

## Back to Office report

### FARA 5th African Agriculture Science week and General Assembly of the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA)

<b>Destination</b>	Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
<b>Dates</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> – 24th July 2010
<b>Persons</b>	Anne Sørensen, Chief Coordinator DDRN
<b>Organization visited</b>	FARA
<b>Persons met</b>	FARA members including meetings with representatives from sub-regional networks, and representatives from EFARD, PAEPARD, UniBRAIN, American universities and AusAID,
<b>Objective</b>	<p>The overall theme of the Conference was 'African Agricultural Innovation in a Changing Global Environment'. The objectives were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To hold the 5th African Agricultural Science Week and the 5th FARA General Assembly.</li> <li>• To enable FARA members to meet and review progress and lessons learnt since the 4th GA and plan for the next three years.</li> <li>• To hold a Burkina Faso Agricultural Science day to raise awareness on the relevance and impact of agricultural research in alleviating poverty, promoting food security and protecting the environment</li> </ul> <p>How the expected objectives of the Conference were met will not be the focus of this report which will concentrate on the DDRN objectives of participating in the Conference. These were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To get updated on the challenges and issues that African agricultural research face and how these are addressed by FARA</li> <li>2. To network, establish new contacts and inform about DDRN</li> <li>3. To represent the Danish resource base in meetings (organized in the margins of the main conference) of the EFARD steering committee; and the International organizing Committee for the forthcoming Ministerial Meeting on Higher Agricultural Education in Uganda (Nov 2010).</li> </ol>
<b>Discussion Summary</b>	<p>The first objective was fully met. The conference themes and sub-themes were well chosen by FARA and there were many interesting presentations and discussions in plenary and in the numerous parallel sessions. In consideration of DDRN's current activity programme and priorities the coordinator decided to focus on: Capacity strengthening in Higher Education, including a separate sub-session on gender (19-20 July). An overview of open space side events, See also Annex 8 and <a href="http://www.faraweek.org/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=47&amp;Itemid=82">www.faraweek.org/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=47&amp;Itemid=82</a></p> <p>The expectations of the second objective were also met and the coordinator acquired a list of new contacts and links that will be 'put into use' in future network activities and follow-up. Finally, the expectations regarding the third objective were also fulfilled. In addition to meetings scheduled prior to the conference (EFARD and IOC for CHEA) meetings were held with AusAID (on UniBRAIN and upon the request of Ralph Kaufmann), RUFORUM staff and representatives from various universities in Africa and USA.</p>

<b>Recommendations/ Conclusion</b>	Participation in the FARA Conference was worth while. It has strengthened DDRN's links with existing collaborating networks and partner institutions in Africa. The DDRN secretariat will follow up on these contacts. It was also an excellent opportunity for acquiring new knowledge and information about ongoing African programmes and projects within themes and areas of priority to DDRN, e.g. capacity building in tertiary education, food security, and climate changes and gender.
<b>Action items for the DDRN</b>	DDRN will disseminate relevant information and knowledge from the conference to its members and users, and to relevant Danish institutions..
<b>Annex 1</b>	<p><b>Plenary sessions: FARA 5th African Agriculture Science week and General Assembly</b></p> <p><u>Principal outcomes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A recognition and acceptance by all ARD stakeholders of the need to foster a new epoch of collaboration that links evidence-based solutions being developed by researchers to public and private sector investments; Consensus on uniting around an integrated approach to agricultural development.</li> <li>• Concrete examples of how research institutes, extension agents, and farmers' organizations have worked together to introduce improved crop varieties of staples (Nigeria, Uganda, Niger, Mozambique).</li> <li>• Introduction of the idea of "virtual knowledge centers" that link the country's farm scientists to rural communities and direct researchers to identify problems and create solutions.</li> <li>• Deepening commitment from governments to pursuing agriculture-driven economic growth within African Union's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP). 19 countries have adopted a common approach to agricultural development that includes a commitment to increasing agriculture production by 6 percent each year and allocating 10 percent of government budgets to the farm sector. Burkina Faso signed the CAADP compact on the final day of the General Assembly.</li> <li>• <b>Departing challenge:</b> <i>"will you do differently next week when you return to your offices? Because if we do not have new impacts to report at the next meeting, and only continue to talk about strategies and plans, then we will have collectively failed....we need to produce results in terms of training of tomorrow's researchers and others, influencing policy, increasing public understanding, taking millions out of poverty, and reducing the impact of agriculture on the environment. We need to identify those who may benefit from or make use of our research, how they will benefit, and we need to devote time and money to communications"</i> David Howlett of the <a href="http://www.faraweek.org/">Africa College at Leeds University</a>. Read more on the content and the outcomes of the conference on: <a href="http://www.faraweek.org/">www.faraweek.org/</a></li> </ul>
<b>Annex 2</b>	<p><b>Capacity Strengthening Side Event 19-20<sup>th</sup> July 2010</b></p> <p><u>Principal outcomes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DDRN should keep in touch with the core group of African researchers /university staff who work towards reforming and increasing the relevance of African agricultural universities and strengthening higher education.</li> <li>• DDRN should feed the knowledge acquired within this area to the relevant planned thematic DU platforms once they are established, especially regarding collaboration opportunities within capacity strengthening in agricultural tertiary education.</li> <li>• The session where the UniBRAIN project was presented was attended by 90 participants. The participants' interest in UniBRAIN and the key concept of innovation incubators was great.</li> </ul> <p><u>Challenges:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Africa's human capital for agriculture is still deficient</li> <li>• AET is isolated from research &amp; extension and is given low priority</li> <li>• Performance of Africa's ARD requires strengthening with leadership and soft skills</li> </ul>

