

Translated Research: Flood and Drought Resilient Agriculture in Bihar, India

Tony Castleman Catholic Relief Services







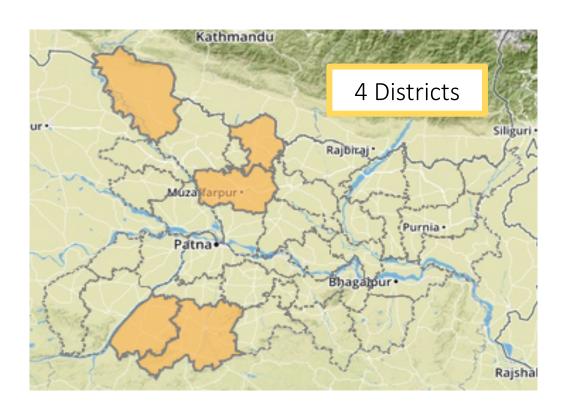








Improved Rainfed Rice-Based Agricultural Systems (IRRAS)



- Flood-prone and drought-prone areas
- Smallholders (< 0.5 ha) w/rainfed land
- Two phases
 - 2012-2016: Adaptive research pipeline and knowledge exchange
 - 2016-2019: Disseminating and scaling technologies and practices
- Carried out by CRS, IRRI, local research institutions and implementing partners with BMGF funding (first phase)















Phase 1 Objectives

- 1. Develop and refine agricultural technologies and practices for smallholder farmers in stress-prone, rainfed rice based systems using an adaptive research pipeline
- 2. Foster a knowledge exchange platform to share and disseminate technologies and practices developed through the research pipeline

















Phase 2 Objectives

- Strengthen and expand dissemination mechanisms for specific IRRAS technologies and practices
- Enhance productivity of smallholder farmers in stress prone areas through widescale adoption of IRRAS technologies and practices







