Innovation for Agricultural Training and Education

innovATE works to support capacity development in agricultural education and training (AET). Implemented by a consortium of US universities including Virginia Tech, Pennsylvania State University, University of Florida and Tuskegee University. innovATE works to stimulate agricultural sector innovation and entrepreneurship throughout the developing world, contributing to sustainable food security and poverty reduction.

InnovATE’s strategies and methods:

- Conduct country assessments to identify supply and demand skills gaps and advise USAID on target areas for future AET capacity development investments. Equity and access considerations for youth and gender are central to the approach.
- Develop workshops, materials and training to build capacity in agricultural education institutions and create linkages among stakeholders in AET networks.
- Provide recommendations on good practices and create tools for practitioners to share knowledge about agricultural education and training systems.

InnovATE’s Approach:

LEARN
Contribute knowledge and good practices on AET based on field assessments.

DESIGN
Make recommendations to USAID missions to improve AET systems.

TRAIN
Conduct training, workshops, and symposia to share lessons learned.

The program’s integrated learn, design, and train components aim to strengthen the full range of AET institutions that engage agricultural professionals — from primary and secondary institutions to vocational schools, technical colleges, and universities— in areas as curriculum review, pedagogy reform, faculty development, gender balance and equity, infrastructure, administration and management, outreach, student services, and educational policy.
Our Mission
InnovATE works to achieve sustainable food security, reduce poverty, promote rural innovation and stimulate employment by building human and institutional capacity. The program focuses on all aspects of agricultural training and education including: youth, gender, and workforce development, at the primary, vocational/technical, university and post-graduate levels.

Our Objective
InnovATE will define and disseminate good practice strategies, approaches, and investments for establishing efficient, effective and financially sustainable agricultural education and training institutions and systems. InnovATE will support country programs for agricultural education and training reform and investment.

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