- Innovations across the value chain are required
- Need for strategic partnerships within and outside of the continent.
- Agribusiness success is needed to boost growth of Agricultural sector. Success is underpinned by two critical factors: 1) The operational environment affects performance – economic growth, infrastructure, political stability and rates of inflation; and 2) Internal success factors as follows:
  - There is a disconnect between institutions of higher learning and the private sector
  - Inefficient allocation of scarce resources to capacity building
  - Many capacity building initiatives in Africa are not embedded in national programmes and end with donor funding
  - Ineffective leadership to champion innovation across the board

#### Way forward/recommendations

##### **1. Need to intensify action through regional initiatives**

- Consolidate achievements from regional capacity building initiatives as the major mechanism for maximizing use of resources in the region and return to investment. This means:
  - Creating preconditions that will support reform in institutions
  - Develop partnerships that recognize our diversity

##### **2. Africa's Universities can play a bigger role in facilitating development**

- African universities should be used to support creating capacity to create wealth for Africa as envisioned in CAADP
- National university networks should engage in building capacity for CAADP targeting Country Teams especially capacity management processes
- Universities can and should be part of country expert pools for quality investment planning, ownership and relevance
- Ensure that Africa's women are well targeted
- Embed gender considerations in all capacity building initiatives
- Design and targeting of initiatives should be underpinned by rigorous analysis of capacity deficit in the continent
- Incentivize innovation actors in universities

##### **3. Link Universities to Industry**

- Recognize the need to close the gap in innovation process. The partnership between universities and the private sector is critical. The concept of innovation incubators such as UniBRAIN is an example that needs our support

##### **4. Consolidation and expansion of best practices**

- Make a case for investing in HE. There is an opportunity at the Ministerial Conference on HE in November in Kampala 2010, an African action framework

##### **5. Africa should make better use of available global resources for capacity development**

- E-Learning and other technological advances
- Competences for harnessing available global knowledge products and other opportunities as part of global learning community

##### **6. Build capacity for foresight planning in Africa**

- Build capacity to sustainably plan for the future
- Develop a framework of the institutions involved
- Business plan
- Encourage involvement of Min of Finance
- What is the role of the ARI? ...most emphasis has been on Univ.
- Inclusion of Gender + make specific presentation at GA
- Enhance investment for CB for CAADP process & increase visibility of CB
- Address economic growth statistics