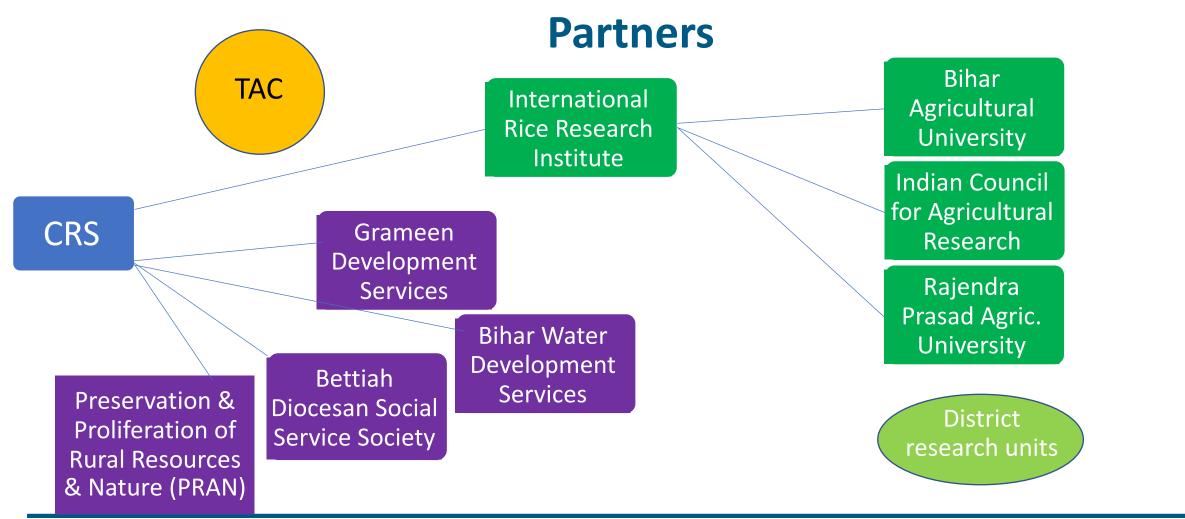














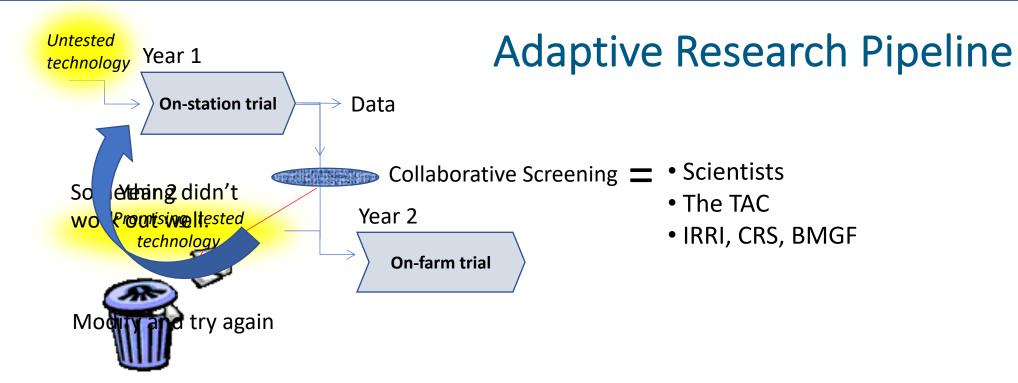
















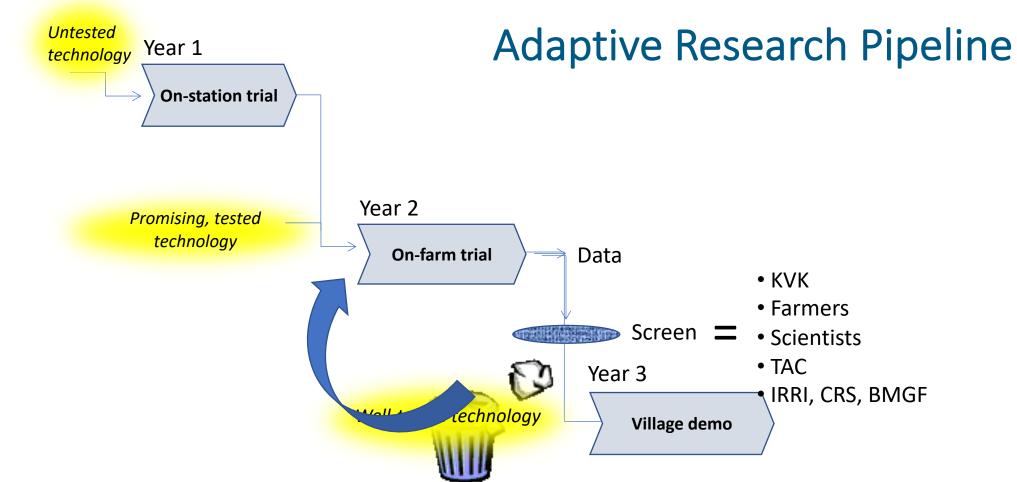




























Promising, tested technology

Year 2 **On-farm trial**

Well-tested technology

Final Screening:

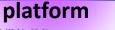
- Demo and observer farmers
- NGO partner staff
- TAC, CRS, IRRI

Year 3 Village demo

Roll-out to 175,000 farmers via Knowledge

Exchange









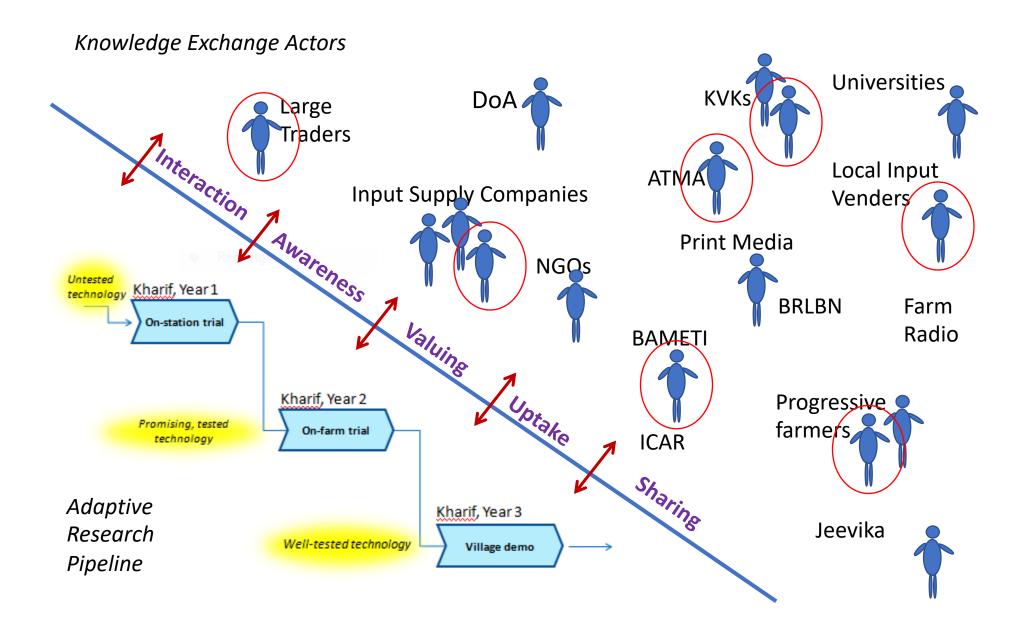








Knowledge Exchange Platform





Technologies and Practices Developed/Refined

- <u>Stress tolerant crop varieties</u> flood and drought resilient rice varieties and improved varieties for rainfed dry season crops like wheat, lentils, chick peas
- Package of practices, e.g. zero tillage, line sowing, and direct seeding
- Customized chemical weed control
- Rice Wheat Crop Manager (RWCM) <u>ICT application</u> for site specific crop management recommendations (adapting IRRI application)
- Customized fertilizer application for drought and flood areas
- Seed treatment for rice, wheat and pulses
- Improved seed storage to reduce losses to pests and increase germination















