

INSARD

Including Smallholders in Agricultural
Research for Development

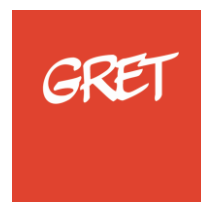
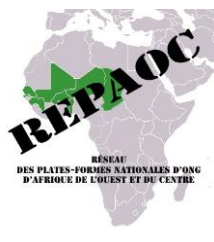
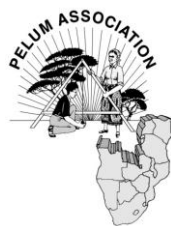


INSARD Mapping Study Consultation Workshop on Coordination Mechanisms and Fund Flows in ARD

19 November 2011

Kivi Milimani Hotel

Nairobi



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AfDB	African Development Bank
ARD	Agricultural Research for Development
ARI	Agriculture Research Institute
ASARECA	Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in East and Central Africa
BSF	Biotechnology Stakeholders Forum
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme
CAPAD	Confederation of Agricultural Producer Associations for Development 47
CCARDESA	Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa
CBO	Community-Based Organisation
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
CSM	Civil Society Mechanism
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CTA	Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation
DFID	Department for International Development
EAFF	Eastern Africa Farmers Federation
EC	European Commission
ESAFF	Eastern and Southern Africa small-scale Farmers Forum
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FARA	Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa
FANRPAN	Food Agriculture Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network
FO	Farmer Organisation
GCARD	Global Conference on Agricultural Research and Development
GFAR	Global Forum for Agricultural Research
GFRAS	Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services
GMOs	Genetically Modified Organisms
IAASTD	International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development
ICRA	International Centre for development oriented Research in Agriculture
IFAD	International Fund for Agriculture Development
IFAP	International Federation of Agricultural Producers
IIED	International Institute for Environment and Development
INSARD	Including Smallholders in Agricultural Research for Development
KARI	Kenya Agricultural Research Institute
KIOF	Kenya Institute of Organic Farming
MDTF	Multi Donor Trust Fund
NARI	National Agricultural Research Institute
NARS	National Agricultural Research System
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
PAEPARD	Platform for African–European Partnership in Agricultural Research for Development
PCFS	People's Coalition for Food Sovereignty
PELUM	Participatory Ecological Land Use Management
PROLINNOVA	Promoting Local Innovation in ecologically oriented agriculture and NRM
REPAOC	Réseau des Plates-formes nationales d'ONG d'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre
RUFORUM	Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture
SRO	Subregional Organisation
SSA	Sub-Saharan Africa
SSA NGOC	Sub-Saharan Africa Non-Governmental Organization Consortium
UN	United Nations
WB	World Bank
WFO	World Farmers Organization

1. BACKGROUND

In the recent decades, support for agricultural development and agricultural research has been reducing, often neglecting small-scale farmers. Many bilateral donors have stopped funding agricultural research for development programmes or focus research agenda on larger-scale and export-oriented agriculture. In addition, only 6% of the agricultural research and/or development (ARD) investments worldwide were spent in 80 mostly low-income countries (International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development IAASTD 2008)

There is increasing debate on the need to revisit the organisation and approach of ARD in order to increase its effectiveness. There is generally wide agreement that, in this current process of reorienting and strategising ARD and reforming ARD institutions, the input and effective involvement of civil-society organisations (CSOs) beyond traditional researchers and private sector will be critically important in order to make ARD more relevant to food producers.

Including Smallholders in Agriculture Research for Development (INSARD) is an EC-funded partnership project involving six African and European-based CSOs¹. INSARD is working towards making it easier for CSOs – both non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and farmer organisations (FOs) – to be actively involved in influencing agricultural research systems in Africa.

“Mapping CSO Engagement and Resource Allocation Processes” (in short “mapping study”) was the first activity under the project. The start-up study, set out to provide an inventory of African and European CSOs involved in ARD in sub-Saharan Africa; identify the formal and informal linkages between CSOs and other stakeholders involved in ARD; and identify potentials and blockages in the ARD system to realising a greater participation of CSOs in prioritising, formulating and carrying out ARD. The study also looked into resource allocation for ARD in sub-Saharan Africa, and how and where and by whom the decisions for such allocation are made.

This study was planned to contribute to:

- Designing and implementing a consultative mechanism that allows various CSO representatives to participate meaningfully in African, European and international deliberations on ARD;
- Triggering the necessary change in direction of the ARD system toward a more demand-led, grounded and smallholder-focused research and innovation system; and
- Stimulating greater resource flows to research involving small-scale farmers.

¹ ESAFF, ETC Foundation, GRET, PELUM Association, Practical Action and REPAOC

2. WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS

2.1 Opening remarks

An international consultation meeting was held on 19 November 2011 in Nairobi to discuss the findings of the study. The meeting was opened officially by the PELUM Secretary General, Faustin Vuningoma, who gave the opening remarks. He cited the importance of ARD and thanked the members of the consortium for having come together to design such an important project. He thanked the donors for the funds provided and welcomed the participants to such an event where their ideas are required and wished everybody fruitful deliberations. The consultation meeting was attended by about 30 people from research institutions, NGOs (African and European-based) and FOs.

2.2 Brief about the project

To set the scene and context to the study, a brief about the project was made by Agnes Yawe from PELUM Association (Regional Desk). She highlighted the partnership behind the project and their common ideology: belief in agro-ecological farming models and innovation systems that tap into farmer knowledge systems. She highlighted an ideal ARD system: one that is fed by and feeds into knowledge of multiple stakeholders, thus recognising the complementary role of diverse players including NGOs, the importance of considering ARD not just in terms of producing new technologies but also in terms of an appropriate and inclusive ARD governance system.

