



PAEPARD



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Editorial

Lessons learned

The funding from the European Commission of the PAEPARD project and platform which started in 2007 will come to a close at the end of 2017. We continue to draw lessons on what was achieved.

This fifth in a series of 3-monthly newsletters is focusing on the PAEPARD communication platforms and tools which aimed to support and strengthen African-European multi-stakeholder ARD partnerships by demonstrating the value of a demand-led approach involving a wide range of actors.

Francois
STEPMAN

From an information to a knowledge platform

The [PAEPARD Dgroups community](#) currently has around 8,300 members (August 2017) who receive and disseminate ARD information. Over the years, the PAEPARD Dgroup has become one of the most influential platforms for creating complementarities and synergies among the many actors involved in agriculture in Africa. PAEPARD is now used regularly by FAO, CGIAR, etc. The [PAEPARD blog](#) has produced, on average, 350 postings each year, and has proved to be particularly successful reaching large numbers of viewers and attracting very positive feedback. It has some 15,000 to 20,000 viewers per month.

In total 102 people responded to our online [survey of November 2016](#). The survey respondents were in majority African (76%), followed by European (14 %). It indicated that the PAEPARD community recognized the importance the information shared on the Dgroup platform. A large proportion (65%) of the respondents indicated that they have developed new skills and knowledge and have often integrated this information in their work.



Recent activities of PAEPARD

26 au 28 juillet. Douala, Cameroun. Atelier régional de renforcement de la collaboration et la concertation entre les organisations paysannes et la recherche agricole en Afrique centrale

15 August. Johannesburg. Transformative Change Through [Partnerships for Agricultural Research for Development \(AR4D\)](#)

17-18 Aout. Cotonou. [Atelier de renforcement de capacités des producteurs de semences du soja: Une innovation du projet ProSeSS et de ses partenaires.](#)

The PAEPARD project

- > **The agricultural innovation platform that implements a multi-stakeholder approach.** Since 2010, PAEPARD stimulates multi-stakeholder partnerships between Africa and Europe
- > **Competitive Funds.** Strengthen the stakeholder capacity to elaborate and get funded their proposals. Convert concept notes into research proposals and sustainable fund sourcing. 21 project proposals funded since 2010.
- > **Users' Led Process.** Analysis of the needs and priorities of the professionals. 5 ULPs. 19 consortia. 17 African and 9 European countries involved.
- > **Incentive Fund.** Translation of a development issue into a research question and identification of funding opportunities. 55 concept notes and proposals drafted. 20 Agricultural Innovation Facilitators trained.
- > **Strategy of communication and advocacy, capacity strengthening.** Identification of the needs in communication and capacity or strengthening and sustaining the partnerships. 7 600 followers under PAEPARD-Dgroups/ abonnés au Dgroups Paepard





What's up?

EAFF 4th Farmers Congress 14-15th September 2017

Tropentag 2017
19-22 September 2017
Bonn

PAEPARD capitalisation workshop
2 - 5 October 2017.
Cotonou, Benin

Info Week on Horizon 2020 Societal Challenge 2 (SC2)
14-17 November. Brussels

3 upcoming conferences on aflatoxins
11-14 September 2017.
Ghent, Belgium.
MycoKey2017. Global Mycotoxin Reduction in the Food and Feed Chain
9 October 2017. Nairobi, Kenya. The AflaNet project is organising a one day conference:
Networking on aflatoxin reduction in the food value chain

24 - 27 June 2018.
Mombassa, Kenya. 2nd AFRICAN SYMPOSIUM on MYCOTOXICOLOGY

" PAEPARD provides a lot of important information influencing the direction of research in Kenya"

Lusike A. Wasilwa
Assistant Director incharge of Horticulture
Kenya Agriculture Research Institute
Nairobi Kenya

OSIRIS - Online System to Improve Relationships by Information Sharing

The third PAEPARD tool is an institutional website, available in English and French, to present the project's objectives, the structure of the Work Packages and partners involved, and to facilitate communication between

PAEPARD partners and consortia. The website also met the PAEPARD goal for providing up-to-date information about ARD funding opportunities and events. The latest version of the PAEPARD web site launched in early 2016 automatically aggregates information from PAEPARD consortia and Work Packages in their personal work spaces. OSIRIS – is a bilingual (English and French) collaborative

working platform. It is customised from the existing Wiki used for other tools to allow, among other functions: managing a directory, a library, calendar, news, online shared documents and activities. The platform is also endowed with specific functions such as sharing of information with other systems, making appointments (doodle), co-writing documents (Google drive), etc.

Each consortia and PAEPARD work stream has its own OSIRIS. Whilst the spaces are private, each group can share some or all of its information with other groups.

The success of OSIRIS was seen not only in dissemination of the same information via different tools but also in the improvement in internal and external communications within the consortia.

A more in depth analysis will be published soon: *The journey from an information management platform to a knowledge platform.*

Publications / resources

Guidelines on Innovation Platforms in R4D 2017. International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and Wageningen University (WUR) under the CGIAR Research Program on Roots Tubers and Bananas (RTB), Kigali, Rwanda. 46 pages

Aflatoxins in groundnuts video To support farmers in East Africa, West Africa and Latin America, the video on managing aflatoxins in groundnuts has been translated in 10 local languages

Video: Entrepreneurs sociaux : développer une agriculture biologique au Burkina Faso

Video of the Uganda Indigenous Fruits and Vegetables consortium

Capacity Needs Assessment in an agricultural innovation niche partnership Trainer's Manual on Facilitating Capacity Needs Assessment 2017, 114 pages

CIRAD policy brief: Impact of agricultural research in developing countries

Upcoming PAEPARD policy briefs:

1. *The journey from an information management platform to a knowledge platform.*
2. *Appraising/ Assessing the position of European partners in the PAEPARD Users'-Led Process (ULP)*
3. *Funding for agricultural research for development: Lessons from PAEPARD*
4. *The European Development Days social media report by PAEPARD*

Our partners



The Platform for Africa-Europe Partnership in Agricultural Research for Development (**PAEPARD**) is a 8-year project sponsored by the European Commission (80%) and partners' own contribution (20%). It is coordinated by the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (**FARA**) since December 2009, and extended until end of 2017. It aims at building joint African-European multi-stakeholder partnerships in agricultural research for development (**ARD**) contributing to achieving the Millennium Development Goals. On the European side, the partners are **AGRINATURA** (The European Alliance on Agriculture Knowledge for Development, coordinating the European partners), **COLEACP** (representing the private sector), **CSA** (representing the NGOs), **ICRA**, specialized in capacity building in ARD, and the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (**CTA**). On the African side and in addition to FARA, the partners are the Pan-African Farmers Organization (**PAFO**), the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (**RUFORUM**) based in Kampala, and the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (**FANRPAN**) based in Pretoria. PAFO involves its members that are the Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (**EAFF**) based in Nairobi, the Réseaux des Organisations Paysannes et des Producteurs d'Afrique de l'Ouest (**ROPPO**) based in Ouagadougou, and the Plate-forme Régionale des Organisations Paysannes d'Afrique Centrale (**PROPAC**) based in Yaoundé. The Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (**SACAU**) is an associate partner of **PAEPARD**.

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