

## Spate Irrigation Network



# What is a Network?

- A place to start new initiatives
- A place to search for information
- A place to find similar situations
- A place to ask for help
- *A place to be part of ..*



# The Spate Irrigation Network

- The Spate Irrigation Network exchanges experiences and good practices, help upgrade capacity building, start/ catalyze new initiatives and engage a large number of people in flood based farming
- Hence this leadership training
  - We hope all of you will lead some of the activities or be actively involved in it
  - The training will help to formulate and sharpen through (1) class teaching and discussion (2) one-to-one discussion and (3) presentation of plans to be follow up



# Objectives of SpN

- Familiarize policy makers, farmer groups, implementing agencies (NGO's/ government departments), research agencies and funding agencies with development scope, experiences and practical approaches to spate irrigation development and support
- Document good practices and initiate new initiatives research in spate irrigation
- Disseminate experiences between countries



# Examples of good practices – captured in Practical Notes

- Major crops (sorghum, pulses, oilseeds, guar)
- Minor crops and mushrooms
- Livestock breeds
- Fodder growing
- Rural processing technology – milk churners
- Drinking water ponds
- Grain storage
- Dealing with mesquite (*prosopis juliflora*)
- Promoting useful trees (incl charcoal plantations)



# Activities of SpN

- Preparation and dissemination of guidelines
- Preparation of training material for use in professional curricula – including training of trainers
- Advocacy visits and project preparation
- Organize learning events and exchanges
- Partner with different other organizations
- Increasingly: farmer to farmer experiences
- Maintain website



# Organization

- Central network:
  - Convening organisation: Spate Irrigation Network Foundation, hosted by MetaMeta
  - Small central facility
  - 800 practitioners involved
  - Open access to training material, resource documents, taped lectures/ videos, guidelines,
  - Looking for partnership with large (implementing) organizations in government and outside government
- Country networks:
  - Situated in host organizations
  - Now: Ethiopia, Pakistan, Sudan, Yemen
  - Soon: Afghanistan, Malawi, Myanmar and Kenya
  - Bringing together professionals, practitioners and educators working on flood based farming
  - Moving towards becoming a network of farmer organisations
  - Moving towards autonomy and self generation of activities



# Country networks

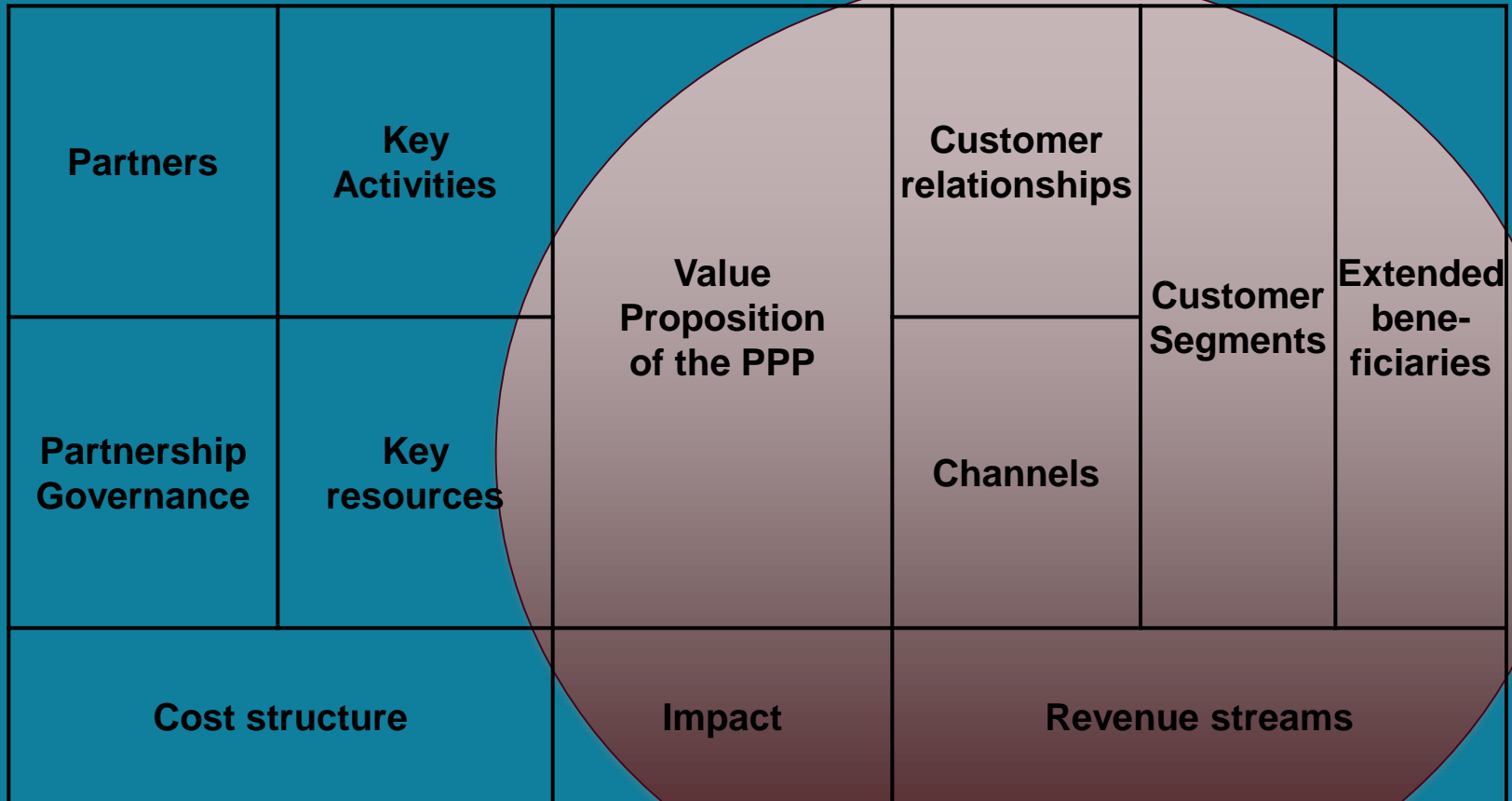
- To become independent
- To generate own activities and resources





