

Humidtropics

New opportunities for improved
livelihoods in a sustainable
environment



Global Development Challenges

- Poverty
- Hunger and food insecurity
- Malnutrition and disease
- Environmental degradation



Systems Research / Analysis

The background of the slide is a photograph of a rural landscape. It shows terraced fields on a hillside, lush green vegetation, and several small, simple houses with red roofs. The terrain is hilly and appears to be in a tropical or subtropical region. The overall scene is vibrant and green, suggesting a focus on agriculture and environmental systems.

Humidtropics adopts a whole-system approach in addressing issues of productivity and livelihoods enhancement for small holder farmers.

- **Interactions**
- **Trade-off,**
- **Partnerships**
- **Participatory approaches**

Systems Research in Agriculture

- Involves **understanding** the constraints farmers face and **exploring possible development pathways**, at **scale**, involving **interactions** among the subsystems (or components) within the system
- Systems analysis helps to identify and understand emergent properties, synergies and trade-offs that may influence future trajectories
- Multi-disciplinarity, Partnerships, Participatory approaches, Systems analysis
- Integrated team approach

Africa RISING - Program purpose

- Provide pathways out of **hunger** and **poverty** for small holder families, particularly for **women and children**, through sustainably intensified farming systems that sufficiently improve **food, nutrition, and income security** and conserve or enhance the **natural resource** base

