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DISCLAIMER

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USING THE STAFF CAPACITY ROLE
CARDS

These cards are designed to be a reminder of the different roles or ‘hats’ that a market facilitator is required to play over the course of a day, a week and a month. Sometimes, it is difficult to change from one role to another without a reminder or a reference. These cards are designed to highlight key ideas, ask important questions that staff should be asking themselves or their actors and provide visual reminders of core elements of market facilitation. They are part of a series of tools and are meant to be used in coordination with Being a Market Facilitator: A Guide to Staff Roles and Capacities and Market Facilitation in Practice: Case Studies for Implementers.¹ These documents describe in more detail the skills needed for market facilitation and offer insight into assessing current staff capacity and planning professional growth in market facilitation.

People use tools when it is easy, useful and accessible. To help your staff understand and use these cards:

1) Have a discussion about the different roles and ideas presented on these cards. Have staff come up with clear examples of a time when they used that particular skill or role.

2) Print out, laminate and bind the cards for field staff. Your staff are busy facilitating markets; make it easy for them to slip these cards into their back-pocket or backpack, to refer to them regularly.

3) Periodically review the content of the cards with field staff to make sure that it is still relevant. Your needs will change with your learning and the industry, so update the content to keep it relevant for you and your staff.

¹ See Being a Market Facilitator: A Guide to Staff Roles and Capacities, microREPORT #172, USAID, 2011 and Market Facilitation in Practice: Case Studies for Implementers, microREPORT #177, USAID, 2011.
• Engage, Listen, Learn, Share, Act…
  …and become an excellent **active listener**.

• **What are you seeing?**

• **Messaging:** What are you saying? To whom? How?
• Whose relationships are you building? How? Why?
• What is the current state of the relationship?
  o Where do you want it to go from here?
  o Where does the firm want to go?
• Where are there opportunities for mutual industry and business growth and benefits?
  o Where are the leverage points?
  o How will this improve industry performance and opportunities?

• Remember the core facilitation principles:
  o Build sustainable relationships
  o Stimulate ownership over an idea or change
  o Be aware of your level of intensity
  o Plan how will you effectively scale-up and exit
• What is a coach? Who are you coaching?
• Key coaching concepts:
  o Provide constructive and positive feedback
  o Listen actively and suspend judgment
    • Pay attention to what you say, how you say it and your body language
  o Stimulate action and follow-up pro-actively

Information flow goes up…

Management
Field Facilitators
Farmers, Firms, Market Actors

… and down
• What event, attitude or behavior did you observe today?
  o Why was it interesting?
  o What does this tell you about the actors and situation?
• What is an opportunity you/the actors have identified?
  o Brainstorm 3 different ways to develop this opportunity
• Who do you need to work with to turn this idea into a reality?
FOUNDATIONAL ATTITUDES & CAPACITIES

THINKING
- Data Analysis
- Manage Complexity
- Strategic Thinking
- Decision Maker
- Self-Aware

DOING
- Organized
- Efficient
- Independent
- Determined
- High-Performing