

Tropical Agricultural Platform: Facilitating capacity development for agricultural innovation in the Tropics

MACS Meeting, Potsdam, Germany – 15 Nov. 2017

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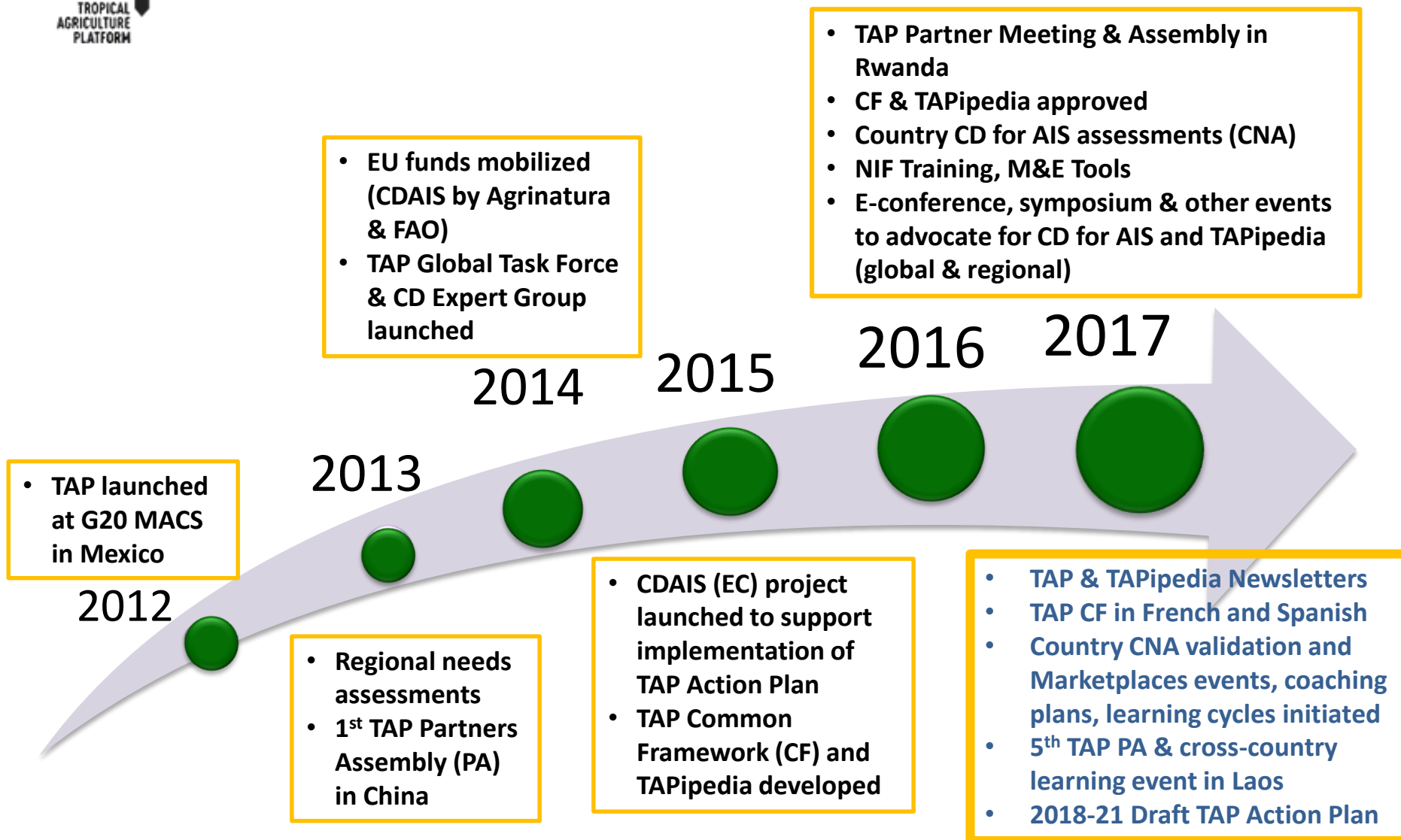
On behalf of TAP Partners