Humidtropics - Theory of Change

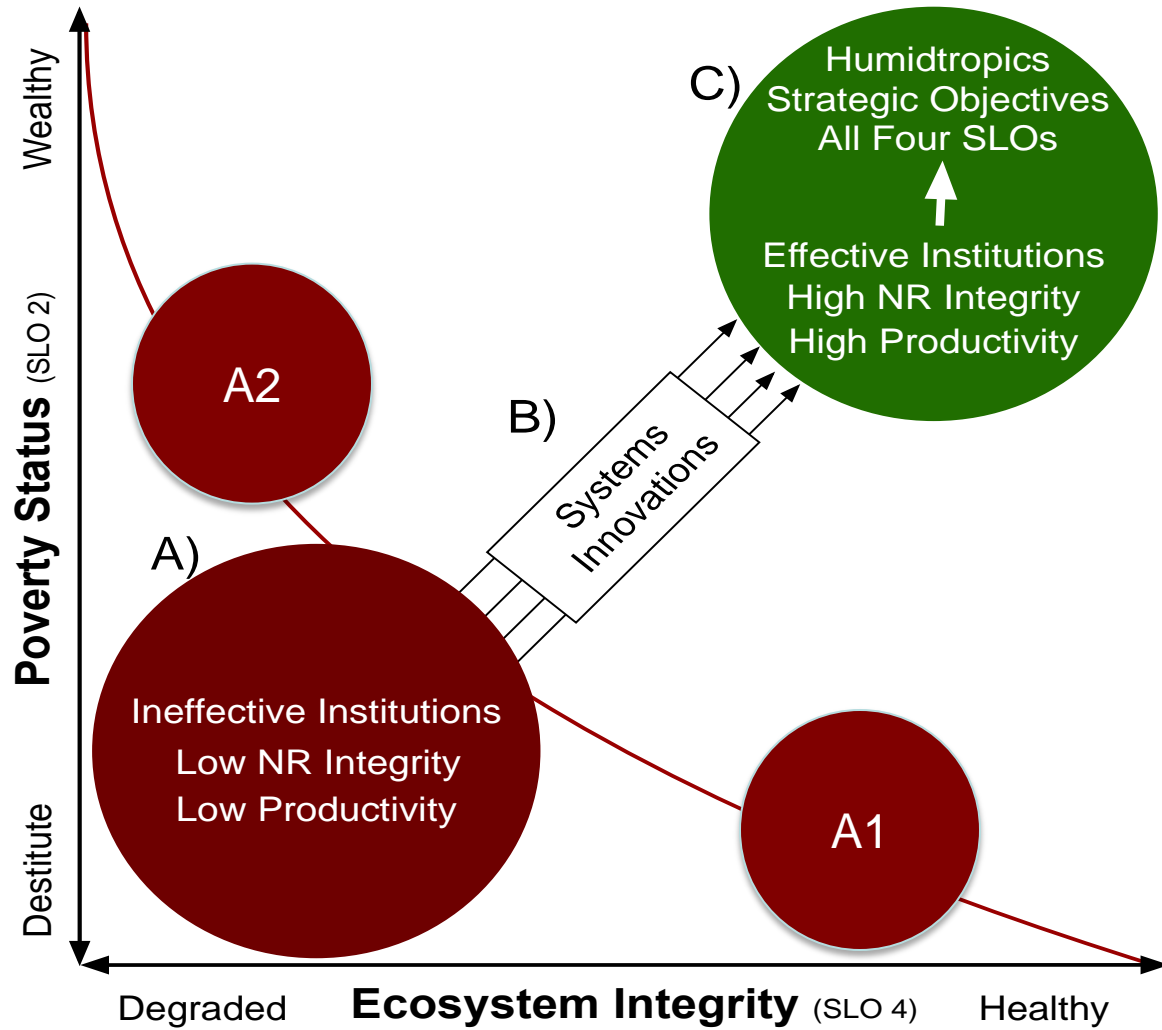
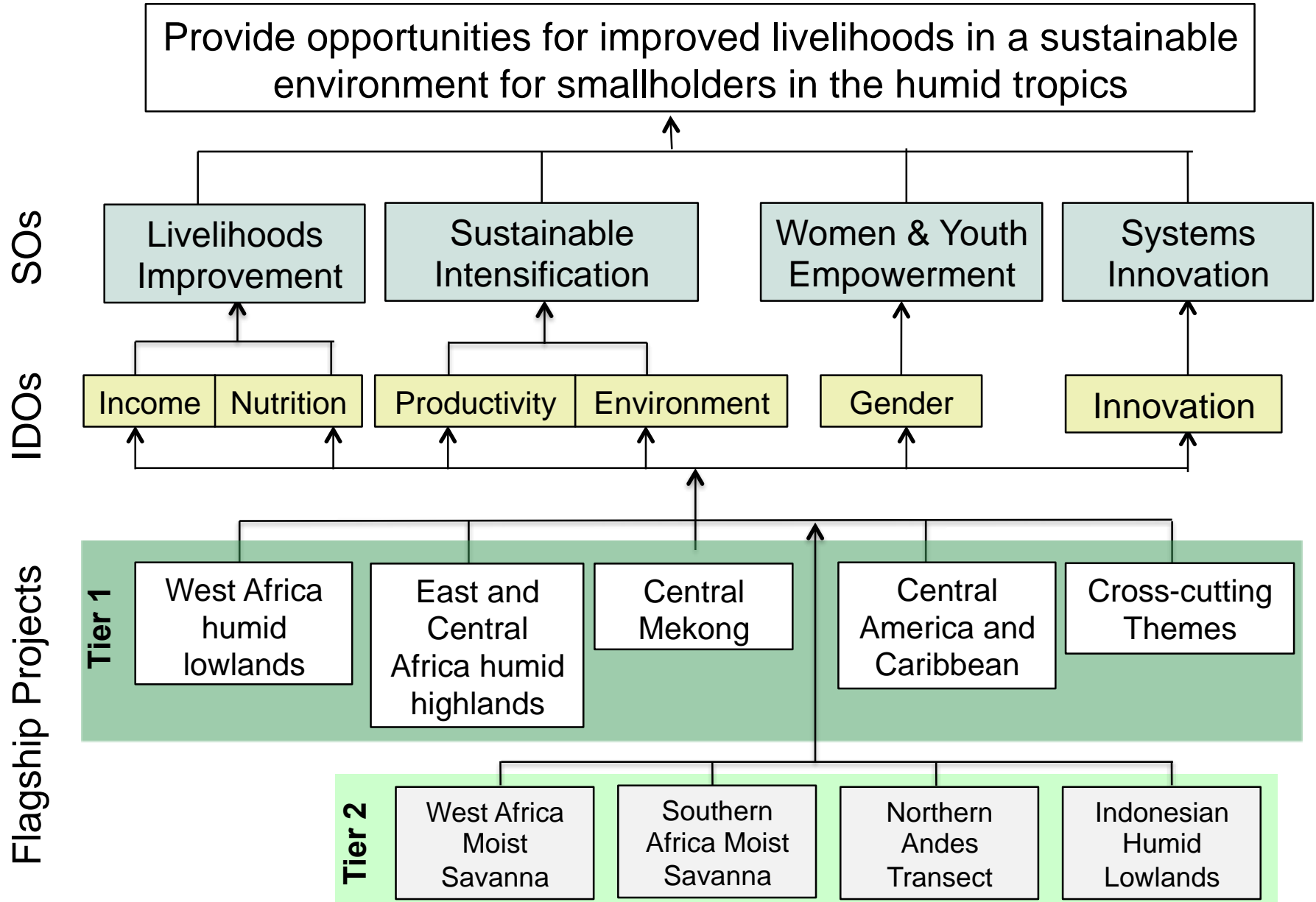
