



Second Announcement

Theme: African Agricultural Innovation in a Changing Global Environment

19-24 July 2010

Ouga 2000 International Convention Centre
Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

Overview

The Government of Burkina Faso has graciously offered to host the fifth (5th) General Assembly of the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA). The General Assembly will draw together representatives of FARA's constituents from all African and non-African institutions involved in African agricultural research and development such as the Sub-Regional Organizations (SROs) (ASARECA, CORAF/WECARD, SADC/FANR and NASRO), farmers' and pastoralists' organisations, the agricultural research institutions, universities, NGOs and private enterprises that comprise the national agricultural research systems (NARS), non-African advanced research institutions (ARIs), the International Agricultural Research Centers (IARCs), international NGOs, policy makers, private sector, farmers' organizations and Africa's development partners.

Objectives

- To hold the 5th African Agricultural Science Week and the 5th FARA General Assembly.
- To enable FARA members meet to review progress and lessons learnt since the 4th General Assembly and based on foresights and determine the African regional agenda for the next three years.
- To hold a Burkina Faso Agricultural Science day as a highlight of Agricultural Science week, where host country exhibit their agricultural innovations to raise awareness on the relevance and impact of agricultural research in alleviating poverty, promoting food security and protecting the environment.

Expected Outputs

- Increased knowledge of the problems, opportunities and successes in African agricultural research and development
- Greater awareness of the roles and contributions of different stakeholders and enhanced networking and interaction
- Greater appreciation amongst the participants and the public of the important contributions of agricultural research for development in Africa, especially in Burkina Faso
- Review and endorsement of FARA's program for the next three years
- Election of new FARA Executive Board members including the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson



Theme and subthemes

There is an inexhaustible list of potential topics for discussions on African agricultural research for development. However, reflections on past FARA General Assemblies, trends in African agriculture, and continuing consultations with stakeholders we've narrowed down to the following main theme and sub-themes.

1. Theme

African Agricultural Innovation in a Changing Global Environment

2. Sub-themes

- a. Investment in agricultural innovation in the post financial crisis era
 - Sustaining development assistance for African agriculture in the context of the global financial crisis and planning for the post crisis era
 - Increasing and sustaining private sector investments in science and technology for agricultural innovation
 - Changing mindsets and equitable returns to investment in development-oriented research
- b. Knowledge centres and networks to cope with the challenges of globalization and climate change
 - Empowering rural communities with opportunities for learning to enable innovation and coping/adaptation capacity to emerging challenges
 - Experiences and best practices in strengthening Africa's capacity to build its own capacity
 - Targeted communication for policy and institutional changes
- c. Resilience of African agricultural trade to domestic and external shocks
 - Protectionism and subsidies in agriculture at a time of global recession: which way for Africa?
 - The dilemma of short and long term trade-offs between biofuel production and food security in Africa
 - Trade-related capacity building for agricultural commodity market access

The above sub-themes are intended to address major challenges including emerging issues which are of the utmost importance and will produce concrete suggestions for actions by FARA's constituents. The pre-plenary meetings, exhibits and poster sessions will be organized to make optimal use of the participants' limited time during the Africa Agricultural Science Week and at the FARA General Assembly.



The PROGRAM

The program will be divided into three parts: a pre-plenary meeting for each sub-theme, an African agricultural scientific week and the FARA General Assembly meeting.

1. Pre-plenary meetings

The pre-plenary meetings are opportunities for in-depth discussions on the sub-themes and specific priority topics. A call for applications for pre-plenary meetings will be issued by the FARA Secretariat. The applications will be reviewed by a technical committee composed of distinguished experts in African ARD with a view to selecting events that will make best use of the limited time available. Interested institutions are encouraged to invite other institutions or organizations to join them in convening and organizing pre-plenary meetings.

Each session will elect a Chairperson who, with the help of the facilitator, will be expected to summarize the recommendations in writing for the proceedings and to present the key recommendations to plenary for consideration by the General Assembly.

