

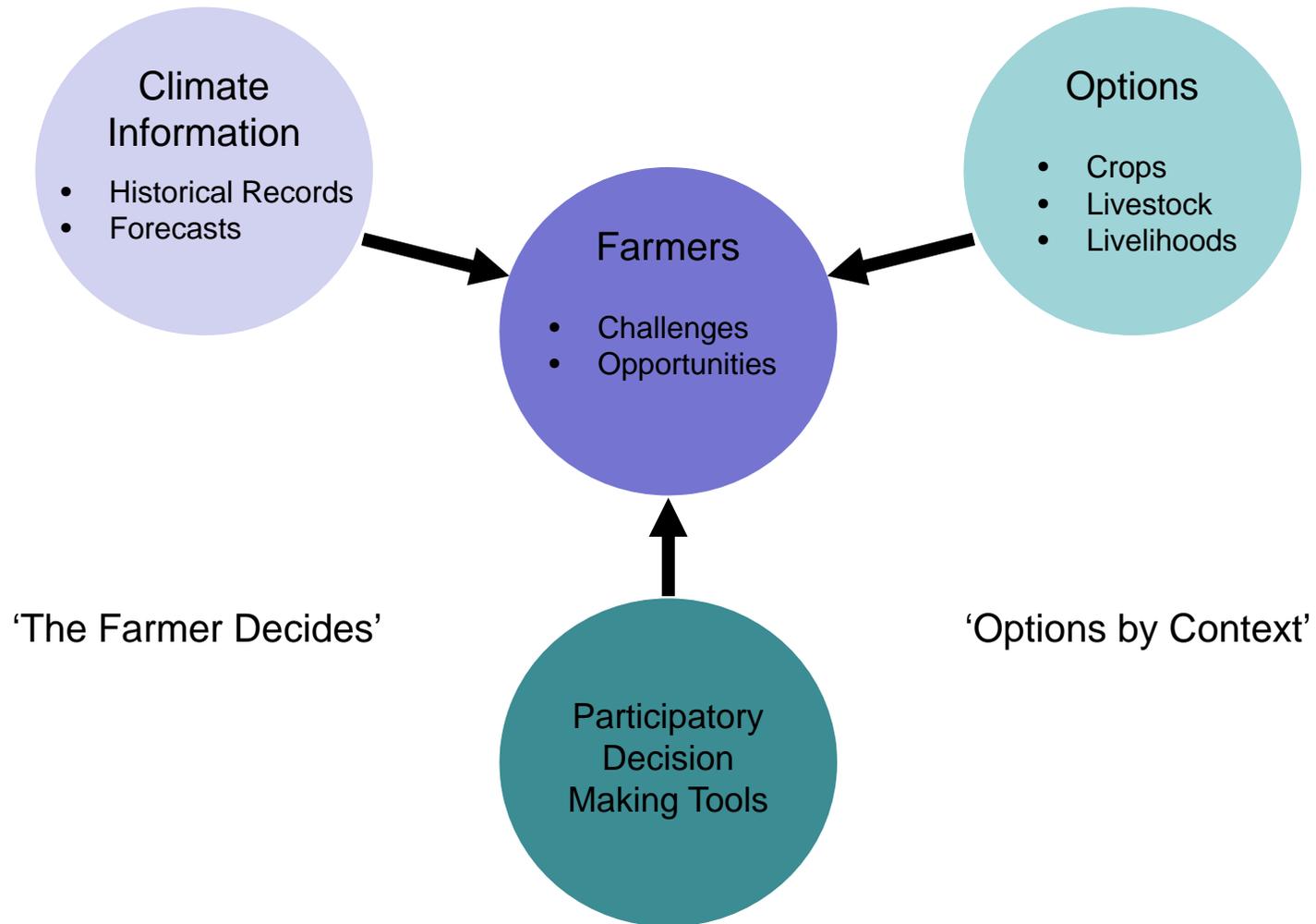
# Challenges and opportunities in monitoring and evaluation:

