IntensAfrica

Building a Research and Innovation partnership programme between Europe and Africa on sustainable intensification of agro-food systems

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Philippe Petithuguenin

CIRAD
IntensAfrica

- A collaborative Research program between EU and Africa based on long term joint programming
- Purpose: Improve the food security and livelihood of farmers by sustainable intensification of agri-food systems
Food security and livelihood of farmers

- Efficient agri-food systems
- Sustainable increase of land productivity, serving also the urban population
- Higher labour productivity, income diversification on-farm and off-farm
- Economic development by agri-food value chains
- Rural development and employment
Sustainable Intensification

- Many studies advocate sustainable intensification
- Montpellier Panel paradigm: Higher output of agriculture in terms of production, income and nutrition
Sustainable Intensification

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- **SAAA**: *Diversity of pathways*
- **CAP reform**: competitiveness, environmental services, rural livelihoods

- Various pathways
- Interdisciplinarity and system approaches
- Production and value chains
- Science with Impact
Potential activities for IntensAfrica

- Aligning existing research projects and launching new ones
- Strengthening scientific capacities of agriculture scientists and institutions
- Enabling vibrant scientific communities and partnerships between Europe and Africa
- Nurturing innovation
- Feeding policy-science interfaces
IntensAfrica: what’s new?

- European ARD activities better aligned, with greater coherence, enhanced synergies and international visibility.
- A “system” approach (complementary to the NARS dominant “disciplinary” approach)
- A programme large enough to
  - go beyond controversies, recognizing the value of diversity in solutions, contexts and stakeholders strategies.
  - integrate the value–chain dimension (“filière”) and the geographical dimension (from field to farm to region and nations)
- A long term support to Research and Innovation communities from Europe and from Africa, with a particular attention given to the NARS.
IntensAfrica: where are we now?

- Institutions from 13 EU countries (BE, CH, CZ, DK, FR, IT, IR, UK, HU, NL, PT, SP, SW) have demonstrated interest and asked WUR and CIRAD to co-lead

- Various meetings with EC officials have been held, for information and guidance

- Participation to FARA’s science week, July 2013 in Accra: interest of NEPAD, FARA, SROs and NARS confirmed; AU informed; alignment with SAAA strengthened

- Possible presentation at the next meeting of the EU-AU high level dialogue on STI, in November 2013

- Support expected through Horizon 2020 Workprogramme 2014-2015

- 1 or 2 intermediate steps required before launching a JPI or Article 185 initiative
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...let’s make it happen...