

Implementation Conference: Stakeholder Action For Our Common Future

COLLABORATIVE STAKEHOLDER ACTION PLAN

Title: PROMOTING CAPACITY BUILDING FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Expansion of APRTC’s web-based agLe@rn programme

1. Background	
<p>Relevant sustainable development agreement(s)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSD-8 report on Agriculture – para 46ⁱ • Millennium Development Goals • WSSD Draft Implementation Document • International Development Targets: (IDTs) <p>Some of the IDTs tackled through the initiative are: education, gender, environment, health and sustainable development. The latter requires a major contribution from sustainable agriculture and rural development – particularly in terms of poverty alleviation, food security and economic development of the rural area. Since the initiative is planned to be broadened worldwide (emphasis: developing countries) it would also support meeting the special needs of Africa.</p>
<p>Relevant components of the (draft) Johannesburg agreements</p>	<p>II. Poverty eradication</p> <p>6. (j) [Agreed] Transfer basic sustainable agricultural techniques and knowledge, including natural resource management, to small and medium-scale farmers, fishers and the rural poor, especially in developing countries, including through multi-stakeholder approaches and public-private partnerships aimed at increasing agriculture production and food security;</p> <p>(e) [Agreed] Provide capacity building and training to assist relevant authorities with regard to the implementation of the initiatives listed in this paragraph.</p> <p>36. (g) [Agreed] Integrate existing information systems on land-use practices by strengthening national research and extension services and farmer organizations to trigger farmer-to-farmer exchange on good practices, such as those related to environmentally sound, low-cost technologies, with the assistance of relevant international organizations;</p> <p>(q) [Agreed] Strengthen and improve coordination of existing initiatives to enhance sustainable agricultural production and food security;</p>

2. Content	
Goal(s)	<p>To expand the scope of the Asia Pacific Regional Technology Centre's Web-based agLe@rn programme through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying additional partners; • broadening the initiative to include further training/subject modules to reach a broader audience; • linking with existing ICT-based farmer support programmes
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wider engagement of key stakeholders with agLe@rn's eLearning opportunities on SARD • Increased number of modules – to include broader range of subject material (foci of additional subject modules?) • Cadre of trained agricultural professional with updated skills in sustainable agricultural practices and the ability to use new information and communication technologies to access and evaluate relevant electronic information and knowledge. <p>Additional specific actions / outputs?</p>
Social, economic, environmental impact	<p>Social: Capacity building for agricultural professionals, providing them with knowledge and skills they need to be effective agents of change for sustainable agriculture.</p> <p>Wider social benefits will be accrued through the dissemination of information and knowledge on sustainable agricultural management practices to farmers, extension & development agents, NGO workers and community based (farmer) organisations, academics and employees of agri-food companies.</p> <p>Economic:</p> <p>Environmental: through support for further uptake and adoption of sustainable agricultural management practices.</p>
<p>Contribution to:</p> <p>poverty eradication</p> <p>social inclusion and empowerment</p> <p>good governance</p> <p>gender equity</p>	<p>Capacity building for agricultural professionals, with ensuing benefits for farmers, extension & development agents, NGO workers and community based (farmer) organisations, academics and employees of agri-food companies</p> <p>The training initiative will also build the digital literacy capacity of participating agricultural professionals</p>
Work programme: steps	To be confirmed

Including timetable	
Beneficiaries (including location / scope)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural professionals <p>With potential ensuring benefits to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers • Extension & development agents • NGO workers and community based (farmer) organisations • Academics • Agri-food company employees
3. Organisational	
Who (incl. which stakeholders)	Potential additional partners (To be confirmed)
Facilitating organisation	Stakeholder Forum (through Implementation Conference)
Implementing organisations	APRTC, with support from CropLife International, CropLife Asia, WorldView International and other collaborating institutions.
Advisory organisations	(To be confirmed)
Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courses to date reviewed by experts from FAO and University of Florida • Arrangements for independent reviews / monitoring?
Evaluation: intermediate; final	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student course evaluations are conducted and published on its Website. • Arrangements / Methodology for course impact assessment?
Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scholarship funds, administered by an independent board will be annually audited and reported. • Additional reporting arrangements?
Knowledge Management: before; during; after	To be completed
Finance	<p>Short-term CropLife International is currently providing the initial funding needed to establish the Center.</p> <p>Longer-term APRTC expected to be largely self-sustaining with its operating budget coming primarily from course fees. Small amounts of funding already collected in this way with participants being sponsored by private companies and by the Asia-pacific STREAM Initiative hosted by the Network of Aquaculture Centers for Asia Pacific (NACA) with support from DFID, AUSAID, FAO and VSO</p>

	<p>(http://www.enaca.org/stream).</p> <p>A scholarship fund to support deserving participants from government, NGO and academia has been established to which public and private donors are being invited to contribute.</p>
4. (Inter)governmental action	
Necessary government action? National level (which country/countries)	To be confirmed
International level: necessary / desired commitments in Johannesburg (and/or beyond)	To be confirmed

ⁱ 2000 CSD-8 report on Agriculture:

'Governments, relevant international organisations and the private sector are urged both to continue to increase their contribution to capacity-building and technology transfer, in particular environmentally sound technology, to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, as well as to promote partnerships for fostering sustainable agriculture and food security and promoting rural development'