

Assets, Asset-ness and Graduation

Understanding the graduation model through asset-based approach

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Introduction: Asset-based approaches

- The “turn to assets”
- Vulnerability, household risks and social risk management
- Sustainable rural livelihood framework

Asset? Capitals? Capital assets?

- Asset and (or) liability?
- Livelihood capitals (physical, natural, financial, social and human)



Assets and asset-ness

Description of assets

By form (tangible/intangible)

By type (physical, social, natural, etc.)

By accessibility (time & space)

By fungibility (liquidity)

By use and users

By potential yield (return)

Attributes of assets

Productivity

Utility

Security

Holding costs

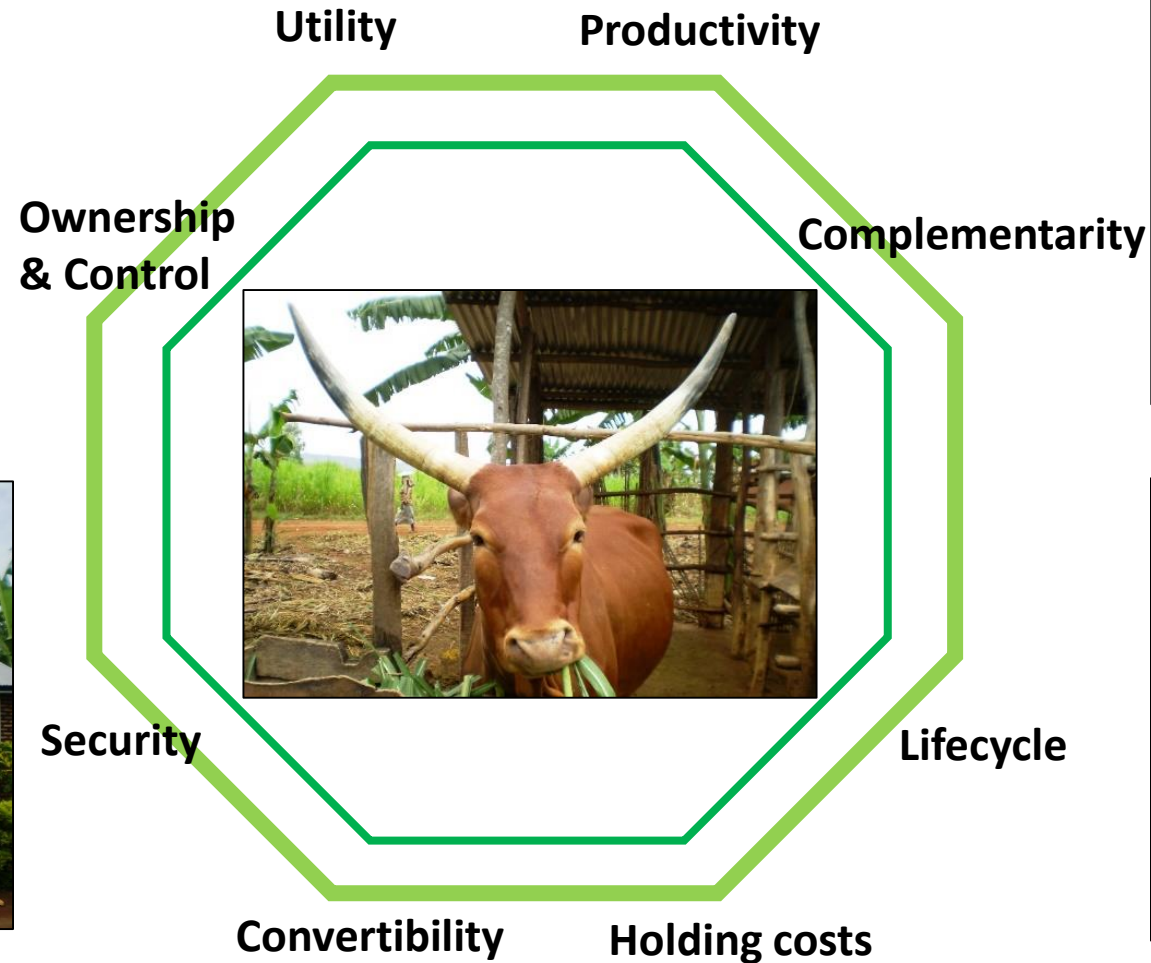
Lifecycle

Convertibility

Complementarity

Ownership & control

The attributes and asset-ness of livestock



Empirical case: Holistic microfinance and livestock in India

“Livestock for the poor – under what conditions?” (Augsburg 2011)

- Intervention: A microfinance loan for buying a cow/buffalo
- Objective: Milk for consumption and/or income generation
- Conclusion: Fodder and water availability and provision (***holding costs***) are often neglected in programme design and evaluation

*The value of the assets (**utility**) is over-estimated*

Empirical case: Importance of training – the Girinka

“Livestock asset transfers and the provision of training: evidence from Rwanda’s One Cow Programme” (Argent et al. 2013)

