



Agriculture et
Agroalimentaire Canada

Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

XXV EURAGRI CONFERENCE 2011



Agriculture-Related Research and Innovation in a Changing World

Outcomes of the OECD Conference on the Agricultural Knowledge Systems (AKS)

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Canada 

OECD's Cooperative Research Program (CRP)

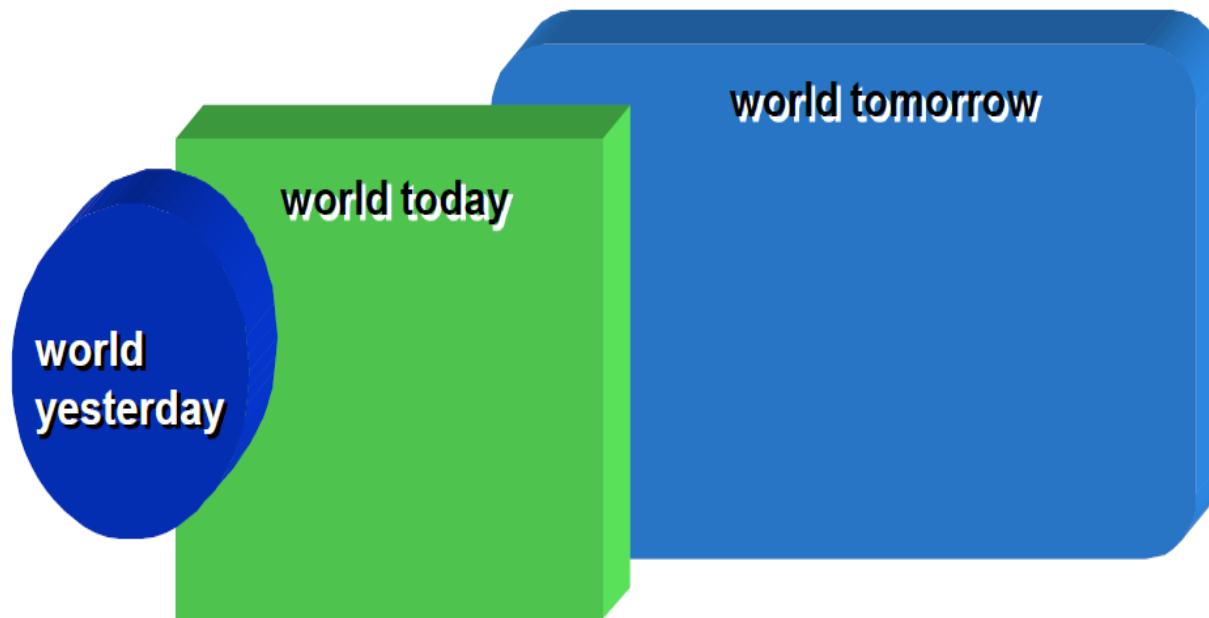
- Created in 1979
 - 24 country members
 - Membership affiliation
 - 770,500 Euro/year
- Objectives: Strengthen scientific knowledge and provide information for policy decisions
 - Themes: The natural resources challenge, sustainability in practice; and the Food Chain
 - Focus: Research fellowship
Conference sponsorships
 - Trends: Relates to policy-makers
 - ↳ AKS Conference
 - ↳ Committee of Agriculture

OECD Conference in Paris, June 15-17, 2011

“Responding to Global Food Security and Climate Change Challenges”

