**GCARD 2 Proceedings**

**SETTING THE STAGE**
GFAR Chair:  Prof. Monty Jones
CGIAR Consortium Board Chair: Dr Carlos Perez del Castillo
President of IFAD: Dr Kanayo Nwanze
Minister of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries:  Hon. Tabaré Aguerre
President of Uruguay: Jose Mujica
Ministerial Roundtable

**DELIVERING THE CHANGE**

Implementation of the GCARD Roadmap

Prof. Monty Jones highlighted the special role played by farmers saying that it is the farmers at the centre of innovation and called for the need to work closely with them to respond to challenges in food security and production. It cannot be “business as usual,” but “business unusual” in order to empower the farmers since all knowledge has value – whether scientific or indigenous.

GFAR’s has an important role of bringing together all stakeholders in agricultural research and it is working for reforms to be undertaken in agricultural research that would result in increased agricultural production, food security and reduce poverty. This requires partnership especially with the CGIAR institutes.

Prof. Jones outlined various reasons and processes that brought about the GCARD and pointed out that the Roadmap adopted in the last GCARD has six principles. The GCARD2 in addition to the Roadmap has the theme of “foresight and partnership for innovation and impact on smallholder livelihoods” and urged all participants to make the best of the conference and come up with concrete actions looking at future scenarios. He mentioned various international forums where the Global Foresight Hub has been recognized and encouraged.

The role of CGIAR CRPs and GCARD processes is important in supporting the development of the jigsaw puzzle of actions required between innovation and impact and mentioned initiatives by various GFAR partners to render accountability to smallholder farmers. Other actions on food security he mentioned was effects of climate change on agriculture, international partnerships on agro-biodiversity, promoting investments in agricultural research.

In the last 2 years GFAR has catalysed many actions in delivering the Roadmap and CGIAR reforms provides a change-enabling environment for collaboration and wider reform. Research is essential but not sufficient in itself to deliver impact which requires our sustained efforts for practical actions – and GCARD2 is an excellent opportunity.
The new CGIAR and the GCARD Roadmap
CGIAR Consortium Board Chair, Dr Carlos Perez del Castillo: the CGIAR system is composed of 15 international centres working in 150 countries, 51% of research expenditures goes to Africa (of which 47% goes to sub-Saharan countries), 34% to Asia, 12% to Latin America and 8% to central and west Asia and north Africa. CGIAR has 40 years experience in addressing agricultural research and has since embarked on reforms in the way it operates including the constitution of the Funds Council and cultural changes.

The 16 CGIAR Research Programs (CRPs) aim at addressing today’s most pressing agricultural research for development challenges by the different centres involved in each. The role of women or gender as across-cutting issue in all the CRPs was also highlighted as well as the role of different types of partnerships in the implementation of the CRPs.

CGIAR continue to call for increased investments in agriculture to ensure the required development returns from AR4D, promotes greater capacities to generate, share and make use of agricultural knowledge for development change among all actors; finally, CGIAR promotes effective linkages that embed research in the wider development context and actions enabling developmental change.

In times like this when financial resources have dwindled, the fact that GFAR and CGIAR Consortium were able to bring together such a magnitude shows donors trust in GCARD as an important avenue to bring together stakeholders in AR4D.

Innovation for Impact on Smallholders

Esther Penunia emphasised how farmers can mobilise through partnerships to increase productivity. In Cambodia, 200 farmers were able through an IFAD funded project to upscale rice intensification to benefit smallholder and women farmers. From regional consultations done recently, farmers have four key messages: farmers would like agricultural research and development be focused on sustainable, integrated, diversified and resilient, economically viable agriculture; strengthen capacities of the farmers in merging modern and traditional knowledge; policy advocacy and linking small farmers to markets and value-addition of the products; strengthen links between research advisory, extension and partnerships; institutionalising mechanisms to empower farmers.

Carlos Seré highlighted IFAD’s mandate in rural development as promotion of pro-poor value chains and helping governments to attract investments in agriculture. By addressing smallholder development, we are addressing 3 important problems the world has today: food security, poverty and management of natural resources. The increased demand for food globally has presented a good opportunity for smallholder. However, the challenge remains of linking smallholders to markets, especially those of staple food. This calls for change in the way we do things.

Alexander Müller (FAO) there are 500 million farms in the world providing food for 2.5 billion people; employing 1.5 billion farmers and providing food to 80% in some areas. To talk of innovation, we must look at how to change the situation on the ground and this is where the GCARD comes in. We now know much about the effects of climate change and the need to lobby for justice. Innovation implies bringing the farmers and the scientists together in order to identify the needs of the farmers and ways in which research findings can be useful on the ground. This means innovation must be farmer-driven.

Three areas were highlighted where public/private partnerships could make a difference: an enabling environment, considering smallholder farmers as private sector and research funding. Innovation in AR4D has to contribute to eradicate poverty and contribute to creating resilience among farmers.

