

Working with (inter)regional innovation platforms: CRP on Roots, Tubers and Bananas

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**Research
Program on
Roots, Tubers
and Bananas**



Overview

- RTB, structure and impact pathways
- Three types of innovation platform
- Action research on partnerships
- Linkage mechanisms with systems' CRPs and innovation platforms



**Research
Program on
Roots, Tubers
and Bananas**

A collaboration of:



**+ a wide spectrum research-for-development
stakeholders & partners**



Our crops



**Banana
Plantain**



Cassava



Potato



Sweetpotato



Yam



Other R&T



RTBs share

- Genetic complexity (> grains)
- Vegetative propagation, similar seed systems
- Perishability, bulkiness and post harvest/value chain options
- High potential: > yields & livelihood outcomes
- Low profile: “women’s crops”





Program Structure

Thematic

Upstream R4D funded directly

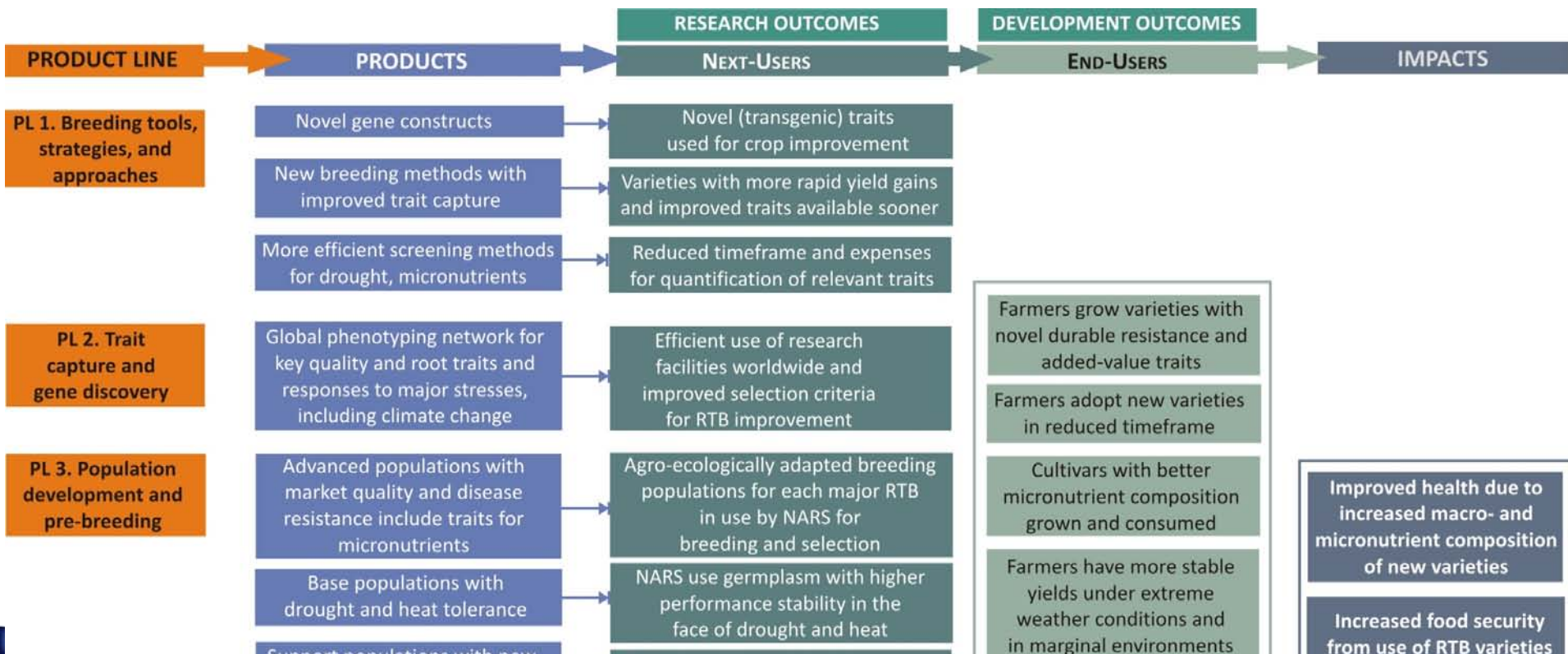
Downstream R4D projects funded by specific donors

Linkages for outcomes?