- Intervention: Livestock (cow) asset transfers
- Objective: Livelihood promotion
(household diets and child nutrition, soil fertility, income generation activities)
- Conclusion: Training was a significant factor affecting productivity, earnings and asset accumulation

*Long term prospects for **productivity** dependent on capacity (skills and ability) building*

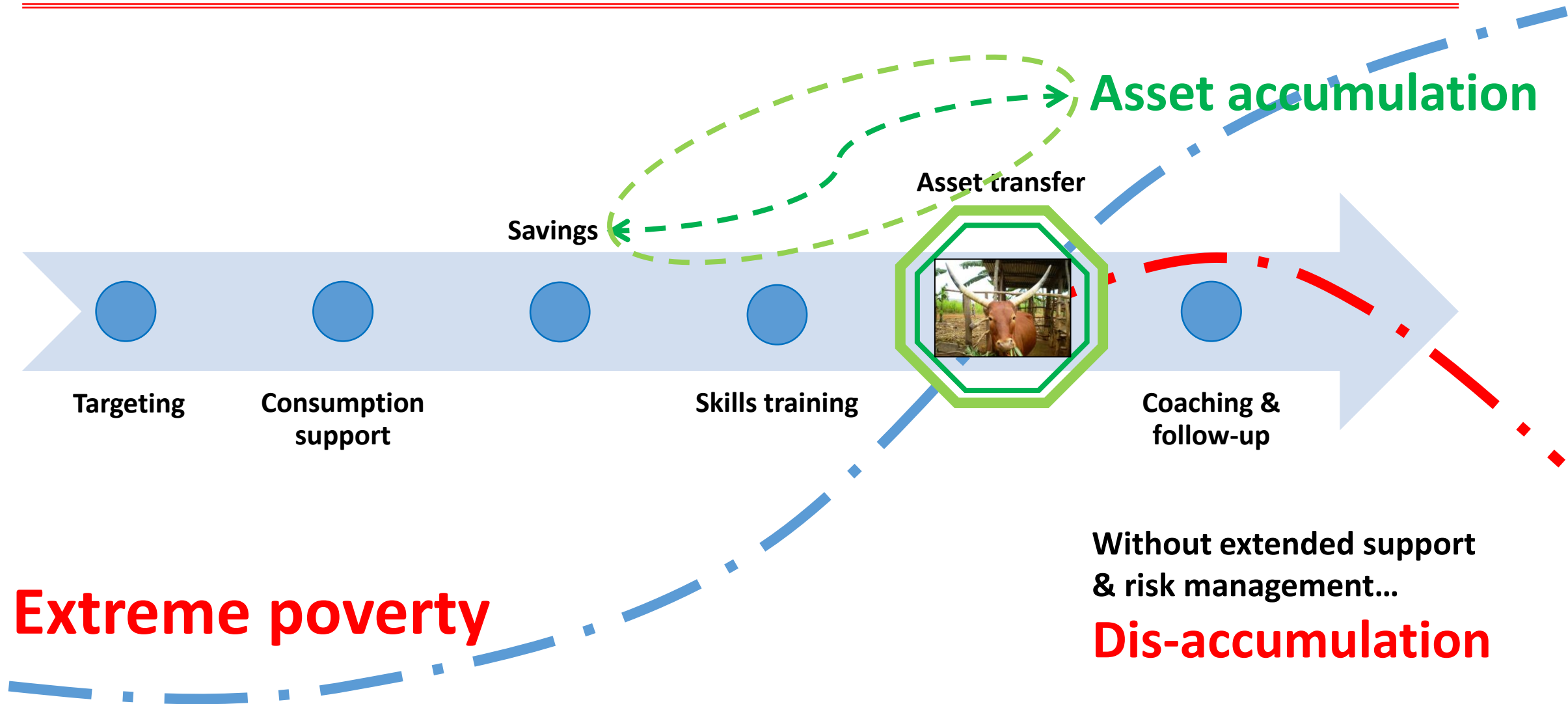
Empirical case: Soil fertility management – the Girinka

“Soil fertility and manure management – Lessons from the Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices of Girinka farmers in the district of Ngoma, Rwanda” (Kim et al. 2013)

- Intervention: Livestock (cow) asset transfers
- Objective: Livelihood promotion
(household diets and child nutrition, soil fertility, income generation activities)
- Conclusion: Positive attitudes toward manure use despite the physical constraints and structural limitations

*Strong **complementarity** with soil fertility objective is key in Rwandan context*

Implication: Asset-based approaches and graduation



Conclusion:

Asset-based approaches and graduation

The idea of asset-ness has received little attention...

1. As the **costs** of managing the asset **increases**,
2. With **increasing variability** in objectives, risks and contexts,
3. The likelihood of **graduation diminishes**.



Murakoze cyane!

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