



# PAEPARD



NEWSLETTER - 01.06.2017

## 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 fourth in a series of 3-monthly newsletters is focusing on ARD funding mechanisms.

Since 2010 PAEPARD has monitored available funding opportunities. The present newsletter highlights PAEPARD's efforts in the context of available funding for agricultural research for development in Africa. The search for funding, the sources of that funding and the methodology of implementation required special attention from all the stakeholders of the partnership.

Francois STEPMAN

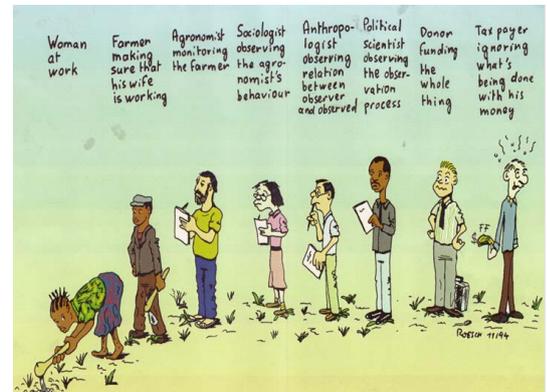
## ACTIVITIES

### ARD funding mechanisms

One of the main objectives of the PAEPARD advocacy strategy was to influence calls and the capacity building strategy was to increase the capacity in writing proposals for the benefit of multi stakeholder consortia. Between 2010 and 2016 a total of 82 proposals were submitted to a donor. The total number of selected proposals for funding was 24 research proposals.

While this may be perceived as a relatively low success rate (1/ 5 for the overall submitted proposals the number of selected ARD projects submitted by PAEPARD supported consortia is comparable to the success rate one would find in some specific calls for proposals.

Particularly, for the proposals submitted under the Applied Research Fund (ARF) of the Dutch WOTRO (science division of the Netherlands Organizations of Scientific Research), the time and money invested in consolidating a consortium and improving on the concept note and proposal writing has paid off.



### Recent activities of PAEPARD

**16 May 2017.** ARD funding opportunities

**26-28 April 2017.** Uppsala, Sweden. AGRINATURA Annual General Assembly Meetings and workshop on "Mutual prosperity why North and South need each other".

**27-30 mars 2017.** SOJAGNON a organisé un atelier de dissémination de la technologie de stabilisation du lait de soja sous le ProSAM à de concert avec ses partenaires SENS-Benin.

**22 March 2017.** GFAR webinar. Challenging Development and Research Communications

**1 March 2017.** GFAR webinar. Agents of Change The Value of Facilitators.

## 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'LedProcess.** 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?

### European Development Days

7-8 June, Brussels  
**Stand 34: PAEPARD, FARA, Agrinatura, EFARD, CDAIS, Caast-net+, RINEA, Leap-Agri, FAO, PronIntensAfrica**

### World Aquaculture

26-30 June Cape Town

### DEVCO meeting on agribusiness

1 July 2017: Rome

### Meeting of EU and AU ministers of agriculture

2 July 2017, Rome

### FANRPAN Regional Food and Nutrition Security Multi-stakeholder Policy Dialogue

15-17 August 2017, South Africa

### 1st MYCOKEY International Conference

11-14 September 2017, Ghent Belgium

### Aflanet

9 October 2017, Nairobi

### Harnessing Research and Innovation for FOOD 2030

16 October 2017, Brussels

"The growing global demand for agricultural innovation makes it vital to assess the characteristics that separate effective from ineffective innovation fund mechanisms"

DESIGNING AND IMPLEMENTING AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION FUNDS: Lessons from Competitive Research and Matching Grant Projects © 2010 The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/ The World Bank

## HIGHLIGHT

### Effective and ineffective ARD innovation funds

**I**t is important to clarify the benefits for research to engage in multi-stakeholder partnerships and how this can be funded. The international ARD funding mechanisms, including EC funding, constitute a significant proportion of funding for agricultural research in Africa. However, there is still a challenge to undertake research that is demand led and to improve the overall quality of the partnerships being formed (see forthcoming PAEPARD policy note on ARD funding).

The question of the source of funding for research raises the question of the sustainability of the projects and partnerships developed.

A competitive environment for agricultural research funding is essential to drive excellence. Competition is as an incentive to excel and can motivate individuals to strive to do better than other research consortia. From a funder perspective, a competitive process can support quality assurance and raise quality levels. The increasing move towards addressing global challenges in the agricultural field has resulted in a greater need for *collaboration across different value chain actors, research disciplines and contexts*. An individual researcher or group has rarely all of the necessary skills or expertise to sufficiently explore and address complex development issues. Collaboration can secure impact from the research investment; with the funded researchers ideally working together to yield scientific outcomes that are more than the sum of the parts.

## Publications

**Aflatoxin B1 levels in groundnut products from local markets in Zambia** Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg 2017, 7 pages. Co-author Dr. Limbikani Matumba is associated to this research project supported by PAEPARD

**Towards effective soybean seed systems in Benin: Current situation and prospects for production and delivery of good quality seed.** Mathieu Anatole Tele Ayenan, Patrice Lagnon Sèwadé and Sègbégnon Martin Agboton Journal of Crop Improvement Published online: 20 April 2017, 22 pages

**A Comprehensive Overview of investments and Human Resource Capacity in African Agricultural Research.** Nienke Beintema and Gert-Jan Stads International Food Policy Research Institute. April 2017, 56 pages

**Striking the Balance Between Competition, Collaboration and Impact in International Development Research Calls & Programmes,** UK Collaborative on Development Sciences, 2017.

**Harnessing the potential of diverse intensification pathways for Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture.** Outline for a long-term EU-Africa Research and Innovation Partnership. ProIntensAfrica. 2017. March 2017. 4pp.

## 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 (**ROPPA**) 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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