## In search of the sweet spot in implementing MSD programmes



#### 29 November 2018



Harald Bekkers
Director
Opportunities Unlimited B.V.



Marshall Bear MSD consultant





## MDF 4-Part Messiness Series

www.marketdevelopmentfacility.org



## **RATIONALE**

#### Why this Series?

Need to acknowledge/embrace messiness more for better results

#### Why MDF?

- An enabling MSD programme design
- Enough time in implementation
- Management continuity

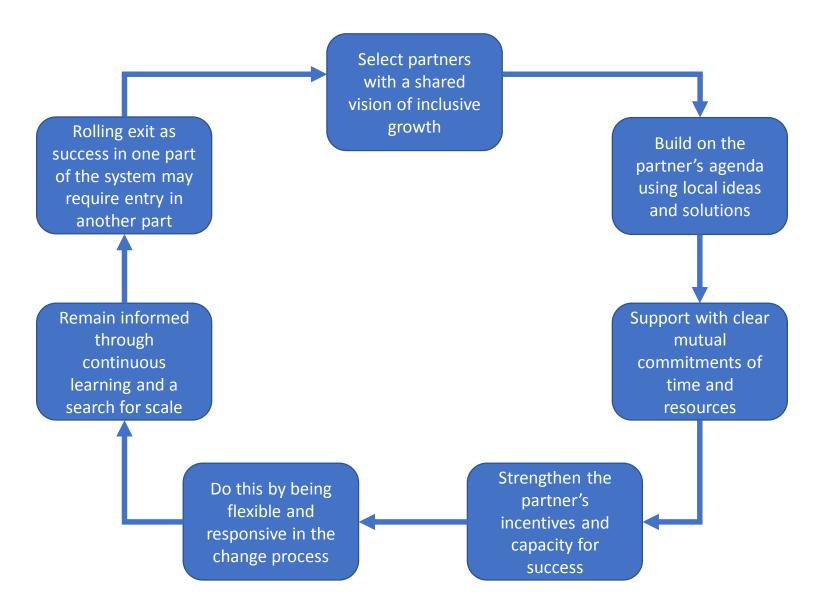
#### Why Chosen Methods:

- A Focus Horticulture Portfolio in 2 Countries
  - Fiji 13 partnerships
  - Pakistan 10 partnership
- Isolate the influence of different country, market, partner context

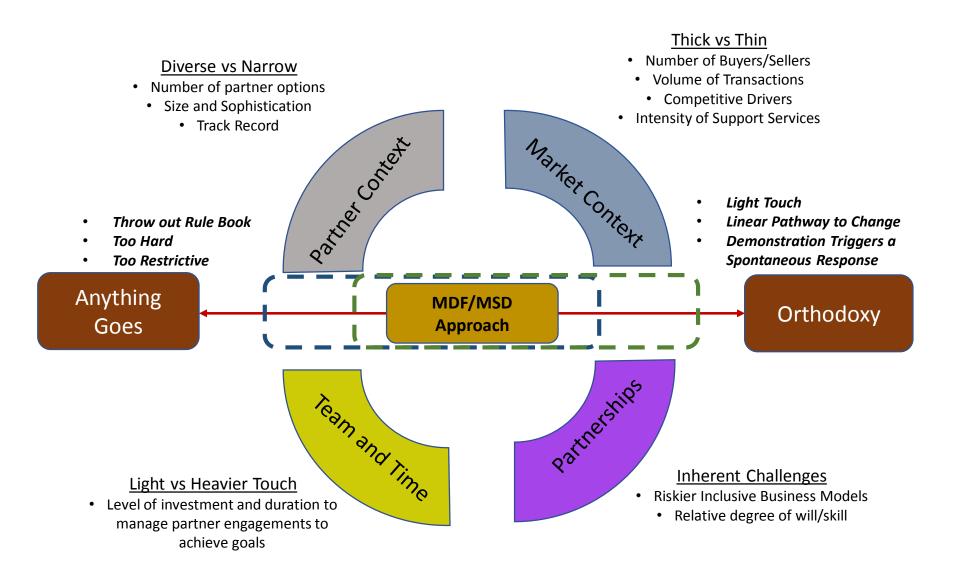
# The Central Argument

Flexibility contained by core principles is essential to operationalise the MSD approach so that practitioners can be more – not less – accountable for achieving propor outcomes.

