

# “Role of Extension in Revitalizing Agricultural Sector”

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# The frame of a pluralistic system

- Many actors: public services, NGOs, private input dealers, various projects financed by foreign donors, etc.
- Public extension service : The more important providers for agricultural knowledge and information to farmers, organised by MAFCP

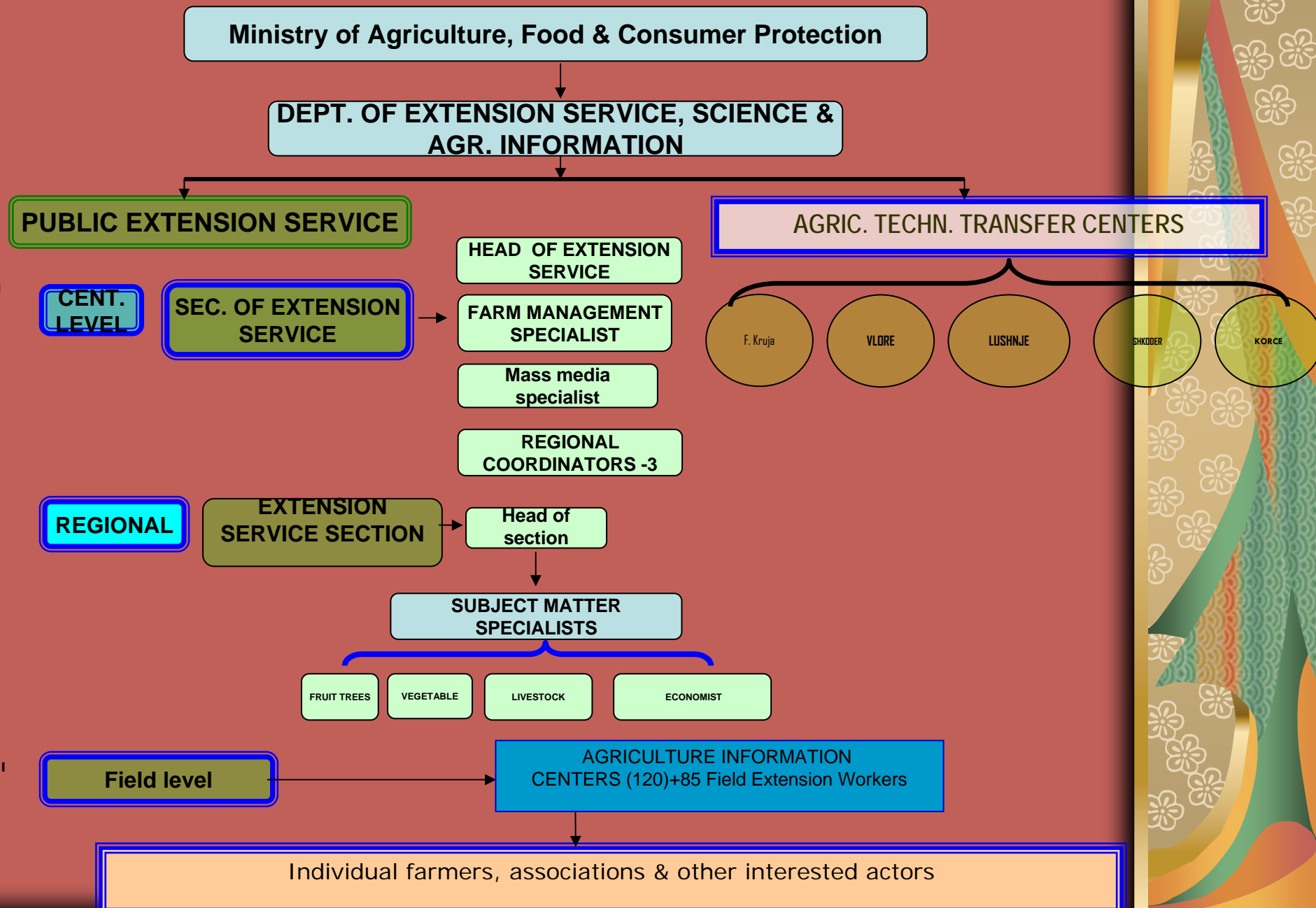



## *Technical assistance, advisory and extension services for farmers and rural businesses*

- No change in the structure and number of public extension workers
- The coordination role of MAFCP with other private service providers, NGOs and donor projects strengthened
- The effectiveness of Agriculture Information Centres (ICs) increased
- More investments in their logistic and infrastructure




# Organization chart of public extension service and ATTCs



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- The total number of extension workers employed by MAFCP is 245, mainly agronomists, livestock specialists and a limited number of farm economics.
  - 205 extension workers operate at commune level and have direct contacts with farmer communities. Only 120 of them are based in simple offices, called Agricultural Information Centres.

# Agricultural information centers

 These centres, located in more important agricultural production zones of the country, offer to the farmers and rural businesses :

- information on techniques and technologies for crop and livestock production
- ag-inputs and product prices
- farm management, business plans
- credit possibilities
- processing
- legislation changes etc



# Main activities and focus

- Nearly ¼ of total number of farmers are reached
- A wide range of extension activities like as demonstrations, field days, group meetings, field visits, fairs, individual contacts etc, Brochures, Leaflets, Website, CD, etc
- ICs disseminate various type of information to farmers and other rural businesses:
- The national and local media is widely used
- Training of agricultural experts and farmers
- The research, extension and farmers linkages strengthened
- More attention to producers groups and organic production
- Important role in implementing the support scheme

# The role of public extension to the support scheme

- A key role in implementing the support scheme (direct payment) to farmers
- Extension workers have helped the farmers to prepare projects for application and latter on by providing technical assistance to those who received the grants.





# Some challenges for the future

- widening up of agenda towards rural extension
- sustainable management of natural resources
- food safety
- land consolidation
- gender issues



# Some challenges for the future

- The inclusion of the broader NGO and private sector
- The acquisition and use of IT
- The introduction of knowledge on climate change/weather forecasts and prognoses of pest & diseases



**Thank You**