<p><b>Annex 3</b></p>	<p><b>Engendering Agricultural Research and Training Side Event, 20<sup>th</sup> July 2010</b></p> <p><u>Principal outcomes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DDRN should keep in touch with gender contacts from IFPRI, African universities, CGIAR and other gender groups working with mainstreaming gender in ARD and AET in Africa</li> </ul> <p>Of immediate DDRN interest are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contacts with several potential resource persons who can be an important source of inspiration and knowledge for mainstreaming gender in the new Danish development strategy, and a dialogue partner to DDRN and GenderNET.</li> </ul> <p><u>Challenges:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research &amp; training institutions have not yet adequately addressed gender in their policies, structures, and programs hence commitment and funding for gender remains inadequate.</li> <li>• Agricultural institutions have inadequate capacity to practically integrate gender into agricultural research and training.</li> <li>• Very low numbers of girls and women enrolled in agricultural training and challenges of their retention.</li> <li>• The research agenda and agricultural training do not adequately reflect the needs and priorities of women and other disadvantaged groups.</li> </ul> <p><u>Way forward/recommendations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create an enabling policy and structural environment for gender mainstreaming through policy audits, restructuring and budgeting adequate resources (human, financial &amp; others). This calls for integrating a gender perspective in all policies, programs and practices.</li> <li>• Broaden research agenda beyond production technology to include focus on the whole commodity value chains and creating linkages to other disciplines e.g. natural resource management, health and nutrition</li> <li>• Develop the capacity of institutions to mainstream gender through building a critical mass of management and staff with relevant competencies</li> <li>• Increase the enrollment, retention and performance of female students in agricultural higher education through increased investments in career guidance in primary and secondary schools, remedial training, mentoring, scholarships and social support programs targeting girls.</li> <li>• Build and/or strengthen partnerships between international &amp; local research institutions, universities, NGOs, government agencies (those in agriculture &amp; other sectors), and the private sector for enhanced integration of gender in research and development.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Annex 4</b></p>	<p><b>Meeting in EFARD SC 20th July 2010</b></p> <p>An extraordinary meeting of the EFARD Steering Committee was held in Ouagadougou 20<sup>th</sup> July 2010. 13 members participated in the meeting which was chaired by the new incoming Chair, Mme Catherine Guichard of COLEACP. The minutes of this meeting is available from the DDRN office upon request. Main issues discussed include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PAEPARD's support to the EFARD secretariat</li> <li>• AGRINATURA's proposal for a study on the feasibility of different options for intercontinental platforms taking account regional differences rather than strictly following the PAEPARD model (invited by and funded under the EIARD FSTP Project). GCARD follow up – what is expected from EFARD?</li> </ul> <p><u>Summary of main action points:</u></p>

	<p>i. EFARD focal point for the southern platforms study would be selected at next SC meeting. Action: SC members to propose/ volunteer at September meeting.</p> <p>ii. Prepare a short paper on the GCARD roadmap (for approval by EFARD SC) that would be submitted to GFAR. EFARD Chair to write to GFAR by 13<sup>th</sup> August.</p>
<b>Annex 4</b>	<p><b>Meeting in IOC Ministerial Meeting on Higher Education (CHEA) 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010</b></p> <p><u>Principal outcomes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An updated conference programme and revised time schedule for the preparatory phase.</li> <li>• Discussion and clarification of outstanding issues related to participants, presenters, formats etc.</li> </ul> <p>Of immediate interest are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was decided to have a two day pre-conference training on policy advocacy for deans/university staff and RUFORUM programme officers. DDRN will, assisted by Enrique Mendizabal from ODI, be the lead organizer of this meeting, which will take place 13-14 November in Kampala.</li> <li>• DDRN and Danish Universities (through their membership of AGRINATURA) are involved in three of the seven themes of the Ministerial Meeting on Higher Education ( Theme 5: Linking Universities to Policy Frameworks - Placing Agricultural Tertiary Education in the Policy Agenda; Theme 6: Strengthening Partnerships in Agricultural Tertiary Education; and Theme 7: Transforming Universities to become Learning Institutions.</li> </ul>
<b>Annex 5</b>	<p><b>Meeting with AusAID</b></p> <p>In on 21<sup>st</sup> of July 2010 an informal meeting was held with Bruce Pengelly, Partnerships Leader CSIRO-AusAID African Food Security Initiative, Australia (IARC). Bruce would like to discuss the UniBRAIN project and to get information about Danida's involvement in this project. Ralph Kaufmann also participated in the meeting. Bruce informed about AusAID priorities and possible interest in joining Danida in its support to UniBRAIN. In the absence of a Danida representative at the meeting AS gave a background to Danida's involvement in UniBRAIN.</p> <p><u>Principal outcomes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AusAID has allocated more than 50 million dollars to the following priority areas: 1) farming systems in West Africa – through CORAF; 2) bioscience (BECA) linked to Australian technology/products; and 3) Basic Education (BASIC), regional component (FARA).</li> <li>• UniBRAIN was number 4 among the priority areas identified and therefore not allocated any funds. As some of the projects mentioned above (1-3) might not get off ground, AusAID may still be interested in joining Danida in financing part of UniBRAIN in the future, especially activities, e.g. placement of one incubator, in West Africa, where AusAID is already active, e.g. if some of the above mentioned projects (1-3) do not take off.</li> <li>• AS to brief Danida about meeting with AusAID so that they can follow up on this contact.</li> </ul>
<b>Annex 6</b>	<p><b>Other Meetings (Ralph Kaufmann, Joseph Kofi Adin, Ekwamu Adipala, Moses Osiru)</b></p> <p><u>Principal outcomes:</u></p> <p>Ralph Kaufmann and Joseph Kofi Adin:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Input to UniBRAIN new communication strategy given.</li> <li>• AS introduced to new communications officer of UniBRAIN Joseph Kofi Adin.</li> </ul> <p>Ekwamu Adipala and Moses Osiru:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Road map for DDRN involvement in CHEA and pre-CHEA meeting developed and various outstanding issues clarified.</li> </ul>

