



***Africa Feeding Africa
through Agricultural Science and Innovation***

6th Africa Agriculture Science Week

and FARA General Assembly

Accra

15-20 July 2013

Review of relevant outcomes

Detlef Virchow

Organizers and sponsors



EUROPEAN COMMISSION




UKaid
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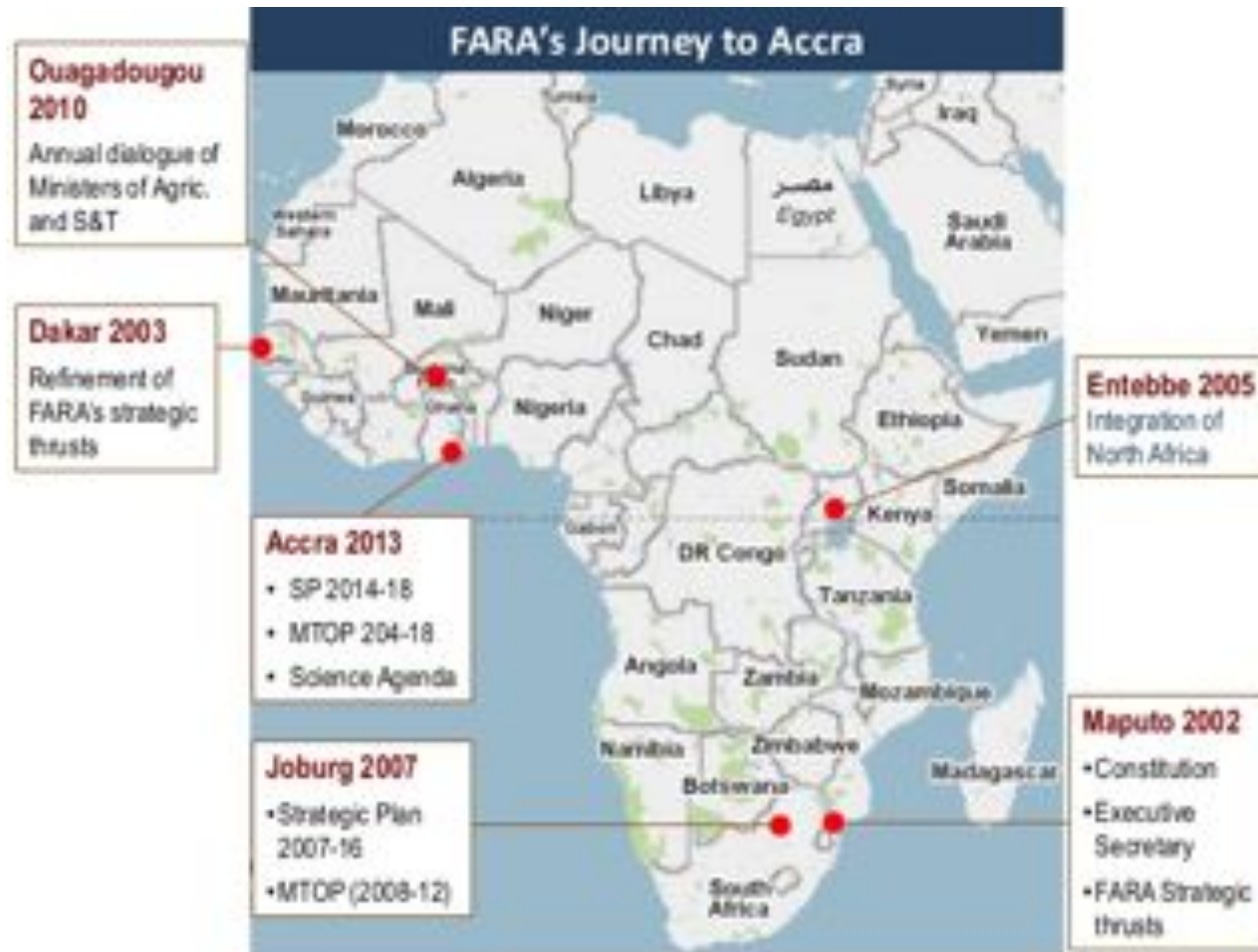


syngenta foundation
for sustainable agriculture

Africa Agriculture Science Week

- (bi-) **Tri-annual** event, convened by FARA
- **Continental** gathering with all stakeholders involved in African agricultural research and development
- **Open space** for networking and exchange of information and knowledge
- Divided into three parts:
 - **Pre-plenary**: meetings for each sub-theme (Side-events, Marketplace, Ghana Day, CAADP day, Ministerial Roundtable)
 - **Plenary**: meetings
 - **Post-plenary**: General Assembly and Business Meeting of FARA

