



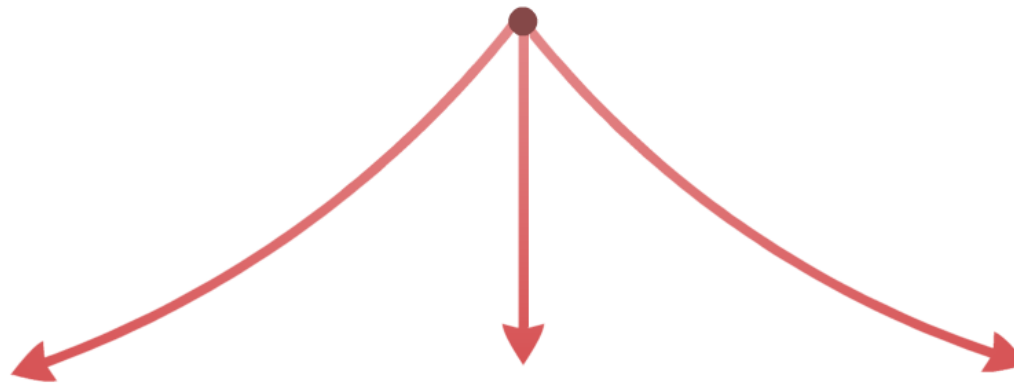
8 th Trondheim Conference
on Biodiversity

**Agricultural extension to
attain changes in practices**

Martina Speranza
National Institute of Agricultural Technology,
Argentina



Ministerio de Agroindustria
Presidencia de la Nación



What are agricultural
extension services?
Role and mission

What approaches do
countries use?
Case study of
Argentina
INTA

What challenges are
faced and how are
these overcome?

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What are agricultural extension services? Role and mission

There are different kind of
extension services in Argentina

Private

University

Public-Private

Public
Ministry of
Agroindustry



Public

Ministry of
Agroindustry

About INTA

The National Institute of Agricultural Technology:

- Is a decentralized and autharchic public organization
- Founded in 1956
- Depends on Ministry of Agroindustry .

After 2003 it started a period of institutional redefinitions in strategies and planning, with the objective to strengthen the role of INTA as a public organization.



Public

Ministry of
Agroindustry



INTA' s Extension Service Mission

Rural extension services should enable innovation processes for territorial development with social inclusion and environmental sustainability, with the objective of improving livelihoods of farmers.

This is possible through strengthening capacities of all the actors in territory and by promoting knowledge sharing and inter institutional and collective actions (INTA).

Extension service Role

- Co construct extension services strategies with communities to enable innovation
- Foster economic development (focus on added value)
- Build networks
- Manage Knowledge
- Manage and implement Public policies

INTA' s Approach

"Model of development with social inclusion: technology, innovation and organization for competitiveness and social equity"

Innovation

"...Innovation is the result of a collective process where diverse actors interact and produce knowledge ..."

