excellencies, colleagues, all protocols observed

Nathanial Peterson, behavioral agriculture economist, Senior Scientist focused on Behavioral Optimization of products and services for farmers and supporting private sector partners in scaling their reach,

Part of Climate Action within CIAT (which merged with Bioversity International)

One of the 13 organizations comprising CGIAR: ILRI, IWMI, ICIPE, IITA, World Fish

Among other things, we’re part of the BREFONS Innovation Hub, trying to understand how to best design and support centers for innovation, including how to choose innovations for scaling and understanding how to set the stage for growth.

My colleagues, including Sintayehu Alemayehu, have worked on livestock information systems with support from the Gates Foundation.

As a research organization, CIAT is not usually able to provide core funding for projects and programs, but we do work with partners, often with external co-funding in 4 areas

Building Low-emissions food systems

Building climate security

Building, improving and scaling Climate Services, including digital tools, via private-public partnerships, development government capacity, and supporting private sector

Building climate readiness, from farmers to governments, we work on climate modeling, often in direct partnerships with local government actors, like ATI and KALRO.

We do this mainly through 5 activities

Providing research and evidence

Creating digital innovations

Helping private and public entities to secure funding by providing evidence of how investments reduce risk. Eg We run a regional food systems accelerator, work with credit providers to serve rural households.

Policies and institutions - we bring evidence to climate policies, plans and strategies, Nationally Determined Contributions, climate action plans, ensuring alignment with security plans

Gender and Social inclusion - Analyze research and digital innovations, investments and policies for how they differentially impact groups with the aim of narrowing gaps and developing attractive opportunities for young men and women.

While I can speak a bit on all of these topics, my primary focus is on the optimization of solutions for last-mile communication and distribution, including helping private sector access investment and scale technical solutions.

Yesterday I was most struck by the number of comments about warning systems working too slowly to have their intended effect - it echoes what we constantly hear from farmers and herders about rainfall models and weather prediction timeliness.

Clearly more investment is needed in appropriate delivery mechanisms and behavioral research is needed to understand how recipients, whether government actors, businesses, or rural populations are receiving, integrating, and responding to risk and risk mitigation information.

As an international research organization, CGIAR is dedicated to providing decision makers not only with technology and research, but deeper insights into how solutions can be integrated in these economies.