Long Term Benefit of Research for Development Projects through Sustainable Information Management

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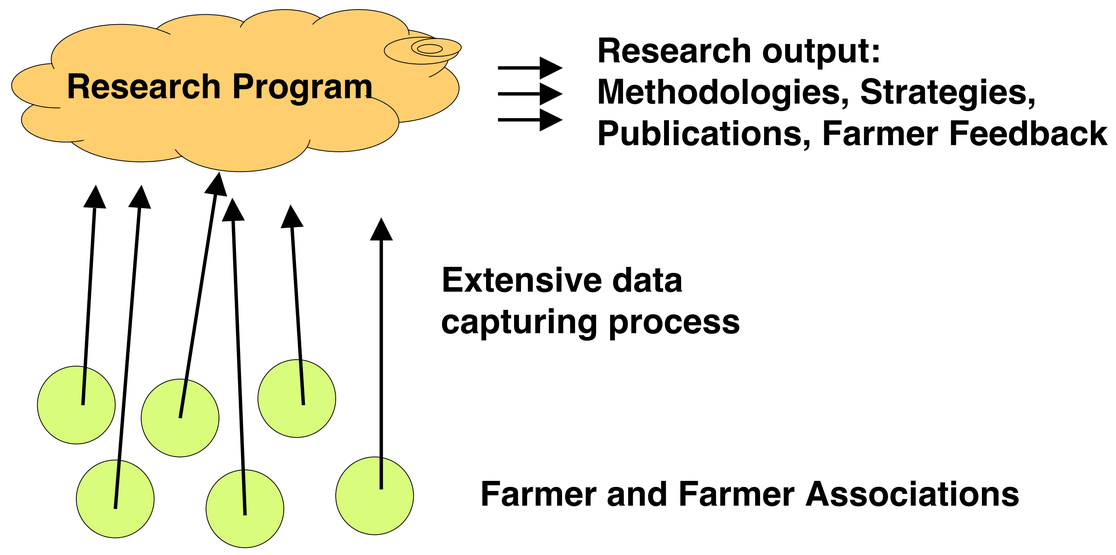
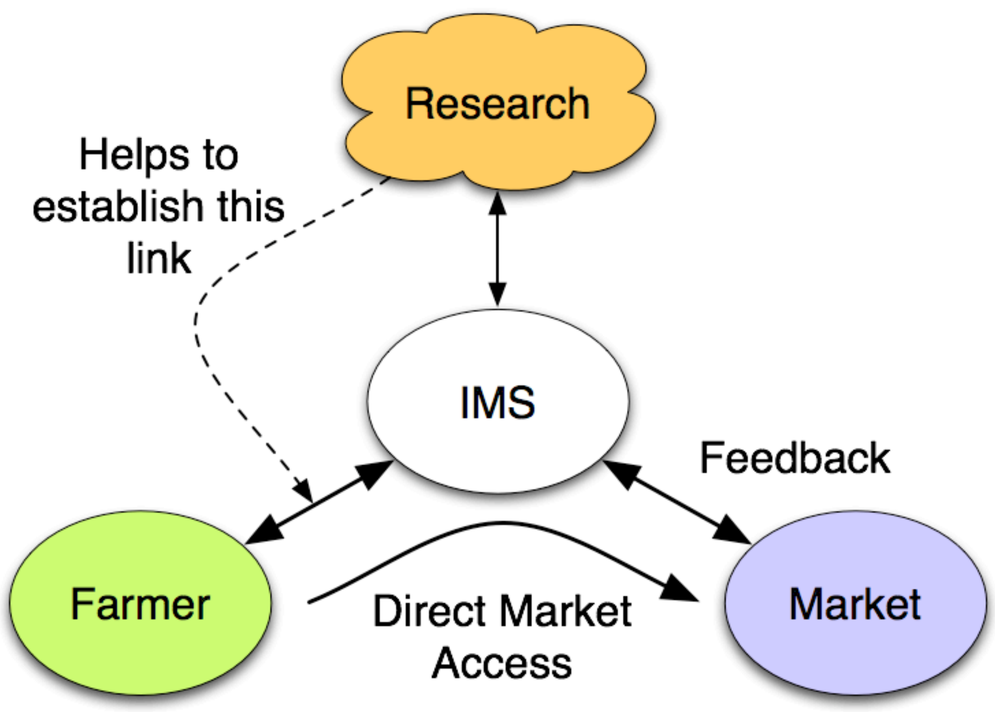
Problem Definition

A lot of data is gathered from stakeholders of research for development projects. **After termination and publication** of the analyses the **data is archived and the stakeholder do not directly benefit** from the data other than through the more general new methodologies and approaches developed.

Research projects can increase impact and sustainability through a more targeted and intelligent use of information technology. Easy to use and internet based information management systems (IMS) can bring positive long-term effects to project's beneficiaries and boost the project's success beyond general applicable results..



Proposed Approach



We propose an IMS that permits to **capture and maintain data as near as possible to where it is generated and used**. An intelligently designed web based IMS can provide direct and targeted data access and feedback to the corresponding stakeholders, that can include **rapid data analyses and automatically generate reports** whenever needed.

