



BRIDGING SCIENCE AND POLICY  
FOR CLIMATE AND FOOD

# A Changing Climate for Knowledge Generation in Agriculture

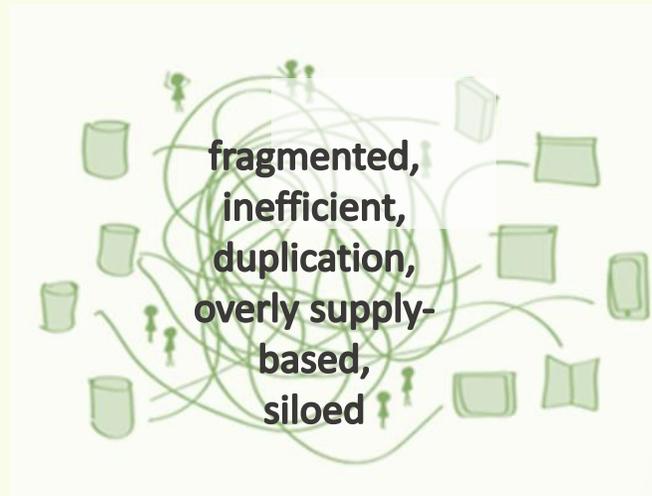
Dhanush Dinesh

Founder

# To Transform Food Systems under Climate Change: We need to Transform Knowledge and Innovation Systems

Agricultural research  
for development

“publish or perish.”



Difficult to deliver end-  
to-end, sustainable  
and scalable solutions

## How can we change?

More strategic agendas  
Clear theories of change  
Less fragmented  
Involving stakeholders from Day 1  
Attention to deployment  
Success = benefits to society

# About CGIAR



- CGIAR is “the world’s largest global agricultural innovation network”
- **Vision:** a world free of poverty, hunger and environmental degradation
- **Mission:** to advance agricultural science and innovation to enable poor people, especially women, to better nourish their families, and improve productivity and resilience so they can share in economic growth and manage natural resources in the face of climate change and other challenges