She explained the aim of the project as: *ensuring an informed participation of a broad range of European and African civil society organisations in the formulation and implementation of ARD policies*, and elaborated pillars of the project: developing mechanism for consultation, brokering potential CSO versus mainstream ARD actor interactions, dialogue and lobbying key ARD decision-makers.

Reactions to the brief about the project

Qn: Is INSARD's focus on research broader including extension or narrowed to research only?

The scope within the project lifespan is largely focused on research; however, the outcome of involving CSOs contributes to the broader view, as CSOs are currently delivering extension which experience should be tapped through inclusive ARD processes.

Participants emphasised the need for a holistic approach to research including extension agents as key actors in ARD dynamics, thus the need to change the mindsets of scientists in this direction in order to enable them realise the need to interact with extension agents and farmers. Harry Palmier noted that this is the outlook of GFAR (Global Forum on Agricultural Research) to ARD and that GFAR is interacting with GFRAS (Global Forum on Rural Advisory Services) and advocating for an enabling environment for this.

2.3 Brief about GFAR (Global Forum for Agricultural Research) by Harry Palmier

GFAR is a global mechanism, built on regional organisations, stakeholder groups and communities of practice interested in influencing ARD. It holds a seat in the CGIAR (Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research) council and this gives it an entry point to influence decisions from within. Harry clarified that GFAR does not set research agenda but influences it.

He affirmed that, according to GFAR, ARD is not just technology development, but also governance, thus an appropriate system to bring in voices of different actors to dialogue and set action in motion is important to GFAR. In its governance structure – the GFAR Steering Committee (SC) – there is a seat for FOs, one for NGOs and one for the private sector (which can have a different face in developing countries than big companies like Monsanto). However, proper inclusion of CSOs (FOs and NGOs) at national and regional level is still a challenge despite resources set aside to facilitate their involvement. The key issues are:

- How to ensure an effective voice of the constituency;
- Lack of feedback loops by representatives.

For GFAR, it is not enough to have someone in a CSO seat giving his own ideas and position; he must feed back to groups, orchestrate discussion with stakeholders. GFAR is keen to figure out who can sit in the seat that was occupied by IFAP (International Federation of Agricultural Producers), which has gone bankrupt. A new organisation is emerging (World Farmers Organization, WFO), but is that the right one to have a seat in the GFAR SC? Given the circumstances, GFAR is happy to facilitate empowerment of different groups so as to ensure effective and equitable representation. It is advocating for a bottom-up approach in line with its principles. The challenge, however, still remains that, despite several programmes for improving capacity of targeted FOs and NGOs, there seems not to be impressive progress. This requires investigating the factors behind this fact. He noted that GFAR is seeking representation of smallholder producers and small-scale enterprises closer to smallholders.

Harry further elaborated that CGIAR has undergone reforms:

- Phasing out of the annual general meeting of the CGIAR and the triennial GFAR conference in favour of a single conference every two years of the two communities (CGIAR and GFAR):
- It is engaging in a midterm review of its governance structures; Harry invited INSARD to participate.

Plenary questions

1. What is the relationship between the GCARD roadmap with the IAASTD report that was highly consultative involving so many stakeholders? Is there need for another process than following the recommendations in this report?
2. Despite the fact that it is only one of the seven stakeholder groups, how come the CGIAR exerts the greatest influence within the GFAR?

Responses

GFAR associates itself to the IAASTD report as it made input in the messages. However, the report has not yet realised action, and the time is now for action. GFAR is looking forward to action-oriented recommendations, also expected from the INSARD meeting. GFAR is working with the Millennium Institute, headed by Hans Herren, to present the messages in the IAASTD report again at the Rio+20 meeting. GFAR doesn't believe any more in big conferences, pushing the same messages. People are impatient to see action and impact; GFAR needs engagement. It is up to FOs and NGOs to strengthen their inputs into the ARD dialogue at international level within the GFAR and to counterbalance the power of the CGIAR in setting the ARD agenda in terms of both content and approach.

Harry clarified that, in the CGIAR, there is a problem of power and that they have identified avenues for action. GFAR has discussed with regional organisations that made requests for support in capacity development and partnerships, and is signing letters of agreement with each of six regional organisations. GFAR can only provide seed money; the regional organisations are the real actors; GFAR is the facilitating body at global level. For GFAR to have equal partnerships, the regional organisations need to achieve transformation.

He stated that FOs do not have support to be present at all meetings; it is a problem of information and trust. Each group has to make its own efforts to be empowered, and GFAR can facilitate. After the Montpellier meeting, the CSO-GARD was formed but how can GFAR be certain that they reflect the consensus of the wider CSO group?

There is feedback from members of NGOs about their representation, and GFAR has been approached by the WFO, which was an observer in last SC meeting; we are open for discussion with them.

A summary of the mapping study findings:

Mutizwa presented the study findings and case studies of CSO involvement mechanisms in ARD. With this knowledge and own experiences, participants should make suggestions on how to operationalise an inclusive ARD system.

The Mapping CSO Engagement and Resource Allocation Processes in Agricultural Research for Development in SSA and the EU study was commissioned by INSARD with an aim to support ARD partnerships towards research and innovation systems that are more demand-led, grounded, smallholder-focused and agro-ecologically oriented by facilitating the design and implementation of a consultation mechanism that allows for adequate CSO involvement in ARD agenda setting, implementation and resource allocation.

