



Celebrating FARA

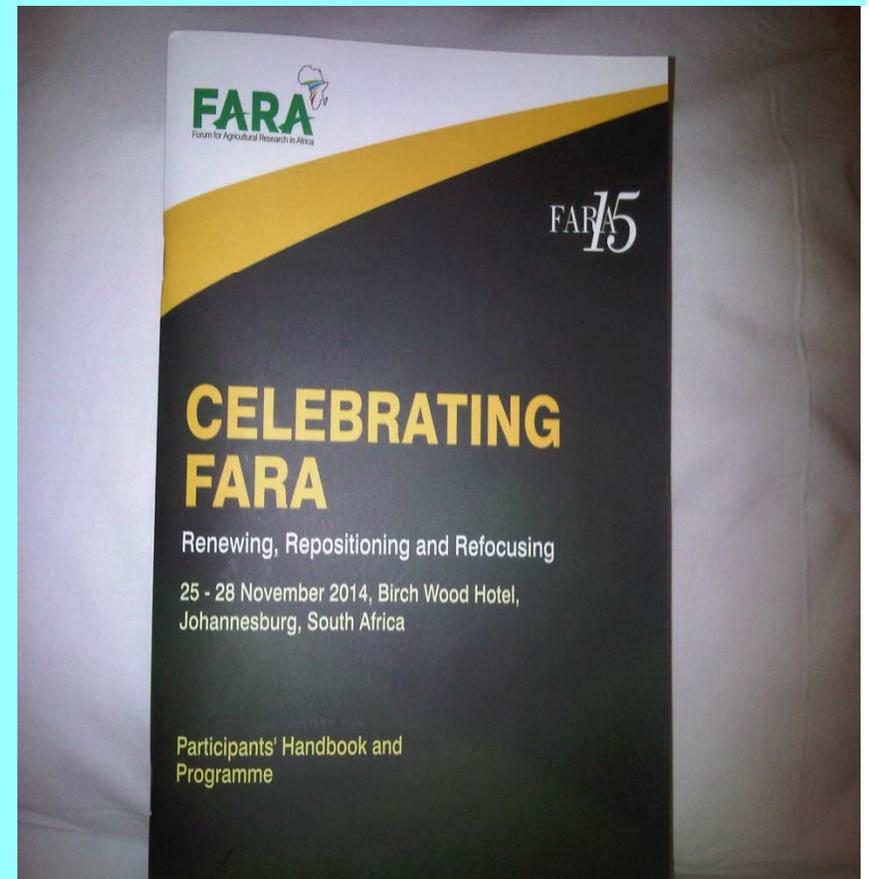
Conclusions and Recommendations of Side Events

Celebrating FARA

Organized under the theme:

**Delivering Africa's Future
Through Science-led
Agricultural Transformation**

***Without science Africa will
not achieve food and
nutrition security***



Objectives

- **Appraise FARA's achievements and way forward – Renewing, repositioning and refocusing for a more effective FARA**
- **FARA's Visibility and New Corporate Image: Roll out of New Logo and Website**
- **Networking and partnerships with stakeholders**
- **Launch of FARA's Strategic Plan**

Objectives

- **Launch of Science Agenda for Agriculture in Africa (S3A)**
- **Exhibitions to showcase Africa's agricultural science, technologies and innovations – FARA-CGIAR-led Agricultural Technology Fair**
- **Side Events – Information and knowledge sharing**

Exhibitions

Exhibitions by 26 Organizations drawn from the FARA Forum, FARA Secretariat and beyond

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• AATF• AFAP Partnership• AFRIBANANA Products Ltd• AGRA• AIRCA• ANAFE• ARC• ASARECA | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CCARDESA• CGIAR• CORAF/WECARD• CTA• CURAD Ltd• FANRPAN• FARA Secretariat• ITOCA• KALRO | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• LABIOFAM• LUANAR• Makerere Univ.• NPCA• Research Africa• RUFORUM• Univ. of Eldoret• Univ. of Nairobi• Univ. of Zambia |
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Side Events

Total of 20 Side Events Organized by 7 Organizations drawn from the FARA Forum and Secretariat

- **CCARDESA**
 - **CGIAR**
 - **CORAF/WECARD**
 - **FANRPAN**
 - **FARA Secretariat**
 - **NPCA**
 - **RUFORUM**
- **Joint FARA-CGIAR event on the Science Agenda**

Side Events

Side Event Topics

- **Partnerships for AR4D**
- **Agribusiness incubation and youth engagement in agribusiness**
- **Capacity building in agriculture**
- **Innovation platforms, technology generation and dissemination**
- **Climate change**
- **Agricultural productivity, food security and food sovereignty**
- **Agricultural education and skills development**
- **Science Agenda**
- **Resilient agricultural systems and communities**

