



The state of IAR4D in the ASARECA sub-region

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ASARECA – Seyfu Ketema
Royal Tropical Institute (KIT) - S. Nederlof, W. Heemskerk





Outline of the presentation

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- ASARECA
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- Capacity Strengthening

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- Needs for IAR4D capacity strengthening

Towards strengthening Capacities for IAR4D

- Strategic considerations



Introduction: IAR4D in policy context of African countries


NEPAD's Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme

FARA's Framework for African Agricultural Productivity (FAAP)– improving agricultural productivity, profitability and sustainability through innovation.

IAR4D implements part of this framework

Need for Capacity Strengthening in IAR4D- role for ASARECA





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Introduction: ASARECA

- Non-profit organisation
- Coordinates sub-regional research activities in 10 member countries (Burundi, DRC, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda)
- One of ASARECA's main missions: Capacity for implementing agricultural research in the IAR4D paradigm in the ASARECA sub-region strengthened
- KIT and ASARECA: state of the art of IAR4D in ten countries, needs assessment, programme for Capacity Strengthening

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Introduction: Steps

1. Enhancing common understanding on IAR4D (D-group, workshop)
2. Comprehensive needs assessment for IAR4D (per stakeholder group/ platform- ASARECA projects)
3. Review of needs for capacity strengthening
4. Development of capacity strengthening strategy and programme

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Some concepts





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Concept: Integrated Agricultural Research for Development (IAR4D)


IAR4D principles:

- Innovation System perspective (underlying paradigm)
- Multi-stakeholder partnerships
- Interdisciplinary R4D teams
- Integration of levels and sectors
- Interactive learning process
- Value chain and livelihoods systems
- Systemic change in knowledge management




Discussed and validated during the ASARECA Entebbe Workshop, April 17th – 18th 2007

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Concept: Capacity Strengthening for IAR4D

Capacity Development Pyramid
(source: Potter and Brough, 2004)



"Capacity strengthening entails institutional, organizational, personal and performance capacities" (ASARECA Entebbe Workshop, April 17th – 18th 2007)

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Results of stakeholder consultations





Discussing with stakeholders from the Private sector, Farmer Organizations and Research Organizations

Interaction with stakeholders


Countries	Cases	Research Org ^s	Farmers' Org ^s	Private Sector Org ^s
6	50	64	28	24

- Countries:** Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda (and from distance Eritrea, Sudan, Madagascar, DRC)
- Cases:** research projects (ASARECA and others)
- Research org^s:** NARIs, Universities and some other NARS members
- Farmers' org^s:** well-established (e.g. staff) at the national and sub-national levels
- Private sector org^s:** mainly small and medium enterprises and private sector foundations

Results: State of IAR4D across the ASARECA sub-region (1)

- Innovation System perspective: In many countries a National Agricultural Research System is in place or emerging, but no Agricultural Knowledge and Information System (AKIS) or Agricultural Innovation System (AIS) are yet observed
- Multi-Stakeholder partnerships: Conventional partnerships Research-FOs are common, but often informal. Partnerships for setting research agendas are rare. Collaboration with Private Sector rare.
- Interdisciplinary teams: Interdisciplinarity is often a practice, not always a policy
- Integration of levels and sectors: Institutional changes are increasingly considered 'innovations'



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Results: State of IAR4D across the ASARECA sub-region (2)

- Collective learning and M&E: M&E is increasingly participatory but not yet used as a tool to support learning processes
- Value chain and livelihoods analysis: Supply-chain common; livelihoods approaches rare; value-chain approaches not observed
- Systemic change: Increased multi-stakeholder involvement in up scaling, but role partners are conventional

General

- Variety of IAR4D capacities across countries- each country has its strong and weak capacities in terms of IAR4D
- Post-conflict countries require additional efforts


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Results: IAR4D capacity needs (overview)

Capacities	Research Organizations	Farmers' Organizations	Private Sector Organizations
Personal skills	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Basic IAR4D skills & tools2. Participatory development of IAR4D proposals3. Participatory PM&E	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Basic IAR4D skills & tools2. Participatory development of IAR4D proposals3. Participatory PM&E	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Basic IAR4D skills & tools2. Entrepreneurial skills: product promotion & consumer mobilization3. Capture scientific knowledge

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Results: IAR4D capacity needs (overview)

Capacities	Research Organizations	Farmers' Organizations	Private Sector Organizations
Organizational capacity	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. IAR4D incentives & career planning2. Dissemin. strategies for IAR4D results3. PM&E for IAR4D <p>□ Access to Funding</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Appropriate mix of disciplines2. PM&E for IAR4D3. IAR4D incentives & career planning <p>□ Access to Funding</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Dissemin. strategies for IAR4D results2. Ability to access market information3. Appropriate mix of disciplines <p>□ Access to Funding</p>

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Results: IAR4D capacity needs (overview)


Capacities	Research Organizations	Farmers' Organizations	Private Sector Organizations
Institutional capacity	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Access multi-stakeholder platforms2. Coordination of IAR4D3. Formalize partnerships	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Access multi-stakeholder platforms2. Coordination of IAR4D3. Network membership	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Access multi-stakeholder platforms2. Inter-business initiatives for IAR4D3. Coordination of IAR4D

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Towards strengthening Capacities for IAR4D

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Strategic considerations for Capacity Strengthening : Points of departure

- A **systems perspective on needs**: individual skills & tools, organizational and institutional capacities
- **Interactive learning** through partnerships and multi-stakeholder interaction
- **Learning-by-doing** based on **local level research projects** (i.e. ASARECA CGS)
- Capacity strengthening as a participatory **learning** process requiring **facilitation, mentoring & coaching**

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Strategic considerations for Capacity Strengthening : choices

- Build on existing **IAR4D National Taskforces** or similar emerging initiatives
- **Flexible menu of IAR4D CS modules**; based on participatory needs assessments
- Specific attention for **countries emerging from conflicts**
- **Gender & social inclusion: Mainstreaming** in procedures, policies and modules and striving for **equal participation** of men & women

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Strategic considerations for Capacity Strengthening: Programme components

1. Strengthening sub-regional learning mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cross-country learning• Sub-regional programme-based learning alliances & platforms• ASARECA (Progr. Officers, Steering Committee, etc.)
2. Strengthening National IAR4D Taskforces	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sensitization & national key note on IAR4D; coordination of IAR4D CS act.• In-country learning based on lessons learnt from local projects• National Task Forces or other national initiatives
3. Strengthening local multi-stakeholder mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interactive learning & learning-by-doing• Local multi-stakeholder platforms based on ongoing, approved and new local projects

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