Study objectives

1. To identify FOs and NGOs involved in smallholder-focused ARD in SSA and the EU; existing ARD participation and consultation mechanisms; and decision-making bodies that approve international and regional research budgets related on ARD; and to identify challenges and opportunities for achieving effective participation of CSOs in the prioritisation, formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of ARD;
2. To make recommendations on how effective CSO involvement can be realised and how the coordination of CSOs involved in ARD could be improved.

Purpose of meeting. The international consultation meeting was to obtain feedback on the study findings, agree on strategies to increase effectiveness of CSO involvement in ARD in SSA, and agree on CSO coordination and communication mechanism(s) and actions for its operationalisation.

Mutizwa clarified the study methodology, ARD conceptualisation and CSO definitional scope.

ARD conceptualisation in the study was based on ICRA (International Centre for development-oriented Research in Agriculture) principles: *Including biological, economic and social research on the production, storage, processing, and marketing of crops, trees, fodder, forage, livestock, and fish; as well as natural resource management; policy development; knowledge dissemination, transfer, and adoption; capacity building; and the up-and out-scaling, distribution and uptake of research products.* (Pound, van Dijk, Waarts & Apenteng, 2011, p. 8)

The scope of the civil-society organisation (CSO) concept as applied in the study was NGOs, FOs, community-based organisations (CBOs) and indigenous peoples organisations (IPOs).

The findings. Having involved about 60 people (before the international feedback workshop) – farmers; NGO personnel; researchers & academics; donors and government officials – the study findings were summarised as follows:

- **CSO inventory.** 90 CSOs in SSA, 50 in the EU (see full inventory annexes) were found to be involved in ARD in four main ways: policy research; policy influence; field-based/oriented research; and capacity development. They work in partnership with universities, research institutes and government. Most of them started in 1990s, a period of farmer participatory research, those in policy research and influence in early 2000s normally with partnerships beyond national boundaries and linkages with media with networks having stronger focus on policy influence.

- **Patterns.** NGOs had three distinct roots, some started as relief and development organisations, others as university outreach programmes, while others as mechanisms for promoting use of research products.
- **Agenda-setting mechanisms** including entry points were highlighted. International mechanisms include GFAR, CGIAR, GCARD and CFS, and sub-Saharan mechanisms include PAEPARD, FARA, WECARD/CORAF, ASARECA and CCARDESA. Resource-allocation influencing platforms identified were BetterAid Open Forum, Global Donor Platform for Rural Development, European Initiative on Agricultural Research for Development (EIARD) and CGIAR. About 40 donors (multilateral, bilateral and foundations) in ARD were profiled in the study, and mention was made of the increasing role of some African governments in funding ARD.
- **Challenges faced by CSOs in agenda setting and influencing policy**

Challenges include: inadequate and poorly aligned consultation and feedback mechanisms; low densities of CSOs involved in ARD at country level; poor separation and coordination of duties within, between and among NGOs and FOs; competing interests among the CSOs at multiple levels and exclusion of certain CSOs in partnerships and mechanisms; poor linkages between field-based, research and policy-influencing CSOs; excessive use of confrontational approaches; and perceived and actual lack of capacity to generate evidence to back up positions. Mutizwa alluded to the fact that sometimes CSO input is undermined by researchers just because it originates from an CSO, thus raising an issue of mindsets as a challenge on the side of researchers. Short-term funding cycles, limited capacity to work jointly and lack of mandate to speak on behalf of others were other constraints faced by CSOs.

The report also highlighted some of the challenges in resource allocation and opportunities for CSO involvement in ARD: inadequate knowledge about resource-allocation mechanisms, lack of space to engage with donors, shifting donor interests, and lack of capacity and/or joint research to influence resource-allocation systems.

- **Recommendations**

Need for enhanced capacity among CSOs to conduct policy and field-based research by building domain knowledge through hiring and placing personnel with the necessary ARD competences; forming research partnerships with link-minded universities and research institutes instead of hiring them as consultants.

Need for robust mechanisms and approaches for CSOs to relate productively with one another and with other ARD stakeholders in order to generate and negotiate ARD priorities, methodologies & budgets; provide feedback to other CSOs among other vital roles.

SSA CSOs should demand space in resource-allocation mechanisms and increase their involvement in ARD resource-allocation processes through: linking with CSOs that hold positions in international ARD resource-allocation structures; and identifying and taking part in national budgetary processes and resource allocation mechanisms, among other strategies

Mutizwa also recommended that the AU's 10% budget allocation to agriculture, 2% of which was recommended for ARD, needs to be amplified.

Plenary questions

- What should the different roles of NGOs in engaging and influencing the research agenda be, since FOs and NGOs have different mandates?
- What capacities need to be built among farmers to relate to addressing the concern of representation? Where are FOs contributing to ARD? And if the ideal mechanisms were set up and functioning, how would things change?
- Shouldn't there be a widened definition of ARD to include other domains such as extension agents?
- There is likely to be a disengagement since most farmers keep their research to themselves due to lack of trust. Their concern is that their knowledge could be taken by research institutes and patented to be theirs. Thus the need to deal with mindsets not just of researchers but also of farmers. Researchers need to make farmers understand that they are open and can be trusted with knowledge.

Summary of responses

Sub-regional organisations (SROs) are working with FARA to strengthen capacity of FOs in Eastern and Southern Africa.

Within ASERECA, there is strong representation of FOs in national and sub-regional organisations. The head of EAFF sits in the Board of Governors in ASARECA. However, FOs need to enhance their capacity to effectively utilise these spaces.

