



Transformative learning and sustainable capacity building for the attainment of agriculture related SDGs : African Perspective

THE GLOBAL FORUM ON AGRI-FOOD RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Outline

- **Background**
- **About GFAR Membership**
- **GFAR Collective Actions and Transformative learning**
- **Four areas of work**
- **Example from Africa**
- **Summary**



Background



- Second most populous continent
- One third of all calories consumed is imported \$77bn/yr
- Climate Change and Ageing farmers
- Challenge of meeting the SDGs related to Agriculture

Opportunities exist

- Yield Gap: average yield of maize 3t/ha
- Post harvest losses: about 30%
- Uncultivated land : 600m ha of uncultivated Savannah
- Youth bulge : 75% below age 35
- Innovation Systems Approach with Innovation Platform being used





What GFAR does

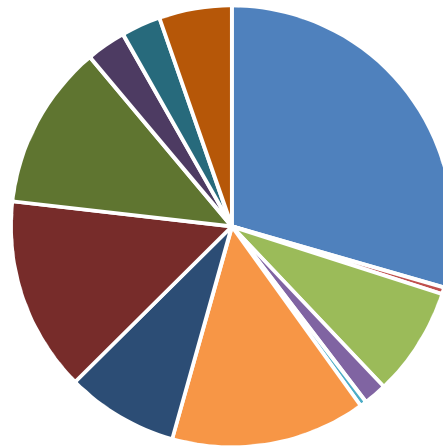
Partners in the Global Forum, at national, regional and international levels, **advocate for, and catalyze, Collective Actions** to strengthen and transform agri-food research and innovation systems.



GFAR: We're shaping the future together

CAAS represents E Asia in GFAR's Steering Committee

Self-Declared Partner organizations making up GFAR, by Sector,
Totaling over = 500



- CSOs
- Farmers & Ag workers
- Facilitating agencies
- International research
- Private sector
- Womens groups
- Consumers
- Finance insts
- Higher education
- National & Regional Research & Policy
- Rural advisory services
- Youth associations



Collective Actions of GFAR

- Building on what has worked well in the past and strengthening them with new tools
- From regional or thematic Innovation Platforms to National Innovation Platforms
- Polygonal transformative learning program for multiple stakeholders required to prepare them for accomplishing the agriculture - related SDGs



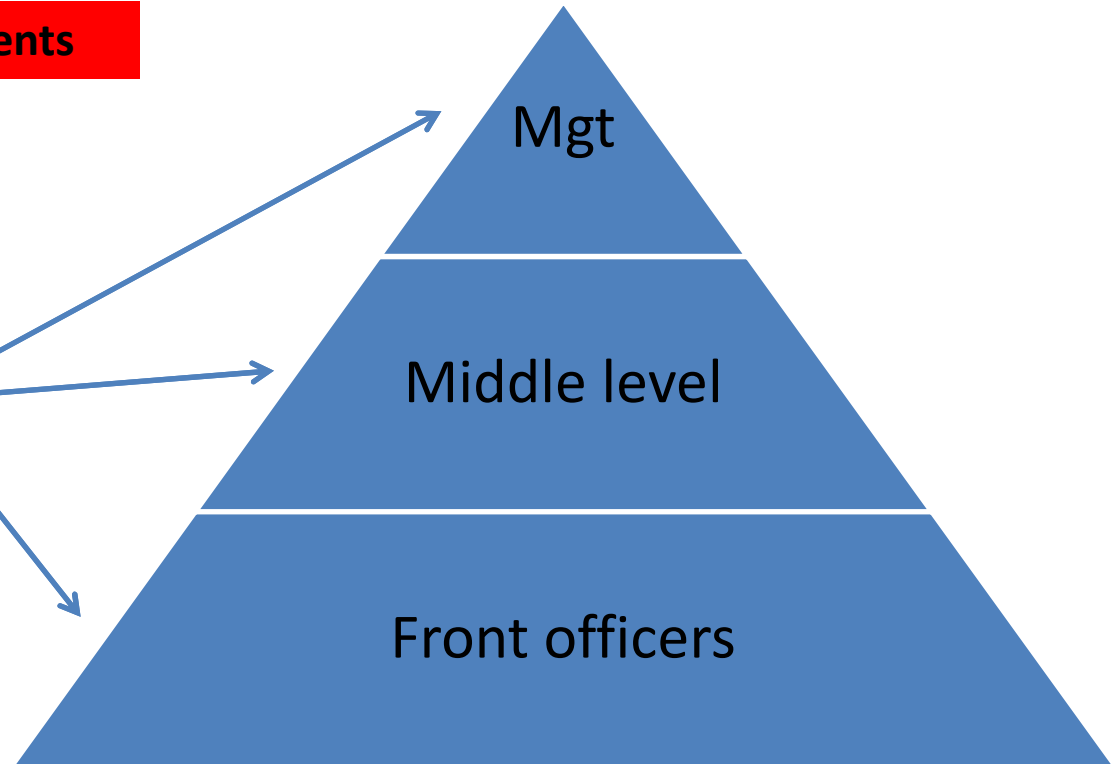
Transformative learning for all stakeholders at different levels and stages