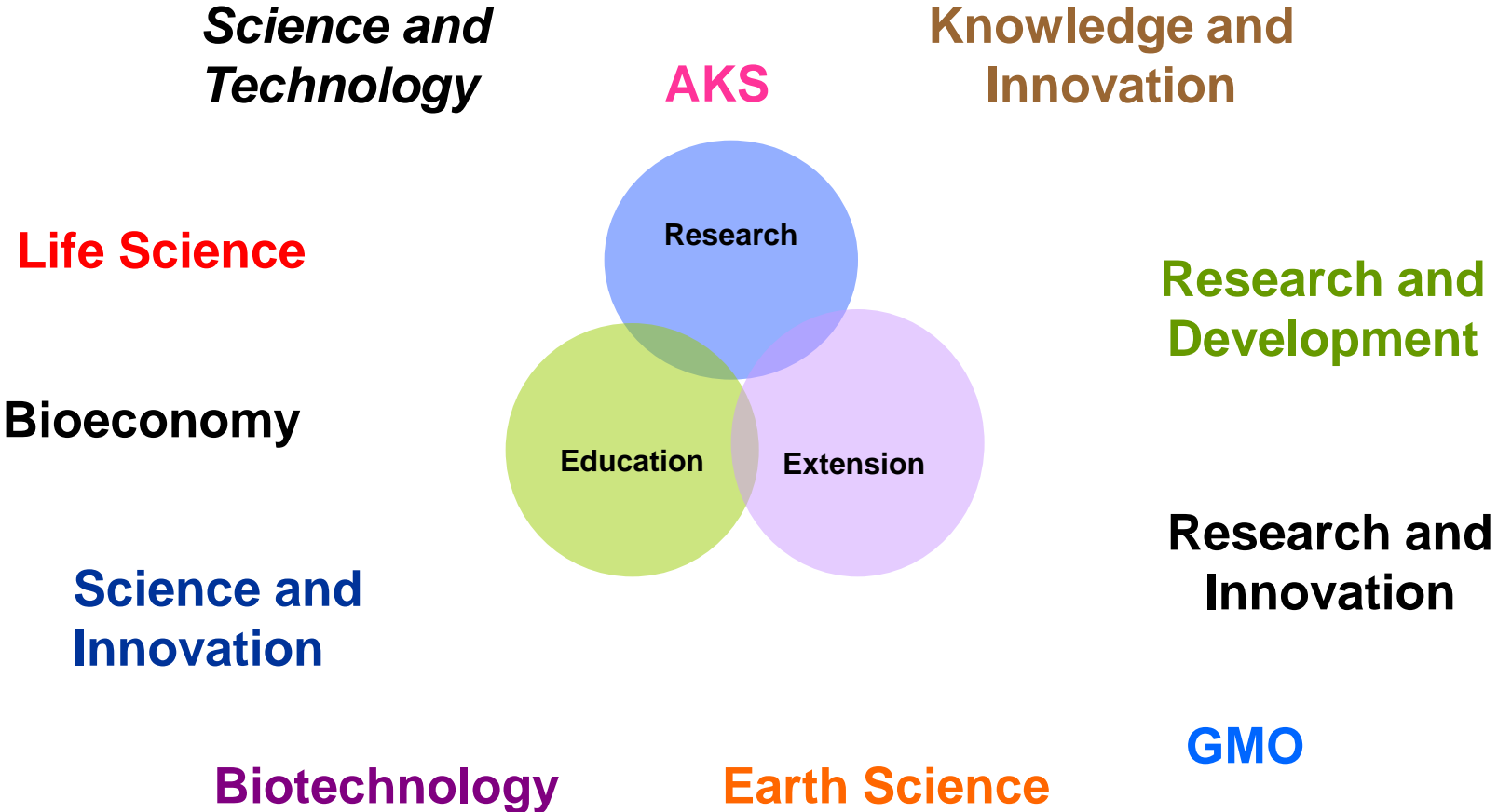
- The OECD Conference provided a timely opportunity to understand and assess the need to better respond to food security through enhanced AKS.
- More than 60 participants from research institutions, universities, ministries, industry, international organizations, all actively involved in AKS, attended the conference.
- Six session topics for the conference were:
 - How well do AKS respond to new challenges?
 - Improving the responsiveness of AKS:
 - Institutional framework
 - Public/private roles
 - Regulatory framework conducive to innovation
 - Facilitating adoption of innovations and technology transfers
 - Responding to broader policy objectives
- Country notes on organization, objectives and outcomes of AKS

Being Prepared for Change



Source: EMBRAPA Presentation at OECD AKS Conference 2011

Use of Terms



1. Conference's Major Findings:

A) Concept

- Diversity of context in different countries leading to different approach of the AKIS
- Focus on information vs innovation systems
- Generation of new knowledge vs existing knowledge
- Science and innovation vs science is part of innovation
- Governance in multi-stakeholder arrangement: policy, research, extension, users
- Innovation management networks toward a function rather than a collection of players
- Theoretical vs national vs regional