The Civil Society Mechanism (CSM) would help to build trust since there are no local FOs with the voice and capacity to be heard.

FOs and NGOs have different mandates; they are structured differently and have different objectives. They need to identify their strengths and establish where it is better to collaborate with each other and with other institutions.

The Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) is a big opportunity just as FARA has the African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (AFAAS); this might be an opportunity for NGOs to engage and influence the research agenda.

GFRAS and ASARECA use a broad definition of ARD including both research and extension as a holistic way of enabling impactful ARD systems.

For effective engagement and collaboration, it is important to give enough time for a trust-building process. ARD has not been able to deliver as people had expected due to inadequate relevance. INSARD is a living example of the tensions and synergies in multistakeholder partnerships, so if we want a voice, we have to accept diversity; involving smallholders in ARD may need all kinds of actors at different levels, with many different things to do and learning how to perfect the interactions.

3. THE GOVERNANCE OF FARMER-LED AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH: EXPERIENCES FROM THE COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY AND GOVERNANCE

Luca Colombo (FIRAB- Italian Foundation for Research on Biological and Biodynamic Agriculture) focussed his presentation on highlighting the trends in ARD governance systems with increasing recognition of transforming knowledge and ways of knowing – specialist versus non-specialist knowledge. Further, he explained the achievements of CSO involvement in the Committee on World Food Security (CFS).

He gave background to participatory research and growing trends in farmer-led research aimed at democratising research, pooling together specialist and non-specialist knowledge. The approach is making progress in reshaping scientific mentality to progressively accept farmers – with their opinions, suggestions and criticisms – as partners with equal rights and respected know-how. Luca gave examples from Italy, where farmers share information, unlike scientists who keep information as intellectual property.

The farmer-to-farmer exchanges in organic farming have been recognised by the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and organic farming shall be included in the MoA's next planning, thus increasingly informing national decision-making.

He gave a historical perspective to the development. After the 2007–08 food crisis, a High Level Task Force G8-G20 Global Partnership formed the Committee on World Food Security (CFS). This underwent reforms in 2009, transforming it into an inter-organisational governance body reporting to the United Nations (UN) Assembly as opposed to FAO (Food and Agricultural Organisation of the UN) and allowing involvement of different actors including CSOs. A Civil Society Mechanism (CSM) under the CFS was thus established last year and offers a number of lessons for INSARD. It has a matrix composition constituting regional and global constituencies.

The final CFS reform proposal includes important points:

- The vision of CFS defines it as “the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform” for a coordinated effort to attain food security and makes explicit mention of the right to adequate food.
- The principle of “subsidiarity” (decisions should be taken at the lowest appropriate level) is recognised.
- There is a totally unprecedented level and quality of participation foreseen for civil society, with particular attention to organisations representing small-scale food producers, women and other key constituencies.
- Voting rights will continue to be reserved for member governments, but CSOs will be full participants with the right to intervene in plenary and breakout discussions, to contribute to the preparation of meeting documents and agendas, and to present documents and proposals.
- The reform document recognises the right of CSOs/NGOs to autonomously establish a global mechanism to facilitate their participation in the CFS.
- The proposal for a High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE), which will provide technical support for the work of the CFS, recognises the value of “knowledge from social actors and practical application” and foresees the participation of civil society representatives in the selection committee.
- The proposal recognises that “resource mobilisation strategies to cover the costs of participation by CSOs/NGOs from developing countries will need to be addressed.”

The CSO mechanism facilitates CSO participation in three main ways:

1. It proposes civil society to participate in the **CFS plenary sessions** (annual meetings where decisions are made).
2. The same applies for **intersessional activities** (interacting with the Bureau via the Advisory Group).
3. CSO representation in the **Advisory Group** (the Bureau's Advisory Group is a group made up of all the non-voting “participants” of the CFS, with the role to bring in the views of the participants).

A trust fund was established to facilitate participation of CSOs in meetings, in project teams, as experts etc.

The activities of the mechanism include:

- i. broad and regular exchange of information, analysis and experience;
- ii. developing common positions as appropriate;
- iii. communicating to the CFS and its Bureau;
- iv. convening a civil society forum as a preparatory event before CFS sessions, “if so decided by the civil society mechanism”. CSOs need time to consult and deliberate prior to official decision-making.

Ensuring regional and constituency balance in CSM, important for representation of different interests.

The following constituencies are included:

a) smallholder family farmers; b) artisanal fisherfolk; c) herders/pastoralists; d) landless; e) urban poor; f) agricultural and food workers; g) women; h) youth; i) consumers; j) Indigenous Peoples, and k) NGOs.

Lessons from the process

- Noted that CFS for now is not focused on ARD but there is increasing demand for an ARD agenda and a group on this will soon be established.
- CSM was not a gift (just given) but was a result of long-time struggles pushing for it, ample time needs to be factored, it took about 15 years for it to fully materialise; the process was also confrontational, involving nonstop dialogue with governments and UN agencies.
- Having a trust fund allocated for CSO participation took a lot of effort and advocacy to realise.
- Just one CSO in such global systems is not enough (as seen in the diversity of interests); at the same time, too many may not be realistic; arguments for a right balance should be advanced. Therefore one CSO/FO in ARD structures may probably not be enough; INSARD may need to create an argument for another, providing for, say, an agro-ecology interest group.

