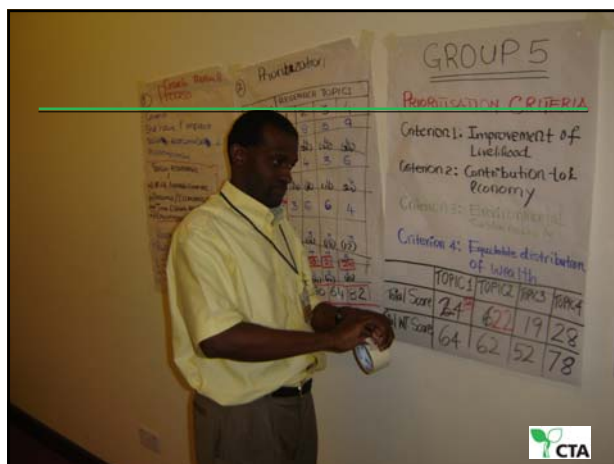





Building ACP ASTI Capacity: CTA Experience

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November 12, 2007



Key Messages

-  **2003 - AC** identified strengthening ACP ASTI systems as a priority
 - **CTA** - mandated to build capacity
-  **2004-07** – capacity building programme evolved
 - **ACP ownership**
-  **> 2007** – Mainstreaming ASTI training
 - How? M&E process and impact?

Background

Why ASTI Capacity Building?

- Disconnect between policy and practice
- Non-engagement of scientists in policy processes
- Need to improve the enabling environment for ST&I (research, HE& training, policy)

Premise is that each country needs core ST&I capacity 4 ARD



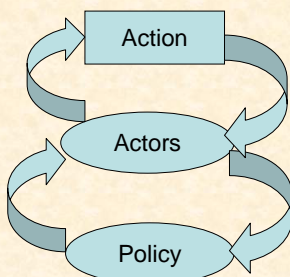
Background

Focus on improving knowledge & skills

- To support ST&I policy making in ACP countries to:
 - ✓ Increase understanding of innovation
 - ✓ Understand the strengths and weaknesses of the innovation system
 - ✓ Provide information for decision making
 - ✓ Engage ACP scientists in the policy making process



Background



Background

🌱 **2004** - UNU/INTECH/CTA - ASTI system analysis

🌱 **2005**

- CTA/KIT - **ASTI System analysis**
- CABI/CTA - Bridging the gap: **Demand Led Research / Priority setting**
- Vrije/CTA - Bridging the gap: **Farmer Experimentation / Innovation**

🌱 **2006/7** - CTA/KIT/CABI/Vrije/WUR/ACP experts – **ASTI Training of Trainers** (integrated all)



ASTI Capacity Building - 2004

🌱 **UNINTECH/CTA**

🌱 **6** ACP Experts identified by AC members

🌱 **Objectives**

- To assist **polymakers** to understand technology and the process of technology development;
- To reduce **uncertainty in decision making**

🌱 **5** day training + **5** case studies

🌱 **Overview**

- Innovation systems & policy, WTO/TRIPS & trade rules; learning & technological capability; Field work



ASTI Capacity Building - 2005

🌱 **CTA/KIT**

🌱 **ACP Partners:** Abia State University, Nigeria; Bunda College, Malawi; NCST, Jamaica & SPC, Fiji - **4** regional workshops - **100** ACP experts

🌱 **Objectives**

- To assist **ACP professionals & policy makers** to understand the innovation systems framework
- To **improve the interface** between scientists, policy and decision makers

🌱 **5** day training + **4** case studies


🌱 **Overview**

- **Emerging issues:** WTO/EPA's; ASTI analytical framework, facilitating information and knowledge flows




ASTI Capacity Building - 2005

DLR – CABI/CTA

 **ACP Partners:** ATPS Network, Kenya; IRAD, Cameroon - **2** national workshops - **50** experts

Objectives

- to build capacity to **prioritize and conduct** demand-led research
- to **strengthen interaction** between and among actors to improve information and knowledge flows

 **5** day training + **2** case studies involving ASTI actors


Overview

- DLR, MSP, Participatory Research, FE, Influencing Policy makers, PME, research priority setting; field work




ASTI Capacity Building - 2005


FE&I – Vrije/CTA

 **ACP Partners:** CARDI, Jamaica; NARI, PNG & ISRA, Senegal - **3** national workshops – **70** experts

Objectives

- to build capacity to **identify & evaluate** farmers' innovations
- To build **partnerships** with other actors to strengthen the ASTI system


 **5** day training + **3** case studies on FEI

 **Overview** – Participatory R & E, FFS, Local Agricultural Research Committee, farmer innovation methodology; Field work.