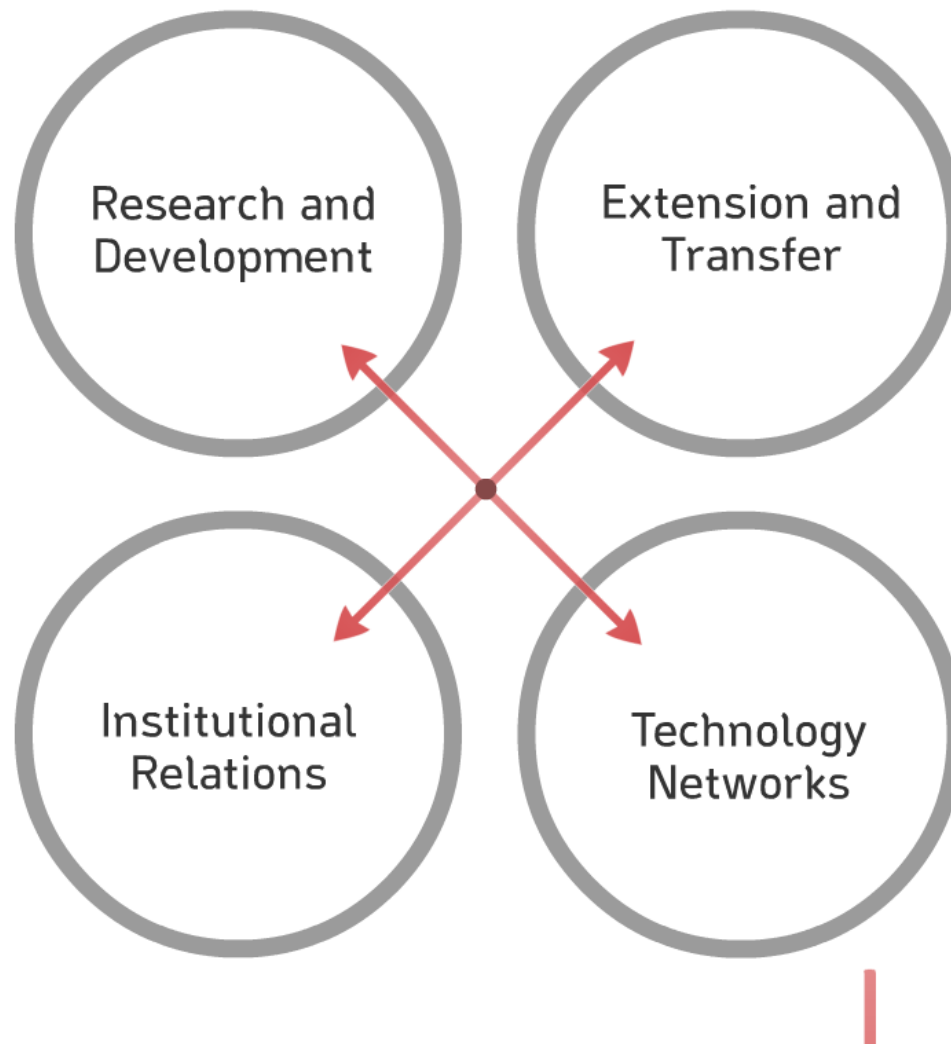
INTA uses a wide criterion of innovation, aimed to the creation of new or improved processes and products "that encourage social and economic development".

Territorial Development

INTA defines Territorial Development as a social process, promoted by actors in territory, that seek to guarantee the local capacities to strengthen socio-institutional schemes and economic-productive systems with the objective to improve the life quality in communities (INTA , 2007).

INTA's APPROACH

To foster innovation we design Regional Projects focused on territorial development (Prets). They are planned involving 4 institutional strategic components.





**INTA is the only Latinamerican Institution that integrates
EXTENSION and RESEARCH in the same organization**



Integrated activities of extension and research make possible to dialogue with diverse actors in territory in order to enable knowledge flow in an iterative and constructive way.

Research and extension →



DIALOGUE



Iterative and
constructive
knowledge

INTA's SYSTEM

Head Office
15 Regional Centers
50 Experimental Stations
6 Research Centers
22 Institutes
350 Extension Agencies
2 Private organizations:



Our extension agencies cover
the same distance that exists
between MOSCOW and
MADRID