Plenary questions

How is the CSM dealing with CGIAR issues? How did you get there, i.e., how did you achieve the trust fund and effective representation? What are arrangements for actors in consulting their constituencies? How can we link up with these representatives? How are the CSOs focusing on CGIAR? How do we benefit from scientific information to construct the reports of the panel of experts?

Responses:

The CGIAR is an advisory group to the CFS and made substantial contribution in the old CFS process. The CGIAR now plays a less important role. It attends meetings and participates in discussions.

For the time being, the focus for CSOs in the mechanism is on global governance issues, focusing on most concrete outputs such as reports from the high-level panel of experts. Specific focus agricultural research issue will come soon, if it is not already there. There is interest among some CSOs that are playing a role in the CSM to advance in this agenda.

Key steps towards creating the CSM: The whole process took several years, up to about 15 years, and was accelerated by the food crisis - an opportunity. Parallel events were organised by civil society parallel to official FAO events, e.g. World Food Summit (2002). Food sovereignty CS fora were occasions for establishing a direct relationship with FAO and with governments that are in the FAO governance. In 2002, a letter of agreement (LoA) was signed with the Director General of FAO to collaborate on the CS forum agenda to create a platform for collaboration with more general importance. It was an acknowledged space for collaboration by autonomous definition of priority agenda set by the CS forum.

The agenda included the right to food issue, agro-ecological production and research aspects related to this, trade issues (WTO was very important): CS was a forum for food sovereignty. Four pillars of common agenda were in the LoA (No. 4 was access to resources). A contact group was established during the CSF reform: an informal dialogue space between the UN system, governments and other stakeholders. Civil society became a real other stakeholder.

The private sector was not very active. Philanthropic foundations were invited but did not play a substantial role. The Bretton Woods institutes were not attending the contact sessions very much. The contact group had subgroups: one was on the high-level panel of experts, a moment of acknowledging informal knowledge. Effective participation and trust fund were considered in the CSM document but it cost a lot of effort to have a Trust Fund allocated to the CSM. This is not in the CFS or FAO budget. It is based on commitment from a few governments, including several northern governments; the Brazilian Government is one of the CSM's best allies.

The CSM has a coordination committee; names of members are on the website (www.cso4cfs.org). They are the best entry points to liaise with on the CSM.

IFAD (International Fund for Agricultural Development) and FAO will play a more prominent role than the CGIAR. The question is: Who is sitting in these mechanisms on behalf of CSOs? Who is representing CSOs in SSA? There is a disconnect between global mechanisms and reality on the ground. The CSM is autonomous. The level of information sharing is important from the national to regional to global level: having proper feedback, interactive discussion; not looking for a unique voice, how to allow complexity of expression? Mechanisms need to function from bottom to top. We need to enable communities to provide inputs and be fully involved in this process; there are many areas to address if this is to happen. Many NGOs and farmer groups are in remote rural areas. How can they be connected? How can indigenous peoples react in two days to a long document in English? We have to clearly present this to our dialogue partners, to find a balance between efficiency and democracy.

The GFAR has to acknowledge that one single voice from NGOs is not enough; it has to convince donors to allocate resources to enable these processes, to create enabling mechanisms to have robust mechanisms. IAS need to be more inclusive, not just looking at farmer-led research but also issues for consumers and other stakeholders.

Agricultural research needs to look at the broader picture but the primary constituency is the farmer itself. A farmer-led agenda on governance should have farmers at the centre. Farmers are the first constituency to be involved in the design of research activities and innovation. A CSM set up at global level should function also at regional and national level. Most people representing these constituencies come from grassroots.

