

ACIAR SDIP

Program Overview

Friday 27th August 2021



Australian Government

Australian Centre for
International Agricultural Research

**Australian
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Program Overview

DFAT Sustainable Development Investment Portfolio

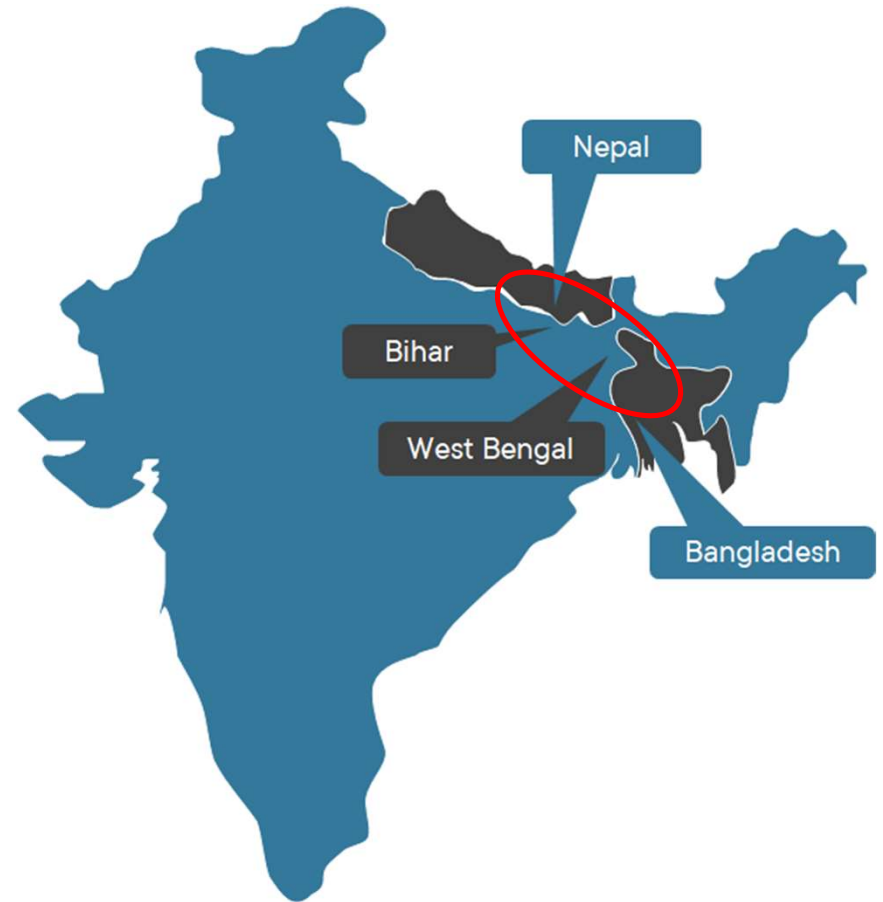
Major Australian program to support regional partners in South Asia to improve integrated management of water, energy and food in the Indus, Ganges and Brahmaputra basins, especially addressing climate change and the interests of women and girls.

Portfolio outcomes:

- Strengthened mechanisms for regional collaboration
- Critical knowledge generated and used
- Improved enabling environment

ACIAR's contribution to SDIP was to maximise agriculture's contributions to sustainable food systems for improved food, energy and water management