Key Conclusions and recommendations

(1) Innovations in out-scaling R4D technologies for greater delivery and impact in Africa:

Conclusions

- **Multi-stakeholder innovation platforms are an effective way to catalyze engagement with partners and ensure participation**
- **Having a proof of concept on how a technology works, helps to “sell” the technology among intended users.**
- **PPPs that support value chain development facilitate scaling up and scaling out of technologies.**
- **Engagement of policymakers and development of an enabling policy environment helps to facilitate the adoption**

Key Conclusions and recommendations

(1) Innovations in out-scaling R4D technologies for greater delivery and impact in Africa:

Recommendations

- **Use innovative communication and dissemination approaches, e.g., champions and novel ICT tools, in out-scaling innovations among target beneficiaries.**
- **Multi-stakeholder Public Private Partnerships and platforms should be established to ensure adoption of innovations.**
- **Encourage counterpart support/funding by partners to get buy-in and to sustain interest and continuity.**

Key Conclusions and recommendations

(2) Making agricultural research for development (R4D) partnerships work at scale

Conclusions

- **Partnerships are necessary to achieve outcomes and should be brokered on firm terms around the value of partners themselves.**
- **Getting people to come together on a common agenda takes time and so social networking is useful**
- **Having a common agenda, quick and visible wins, transparency and trust, clear roles are important for partnerships to work**

Recommendations

- **When investing in long term / partnerships at scale, it is essential to assure relevance at different scales**
- **Change the notion of transaction costs (for building trust / partnerships) into “investment”**

Key Conclusions and recommendations

(3) Sub Saharan Africa Challenge Program (SSA CP) Colloquium

Conclusions

- **The IAR4D concept has been proven to work in Africa and requires a comprehensive scaling up strategy**
- **Participation on the IPs has transformed food and income security of farmers**
- **Partnerships are key to the success of innovation platforms.**
- **Integration of the IAR4D concept into the continental framework for ARD is essential to maximizing the benefits of the concept.**

Recommendations

- **Impact of IPs should be well documented.**
- **Shared funding should be pursued for scaling up and scaling out of the IAR4D concept**
- **The IAR4D concept should be adopted as an African bread solution for research and development in African agriculture**

Key Conclusions and recommendations

(4) Making Climate Smart Agriculture research and development work for Africa's food security

Conclusions

- **Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) is an innovative approach to addressing climate change issues but is not well known by many policy makers and some experts**
- **Many CAADP country and regional investment plans are devoid of CSA interventions**
- **National and Regional financing mechanisms for CSA interventions are important vehicles for addressing issues of climate change**

Key Conclusions and recommendations

(4) Making Climate Smart Agriculture research and development work for Africa's food security

Recommendations

- **Engagement of media for increased awareness on CSA should be promoted**
- **CAADP country Investment Plans should be developed/revised to incorporate CSA interventions**
- **Governments and RECs should establish National and Regional Climate Funds to mobilize domestic/regional financing for CSA**

Key Conclusions and recommendations

(5) Agricultural productivity, food security and food sovereignty in Africa dialogue

Conclusions

- **Food sovereignty is key to achieving food security in Africa. However, there are some contradictions between current definitions of the two concepts**
- **There are proven biotechnologies for increasing agricultural productivity in Africa that should be identified and promoted**
- **Food security in Africa is possible through adoption of sustainable structural transformation principles as evidenced by the Asian experience**

Key Conclusions and recommendations

(5) Agricultural productivity, food security and food sovereignty in Africa dialogue

Recommendations

- **Formalise a home-grown African conceptualisation of food sovereignty**
- **Rebuild Africa's local food supply system on principles of food sovereignty**
- **Promote investments focused on food sovereignty**
- **Actions to address food sovereignty should also include sustainable financing mechanisms**
- **African research institutions should undertake relevant studies on controversial biotechnologies in order to better advise policy makers.**

Key Conclusions and recommendations

(6) PAEPARD Management Team Meeting

Conclusions

- **PAEPARD Project activities are well identified and the progress well on the track**
- **Technical and financial reporting is a critical step for project success**
- **Communication and monitoring tool designed by partners is ready to be used**

Recommendations

- **Advocate for innovative funding instruments to support ARD and Users' Led Process.**
- **Promote the Users' Led Process that involves FOs, Private Sector and civil society**
- **Document the impact of IAR4D approach to enhance job creation, SMEs, incubations, income for the small holder farmers.**