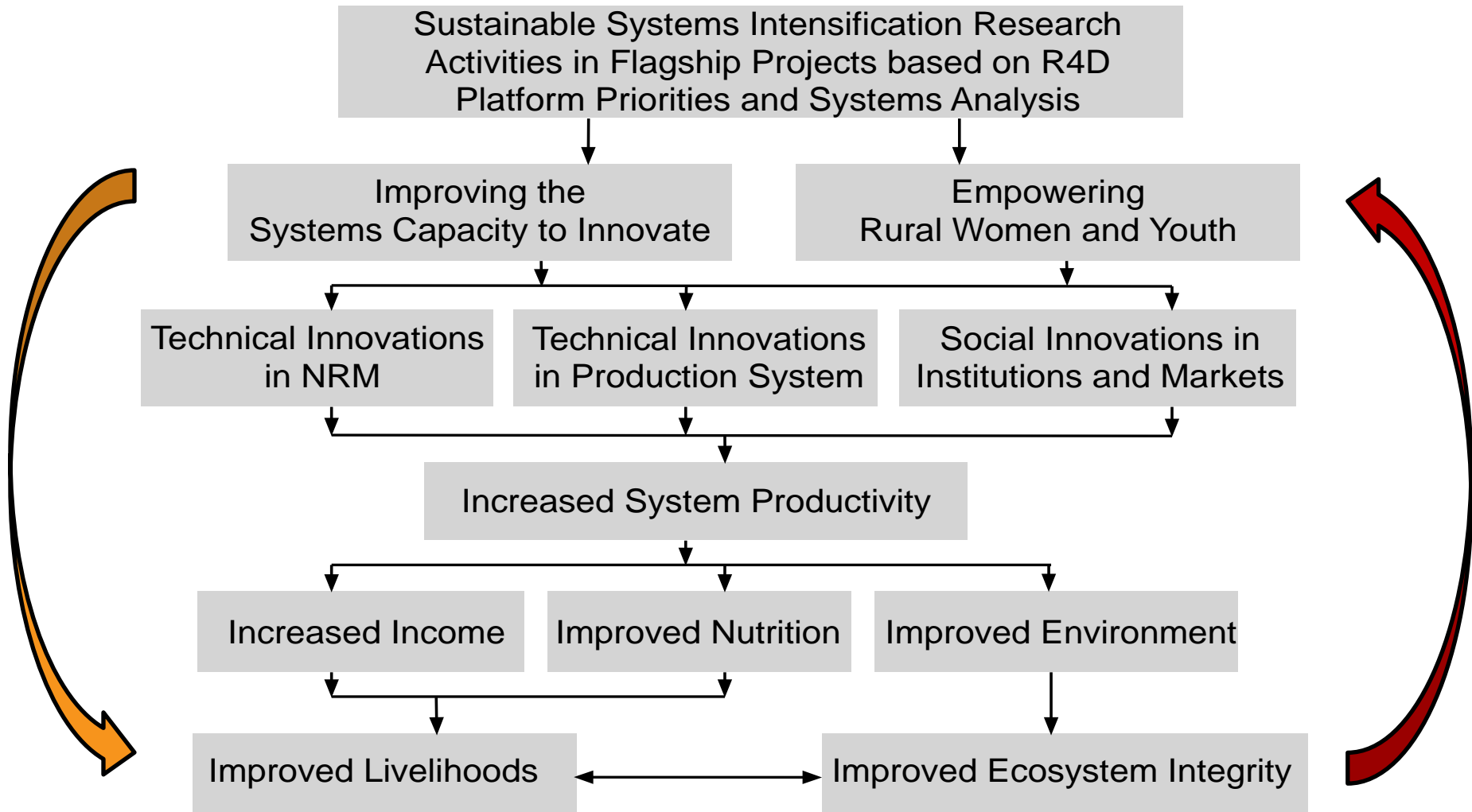