*Do research to create knowledge.  
Do innovation to create impact.*

– Marco Ferroni, Chair, CGIAR System Board

# CGIAR Research Program for Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS)

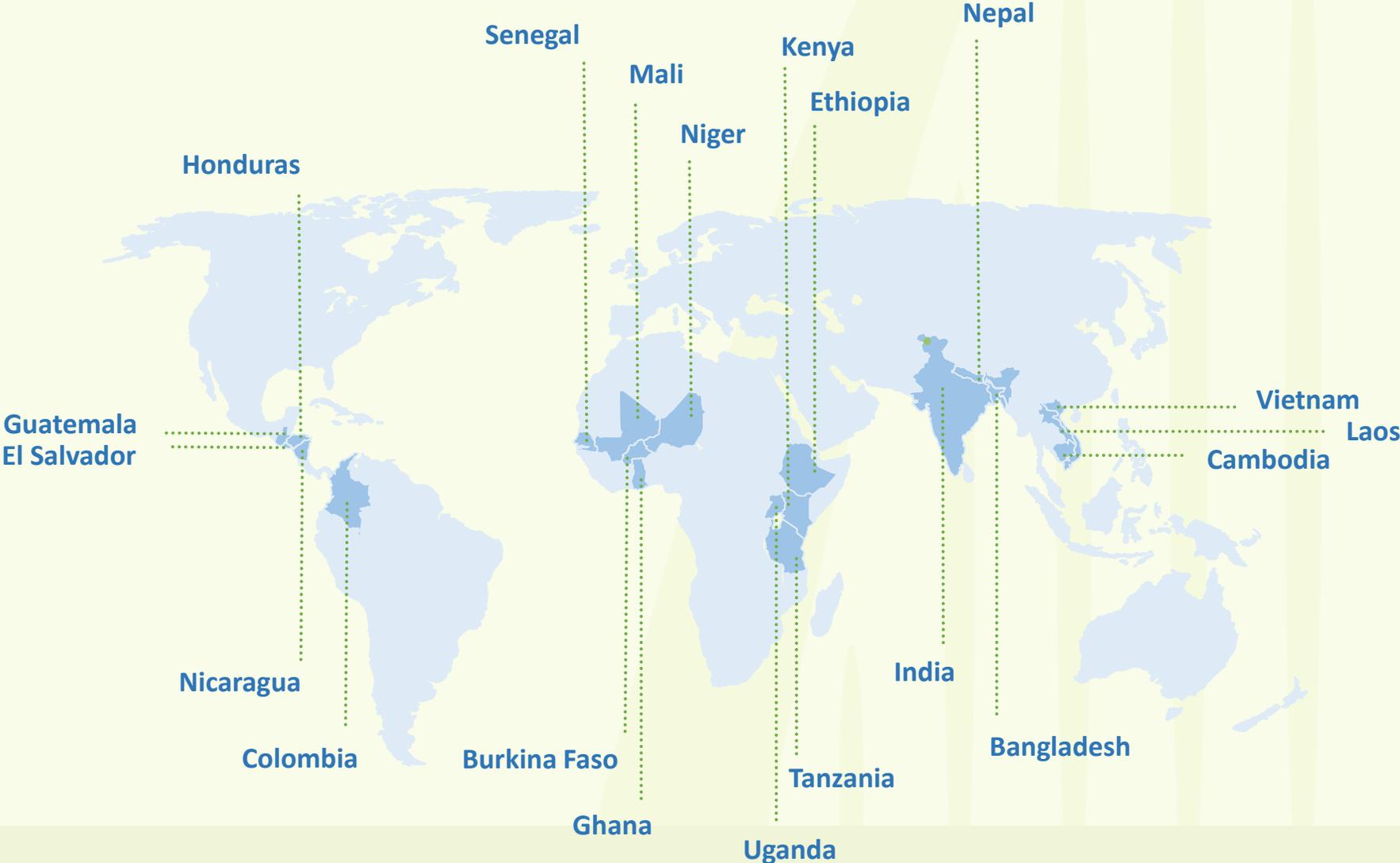