**Annex 7  
FARA Wrap  
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release**

**Africa Continent Poised for Major Expansion of Food Production, Say Leading Experts Gathered in Ouagadougou**

*Although Challenges Remain, Growing Evidence Supports Need for Investments in Integrated Approaches to Bring Fruits of Science to Farmers in the Field*

**OUAGADOUGOU, BURKINA FASO (23 JULY 2010)**--A major gathering of over 700 African scientists, farmers, ministers, policymakers, and public and private sector interests from across the continent and around the world concluded today with a firm consensus that African-led agriculture innovations are poised to move the continent from “laggard” to “lion” in food production and economic development.

“Agriculture in Africa is turning around. But if we want to put the days of stagnation firmly behind us, we need to foster a new era of collaboration that links evidence-based solutions being developed by researchers to public and private sector investments. None of us can work in isolation,” said Dr. Monty Jones, Executive Director of the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) at 5th Agriculture Science Week and FARA General Assembly in Ouagadougou.

“The consensus coalescing around an integrated approach to agricultural development will allow Africa to transition from being a perennial „laggard” in food production to a „lion” on the move,” Jones added.

The gathering featured five days of intensive exchanges on how to increase investments in African agriculture in the wake of the financial crisis and priorities for mitigating the risks posed by globalization and climate change.

The FARA General Assembly occurred amidst growing interest from both inside and outside of Africa on how to realize the continent’s untapped agricultural potential. A report released earlier this month from McKinsey & Company predicts Africa’s agriculture sector could rapidly advance from generating US \$280 billion a year today in revenue to \$500 billion by 2020 to as much as \$880 billion by 2030. According to some estimates, Africa has 60 percent of the world’s remaining arable land and an unmatched bounty of natural resources and plant and animal biodiversity. Jones and others at the General Assembly acknowledged that significant challenges remain in addressing chronic food problems, as witnessed by the food shortages now affecting Niger and other countries of the Sahel region.

But they insisted the overall trends across Africa are positive and noted that several African nations are on track to reach the United Nations Millennium Development Goal of cutting poverty in half by 2015.

For example, there were discussions at the conference of projects underway in northern Nigeria, Mozambique, southern Niger, and Uganda that have brought together research institutes, extension agents, and farmers’ organizations to introduce improved crop varieties of staples. In Uganda, farmers are growing NERICA rice varieties in upland areas that had never produced rice before. Uganda is now a net-exporter of rice.

“We are seeing in these and many other initiatives underway today how the process of integrating agriculture research for development (AR4D) can rapidly deliver innovation,” said Denis Kyetere, Director General, National Agricultural Research Organization (NARO), Uganda, and Chairman of FARA’s Executive Board.

Among the many themes that emerged during the week was the need for more direct links between the researchers who are developing improved seeds and new farming techniques for Africa's challenging, rain-fed conditions and the farmers who must implement them. Farmer groups in particular made it clear that they must have a voice in establishing research priorities.

"Smallholder farmers in Africa are researchers in their own right," Abiel Banda, Vice President of the Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU). "Where there is an identification of indigenous technology by farmers, researchers must recognize it. They need us as much as we need them."

This theme was echoed by Hon. Mr. Venâncio Simão Massingue, Mozambique's Minister of Science and Technology. He described the creation in "virtual knowledge centers" that link the country's farm scientists to rural communities and direct researchers to identify problems and create solutions. "When my scientists go into the field, I ask them not to even take bottled water and mosquito repellents. They need to understand the conditions in the community if they are going to understand their problems," he said.

The FARA meeting also revealed a deepening commitment from governments to pursuing agriculture-driven economic growth.

