



12th European IFSA Symposium

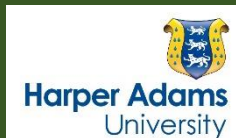
Programme and Book of Abstracts

Social and technological transformation of farming systems: Diverging and converging pathways

12th – 15th July 2016 at Harper Adams University, UK



Andrew Wilcox & Samantha Vinall (Eds)





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**Social and technological
transformation of farming systems:
Diverging and converging pathways**

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Theme 1: Innovation, knowledge and learning processes

Workshop 1.6 Merits and limits of innovation platforms to promote sustainable intensification in farming systems

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Agricultural innovation platform dynamics: a conceptual framework to analyze knowledge production

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Innovation platforms (IPs) appear to be one of the most appropriate tools to operationalize research for development. Increasingly, agricultural research initiatives for development set up innovation platforms to facilitate the management and support of innovation processes. Yet, the mechanisms by which they operate are not well understood. This paper seeks to open the 'black-box' and proposes a framework to analyze processes that occur in innovation platforms from inception to maturity. Firstly, we use a New Institutional Economics (NIE) based analytical framework for the M&E of IP performance. Secondly, from a review of the literature, we identify three ways through which research could be done within IPs: 1) soft transfer, when research has readily available results that could help solve jointly identified problems; 2) co-creation, when researchers and IP members develop research objectives and protocols together; and 3) community-based research, when IP members set up experiments on their own. We propose that both frameworks should be used to improve the monitoring of IP dynamics.

Innovation platforms beyond projects and commodities: A case study of Lundazi, Zambia

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Innovation Platforms (IPs) are undoubtedly the most common manifestation of the growing popularity of Agricultural Innovation System (AIS) thinking in Agricultural Research for