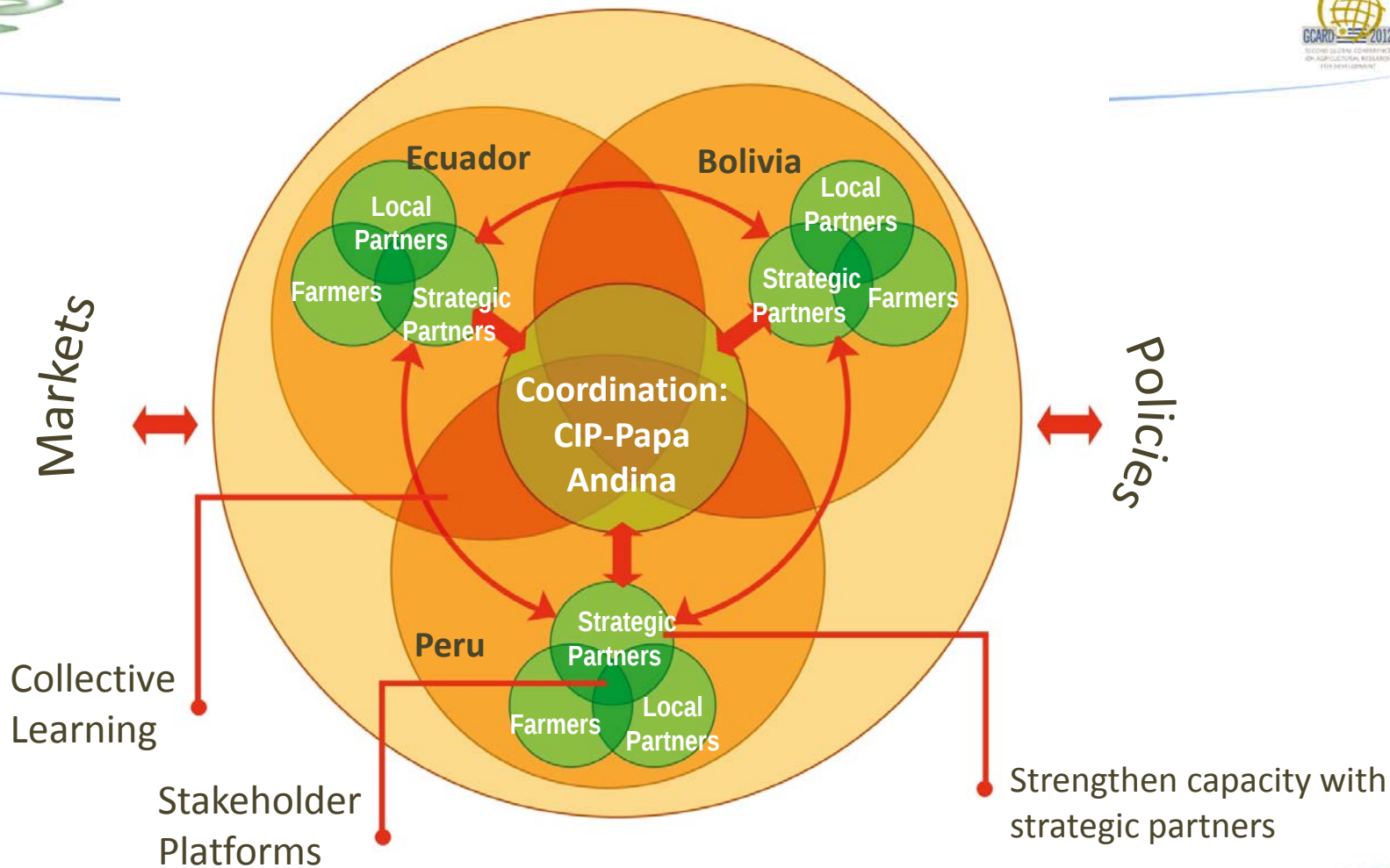
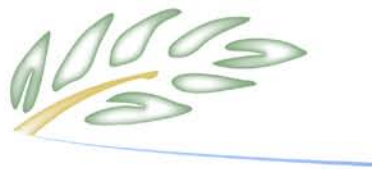
Impact Pathways





Partnership action research

1. Potential innovation platforms and how do they work?
 - Value chain (Papa Andina)
 - Varietal development (Red Latin Papa)
 - Cropping systems (CIALCA)
2. Basic principles in building platforms?
3. How are scientists and others actually partnering?
 - Network mapping
4. What are the linkage mechanisms with RTB?



