



The SSA-CP & the CGIAR's Regional Plans for Collective Action in Africa

June 2007

FARA AGM, Johannesburg, South Africa



Overview

Introducing the Regional Plans

Creating synergy

Conclusion

Regional Plans

- **Two plans:**
 - **West & Central Africa**
 - **Eastern & Southern Africa**
- **Common goal, principles**
- **Emerg ed from extensive consultations among Centers and Partners, incl. SROs & FARA**
- **Different emphases in each region, in response to consultations**



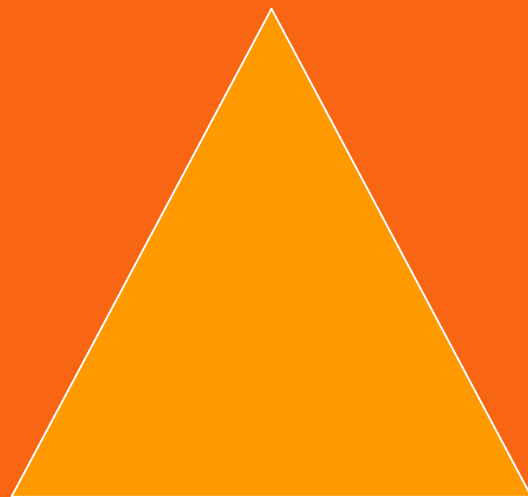
Goal

- To foster the emergence of a **coordinated, cohesive program of agricultural research** that
- produces clear **economies of scale and scope at low transaction costs,**
- in order to **successfully address regional priorities.**
- These priorities range from **complex problems** of stagnant or falling agricultural productivity, poverty to impacts of climate variation.

Operational space

*The only form of CGIAR Collective Action focusing on
Intersecting Regional Goals with System Priorities*

Regional Goals



System Priorities

Available Capacities

*Complex problems require systemic approach and collective
action – if many ‘mini green revolutions’ are to result*



Creating Synergy with SSA-CP

Innovation systems

- Shared focus on understanding and fostering innovation
- Increases the pool for comparative analysis
- Complementary insights, generating big picture understanding

Integrated approaches

- **Explicit research goal of the Regional Plans**
- **Large number of long term sites can produce complementary insights**
- **New research can focus also on the three PLS**



Resource sharing

- 1. The PLS fall within the areas of the 2 Regional Plans**
- 2. Information, methods and analysis frameworks available**
- 3. Large pool of expertise that can be drawn upon**
- 4. New opportunities for coordination**



Payoffs

- 1. Opportunities to achieve impact at scale, add value through research**
- 2. Pushing frontiers of science for development**
- 3. Hopefully, attract more funding of cutting edge research and capacity development**
- 4. Good citizenship and commitment to host regions**

Conclusion

- **SSA-CP potentially holds the key to understanding how to reliably engender development of appropriately scaled innovation in Africa.**
- **This would result in large-scale cascading agricultural development**
- **The Regional Plans are a concrete expression of the Alliance's commitment to Africa's development agenda.**
- **The Regional Plans and SSA-CP must partner to create synergy**



Thank you for your attention!