

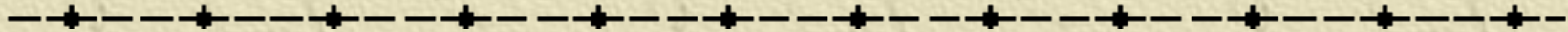
*Linking University Research to
Production Systems within the
Context of a Poverty Reduction
Strategy: Case Study of
Cameroon*

Félix-Marie Affa'a and Kimiz Dalkir

Triple Helix Conference

2006

Overview



- ✦ Context of Study
- ✦ Research Objectives
- ✦ Theoretical Approach
- ✦ Data Analyzed
- ✦ Application of Triple Helix Model to case study in Agroforestry
- ✦ Discussion

Context

- ✦ The university is called upon to contribute to the National poverty reduction strategy
- ✦ University research is becoming more targeted to societal needs
- ✦ The university and the entire Cameroon system of knowledge production is then also *undergoing a major transformation* in order to
 - ◆ support economic development
 - ◆ contribute to the national poverty reduction strategy

Research Objectives

✦ In this study we examine research articles published on the processing of two types of African plants that have multiple traditional uses in order to answer:

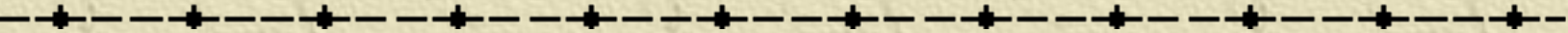
- What sorts of arguments are used by researchers in the formulation of the object of their articles?
- What are the consequences of their choices with respect to the development of a research object and the interactions between potential partners?

Theoretical Approach

- ✦ The study is based on two theoretical approaches:
 - ◆ The historical and cultural dimensions of activity theory are used to study the construction of a research object
 - ◆ The triple helix theory is used to examine the interactions between actors

- ✦ The two hypotheses in this study stem from these two theories

Data Analyzed



✦ Research articles were analyzed to identify the arguments underlying by the authors to justify:

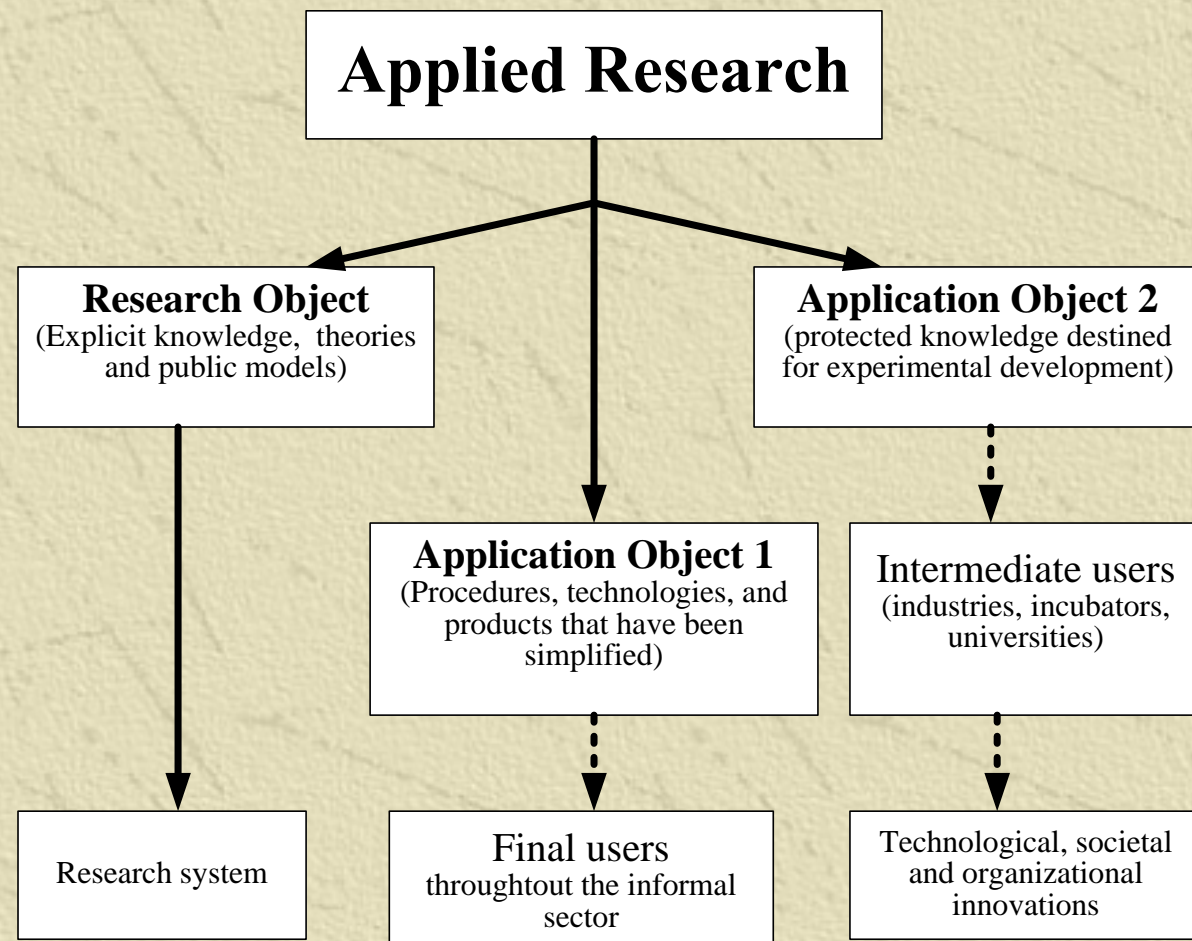
- ◆ the social context of their research or,
- ◆ to emphasize the relevance of the published work