Figure 1 Humidtropics Theory of Change

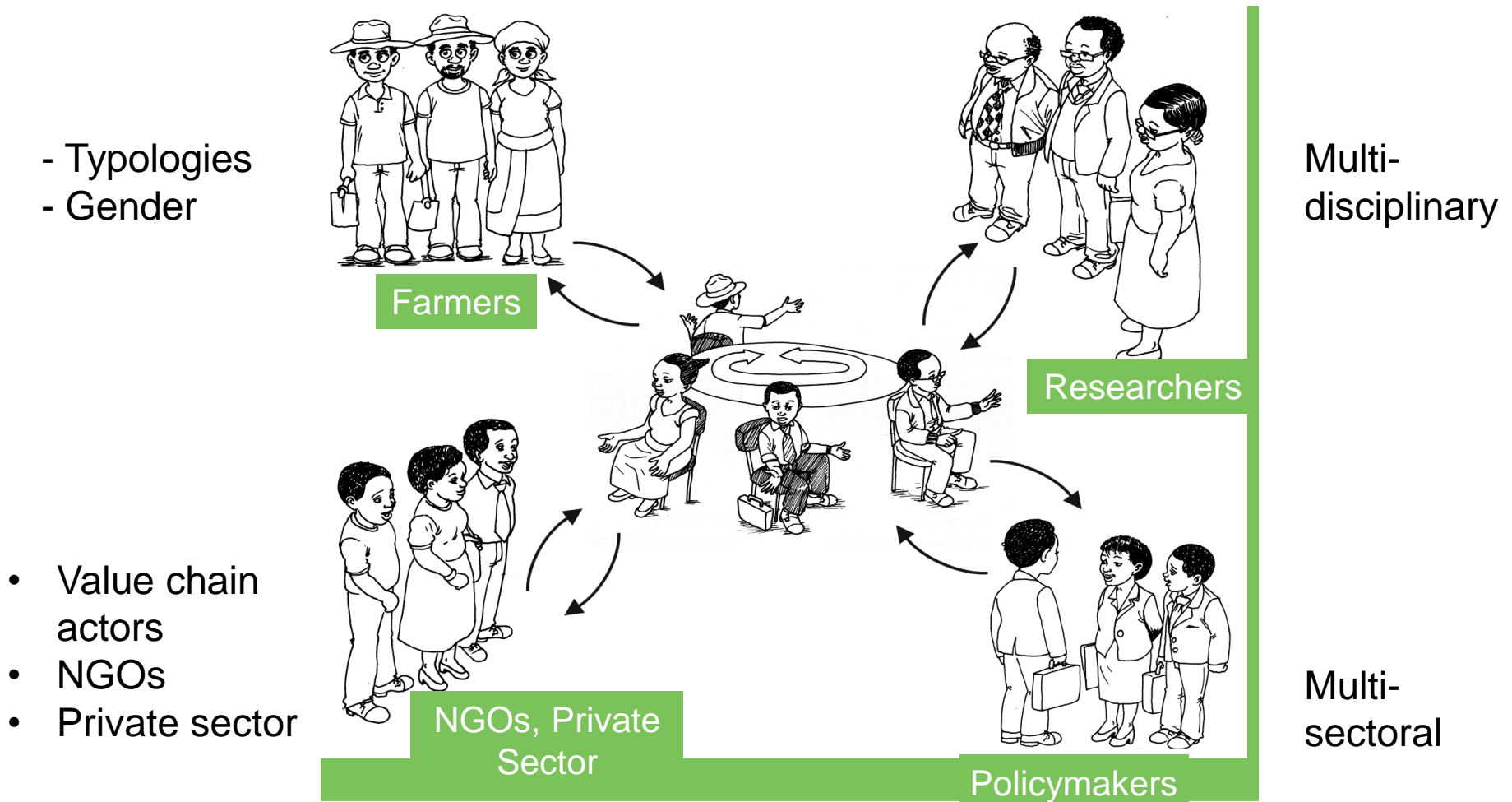
Programmatic Framework



Integrated IDOs Towards Impact



R4D Platforms



- Typologies
- Gender

- Value chain actors
- NGOs
- Private sector

→ Used in Research, Innovation and Scaling

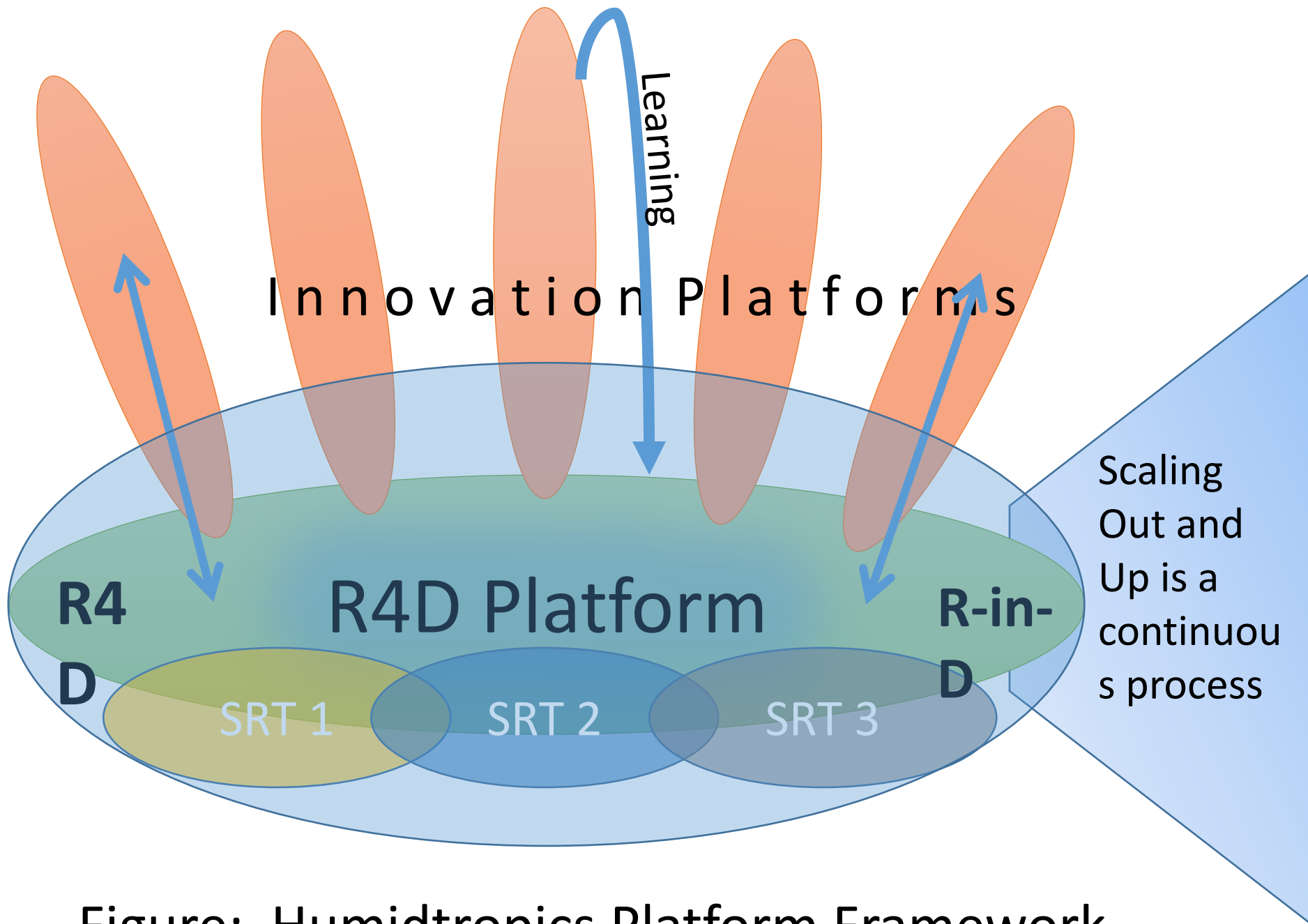


Figure: Humidtropics Platform Framework



Action Area Platforms



Action Area meeting, Bukavu, May 2013

Joint Field Visits as part of Platform Action



Agricultural components

Diversity – crops, livestock, NRM status, etc

Food security and cash crops



Banana



Beans



Cassava



Maize

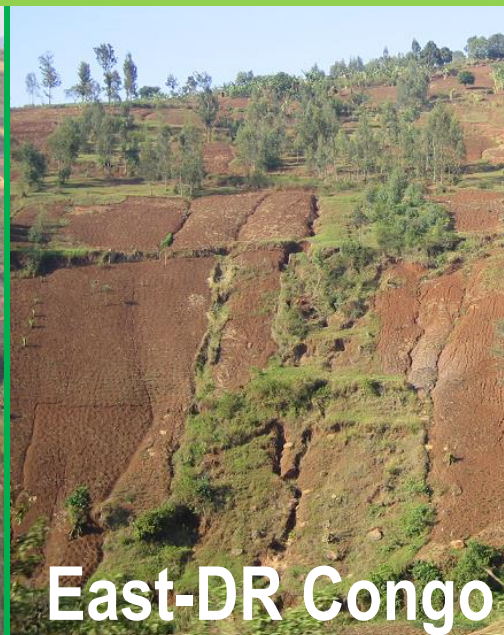


Coffee

Natural resource status



Rwanda



East-DR Congo

Livestock



Socio-technical regime

Diversity – services, policy, markets, etc

Market functions



Service delivery



Policy environment