Extension service
900 professionals
300 technicians



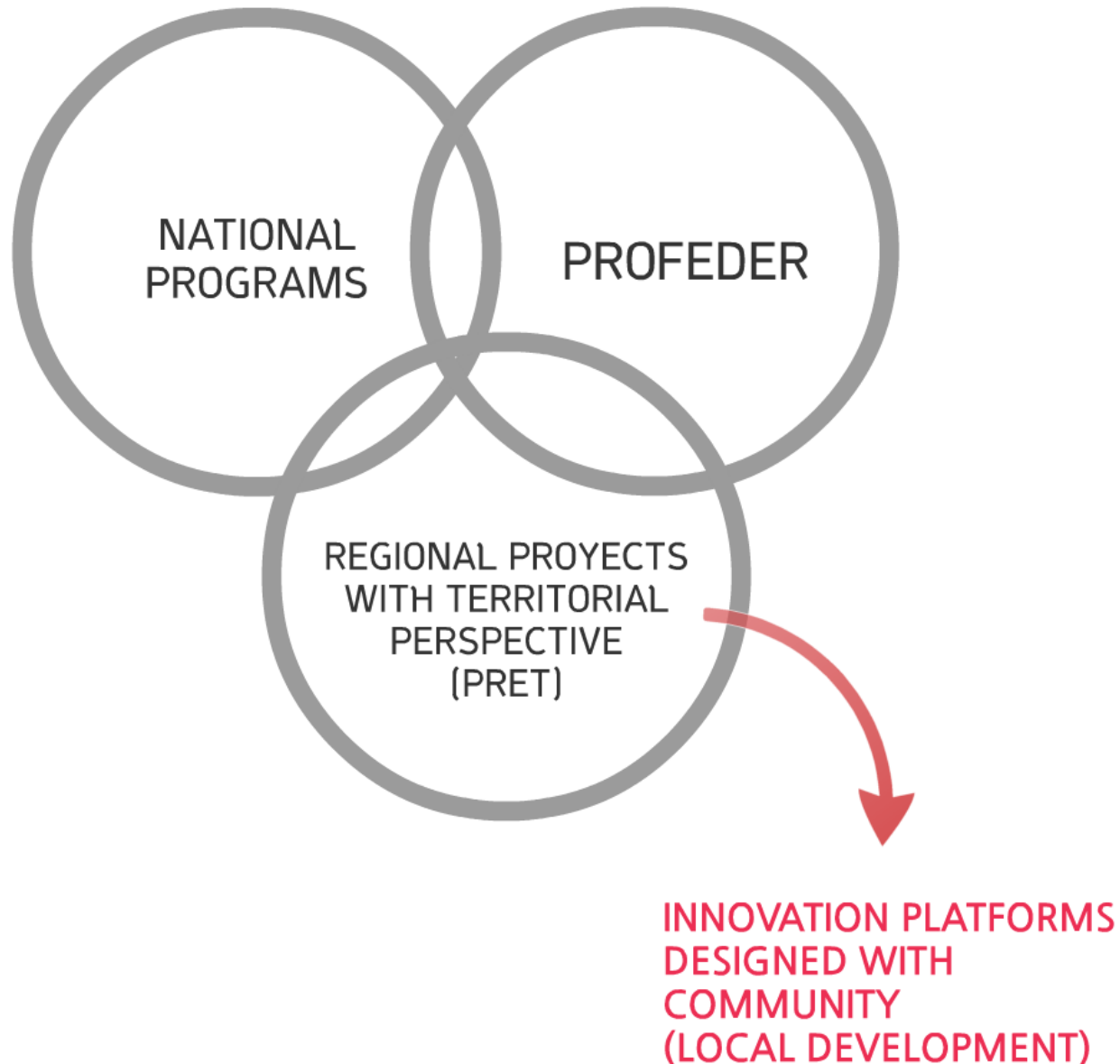
Work and offer the following services:

- technical advisory
- learning and training

In some places, INTA is the only public organization present in territory and with professional capacities



OUR STRATEGY





PROFEDER

Program in territory



PROFEDER'S TOOLS

Pro Huerta (financed by the Social Development Ministry)

Projects for crofter producers (MINIFUNDIO)

Projects for family producers (ProFam)

Rural Change Programme (financed by the Agroindustry Ministry)

Projects for Supporting Local Development (PADL)

Integrated Projects

PRO HUERTA

Vulnerable population



INTEGRATED PROJETSCS

Added value in chains



MINIFUNDIO – Crofter producers



PROFAM -Family producers



Rural Change

Small and Medium Companies - capitalized producers



The objective of this tools is to assist in reproduction modes, strengthen rural population organization and work on inequity

Asymmetries can be corrected with territorial based public policies in order to foster strong alliances within community aimed to facilitate transformation and strengthening of economic and social organization

The State has the responsibility to respond to population demands.



**780.000
HUERTAS**

we have more than 780.000 family,
school and community orchards

YouTube

What challenges are faced and how are these overcome?

In many communities problems exceed the productive and technological issues

- Access to water and land
- Organizational
- Communitarian problems (infrastructure and services)
- Commercialization
- Financing access
- Popular Communication
- Gender
- Productive
- Added Value

Etc.

**BIODIVERSITY AND OTHER RELEVANT ISSUES DO NOT ARISE
EXPLICITLY AS A DEMAND**

Paradox:

We need to respond to demands which in many cases are satisfying human rights.

But ALSO we need to look ahead, work in relevant issues such as climate change, biodiversity, desertification, and other. Eventhough they DO NOT EMERGE AS DEMANDS.

We also consider that family farmers are fundamental for biodiversity care, and they know its importance because they depend on it for their living.

How do we face the challenges?