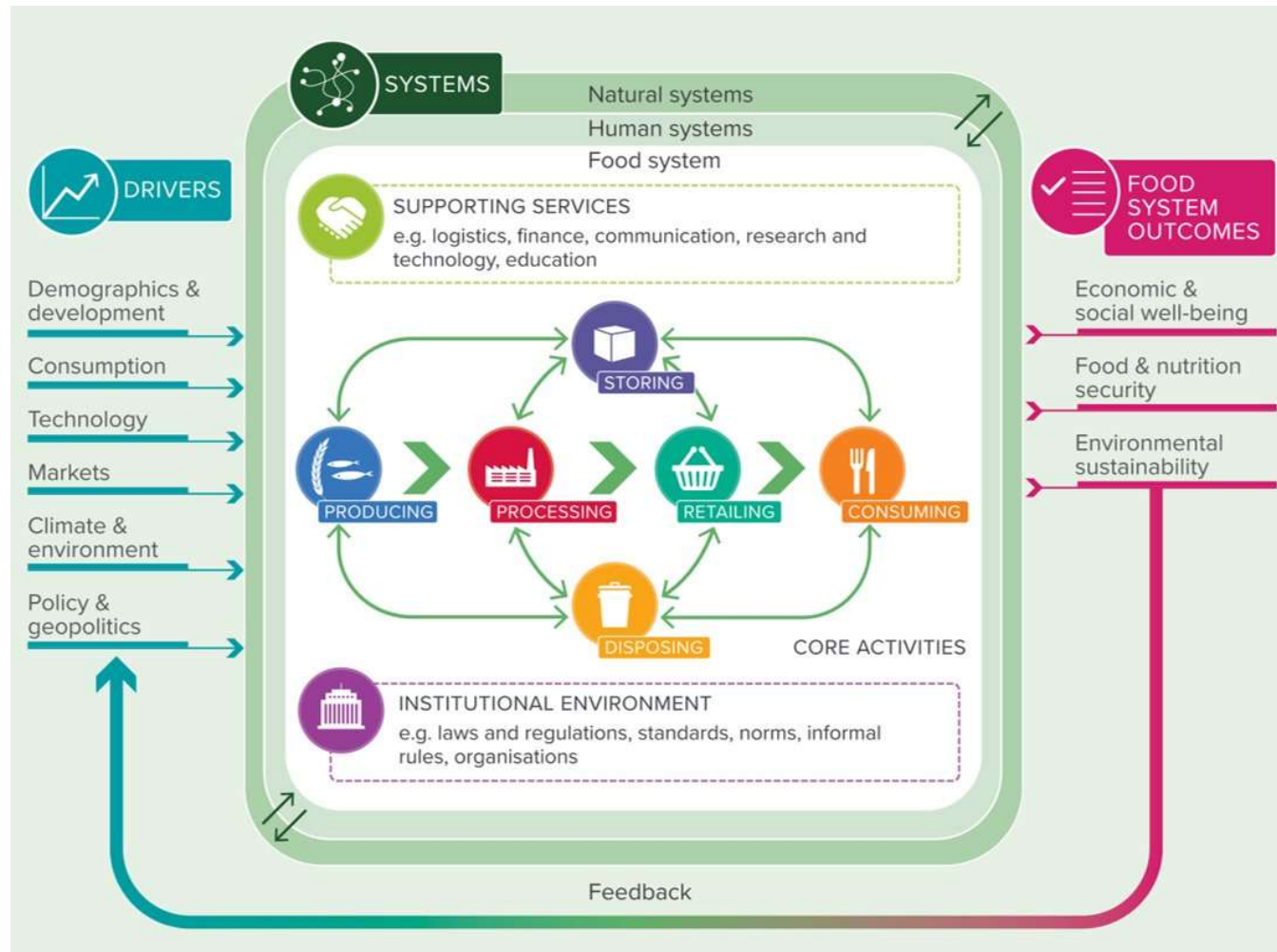
Where we work: the Eastern Gangetic Plains