Key Conclusions and recommendations

(7) PSTAD: Implementation Completion Review and Learning Workshop

Conclusions

The PSTAD Project has:

- **Strengthened ICT infrastructure and internet connection to enhance information and knowledge exchange in 34 NARS**
- **Advanced knowledge and application of innovation platform and value chain approaches**
- **Enhanced nutrition and livelihood of farmers through dissemination of quality protein maize and orange-fleshed sweet potatoes**
- **Trained 40 young scientists at MSc degree level**
- **Supported and empowered farmers with about 40% of the project actors/beneficiaries being women.**

Key Conclusions and recommendations

(7) PSTAD: Implementation Completion Review and Learning Workshop

Recommendations

- **The innovation platform approach adopted by the project should be out-scaled.**
- **FARA /SROs should source funds for a second phase of the project to deepen the gains realized.**
- **In spite of the subsidiarity principle, FARA should develop criteria for engaging in continent-wide initiatives to ensure commitment and sustained interest in the project implementation**

Key Conclusions and Recommendations

(8) Transforming Higher Education in Africa

Conclusions

- **Africa is not innovating, has few researchers and few international quality universities**
- **A key prerequisite for transforming higher agricultural education is the need to revamp STI infrastructure and create an enabling environment for collaboration**
- **Higher Agricultural Education should give priority to institutional innovation rather than technological innovation**
- **Building capacity in the existing informal economy will facilitate transformation of smallholder value chains**

Key conclusions and recommendations

(8) Transforming Higher Education in Africa

Recommendations

- **African Heads of State and Government should:**

- **Commit to supporting higher agricultural education by releasing the 1% and 10% promises**
- **Support policy for academic mobility across and beyond Africa**
- **Provide incentives to boost research, retain and attract best brains from Africa and diaspora**
- **Commit to support infrastructural development in higher agricultural education institutions to spur research and development in African higher agricultural education**
- **Support treaties that protect markets of African products through regional bodies.**

Key conclusions and recommendations

(9) Resilient Systems and Communities: Fostering the Capacity to Innovate

Conclusions

- **Place-based research, using integrated systems, landscapes and participatory approaches can increase the impact of development policies and investments on smallholder livelihoods and the resilience of natural resource systems on which they depend**
- **Resilient systems and communities with the capacity to innovate and adapt to changing conditions, are essential for genuine transformation in development**
- **Fostering capacity to innovate is critical to the S3A, CAADP and SDGs, especially in improving agricultural livelihoods and promoting sustainable agriculture**

Key conclusions and recommendations

(9) Resilient Systems and Communities: Fostering the Capacity to Innovate

Recommendations

- **Strong innovation platforms should become an entity in themselves, they become business partners for the private sector/investors.**
- **Innovation Platforms need to bring people together to solve common problems, and take advantage of opportunities instead of having people competing with each other; together they are less vulnerable and have greater negotiating power**

Key conclusions and recommendations

(10) CGIAR Capacity Development: Engaging with Partners

Conclusions

- Needs assessments are a priority, we need to know the capacity needed to achieve outcomes through CapDev
- CapDev is part of the theories of change. However, we are accountable for outcomes and CapDev is key of the outcomes
- Need CapDev across levels because levels are integrated or interrelated
- There is general agreement that CapDev is not just training
- An adequate M&E framework with CapDev matrices is essential

Key conclusions and recommendations

(10) CGIAR Capacity Development: Engaging with Partners

Recommendations

- **CapDev framework should be embedded in the preparation of next round CGIAR Research Programs**
- **Need to continue to seek inputs from partners to tweak the framework and align it to other initiatives such S3A, CAADP, STISA**
- **‘Take it to the farmer’ Need to ensure that CapDev is actionable**

Key conclusions and recommendations

(11) CORAF/WECARD: Tools for strengthening Agricultural Research Partnership

Conclusions

- **Agreed on three partnership tools for addressing priority agricultural challenges:**
 - **Structuring of agricultural research for development in West and Central Africa**
 - **Use of knowledge generated through research to respond to the question of youth unemployment in West and Central Africa**
 - **Improvement of the functions of breeding to increase agricultural productivity**

Recommendation

- **CORAF/WECARD should continue to support (capacity development and advocacy) the improvement and dissemination of these science-based partnership tools in order to contribute to the transformation of agriculture in the sub-region.**

Conclusions

- **Side events of the Celebrating FARA event well attended**
- **Important issues identified/discussed**
- **Key conclusions arrived at**
- **Important recommendations made**
- **A detailed report of the 'Celebrating FARA' Event will be compiled and shared**

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Thank you
for the attention

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