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sharing knowledge, improving rural livelihoods

Workshop Programme

ACP Policy Brief on Tertiary Education

May 16 – 19 2006

CTA Headquarters, Wageningen, The Netherlands

Background:

The mission of the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) is to strengthen information and communication management capacities of ACP agricultural and rural development organizations. It is also charged with policy and institutional capacity development. Consequently, CTA is committed to enhancing the policy dialogue on Science and Technology in pursuit of these goals and to helping the ACP region identify S&T strategies for achieving sustainable development.

At the 4th Advisory Committee Meeting on Science and Technology for ACP Agricultural and Rural Development, members noted the following:

- The ACP region is being challenged to deliver quality tertiary education in agriculture that responds to the needs of students, society and the economy in an environment where resources – human, capital and physical infrastructure are limited and tertiary education in agriculture is not high on government priorities.
- Young people were not pursuing tertiary level training in agriculture in ACP regions for a number of reasons including the lack of incentives, professional recognition, government support and adequate science and technology options for removing the drudgery associated with agriculture
- ACP universities need to improve the quality of training and relevance of curriculum and provide experiential learning attachments to respond to the concerns from employers about the inability of graduates to meet the demands of the industry and the high unemployment faced by graduates on completion of the degree programmes

CTA proposes to convene a meeting of ACP and EU experts to deliberate on these issues related to Tertiary Education. The experts will examine the issue of the importance of tertiary education in agriculture for transforming the agricultural sector in the ACP region and how tertiary education can be brought to the attention of policy makers in ACP countries. The experts will draft a policy brief to raise awareness of the need to improve tertiary education in agriculture. The draft will be widely circulated prior to finalization and approval at the 5th meeting of the Advisory Committee on S&T for ACP Agricultural and Rural Cooperation.

The Problem

Science and technology policy coherence is lacking in the ACP region in the face of mixed agricultural performance, poverty, famine and malnutrition. Local S&T capacity for research and science management and governance is not strong enough to provide leadership in determining and implementing priority actions. ACP universities are not playing a leadership role in crafting the direction of the agricultural sector.

General Objective

The overall objective is to strengthen international S&T collaboration for boosting agriculture and ensuring food security in the ACP region.

Specific Objectives

More specifically the meeting aims to: (i) bring together key EU/ACP experts to deliberate on concrete measures and develop policy positions for improving tertiary education in agriculture in the ACP region; (ii) build ACP capacity in the preparation of policy briefs on Science and Technology related issues so as to influence change; (iii) strengthen ACP/EU collaboration for advancing S&T policy processes.

Expected Output

- An ACP policy brief on Tertiary Education developed

Day 1 – May 16, 2006

8:40	Hotel Pick-up - Overseas Delegates
9:00 – 10:30	Opening Session - Setting the Stage
9:00 – 9:15	Welcome Remarks & Overview – Judith Ann Francis, Senior Programme Coordinator, S&T Strategies, ICMS&SD, CTA
09:15 – 09:30	Introductions
9:30 – 10:00	Enhancing the Science & Technology Policy Dialogue in the ACP Region / Innovation for Development – Judith Ann Francis, CTA
10:00 – 10:15	Discussion
10:15 – 10:45	Why would Donors Invest in Virtual Agricultural Research Networks in Africa– Francois Stepman, Belgium
10:45 – 11:00	Discussion
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee Break
11:15 – 13:00	Focus – Initiatives for Improving Tertiary Education in the ACP Region