The evolution of ACIAR SDIP

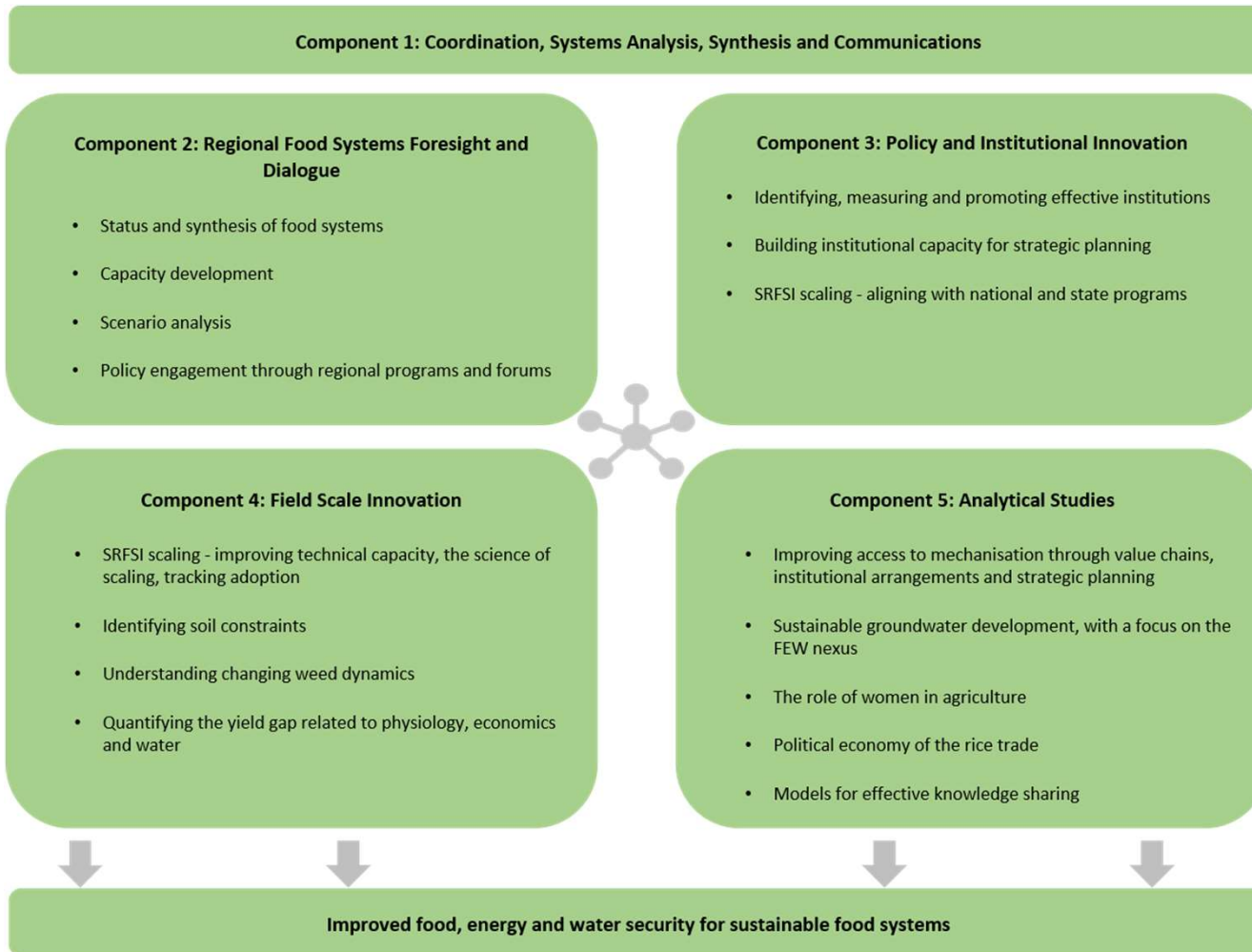


Widening the focus: SDIP Phase 1 - 2



Woodhill et al. (2020), pp 17

ACIAR SDIP Phase 2 Program Structure





Synthesis & dialogue

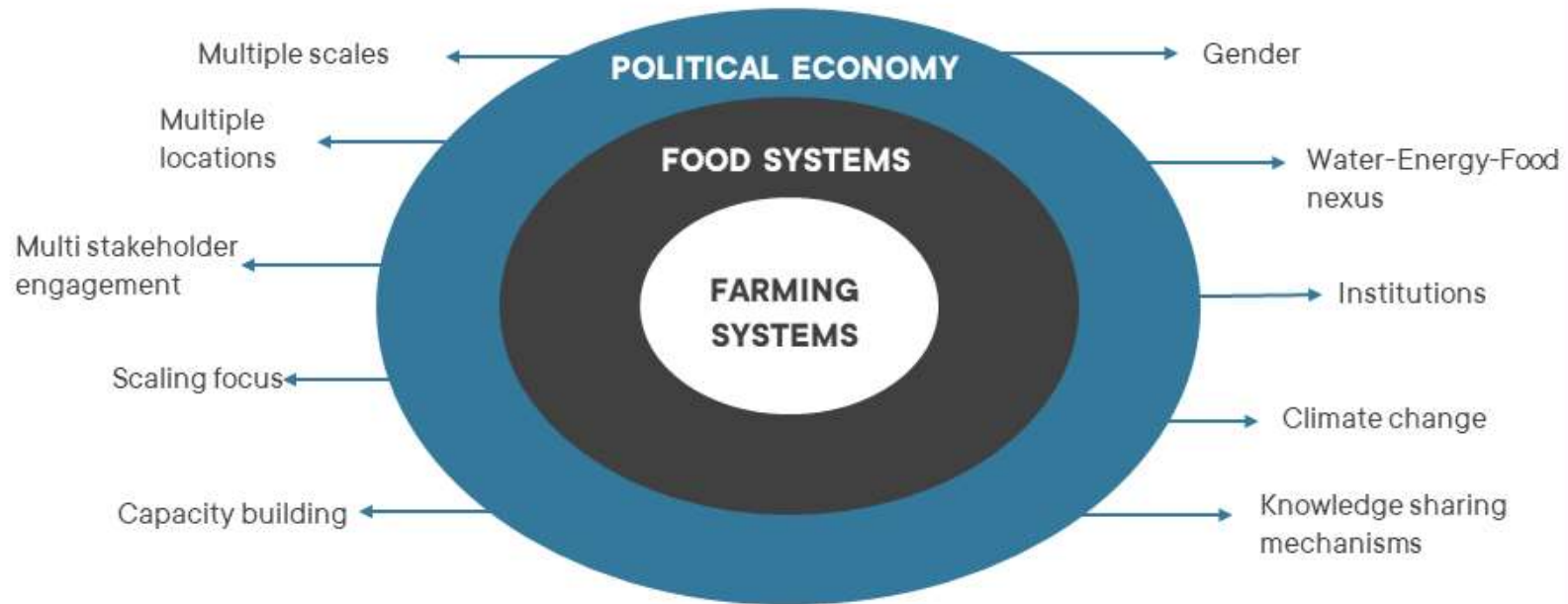


Cross cutting research approaches



Field research & intervention

Foresight



Cross cutting themes

Sustainable Farming Systems



Conservation agriculture



Mechanisation



Groundwater

COVID Challenges

Opportunities for sustainable food systems in Nepal in a post-COVID world

The COVID-19 crisis offers an opportunity for Nepal to rebuild its stagnant and fragmented agriculture and food systems and make it resilient to future shocks. [Read More](#) →

MADHAV KARKI · SEPTEMBER 1

Exploring the Private Sector Investment Context in the Eastern Gangetic Plains

Author: Vikas Goswami
Organisation: Boundless Environment Resource Solutions



CASI AgMOOC: Learning during lockdown

More than 7,000 people joined a 6 week online course on CASI systems. [Read More](#) →

MANISHA SHRESTHA · APRIL 12, 2020

Ensuring food security in Bangladesh during COVID-19

An uninterrupted supply line up to the cor

WAIS KABIR · APRIL 24, 2020

India's food system in the time of COVID-19

The COVID-19 response has impacted India's food system due to disrupted supply chains, scarce labour, a credit freeze, changing demand and a pessimistic market outlook. [Read More](#) →

TAMARA JACKSON · APRIL 13, 2020



Mitigating the impacts of COVID-19 on farmers and markets in West Bengal

Satmile Satish Club are helping farmers by procuring wheat and vegetables. [Read More](#) →