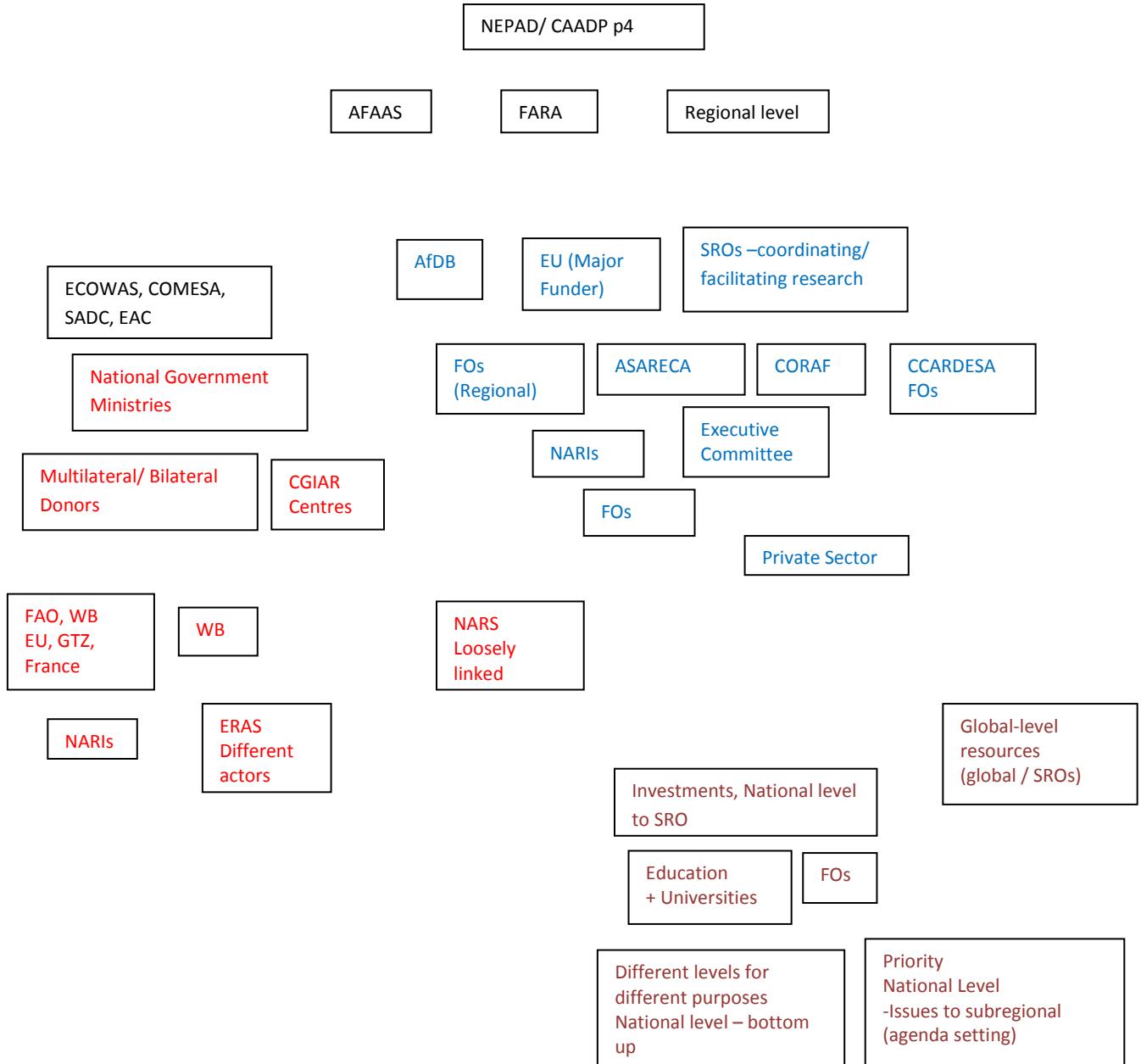
4. PARALLEL WORKING GROUPS

In four groups, participants were assigned tasks. Groups 1 and 2 discussed short- and long-term strategies for developing CSO coordination mechanisms; Group 3 drew up an institutional map of ARD actors and identified key entry points; Group 4 handled challenges and blockages for involving CSOs in ARD agenda setting and resource allocation.

Groupwork presentations

Group	Presentations
<p>Group 1</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Formation of national ARD platforms (bringing NGOs that are engaged in ARD, plus other ARD actors) including. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – FOs – NGOs – Ministries of Agriculture – Agricultural Research Institutes <p>This should first be initiated in a few focus countries for effectiveness (some of the suggested criteria for country selection: where FOs already have some capacity to integrate ARD, where there is a critical mass, where some collaboration in already happening; “low-hanging fruits”). Outcomes should be used to inform the GCARD (Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development) meeting in 2012, (aimed at sharing the country platform process). Champions are critical to enable the process to evolve; these should, however, not be the only drivers of the process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National platform should have links with district / provincial innovation/research fora, with a funding mechanism for farmer led research 2. Regional / International informed by national processes – feeding into GCARD, GFRAS, AFAAS <p>Role of INSARD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initiate the process - Sift the information - Package and share for learning - Influence potential partner institutions at European and global level
<p>Group 2</p>	<p>The mechanism proposed was to focus on FOs with necessary capacity to influence ARD processes using internally developed ARD policies</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. FOs need a person on research and innovation b. FOs should ‘map’ farmers experience in ARD at different levels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional level facilitates national level mapping - INSARD could support with indepth guidelines and interactive websites/ blogs c. FOs need to identify allies in influencing and engaging in ARD d. National level inclusive ARD forum needed e. More projects where farmers work together with researchers (formal) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - INSARD Component 2: brokerage f. FOs need to develop their own policies on ARD that will be represented/ well equipped at higher level g. FOs seats at regional research forum but does this influence ARD agenda? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ASARECA is not an ARD institution but a research institution - The real influence comes before it reaches the Board

Group 3



<p>Group 4</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Most research agendas are set by donors and international research institutions, e.g. in Kenya, most of the budget for agricultural research goes to KARI (Kenya Agricultural Research Institute) and MoA; donors influence the research agenda. 2. Key constraints of CSOs in influence the ARD agenda: the key national consultation processes are in CAADP Pillar 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - limited participation of CSOs - the process is dictated by the Multi Donor Trust Fund (MDTF). It is not owned by people at national level. - limited feedback to CSOs - limited timeframe to allow consultative process. 3. CSO constraints in resource allocation to ecological agriculture: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - very limited capacity, resources and time to develop competitive proposals - closed resource-allocation processes (hard to get to know what is available and what is happening) - donors put so many conditions and make technical demands in their funding calls (need to have partners from the north, from various countries; too short a time to establish contacts and to meet demands laid out in funding calls). 4. Addressing constraints: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Find champions / influential persons inside committees (CSOs should identify champions in donor organisations, funding institutions and funding committees, if they are passionate about what CSOs are doing, to help address constraints) - Make modest requests for funding organic or other alternative forms of agriculture - Demonstrate benefits of the alternatives (provide evidence to the donor community; they could use this to influence donors) - Develop media strategy to bring information to the public; find ways to influence media to put across a good story of what the CSOs are doing.
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Discussions of group presentations and consensus of coordination mechanism

Groups 1 and 2 (same topic):

- Priority should be given to developing a CSO coordination mechanism, getting in place a system that works in practice, focus on national level as district process requires more resources that is not available within the project. Get the process work well in a few countries. Criteria for country selection required.
- Proposals of Group 1 and 2 should be merged to inform a coordination mechanism that is rooted at the national level with strengthened FOs.
- It was also noted that the target for GCARD 2012 is rather ambitious.
- Noted a need to involve ourselves in the CSM, start trying to generate interest in ARD; it would be difficult for us to reproduce such a mechanism directly. We should go into the CSM in our relevant regional groups.