CCAFS was a collaboration among all 15 CGIAR Centers

Catalyzing positive change towards...

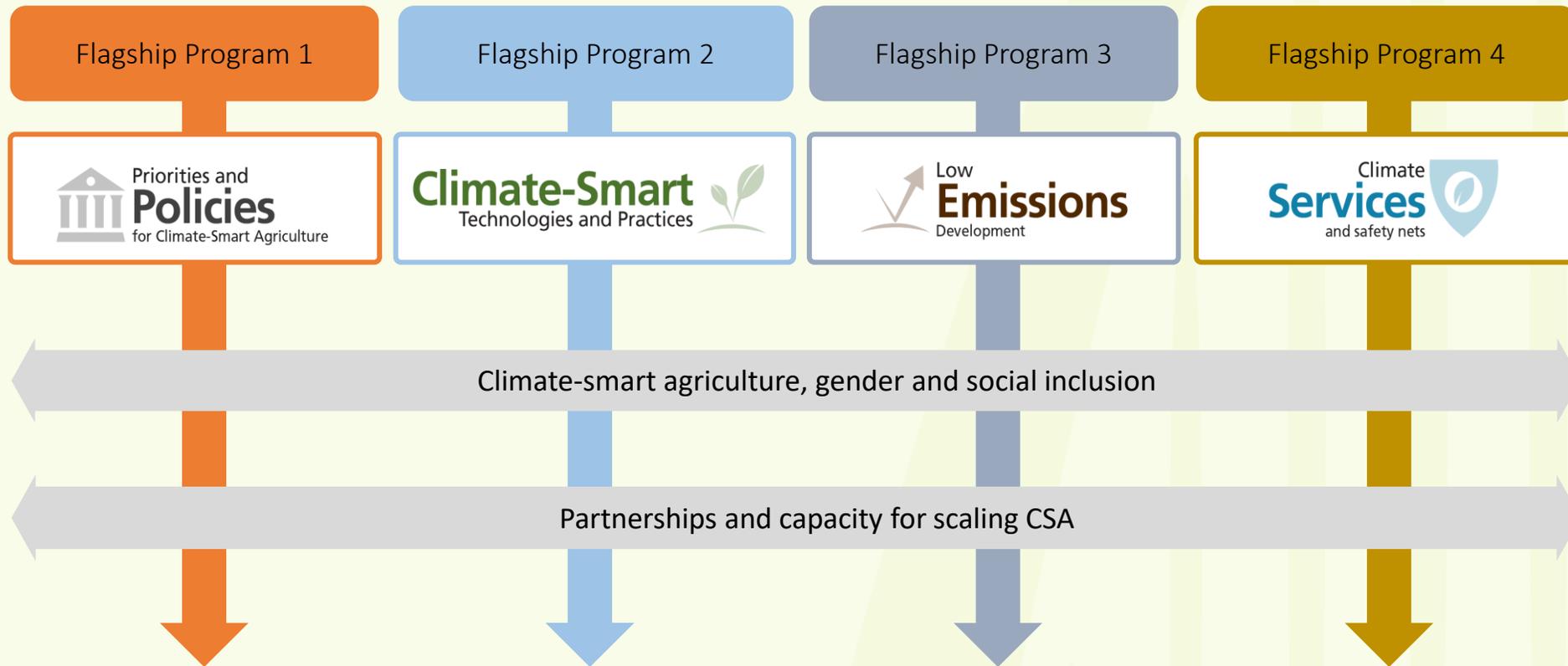
- Climate-smart agriculture (CSA)
- Climate-smart food systems
- Climate-smart landscapes



