

Rapid Appraisal of Agricultural Innovation Systems (RAAIS)



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What does RAAIS stand for?

RAAIS is a participatory, diagnostic tool for integrated analysis of complex agricultural problems. RAAIS facilitates the analysis of interactions between:

- Different dimensions, levels and stakeholder dynamics of complex agricultural problems
- Innovation capacity in the agricultural system
- The existence and performance of the agricultural innovation support system



“RAAIS is an easy way to make people do a difficult job”

(RAAIS workshop participant)

What is RAAIS?

- RAAIS is a multi-method tool that combines qualitative and quantitative data collection techniques (workshops, interviews, questionnaires, secondary data analysis) which allows for critical triangulation and validation of data
- RAAIS facilitates interaction between different groups of stakeholders in collecting and analysing data (e.g. farmers, NGO/ civil society, private sector, government and researchers)

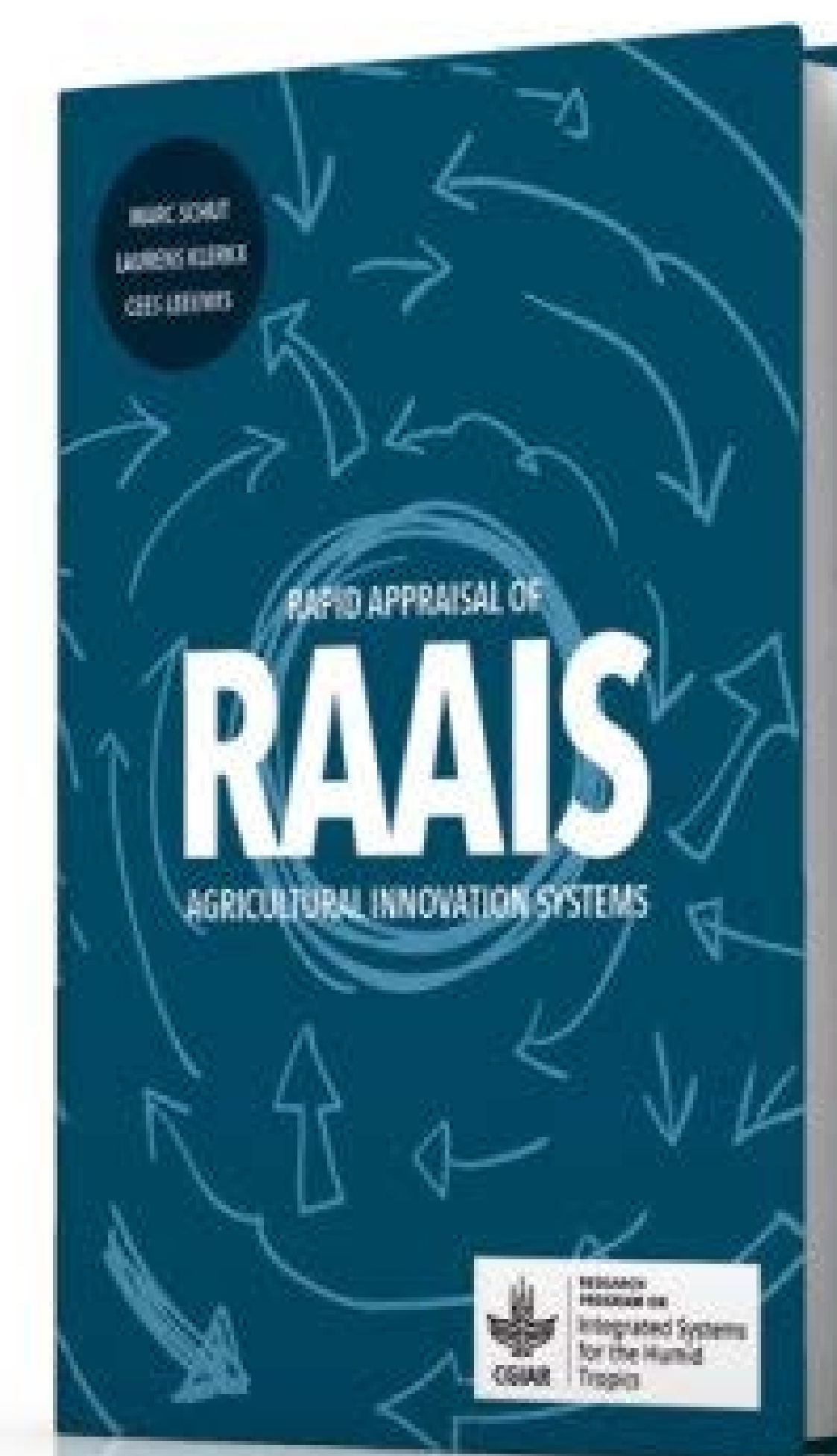
What is available?

- Workshop facilitation guide (in English, French and Chinese)
- Workshop guide for note-taking (English)
- Spreadsheet templates for workshop data analysis

Where has RAAIS been used?

RAAIS has been developed and tested to identify and analyze opportunities for dealing with parasitic weeds in rainfed rice production in Tanzania and Benin

The RAAIS workshops have been used in the CGIAR Research Program on the Humidtropics. Workshops have been organized across study sites in Burundi, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria, Cameroun, Ghana and China



Recently published RAAIS toolkit

When to use RAAIS?

- To identify and analyze complex agricultural problems
- To identify entry points for innovation in research for development contexts
- As participatory methodology for data collection in a multi-stakeholder research environment
- To develop research and development approaches that are credible, legitimate and relevant for different stakeholder groups

More information about RAAIS?

Schut, M., Klerkx, L., Rodenburg, J., et al., 2015. RAAIS: Rapid Appraisal of Agricultural Innovation Systems (Part I). A diagnostic tool for integrated analysis of complex problems and innovation capacity. *Agricultural Systems* 132, 1-11: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0308521X14001115>.

Contact Marc Schut (m.schut@cgiar.org) or visit the RAAIS website (<https://www.wageningenur.nl/en/article/RAAIS-Toolkit-.htm>).