MANISHA SHRESTHA · APRIL 20, 2020

<https://aciarsdip.com/latest-news>



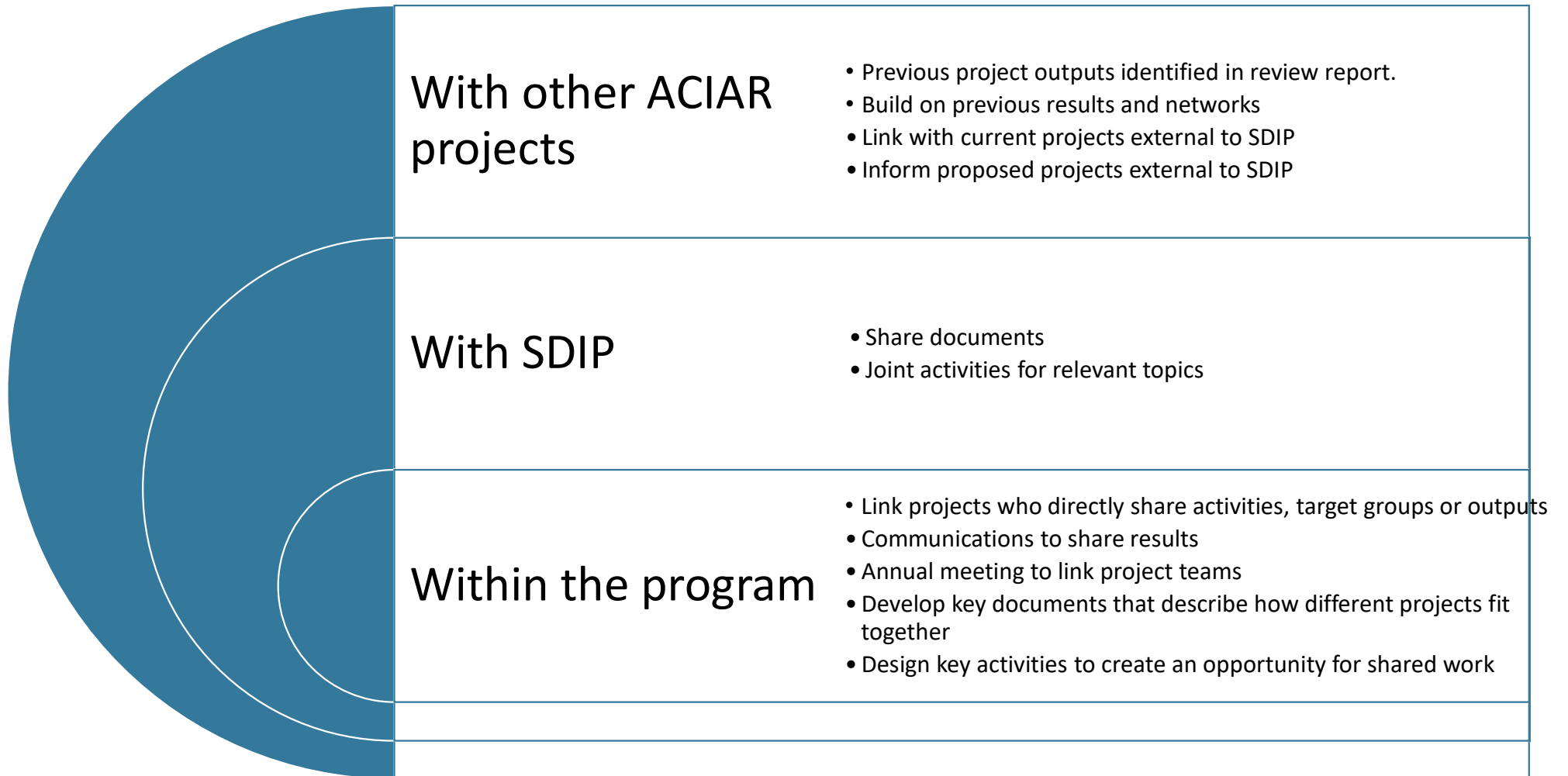
Supporting the ACIAR SDIP Program

Key activities

- Synthesis of related ACIAR research in the EGP relevant to SDIP outcomes
- Communication of program results and outputs
- Create links with other parts of SDIP program & other ACIAR projects
- Coordination of Regional Steering Committee