Ministers from several African countries were on hand to announce their commitment to the African Union's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP). There are now 19 countries in Africa that through CAADP have adopted a common approach to agriculture development that includes a commitment to increasing agriculture production by six percent each year and allocating ten percent of government budgets to the farm sector. Burkina Faso signed the CAADP compact on the final day of the General Assembly.

Harvard University's Calestous Juma said effectively using government funds and policies to improve agriculture means decision makers must pay greater attention to emerging technology trends.

"Rapid scientific advancement and constant changes in the global knowledge ecology require African leaders at all levels to start creating institutions for scientific advice and analysis," he said. "Agricultural innovation could be the first beneficiary of informed advice from such bodies."

But it was widely noted at the conference that government action alone is insufficient. "Despite the progress we have achieved in strengthening funding for the agriculture sector, our investment needs remain huge and efforts are needed to find more support," said Hon. Dr. Laurent Sedogo, Burkina Faso's Minister of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries.

In a discussion on financing, Namanga Ngongi, president of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), said that farmers needed more consistent access to capital to increase adoption of new technologies. He pointed out that "agriculture contributes 40 percent of GDP and employs 70 percent of the labor force in Africa but it receives only two percent of commercial bank loans." AGRA's efforts to use credit guarantees to facilitate farmer financing in Tanzania, Mozambique, Ghana, and Kenya have "unlocked" \$160 million for smallholder farmers, local agro-dealers and others across the agriculture value chain, according to Ngongi.

Other issues highlighted at the conference included:

- Efforts underway across the continent to balance food production needs with the potential for

