

SSA NGO Consortium: Side-Event Outcomes



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SSA NGO Consortium – Focal Point, Southern Africa

JOHANNESBURG 13 JUIN 2007

Why the consortium?

- Have closer linkages to grass roots issues
- Provide interface between research and policy
- Current scenario - poor coordination among the NGOs as well as between NGOs and other stakeholders
- in adequate attention to emerging issues
- lack of information sharing and dissemination
- Need for consensus - articulation of NGOs perspective and views, as well as the voice of local communities

Our vision for Africa

- Urgency for REAL change, where NGO will be key participates to a new architecture of ARD in Africa
- **Vision:** An inclusive ARD system, generating appropriate innovations that result in sustainable livelihoods

What is the Consortium

- Established in June 2005 at FARA GA 2005
- Positioned itself as a continental NGO network, with functional sub-regional focal points

The proceedings of the Side-event

- Attended by all the CSOs constituencies (sub-regional farmers' organizations, NGOs, private sector) and researchers
- Key note addresses: GFAR Chair, and FARA Executive Secretary

(key note address: stressed the importance of the CSOs as principal stakeholders in the ARD arena)

Evidence based advocacy: case studies

FARA supported 4 SSA NGO-C case studies

- *Impact of small scale **seed production** (SSSP) in Mulodi, Limpopo Province, **South Africa***
- *Little progress in **increased funding** to the agricultural sector in Sub-Saharan Africa: implications for small holder farmer*
- ***Impact assessment** on partnerships between IARCs and CSO groups: the Case of **Mali***
- *Partnership between IADO and TaCRI on **Cloning of Coffee** in Mbeya Region of **Tanzania***



Visiting the clonal garden in Isangati during an evaluation exercise.

Way Forward

Discussions covered:

- Stock taking of past activities and planning for the next triennium
- Repositioning the consortium in line with the current regional as well as global emerging issues
- The proposed regional ARD agenda and identifying linkages and areas for collaboration

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Institutional Development of the Consortium

- Secretariat: The interim committee resolved that the interim secretariat be based in South Africa.
- Strengthening linkages to sub regional forums and programmes.
- Support to the functional operations of sub regional focal points.
- Support the on-going typology and mobilisation of NGOs membership.
- Work with other stakeholders in ARD

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. Advocacy and public awareness.

SSA NGO C will work with FARA to address the following issues:

- a) Advocate for an inclusive ARD at sub-regional levels (e.g. SROs decision making and agenda setting processes)
- b) advocate for, raise awareness, and mobilise women's and youth participation in ARD
- c) advocate for and raise awareness sustainable ARD
- e) Raise awareness on current global emerging issues (climate change, bio-energy, trade, and access to fair markets)

RECOMMENDATIONS

3. Partnerships and Strategic alliance

- Assist and contribute to mechanisms for technology and Innovation dissemination
- Closely engage with other FARA initiatives such as PEAPARD, SSA CP, DONATA, RAILS, ABBI and FAAP.
- Work with FARA, GFAR, and SROs to enhance access to knowledge and technology by end users.
- Collaborate with CG-Centers based in Africa and other key players in ARD, that will support our vision and mission

Consortium Committee

ii			
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