2. Conference's Major Findings:

B) Evolution

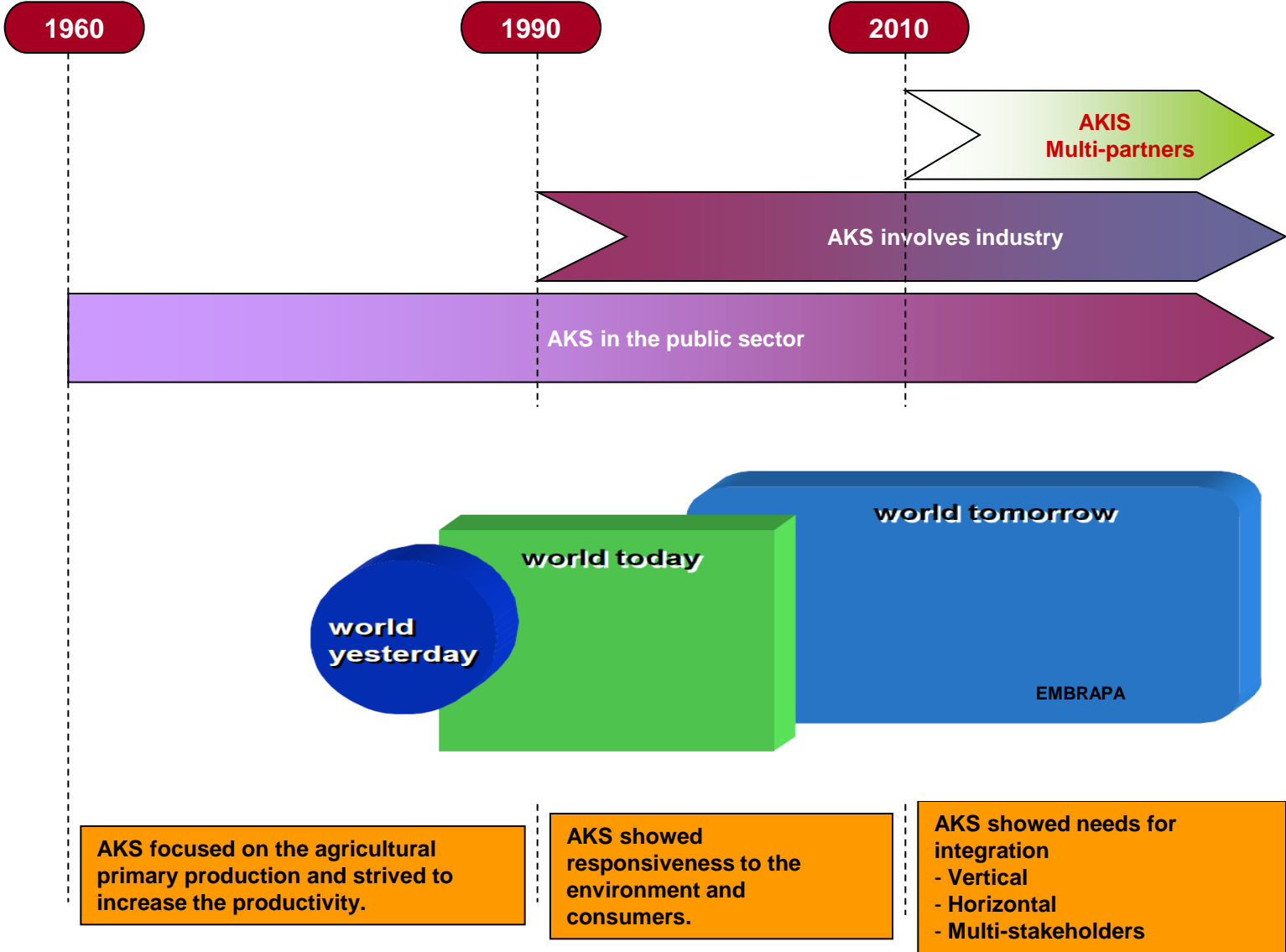
- New challenges (global or local) are transforming AKS in all countries
- Monitoring and evaluation of AKS policy increase outcome orientation
- Increase responsiveness through more holistic approach from fork to health
- Greater connection between farmers knowledge, research and extension systems achieved through participatory research
- Reassigning roles of public sector on high risk long-term
- Increase role of the private sector
- Fostering partnership between private and public sector such as supporting 'innovation broker' for bridging
- Agriculture research extends into non-food and health
- CGIAR, IICA, ... initiatives are becoming integrators of centres and countries

