The Global Forum: Shaping Tomorrow’s Agriculture Today

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Business as usual is not an option...
- Climates are changing
- Demographic pressures are growing
- Food demands are changing
- Land use is changing
- Agricultural water resources are decreasing
- Soil resources are eroding
- Urbanization is advancing
- Indigenous knowledge is disappearing

The poor are increasingly marginalized

Challenges from the IPCC, High Level Conference, International Assessment & World Development Reports 2008

How can we increase agricultural productivity and farmer incomes in a world of changing climates while:
- Ensuring food is affordable to the poor
- Ensuring wider societal needs are met
- Sustainably managing environmental resources
- And what kind of institutions do we need to meet these challenges?

Society is full of natural innovators...
Constrained by resources & risk-aware
Empowered by Knowledge

Science in Society

- Scientific knowledge is reductionist, trusted & validated by its method
- Local knowledge is holistic, trusted & validated by experience & culture
- Need to link & reconcile these knowledge & trust bases
- Sustainable development must value & capitalize on both

The nature of innovation

Information is passive, becomes knowledge through use
Knowledge is not static, derived from actions & interactions
Innovation derives from the interaction and knowledge of multiple actors within a context
National Agricultural Research Systems & Climate Change

- International agreements
- National Policies
- Other Sectors
  - Public research & extension
  - Business: inputs and markets
  - NGOs
- Farmers
  - Consumers
- Weather prediction
- Research priorities & implementation
- Knowledge systems
- Risk management systems
- Social organization
- Service providers
- Environments
- Food system
- Food security
- Economies
- Livelihoods

Knowledge Flow
Policy Processes & Networks
The Global Agricultural Research for Development System, centred on the poor

What constrains these interactions?
- Control
- Awareness
- Media
- Accessibility
- Reductionism/complexity
- Intelligibility & format
- Relevance
- Institutional barriers
- Belief systems
- Attitude to change

Overcoming the barriers:
GFAR: a Movement for Change

We Are You
- Farmers – putting communities at the centre of research
- Civil Society – a voice for the needs of the disadvantaged, bridging local and scientific innovation
- National Agricultural Research & Extension – capable, relevant and valued systems meeting the needs of the poor
- Private Sector – effective & responsible input delivery & output markets
- International Research Centers – dynamically connected to their intended beneficiaries
- Fundamental Research Institutions – basic research driven by real needs
- Donor organizations – fulfilling development aims through explicitly demand-driven policies and processes

Regional Fora
- FORAGRO
- FARA
- APAARI
- CACAARI
- AARINENA
- EFARD
- FORAGRO
- FARA
Global Forum: Strategic Objectives

1. Advocacy for change – addressing agriculture’s future needs
2. Institutions for the Future
3. Inter-regional learning for global impact
4. Knowledge for all - putting knowledge to use

Over to You...

- You are the drivers at the centre of the research for development process
- You have the power to shape and determine the future of farming
- Your voices and your collective actions are crucial for delivering rapid change
- Your Global Forum provides the mechanism and the opportunity...

Use it to achieve peace, prosperity and stability for all

Thank You