

## **Summary of previous round of the debate**

### **Improving Productivity: technology acquisition and utilisation**

In the few responses, it seems there is agreement that improved technologies is a requisite for improving technology but that capacity building and other factors must accompany technology acquisition to be effective. Technologies are noted to be very specific to the context. Hence how are these best promoted? The role of the government will now be explored in the following question.

### **Current focus of the Debate**

**What is the role of the public sector toward technology promotion?**

**Should its role be to indirectly support and facilitate technology acquisition, or should it play a more direct, hands-on role, especially when it comes to raising the “absorptive” capacities of the farmer and small-scale agro-processor and what would this involve?**