



UNIVERSITY of  
RWANDA



LUND UNIVERSITY  
School of Economics and Management

International High-Level Workshop I

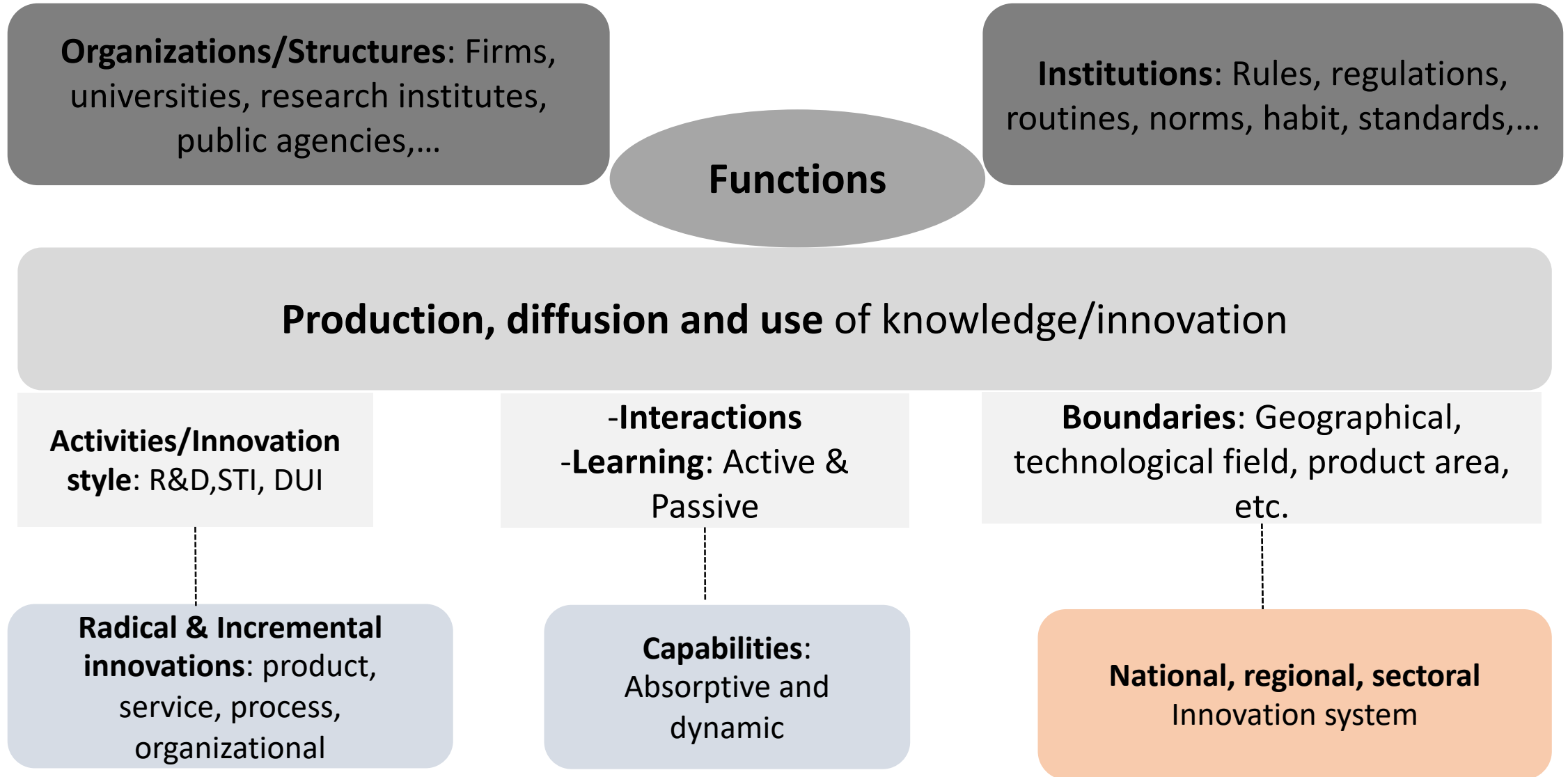
*STI Roadmaps for SDGs: Smart Specialisation for Territorial and Industrial Development in  
Rwanda*

