



## **Promoting inclusiveness of civil society organizations (CSO) in African agricultural research agenda: A FARA/GFAR collaborative initiative**

**3-7 October 2005  
Accra, Ghana**

### ***Summary***

*Although most people acknowledge the role of civil society organizations (CSOs) in Agricultural Research for Development (ARD), their active participation and ownership remains elusive. Africa CSO groups particularly farmer organizations suffer from weak capacity and are therefore not able to sufficiently influence the agricultural research agenda. The private sector is comparatively well organized and can access resources but their capitalization on research outputs, and collaboration with research in general, is very limited. The NGO group on the other hand, is better organized with established institutions and structures. Their active participation in research is however poor and linkage between and among themselves, as well as other stakeholder groups is weak. In order to better address these obstacles the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) and the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR) convened a week-long multi-stakeholder consultation that aimed to catalyze the participation of CSOs in African ARD. During the meeting, stakeholders discussed and debated on some of the key issues limiting CSO participation in ARD and these include weak human and institutional capacity, poor or non-representation in the governance and management of African research systems, poor linkage and access to research outputs and outcomes, and poor market access and infrastructure.*

### **1. Introduction**

The role of civil society in agricultural research for development has been widely recognized by governments and international institutions and agencies. Civil society organizations (CSOs) such as the Non-governmental organizations (NGOs), farmer organization (FOs), private sector and other community based organization (CBOs) are extremely active at the informal levels of economic activity. For instance, NGOs have been quick to point out implications or impacts of particular policies and or programmes especially on the poor. Resolutions from all of the major United Nations conferences in the last decade, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), call for the full integration of civil society in the implementation of programmes and projects. The new strategy calls for inclusiveness, transparency and participation of all stakeholders. Civil society has contributed to the national development programs of many Africa nations.

Non-state actors have also been accepted at the international level as genuine partners for sustainable development. In the last ten years in particular, civil society, in all of its dimensions and complexities, has participated in fora on sustainable development planning and, in some areas of implementation.

The recently concluded 3rd Biennial FARA General Assembly and African Agricultural Scientific Week (*3<sup>rd</sup> FARA BAASweek*) 2005 in Entebbe, Uganda availed some CSOs the opportunity to meet and discuss and the NGO group in particular, was able to develop a cohesive regional approach of their involvement in the regional research for development agenda. The NGO group reaffirmed their continued support to the rural and urban poor and declared its strong desire to strengthen partnerships with the agricultural research community especially, the scaling-up and out of research outputs and outcomes for sustained development, entrepreneurship and improved livelihood and welfare.

FARA in collaboration with GFAR, convened a week-long multi-stakeholder consultation meeting during 3-7 October 2005 at the FARA headquarters in Accra, Ghana. The meeting brought together Africa-based CSOs (the Sub-Saharan Africa [SSA] NGO Consortium formed at the *3<sup>rd</sup> FARA General Assembly and African Agricultural Scientific Week [FARA BAASweek]*, farmer organizations, and the private sector from the three sub-regions of Sub-Saharan Africa, as well as Sub-regional Research Organizations (SROs) represented by CORAF/WECARD, Centre for Innovation in Development (Novafrica), and the CG Centers in the region represented by IITA. Although a number of CSO stakeholder groups exist, their participation in regional and sub-regional agricultural research for development fora is still weak. While some CSOs particularly NGOs are well organized, grassroot organizations such as farmers' groups, women and youth organizations, water user and producer groups, etc., are comparatively weak both in terms of capacity and organization and consequently, their participation in regional fora both in terms of numbers and diversity is not impressive. This particular meeting was unique in a way that it brought together NGOs, farmers, private sector, sub-regional research organizations, and agricultural research institutions with a view to develop action plans that will enhance their inclusiveness in the planning and decision making processes of the ARD, and foster regional cooperation and integration.

### **Process and approach**

Farmer groups, private sector and the recently formed Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) NGO Consortium from across Sub-Saharan Africa as well as representatives of the sub-regional agricultural research organizations (SROs) and the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) met and discussed the effective inclusion and participation of CSOs in national, sub-regional and regional agricultural research. The meeting took the form of welcome address by the Executive Secretary of FARA, the GFAR Chairperson and CORAF/WECARD Representative, presentations and discussion, and group work. Each stakeholder group developed an action plan, identified common areas of interest, and made recommendations.