Impacts of Technologies

IRRAS Technologies	Yield Increase	Increase in B:C Ratio
Stress Tolerant Rice Varieties (STRVs)	20-47%	5-22%
STRVs + Best Management Practices	30-103%	15-20%
Improved Varieties of Dry Season crops	17-19%	22-38%
Dry Season Varieties + Best Management Practices	17-67%	12-20%





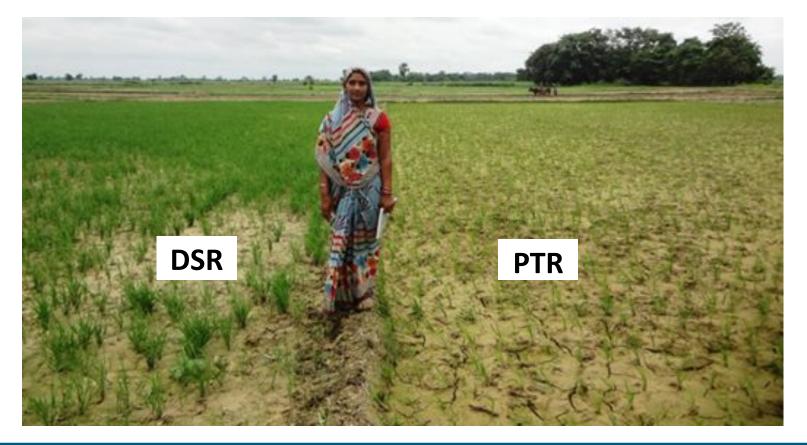








Direct Seeded Rice

















Translation Vehicles

- User-friendly materials for range of users farmers, input dealers, PSPs, extension agents
- Trainings and curricula for PSPs, others
- Radio spots
- Community events (crop-cutting, observations, sharing)
- Cost and cost-benefit data
 - Technologies
 - PSP approach to scaling
 - Adaptive research pipeline









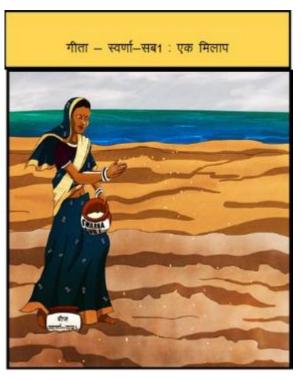


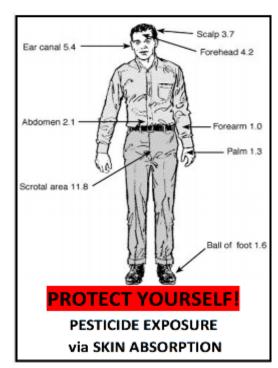


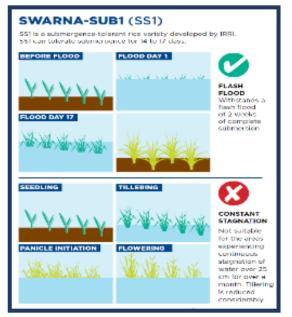


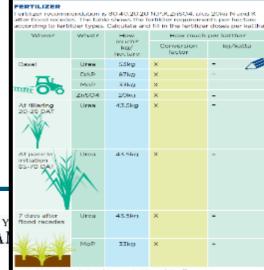
र्गानि हो हित्यार

Materials











oalken.











Dissemination Platforms

- Private service providers (PSPs) farmers, laborers, entrepreneurs
- State government extension services
- State government disaster management authority (disaster risk reduction)
- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
- Jeevika: State rural livelihoods mission
- Local partners, other NGOs, integration in other projects
- Communication campaigns radio, materials, mobile units















A Few Lessons

- Involve government extension services early and throughout
- Local NGOs play important dual role farmer feedback and ground-truthing, and supporting translation, implementation
- Costing data help translation and application
- Adaptive research and translation takes time, especially when need to wait for next season to refine technology
- Link to other initiatives research and practice













LASER PULSE

laserpulse.org

Research for Development Conference (R4D), May 2019, Uganda







Thank You