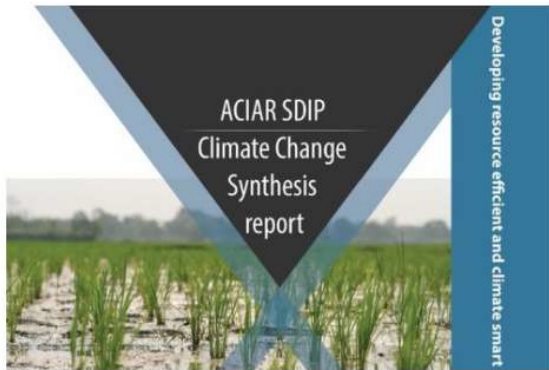


Integration



Synthesis and reports

ACIAR SDIP Climate Change Synthesis Report



SDIP Phase 1 Synthesis Report



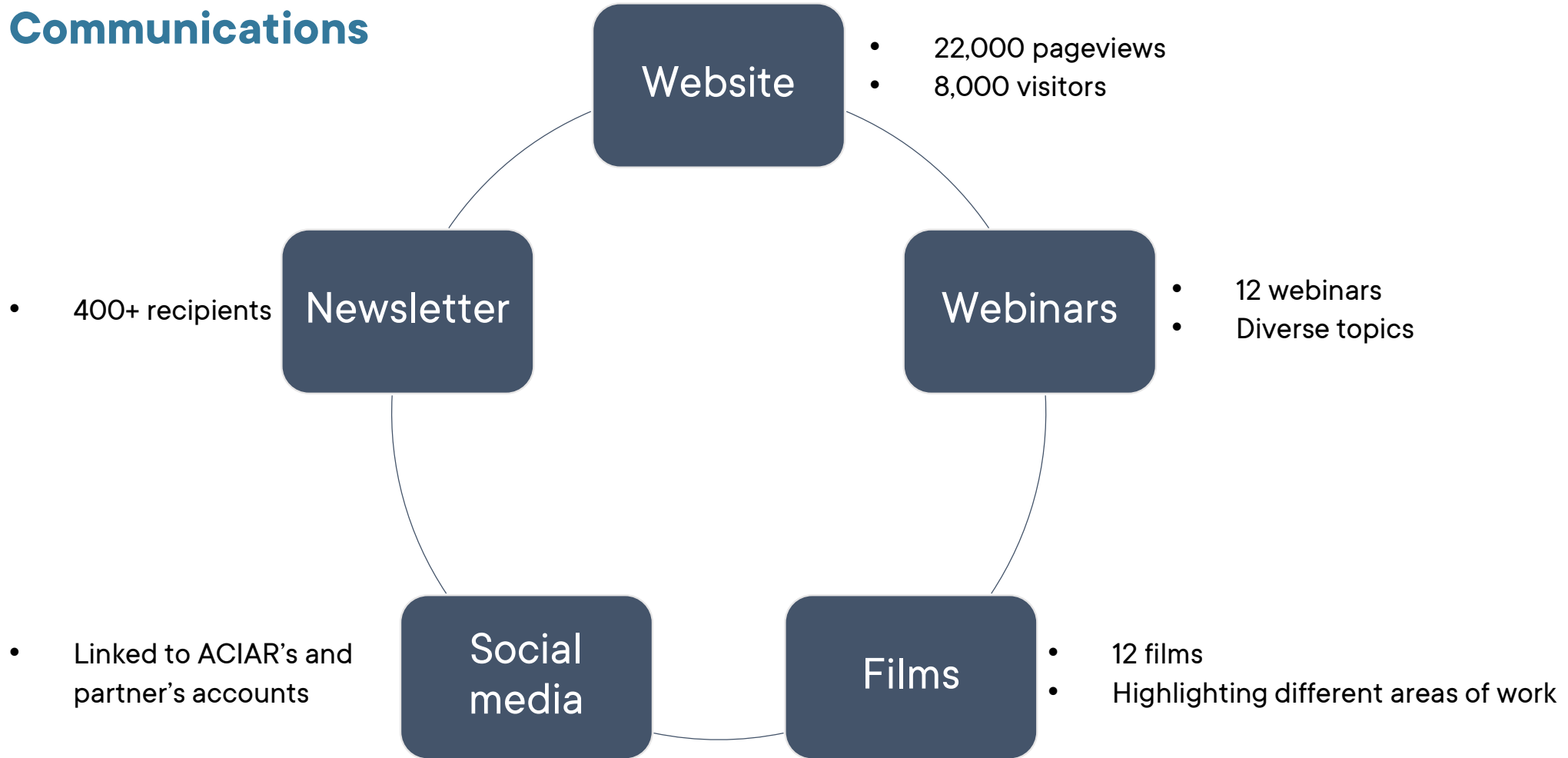
ACIAR SDIP Annual Report 2018-19



ACIAR SDIP Annual Report 2019 - 20



Communications



Steering Committee

- Advise and guide the work program by informing the program of their national priorities
- Respond to higher level research results
- Help integrate with regional policy and dialogue processes
- Joined other project events and field level sites



Opportunities for public diplomacy



A photograph of a man in a light-colored shirt and trousers operating a tractor in a field. The tractor is pulling a implement, and there are blue hoses connected to it. The background shows trees and a clear sky. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text "Lessons and challenges" is centered in white, bold font.