The meeting was organized along themes. The first two days (3 & 4 October) were dedicated to the NGOs to develop a program of work. On the third day (5 October) the

group were joined by Farmers Organizations and Private Sector representatives to collectively device a CSO Program of Work by identifying areas of collaboration. Representatives from CGIAR Centers and SROs joined the group on 6 & 7 October to share experiences identify, and take stock on lessons learnt and plan the next steps. Discussions focused on how can CSOs effectively participate in the planning, development, and execution of ARD programs at all levels i.e. national, sub-regional and regional.

### **Participation**

Participants came from the ASARECA, CORAF/WECARD and SADC-FANR sub-regions in 14 African countries and were joined by representatives from FARA and GFAR. The 24 participants (Appendix 1) included seven females.

### **Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) NGO Consortium**

The recently formed Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) NGO Consortium at the June 2005 3<sup>rd</sup> Biennial FARA General Assembly and African Agricultural Scientific Week (3<sup>rd</sup> FARA BAASweek) met at the FARA Secretariat in Accra, Ghana, to review the report of their side event held during the 3<sup>rd</sup> FARA BAASweek in Entebbe, Uganda. The aim of the Accra consultation was to provide the consortium with the opportunity to develop a Program of Work that would facilitate the full integration of Africa-based NGOs in national, sub-regional and regional agricultural research initiatives, as well as determine a common position with other civil society organizations (CSOs) particularly farmer groups, and private sector on their full integration and participation in the African agricultural research agenda. The group work produced an SSA NGO Consortium Action Plan for the period 2006-2008 (Appendix 1). It was resolved that an SSA NGO Consortium Secretariat be hosted by the NGO—Nigeria Trade Network and National Association of Nigerian Traders with one full time position to facilitate the smooth functioning of the Secretariat. GFAR and FARA were requested to assist the Consortium in setting up this coordinating unit to ensure effective execution of the action plan.

### **Farmer Group**

Farmers' organizations are weak and are not adequately represented in agricultural research for development both at the governance and end user levels. Although some degree of farmer participation in research programs mainly through participatory approaches exists, their full participation in the governance of research is still very weak. For instance, while CORAF/WECARD embraced CSO groups at the governance level, ASARECA on the other, is fully managed by NARS Directors General. Recently however, ASARECA elected CSO group representatives to serve on the Sub-Saharan Africa Challenge Program (SSA CP) Pilot Learning Team Committee at the Lake Kivu Piloting Learning Site and this could be an indication that ASARECA is beginning to respond to such an important need to engage the non-traditional stakeholders in ARD.. However, farmer groups themselves have a problem of representativeness and in general, have weak capacity to efficiently manage internal and external events and resources.

African farmers and farmer groups do not have the requisite capacity to effectively engage and participate in international trade negotiations and defend their interests in a global competitive market. Above all, the capacity of farmer groups is weak and organizational management and retention of interest of its members and therefore sustainability, remains a fundamental challenge. The recent act of Parliament in Uganda that empowers farmers to become members of the National Agricultural Research Organization (NARO) governance committee is indeed a significant first step in end user driven and owned research agenda and process. Farmer organizations in Uganda can now access public resources to carry out agricultural development.

Some key issues raised by farmers include:

- weak research-extension-farmer linkage
- weak delivery of support services
- weak capacity of farmers and their institutions, and inability to influence the agricultural research agenda
- weak capacity to participate in international trade negotiations
- poor access to, and use of knowledge and information
- poor linkage with SROs
- need for genuine participation, transparency and accountability in partnerships
- lack of fine tuning and use of traditional knowledge
- lack of an enabling environment and policies to attract young people back to farming
- Lack of strong biosafety policy and regulation, and indeed capacity – biotechnology has huge potential but it must be regulated
- inappropriate infrastructure for the delivery of goods and services

The farmer group also developed an Action Plan (Appendix 2).

### **Private sector**

The private sector recognize the need for political lobby to create an enabling environment for their effective participation in agricultural development and high on its agenda, is the add value to Africa's primary produce with a view to fully develop regional and international markets and become competitive. The private sector is of the view that farming should be taken up as a business and not for subsistence as widely practiced in Africa. The perception that farmers are bad debtors and not good creditors should be reversed if we are to make impact on the agricultural sector.