# NATIONAL INNOVATION SYSTEM: THE CONSTRUCTION PROCESS IN RWANDA

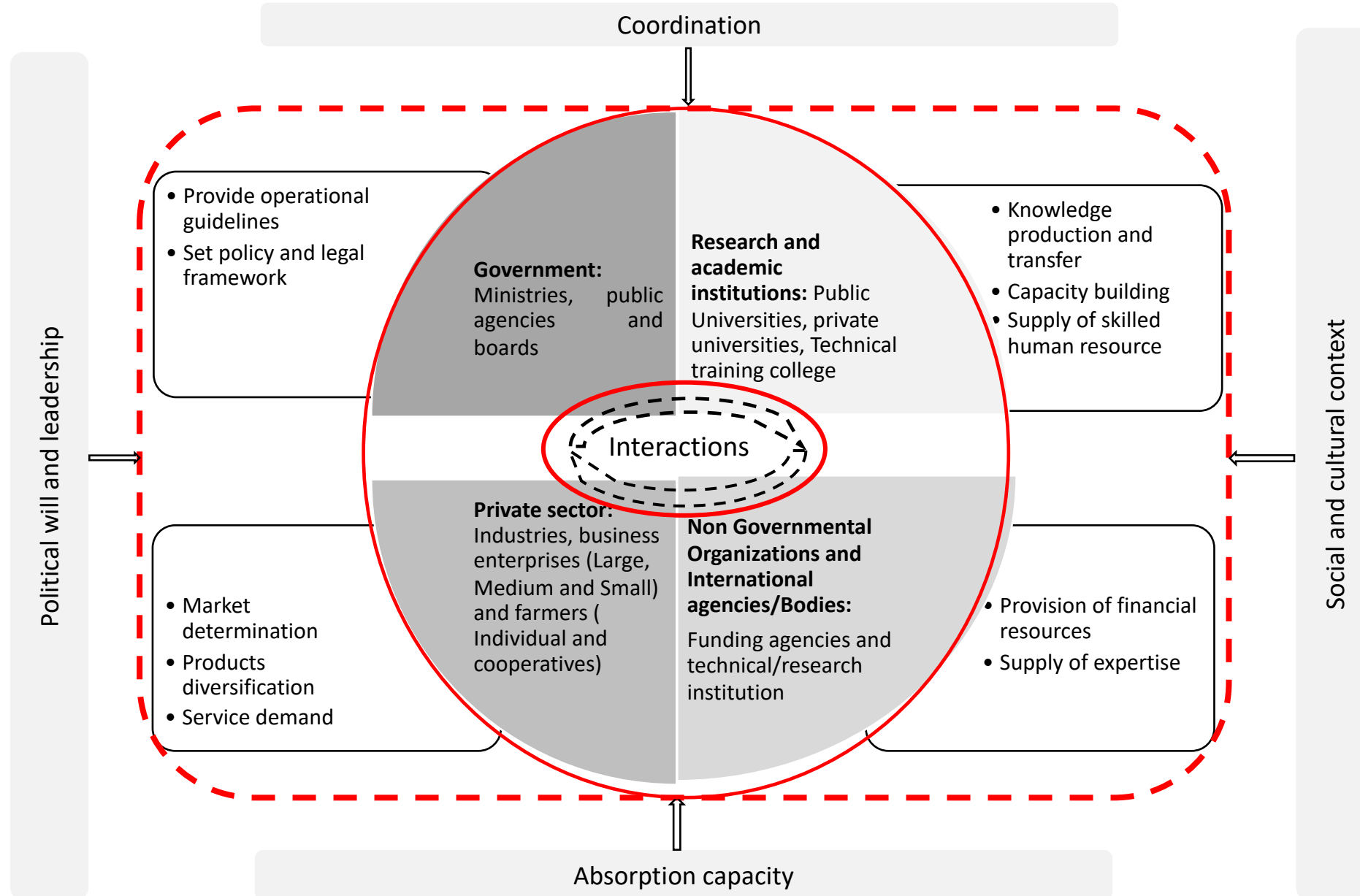
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