

PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES INFORMATION SHEET

Name of the Partnership/Initiative

Strengthening multi-stakeholder research partnerships for Irrigation and Efficient Water Management

Expected date of initiation: 1 November 2002

Expected date of completion: 28 February 2004. End date for telephonic, fax and e-mail support: 31 August 2004

Partners Involved:

Governments:

Kenyan Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

Intergovernmental organizations:

CGIAR

Major groups:

International federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP)

Research institutions

Kenyan National Research Institute

CIAT-Africa

ISNAR

Norwegian Drylands Development Group

Farmers organizations

Kenyan National Farmers Union

Agri-South Africa

NGOs

CARE-Kenya

IMAH Brazil

Other: Stakeholder Forum for Our Common Future

Leading Partner: Stakeholder Forum for Our Common Future (interim, for IFAP)

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Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative

Please provide a brief description:

Background

Sustainable agriculture and rural development are essential to the implementation of an integrated approach to increasing food production and enhancing food security. Therefore it is vital to encourage and support programmes that enhance, in a sustainable manner, land productivity and the efficient use of water resources in agriculture.

This is the main aim of the two multi-stakeholder approaches being implemented by partner organizations in this initiatives, which both utilize similar, but distinct multi-stakeholder approaches to address the problems faced by farmers in their efforts to use irrigation for food production. The partnership will enable farmers organisations and research communities within two African countries, South Africa and Kenya, the opportunity to learn, and thus build upon the respective strengths of these multi-stakeholder approaches.

The partnership will also offer the opportunity to transfer knowledge and the affordable technology currently being utilised by the South African partner: SAPWAT.

SAPWAT, a software programme, is a planning tool for the estimation of crop irrigation requirements and the development of efficient water management. SAPWAT has been designed to assist with the planning of efficient water, by educating users about irrigation principles, the implications of latest irrigation methods and the potential consequences of applying alternative strategies.

Goals:

- To promote the development of affordable and low-cost irrigation technologies to ensure the efficient water resource utilisation in agriculture
- To ensure low-cost irrigation technologies meet the needs of small-scale farmers, by developing research agendas through multi-stakeholder collaboration.
- To strengthen farmer –to-farmer and farmer-to-researcher information exchange on appropriate, low cost irrigation technologies

Please also provide a brief description of the relationship of the Partnership/Initiative with the objectives of Agenda 21 as well as relevant goals and objectives of the United Nation Millennium Declaration:

Agenda 21 objectives:

Social benefits of the partnership: Short-term: Capacity building, knowledge sharing and opportunities to learn from other partner organisations.

Long-term: through the development of more appropriate, needs based research foci.

Economic: Improved water management efficiency and thus land productivity, with ensuing opportunities for improved food security and rural poverty alleviation

Environmental: Through support for further uptake and adoption of sustainable agricultural management practices.

Some of the International Developments Targets (IDT) tackled through the initiative are: education, environment, health and sustainable development. Sustainable agriculture and rural development is a pre-requisite to sustainable development – particularly in terms of poverty alleviation, food security and economic development of the rural area.

The partnership aims to

- improve collaboration on research and development amongst research institutions, universities, farmers organizations, the private sector, governments and NGOs.
- strengthen farmer –to –farmer and farmer-to-research exchange on appropriate, low-cost irrigation technology utilization , with the assistance of relevant international and national research

organizations.

Expected results:

- Strengthened knowledge base on the methodologies and processes that underpin productive, collaborative research partnerships
- Strengthened linkages between the demand and supply chains for appropriate irrigation technologies in arid and semi-arid areas of Africa
- Improved information provision for farmers encountering problems in their utilisation of irrigation for food production

Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement:

- Expand upon and replicate the process underpinning two productive multi-stakeholder research partnerships
 1. South Africa's multi-stakeholder partnership initiative: ' The utilisation of SAPWAT as planning tool for the estimation of crop irrigation requirements and the development of efficient water management by Water User Associations (WUA)'
 2. The Kenyan Farmer's Union initiative to strengthen the demand and supply chains for appropriate agricultural technologies , for example affordable small scale irrigation systems, in arid and semi-arid areas.
- Increase the extent to which research initiatives address the problems farmers encounter in their efforts to use irrigation for food production, through farmer-farmer and farmer-researcher collaboration.

Target groups and Expected results

- Agricultural researchers in government and non-government sectors.
- Ultimately small holder farmers, initially within Africa, through farmers organizations, NGOs and community based organizations.
- Strengthened partnering between the above organizations, initially African-based but with considerable scope for more widespread geographical engagement.

Scope:

- Initial geographic scope: The partners are currently all based within Africa. However there is tremendous scope for broadening the application of such multi-stakeholder methodologies globally.

Coordination and Implementation mechanism

Please provide a brief description of expected coordination/implementation mechanism of the Partnership/Initiative.

- The programme will be coordinated and implemented by the IFAP, with support from members of the Kenyan National Farmers Union, Kenyan National Research Institute, the South African based farmers organization AgriSA and other collaborating institutions.

Arrangements for funding

Please describe available and/or expected sources of funding for the implementation of the Partnership/Initiative (e.g. donor government(s); international organization(s)/financial institution(s); foundation(s); private sector; other major groups, etc.)

- It is expected that the initiative will attract the support of Governments within the partners' countries of

origin and also more widely, given the potential widespread applicability of such collaborative, multi-stakeholder research partnerships.

Arrangements for capacity building and technology transfer

Please include information if the Partnership/Initiative provides for training, informational support, institutional strengthening and/or other capacity building measures:

- The main focus of the partnership is to build and strengthen institutional capacity through knowledge exchange and learning from the successes and failures of partner organisations in their respective approaches to developing efficient irrigation strategies.
- Kenyan partners will benefit from opportunities to learn about SAPWAT as an effective planning tool for estimating crop irrigation requirements.

Please also provide here a brief description of expected arrangements for technology transfer (if applicable).

- Transferring basic sustainable agricultural techniques and knowledge, including natural resource management, to small and medium-scale farmers through multi-stakeholder partnerships
- Strengthened linkages and thus opportunities for technology transfer between the technology users, marketers, financiers, promoters and the developers of appropriate technologies for sustainable use and conservation of water.

Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level (if any)

Please provide a brief description:

Ongoing activities at international, national and regional levels to

1. alleviate poverty through improving food availability and affordability,
2. build greater capacity in science and technology for sustainable development by improving collaboration and partnerships on research and development, and encouraging networking with and between centres of scientific excellence and farming communities within developing countries.

Monitoring Arrangements

Please describe expected arrangements for monitoring of progress in the implementation of Partnerships/Initiative after it will be launched at the WSSD:

(e.g. frequency/modalities of preparation of progress reports; electronic updates, news-letters, etc)

- The partnership will develop internal monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, based on a multi-stakeholder approach. Specific arrangements depend on detailed work programme – to be determined by the working group during Stakeholder Forum's Implementation Conference .
- Reporting to CSD desired for monitoring, learning and knowledge management

Other relevant information:

Web-site (if available): This partnership is part of Stakeholder Forums Implementation Conference process; more information at www.earthsummit2002.org/ic

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