Market information systems enhances farmer's capacity to market their produce and mobile SMS texts are increasingly impacting on access to agricultural markets by rural communities. Although medium and commercial farmers use internet to access market information, conventional media such as radio and print media, as well as rural markets still play a major role in the marketing of agricultural produce. The Kenya Agricultural Commodities Exchange (KACE) for instance, gathers market information data in Kenya and Uganda, and occasionally in Tanzania for distribution in its market information

networks. The South African private sector acknowledged that biotechnology crop-based products including GMOs are expensive but it prefers to grow them because of their higher yield and profitability as a result of significantly reduced demand on management practices. The private sector emphasized the need for strengthened capacity in trade negotiations so that Africa can be competitive both within and outside of the continent. An Action plan was developed (Appendix 3).

### **Centre for Innovation in Development (NovAfrica)**

The Centre for Innovation in Development (NovAfrica) based in South Africa is an NGO that is involved in innovative research, training and empowering of communities including farmers. Participatory tools such as Participatory Development Management (PDM) and Participatory Extension Management (PEA) were used in empowering the target communities. The more communities were empowered, the more complex they became and their demand on goods and services increased. At that point in time, government policies and programs responded to the community's need instead of determining the needs of communities without their participation. Empowering communities through innovation research and training significantly contributed to grass root participation and ownership at various levels. The financial dependency of communities and individuals through remittances reduced and savings as well as social and human capital increased. It's worth mentioning that this particular initiative is a joint venture between NGO group and the Government of South Africa and is a good example of partnership between the public sector and Civil Society constituent.

### **CORAF/WECARD**

The Deputy Director General of Cameroon's NARI (IRAD) represented the CORAF/WECARD Executive Secretary. CORAF/WECARD was established with the aim of harnessing regional collaboration, pooling of resources, and optimizing synergy to tackle common agricultural research and developmental challenges. It was clear that CORAF/WECARD is inclusive of civil society stakeholder groups and three members of the Executive Committee (ExCo) are representatives of civil society stakeholder groups. CORAF/WECARD fully endorsed FARA's initiative to engage and facilitate the active participation of civil society groups in the agricultural research agenda.

### **Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa—FARA**

FARA presented and discussed its role in African agricultural research and how it is responding to the AU/NEPAD's CAADP Pillar IV of agricultural research, technology generation, dissemination and adoption, through the following programs.

#### ***Sub-Saharan Africa Challenge Program (SSA CP)***

FARA and its stakeholders are pilot testing an innovative systems approach for technology generation, dissemination and adoption at the three SSA CP Pilot Learning Sites (PLSs) in the ***Kano-Katsina-Maradi (KKM)*** transect in northern part of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and southern Niger in West Africa, the ***Lake Kivu corridor*** of the ***Democratic Republic of Congo***, ***Uganda*** and ***Rwanda*** in Eastern Africa, and in the ***Zimbabwe-Mozambique-Malawi (ZMM)***

transect in Eastern Africa. The SSA CP is a transboundary multi-stakeholder and multi-institutional agricultural productivity program that aims to internalize innovative systems approach to agricultural research for development with active farmer and pastoralist participation and ownership. The SSA CP aims to increase food production, access to markets and above all, enhance sub-regional and Africa-wide integration.

### ***Building African Scientific and Institutional Capacity (BASIC)***

FARA will use **BASIC** to support and catalyze agricultural education and training in Africa, so that Africa can build and sustain its capacity to conduct agricultural research and development for improved livelihoods and welfare of its poor and disadvantaged. Although the BASIC program will particularly target undergraduate training, it will also respond to specific training and skills needs of the national agricultural research systems (NARS). BASIC will deliberately aim to improve the relevance and quality of the curricula of African Agricultural Universities and Colleges so that Africa can produce and retain highly competent and committed agricultural work force.

### ***Widespread dissemination of proven agricultural technologies (DONATA)***

The **DONATA** program aims to promote the wide scale dissemination of proven agricultural technologies including NERICA rice, tissue culture banana, virus resistant cassava varieties, herbicide induce striga resistant maize variety, and integrated natural resources management tools to boost food production, availability and affordability in the whole of Africa.