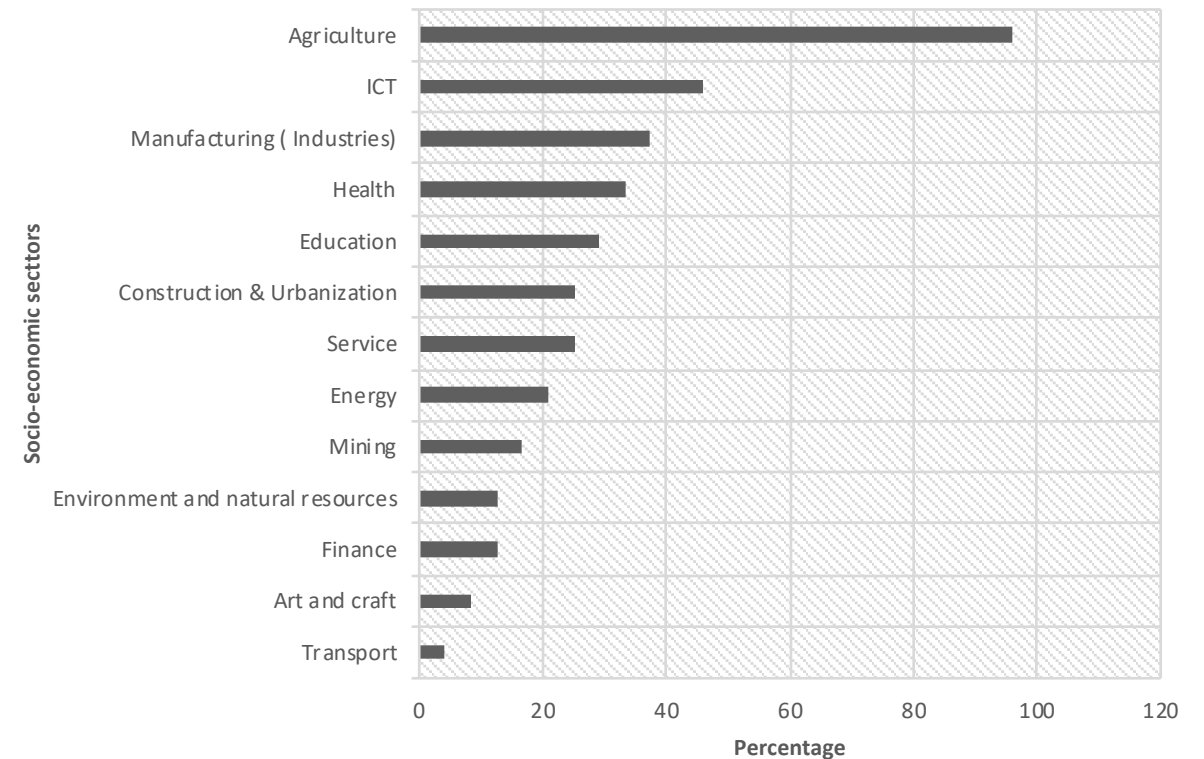
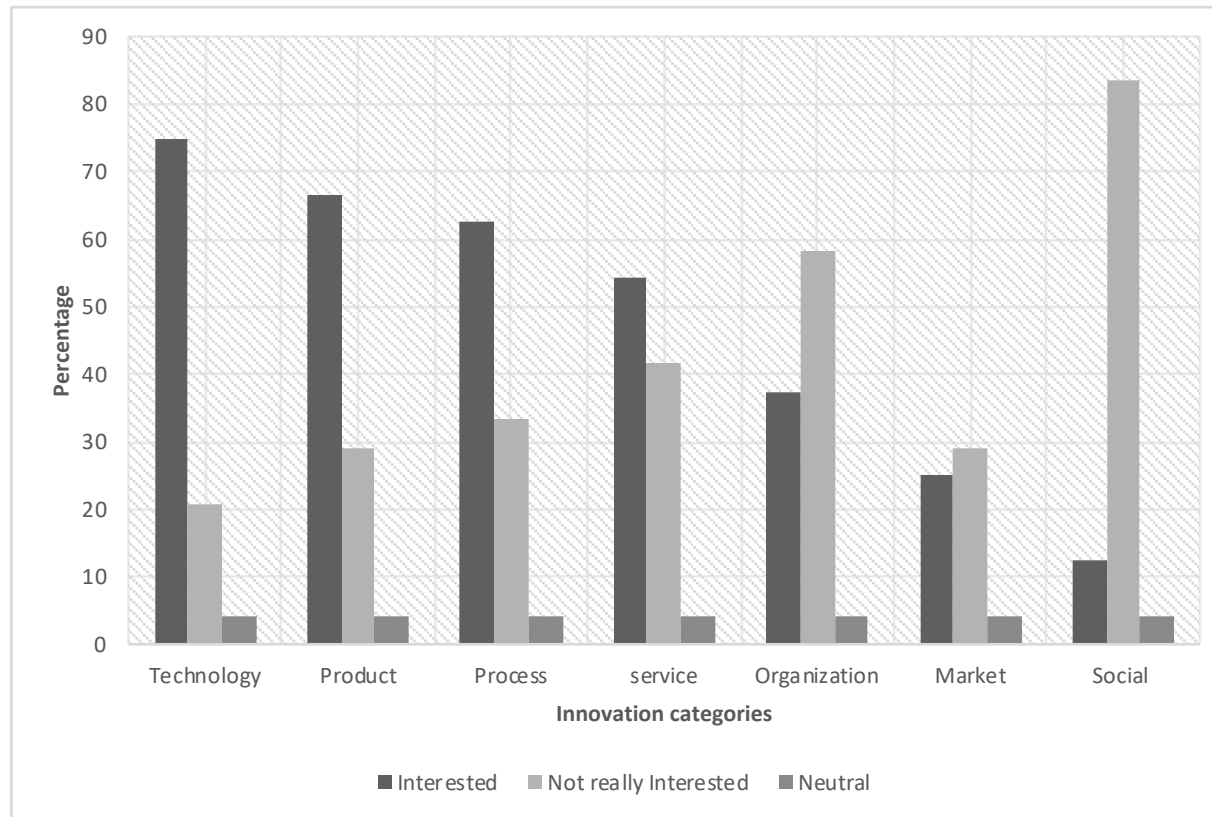
# 1. Innovation System: Conceptual understanding