Stakeholders such as **farmers and associations have always and direct access to their data** and learn to manage it, projects benefit from efficient data provision, researchers and project managers dispose of the required data and information in real time to perform analyses and take accurate decision.

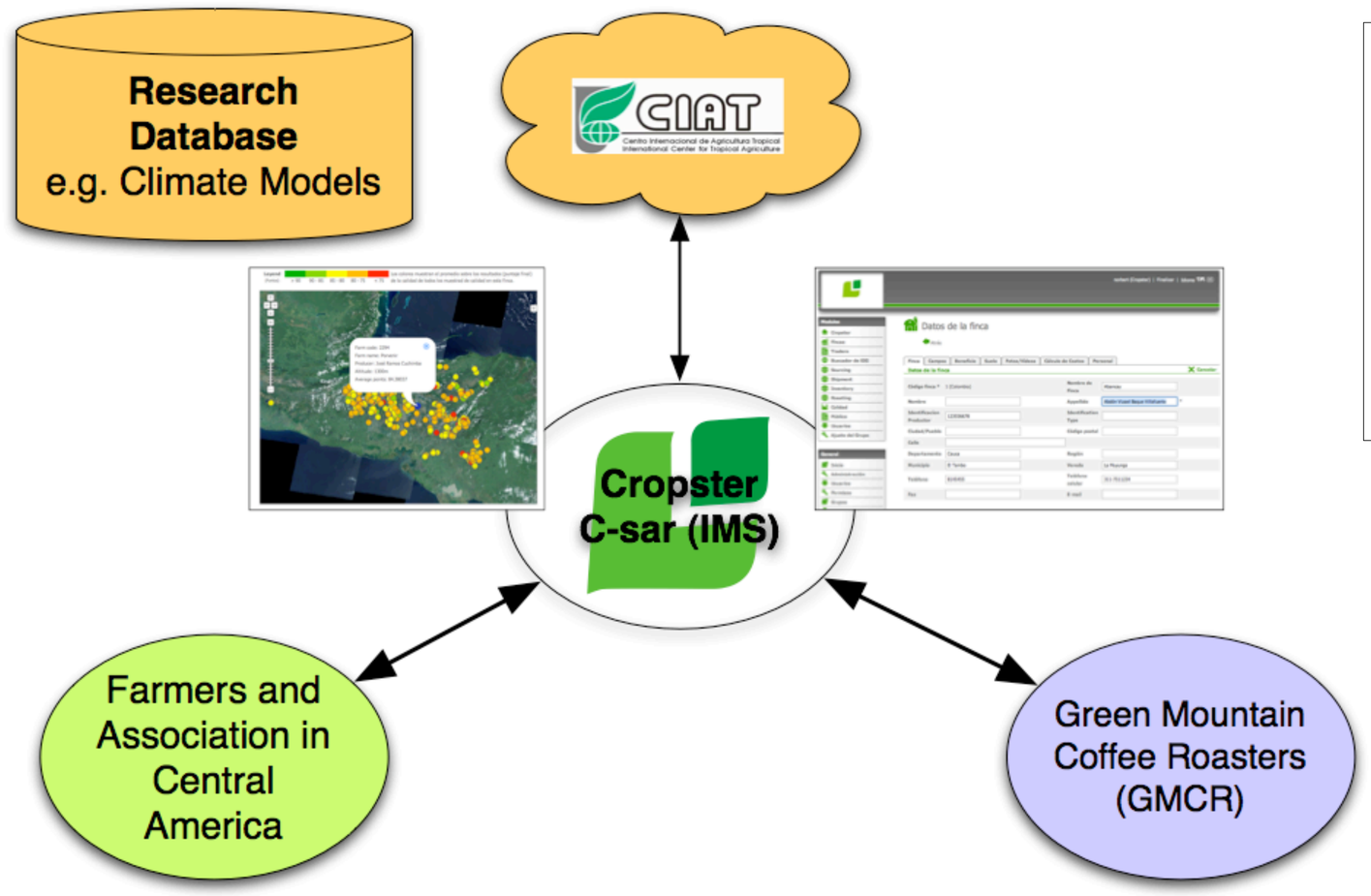
To make the system more attractive and useful to farmers and boost **sustainability, the IMS is linked to the market**, where farmers seek to sell their harvest. The market is interested in such systems to **enable better communication** to producers and provide a **powerful sourcing tool**.

Key features:

- Direct market access for farmers and associations
- Real-time data availability
- Sustainable solution for development projects
- Collaboration with partners
- Long-term support

Case Study

Featuring a research project funded by an industry donor where data compiled by farmers associations is used to predict and quantify the impact of climate change on farmers livelihoods. The same data within a multiple stakeholder data base framework is used to increase product sourcing efficiency and to keep farm and production data up-to-date.



Fact box:

- **4 Countries**
  Mexico, Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador
- **4000 Farmers**
- **Climate Models**
  e.g. adaptation prediction for year 2050
- **GMCR** … industry partner
- **CIAT** … research partner
- **Cropster.org** … technology provider

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