	<p>biofuels to provide both income and energy for agriculture enterprises.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The growing role of the BRIC countries--Brazil, India and China--in financing agriculture and other development projects in Africa.</li> <li>• Issues related to the use of biotechnology on African farms, including presentations on a program that is developing transgenic high-yield and drought-tolerant corn.</li> <li>• The importance of Africa’s plant and livestock biodiversity to addressing the challenges of food production, which included warnings that disease and drought resistant breeds that have evolved over thousands of years in Africa are at risk of being lost to various pressures, including cross-breeding with more productive but less resilient European and North American cattle.</li> </ul> <p>“The only way for Africa to move forward is from a position of strength. Ultimately, the solution to our food challenges will come not from charity, but from investment.” “If countries can maintain the positive momentum, Africa will soon be in a position of unprecedented strength,” said Monty Jones. “The challenge we put to our FARA members is to develop the relationships between researchers and farmers, between the public and the private sector, to create a platform for progress.”</p> <p>The <b>5th Africa Agricultural Science Week and FARA General Assembly</b> brings together representatives from African and non-African institutions involved in African agricultural research and development. The event was hosted by the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA). Our partners include farmers' and pastoralists' organisations, national and international agricultural research Centres, universities, NGOs and private enterprises.</p> <p>For more information please visit: <a href="http://www.faraweek.org">www.faraweek.org</a>. To stay informed about news and highlights from each day, please visit: <a href="http://www.faraweek2010.blogspot.com">www.faraweek2010.blogspot.com</a></p>
<p><b>Annex 8 Summary of plenary recommendations</b></p>	<p><b>THEME: AFRICAN AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION IN A CHANGING GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <p><b>Sub theme 1: Investment in agricultural innovation in the post financial crisis era</b></p> <p>Recognize</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Increased investments in and opportunities for African ARD</li> <li>•Total Africa ARD investments levels increased since 2000, but remain fragile.</li> <li>•There are more research staff, but qualification level is low</li> </ul> <p>Need for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Advocacy for development agencies’ ARD agenda to reflect African needs and priorities and achieve equitable and sustainable partnerships</li> <li>•More quantitative information on performance of agricultural S&amp;T to provide insights</li> </ul> <p>Required action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Platforms to facilitate innovative partnership with Europe</li> <li>•Investments to increase capacity to access funding opportunities</li> <li>•FARA, SROs, NARS and other stakeholders to use evidence through R&amp;D on trends and impacts on ARD investments</li> </ul> <p><b>Subtheme 1: Investment in agricultural innovation in the post financial crisis era</b></p> <p>Recognize</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•PPP are essential in bringing technological innovations to smallholder farmers</li> </ul> <p>Need</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Policies to effectively regulate but not hinder access to technologies &amp; transfer agreements</li> </ul> <p>Required action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Improve access to knowledge, business and market information</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Subtheme 1: Investment in agricultural innovation in the post financial crisis era</b></p> <p>Recognize:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The establishment of CCARDESA in SADC and regional agricultural policy</li> </ul> <p>Need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•For stronger policy coordination, public action and investments towards deeper regional integration in SADC</li> </ul> <p>Required action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Establishment of a development fund to support investment plans</li> </ul> <p><b>Subtheme 2: Knowledge centres and networks to cope with the challenges of globalization and climate change</b></p> <p>Recognize</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Increased awareness and use of knowledge and know-how of communities</li> <li>•Difficulty in accessing and sharing information on best ways to improve productivity and protect farm investments</li> <li>•African AR4D systems do not adequately link research, education and outreach to development activities</li> </ul> <p>Need</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•For greater investments for all stakeholders to strengthen capacities to utilize tools and platforms, expand use beyond internet</li> <li>•To actualize frameworks, plans and strategies for rural empowerment, investments in strengthening ARD and greater accessibility of ARD outputs</li> </ul> <p>Required action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Support community-led integration of agricultural practices, extension, research and policies</li> <li>•Support inclusive technology innovation</li> <li>•Targeted partnerships between communities, research and NGOs on adaptation strategies</li> <li>•Develop program for scaling up and out of integrated ARD (IAR4D) concept along the CAADP Pillar IV framework</li> <li>•Intensify human capital development for ARD through regional capacity strengthening initiatives to maximise resource use, rationalization and benefits.</li> <li>•Promote agri-business growth by catalyzing innovation incubation and functional linkages between university and industry</li> </ul> <p><b>Subtheme 2: Knowledge centres and networks to cope with the challenges of globalization and climate change</b></p> <p>Recognize</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The Africa-wide competitions help to motivate women and young scientists and bring out the best talent but also serve to identify skill gaps</li> </ul> <p>Need</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Provide more opportunities for women scientists and young professionals</li> </ul> <p>Required action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•FARA, CTA, RUFORUM, ANAFE, AGRA and partners must continue to recognize, reward and involve outstanding African women &amp; young scientists</li> </ul> <p><b>Subtheme 2: Knowledge centres and networks to cope with the challenges of globalization and climate change</b></p> <p>Recognize</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agricultural Advisory Services are critical in achieving CAADP agenda</li> <li>• African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services provides a framework for linking actors in Agricultural Advisory Services</li> </ul>
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	<p>Need</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Resources to mobilize and influence policies to foster effective agricultural advisory services</li> </ul> <p>Required action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Support AFAAS to develop its capacity to facilitate agricultural innovations</li> </ul> <p><b>Subtheme 2: Knowledge centres and networks to cope with the challenges of globalization and climate change</b></p> <p>Recognize</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Misconceptions, limited understanding, poor attitudes and culture about gender issues</li> </ul> <p>Need</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Create enabling policy environment for gender mainstreaming</li> </ul> <p>Required action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Policy audit and reform on gender to improve balanced gender performance</li> </ul> <p><b>Subtheme 2: Knowledge centres and networks to cope with the challenges of globalization and climate change</b></p> <p>Recognize</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Climate variability and future climate change are major threats to farmers and Africa’s prosperity</li> <li>•Improving collaboration among agriculture scientists and climate scientists and to inform climate change policies</li> </ul> <p>Need</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Help farmers to cope as a first step in adapting to climate change</li> <li>•Redouble efforts to produce technologies &amp; accurate weather forecasts</li> </ul> <p>Required action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Researchers to produce and present evidence to national and regional policy makers (AU/NPCA, FARA, RECs) on the place of agriculture in climate change policies</li> <li>•Build on AfricaAdaptto setup knowledge platform on climate change to inform and harmonize policies and identify research issues</li> </ul> <p><b>Subtheme 2: Knowledge centres and networks to cope with the challenges of globalization and climate change</b></p> <p>Recognize</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Increasing crop pest outbreaks</li> </ul> <p>Need</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Adopt a preventive culture</li> </ul> <p>Required action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•To map and build capacity of players in crop pest outbreak prevention and response</li> </ul> <p><b>Subtheme 2: Knowledge centres and networks to cope with the challenges of globalization and climate change</b></p> <p>Recognize</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Developing livestock and fish value chains is of paramount importance to food and nutrition security</li> </ul> <p>Need</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Articulate balance between impact and benefits, increased production and environmental implications</li> </ul> <p>Required action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Strategy for scaling out successful country interventions regionally across different contexts</li> </ul>
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