Innovation process in Peru triggered spillover in Ecuador and Bolivia

PMCA

TRIGGER FOR THE INNOVATION PROCESS



Research



Creative idea



Jalca Chips



T'ika Papa



Mi Papa

2002-2004



Mi Terruño



Papas Nativas



Inca's Gold



Natu



Nips



Tunta

2005-2007



Rico Chip's



Sumac Chips



Mishki



Ayllin Papa



Mr Chips



Papas amarillas



Chips



Lay's



2008-2010



UNIVERSIDAD
NACIONAL
DE COLOMBIA





Red Latin Papa

Provides potato germplasm

Feedback loop to management committee on participatory varietal trials

Adjusts breeding strategy
Improve germplasm provided



1. Flowering Stage



Participatory Breeding /
Varietal Selection (PVS)
to involve stakeholder in
selection & dissemination

4. Post-harvest ev.

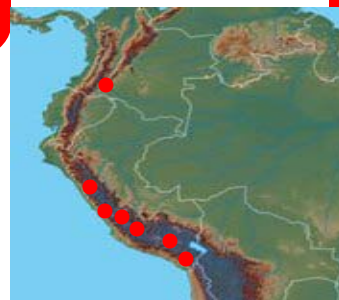


2. Harvest Stage



Mother & Baby
trial design

3. Organoleptic ev.



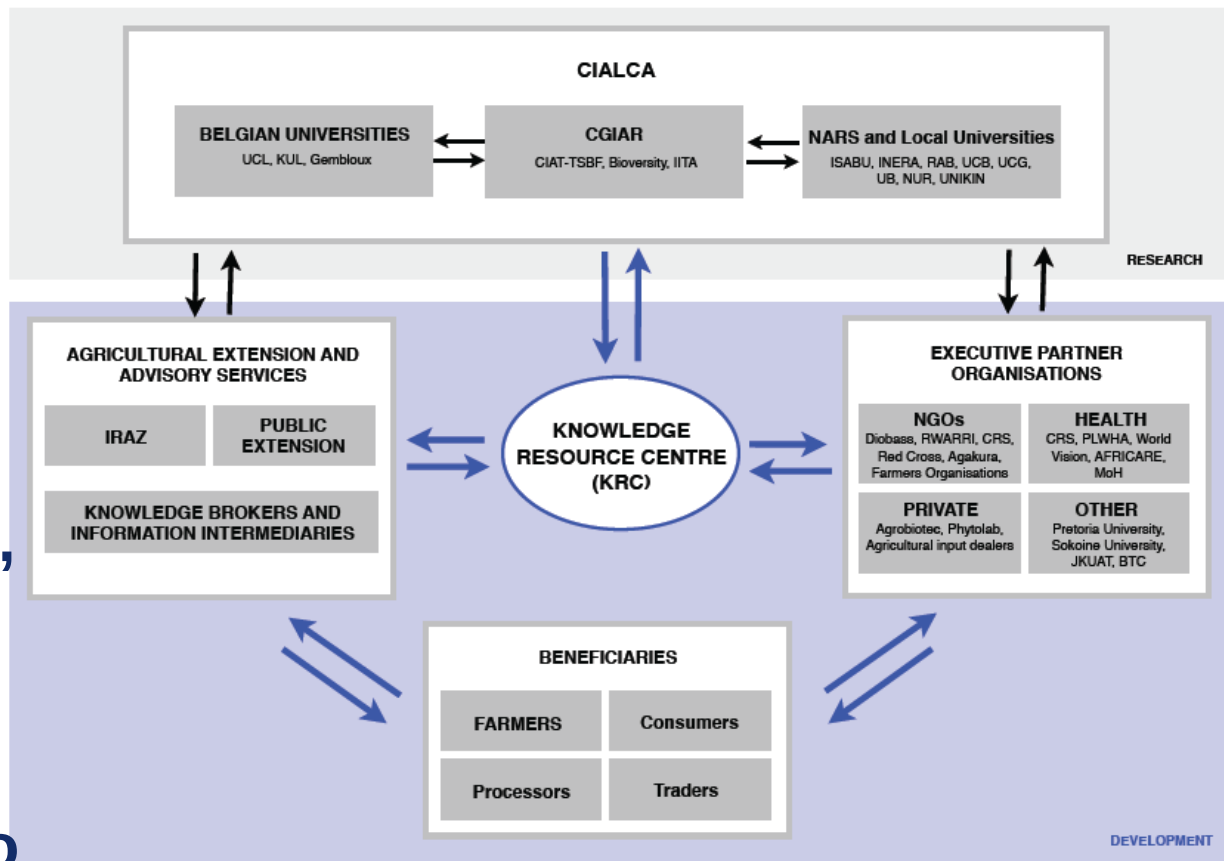
• = consortiums



Enhance productivity
banana and legume
cropping systems

Country level
organization: Rwanda,
Burundi and DRC

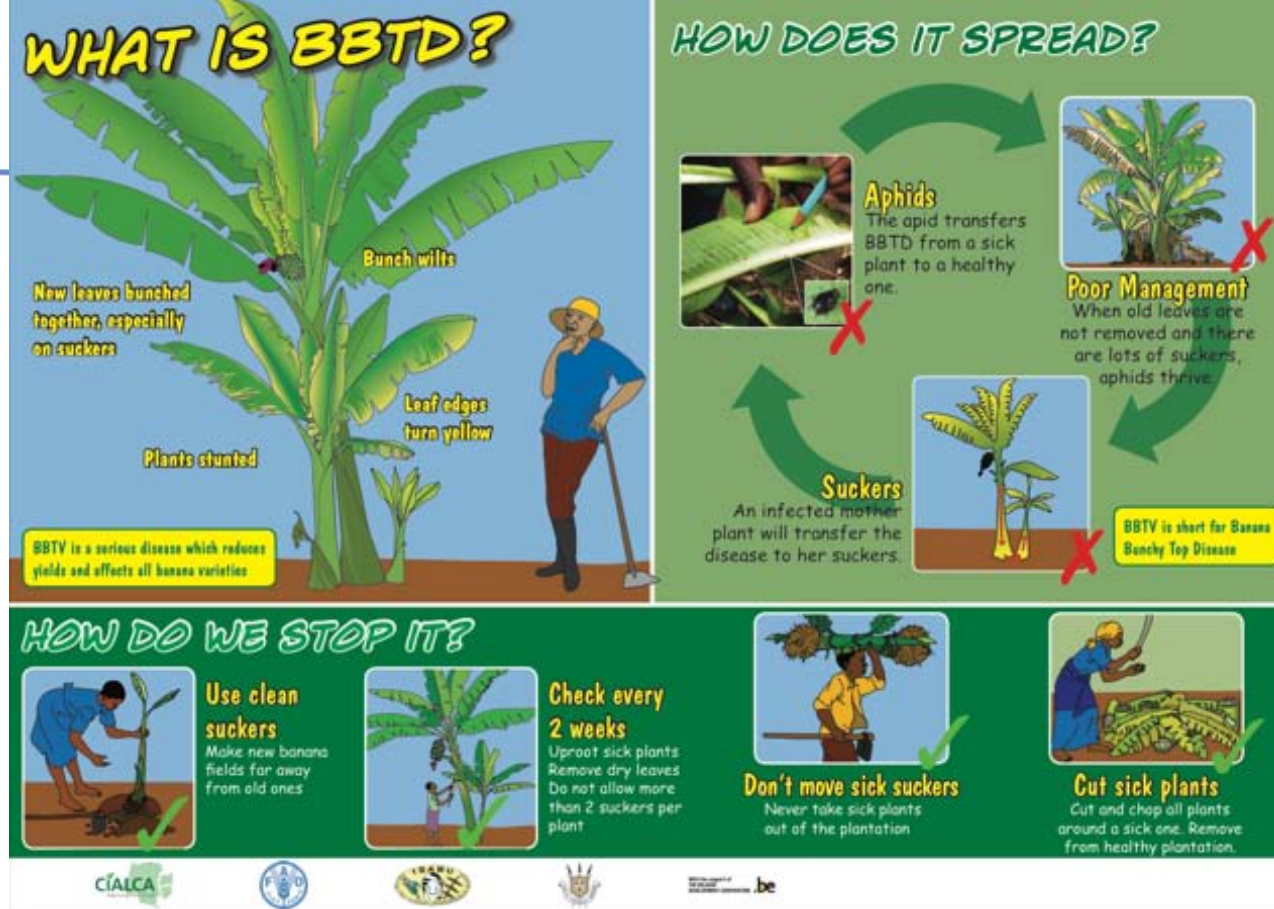
Knowledge resource
centers: out-scaling to
escape country silos



