

Chicken & Egg...

... trying to sum up the discussion of the
SIM Senior Policy Maker Dialogue Forum
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Technical Dimension

Governance Level

- provide solutions
- demonstrate benefit

technical management

processes

labs experts

Political Commitment

„help from friends“

- Ressources
- Stable mandate
- Institutional autonomy

Driving Forces

Diverse, but focussed on national interest

- political decision to actively diversify export from only copper to copper and food
- vulnerability of food export sector
- North American Free Trade Agreement: support production and avoid export rejection
- regulatory needs (traffic control, drug control)
- national science & technology strategy

Critical Success Factors: Strategy

- actively shaping relations with stakeholder about needs (“robust dialogue”)
- connecting with influential lobby groups / powerful stakeholders to seek “independent” advocacy for MiC
- have a rigorous research program to develop the necessary knowledge base
- align activities to national priorities
- focus development to selected priorities
- identify well the needs – plan ahead!
- train people first then buy equipment
- technical cooperation and be internationally connected
- Benchmarking

Critical Success Factors: People

- have the right people at the right place – have scientists guided by strategic decisions
- have critical mass of scientists
- professionals with deeply developed specialist knowledge and broad experience (“T-shaped”)
- acquire metrological knowledge in other NMIs (long term stays)

Other Aspects

- Defining Ntl Policy for MiC – gather main stakeholders
- Designation as a tool to facilitate capability building in MiC
- How to conduct a needs analysis? – have people able to communicate / translate needs to metrological response – anticipate needs
- How to come up with the priorities? –
- Start a program, gain paymaster's attention– work one show case that solves a pressing problem
- How to sustain financial sustainability? – maintain orientation towards priority needs; communicate benefits to stakeholders; provide service for those who can pay for it...;