

Implementation Conference: Stakeholder Action For Our Common Future

Title: Strengthening farmers organisations: capacity building towards the farmer level

<b>1. Background</b>	
Relevant sustainable development agreement(s)	Agenda 21 – Chapter 14 CSD-8 report on Agriculture – para 46 <sup>i</sup> Millennium Development Goals / International Development Targets
Relevant components of the (draft) Johannesburg agreements	<p><b>II. Poverty eradication</b></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>
<b>2. Content</b>	
Goal(s)	Strengthen interface for bi-lateral information exchange between rural producers and extension services /agricultural professionals (depending on capacity of extant extension services) – to facilitate appropriate application of acquired knowledge
Outputs	
Social, economic, environmental impact	<p><b>Social</b> – through capacity building and thus empowerment of farmers organisations</p> <p><b>Economic</b> – facilitate improved organisational management and thus efficiency, through training in the development of business plans, financial management techniques etc.</p> <p><b>Environmental</b>- through support for further uptake</p>

	and adoption of sustainable agricultural management practices.
Contribution to: poverty eradication <b>and</b> social inclusion and empowerment  good governance  gender equity	Aim: increased efficiency of limited (financial) resource utilisation  Long-term contribution to poverty eradication if the capacity of farmer's organisations is strengthened to the extent that it facilitates their empowerment to influence policy agendas / represent member interests at regional / national levels.  Long-term contribution if farmers' organisations are empowered / strengthened to the extent that they are able to influence and contribute to the development and implementation of appropriate policies at regional / national levels.  Dependent on extent to which the membership of individual farmers / agricultural workers organisations is representative of both male and female rural producers.
Work programme: steps Including timetable	?
Beneficiaries (including location / scope)	Farmers organisations – through capacity building (Scope TBC – although should accommodate potential for subsequent outreach expansion if initial action plan has a specific geographical focus)
<b>3. Organisational</b>	
Who (incl. which stakeholders)  Facilitating organisation  Implementing organisations (?)  Advisory organisations	Donors, NGOs, Trade Unions (Farmers and Agricultural workers), Business, Multi-lateral organisations, Research Community (?)  Stakeholder Forum (?)  CARE International, CropLife, ITDG (?), Oxfam, IUF, IFAP, ENDA, Others?
Monitoring	(?)
Evaluation: intermediate; final	(?)
Reporting	(?)
Knowledge Management: before; during; after	(?)

Finance	<p>Potential governments to engage (?): Governments: Norway, EU, Denmark, UK (DFID), US, Canada, Uganda, South Africa and Australia.</p> <p>Also: IFAD (?)</p> <p><b>Other potential donor interest?</b></p>
<b>4. (Inter)governmental action</b>	
Necessary government action? National level (which country/countries)	<p>Donor governments – financial support</p> <p>Need for recognition for valuable role played by farmer’s organisations and thus provision of necessary support – financial, institutional etc. – to facilitate the creation on an enabling environment.</p>
International level: necessary / desired commitments in Johannesburg (and/or beyond)	Commitment to appropriate allocation of donor funding /ODA.

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<sup>i</sup> 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’