2. African agricultural science week

All stakeholders and actors in African agriculture such as NARIs, farmers' organisations, development agencies, small and medium enterprises etc., are invited to participate as exhibitors in the African Agricultural Science Week. This will be an opportunity to raise awareness of their roles and products. In addition to the exhibition booths there will also be posters sessions at which participants will be able to set out their contributions to the theme of the week.

There will be a special **Burkina Faso Day** for raising awareness of the achievements of agricultural research in Burkina Faso, through exhibits and field visits. This will be held in the middle of the week between the pre-plenary and plenary.

3. General Assembly Meeting

The first two days of the plenary meeting will be devoted to presentations on the outcomes of the pre-plenary meetings. The General Assembly will review the recommendations and determine how the members of the Forum or the FARA Secretariat should respond.

The third day will be devoted to FARA business for members to review and confirm FARA's proposed program for the next three years. The General Assembly will elect a Chairperson and a vice Chairperson for the next three years.

The FARA Secretariat will publish all information concerning the General Assembly on its website (www.fara-africa.org). If there is sufficient demand the FARA Secretariat may arrange for pre-conference electronic fora or working groups to be hosted on its website.



LOGISTICS

<p>Date and Venue The General Assembly will be held from the 19th – 24th July, 2010 at the Ouga 2000 International Convention Centre, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.</p>	<p>Invitations Invitations to the General Assembly will be issued by the FARA Secretariat and the Burkina Faso Ministry of Agriculture and Land Affairs. Interested Parties should contact FARA at; FARA Secretariat PMB CT 173, Accra, Ghana Tel: 233-21-772823 Fax: 233-21-773676 Email: mjones@fara-africa.org</p>
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Hotel Accommodation

The hotels closest to the conference center and the rates are shown below. The rates are still being negotiated and any new rates and new hotels will be conveyed as soon as possible.

Names and addresses	No of Stars	Indicative room rate			Detailed information of Services
		Type of Room	CFA	USD	
1- Hotel Laico Ouaga 2000 Avenue Pascal Zagré 03 BP 1603 Ouagadougou 03 Tel. : (226) 50 499800 Fax : (226) 50 499802 Site : www.laicohotels.com	5 star	Single / double bed	95 000	232	- Sofitel is Located is a block away from the Ouaga 2000 International Conference Center (about 300 meters). - Shuttle service from the airport - All areas are equipped with ADSL / Wifi for convenience
		Junior Suite	130 000	317	
		Presidential Suite	430 000	1 049	
2- Hotel Silmandé Mercure 01 BP 4733 Ouagadougou 01 Tel.: (226) 50 35 60 05 Fax: (226) 50 35 60 54 Site: www.accordhotels.com	4 star	Single /double bed	68 100	166	- 15-20 mn drive to Ouaga 2000 International Conference Center - Shuttle service available (from – to airport) - business center with high speed internet access and Wifi
		Junior suite	107 500	262	
		Superior Suite	222 050	541	
3- Joly Hotel 2 BP 6149 Ouagadougou 02 Tel. : (226) 503762257 Fax: (226) 50 37 62 59 Site: www.jolyhotel.com	4 star	Standard	75 000	183	- 5 mn drive to Ouaga 2000 International Conference Center -Shuttle service available (from – to airport) - car and bus rental - Business center with high – speed internet access and Wifi (wifi not for free)
		Suite	125 000	305	
4- Splendid Hotel Avenue Kwame N’Krumah 01 BP 1715 Ouagadougou 01 Tel.: (226) 50 31 72 78 / 79 Fax: (226) 50 31 72 91 Site: www.le-splendidhotel.com	4 star	Single bed Splendid I	45 000	110	- 10 mn drive to Ouaga 2000 International Conference Center - shuttle service from airport - free wifi in the rooms - no safe in the rooms
		Double bed Splendid I	50 000	122	
		Twin bed Splendid I	50 000	122	
		Junior Suite Splendid I	95 000	232	
		Single bed Splendid II	55 000	134	
		Double bed Splendid II	60 000	146	
		Twin bed Splendid II	-	-	
		Junior Suite Splendid II	125 000	305	
5- Hotel Palm Beach Avenue Kwame N’Krumah 01 BP 5557 Ouagadougou 01 Tel.: (226) 50 31 09 91 / 50 30 87 77 Fax: (226) 50 30 89 70 Site: www.hotelpalmbeach.bf	3 star	Standard (Single bed)	40 120	98	- 10 mn drive to Ouaga 2000 International Conference Center - Shuttle service from/to airport - free wifi everywhere in the hotel
		Standard (Double/twin bed)	43 660	106	
		Privilege (single bed)	60 180	147	
		Privilege (double / twin bed)	70 360	172	
		Ministerial suite (single bed)	92 040	224	
		Ministerial suite (double / twin bed)	99 120	242	