Application of Triple Helix Model to case study in Agroforestry

✦ Based on the historical and cultural dimensions of activity theory

- ✦ We adapted the creation of a research object to the cases studies
- ✦ We distinguish 2 levels of an application object:

2 levels of an application object



Note: broken lines indicate objectives that have not yet been attained

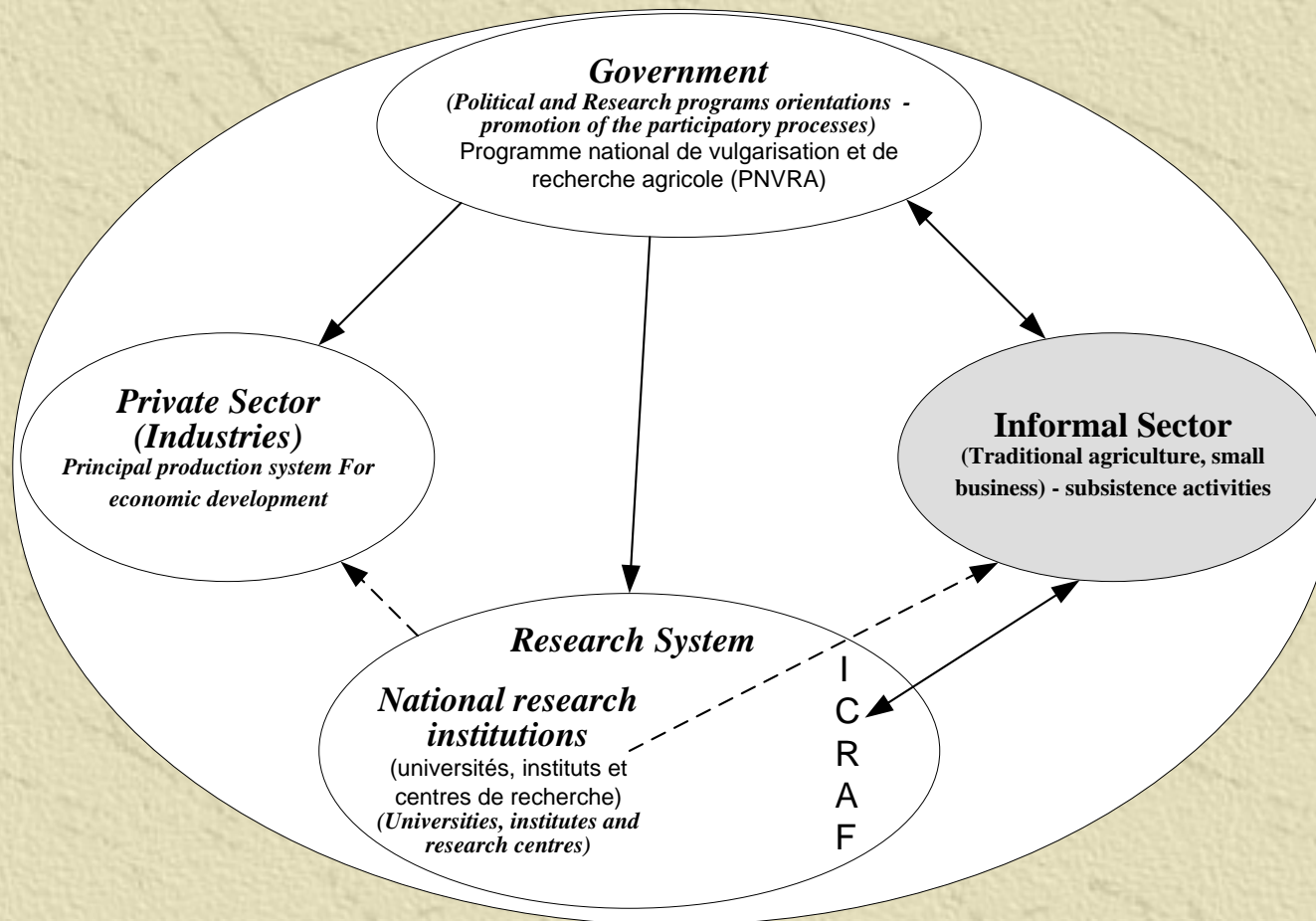
Application of Triple Helix Model to case study in Agroforestry (cont..)

✦ Considering the triple helix model we find the known different dimensions namely:

- ◆ government,
- ◆ university, and
- ◆ industry

✦ We propose to add to these the informal systems, which are distinct from industry

Modified Triple Helix Model



Modified Triple Helix Model

✦ This model is a modification of the triple helix model of Etzkowitz and Leydesdorff (2000 : 111).
ICRAF: International Center for Research in Agroforestry

- ◆ The model shows the relationships between:
- ◆ government,
- ◆ research system,
- ◆ industry (designated Private Sector in the document on the Strategy to Reduce Poverty), and
- ◆ the informal sector.

Conclusion

✦ In conclusion we suggest that a well thought out adaptation of:

- ◆ the participatory process for the development of research goals and,
- ◆ the dissemination of research results using incubators

✦ should form the basis of good management practices