### ***Framework for African Agricultural Productivity (FAAP)***

The **Framework for African Agricultural Productivity (FAAP)** is an initiative that will support and catalyze national and sub-regional driven and owned **Multi-country Agricultural Productivity Program (MAPP)** with a view to revitalize and reinvigorate national agricultural research and extension systems (NARS) including farmer groups, private sector, NGOs and Universities. FAAP aim to (i) empower farmers; (ii) support farmer advisory services; (iii) generate technologies through research; and (iv) build capacities in Africa as a cross-cutting issue of (i), (ii) and (iii).

### ***Regional Agricultural Information Systems (FARA-RAIS)***

FARA is also facilitating information, knowledge and technology exchange between and among its diverse stakeholders, through the **FARA-RAIS** with a view to strengthen the capacities of researchers, change agents, farmers and other stakeholders in accessing and using knowledge for increased productivity and economic growth throughout Africa.

### **Global Forum for Agricultural Research—GFAR**

Civil society is one of the most important stakeholders in the social reform process and this is true for agricultural research for development. The active engagement and full participation of CSO groups ensures that programs and projects address the needs and aspirations of the poor and disadvantaged. Because their impact in Africa is still hampered by weak capacity and poor linkages, GFAR and FARA are determined to strengthen CSO groups so that technologies and appropriate policies can be widely

scaled-up and out for increased productivity and economic growth. It was noted that FARA is the most inclusive regional agricultural fora and the first to convene such a multi-stakeholder consultation process that brought together CSO stakeholders in ARD for collective planning and engagement.

### **International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA)**

*“Partnerships to improve food security and rural livelihoods in Africa: The case of Borno State in Nigeria”* was a partnership discussion paper where multi-stakeholder and multi-institutional partnership was used to scale-up and scale-out proven agricultural technologies for improved livelihood and food security in the Borno State of Northern Nigeria. A number of crop and livestock-based technologies were adopted through the paradigm shift of directly engaging farmers in close collaboration with locally based research and extension institutions including the University of Maiduguri. The project succeeded in linking service delivery to farming communities and created new markets, and increased farmer’s productivity and income.

### **Recommendation**

- Implementation of the active participation and representation of the different categories of civil society groups (farmer, private sector, NGOs) in sub-regional agricultural research organizations particularly ASARECA. CORAF/WECARD is inclusive of CSO groups at various levels of its organs.
- Concern was expressed on the absence of an SRO in the ASARECA and SADC-FANR regions
- FARA should with immediate effect, ensure a level playing field for participation, buy-in and ownership of all civil society groups in African agricultural research for development.
- FARA and GFAR should negotiate with Africa-based CG Centres to contribute to capacity strengthening of civil society groups by supporting fellowship placements for their personnel at their respective centres.
- FARA should negotiate with ISNAR to strengthen the capacities of civil society groups in leadership and management, writing convincing proposals, organizing and conducting meetings and group formation and management, among others.
- The representation of the NGOs on the FARA Executive Committee (ExCo) should be separated from that of the Foundations because the NGO is a much larger group than the Foundations and also, Foundations are more aligned to research and the private sector than to the development aspects of African agriculture.
- Africa agriculture-based Foundations should not be representing NGOs in decision making bodies and institutions because Foundations are much more

linked to agricultural research and the private sector than the development aspect of agriculture and they do not offer similar services to farmers and other end users as the NGOs.

- GFAR and FARA should continue to facilitate and catalyze the SSA NGO Consortium and other CSO groups.
- FARA should recognize and give a special seat on its Executive Committee the SSA NGO Consortium that was formed at the 3rd Biennial FARA General Assembly and African Agricultural Scientific Week in June 2005 in Entebbe, Uganda.
- The SSA NGO Consortium will mobilize and facilitate NGOs in the region and ensure their active participation in the Sub-Saharan Africa Challenge Program's (SSA CP) Pilot Learning Sites. Moreover, the SSA NGO Consortium will contribute to information sharing and dissemination of results of the SSA CP.
- FARA should commit financial and human resources and identify one of its professional staff as the focal point for the CSO groups to ensure effective coordination and collaboration between FARA and the CSOs
- The proposed SSA NGO Consortium Secretariat should be hosted at one of its member organizations with one full time position supported by the Consortium. The SSA NGO Consortium and the member institution hosting the Secretariat should sign an MOU.
- The farmer group expressed the need to hold parallel meetings during FARA's Biennial General Assembly and African Agricultural Scientific Week.
- FARA should facilitate the establishment of Farmers Consortium at the regional levels
- FARA should facilitate the full participation of the CSO groups in the Africa biotechnology dialogue and processes.
- Farmers should desist from fighting their governments but rather, lobby them to improve their conditions and environment.
- Civil society groups should attract influential members who can influence government and policies.
- Farmers should be involved in add value and should not necessarily be the private sector alone.
- National governments should implement favourable policies that encourage and support agricultural productivity and raise incomes of farmers.