6- Hotel Pacific Avenue de l'UEMOA 01 BP 5818 Ouagadougou 01 Tel.: (226) 50 31 30 37 Fax: (226) 50 31 30 39 Site: www.pacific-hotel.bf	3 star	Single / double bed	42 000	102	-10 mn drive to Ouaga 2000 International Conference Center - no safe in the rooms - Payable wifi in the rooms at the rate of 1000 FCFA / hour
		Twin bed	46 000	112	
		Privilege	50 000	122	
		Suite	80 000	195	
		Apartment	150 000	366	
7- Hotel Azalai Indépendance 01 BP. 127 Ouaga 01 Tel.: (+226) 50 30 60 60 Fax: (+226) 50 30 67 67 Site: www.azalahotels.com	4 star	Standard (upstairs with bath tub)	65 000	159	
		Standard (upstairs with shower)	60 000	147	
		Standard (downstairs with shower)	50 000	122	
		Executive	85 000	208	
		Suite Junior	105 000	258	

Rate: 410 FCFA = 1 USD

Transportation

Transportation between the hotels and the airport will be provided. Shuttle services are also being arranged and details will be conveyed as soon as possible.

Visa

Burkina Faso visas are issued at Burkina Faso Consulates and Embassies. Entry permits can only be issued on arrival to visitors from certain specified countries, which can be found at -----

Information about Burkina Faso

Burkina Faso also known by its short form name Burkina, is a landlocked nation in West Africa. It is surrounded by six countries: Mali to the north, Niger to the east, Benin to the south east, Togo and Ghana to the south, and Côte d'Ivoire to the south west.

Its size is 274,000 km² with an estimated population of more than 13,200,000. Formerly the Republic of Upper Volta, it was renamed on August 4, 1984 by President Thomas Sankara to mean "the land of upright people" (or "upright land") in Mossi and Dioula, the major native languages of the country. The inhabitants of Burkina Faso are known as Burkinabè.

Burkina Faso is made up of two major types of countryside. The larger part of the country is covered by a peneplain, which forms a gently undulating landscape with, in some areas, a few isolated hills, the last vestiges of a Precambrian massif. The southwest of the country, on the other hand, forms a sandstone massif, where the highest peak, Ténakourou, is found at an elevation of 749 meters (2,450 feet). The massif is bordered by sheer cliffs up to 150 meters (490 ft) high. The average altitude of Burkina Faso is 400 meters (1,300 ft) and the difference between the highest and lowest terrain is no greater than 600 meters (2,000 ft). Burkina Faso is therefore a relatively flat country.

Burkina Faso has a primarily tropical climate with two very distinct seasons. In the rainy season, the country receives between 600 and 900 millimeters (24–35 inches) of rainfall, and in the dry season, the harmattan, a hot dry wind from the Sahara, blows. The rainy season lasts approximately four months, May/June to September, and is shorter in the north of the country. Three climatic zones can be defined: the Sahel, the Sudan-Sahel, and the Sudan-Guinea. The Sahel in the north typically receives less than 600 millimeters (24 inches)[15] of rainfall per year and has high temperatures, 5–47 °C(40–115 °F).

Burkina Faso's natural resources include manganese, limestone, marble, phosphates, pumice, salt and small deposits of gold.

Burkina Faso's fauna and flora are protected in two national parks and several reserves, see List of national parks in Africa.