3. Conference Major Findings:

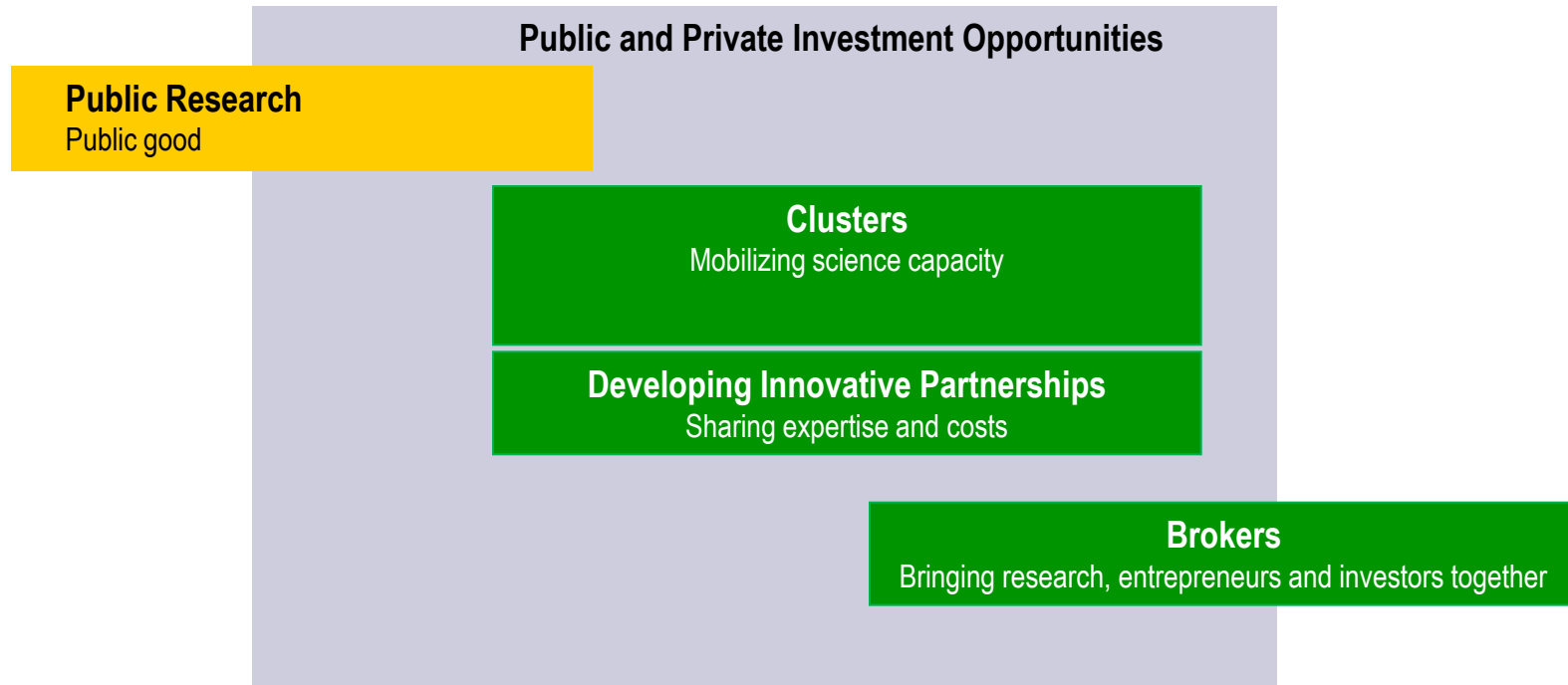
C) Policy

- Global slowdown in agricultural productivity is magnifying the need for efficient innovation
- Science ahead of regulation: Need for IPR in plant breeding to balance the interest of the inventor and society
- Smart regulation needed on pesticides, nanotechnology and biotechnology
- IPR legislation purpose is to stimulate innovation
- Levies are an effective tool
- International treaties and agreements becoming more knowledge based
- Productivity vs sustainability
- Research needs long-term commitment in funding and human resources
- Public policy governing AKS brings cohesiveness

