

# CTA Postharvest Expert Meeting & Policy Writeshop 12 – 14 August, 2014

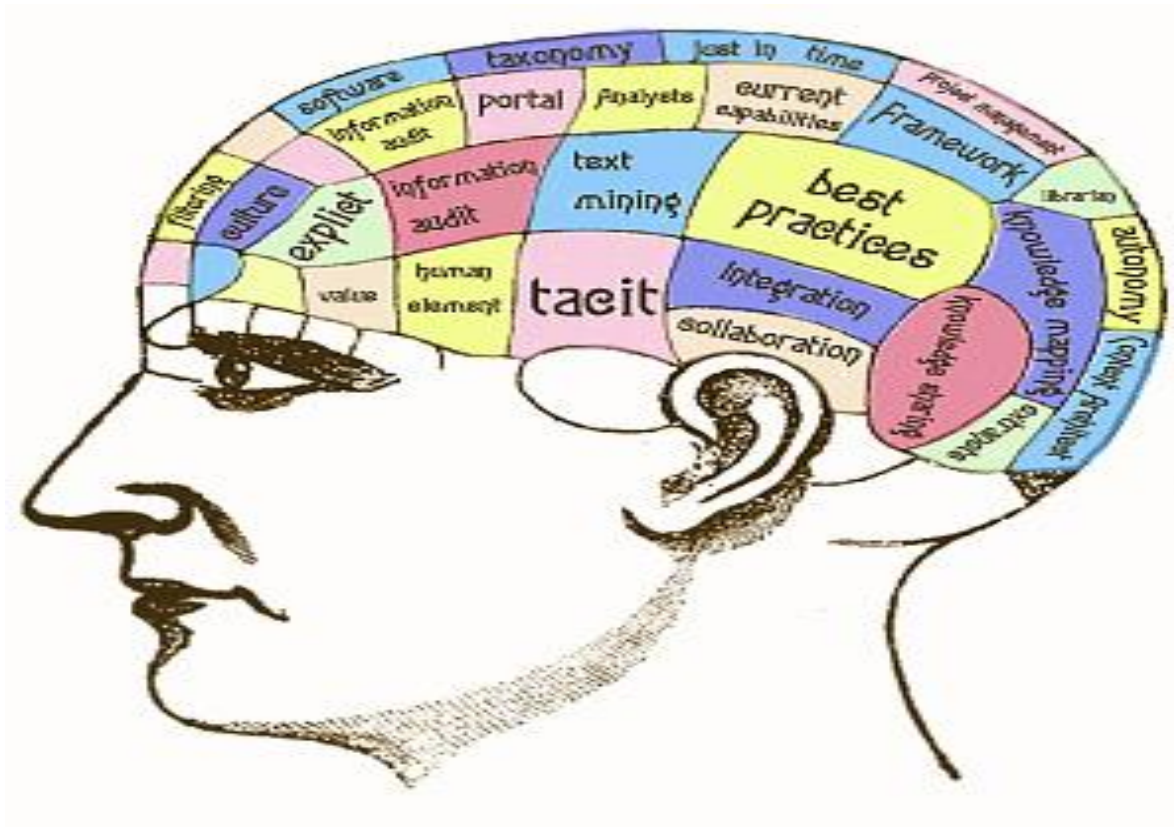
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# What is knowledge?