# Target countries

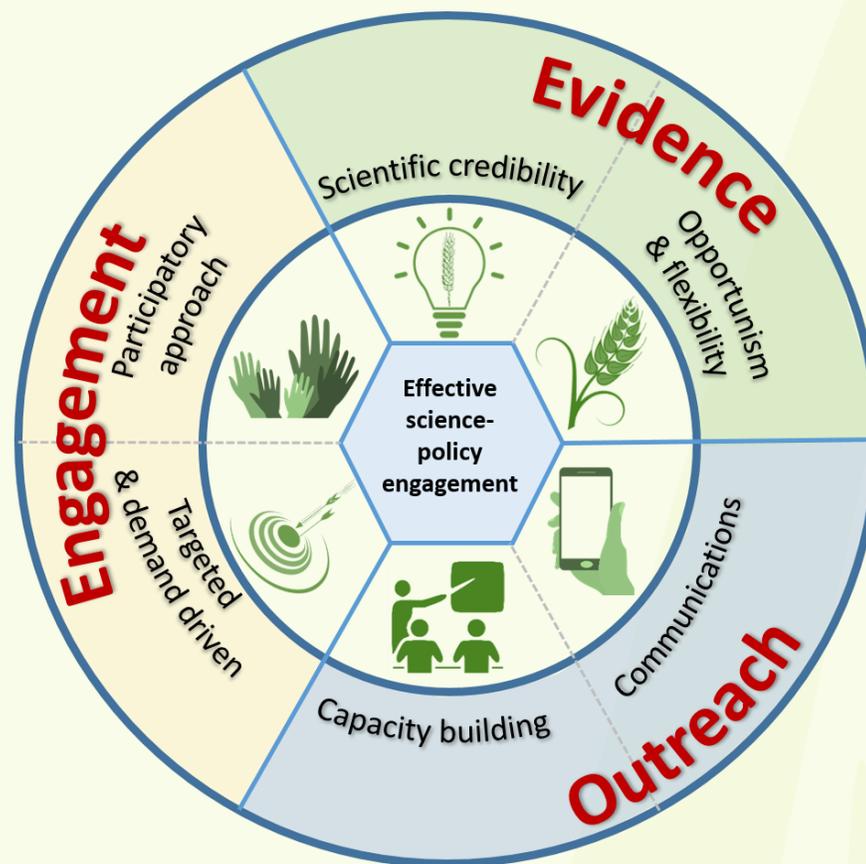


# Flagship Programs



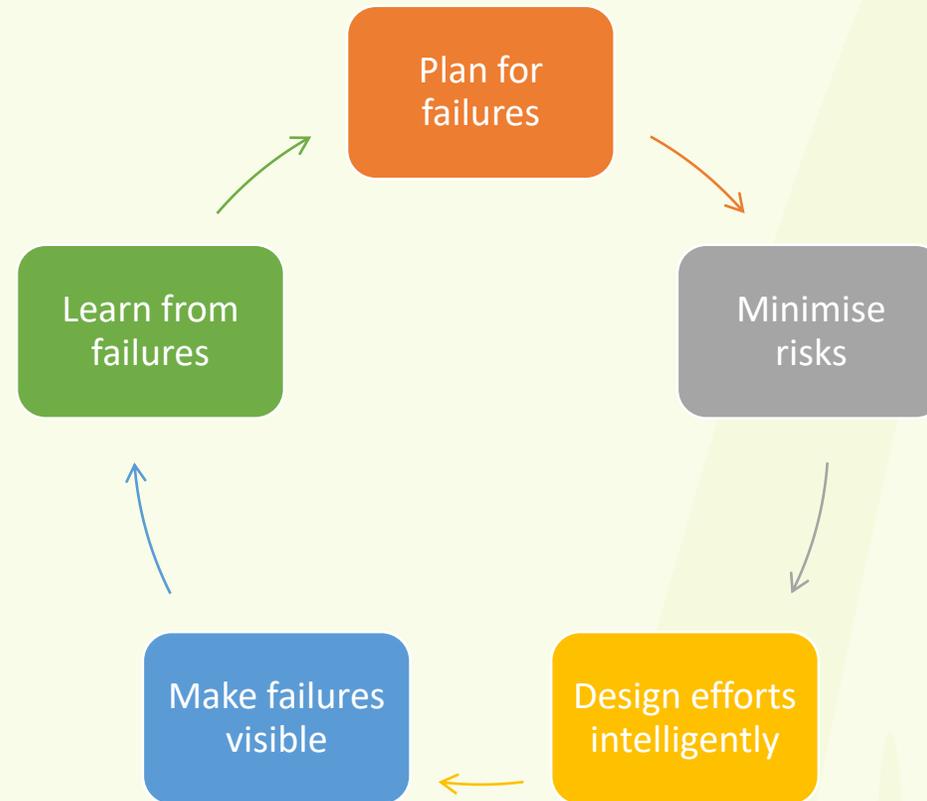
How can science-policy engagement contribute to more fruitful cross-scale climate action in the food and agriculture sector in the Global South?

# Research projects: Three thirds principle



Source: Dinesh et al. 2018. Facilitating change for climate-smart agriculture through science-policy engagement.

