

Natural Resources Systems Programme (NRSP)

NRSP's Conceptual Impact Model.

NRSP has defined five generic stakeholder domains, named Domains V to Z, that specify the beneficiaries/stakeholders with whom the programme can achieve either developmental impact or make progress towards developmental impact through research uptake.

These are:

Domain V – the primary stakeholders/ultimate beneficiaries of a project in the target site(s) of a project. These stakeholders are the immediate beneficiaries of a piece of research and may be the engine of spontaneous spread within adjacent areas of a project's target sites. Favourable change to the livelihoods of these stakeholders represents local developmental impact.

Domain W – the intermediate/secondary stakeholders, located near or in the target site(s) of a project, who are well informed about a project and may (ideally) be partners in the project. An aim of most projects is to bring these stakeholders (local target institutions [LTIs]) into strong engagement with a project's findings and products so that these LTIs do plan to continue with their use of a project's findings and products after a project ends. Uptake and independent use of findings/products during the life of a single project is less common although this can be expected in projects implemented towards the end of a sequence of projects. In such cases, localised developmental impact can be achieved through these stakeholders during the life of NRSP, e.g. in an administrative district where project sites are located (NRSP's rainwater harvesting projects provide an example of impact in Domain V via research uptake in Domain W).

Domain X – These are the national level target institutions (NTIs) in the target country where a project is located. They are less closely associated with a project but they are important for achieving wider use of research products in a target country. The DFID country desk of the target country is also a Domain X stakeholder. Commonly the NTIs are the apex bodies of the LTIs of Domain W; e.g. a Director of Extension Services relative to a District Agriculture Officer associated with a project, the Director of an NGO relative to a field officer or a national representative of a civil society institution relative to a local representative. Both projects and the programme have responsibilities to engage with NTIs for uptake promotion. Through communication and advocacy, undertaken by both a project team and programme management, supportive actors in an NTI may formalise their intention to make use of research products (i.e. research uptake is achieved which may engender developmental impact in the longer term).

Domain Y – These are the international level target institutions (ITIs) to whom a project and the programme can readily disseminate (i.e. passively communicate) research findings and products through publications and media channels. Some ITIs may be one of the partners in a project and so be well engaged with a project's achievements. However, in this domain, even though broad awareness of NRSP's research can be achieved, research uptake is dependent on the relative importance of what this research offers compared with the priorities of an ITI. In this regard, sub-regional organisations (such as ASARECA in eastern Africa), and sub-regional consortia (such as the Rice Wheat Consortium), that have objectives and ways of working that fit well with NRSP, are 'better bets' for research uptake and the nearer term conversion of uptake into developmental impact than other ITIs.

Domain Z – These are the primary stakeholders/ultimate beneficiaries located in non-project sites in a target and non-target countries together with the intermediate/secondary stakeholders who locally engage in using some of NRSP's research products. This could lead to developmental impact in this domain but only via the research uptake (including policy support) that may occur with the stakeholders in Domains X and Y and, in most cases, only in the longer term.

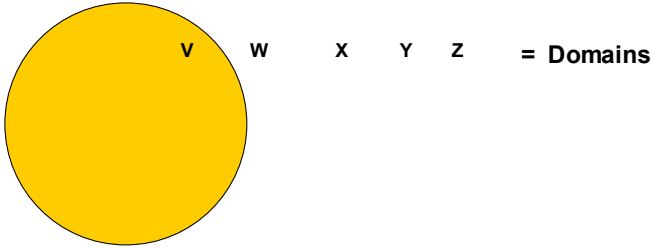
Nine slides: Slides 1-5 – The Conceptual Model of Research Impact
 Slides 6-9 – Application of the Model to NRSP’s research

Slide 1

A Conceptual Model of the Impact of NRSP’s Work (Scaling-up Terminology added)

Definition of a ‘stakeholder domain’:
 Stakeholders with whom the project and/or the programme must engage during a sequence of projects in order to:

- attain an output objective
- and
- contribute to attainment of the programme’s purpose level OVIs



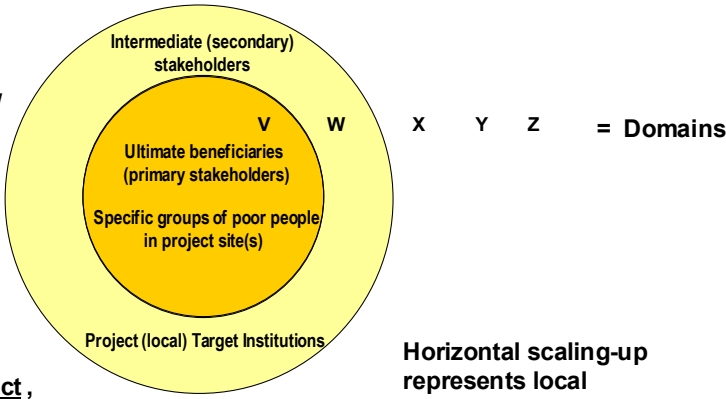
Five main domains, V-Z, covering primary and intermediate (secondary and tertiary) stakeholders