TAP Secretariat, FAO Research and Extension Unit, Rome

Major TAP Milestones since the G20 launch in 2012

- In **2012**, the Tropical Agriculture Platform was launched at 1st G20 MACS in Mexico to address the **capacity gaps for agricultural innovation** in low and lower-middle income countries, in the tropics;
- **TAP functions** as a multilateral facilitation mechanism to promote **greater coherence and impact of Capacity Development (CD)** for **Agricultural Innovation System (AIS)**;
- TAP has 45 partners and its governance structure includes a **Steering Committee, a Partners Assembly and a Secretariat (supported by FAO)**
- The **TAP Action Plan 2014-2017** was developed and approved based on **regional needs assessments in LAC, Africa, South East Asia (CIAT, FARA, SEARCA, 2013)**; the **2018 - 2021 TAP Action Plan** is under review.
- **Implementation** of the TAP Action Plan is supported by the **EU-funded CDAIS** project (2015-2018), jointly implemented by Agrinatura and FAO.

Major TAP milestones



TAP Partners



TAP Steering Committee

Steering Committee Members elected at 5th TAP Partners Assembly, September 2017, Laos PDR:

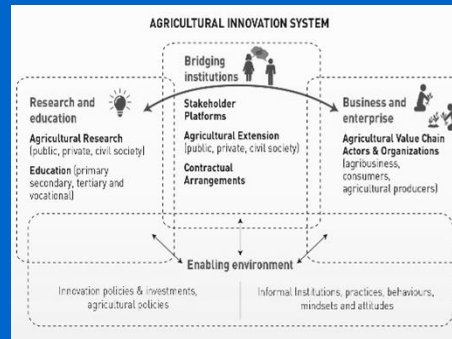
- Claude Bernhard – **AGREENIUM, France**
- Ravi Khetarpal – **APAARI, Thailand**
- Dannie Romney – **CABI (Vice-Chair), United Kingdom**
- Guodao Liu- **CATAS, China**
- Judith Francis – **CTA/EFARD (Chair), Netherlands**
- Samy Gaiji – **FAO, Italy**
- Amos Gyau – **FARA, Ghana**
- John Kennelly – **GCHERA, Canada**
- Thomas Price (interim) **GFAR, Italy**
- Jessica Bagdonis – **USAID, United States**

YPARD, GIZ, and IFAD (nomination of representative to be provided) are observers.

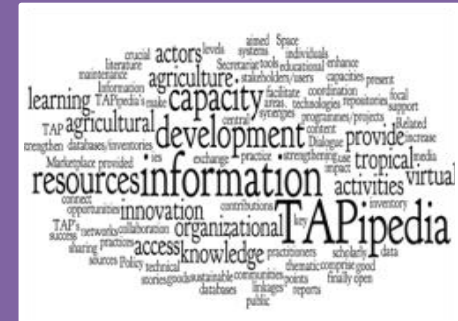
Achieving global coherence on CD for Agricultural Innovation Systems



Advocacy and policy dialogue (all levels)



Common Framework (systems CD)



**TAPipedia
knowledge hub
(network &
resources)**

TAP Common Framework (CF)

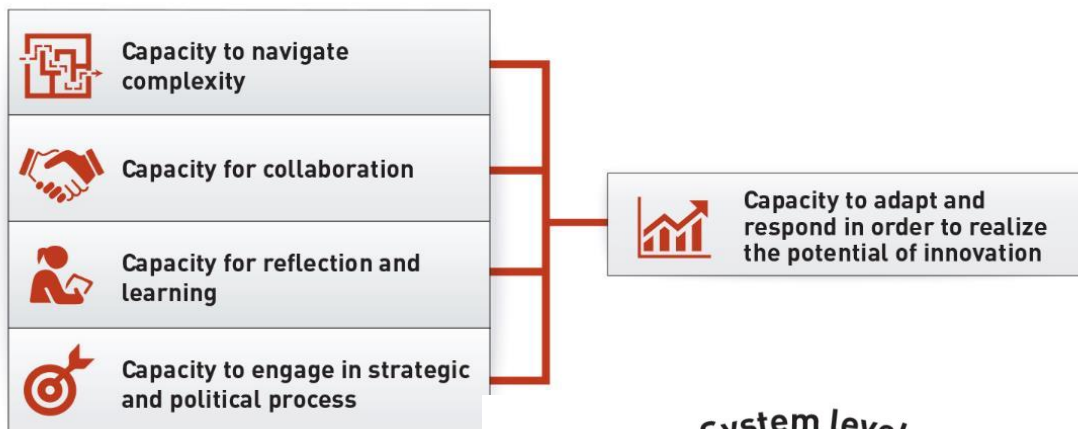
- Promotes a **shift of mind-set and attitudes**;
- Provides concepts, principles, approaches and tools to
 - better understand the **AIS architecture**, and **assess CD needs**
 - Plan, implement, monitor and evaluate **CD interventions**
- **Focus on functional capacities** for enabling innovation