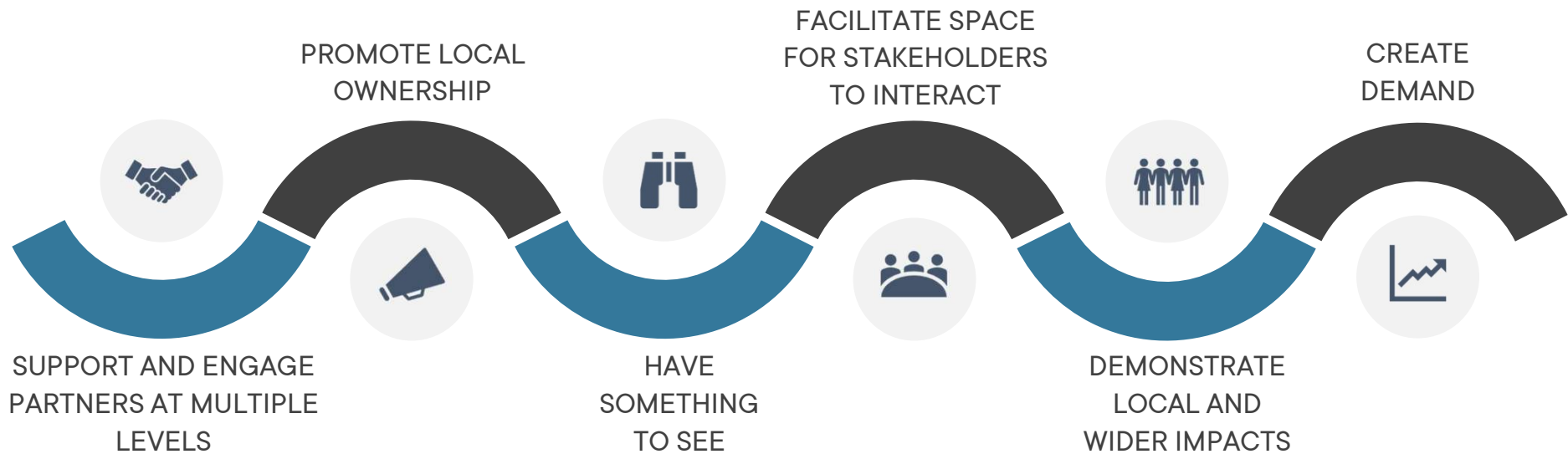
Lessons and challenges

Challenges of a program focus

- Time frames changing
- Building a diverse stakeholder network & bringing them together
- Maintaining a gender focus
- Navigating different organizational systems (internal and external)
- No blueprint to follow

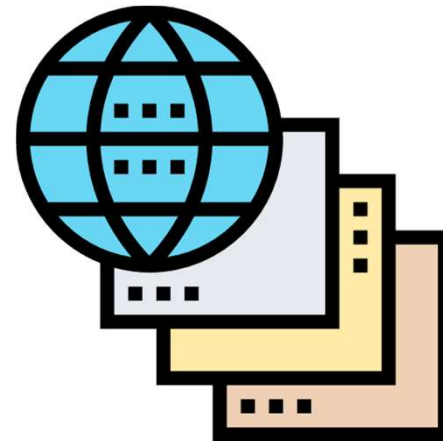
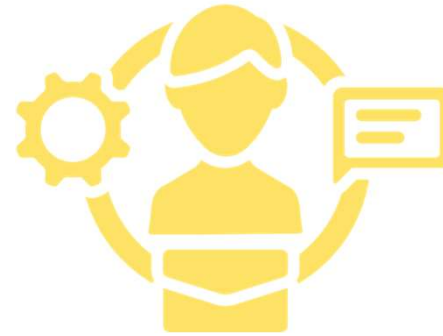


Guiding principles



Lessons for a program approach

- Importance of dedicated resources for program management, coordination and communication
- Adaptability is key
- Different projects reinforce results (e.g. across scales, sectors)
- Demonstrated benefit of long-term engagement
- No blueprint = freedom and flexibility!



Questions



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