- Infrastructure particularly roads should be well developed and maintained so that produce can be moved from the rural areas to markets within and outside of the countries.
- Need to promote and sensitize the use of SMS on mobile phones for the development, access and use of agricultural market information and services.
- Private sector representation on the GFAR Steering Committee should be on regional basis where the Private sector constituency elects its representative and not strictly on a regional rotation basis.
- The partnership process should be anchored at the grass root level.
- The mindset that farmers are bad debtors and are not therefore good creditors should be reversed.
- Well organized and properly functioning private sector should set-up a code of conduct and best practices to regulate itself so that it can gain the confidence of other stakeholder groups.
- Need to strengthen CSO group's capacity in international trade negotiations so that African stakeholders can perform better at such negotiations and '*win for Africa*'.
- Develop strong links with the European farmer group EFARD and tap into the experience and resources that are ear-marked for African partnership development.

## **Conclusion**

The significant first step of bringing CSO groups into the African research agenda should be continued and this should go in tandem with the strengthening of their human and institutional capacity, so that they can take ownership of agricultural research products and processes.

### Annexure 1: SSA NGO Consortium Action Plan 2006-2008

OBJECTIVES	OUTPUTS/OUTCOMES	ACTIVITIES	MILESTONES	LEAD PERSON (S)
1. Mobilize NGOs at different levels into a strong consortium with the capacity to engage in policy dialogue with the formal research systems, with the aim of achieving sustainable livelihoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional database of NGOs, involved in agricultural and rural development, developed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Curry-out NGOs institutional profiling, through appropriate media (e.g. questionnaires and surveys).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Database of NGOs, involved in agricultural development, developed by 2007.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The interim Secretariat with collaboration with sub-regional focal points</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resource poor livelihoods improved through collaborative programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subsistence and small scale farmers and NGOs jointly participate in ARD activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengths and weaknesses of the NGOs identified by 2007.</li> <li>Three to four proposals jointly developed for submission to each site of the SSA Challenge Programme by 2007.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The interim Secretariat with collaboration with sub-regional focal points</li> <li>Steering Committee</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awareness creation among</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least one proposal submitted is</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Regional Executive Committee</li> </ul>

OBJECTIVES	OUTPUTS/OUTCOMES	ACTIVITIES	MILESTONES	LEAD PERSON (S)
		<p>NGOs on SSA Challenge Programme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitation and mentoring of participating NGOs.</li> </ul>	<p>approved and funded by 2008.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awareness creation completed in all pilot sites by the end of 2006.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sub-regional Focal Persons</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhanced contribution of NGOs to demand-driven research.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convene sub-regional NGOs meetings in conjunction with SROs periodic meetings to lobby for inclusive SRF where appropriate.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NGOs represented in all SRF executive committee by 2007.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Regional Executive Committee, GFAR, FARA.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Broadened member base of the SSA NGO Consortium</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initiate contacts and develop networks with other NGOs in the region and solicit new members during meetings, workshops etc...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Membership of the Consortium increased by at least 5 per sub-region per year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Regional and National Focal persons</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and promote a Code of Conduct for</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Code of Conduct Developed,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Code of Conduct Developed by mid</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Regional Executive Committee</li> </ul>

OBJECTIVES	OUTPUTS/OUTCOMES	ACTIVITIES	MILESTONES	LEAD PERSON (S)
	ARD in SSA that protects farmers interests and secure their benefits	disseminated and applied.	2006	
2. Enhance the credibility and accountability of the NGOs in Agricultural Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and promote a Code of Conduct for ARD in SSA that protects farmers interests and secure their benefits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Code of Conduct Developed, disseminated and applied.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Code of Conduct Developed by mid 2006</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Regional Executive Committee</li> </ul>
3. Facilitate access to and exchange of relevant information to influence agriculture research policies and priorities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collectively shared ARD agenda and priorities.</li> <li>Policy responsiveness to stakeholder best practices and needs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mobilize and facilitate NGO priorities setting.</li> <li>Lobby and advocate for NGOs priority inclusion in existing initiatives.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 years per year per region over 3 years beginning with countries represented and around SSDACP</li> <li>Feed into the next sub-regional priority setting cycle</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individual Committee members, Asetou for SSACP. Steering Committee to coordinate.</li> <li>Reps at sub-regional level. Steering Committee to support, coordinate and back-stop.</li> </ul>