Lessons and findings of the Participatory Integrated  
Climate Services for Agriculture (PICSA) approach in four  
countries

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- What is PICSA
- Elements of M&E
- Rationale behind PICSA approach to M&E
- Example results from M&E



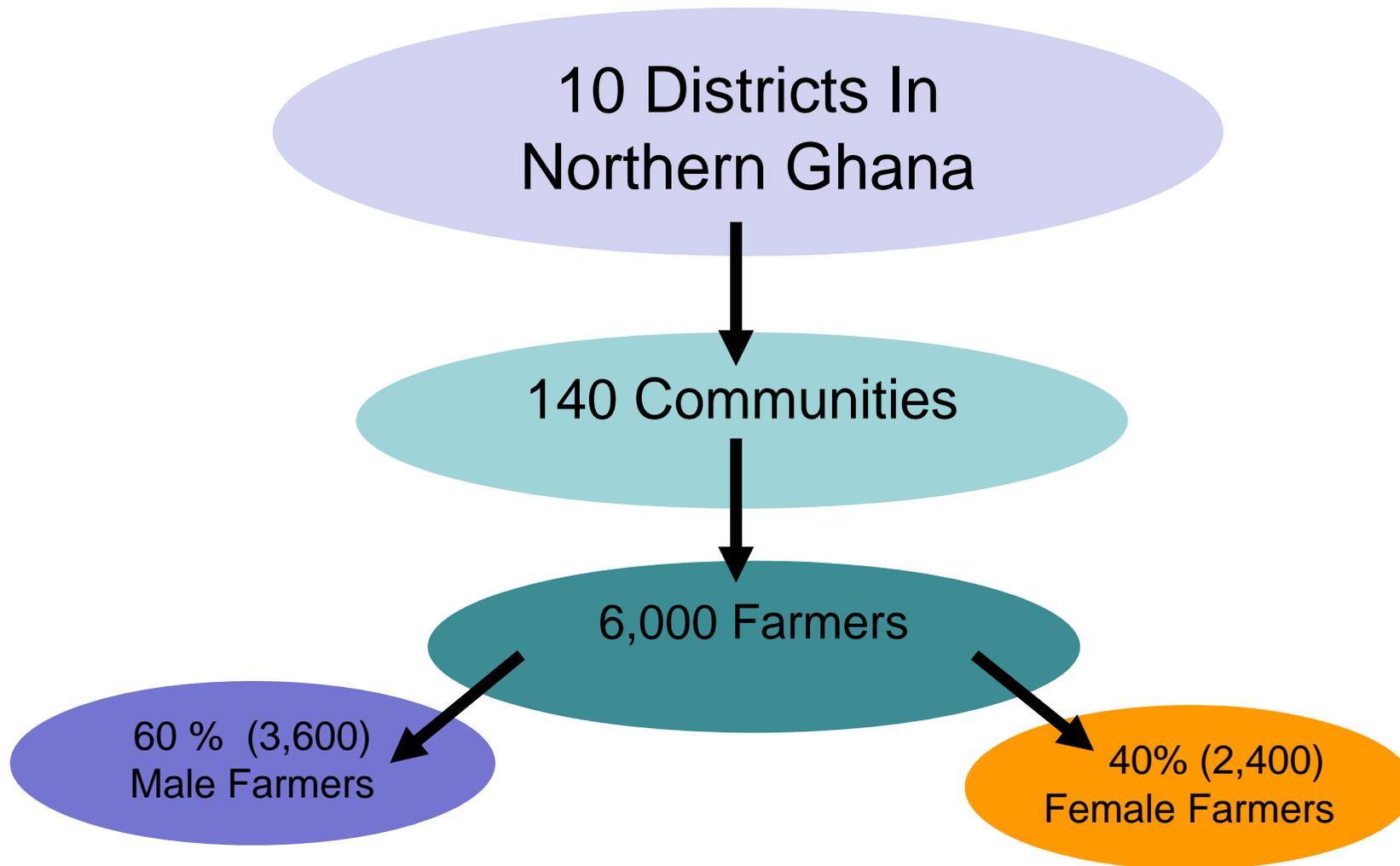
- Baseline is difficult for before / after comparison
  - Prevailing weather conditions are more likely to have a greater impact than any of the changes farmers make
- Comparison / counterfactual for control intervention
  - The approach is designed so that farmers are able to spread the information and tools to their peers: success would leave no comparisons
  - Weather conditions are likely to be very different in different areas: so again, potentially more important than changes in practice