Abbreviation: TI(s) = Target Institution(s)

Slide 2

A Conceptual Model of the Impact of NRSP’s Work (with Scaling-up Terminology added)

DOMAINS V & W
 The starting point:
 The location of a project including its local partners, local TIs and its local primary stakeholders/ immediate beneficiaries



Who is responsible?
 V + W = domains of a project, should result in horizontal Scaling-up in target site(s) e.g., in a target district or distributary or micro-catchment

Horizontal scaling-up represents local developmental impact

Slide 3

A Conceptual Model of the Impact of NRSP's Work (with Scaling-up Terminology added)

DOMAIN X

From an early stage in the project engage with national TIs:

- National level apex persons/organisations relating to a project's local TIs e.g., director of extension or a target NGO, head of a GO department
- DFID country desk

Who is responsible?

X = domain for a project and for the programme, should 'set up' the possibility for vertical scaling-up in a target country/region

Slide 4

A Conceptual Model of the Impact of NRSP's Work (with Scaling-up Terminology added)

DOMAIN Y

International TIs:

Some may be partners in a project (the inner bright green ring)

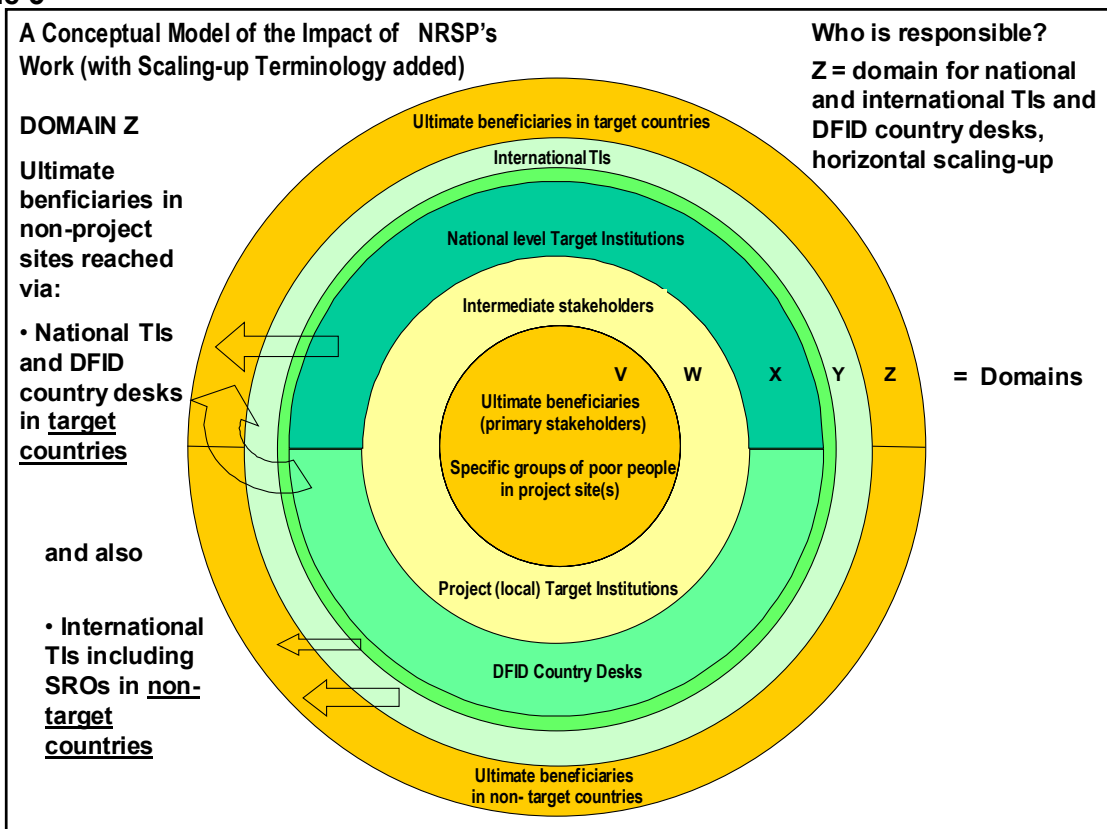
There may be routine contact with others via networks etc

