

UE/FP6 Project
**'Unlocking the Potentialities of Agriculture in the
Drylands of Africa to fight hunger'**
AIDA PROJECT

Africa Dryland continues to endure dramatic alimentary crises often due to the decline of the food crop productivity.

Why the International Aid did not succeed in reducing the poverty and the hunger in Africa?

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Strategic objective

The strategic objective of the AIDA project is to enhance awareness and generate knowledge about long-term trends and innovations in agriculture and environment in drylands Africa.

Focus will be to integrate the knowledge of farmers and communities and fully involve the community members and other stakeholders in the agricultural innovations

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Main Objectives

- to produce a comprehensive database of local and regional initiatives aimed at improving livelihoods in dryland Africa
- to critically assess the initiatives
- to identify drivers behind success and failure
- to share this knowledge with relevant stakeholders

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Partnership

The project is a joint initiative **CIRAD** France, **FARA**, Ghana, the **CTA**, The Netherlands, the **University of Nairobi** (Kenya), the **AGHYMET** regional centre (Niger), the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity building in Agriculture (**RUFORUM**, Uganda), the **University of Malawi** (Malawi) and **Wageningen University** (The Netherlands).

It is a two-year project is funded by the **EU under the FP6** and started in January 2007.

**AIDA Conference /FARA-CIRAD-CTA
Accra (Ghana), 22-24 January, 2007**

**Agricultural innovation in dryland Africa:
What are the key drivers for success?**

The launching event of the AIDA project was an international conference attended by more than 50 participants from farmer organizations, NGOs, the donor community (European Union), national research institutions (10 countries from sub-Saharan Africa), international research...

AIDA CONFERENCE Agricultural innovation in dryland Africa: What are the key drivers for success?

Main Lessons learned from the AIDA Conference

The case studies presented during the conference provided evidence that there is great potential for dryland agriculture in Africa. Experiences were shared on :

- best-bet approaches to sustainable agricultural development in Africa's Drylands
- monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and procedures of interventions aimed at improving rural livelihoods
- Identification of knowledge gaps and development research needs