- Ghana
  - CCAFS funded CASCAID project
- Malawi
  - In partnership with CCAFS and WFP in the GFCS programme
- Tanzania
  - In partnership with CCAFS and WFP in the GFCS programme
- Rwanda
  - USAID funded Climate Services for Agriculture project

- Monitoring by implementers
- Case study visits
- Planning and Review process
- Post season discussion and feedback
- Quantitative survey (using ODK)
- Qualitative follow up

- Detailed understanding of farmers reactions to the training – i.e. do you understand the different elements, are they useful, have you used them in your decision making
- Understanding of a broad range of changes that farmers may make
- Links/attribution between training and those changes
- Farmer perception of impact of changes
- More detailed follow-up to these perceptions using qualitative methods

# PICSA in the north of Ghana



# Example results

	Ghana (n=416)	Malawi (n=193)	Tanzania (n=611)	Rwanda (n=207)
% making changes in crops, livestock or livelihood enterprises as a result of PICSA training	97%	82%	52%	98% *
% using participatory budgets in their planning and decision making	93%	80%	83%	94%
% of farmers using historical climate information in their planning and decision making	93%	86%	85%	96%
% of farmers 'better able to cope with bad seasons caused by the weather' following the training	88%	80%	88%	97%
% of PICSA trained farmers who had shared the information / tools with peers	84%	85%	88%	83%

\* In Rwanda the survey was completed prior to the season so changes are 'planned'

# Changes to crop enterprises in Ghana

% of respondents (n=416)

0% 10% 20% 30% 40%

I grew a new or different crop



I grew a new or different variety



I increased the scale at which I grew a crop or variety



I decreased the scale at which I grew a crop or variety or stopped growing it



I changed the date that I planted my crops



I changed the type or amount of inputs that I used in my crop enterprise



I changed the way that I manage my land and / or my crops because of the information that I...





Farmer starting a small business selling soya beans



Farmer engaging in a short-term (54 day) variety of cowpea



Farmer engaging in a new livelihood, making and selling shoes

# Case studies

Farmer	Changes	Impact
Male farmer, northern region, Ghana	Reduced the scale of maize farm and used early maturing variety	Increased maize yield by 3 bags and reduced cash losses. Extra bags helped feed his family for 4 months and money saved helped pay school fees and purchase a goat
Female farmer, northern region, Ghana	Started regularly feeding and vaccinating her livestock	Increased profit from selling her sheep which was used to pay her son's school fees; some was used to purchase food and some to purchase two sheep
Female farmer, Balaka, Malawi	Early maturing maize and conservation farming techniques	After a difficult season, she was able to harvest while others weren't. Paid daughter's school fees, fed extended family and bought seeds for the coming season (incl. trying new crops)
Male farmer, Longido, Tanzania	Introduced new cattle breed (more suited to dry environments), reduced the size of his herd and vaccinated	Some of the remaining money from sales of local breed were invested in building a house. He has also started to engage in agriculture, planting maize, some trees and vegetables which helps feed his family

- Several elements of M&E to better understand the process by which climate services / PICSA influences / drives change
- Triangulation is important. Qualitative is more time consuming and requires more skills / training but is important to understand depth and process
- Farmers are reacting positively to the PICSA approach and are making changes to their practices
- We are continuing to learn and improve PICSA and to develop it for new environments

Thank you

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