# **Core Principles**



## Searching for the Sweet Spot in MSD Programs



### Horticulture Portfolio in Pakistan and Fiji

#### **AGRI-INPUT BUNDLES**

- HYV onion seed
- Vegetable Seeds/Seedlings
- Kinnow (type of mandarin)
  - **Bio Fertilizer**

#### FRUIT AND SPICE PRODUCTS

- Aflatoxin Free Chilies
  - Quality Dates
- Organic Certified Apricots



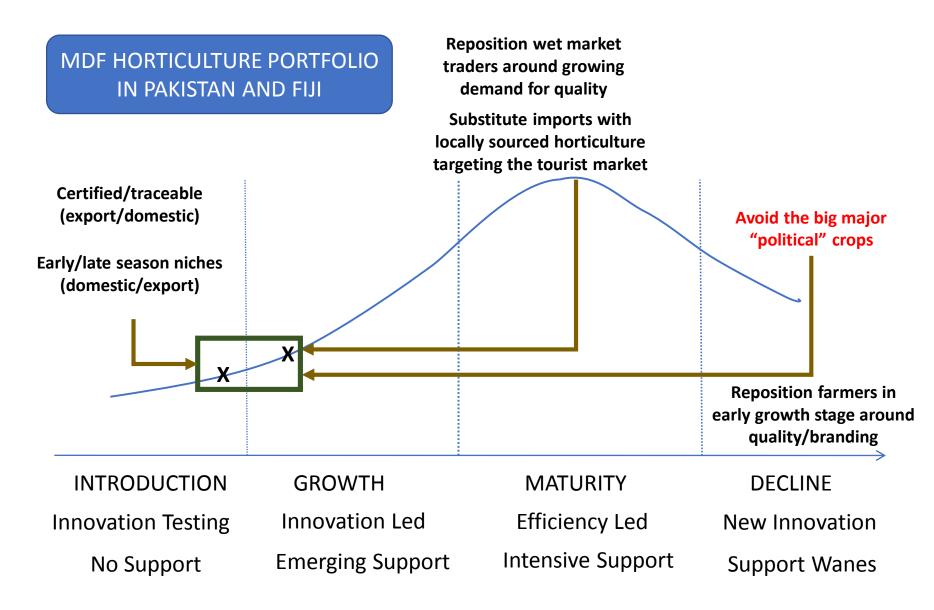
#### **AGRI-INPUT BUNDLES**

- **Vegetable Seedlings** 
  - Agriculture Lime
- Tissue Culture for Root Crops

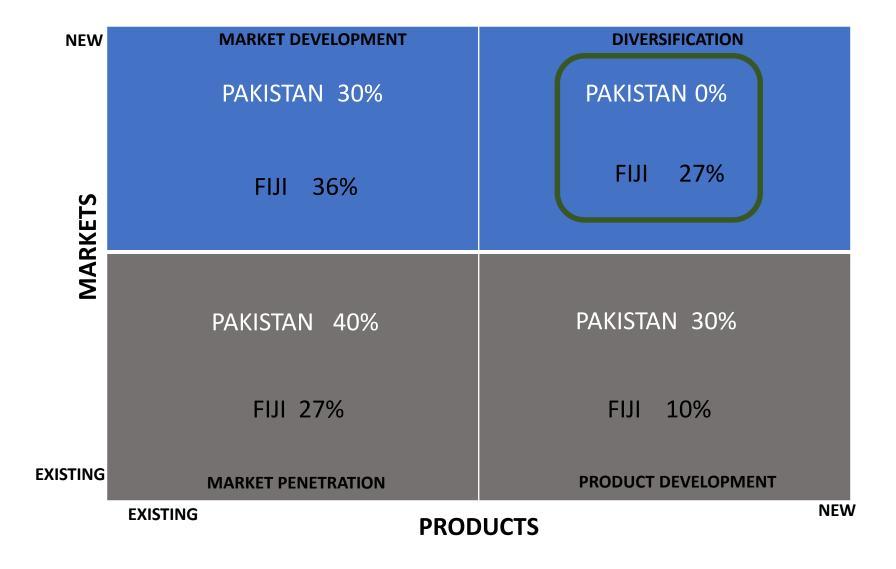
#### FRESH/PROCESSED FOOD CROPS

- Root Crops
- Vegetables
  - Spices
    - Oils

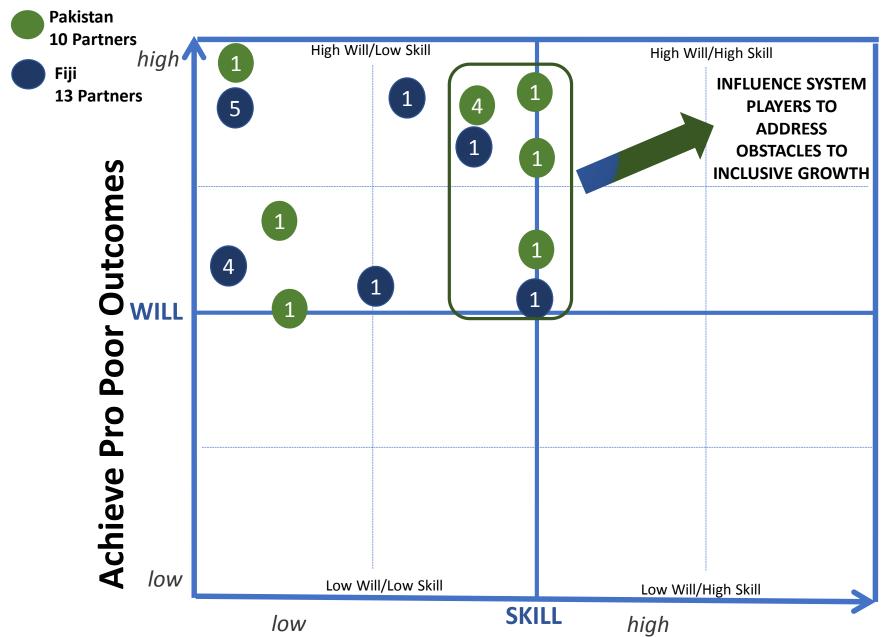
# <u>FINDING:</u> Most opportunities for pro-poor sector growth are found in market segments in the nascent or early growth phases of their industry life cycle

