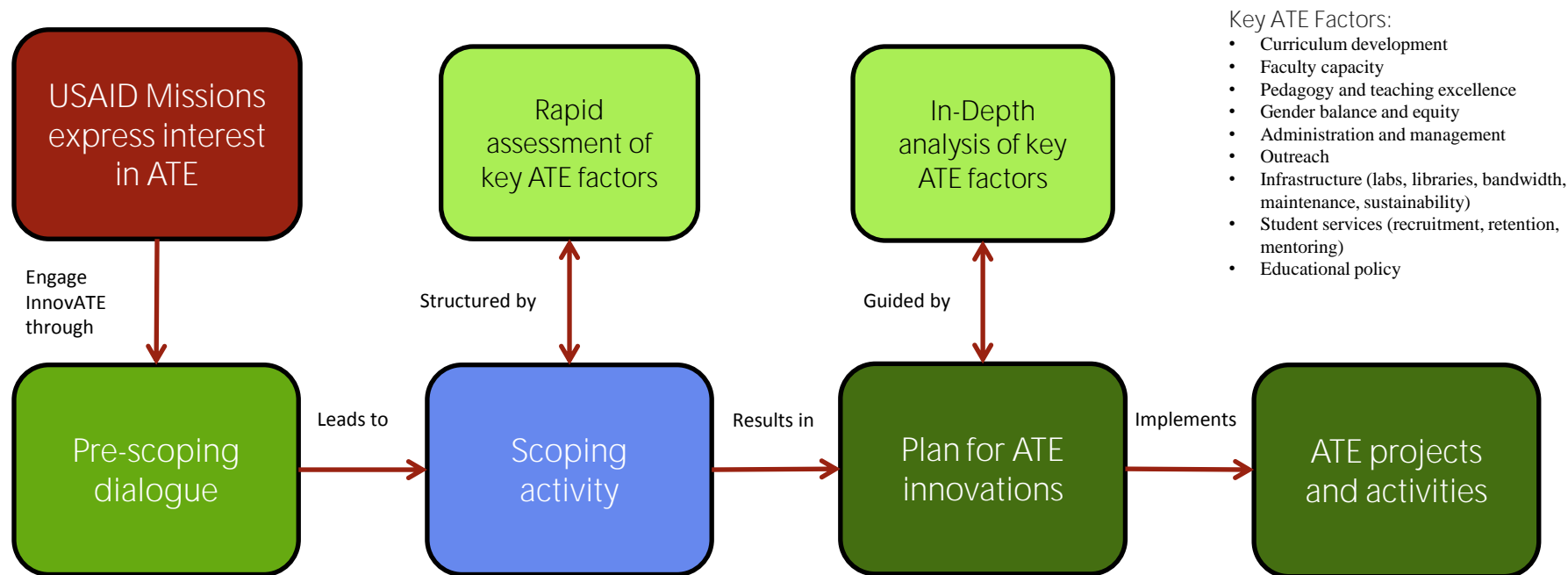
- Primary and secondary schools
- Vocational & technical schools
- Youth
- Workforce development
- Higher education institutions



Goal is more effective AET by improving alignment of professional skills with employer demand

Meeting AET Capacity Gaps





Program Purpose: Strengthening agricultural training and education systems to improve the performance of the agricultural sector

Funding

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InnovATE Program:

Strengthening agricultural training and education systems to improve the performance of the agricultural sector

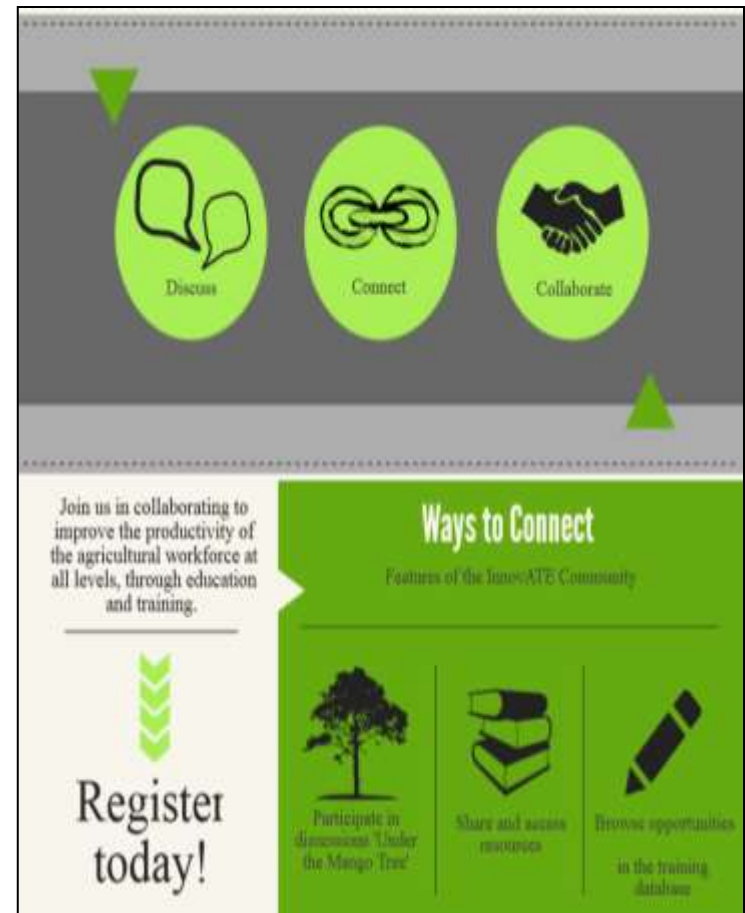
Program activities include:

- Research on AET capacity building
- Organizing conferences on AET
- Developing **AET community of practice**
- Raising awareness about AET capacity
- Needs assessments (scoping)
- Projects to improve AET



The innovATE AET Community of Practice

- Online network of agricultural development professionals
- Collaborative discussion spaces for AET and agriculture
- Resource sharing and project development
- Global training events database
- French and Spanish discussion pages



innovATEcommunity



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View recent discussions and resources

www.innovate-community.oired.vt.edu



Help us link training with needs in agriculture sector



Join us!

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Photo credit: Gates Foundation

InnovATE is improving the resilience of the agricultural workforce through strengthened capacity of agricultural education institutions



Photo credit: Gates Foundation

New professional skills needed to take advantage of opportunities and meet new challenges, given the rapid transformational changes in the agricultural sector



Photo credit: Gates Foundation

Integrated program approach centers on student-focused outcomes which meet demand for professional skills

What we have learned? AET includes:

- Full range: recruiting, retention, mentoring (career, academic) alumni
- Developing outreach to link to real life experiences and research opportunities
- Infrastructure, management, fund raising
- Policy making and administration
- Changes happening; some quicker than expected (i.e., conflict) (response/resilience)
- Gender increasingly addressed
- Changing demographics in schools, colleges

Completed and upcoming work:

- Sustainability of agribusiness center (Armenia)
- Water Saving Agriculture (Jordan)
- Agriculture policy training (Uganda)
- Faculty training (South Sudan)
- Center of Excellence in Cambodia – Jan. 2014
- Youth, workforce development (Indonesia)
- High risk youth and workforce (Nicaragua)
- Pending work includes: D. R. of Congo, Honduras