CIALCA

Knowledge resource
center

Contextual
validation and
adaptation of
knowledge products
eg control of banana
bunchy top disease

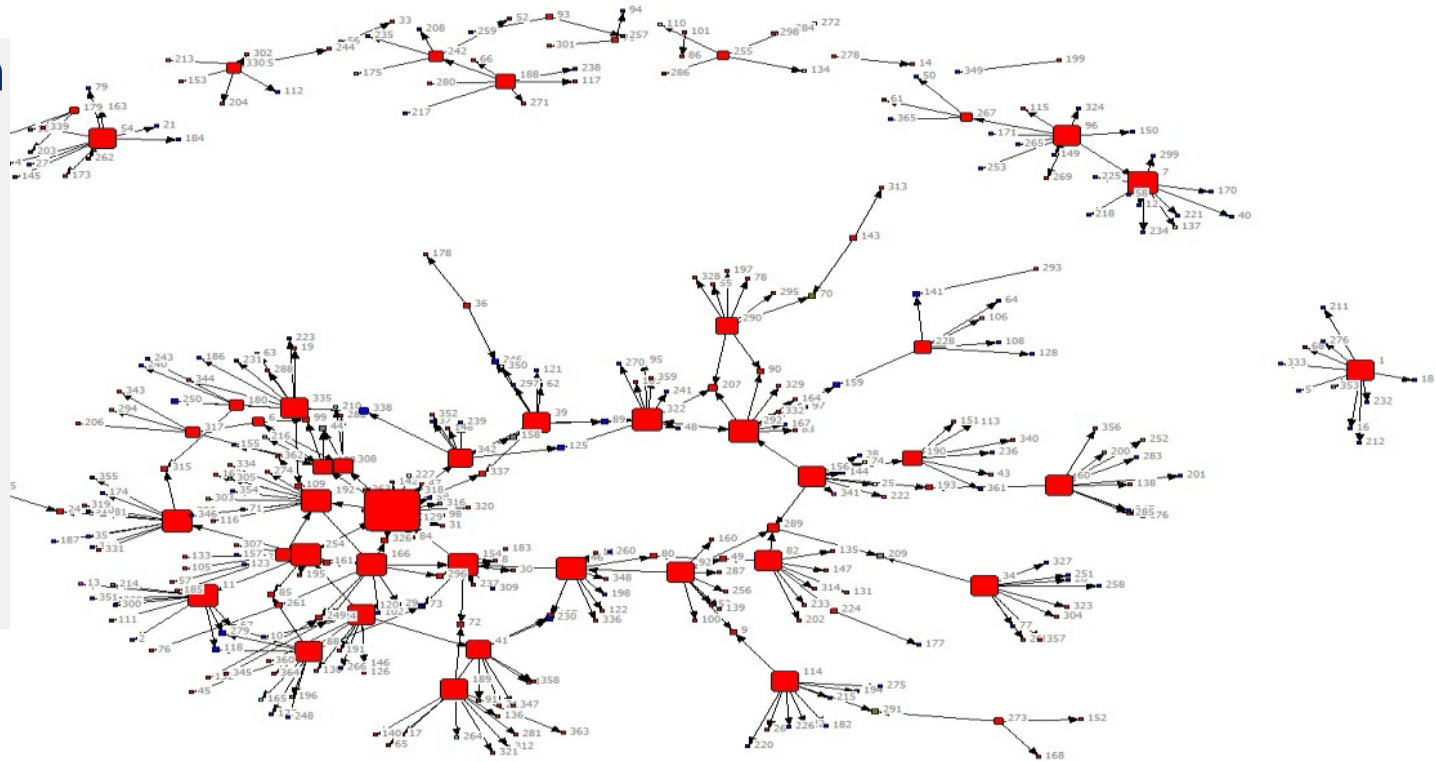




Partnership action research (ILAC)

