Research Toward Impact: What, Why, and How

Innovation Labs are designed with impactful outcomes in mind

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What and Why?

High yielding climate resilient cowpeas

Mobile App for soil fertility management

Index based insurance

Trichoderma

Abu Musa

Charity

Hashim

Pak Ujang

Fundamental Research

Adaptation

Pilot scale testing/ technology transfer

Scaling up

Impact

Grace

Godwin

Martha

New castle disease resistant chickens

Mobile based cess payment system

Electronic input voucher system

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Impact = f(A x B)

- Two key parameters determine 'impacts' of research
  - Adoption (A) -- the **use and uptake** of research outputs
  - Effect size (B) -- the **benefit** per unit of adoption of a research output in relation to an existing practice / technology

- Larger the values of these two parameters (A and B), larger will be the 'impact'

- If zero or low effect size (benefit) per unit of adoption → No adoption → No impact

Research towards impact:
1. Ensuring a positive Effect Size (B)

Requires:

- **Good science** embedded in the research output (i.e., the breakthroughs, the inventions and discoveries, etc.)

- **Performance at the end-user level** (i.e., socio-economic conditions, and policy environment, etc.)
- Relative to existing or alternative practice / technology available to them (**the counterfactual**)

How? (Metrics)

- On-farm trials
- Efficacy studies
- Randomized controlled trials
- Pilot studies

Research towards impact:
2. Ensuring large scale adoption (A)

Requires

- Awareness
- Access
- Availability
- Affordability
- Demand

How?

- Conferences, policy forums

- Sensitization and learning events

- Partnerships

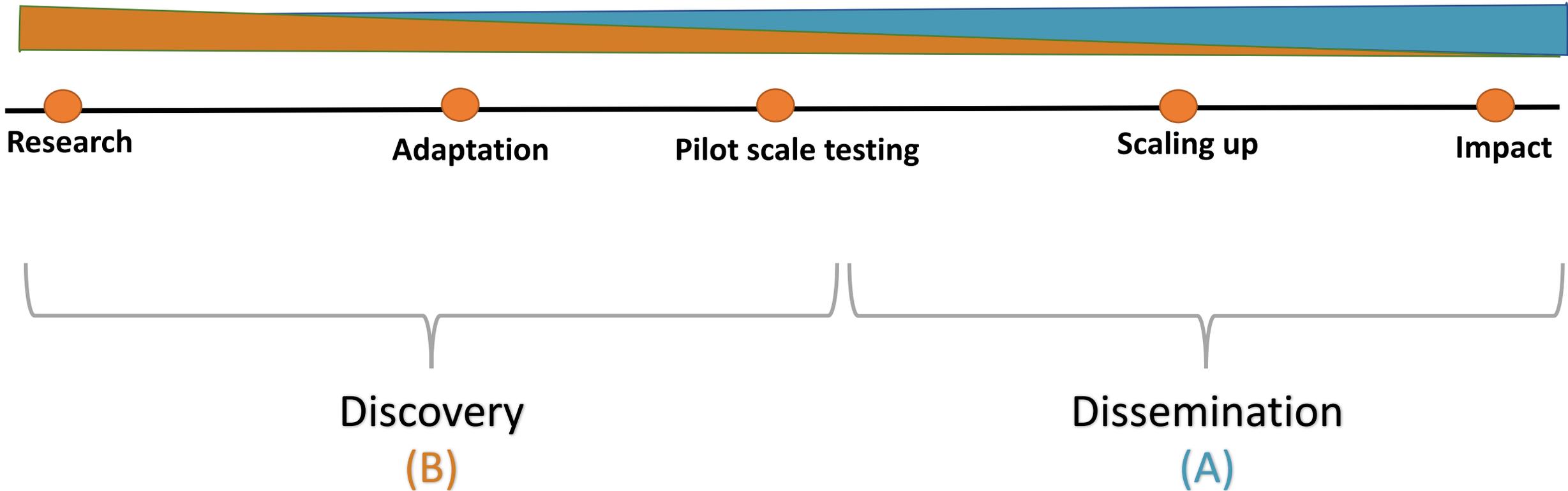- Innovative (and low-cost) methods for extending technologies

- Communication

Research

Universities, NARS, IARCs, private sector

+

= Impact

Partnerships

Government, NGOs, private sector, farmer organizations, entrepreneurs, consumer groups

Research   Adaptation   Pilot scale testing   Scaling up   Impact

Discovery
(B)

Dissemination
(A)

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Thank you