

Africa RISING in the Ethiopian Highlands

Multi-stakeholder Innovation Platforms and knowledge management: Africa RISING science, innovations and technologies with scaling potential from the Ethiopian Highlands

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Key messages

- Africa RISING Ethiopian highlands is known for its strong partnership that is created through facilitated multi-stakeholder innovation platforms
- Innovation platforms stimulated collaboration and joint action among multi-stakeholders at different levels
- The sustainable intensification innovations have been co-evolved through the engagement of various actors at different level
- Research and development partners played significant role evaluating the innovations and supporting the scaling up efforts in phase I

Objectives and approach

Innovation Platforms (IPs) established and facilitated in all the project research sites at three level (strategic one at woreda/district, operational at kebele and commodity based innovation clusters at farmers research group level). The IPs stimulate collaboration and joint action to realize the co-creation of sustainable intensification innovations and scaling up efforts. Regular learning and reflection meetings and farmers field days facilitated and organized for all members and have been prioritizing, guiding, and evaluating the various research and development processes. Following the cropping season the IP learning events organized for planning, follow-up and evaluation at farmers field level.

Key results

- Capacity of local actors to cooperate, learn and innovate increased
- Strong partnership created and all actors own the SI innovations
- Strategic IPs have identified SI innovations that can be scaled up within the *woreda* and beyond (*wheat* and feed utilization facilities in *Endamehoni woreda* of *Tigray* region)
- Local decision makers and other key partners have started supporting scaling up efforts in all the four districts (Eg- *Bale Zone Administration* and *Madawalabu University* in *Sinana woreda* IP)
- Local partners empowered to develop their own research projects within Africa RISING (Eg. *Lemo woreda* IP on *Enset* research and *Endamehoni woreda* IP on *Desho* grass for improved livestock feed)

Significance and scaling potential

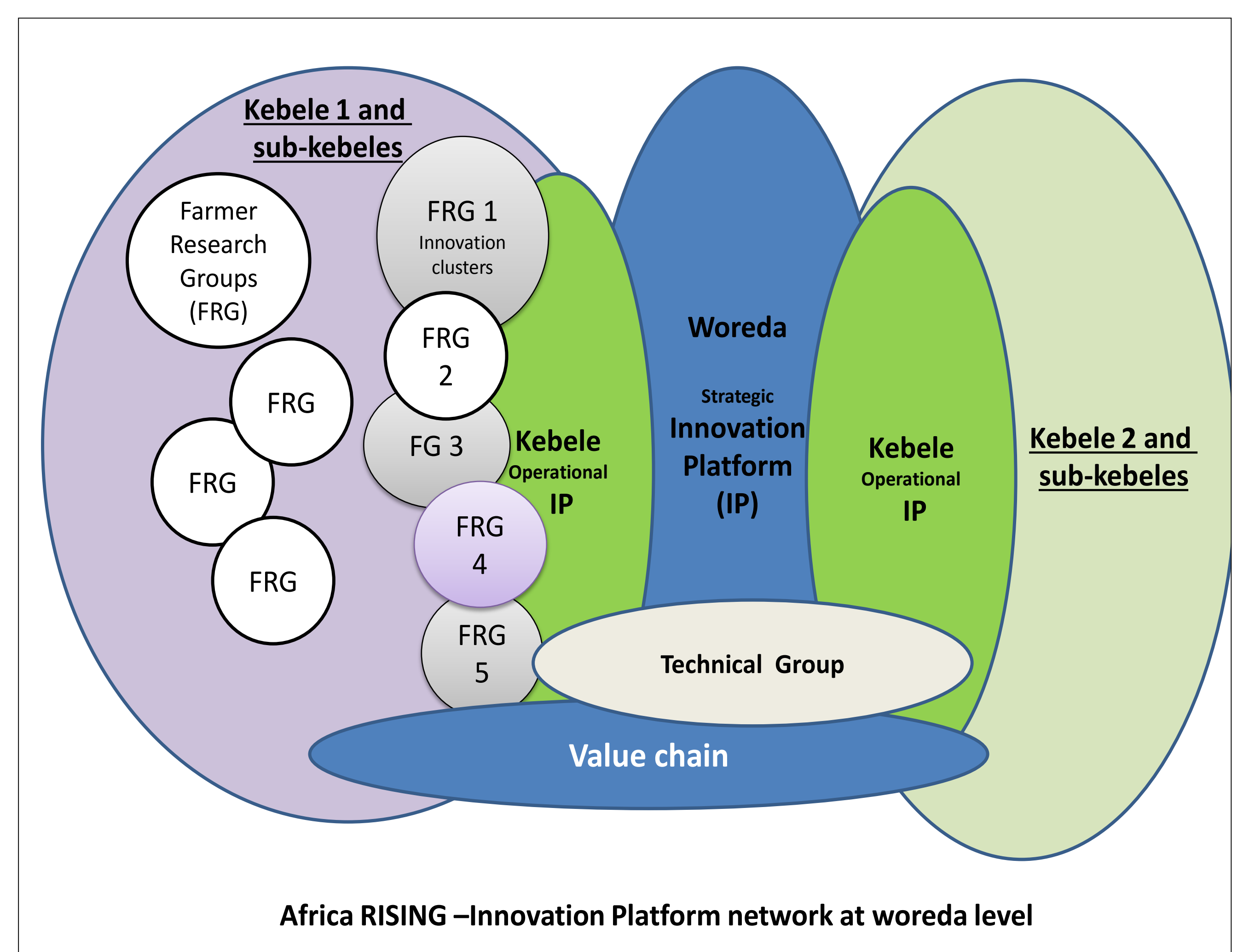
The strategic IPs at district level are widely recognized as a promising vehicle for addressing challenges at system level. Co-evolution of innovations that are suitable for the realization of smallholder sustainable intensification require the engagement of various R4D actors. Reaching more farmers can only be achieved through effective collaboration with key research and development partners through IPs.



Technical group members of Sinana strategic IP preparing research briefs in local language to present to farmers



Introducing research protocols to farmers in Selka Kebele/Sinana:



Core partners



We thank farmers and local partners in Africa RISING sites for their contributions to this research. We also acknowledge the support of all donors which globally support the work of the CGIAR centers and their partners through their contributions to the [CGIAR system](#)