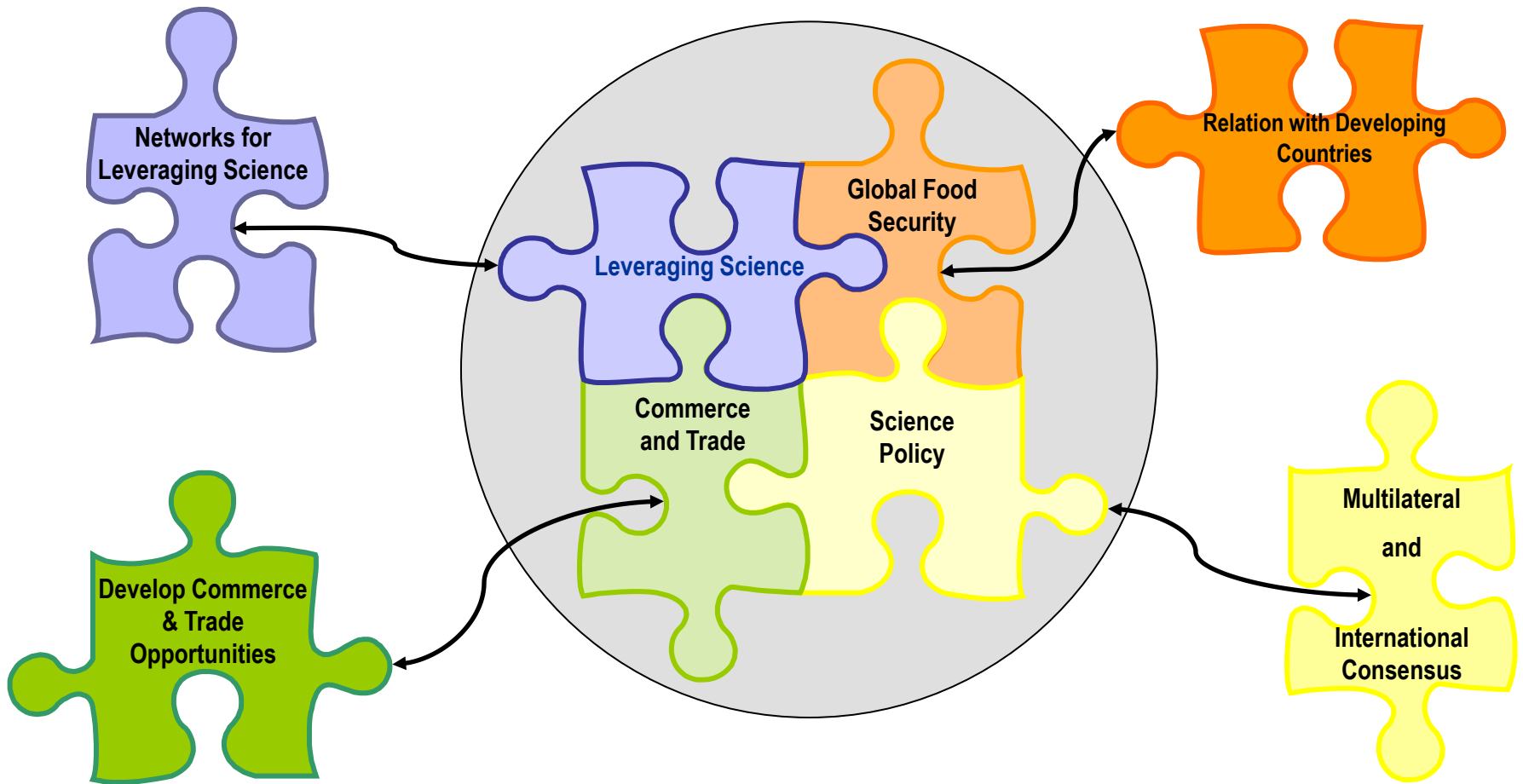
AKS on a Constant Evolution



AKS Looking for a Policy Model of Integrating Science and Innovation in a Non-Linear Process



AKIS is Undergoing Internationalization



The Future Drivers of AKIS

➤ Agriculture

- Food security
- Food for health
- Non-food products

➤ Knowledge

- Skills and competencies
- Training extends to entrepreneurship
- International cooperation

➤ Innovation

- Beyond extension
- Non-linear concept
- Multi-stakeholders

➤ Systems

- Holistic
- Policy-makers' involvement is necessary
- Connecting science and policy decisions



Thank you !

Canada 