Available in English, French and Spanish



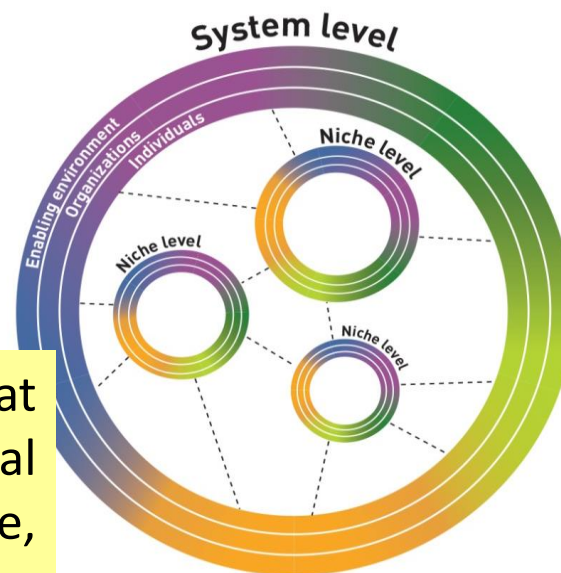
TAP CF in a nutshell

Functional capacities
(soft skills) individuals
and organizations



Participatory
Approaches to CD

Integration of CD at
local and central
level: marketplace,
policy dialogue



Practical guides on TAP CF

5 stages:



8 tools:



CDAIS Project: Pilots in 8 countries

CDAIS project applies TAP CF and operates in 8 countries

(Angola, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Honduras, Laos and Rwanda)



- innovation niche partnerships
- national platforms to support capacities to innovate
(initiated with the inception workshops, marketplace/innovation platforms, policy dialogue processes)

Design, adaptation and use of global methodologies and tools

- Scoping studies
- Learning cycles
 - participatory capacity needs assessments (CNA): niche & organizational levels
 - national innovation facilitators who accompany changes
 - scheduled reflection and refinement events
- Integrated Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Framework (MEL)
 - coaching plans to measure changes at individual, organization and systems level
 - cross-country analysis



TAP CD Framework applied with strong stakeholder engagement in 8 countries



INCEPTION WORKSHOPS & CONSULTATIONS



→ **Toolbox**

NEEDS AND BASELINE ASSESSMENTS



→ **Training Manual**

FACILITATOR TRAINING



MARKETPLACES

CDAIS Project – Mid-Term Review (2017)

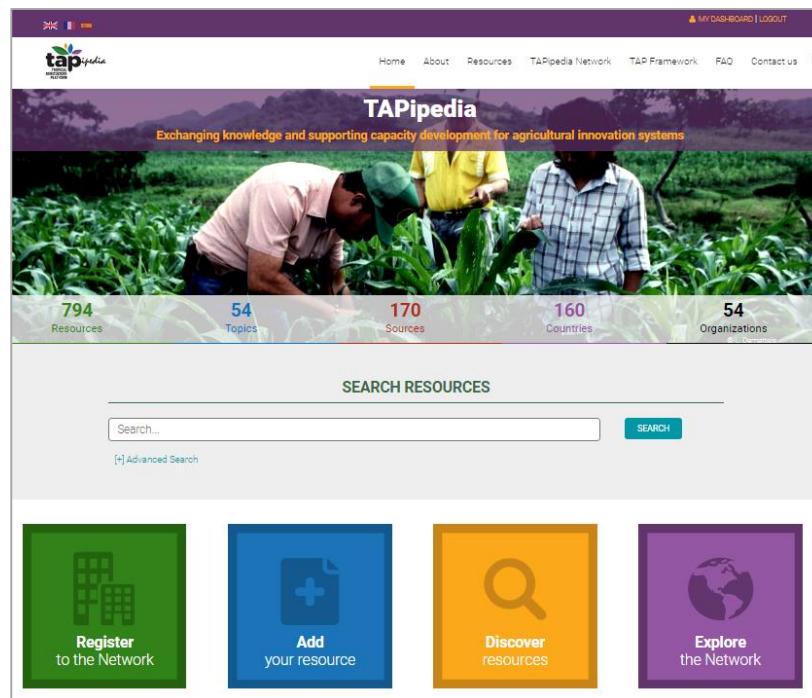
Main Conclusions (lessons learned):