A Covering all segment of the project cycle and value chain for all stakeholders

B Learning across regions and continents

C

Research
Extension (private and public)
Private Sector
Policy Makers
Farmers



D

Individual: Technical, Functional, Entrepreneurial and Life Skills

Organizational

Institutional

Key Areas of GFAR work

1. Foresight for Better Futures

- Empowering rural communities to shape their own futures
- Shaping the futures of agricultural research, innovations and policies from the ground up
- Africa Foresight Academy
- Foresight 4 System Initiative

2. Turning Knowledge and Innovation into Enterprise

- Complementary studies to understand the agricultural innovation systems and Program development
- Multi-stakeholder innovation platforms addressing key themes, from local to global
- Enabling enterprise from agri-food innovations, especially among women & youth

4. Demonstrating Impact and Improving Investments

- Determining SDG impacts and scaling out successes from agricultural innovation
- Mobilizing better forms of investment in agri-food research and innovation
- Ensuring farmer & stakeholder engagement in shaping innovation agendas/actions

GFAR

3. Strengthening Organizational and Individual Capacities

- Transforming Regional Research networks into truly multi-stakeholder fora
- Fostering inter-regional learning
- Leadership development for Youth in Agriculture:
 - Curricula reform
 - Youth leadership & mentorship



Burkina Faso: Country Studies

First level of transformative learning

- **Exploratory Foresight:** opens up the sector and projects forwards, prioritizes focus
- **Normative Foresight:** determines pathways. Digs deeper on chosen pathway
- **Study of agricultural innovation system:** research, extension, private sector inputs and output, policy, farmers, etc; determine gaps in capacity ; individual, technological, functional, organizational, institutional, policy, markets, and infrastructure, how to fill the gaps
- **Proposals and Business Plans:** Cocktail of projects

Outputs: Foresight reports; water security strategy, soil fertility strategy; food security strategy (youth and women friendly) all built into proposals



Burkina Faso: Implementation

Second level of transformative learning

- **Innovation Platforms** with all stakeholders providing complementary services increasing their capacities and providing support to the farmers to achieve yield increase, increased market access, increased incomes, increased jobs

Third Level of transformative learning

- **Build capacity** required for transformative learning
- **National aggregation framework:** from cells to clusters and platforms at the national level

Forth level of transformative learning

- **Determine SDG Impact;** mobilize more resources and scale out



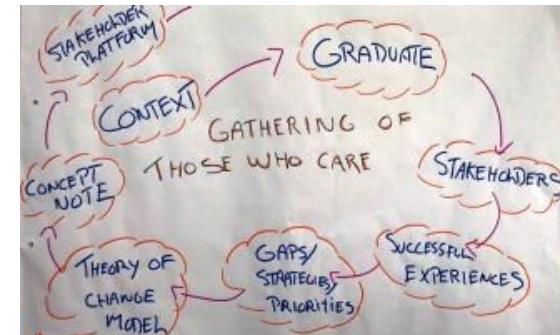
Strengthening Organizational and Individual Capacities

- Turning Regional Research networks into learning institutional(eg in the NENA Region, Central Asia and the Caucasus and the Americas (AARINENA, CACAARI and FORAGRO)
- Fostering inter-regional learning through youth dialogues and facilitation of youth organizations' collective actions: example Agricultural Youth Mediterranean Dialogues with tens of partners of GFAR



Strengthening Organizational and Individual Capacities (continued)

- Online leadership training programs for small & medium size organizations that are partners in GFAR in collaboration with the Management my Life Institute of Canada. 200 GFAR partner org. have benefitted so far.
- Developing a global youth mentoring tool with YPARD, that can then be adapted by GFAR partners in mentoring youth around the world.
- GFAR Initiative on Transformational Learning & Student Leadership Development in Agricultural Universities in Africa; working with African Universities to transform the learning experience of their students using a holistic approach developed by the universities themselves that addresses the strengthening of student knowledge, skills & attitudes in an integrated innovative way.



Summary

- Innovation Platforms have proven to be effective for deriving increased impact from research and development
- Developing Innovation Platforms at the National level helps in addressing SDGs especially when coupled with transformational learning experiences
- GFAR plays a critical role in the facilitation of the Global partnerships required for the rapid attainment of the SDGs related to agriculture
- Transformative Learning experiences are polygonal learning experiences
- Appreciation for all the support from the countries of the G20, the EC and other Development Partners
- Appreciation of support from MACS members whose institutions are members of GFAR
- More support required in scaling out this approach
- G20 stakeholders have a role to play as we build global networks towards SDGs



THANK YOU

