



## GCARD3 Organizing Committee

Meeting #7: **Wednesday 28 October 2015, 12:00p.m UTC.** Virtual

### MINUTES

Minutes approved at OC Meeting #8 (19 November) with no changes.

#### Participants:

Frank Rijsberman (co-Chair, CGIAR Consortium Office),  
Mark Holderness (co-Chair, GFAR Secretariat),  
Tom Randolph (CGIAR Research Program – Livestock and Fish)  
Kwesi Atta-Krah (CGIAR Research Program – HumidTropics)  
Esther Penunia (Asian Farmers Association)  
Fiona Chandler (GFAR Secretariat, *ex-officio*)  
Nadia Manning-Thomas (CGIAR Consortium Office)

#### Apologies:

Sigismundo Bialoskorski Neto (International Cooperative Alliance)  
Alain Vidal (CGIAR Consortium Office, *ex-officio*)  
Irene Annor-Frempong (Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa)  
Shadrack Moephuli (Agriculture Research Council, South Africa)

#### **1. Welcome (and introductions of alternate representatives)**

No alternates for absent members joined and the meeting proceeded with 5 committee members (quorum) plus the *ex-officio*.

#### **2. Matters Arising from Minutes of OC Meeting #6**

Comments received on the minutes included a typo (paragraph 2, item 4) and one action arising that will be followed up (list of farmer organizations). Meeting minutes will be corrected and re-posted.

#### **3. Way forward for planning GCARD3 Global Event**

The overall frame for the program was discussed noting the additional input coming from the CGIAR Consortium Office. In opening the discussion, the learning from the Rodney Cooke evaluation of GCARD2 was introduced as additional input. Comments from the Committee were:

- It is a reasonable approach that can be fleshed out.
- Some discomfort with themes because it is not clearly evident how these respond the concerns of producers/farmers etc. There is a concern that Farmers' organizations/NGOs won't be able to understand the overall frame and see its relevance to them.
- Can we look at a way to increase the space for producer groups/farmer groups to discuss how they look at innovation and work together? A space for them to discuss how they relate with researchers; where has innovation enabled partnerships that have led to impact at scale?
- How do we ensure that the different perspectives (be that research, farmers, producers etc.) on the SDGs are included?

In response, it was established that the key themes proposed in the frame are based on the SDGs. In addressing these themes the discussions will be on how things are done better, as a matrix of SDG themes x actions. It was agreed that

the conceptual level seems fine, but more needs to be done on the communication and articulation of the programme so that different stakeholders can understand the theme(s) and see how these are relevant to them.

It was also suggested that sessions could be introduced and led in by farmers framing their needs on their own terms, rather than by researchers offering their analysis

**ACTION: Prepare a clear communication piece from the proposed Program Frame taking into consideration the comments from the OC (Program Task Force is the preferred author however in the meantime this can be drafted by the GCARD3 Support Team)**

An agenda supporting paper outlined a draft matrix of possible categories (geography, constituency) that would help guide the OC members in identifying potential members of the Program Task Force. It was decided that the Task Force should be composed of up to 11 people, each of which aligns with one or more of the boxes in the matrix, as well as having the drive, key skills and expertise necessary to develop a contextually sound and engaging program.

It was confirmed that the Program Task Force would be responsible for the program detail, to mobilize constituencies/geographies, identify possible key speakers/Chairs. The Program Task Force reports to and is subsidiary to the OC.

It was noted that the links between the Program Task Force and the OC as well as with the Local Organizing sub-Committee on content, need to be strong (in addition to the links between the Program Task Force and other Task Forces required to implement GCARD3 global event).

**ACTION: The GCARD3 support team will prepare an overall Task Force structure and proposal of how the Task Forces will link with Local Organizing Committee (LOC) and OC for discussion at the next OC meeting.**

**ACTION: OC members are to suggest names for the Program Task Force based on the criteria agreed upon.**

It was decided to wait until Shadrack is available to discuss the Terms of Reference for the LOC.

#### **4. Planning of GCARD3 National consultations**

The verbal update from the Consortium advised that leadership from CGIAR for national consultation is confirmed (and lead Centers available on the website). For the 6 national consultations during 2015, four now have confirmed dates.

16-17 November	Nigeria
17-18 November	Nicaragua
3-4 December	Tanzania
6 November	Vietnam
14-15 November	Vietnam

The dates for the remaining two: Ethiopia (2<sup>nd</sup> week December), Bangladesh (poll underway). Follow up and support is ongoing for the national consultations with the intent to have more communication.

The agenda for the national consultations are designed as an exercise of engaging in dialogue with national partners, priorities, planned actions, opportunities. When presenting what the CGIAR does, the Consortium Office is encouraging CRPs to think about CGIAR presence as a whole (with the SRF representing the overall goals and target) and bring that down to the national level. The intent is not to get into the details of organizing their own programs, but focus on greater CGIAR presence and how that, as a collective, contributes to goals and adds value at the national level.

National level meetings are starting with a background and context of needs as set out from the countries themselves. It would be good to develop a standard narrative on this that could be used for all national level consultations to ensure consistent messaging.

Each of the country steering committees for the national consultations has been encouraged to contact GFAR (Fiona) in identifying non-research actors to join the national consultations. So far only the Tanzania organizer has contacted the GFAR Secretariat. A reminder will be sent out by Nadia.

**ACTION: Nadia will send a reminder to all national level steering committees re-emphasizing the invitation to contact GFAR**

**ACTION: Nadia to come up with the standard narrative for background and context as described that will be sent out by Tom and Kwesi**

**ACTION: Nadia will send the names and contact details of national and CGIAR focal points for each national consultation to GFAR Secretariat (Mark Holderness) who will send a reminder to GFAR Partners in the countries concerned to help solicit their involvement.**

**Regional GCARD3 Consultations:** With the current uncertainty around the final composition of the CRP portfolio, there are some Center/CRP focal points who want to delay the regional consultations. The OC members agreed that, even with confusion, the substance of the discussions can still be had away from the program uncertainties.

Current practice is that there is one center which coordinates the CGIAR presence in the regional consultation. The regional coordinators need to have brief TORs that make sure that all relevant CG parties in that region are fully engaged in the process.

**ACTION: Nadia, Tom and Kwesi to prepare message/TORs to send to CRP Directors highlighting the GCARD3 consultation process and that this should continue despite of the structural uncertainty and to keep the broader objective in mind.**

## **5. GCARD3 Communication**

There wasn't time to fully discuss the draft plan as tabled however points raised were:

- Ensuring alignment in messaging and information between the GCARD web presences (ARC, GFAR, CGIAR)
- Encouraging CGIAR communicators to be better engaged in the GCARD3 communication process (especially arising from the national consultations)
- Provide suggestions for GCARD3 champions

**ACTION: OC member are to provide additional input and comments to the draft Communication Plan before 11 November, 2015, after which it will be considered approved**

## **6. Next Meeting**

A doodle poll will be prepared to solicit mutually agreeable dates between 16-20 November 2015, for the next OC meeting (meeting #8).