AASW's travel through Africa 2002 - 2013



1,334 Participants at 6th AASW

- Sub-Regional Organizations (SROs) (ASARECA, CORAF/WECARD, CCARDESA and NASRO)
- Farmers' and Pastoralists' Organizations
- National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS):
 - Agricultural Research Institutions, Agricultural Educational Institutions including universities
 - Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) working in agriculture
 - Policy makers :
 - Ministries of Agriculture, Education, Science and Technology
 - National and regional parliamentary sub-committees on agriculture and Africa's development partners
 - Private enterprises
- Non-African advanced research institutions (ARIs)
- International Agricultural Research Centers (IARCs)
- International / non-African NGOs
- International / non-African policy makers
- International / non-African private sector

Objectives of 6th AASW

- To enable FARA constituents meet to review **progress and lessons learnt** since the 5th Agriculture Science Week ;
- To determine the **African regional agenda** for the next three years;
- To hold the **Ghana Agricultural Science day** as a highlight of Africa Agriculture Science Week
- To mark progress towards **achievement of the CAADP vision**; and
- To hold the **Business meeting** for the purpose of ratifying various issues related to the program, governance of FARA and the leadership of the FARA and Secretariat.

Africa Feeding Africa through Agricultural Science and Innovation

- Sub-theme I:
Education and **human resource development** to enable Africa feed Africa
- Sub-theme II:
Innovations to improve productivity and resilience
- Sub-theme III:
Moving beyond competition to **collaboration**
- Sub-theme IV:
Innovative financing and investment in agriculture

➔ Recommendations on sub-themes, generated at 51 side events, were presented at Plenary & determine FARA's working agenda for the next three years

Special side events

- **Tertiary agricultural education & technical & vocational education & training**
Organizer: TEAM Africa, FARA, NPCA, RUFORUM, ANAFE
- **IntensAfrica Initiative: a scientific partnership between Europe and Africa on sustainable intensification of agriculture**
Organizer: CIRAD, Wageningen UR, FARA
- **Developing the Science Agenda for Agriculture in Africa (S3A)**
Organizer: FARA

S3A

Science Agenda for Agriculture in Africa

- Africa owned and **Africa-led initiative** on agriculture
- Is a long-term strategic framework that will **align** national, regional and international research programs, to respond to the demands of Africa's agriculture sector
- It will also serve as an **advocacy** tool for increased investment in agricultural science
- **Linking** the fragmented structure of research extension and capacity building, to enable *Africa to feed Africa*
- **Launch** of Science Agenda at AU summit June 2014

→ *horticulture?!*

AASW 2013 - Outcomes



Source: M.Jones, 2013

Africa & African agriculture is rising!

Highlights at AASW I

- **Agriculture's contribution** to Africa's economic growth:
 - Highest poverty reducing potential
 - Productivity (good emphasis on land, water and inputs, but insufficient attention to labor)
 - Global competitiveness
- **Entrepreneurship** („*earning money with agriculture!*“)
- Increasing **effectiveness** of African agriculture R&D:
from „*publish or perish*“ to „***impact or perish***“
- **Youth** important for African agriculture
- **Key-note address** by Kanayo Nwanze (IFAD) during the Opening Ceremony: 'Africa feeding Africa'
→ focus on the smallholder farming sector!

Highlights at AASW II

- African agriculture has to improve competitiveness through more continental and regional **collaboration**:
 - Addressing regional / trans-boundary issues (transaction costs, climate change, watershed etc)
 - Brokering partnerships of partnerships on behalf of many countries (e.g., Africa-Brazil, Africa-EU, Africa-China etc)
- But: most investment in continental initiatives is EXTERNAL*
- African ownership?

Highlights at AASW III

- > 50 **side events**
- AASW received significant support from CGIAR → **alignment** of CGIAR Research Centers and CRPs with African national agricultural and food security investment plans
- **MoU** between FARA and the African Union Commission (AUC) signed
- **FARA's program** for the next three years reviewed and endorsed
- Presentation of the ***Africa Award for Excellence in Food Security and Poverty Reduction*** to Republic of Ghana for its significant progress in meeting the MDG 1 target ahead of 2015

**Monty
at**



**Jones
AASW 2013**

*"**FARA** has made significant achievements
in a short period of eleven years
through the contribution of
all staff and stakeholders
and I would encourage everyone
to remain dedicated
to building a better FARA
and a stronger **agricultural sector in Africa**"*

Change of Guards at FARA

New Chairperson: Dr. Charity Kruger
(Dr. Tiemoko Yo)

New Executive Director: Dr. Yemi Akinbamiyo
(Prof. Monty Jones)

