TROPICAL AGRICULTURE PLATFORM

and

CAPACITY FOR CHANGE
Common Framework on Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems

Christian Hoste
Director of International Relations - AGREENIUM
Chair, Tropical Agriculture Platform
Capacity needs in the Tropics: the G20 establishes TAP

- Low and lower-middle income countries, which are mainly located in the tropics, often lack capacities in support of agricultural innovation;
- To address this gap, the G20 launched the Tropical Agriculture Platform;
- With more than 40 partners, TAP is a multilateral facilitation mechanism to promote greater coherence and impact of CD for AIS;
- Based on regional needs assessments (CIAT, FARA, SEARCA) carried out in 2013, the TAP Action Plan was developed;
- Since 2015, the TAP Action Plan is supported by the EU-funded Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CDAIS) project for global and country results;
Global coherence of CD approaches for AIS

Advocacy and policy dialogue

Common Framework on CD for AIS

TAPipedia knowledge hub
The TAP Framework

1. Review Report: Review of existing resources on CD for AIS
2. Conceptual Background: Theory, concepts, principles, definitions
3. Synthesis: Summary of Conceptual Background
4. Guidance Note on Operationalization: Approach and tools

Framework Products
The TAP Framework

• *The Common Framework on CD for AIS*

- Was developed by experts through a highly participatory process;
- Promotes a shift of mind-set and attitudes;
- Provides concepts, principles, approaches and tools to
  - better understand the AIS architecture,
  - assess CD needs,
  - plan and implement CD interventions,
  - monitor and evaluate CD interventions;
- Puts focus on facilitation, learning, documentation and knowledge management for enabling innovation.
Agricultural Innovation System (AIS)

The Common Framework promotes a system perspective on agricultural innovation, since agriculture increasingly involves complex interactions among stakeholders at multiple levels.
Functional capacities

The Common Framework identifies 4 + 1 key capacities for AIS to perform effectively. These apply to all three dimensions of CD.

The 4 capacities on the left are the core of an overarching capacity to adapt and respond in order to realize the potential of innovation.
# Functional capacities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The key capacities in detail</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Navigate Complexity</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Value chain analysis</td>
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<td>Proposal writing</td>
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<td>Strategy / vision development</td>
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<td>Assessment of requirements</td>
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<td>Evidence-based decision-making and scaling-out</td>
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The Common Framework proposes a dual pathway approach to CD for AIS. This conceptual approach includes two aggregated processes: at **system level** and at **innovation niche level**.

**System level**: the focus is on the functionalities and performance of the system as a whole.

**Innovation niche level**: CD takes place around specific innovation agendas, in which actors of all types allocate time and resources to achieve change.
Innovation niche

*Spaces in which groups of AIS actors become part of a learning process*

Starting point for capacity development activities

**Examples:**

- Value-chain related multi-stakeholder platform
- Community production centres
- Project on improving agro-forestry techniques
- Initiative to promote climate smart agriculture
- Sustainable sourcing of resources by corporation XY
- Scheme for efficient small-scale irrigation
The Framework proposes a **CD CYCLE** in **5 STAGES** for the operationalization of CD interventions in AIS.

The CD cycle stimulates learning and interactions between the 3 CD dimensions.
50 participants from TAP Partner organizations and from CDAIS pilot countries + national participants;

Presentation and discussion of TAP achievements and upcoming activities;

TAP Framework approved;

Cross-country exchange on experiences with agricultural innovation in general and the CDAIS project in particular.
The EU-funded CDAIS project provides opportunity to test the Framework in 8 countries: Angola, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Honduras, Laos and Rwanda;

Project is jointly implemented by Agrinatura and FAO in collaboration with national stakeholders;

Scoping studies to map AIS stakeholders and identify intervention areas carried out or currently in progress;

Inception workshops held in four countries, with the other four workshops being currently organized for Q1 2016;

Other project activities: Needs assessments, marketplaces, policy roundtables and capacity development interventions in selected innovation partnerships.
Validation of the Framework
TAPipedia knowledge hub:

- allows TAP Partners and other stakeholders to share their CD for AIS resources and initiatives;
- presents, explains and promotes the TAP Framework, including learning modules.

http://tapipedia.org/
Conclusions

- Thanks to the EU and to other contributions, funding is available for the implementation of the TAP Action Plan;
- TAP is on track to fulfil its goal of providing coherence for capacity development initiatives in the field of agricultural innovation;
- TAP is a vibrant platform and in Kigali Partners confirmed their engagement to:
  - advocate for and apply the TAP Framework,
  - support the content development and use of TAPipedia,
  - contribute to global, regional and national policy dialogue events and marketplaces organized under the CDAIS project.
Thank you!