Group 3:

It was noted that, given the importance of the European ARD system in SSA, this level be included on the institutional mapping and key entry points indicated.

There were no additional comments and notes made to the groupwork presented by Group 4.

Other discussion areas

Communication strategy

- There is need to generate evidence that agro-ecological systems can outperform conventional technology, using TV, radio etc to share success stories, that farmers' yields are higher than in conventional agriculture.
- Strengthen this feedback in the mainstream scientific mindset, which is conventionally based on peer review and publications. INSARD can strongly affirm that we need a different science through increased civil society participation.
- One participant shared Food Agriculture Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network's (FANRPAN) experience using media through partnership with them, trains them and makes them confident in how to write about natural resource management. Scientists' information has to be repackaged and properly translated so that it does not lose meaning. We need to think about the media. Most farmers and the public have many misconceptions.
- IIED is working on democratising agricultural research; it has initiatives using new media or making new use of traditional media like community radio, to build and strengthen an alternative narrative. The grassroots' work in different parts of the world is very rich. By using the new media, we can bypass the obstacles of traditional media.

Conclusion on coordination mechanism

The path towards CSO coordination and consultation mechanisms for ARD should follow a bottom-up approach, starting with national-level platforms in Africa with representatives from FOs and NGOs taking up issues on ARD, experiences and ARD issues, which should then inform subregional-level processes, targeting organisations such as CORAF/WECARD, ASARECA and CCARDESA², and from there to the regional African level (Forum for Agricultural Research for Africa / FARA) and into global processes.

NGOs in the SROs, FARA and GFAR do not have any mandate from a clear constituency and do not have transparent consultation mechanisms. National and subregional networks of NGOs concerned with ARD in Africa need to be created or strengthened. As an important starting point, existing networks of national and regional NGOs in Africa should be encouraged to develop their own ARD policy and strategy. Northern NGOs should support this and develop their own strategy linked to this. It will also be important for northern NGOs to make European donors and global ARD organisations more aware of the capacities and objectives of the

² CCARDESA: Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa. CCARDESA is a newly established regional forum for coordination of ARD in Southern Africa. It aims to promote technology generation and dissemination and to provide a platform for scaling up access to and adoption of technologies.

networks of CSOs in the South related to ARD, and to create opportunities for strengthening the capacities of FOs and NGOs in South and North to organise themselves around ARD issues.

As a way forward, the INSARD team was to consider the suggestions, experiences shared and the key questions posed in consolidating a coordination mechanism for sharing with all participants.

Summary and other reflections that could further inform shaping of the mechanism

At the end of the meeting, several participants put forward their reflections on some of the issues discussed during the workshop. A summary of the reflections includes the following:

- Researchers believe that their findings are final but we should think of FOs and CSOs who have their own mindsets, bridge the gap on these various actors. If you want to change universities, elaborated feedback can change their mindset. There is a need for confidence building, trust building, particularly between researchers and CSOs. Researchers need to know that farmers have something to offer. CSOs have their own mindsets towards researchers; they think they are out of this world, not practical. Partnerships between CSOs and researchers and academia are an important step forward. We need to make partnership as a part of the institutions.
- Civil society has strength in diversity and number, and it can claim space, work together, demonstrate what can be achieved. How can we complement what INSARD is doing? Please include us in your work.
- In the two years remaining in INSARD, we need to play our role during time we are given this responsibility through this complex context. We are keen to see the relationship between INSARD and NEPAD and CAADP processes.
- Don't underestimate the power of NGOs and FOs. Don't overestimate externalities. There are avenues to make the importance of the message of smallholders recognised. Invest in building strength of FOs to help to convey messages at the proper level. Look at South–South collaboration, using the added value of Latin American experiences.
- To integrate ARD in FOs, we need to have people in the FOs dealing with agricultural research and innovation. We need to invest more time in building these systems. Sub-Saharan African NGOs are dealing with a multitude of issues; ARD is just one of them. We need to understand what other factors prevent effective engagement.
- We need to build mechanisms to deal with complexities but also be effective. We are calling for wider and constant spaces, not just a few but several, so that we gain experience and expertise over several years. Being part of INSARD helps us in understanding ARD systems; more actors in civil society need to gain this understanding.
- Knock on that EU door and get more resources; we will knock on doors of our African friends to use the resources properly.

ANNEXES

Summary of group members and topics

Group / members	Topics	Group presenter
Group 1: Ann Waters-Bayer Joseph Metu Thierry Lassalle Caroline M. Kingu	Short and long term strategies for developing CSO coordination mechanism How could the ARD agenda setting processes be made more inclusive in the long term? What are the first immediate steps that CSOs could take? What are follow-up steps? What role could INSARD play in taking this direction forward over the next two years?	Ann Waters-Bayer
Group 2: 1. Moses Shaha 2. Isiah Mharapara 3. Agnes Yawe 4. Luca Colombo 5. Joseph Metu 6. Robert Kubail 7. Jenny Rafanomezana	Short and long term strategies for developing CSO coordination mechanism	Moses Shaha Jenny
Group 3: 1. Vuningoma Faustin 2. Nicolienne Oudwater 3. Dorothee Loetscher 4. Harry Palmier	Institutional map and identifying key entry points Prepare an institutional map showing the linkages between the different actors involved in ARD in SSA and Europe? Identify <u>key</u> entry points for deciding research priorities? Identify <u>key</u> entry points for deciding resources allocation?	Nicolienne Oudwater
Group 4: 1. Stuart Coupe 2. Kudzai Marovanidze 3. Pamela Marinda 4. Eric Kisiangani 5. Paul Desmarais 6. Guy Aho Tete Benissan	Blockages for involving CSOs in ARD agenda setting and resource allocation Who sets the ARD agenda in SSA? What are the critical constraints for CSOs to influence ARD agenda setting? What are the critical constraints for CSOs to influence resource allocation for agro-ecological agriculture? How could these constraints be addressed?	Pamela Marinda

