



**Expert Meeting & Policy Write Shop  
Strengthening the Engagement of Knowledge Institutes in ARD Policy Processes**

**PROGRAMME OVERVIEW**

*CTA Headquarters, Wageningen, the Netherlands  
12-14 August 2013*

**Background**

In the CTA approved Strategic Plan 2011-2015, three strategic goals were identified, namely: strengthening ACP agricultural and rural development policy processes and strategies; enhancing priority agricultural value chains; and enhancing ACP capacities in information, communication and knowledge management for ARD. CTA is convinced of the need for evidence based policy and decision making in the ACP region and for building the capacity to do so. Within this context and after endorsement by senior ACP scientists at the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> meetings of the Advisory Committee on S&T for ACP Agricultural and Rural Development in 2010 & 2011 respectively, the decision was taken to focus on analyzing the ACP postharvest knowledge system as a priority issue.

In considering the elements of what constitutes the postharvest knowledge system, there is need to determine if the capacity exists to generate, disseminate and use knowledge from the farm to the market and where the centres of knowledge/excellence are located. There is also need to determine if and what additional data are needed to guide policy and strategic interventions as many countries in the ACP region may not have the knowledge systems in place to adequately address this important issue. Consequently, there is need for better understanding of the state of postharvest research, knowledge and innovation in the ACP region, the location of centers of knowledge/excellence in teaching and research; their major areas of focus, strengths and weaknesses; status of postharvest handling and processing facilities; engineering and equipment design and development capability as well as packaging facilities and capability.

Providing evidence for policy and practice on key areas needed for strengthening the ACP postharvest knowledge system is of strategic importance if the ACP region is to increase earning potential from agricultural production, reduce food insecurity and tackle poverty and unemployment. Given the need to better understand the strengths and weaknesses of the ACP postharvest knowledge system, to better identify, plan and implement interventions for improving policy and practice, selected country case studies were conducted by focusing on one priority commodity (tracking from field to market) to learn lessons. This CTA expert consultation on postharvest knowledge systems will provide an opportunity for experts from Africa, Caribbean and the Pacific to reflect on the existing situation and design strategic options for the future.

**Objective**

The Expert Meeting *Strengthening the Engagement of Knowledge Institutes in ARD Policy Processes* has been convened to discuss the results and lessons learned the CTA

commissioned case studies undertaken in Trinidad & Tobago, Ghana and Senegal, and other initiatives for influencing future policy and practice on postharvest.

### Expected Results

- Synthesis report of lessons learned for influencing policy and practice on postharvest knowledge systems
- Draft policy brief on ACP postharvest knowledge systems
- Agreement on setting up an ACP Expert working group on Postharvest

### Programme Overview

1 ½ days – Technical presentations

1 ½ days – Synthesising lessons and policy write shop

<b>Monday 12 August</b>	Chair: Judith Ann Francis, Senior Programme Coordinator, Science and Technology Policy, CTA, The Netherlands
8:40	Hotel Pick-up
9:15 – 9:30	Welcome Remarks: Michael Hailu, Director, CTA, The Netherlands or Lamon Rutten, Programme Manager, PMI, CTA, The Netherlands
9:30 – 10:00	Programme Overview, Introductions & Expectations – Judith Ann Francis, Senior Programme Coordinator, Science & Technology Policies, CTA, The Netherlands
10:00 – 10:30	Key note address - Reducing postharvest losses: Learning from WUR – Dr Henry Boerrigter, Business development manager sustainable fresh chains, FBR/WUR, The Netherlands
10:30 – 11:30	Tea/Coffee Break ( Group Photo)
11:30 – 12:00	Key note address - Reducing postharvest losses: Building on the CIRAD Experience – Dr Dominique Pallet, CIRAD, France
12:00 – 12:30	<i>The challenge in reducing post harvest losses: Lessons from Cocoa and Coconut Industries</i> – Jane Ravusiro, Program Convenor Post Harvest & Marketing Systems, PNGCCIL, Papua New Guinea
12:30 – 13:00	Plenary - Question & Answer Session
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 – 14:15	<i>CTA Case Study - Analysing the Postharvest Knowledge System in Senegal: Case of Rice</i> , Dr Fallou Sarr, Researcher, ITA, Senegal
14:15 – 14:30	<i>CTA Case Study - Analysing the Postharvest System in Ghana: Case of Maize</i> , Dr Kwame Akorli Vowotor, Senior Research Scientist, CSIR, Ghana
14:30 – 15:00	Plenary - Question & Answer Session
15:00 – 15:15	<i>CTA Case Study - Analysing the Postharvest System in Ghana: Case of Cassava</i> , Dr Gloria Essilfie, University of Ghana, Ghana