- The **CF on CD** well aligned with demands and priorities of TAP partners and national priorities of participating countries.
- The project made **good progress** towards its three results.
- The project expected to **validate the CF** and at the same time **deliver developmental outcomes**.
- The project is **fostering partnerships at global and national level** that have helped progress towards the achievement of the project's expected results and are the **main vehicle** for ensuring their continuation beyond the end of the project.
- **National partners engagement and ownership** are key factor for the success and sustainability of the project.

TAPipedia knowledge hub:

- allows Partners/other stakeholders to share their CD for AIS resources and initiatives (*TAPipedia taxonomy; harvesting & uploading*)
- explains and promotes the TAP CD Framework, including learning modules in an interactive format.

<http://tapipedia.org/>



learning actors levels aimed Space systems individuals enhance Secretariat tools educational capacities present Information facilitate coordination areas technologies repositories support TAP agricultural development content provide increase strengthen databases/inventories exchange practice strengthening use impact tropical virtual resources information contributions TAPipedia TAP's networks collaboration organizational key success sharing practices access knowledge practitioners scholarly data sources Policy technical sustainable communities points thematic comprise good stories goods sustainable communities points thematic comprise good databases links reports finally open public

**IN 2017 MULTI-LINGUAL VERSION:
ENGLISH, FRENCH AND SPANISH**

What is next for TAP?

- **Finalize and endorse new TAP Action Plan (2018-2021):**
 - Intensify policy advocacy and resource mobilisation for greater coherence on CDAIS;
 - Wider adoption and integration of the TAP “Common Framework”, with focus on organizational and institutional capacity development (CD);
 - Develop **vocational and higher education (HE) programmes on CD for AIS** for relevant institution and universities in the North and South.
- **Expand TAP partner network and lobby for greater coherence and implementation of joint programmes**
- **Continue lobbying for additional project funding to support new countries in piloting CD framework for AIS at country level (funding already mobilised for pilots in 4 additional countries)**
- **Support the 1st FAO International Symposium on Innovation For Smallholders and Family Farmers, FAO, HQ, 11-13 June 2018**



International Symposium on Innovation for Smallholders and Family Farmers

11-13 June 2018

Responding to member countries' request for FAO's strong support smallholders and family farmers to innovate.

Expected key outputs

- **Rome Declaration and Call for action** to foster partnership for inclusive innovation for sustainable agriculture;
- **Global roadmap to promote innovation** and its enabling environment in support of FAO's strategic plan and SDGs;
- **Commitments by countries** to developing their national agriculture innovation strategy through appropriate diagnosis;
- **Promote partnerships (e.g. public-private) and resourcing** to promote and scale-up inclusive innovations.

Conclusion

- **TAP is an active platform** and partners are being encouraged to increase their engagement, and align their programmes for greater impact of their CD initiatives;
- **TAP is on track** towards achieving more coherence for capacity development for agricultural innovation as agreed by its Partners, however **more needs to be done!**
- **TAP encourages MACS** to continue to **support the TAP and to raise awareness and increase visibility to mobilise additional political support** for ensuring the sustainability of CD for AIS;
- **TAP partners support the 1st FAO International Symposium on Innovation For Smallholders and Family Farmers, FAO, HQ, 11-13 June 2018** and other policy dialogue processes towards conducive enabling environment for inclusive agricultural innovation. **MACS invited to endorse the symposium.**



THANK YOU

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON TAP:

<http://www.fao.org/in-action/tropical-agriculture-platform/en/>

<http://tapipedia.org/>