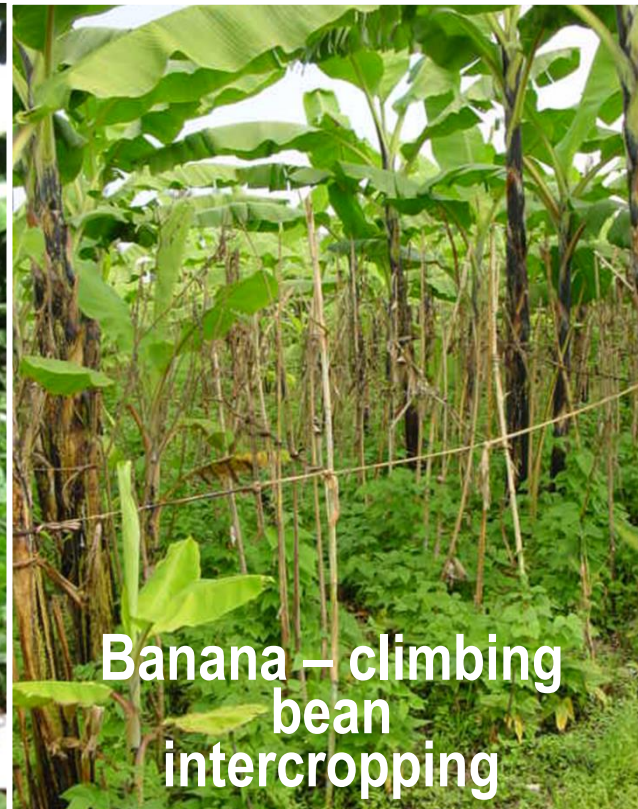




Entry point: Niches for multi-purpose legumes



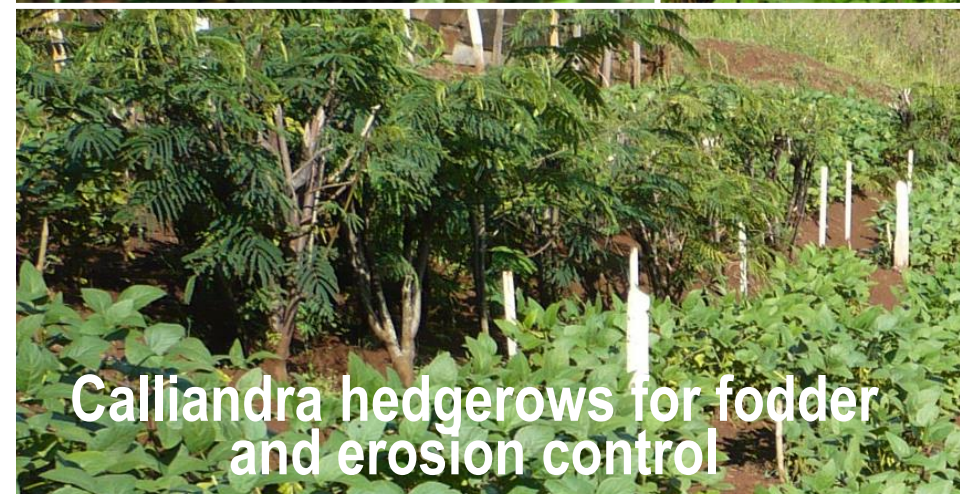
**Banana – bush bean
intercropping**



**Banana – climbing
bean
intercropping**



**Innovative maize-
soybean
intercropping**



**Calliandra hedgerows for fodder
and erosion control**



**Innovative cassava-bean
intercropping**

Gender in Humidtropics

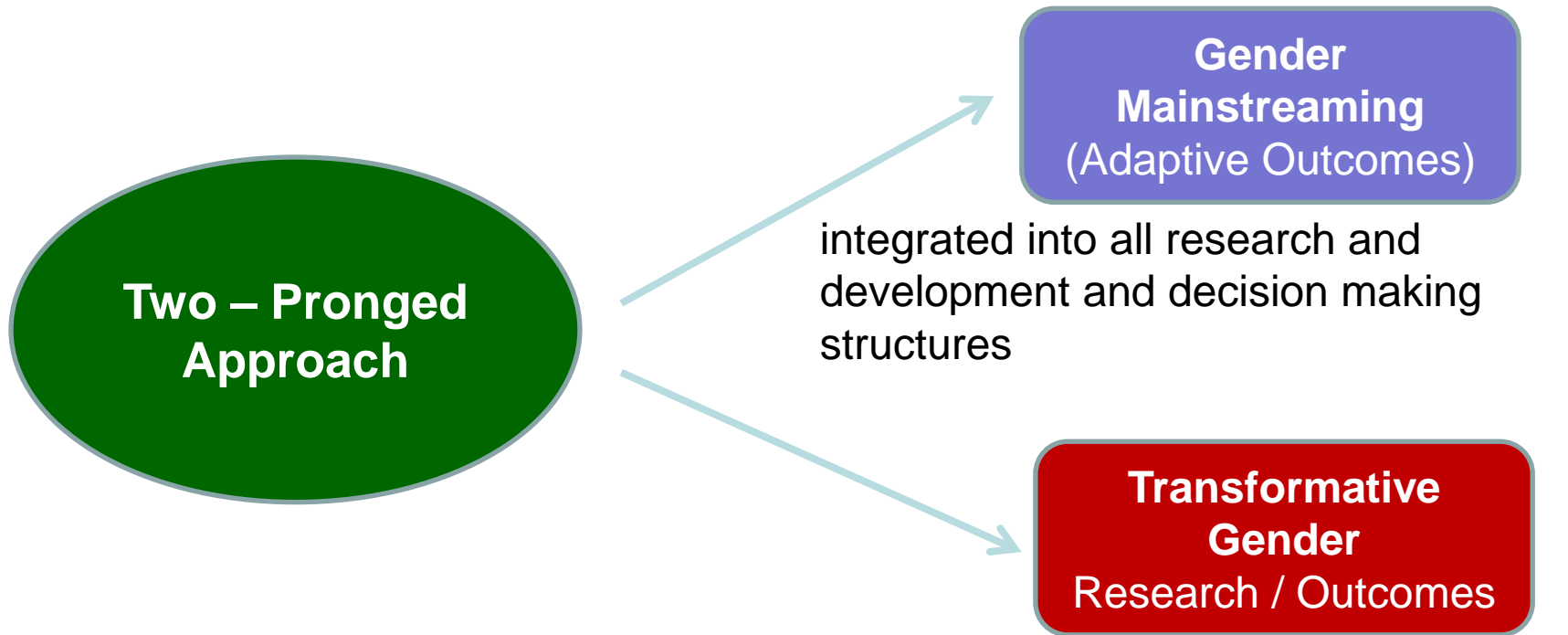


Gender Strategy Components

The gender strategy involves:

- mainstreaming gender in all program activities, which means:
 - adopting the practice of collecting **sex-disaggregated data**,
 - undertaking **gender analyses** of these data and,
 - operationalizing a principle of **social inclusion**, within which women and men are equally represented.
- undertaking specific gender research aiming at transformative outcomes.

The Gender Strategy