15:15 – 15:30	<i>CTA Case Study - Analysing Postharvest Knowledge System in Trinidad &amp; Tobago: Case of Pumpkins</i> , Dr Majeed Mohammed, Lecturer, University of the West Indies, Trinidad & Tobago
15:30 – 16:00	Plenary – Question and Answer: How can the CTA methodological framework be improved?
16:00 – 16:30	Tea/Coffee break
16:30 – 17:15	Taking Stock – Key messages from the day: What have we learned
17:15 – 17:30	Wrap-up of the day

<b>Tuesday 13 August</b>	Chair: Henry Boerrigter, Business development manager sustainable fresh chains, FBR/WUR, The Netherlands
8:40	Hotel Pick-up
9:00 – 9:15	<i>Priorities for reducing Postharvest Losses in sub-Saharan Africa: View of NPCA</i> – Dr Marcellus Nwalozie, Director NPCA West Africa, NEPAD Agency, Senegal
9:15 – 9:30	<i>Status, issues and opportunities in postharvest and processing of agricultural crops: lessons from Papua New Guinea and the Pacific</i> – Joel Waramboi, Food Technologist, NARI, Papua New Guinea
9:30 – 9:45	Plenary - Questions & Answers
9:45 – 10:00	<i>Reducing Postharvest Losses in Uganda: Role of Makerere University</i> – Dr Agnes Namutebi, Food Technologist, Makerere University, Uganda
10:00 – 10:15	<i>Reducing Postharvest Losses: Priorities for ASARECA</i> – Dr Ivan Rwomushana, Manager Staple Crops Programme, ASARECA, Uganda
10:15 – 10:30	Plenary - Question & Answer Session
10:30 – 11:00	Tea/Coffee break
11:00 – 11:15	<i>Reducing Postharvest Losses: Priorities for CORAF/WECARD</i> – Dr Sangare Abdourahamane, Biotechnology and Biosafety Program Manager, CORAF/WECARD, Senegal
11:15 – 11:30	<i>Reducing Postharvest Losses in Cameroon: Role of University of Dschang</i> – Dr Florence Fonteh, Lecturer, University of Dschang, Cameroon
11:30 – 11:45	Plenary - Question & Answer Session
11:45 – 12:00	<i>Priorities for reducing Postharvest Losses in the OECS:</i> – Ronald Pilgrim, Post Harvest Technologist, CARDI, Saint Lucia
12:00 – 12:15	Plenary - Question & Answer Session

12:15 – 12:45	Taking stock: What have we learned?
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 – 17:00	Field trip to Wageningen University Research centre
17:00 – 17:30	Wrap-up of the day

<b>Wednesday 14 August</b>	<b>Chair:</b>
8:40	Hotel Pick-up
9:00 – 9:15	Recap of Major Issues of Days 1 & 2 and Introduction of Group work – Judith Ann Francis, CTA
09:15 – 10:30	Breakout Session 1: Synthesising lessons and policy write shop
10:30 – 11:00	Tea/Coffee break
11:00 – 13:00	Breakout Session 2: Synthesising lessons and policy write shop
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 – 15:00	Presentations from Group leaders & Discussions
15:00 – 15:30	Toward an ACP Postharvest Experts Working Group Moving Forward
15:30 – 16:00	Tea/Coffee break
16:00 – 17:00	Towards an Action Plan - Work programme/ Future Actions, Timelines and Communication of Outcomes
17:00 – 17:30	Wrap-up of the day