## 2. National Innovation System: Construction progress in the Rwandan context



# 3. Potential Innovation types and innovative socio-economic sectors



Lack of awareness on some types of innovation and misconception of innovation

# 4. Innovation emergence and dissemination pathways as well as associated challenges

## Stakeholders views on innovation dissemination in

### Rwanda:

- Not clear & Not well structured
- Challenging
- Hard to realize

### Source of innovation:

- Research conducted at universities and research institution
- Interaction among actors ( Eg: Farmers and researchers)
- Imported from developed countries

### Dissemination pathways:

- Innovation uptake offices
- Sector specific innovation platform
- Consultation and public dialogue platforms
- Incubators and innovation hubs
- Information sharing platforms
- Innovation commercialization framework

### Key stakeholders in the process:

- Ministries
- National Councils
- Government agencies and Boards
- Universities ( Both public and private)
- Private sector ( Industries, business companies)
- Community based organizations ( Eg: farmers cooperatives)
- International funding/research bodies

### Hindering factors:

- Lack of coordination framework
- Low interactions among actors
- Lack of clear and enabling policies
- Lack of awareness on IP management
- Low receptive mind set to innovation
- Lack of financial means

# 5. Regionalization/localization of innovation systems

*Case of the agriculture sector: Potato Value Chain in the North-West of Rwanda*

## Ongoing effort

**Establishment of specialized agriculture education scheme ( TVT & IPRC)**

**Institutional development:** Public agencies, CSOs, CBOs ( farmers cooperatives and Federations)

**R& D infrastructure development ( Centers of Excellence, Scientific laboratories,...)**

## Challenges/bottle-necks

**-Lack of proper frameworks and pathways (Channels)**  
**-Limited absorptive capacity**

**Divergence in interest:** Meeting the policy goal, satisfying academic curiosity and publication, Increase production.

**Mismatch between policy goals and the farmers needs.**

# 6. Closing the loop: Smart Specialization as an entry point.



Policy transfer  
and fit in  
everything????



Frameworks/institution:  
Policy, regulation, law,..

Organizations????



Tools for interaction: IP,  
EDGs, nHelix ( TH or QH  
may be?), FFS

Evidenced and problem  
based  
initiatives/innovations  
**(Smart Specialization)**

Acting in Silos???



- Who should take action?
- What actions should be taken?
- Who should start?
- What would be the cost?

# Thank You!

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