OBJECTIVES	OUTPUTS/OUTCOMES	ACTIVITIES	MILESTONES	LEAD PERSON (S)
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NGO secure full seat in FARA Exco. by 2007.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Consortium Steering Committee (the Chair, Ex-co, GFAR and FARA contact person. Steering Committee to coordinate.</li> </ul>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NGOs represented at the regional and sub-regional decision making levels by 2007</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• = do =</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effectively contribute and use regional agricultural research information and data.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor and evaluate processes that capture best practices and needs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Functional Monitoring and Evaluation by 2007</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interim Secretariat and Steering Committee.</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Link into appropriate ARD information systems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional and sub-regional ICT access by 2006.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Secretary, with the technical support and dissemination by Steering Committee.</li> </ul>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website developed by 2006</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Secretary/Interim Secretariat, with the support, feed in,</li> </ul>

OBJECTIVES	OUTPUTS/OUTCOMES	ACTIVITIES	MILESTONES	LEAD PERSON (S)
				promotion and publicity of the ICT by Steering Committee.
4. Build the Capacity of NGOs to collaborate and participate more effectively in ARD process and in resource mobilization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved competence in agricultural research for development.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct training and exchange visits.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One capacity building intervention per sub-region per year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Focal persons and Interim Secretariat; Steering Committee to ensure fund raising and quality control.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved skills in negotiating and resource mobilization.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out training on writing convincing proposals.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One training workshop for the SC on proposal writing, project and resource management by ISNAR by end of 2006.</li> <li>One training workshop per sub-region by 2008</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Steering committee and Strategic Partners – GFAR and FARA; to select, ensure cross learning and review the effectiveness of innovation.</li> <li>FARA to facilitate while St. Comm to participate and implement past workshop resolutions.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased recognition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Train NGOs on</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FARA NGO contact</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FARA; St. Comm to</li> </ul>

OBJECTIVES	OUTPUTS/OUTCOMES	ACTIVITIES	MILESTONES	LEAD PERSON (S)
	and support to the NGO sector.	project and resource management.	person in place by end of 2005.	lobby and ensure delegation.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A functional organizational structure, systems and processes by 2006.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interim Secretariat and the St. Comm. To define structure, systems and procedures.</li> </ul>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interim Secretariat functional by mid 2006.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General Secretary and St. Committee to support and supervise.</li> </ul>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A fully functional secretariat by 2008.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interim Secretariat and the St. Comm. and General Secretary to support, monitor and supervise.</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support NGO collaboration with research.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three placement fellowships at CG and SRO-funded Research programmes and projects per year.</li> </ul>	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Document, publish</li> </ul>		

<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>OUTPUTS/OUTCOMES</b>	<b>ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>MILESTONES</b>	<b>LEAD PERSON (S)</b>
		Newsletters, and publicize good practices, case studies and other activities of the Consortium.		