Pre-requisites

- Gender mindset
- Gender staffing
- Gender budget

integrated into all research and development and decision making structures

Long term studies and data gathering, involving case studies with strategic partners

- CRPs
- World Bank
- IFAD

Mainstreaming and Networking Existing Initiatives

- Sub-Saharan Africa Challenge Program (SSA-CP) – Led by FARA
- Consortium for Improving Agriculture-based Livelihoods in C. Africa (CIALCA)
- **Africa RISING:** A multi-stakeholder agricultural R4D program
 - In the framework of USAID Feed the Future program

Africa RISING and Humidtropics

1. Same Character, Goals and Objectives
2. Similar Methodological Orientation
 - Systems approach; R4D Platforms; innovation
3. Significant Focus on Africa
4. Agro-Ecologies
 - Moist Savannas → Humidtropics
 - Drier sites → Drylands CRP
5. Identical Institutional Base / Partnerships

Some key difference:

- Stronger focus on systems orientation, and linkage to development outcomes as part of its R4D orientation

Strengthening the Links: Africa RISING x Humidtropics

- Review and refine existing projects in line with integrated systems
- More alignment to development outcomes (IDOs)
- More direct engagement and collaboration
- Africa RISING partners to participate in Humidtropics research planning and program review processes
- Joint events (capacity development, M&E, etc.)

Conclusion

- Africa indeed is RISING.
- To support that process we need to strengthen our ability to think and function in systemic manner
- Networking with like-minded incubator and innovation processes
- Regime change: within socio-technical environment
- Africa RISING and Humidtropics as “success story” in this regard.

Thank You