# Towards autonomy: canvas model

## *Business Ecosystem*



## Why to be part?

- To gain information on certain topics
- To share your own vision
- To improve (practical) knowledge on FBFS
- Stay informed on new topics inside FBFS



# What to contribute

For example

- Taking initiatives and organizing events (training, research, information sharing)
- Documents (training material, videos, articles)
- Own experiences
- News
- **PLAY A ROLE IN THE NETWORK**



## Spate Irrigation Network Foundation



“Floods are not always a hazard. They may also sustain aquatic life and riverine biodiversity, recharge aquifers, enrich soils and in some of the world’s poorest areas they are the main source of irrigation.”

Global Water Partnership (2000) ‘Toward water security: a framework for action’



### NEWS

- In February and March 2016, a leadership course is being organized in flood based farming and rainwater harvesting. The objective of the leadership course is to contribute to nurturing development leaders with a good understanding of the bigger picture related to participatory approach to watershed management and climate change and variability. For more information and application see this [link](#).
- On December 7 Sindh Agriculture University Tandojam, Research and Development Foundation and Mehran University of Engineering and Technology Jamshoro, Sindh-Pakistan organized the National Conference on “Spate rrigation: Potential and Prospects”. The conference explored the most promising ways forward in spate irrigation. Read the [article](#) on the website of [www.thenews.com.pk](http://www.thenews.com.pk). Click [here](#) to view the presentations

# Moving towards becoming a farmers network

- Work through existing groups, such as WUAs
- Directly engage farmers in activities within countries
  - Seed exchanges
  - Learning events
  - Documentation of good practices
  - Research partner
  - Policy partner
- Make use of modern media (smart phone, SMS, etc)



# Moving towards becoming a farmers network

- Pakistan: Networks in Sibi/Narri Balochistan, Sindh, Punjab and KPK created. WUAs have been included into the network.
- Yemen: a) 51 WUAs and contact persons documented for the major wadis in Tahama region. 9 WUAs and contact persons documented for wadis Tuban And Wadi Ahwar in Aden region.
- Sudan: a) database of 92 active Water Users Associations (WUAs) prepared b) 14 WUAs in Khor Abu Habil identified. However re-formation of these WUAs with new regulations is currently taking place.



# Towards a farmers network

- At least one model farmer integral part of the core local project implementing team.
- A core team of farmers selected to:
  - identify and conduct some research activities within the broad areas of the project
  - develop farmer-relevant and farmer-accessible communication tools and products
- Creating platform for regular farmer gathering such as the planned smart centre/cafe currently in preparation in Ethiopia.
- One day dedicated for farmers experience sharing in the annual Leadership Capacity Building (LCB) programme of the FBFS project.
- Organized farmer-day where project activities are discussed and work plans shaped
- Well-organized and outcome-defined bi-annual regional farmer-to-farmer knowledge and experience sharing
- Farmer scholarship programme: recognizing farmers with unique contribution to be shared and with dissemination skills – for example, opportunities to attend international farmers symposium, pilot test innovative ideas