# Research programs: Failures are inevitable so fail intelligently



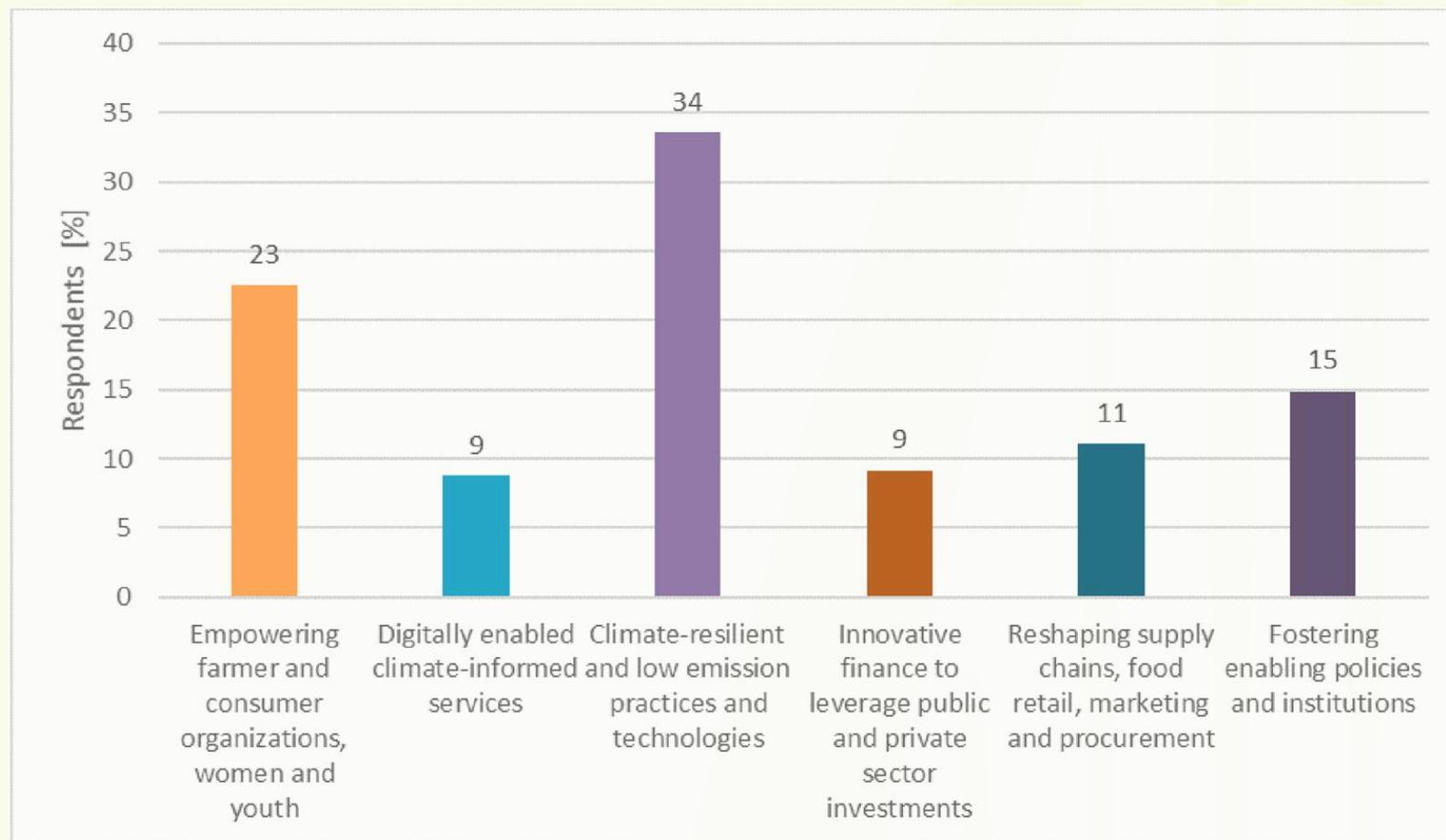
Source: Dinesh et al..2021. Learning from failure at the science–policy interface for climate action in agriculture

# Research organizations need to institutionalize efforts

- Increase accountability
- Use boundary objects
- Facilitate participation
- Mediate and resolve issues
- Translate research
- Coordinate and mobilize complementary expertise