Others may be reached via web sites, publications, conferences etc

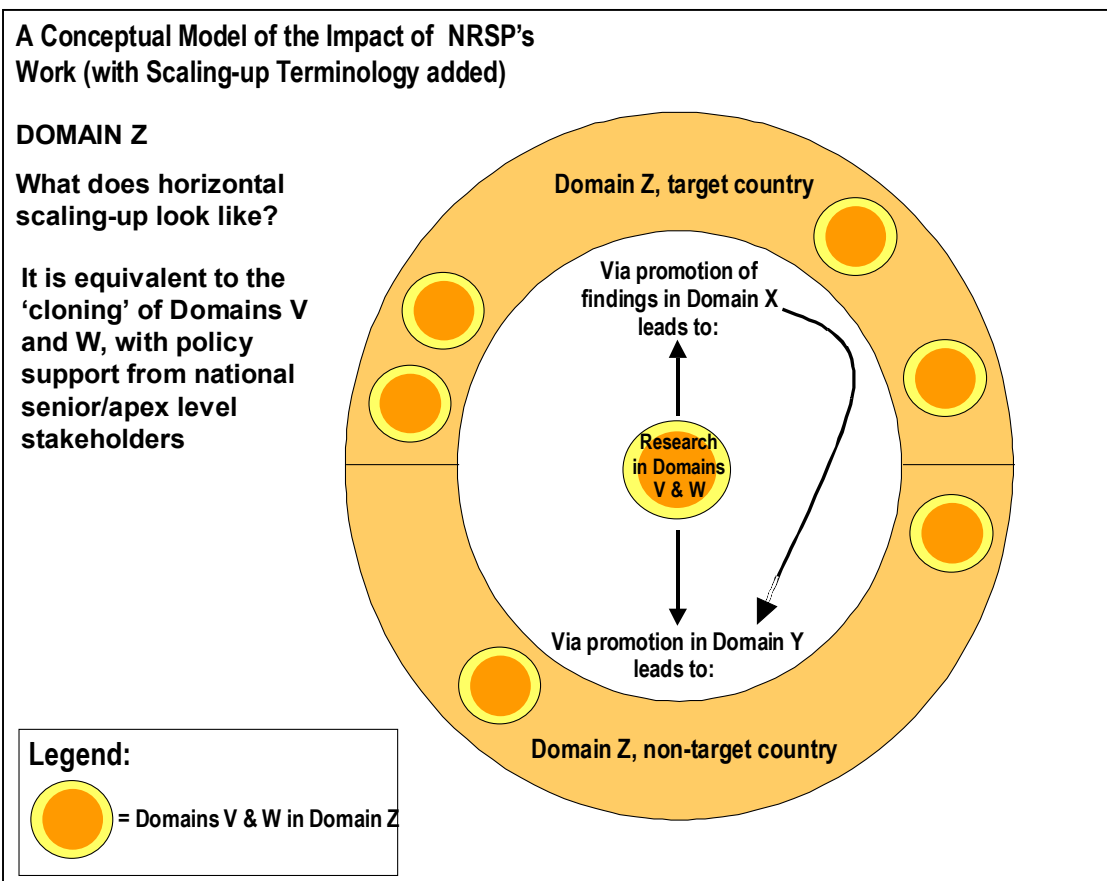
Who is responsible?

Y = domain for a project and for the programme, should 'set up' the possibility for vertical scaling-up in non-target countries/regions

Slide 5



Slide 6



Slide 7

A-H Uptake Pathway

Step	Description (= OVI)*	Means of Verification (data/information sources)
A	Formal/informal agreement with stakeholders including collaborating and target institutions	Memoranda of Understanding with collaborating and target institutions. Correspondence with partner and target organisations. Project inception reports
B	Generation of relevant research results (outputs delivered)	Published papers, technical reports, databases, reviews. Quarterly, annual, and final reports of completed projects
C	Development of appropriate research based products through adaptation/packaging	Software, manuals, guidelines, databases, policy briefs, audio-visual aids, information booklets, promotional materials (web, hard copy, radio etc)
D	Promotion of products into target institutions (TIs)	Workshops/symposia, correspondence, dissemination lists (for software, manuals, audio-visual materials etc)
E	Adoption of products by target institutions	Correspondence (indicating intention to use product and/or requests for research products). Annual reports and policy papers of target institutions. Institutional arrangements made
F	Application of products and replication of results in target institution programmes	Papers, technical reports, policy bulletins etc produced by target institutions using products. Policy altered/modified . Legislation adopted. Production statistics improved. Relevant NR department extension programmes modified
G	Promotion of technology and/or behavioural change among end users by target institutions	Legislation adopted. Co-management strategies established and institutional arrangements made. Products applied.
H	Adoption of technology and/or other research products by end users and generation of economic benefits i.e., developmental impact (purpose delivered)	District and/or provincial and/or national socio-economic indicators, primary production statistics and environmental indicators e.g., water quality

* / **Blaze marks** show amendments that NRSP would like DFID to consider

Slide 8

Application of the Conceptual Impact Model to NRSP

Based on this ‘unpacked’ concept of target institutions/ target primary, secondary and tertiary stakeholders it is possible to estimate:

