### Welcome to Parallel Session:

# **Pluralistic Extension Systems**

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### **Pluralistic Extension Systems Panel**



#### **BEN GROVE**

Associate Director, Strategy and Administration, Globalizing Extension Innovation Network (GEIN) / Virginia Tech



#### AMANDA DICKSON

International Extension Specialist, Farmer-to-Farmer Trinidad & Tobago Program Director, Purdue University

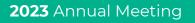


JENNIFER KUSHNER

Director, CALS Global, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, University of Wisconsin-Madison (Moderator)

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## Creating Impactful Collaborations Across Pluralistic Extension Systems

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Ben Grove

Associate Director, Strategy and Administration

Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Tech

Amanda Dickson

International Extension Specialist

Purdue University

2023 Annual Meeting

## **Session Objectives**



- 1. Increase awareness of the U.S. Cooperative Extension System's Globalizing Extension Innovation Network (GEIN).
- 2. Explore how pluralistic extension efforts support agricultural and community wellbeing in multi-country collaborations.

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3. Consider how extension practitioners intentionally leverage networks in support of improving wellbeing.



## What is GEIN?

#### The Globalizing Extension Innovation Network (GEIN)

connects professionals interested in Extension innovation in a global context.

WHO WE ARE We are a team interested in global work led by thirteen Extension systems.

PARTNERS We look forward to working with Extension professionals, related organizations, USDA/NIFA, and others to grow and share the impact of Extension work with a global mindset or in a global context.

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### GLOBALIZING EXTENSION INNOVATION NETWORK



## Pluralistic Extension & Why It's Important to GFRAS

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"Characterized by coexistence of multiple public, private, and mixed extension systems and services – but all of which benefit from some degree of coordination and regulation that facilitates interaction." (Peters, 2018)

Pluralistic extension services enable farmer choice in meeting the diverse needs of farmers in various farming systems. (Peters, 2018; INGENAES, 2015).

May include commodity-specific groups, producer/farmer organizations, cooperatives, local or international NGOs, governments, agrodealers, private companies, universities, or other actors. (World Bank, 2012).





# Case Study 1: Project-based collaboration and partnerships in Senegal

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Funded projects:

- Education and Research in Agriculture project
- Youth in Agriculture project
- Counterpart International

Spillover benefits:

- Two-way engagement
- Expanded opportunities
- All program areas involved







# Case Study 2: Northern Iraq Cultural & Agricultural Restoration

Phase I: Needs Assessment & Goals

- System to system & across the region (groups)
- Phase 2: Advocacy, Wild Plants (Botanical Gardens), Extension (Training, Curriculum

Development, Marketing)

Bi-weekly mentoring meetings (opportunities, challenges, safety, deliverables)



### Case Study 2: Northern Iraq Cultural & Agricultural Restoration









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"Pluralism is effective when all partners work together for joint outcomes. Coordination is key to ensuring stakeholders support each other and to avoid replication. While there is a trend toward privatization of sustainable business models, government still plays a key coordination role."

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(Digital Green, 2021)

## **Group Discussions**



 What are the mutual benefits from collaborations between advisory services and cooperative extension systems?

 How might pluralistic extension actors work together to support community wellbeing?

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## **Report on Group Discussions**

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 How might pluralistic extension actors work together to support community wellbeing?

## References

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# Thank you!

