Only one guideline is critical. The lines showing task assignments and organizational responsibilities must slant across the technology innovation functions. Joint participation in a function will greatly facilitate research and extension linkage. "Joint participation" does not mean "duplication of activities." There are various activities and roles involved in any of the functions, and some of them are best suited to research, others to extension.

The model and this line drawing exercise could serve as a topic for a seminar that involved both research and extension management. Such a meeting would help achieve concensus on project objectives. It would tend to emphasize technical and management considerations, real live problems, and it would facilitate participation of host country personnel. Research and extension management have to draw these lines.

Use Fig. IV-1b to draw lines that seem appropriate for your country. The following discussion may be helpful.

2. Understand the functional assignments needed.

The functions of the TIP model must be translated into activities, assigned to specific units of the R/E entities, and reflected in job descriptions. Four essential activity assignments are identified. Some of them can vary considerably in scope and intensity. Some can be combined and assigned to one unit. In no case, however, can the functional assignments be neglected.

Four activity assignments are identified:

Area-specific Research
National Subject Matter Research
Technical Liaison and Support
Field Extension

a. Area-specific Research

Area-specific research responsibilities are:

+To know and understand the farmer and his production system or systems;

+To report problems and constraints and explain them to national subject matter research;

+To test promising technologies in the farming systems;

+To modify or help modify the technology to improve its fit in the farming system and adapt it to other farming systems; and