Launching new forms to plan participative projects that integrate a new approach:

- climate change adaptation
- desertification
- biodiversity
- gender perspective
- conflict

Our goal is to upgrade our projects' quality with focus in 2 aspects

PROFEDER

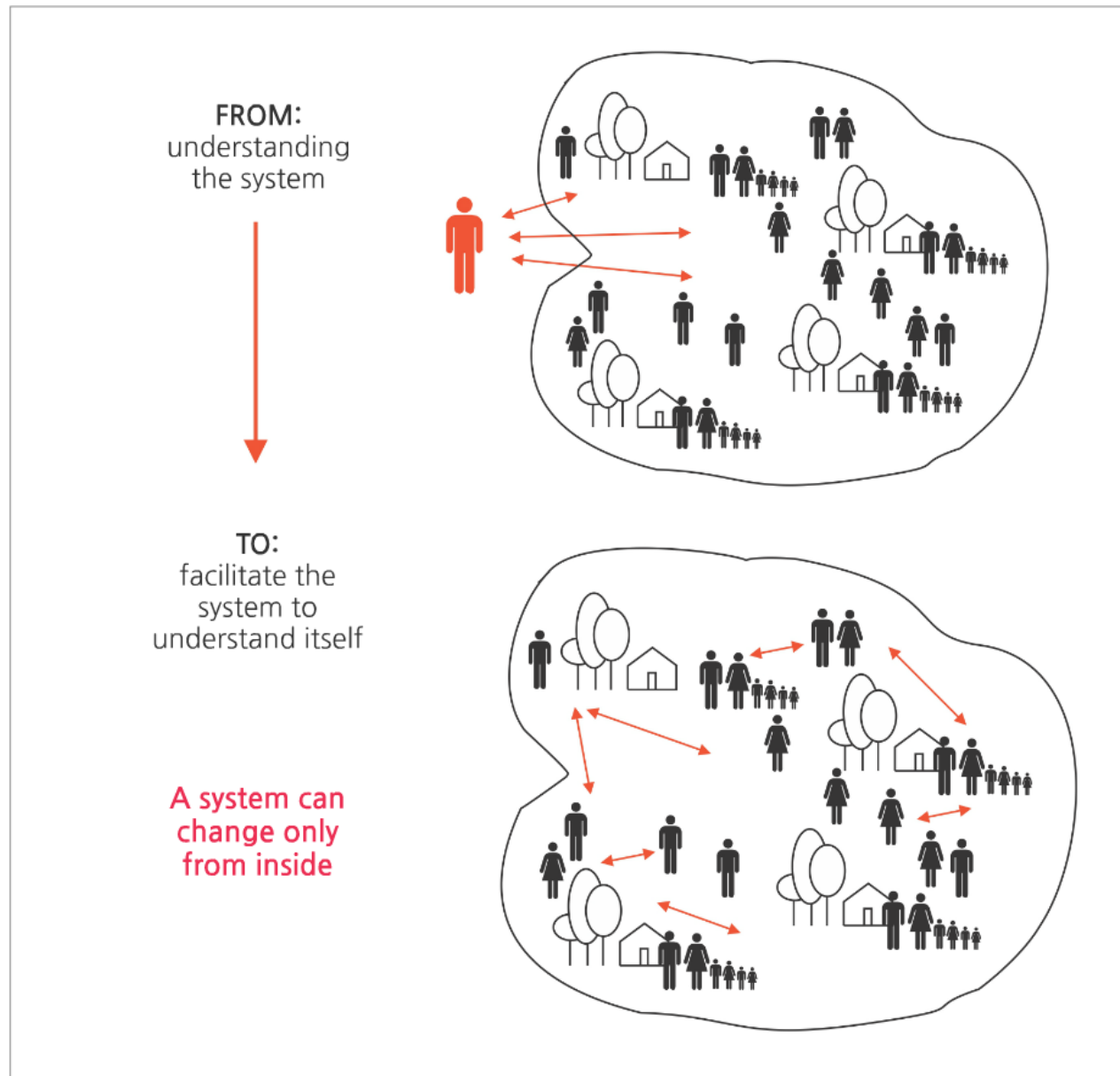


EXTENSIONIST PROFESSIONAL ROLE AS A DEVELOPMENT AGENT

The role exceeds offering technical assistance

Professionals must be able to analyze complex local situations and manage problems and demands for facilitating solutions

Extensionist Role as a community development facilitator



Focus on



INCLUSION OF ALL DEMANDS

Focus on problems, needs and satisfaction of rights.

Especial attention to the social equity, as a way of fairness access to resources and opportunities.

A red speech bubble with a white outline, containing the text "Thank you" in a bold, dark gray font. The bubble has a tail pointing towards the bottom-left corner.

Thank you