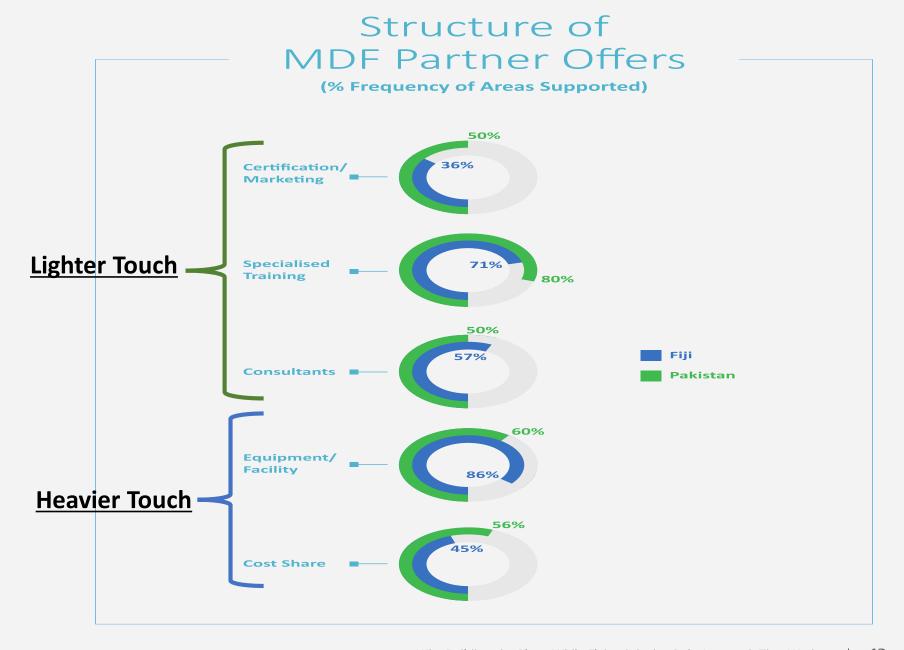


# <u>FINDING</u>: Inclusive business models in thin markets are inherently riskier largely because of big "gaps" in the market system



<u>Finding</u>: Riskier business strategies are executed by relatively less skillful partners and will take more facilitator resources to influence market system transformation

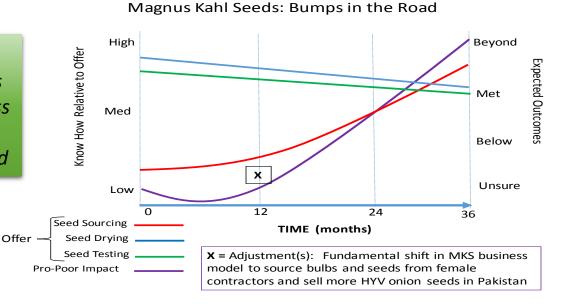




## <u>Findings</u>: MSD Programs Must Acknowledge/Embrace Messiness Likely Case for Achieving Growth Inclusive of Most Disadvantaged Groups

#### **Best Case Scenario:**

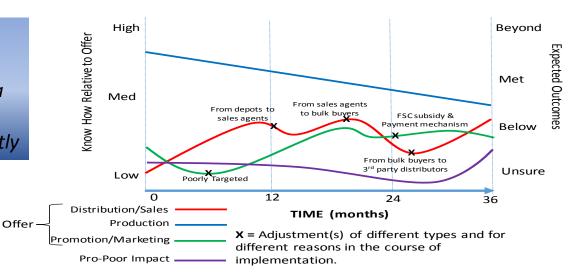
- Thick markets/dynamic systems
- Stronger partners adjust business model quickly (major flood)
- Lighter touch adjusted as needed



#### Standard Concrete Industries/Bumps in the Road

#### **Likely Case Scenario:**

- Thin Markets/Weak Systems
- Weaker partners discovering a scalable business model
- Heavier touch adjusted frequently



# The Sweet Spot: Dictated by Context | Contained by Core Principles

Figure 1 The Practitioner's Sweet Spot

