

CTA/WUR Synthesis Workshop on "Mainstreaming Tertiary Education in ACP ARD Policy Processes: Increasing Food Supply and Reducing Hunger"

PROGAMME

CTA Headquarters, Wageningen , The Netherlands September 25-27, 2013.

Background

The strategic role of agriculture in achieving food security, prosperity and economic growth in ACP countries remains of paramount importance. Despite this, the food insecurity picture remains particularly bleak especially in sub-Saharan Africa and hunger, under-nutrition and chronic food-related diseases e.g. diabetes remain a growing cause of concern for the ACP Group of States.

Several regional policy frameworks have been launched in the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States to improve agricultural performance as well as the food and nutrition situation. At the continental level in Africa, the Comprehensive Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) provides a framework for African countries to develop their national agricultural development policies and strategies and investment plans. CAADP focuses on four key pillars: (I) land and water management; (II) market access; (III) increasing food supply and hunger and; (IV) agricultural research. In the Caribbean, the Jagdeo Initiative for transforming Caribbean regional agriculture, the Caribbean Community Agricultural Policy and the Caribbean Regional Food and Nutrition Security Policy and Action Plan have been endorsed at the highest political level. The Pacific Plan was drawn up to guide the developments in the Pacific region.

Despite these laudable policies and their related action plans, many obstacles still need to be overcome to ensure their successful implementation at national and regional levels. Formulation as well as other stages in the policy cycle including implementation is often constrained by the lack of effective mechanisms for facilitating the engagement of various stakeholder groups. One such key stakeholder group which can be more effectively mobilized and engaged is tertiary agricultural education institutes.

The role of universities and other tertiary education institutions in socio-economic development is being reconceptualised. They are increasingly being called upon to move beyond training and the pursuit of knowledge and become more strategic assets with strong forward and backward linkages to the productive sectors to expand their reach and increase their impact at community and national level. Governments especially in developed countries have implemented new funding mechanisms to support this thrust and facilitate innovation within the universities. Developing countries need to do the same.

For pragmatic reasons, CTA and WUR in collaboration with ACP universities, partner networks and organizations have chosen food and nutrition security as the initial content domain to determine the extent of engagement of ACP tertiary education

institutes in ARD policy processes. Firstly, this is one of the most pressing issues nationally, regionally and internationally and universities are currently looking for ways to (re)orient their education and training, research and community outreach programmes to remain relevant. Secondly, food and nutrition security is a priority issue within the CTA 2011-2015 strategic plan and links to the core business of Wageningen University and its recently established Centre for Sustainable Development & Food Security. Thirdly, capacity development is seen as a key strategic intervention area for CTA and WUR and designing and piloting methodologies for learning lessons for enhancing the engagement of tertiary education institutes in ARD policy processes specifically CAADP in Africa and the major ARD policy instruments in the Caribbean and Pacific are deemed necessary by CTA.

So far the following activities have been undertaken by the participating universities:

- (i) Inception workshop at CTA (18-21 September 2012) generating consensus, understanding and commitment with respect to the project's ambitions and methods for mainstreaming tertiary education in ACP ARD policy processes with a focus on Increasing Food Supply and Reducing Hunger. Each university presented the results of their scans of the various programmes undertaken within their universities.
 - **Quick-scan** at macro level: what are current provisions, policy-frameworks and issues affecting food security in the country of the pilot universities?
 - Audit/Evaluation at meso level In this activity the WU-ECS and University
 Focal Point carried out an institutional analysis, using the Auditing Instrument
 for Food Security in Higher Education (AIFSHE) which also included a review of
 the curriculum that misht support the relevant policies and policy processes
 linked to food and nutrition security. This activity provided an overview of
 events and trial and error activities that have been occurring in the past.
 - **Mapping** what actors, roles, capacities and responsibilities are needed for a re-orientation towards ARD policy processes?

Objectives of the synthesis workshop

- To present the results of the case studies conducted by the ten participating universities; to further refine the Auditing Instrument for Food Security in Higher Education (AIFSHE) tool and approaches used; to determine the strategies to be piloted/implemented for improving teaching, research and outreach on food and nutrition security in the ten partner universities and to develop plans for scaling out to other universities.
- 2. To reflect on whether the universality representatives see themselves as having improved their capacity to become centres of excellence on food and nutrition security in the future.

Output

The lessons learnt from the pilots will be documented and shared. Questions to be answered will be:

- What are appropriate methodological frameworks for re-orienting Higher Agricultural Education Institutions towards the ARD policy priorities and the needs of society and the world of work?
- What are key capacities needed to address the ARD policy priority areas especially as they relate to food and nutrition security and how do they translate to concrete learning outcomes and competences to be developed in students and faculty for greater impact?
- What are current gaps in resources, curriculum, teaching and research in addressing these priority areas and building the needed capacities?