## Appendix 2: Farmers Organizations (FOs) Provisional Work Programme 2005-2010

Component/ Objective	Activities	Output	Collaborators	Potential Sponsor(s)
1. Mobilization of FOs at all levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ One regional FOs consultation by the second quarter of 2006</li> <li>○ FOs institutional profiling</li> <li>○ Nominate regional and sub-regional focal points</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Development of regional FOs consortium and Program of Work</li> <li>○ FOs involved in Agri-Research and rural development in the region identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ SSA NGO Consortium</li> <li>○ FARA Secretariat</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ FARA and SROs</li> </ul>
2. Capacity development and enhancement of FOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Institutional development activities</li> <li>○ Farmer-researcher collaborative activities</li> <li>○ Promoting farmers involvement in FARA and its SROs</li> <li>○ training programs in trade negotiations, advocacy work etc..</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Farmer-Research linkages strengthened</li> <li>○ Stronger FOs in global advocacy campaigns</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ FARA</li> <li>○ SROs</li> <li>○ CGIAR Centres in the region</li> <li>○ NARIs</li> </ul>	FARA/GFAR; other interested development agencies; national governments; sub-regional and regional inter - governmental bodies
3. Advocacy and Lobbying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Carry out advocacy campaigns to raise the ARD profile</li> <li>○ One regional meeting with other CSOs players (e.g. NGOs, OPS etc..)</li> <li>○ Raise awareness on current critical issues in agriculture i.e. GMOs, IPR, bio-safety and other policy issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Advocacy publications on GMOs, Trade, etc.. developed and disseminated</li> </ul>	SSA NGO Consortium and OPS	FARA/GFAR
4. Mobilization of youth for vocational	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sensitization activities mainly targeting youth in and out of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Regional workshop held by end of 2006</li> </ul>	NARIs, Universities	FARA/SROs/CGIAR Centres in the region,

Component/ Objective	Activities	Output	Collaborators	Potential Sponsor(s)
	agricultural colleges and universities through regional workshops ○ Identifying and collaborating with national agricultural youth associations ○ Advocacy campaigns for youth in agricultural policy	○ A regional database of youth organizations developed by 2007 ○ The role of youth in agriculture recognized and supported by national governments and regional inter-governmental bodies		national governments, regional and sub-regional inter-governmental bodies
5. Information and communication mechanism for effective FOs participation in ARD	○ Collect, document and disseminate success stories of Farmers and FOs engagement in ARD ○ Develop regional FOs web-site ○ farmers-farmers learning visits/exchanges	○ Regional, periodic, newsletters and other communication media developed: first issue to be ready by end of 2006 ○ Regional FOs web-site developed by end of 2006 ○ Farmers concerns effectively communicated and addressed	FARA/GFAR/SSA NGO Consortium	FARA/GFAR and other interested partners
6. Mobilization of Farmers and FOs in the implementation of FAAP	○ Sensitization of Farmers and FOs on the SSA CP and other regional activities ○ Facilitate farmers participation in SSA CP and other ARD activities	○ Documentation package on FAAP developed and shared with farmers and FOs in the region ○ Number of FOs projects funded under SSA CP	SSA NGO Consortium, NARIs, SROs, FARA	FARA

### Appendix 3: Interface schedule of activities [Private Sector]

ACTIONS	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5
<b>1- Mobilizing the private agribusiness sector</b>					
* Training and information of actors on the challenges and opportunities of regional and multilateral negotiations for agribusiness sector SMEs/SMLs in Africa Advocacy aimed at improving the business environment * Establishment of a national and regional consultation mechanism for actors * Development of frameworks for concertation and exchange (fairs/study tours/exhibitions/meetings)					
<b>2- Promoting low-cost modern irrigation systems and mature land reclamation techniques for increasing agricultural production and developing SMEs/SMLs</b>					
<b>3- Promoting the use of biotechnology in the agribusiness sector</b>					
<b>4- Turning agricultural research results into business opportunities:</b>					
* Domesticate/develop fruit trees with high market value: shea, baobab, tamarind, jujube, gum arabic, oil palm, date palm, cola nut tree, banana tree, cashew nut tree... * Develop medicinal herbs Develop food crops: Nerica rice, cassava, plantain, peanut, IR maize for striga-infested, improved soybean, livestock and fisheries					
<b>5- Establishment of national agribusiness development centres for:</b>					
Improving technical expertise in the agribusinesses, with a gender perspective * Developing enterprises, especially rural SMEs/SMLs: access to appropriate technology, equipment, technological processes, low-cost training * Promoting the development, production, conservation, processing, packaging and consumption of vitamin- and mineral-rich food and any promising new product * Facilitate trade through the provision of cargo assembling services for local marketing and export (logistical support) * Testing research programs in national pilot centres * Establishing quality management systems Establishing a sound information and communication system for agribusiness development (opportunities/export market/finding partner/dissemination of rules and					

ACTIONS	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5
regulations governing intra-community trade) * Establishing a revolving fund for the centre's self-financing					
<b>6- Establishing a regional competitive/revolving fund</b>					

**Appendix 4: Participants at the FARA/GFAR/CSO meeting, 3-7 October, Accra, Ghana**

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