A. Which step of DFID’s A-H scale of research uptake can the different target institutions/ stakeholders attain?

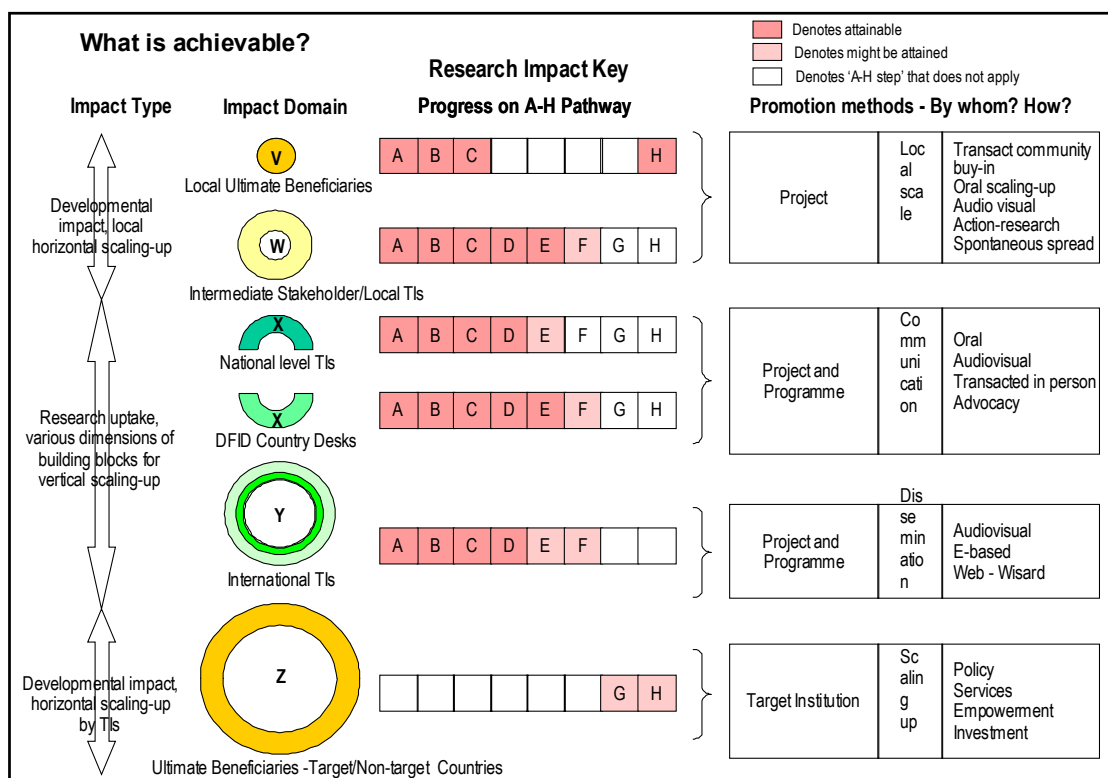
And

B. What quantity of research uptake can be expected by the target groups and target R&D systems specified in the purpose level OVIs of NRSP’s logframe

The following 3 slides present this information:

- **A-H scale – with a few proposed revisions – blue boxes indicate research part of the scale, red boxes indicates the uptake part of the scale**
- **Assessment of what is achievable for the different domains, V-Z**
- **Link up of this assessment with the NRSP purpose level OVIs**

Slide 9



Slide 10

NRSP's expected purpose level delivery by March 2005

Who (i.e., which target group?)	Where?	A-H ¹	How much?
Purpose level OVI-1:			
New knowledge from NRSP's research that can benefit the poor in use² at the levels specified by at least two of the following target groups :			
Poor people themselves	Domain V	H	In at least 33% of the target sites of the total project's portfolio since April 1999
Employers of the poor	Domain W	E	In at least 50% of the target sites of projects where employers of the poor are stakeholders
Institutions supplying services to poor people	Domain W	E, f	In at least 66% of the target sites of the total project's portfolio since April 1999
Institutions supplying services to poor people	Domain X	D, e	NTIs that have not directly participated in specific NRSP projects in at least six target countries
Relevant policy makers	Domain X	D, e	In at least four target countries
Poor people themselves	Domain Z	g, h	In non-target sites, in at least three target countries or regions
Purpose level OVI-2			
Outputs from 10% of NRSP projects, and the programme as a whole used in:			
The international R & D system	Domains X and Y	E, f	Incorporated into the project plans of at least 3 DFID country programmes
Non-target countries	Domain Y	E, f	Used in progs/projects of at least 3 institutions
<p>1 / Upper case letter denotes step attained, lower case letter denotes some attainment possible.</p> <p>2 / When this OVI was developed, the word 'use' was intended to mean just that – which implies that Step H is attained for all target groups. But in practice 'use' actually means delivered to the most feasible A-H step.</p>			