- What are appropriate pathways for bridging these gaps?
- What mechanisms can be put in place to make Higher Agricultural Education and Research more responsive to changes in science and society (institutionalization)?
- To what extent is the process used suitable for initiating similar reflections on curriculum and research re-orientation processes in other universities and for other development priorities? (transferability & up-scaling)

Programme

Wednesday September 25 th	Chair: Judith Ann Francis, Senior Programme Coordinator, Science and Technology Policy, CTA, The Netherlands	
8:30	Hotel Pick-up	
9:00 – 9:10	Welcome Remarks – Michael Hailu, Director, CTA, The Netherlands or Lamon Rutten, Programme Manager, PMI, CTA, The Netherlands	
9:10 – 9:30	Programme Overview, Introductions & Expectations – Judith Ann Francis, Senior Programme Coordinator, Science & Technology Policies, CTA, The Netherlands	
9:30 – 10:50	Steps taken to date – Prof. Arjen Wals, Professor and UNESCO Chair of Social Learning and Sustainable Development, Education & Competence, WUR, The Netherlands	
9:50 – 10:00	Questions & Answers	
10:00 – 10:20	FP7 FoodSecure Project: Exploring the Future of Food and Nutrition Security – Thom Achterbosch, Deputy Coordinator, FOODSECURE Project, LEI Wageningen UR, The Netherlands	
10:20 – 10:30	Discussions	
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break	
11:00 – 11:20	Innovations in Food Security Training and Research at Stellenbosch University, — Prof. Mildred McLachlan, Leader SU Food Security Initiative, Director Research and Information, Stellenbosch University, South Africa	
11:20 – 11:50	Discussions	
11:50 – 13:00	Lessons Learned and Design Modifications from using the Auditing Instrument for Food Security in Higher Education (AIFSHE) Tool – Drs Olivier Bello, Wageningen UR, The Netherlands	
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00-14:20	Food and Nutrition Security at University of the West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago: Lessons from Pilot Study – Dr Hazel Patterson-Andrews, Lecturer & Dr Carlisle Pemberton, Senior Lecturer,	

	University of West Indies, Trinidad & Tobago
14:20-14:50	Discussions
14:50-15:10	Food and Nutrition Security at University of the South Pacific: Lessons from the Pilot Study – Dr Jimaima Veisikiaki Lako, Senior Lecturer Food Science & Dr David Rohindra, Senior lecturer in Chemistry, University of the South Pacific, Fiji
15:10 – 15:20	Discussions
15:20 – 15:40	Food and Nutrition Security at Kenyatta University: Lessons from the Pilot Study - Dr Newton M. Nyairo, Lecturer & Dr Eric K. Bett, Lecturer, Kenyatta University, Kenya
15:40 – 15:50	Discussions
15:50 – 16:20	Coffee break
16:20-16:40	Food and Nutrition Security at Université de Thiès, Senegal: Lessons from the Pilot Study – Dr Tala Gueye, Research Director, & Dr Saliou Ndiaye, Agricultural Engineer, Université de Thiès, Senegal
16:40 – 16:50	Discussions
16:50 – 17:10	Food and Nutrition Security at Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania:Lessons from the Pilot Study – Prof. Joyce Kinabo, Lecturer & Dr. Abel K. Kaaya Deputy Dean (Academic), Faculty of Agriculture, Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania
17:10 – 17:20	Discussions
17:20 – 17:30	Wrap-up of the day

Thursday September 26 th	Chair: Prof Arjen Wals, WUR, The Netherlands
8:30	Hotel pick-up
09:00 – 09:30	Reflections on Day 1 : Key Messages – Judith Ann Francis, CTA
09:30 – 09:50	Food and Nutrition Security at Université Abdou Moumouni, Niger: Lessons from the Pilot Study – Prof. Abdourahamane Balla, Coordonnateur du CRESA, Université Abdou Moumouni, Niger

09:50 – 10:10	Food and Nutrition Security at Université de Maradi, Niger: Lessons from the Pilot Study – Dr Mahamadou Elhadji Gounga, Université de Maradi, Niger
10:10 – 10:30	Discussions
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 – 11:20	Food and Nutrition Security at University of Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso: Lessons from the Pilot Study – Prof. Mamadou Hama Dicko, Head of the Laboratory of Food, Biochemistry, Enzymology, Industrial Biotechnology and Bioinformatics, University of Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
11:20 – 11:40	Food and Nutrition Security at Université Polytechnique de Bobo Dioulasso, Burkina Faso: Lessons from the Pilot Study – Dr Salimata Pousga, Animal Scientist, Université Polytechnique de Bobo Dioulasso, Burkina Faso
11:40 – 12:00	Discussions
12:00 – 12:20	Food and Nutrition Security at University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin: Lessons from the Pilot Study – Dr Gbenato Enoch Achigan Dako, Lecturer, University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin & Dr Nadia Fanou Fogny, Lecturer, University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin
12:20 – 12:30	Discussions
12:30 – 13:00	Taking stock– what have we learned? Olivier Bello Arjen Wals Judith Francis
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 – 15:30	Break-out sessions - Taking stock- what have we learned and what improvements are needed?
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee break
16:00 – 17:00	Working Group Reports & Plenary Discussion
17:00 – 17:30	Wrap-up of the day, short evaluation and looking ahead Olivier Bello Arjen Wals

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Friday September 27 th	Chair: Drs Olivier Bello, WUR, The Netherlands
8:30	Hotel pick-up
9:00 – 9:15	Recap of Day 2: Key Messages – Judith Francis, CTA
09:15 – 10:30	Break-out sessions - Scaling out: AIFSHE Tool
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 – 13:00	Break-out Sessions – Scaling up the work within the universities - including timeframes and Indicators for tracking progress and measuring success
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 – 14:45	Working Group Reports and Key Messages
14:45 -15:00	Closing Remarks – Judith Francis, CTA

29/09 - 02/10, 2013 - All delegates will attend the First International Conference on Global Food Security, in Noordwijkerhout, The Netherlands

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