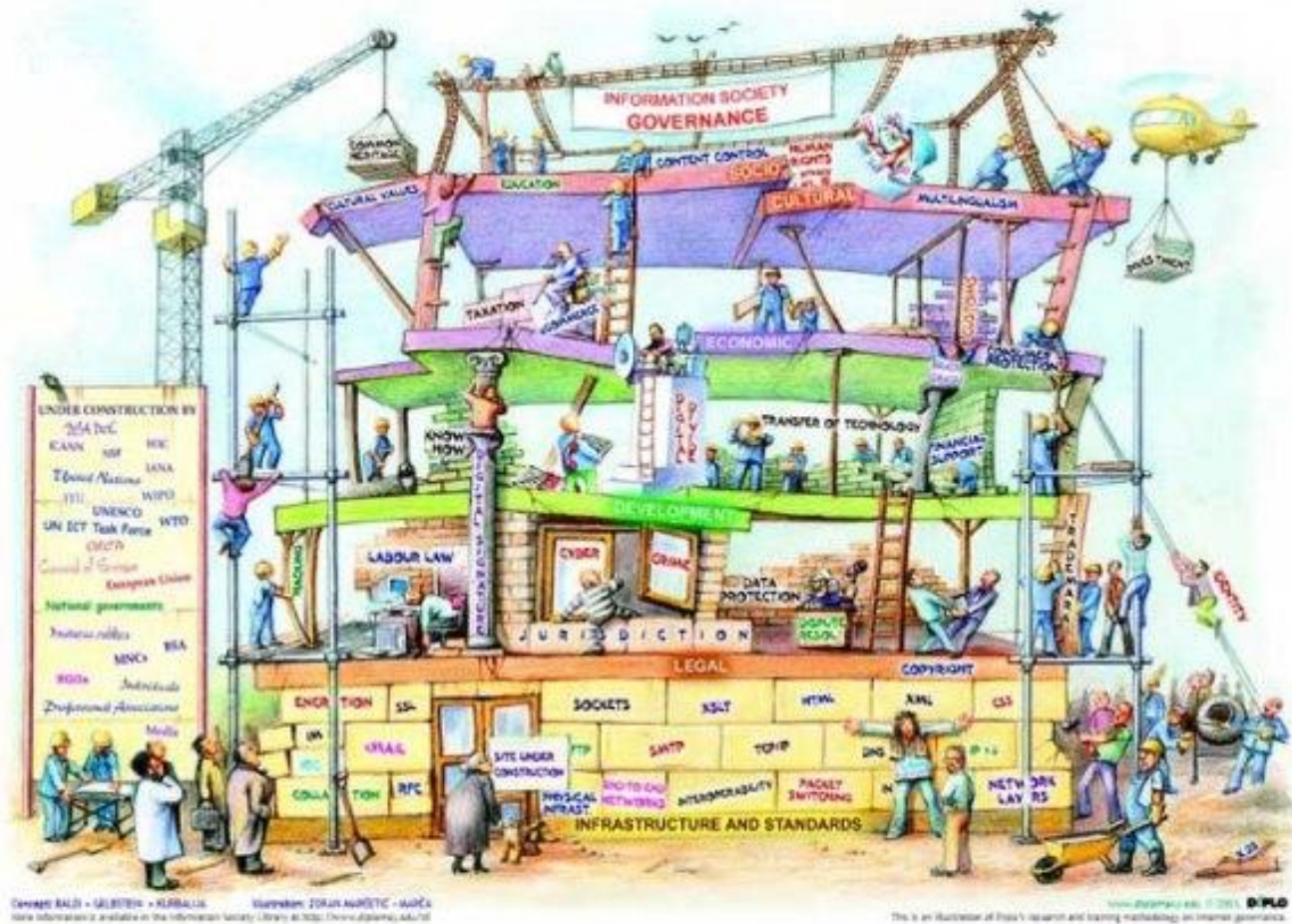


**Experience**  
**Competence**  
**Skills**  
**Attitude**

Know-how (ability)  
Know –what  
Know-why



# Knowledge builds on knowledge - under continuous construction





# What is postharvest?

- All treatments that occur from time of harvesting until the food stuff reaches the consumer
  - Harvesting methods / tools / equipment
  - Handling (sorting, trimming, cooling etc)
  - Conveying/transportation (field to processing unit)
  - Preservation (tastes, smell, colour, texture)
  - Packaging
  - Storage (what conditions)
  - Distribution & sale (what conditions)



# What is postharvest knowledge?

- Knowledge of :

- The **commodity / commodities** (varieties /species & chemical, physical, biological/microbial composition etc)
- The nature and extent of the **problem** (quantitative – volume & cost) and at what stage of the chain
- **Environmental** conditions – weather (RH, temperature)
- **Storage** requirements, techniques & technologies
- **Processing** techniques / treatments & technologies
- **Packaging** requirements, materials, techniques, technologies
- **Best practices** – low tech / intermediate / high tech (costs)
- Engineering, food science, microbiology, pests, production factors, harvesting, **transport/logistics**, **food regulations**
- **Markets** & market requirements – domestic & export
- Quality assurance / **food safety systems**



# Smallholder Realities





# Smallholder Realities



# What is the problem?

- How serious is it? What commodities / countries? What is the volume & value?
- Post Harvest Losses Information System (cereals)  
<http://www.phlosses.net/>
- Postharvest Technology- Research & Information Center  
<http://postharvest.ucdavis.edu/>
- % at each stage of the chain? Field, packhouse, transport etc
- Is there need for better data / information on PHL & PHT? **Yes.** Who should collect it? How should it be stored? Who should have access? How should it be communicated and to whom? Policymakers, scientists, farmers, traders, processors?





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# What new knowledge – what research?

- What are the priorities?
- Who decides & how?
- Can we integrate scientific and indigenous knowledge? What are the benefits? Who gains/loses? Ownership?
- What investments are needed?



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# Key Issues for Expert Consultation

- Postharvest knowledge spans a range of commodities, actors, activities, disciplines, technologies
- Multiple information sources need to be tapped & new knowledge generated - the extent of the problem is not fully known / understood
- ACP region requires several interventions at different scales for innovation
  - Research, education, training, outreach and infrastructural development including policies, food standards & legislation
  - There is no one fit all answer but action must be taken



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# Objectives

- To reflect, share experiences and learn lessons for influencing policy and practice





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# Process

- Technical Presentations (global and local)
- Q&A and discussion
- Field Visit (Wageningen UR)
- Working groups / writeshop – synthesis report, policy brief



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# Expected Outputs

- Draft synthesis report
- Draft policy brief on ACP postharvest knowledge system
- Consensus on setting up an ACP postharvest network



# Conclusion

**We expect  
successful  
outcomes**