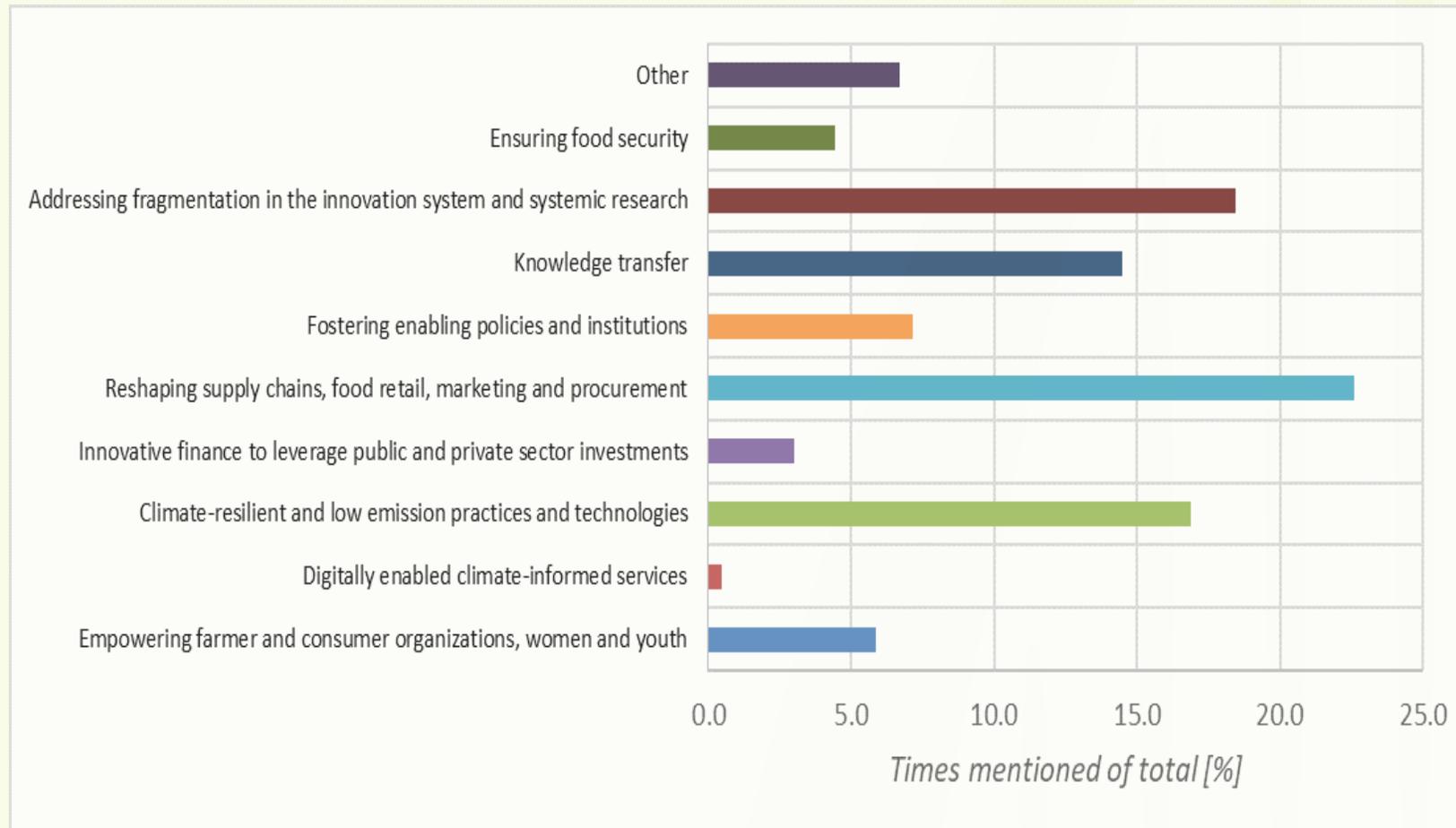
Dinesh et al. 2021. A Changing Climate for Knowledge Generation in Agriculture

# Knowledge and innovation systems: key priorities



Source: Dinesh et al. 2021. Enacting theories of change for food systems transformation under climate change.

# Knowledge and innovation systems: rethink priorities



Source: Dinesh et al. 2021. Enacting theories of change for food systems transformation under climate change.

# Challenges along the way

“Strategy without tactics is the slowest route to victory. Tactics without strategy is the noise before defeat.”

“Culture Eats Strategy For Breakfast”.

“We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them.”

# Way forward: What is the business unusual?

- Stimulate novelty across priority areas for transformation.
- Ensure participation in knowledge production.
- Reconfigure our knowledge and innovation systems.
  - Reorient and reform the old
  - Develop the new
  - Phase out parts of the system which are redundant

# Thank You