11:15 – 11:30	Update on the Programme for Building African Scientific and Institutional Capacity (BASIC) – <i>Professor Ndelilio Urio</i> , Faculty of Agriculture, Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania
11:30 – 11:45	Creating and Supporting High Level African Capacity through Research and Graduate Training: The Approach of RUFORUM - <i>Dr. Adipala Ekwamu</i> , Coordinator, Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), Makerere University, Uganda
11:45 – 12:00	Discussion
12:00 – 12:15	Upgrading Tertiary Education in Agriculture in the Caribbean Region – Status & Perspectives on CACHE - <i>Dr. Dyer Narinesingh</i> , Dean, Faculty of Science and Agriculture, UWI, St. Augustine Campus, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
12:15 – 12:30	Upgrading Tertiary Education in Agriculture in the Pacific Region – Status & Perspectives, The University of the South Pacific (USP) – <i>Dr. Pa'o H Luteru</i> , Dean, Faculty of Islands and Oceans and Director of Alafua Campus, USP, Fiji
12:30 – 12:45	Discussion
12:45 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 14:45	Northern Perspective on Strategies for Strengthening Tertiary Education in Agriculture - <i>Dr. Arjen Wals</i> , Associate Professor, Education and Competence Studies at Wageningen University and Research Centre, The Netherlands
14:45 – 15:00	Discussion
15:00 – 16:00	Working Group Session 1 – Reflections on the Future Prospects for Agriculture in ACP Countries
16:00 – 16:15	Coffee Break
16:15 – 17:30	Working Group Session 2 – Visioning the Needs and Profiling the ACP Student Pursuing Tertiary Agricultural Training 2010 / 2020
17:45	Bus Departs CTA

Day 2 – 17 May 2006

8:40	Hotel Pick-up - Overseas Delegates
9:00 – 9:10	Review of Day 1, Judith Ann Francis, CTA
9:10 – 9:40	Presentation & Discussion of Working Group Reports
9:40 – 9:50	Overview of Tertiary Education in Agriculture in Malawi – Prof. Emmanuel Kaunda – Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Bunda College of Agriculture, Malawi

9:50 – 10:00	Overview of Tertiary Education in Agriculture in Burkina Faso – Prof. Chantal Kabore-Zoungrana, Director of ISNV, University of Bobo Dioulasso, Burkina Faso
10:00 – 10:10	Discussion
10:10 – 10:20	Overview of Tertiary Education in Agriculture in Nigeria – Dr. Michael Madukwe, Department of Agricultural Extension, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria
10:20 -10:40	Overview of Tertiary Education in Agriculture in Zambia – Dr. Thomson Kalinda – Head of Agricultural Economics and Extension Education, University of Zambia Discussion
10:40 -11:00	Discussion
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee Break
11:00 – 12:30	Working Group Session 3 – Identifying Synergies and Differences in Tertiary Education in the ACP regions / Can lessons be learned from the North?
12:30 – 13:00	Presentation of Working Group reports
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:15	Working Group Session 4 - Predicting the Future of Agricultural Education in ACP Countries / Matching demand and expectations with resources
15:15 – 15:30	Coffee Break
15:30 – 16:30	Working Group Session 5 - Strategies for Strengthening Tertiary Education in ACP Countries
16:30 – 17:30	Presentation & Discussion of Working Group Reports
17:45	Bus Departs CTA

Day 3 – May 18 2006

8:40	Hotel Pick-up
9:00 – 13:00	Focus - Draft ACP Policy Brief
9:00 – 9:30	Tools for Influencing Policy – Professor Michael Madukwe & Judith Francis,
9:30 – 9:45	Discussion
9:45 – 10:30	Working Group Session 6 – Building Consensus on the Elements of the ACP Policy Brief for Improving Tertiary Education in Agriculture

10:30 – 11:00	Presentation & Discussion of Working Group Reports
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee Break
11:15 – 12:30	Working Group Session 7 - Literature Review and Drafting of ACP Policy Brief
12:30 – 13:00	Presentation of Working Group Reports
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 17:30	Working Group Session 7(cont) - Literature Review and Drafting of ACP Policy Brief
	Coffee Break
17:45	Bus Departs CTA
Day 4 – May 19 2006	
8:30 – 10:30	Presentation & Evaluation of Proposals on Participatory Approaches in Genetic Resource Management – <i>Course Participants</i> , Wageningen International, Promona 1, WICC
10:40	Hotel Pick-up
11:00 – 12:30	Working Group Session 7 (cont) – Literature Review and Drafting of ACP Policy Brief
12:30 – 14:00	Group Lunch
14:00 – 15:30	Presentation and Discussion of Draft ACP Policy Brief
15:30 – 16:00	Closing Remarks – Representative of ACP University
	Closing Remarks – Thierry Doudet, Head ISSD, CTA
16:30	Bus Departs CTA