ASTI Capacity Building – 2006/7

CTA/CABI/KIT/Vrije/WUR - **TOT** Programme Development

 **ACP experts** integrated into reviewing, refining and delivering training content

Main Objective –

- to develop the capacity of **ACP professionals** to apply the innovation systems framework to support **ST&I policy development** and implementation for improving the performance of ACP agriculture



ASTI Capacity Building – 2006/7

Specific Objectives

- To increase **understanding** of the IS concept & application of the framework
- To develop **skills** to train others to
 - ✓ Analyze the ASTI system
 - ✓ Improve the interface between all actors
 - ✓ Influence policy
 - ✓ Improve information flows and facilitate shared learning



ASTI Capacity Building – 2006/7

Key Concepts


- Importance of **knowledge economy**
- Innovation
- National and agricultural **innovation systems**
- **Relevance of ASTI systems approach to ARD**
- ASTI Systems analytical framework
- Strengthening the ASTI system some approaches
- **Conflict management** (resolution)
- Training methods and approaches
- Facilitating multi-stakeholder processes



ASTI Capacity Building – 2006/7

Target Group

- **Institutional** – ACP national, sub-regional or regional organizations involved in ARD, education & training, out reach, S&T or policy advice
- **Individual** – researchers / lecturers / trainers; Senior level practitioners, leaders or change agents, permanent staff

-  Participants with strong **technical** background, **leadership** qualities, experience with **MSP**.



ASTI Capacity Building – 2006/7

Workshop Methodology

- Lead trainers & co-facilitators **ACP experts**
- Plenary and working group sessions
- **Active participation**
- Use of different training approaches
- Use of **concrete cases** – previous ASTI case studies integrated into training
- Daily evaluation, min-test, final evaluation & **self assessment**




ASTI Capacity Building – 2006/7

CABI/Vrije/KIT - major partners

ACP Partners –

- 2006 - CARDI, St. Vincent & the Grenadines; CSIR, Ghana; NARI, PNG; Sokoine University, Tanzania - **4** regional workshops – **100** ACP experts
- 2007 - Abia University, Nigeria; CARDI, Trinidad; NARI, PNG; RUFORUM, Uganda - **4** regional workshops – **100** ACP experts

 **5** day training + **4** **banana** case studies (2006 only)



Lessons Learned

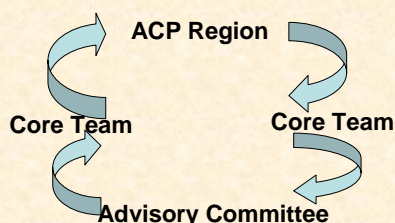
FAQ – must be answered

- What is ASTI?
- **How does ASTI benefit small farmers?**
- **What about blue science?**
- **Can scientists influence policy?**
- Can ASTI approach be implemented?
- What follow-up support will be provided for programme implementation?



Lessons Learned

🌱 Process & Partnership = **ownership**



🌱 Convergence of disciplines critical



Lessons Learned

🌱 Engaging participants

- Selection criteria
- Responsiveness to their needs

🌱 Participants themselves

- Concur that the TOT training is intense
- Gained understanding of - the complexity of ASTI system; ASTI methodological framework; influencing policy change; linkages between actors; innovation and IS framework
- **Process of competence building needs to be nurtured and supported**



Lessons Learned

🌱 For CTA and main partners

- Complementary expert input
- **Galvanizing ideas and knowledge and engagement of ACP experts helped to advance the process - ownership**
- The trade and economic aspects (WTO, EPA's) not appreciated by scientists
- New concepts e.g. Knowledge economy and Innovation systems are **challenging** but ACP scientists will embrace them



Challenges Ahead – Way Forward

Mainstreaming ASTI Training

- Publish the ASTI training manual
- Build alliances with universities (started)
- Build alliances with regional and national research organizations (started)
- Participatory identification of indicators and methodology for measuring performance and monitoring and evaluating impact – Core expert group in collaboration with ACP partners – pilot, review & finalize