List of workshop participants

Names	Organisation	Country
Farmer organisations		
1. Caroline Martin Kingu carol@esaff.org	Eastern and Southern Africa Farmers Forum (ESAFF)	Tanzania
2. Robert Kubai info@eaffu.org ; kubairobha@yahoo.com ;	East African Farmers' Federation	Kenya
3. Moses Shaha moses_388ke@yahoo.com	ESAFF	Kenya
NGOs Southern		
4. (Guy) Aho Tete Benissan guy@repaoc.org	REPAOC	Senegal
5. Paul Desmarais paul.desmarais@gmail.com	Kasisi Agricultural Training Center	Zambia
6. Isiah Mharapara imharapara@mango.zw	Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Policy Analysis Centre (FANRPAN)	Zimbabwe
7. Maryleen Micheni Maryleen@pelum.net	PELUM-Kenya	Kenya
8. Eric Kisiangani eric.Kisiangani@practicalaction.or.ke	Practical Action, East Africa	Kenya
9. Kudzai Marovanidze kudzai.marovanidze@practicalaction.org.zw	Practical Action, Southern Africa	Zimbabwe
10. Agnes Yawe ayawe@pelum.org.zm	PELUM Association, Regional Secretariat	Zambia
11. Faustin Vuningoma Fvuningoma@pelum.org.zm	PELUM Association, Regional Secretariat	Zambia
NGOs Northern		
12. Thierry Lassalle lassalle@gret.org	GRET	France
13. Stuart Coupe stuart.Coupe@practicalaction.org.uk	Practical Action	United Kingdom
14. Nicolienne Oudwater n.oudwater@etcnl.nl	ETC Foundation	Netherlands
15. Ann Waters-Bayer waters-bayer@web.de	ETC Foundation	Netherlands
16. Tom Remington tom.remington@crs.org	Catholic Relief Services	Burundi
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18. Dorothee Loetscher dorothee.loetscher@g-fras.org	GFRAS	Switzerland
19. Hillary Waburton Hilary.waburton@practicalaction.org.uk	Practical Action UK	United Kingdom
20. Jenny Rafanomezana jenny.rafanomezana@selfhelpafrica.org	Self Help Africa, UK	United Kingdom
Regional bodies		
21. Joseph Methu j.methu@asareca.org	ASARECA	Uganda
22. Harry Palmier harry.palmier@fao.org	GFRAS	Italy
Academic/Research institutions		
23. Pamela Marinda pamela@itoca.org ; ayiera@yahoo.co.uk	Information Training and Outreach Centre for Africa (ITOCA)	Kenya
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25. C. D. Glin cglin@rockfound.org	Rockefeller Foundation, East Africa Office	Kenya
Principal Consultant		
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Logistics / process facilitation		
27. Tom Kibet kibet@pelum.net	PELUM Kenya (Secretariat)	Kenya
28. Edmund Juma edd ejumah@yahoo.com	Alliance Francais - French Translator	Kenya
29. Job Mainye: nmainye@gmail.com	Thinkcomm Communications Rapporteur	Kenya

Workshop Programme

Time	Session/Activity	Who
08.00 -08.30	Registrations	PELUM–Kenya
08.30- 08.45	Tea/Self-introductions	
08.45-09.15	Welcome and opening remarks Introduction participants and overall agenda	Faustin Vuningoma (Pelum RD)
9.15-09.30		
09.30-10.00	Brief about INSARD and workshop objectives	Agnes Yawe (Pelum RD) Harry Palmier (GFAR)
10.00-11.00	Brief presentation GFAR	Mutizwa Mukute
11.00-11.15	Presentation of mapping study findings Questions for clarification and general comments on presentation	(consultant) Luca Colombo - Italian Foundation for Research on Biological and Biodynamic Agriculture (FIRAB)
11:30 – 12:30	Tea Break	
12:30 – 13:15	The Governance of Farmer-Led Agricultural Research: Experiences from Committee on World Food Security & governance	
13:15-14:30	LUNCH	Mutizwa Mukute/ Nicolienne Oudwater (ETC)
	<i>Parallel working groups</i>	
	Group 1: Short and long term strategies for developing CSO coordination mechanism Discussions on CSO coordination	
14:30 – 15:00	Group 2: Short and long term strategies for developing CSO coordination mechanism	
	Group 3: Institutional map and identifying key entry points	
	Group 4: Blockages for involving CSOs in ARD agenda setting and resource allocation	
	Group presentations and discussions	Mutizwa Mukute
15:00 – 15:30	Tea Break	
15:30 – 16:15	Group presentation and discussion - continued	Mutizwa Mukute
16:15 – 16:30	Summary reflections	All
16:30 - 16:45	Next steps and closure	Nicolienne Oudwater (ETC)
16:45	<i>Drinks</i>	