RTB actor network maps

Node colours by type of organization



■ CG-CG, CG-ARI

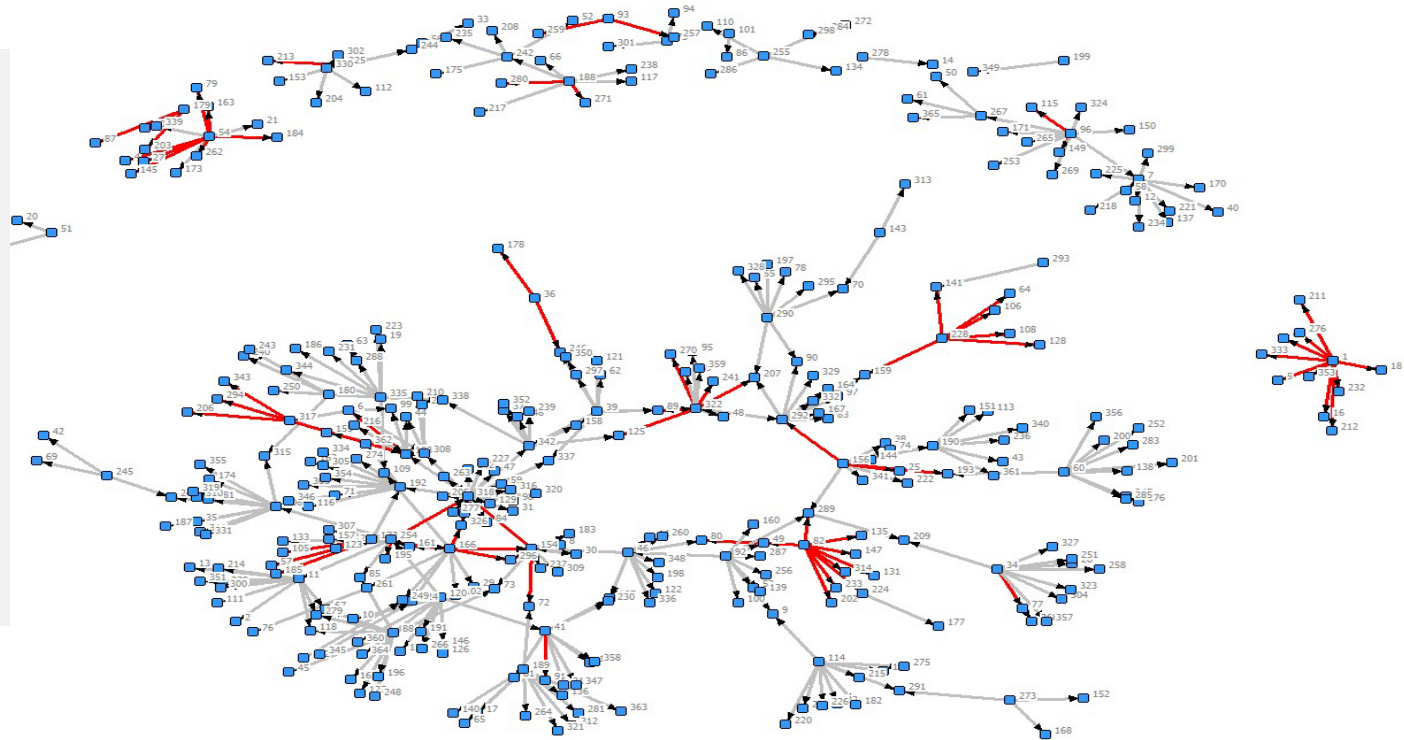
Other colors= other orgs

Node size set by degree centrality



RTB actor network maps

New
collaboration



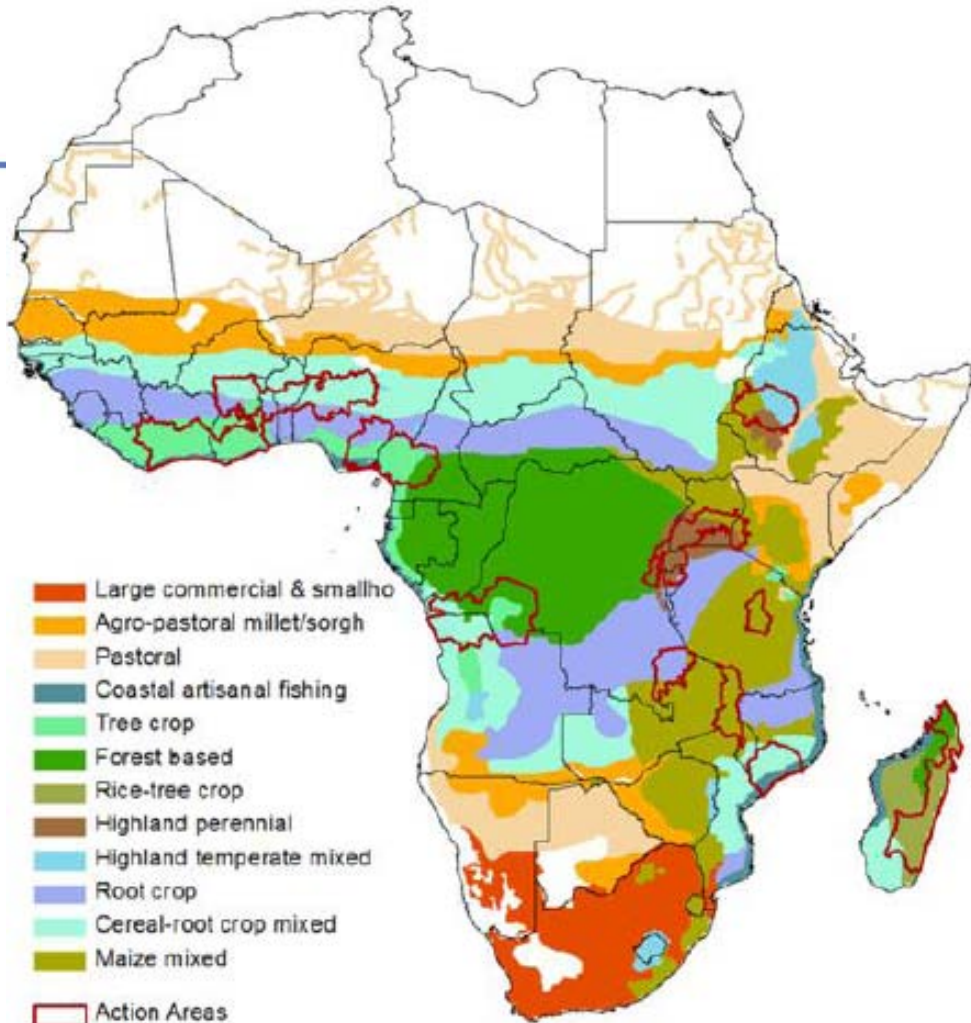


CRP Humidtropics

Action areas

Large overlap with
RTB “hotspots”

Incorporates
CIALCA





Challenges to partnering for outcomes

1. RTB predominance linkages among CG and ARIs
2. Limited engagement of non-HQ scientists and downstream R4D partners
3. Limited coordination across CRPs
4. CRPs are reconfiguring innovation platforms – how?
5. Compatibility “honest broker role” and accountability for outcomes?



Linkage mechanisms: CRPs and innovation platforms

1. Joint priority setting with stakeholders
2. Joint construction of impact pathways with stakeholders
3. Shared research sites and R4D activity
4. Learning alliances across regional innovation platforms
5. Shared action research on partnerships to “get it right”, in context of increased organizational complexity
6. Monitoring evolution partnerships