Victor Villalobos informed the Plenary that in Latin America, their focus is promoting national agricultural innovation systems. Innovation in agriculture is more efficient if we have in place the national innovation systems. ECCA has developed some methodological frameworks for member countries. A prospective analysis is essential for decision making in critical areas (public and private investment, human capacity development and definition of research agendas).

Sujiro Seam (France) highlighted the three focus areas during France’s presidency of the G8 food security initiative: innovation, smallholder producers and public private partnerships. France ensured the inclusion of CGIAR and GFAR in the final documents of the G20 to give prominence to AR4D. Multilevel and multilateral partnerships are important in delivering on AR4D and food security; hence the need to turn the GCARD event into a real process.

Concluding Summary: The Chair (Dr Raj Paroda) summarised the main points of the discussions. There is need for anticipatory research and foresight related to the needs of the smallholder farmers, need to review impacts of our common undertakings, need to link research with development in order to achieve the MDGs, need for stronger and divergent partnerships, need to recognize and factor traditional knowledge in research in order to empower farmers.

Agricultural Innovation for Rural Women

Uma Lele: The panel Chairperson presented a short synopsis on gender involvement in agriculture and recommendations on gender mainstreaming in agriculture. The Delhi Conference on gender in agriculture identified five priority areas.

Lourdes Adriano (ADB): gender is an important aspect of Asian Development Bank (ADB)’s strategic plan and the bank has encouraged gender mainstreaming in all projects they support by having a gender action plans. ADB has champions in gender mainstreaming. There is the need for more gender-disaggregated indices and data in order to focus strategically.

Karen Brooks: is the Director of CGIAR CRP on policy, institutions and programs. In CGIAR gender is a crosscutting theme on all the 15 CRPs and several CGIAR centres have undertaken some actions on gender mainstreaming. There is the need to create the tools which CGIAR centres and partners can use in mainstreaming gender in agricultural research. Women’s Empowerment Index - a tool developed by IFPRI - can be helpful for analysis of gender in development.

Prabhu Pingali: the Deputy Director-General for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The Foundation realised from the beginning that in order to achieve long-term impacts in food security, hunger or poverty; there is need to focus on smallholder agriculture, particularly women farmers. The Foundation is trying to create a gender transformator program and there are initiatives funded by the Foundation in this regard. In the end, transformative change has to take place at the national level and not at the international level.

Bridget Muasa: AWARD fellow and a young Kenyan veterinarian currently with EMBRAPA: she narrated her experience as a veterinarian working mainly with smallholder women dairy farmers and how AWARD experience has enabled her to learn from experiences in Brazil, calling for more similar opportunities to be availed to other African women. Women researchers relate better to women farmers hence the need to promote women researchers.

Karla Hora: Director in the Ministry of Agrarian Reforms in Brazil talked about her experience in Makasul (REAF) countries on issues related to gender and family agriculture. REAF has array of activities relating to gender empowerment such as enhancing the productive work undertaken by women, promotion of women access to land, women access to microcredit, etc. REAF has a gender working group which has prepared a regional program on gender equality with support from AECID. Ms Hora recommended a network that promotes not only women in agriculture but also women’s role in research and debate on women’s movements.

Uma Lele: The Panel Moderator concluded by emphasizing the need for a gender platform structure as broadly recommended as a network of networks.

Foresight

**Partnership**
**GCARD Outcomes**

GCARD2 hosted 680 participants from across all sectors and from 101 countries, and brought together 200 speakers including chairpersons and moderators. Dr Raj Paroda, conference organizing committee chairperson, extends his thanks to the Host Government of Uruguay and to all participants for the successful delivery of the conference. The organizing committee will soon seek inputs from the participants towards GCARD Roadmap action plans emerging from the conference, their assessments of the session moderations as well as on lessons to learn for GCARD3.

Rachel Kyte of the CGIAR Fund Council noted that Uruguay has had unprecedented growth in the last decade as a direct result of the contribution of smallholder farmers. GCARD3 could take up various issues, such as utilizing increased knowledge to secure global food security, raising awareness of the potential effects of climate change and promoting investments in women to empower them to make choices to improve their livelihoods. Urgent focus should be put on research priorities and partnerships essential to keep in tandem with policymakers. Incremental improvement in delivering the change we want remains inadequate. Those involved in scientific research need to enhance their communication skills in order to “tell their story” to the unconverted.

Hon. Tabaré Aguerre, Minister for Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries of Uruguay, expressed his appreciation for the choice of Uruguay for GCARD2, which has given the quiet country international visibility. Agricultural research is not an end in itself but a tool for development; however, for agricultural knowledge to materialize as development outcomes, the good conclusions brought forward during the conference need to be applied. Uruguay is rich in institutions and public-private partnership is enforced through legislation so that public funding is shared between them. But Uruguay is not always as green as the participants saw during the field day visits to the farms: the country has recently had to undertake mitigating actions against climate change as adverse variations in climatic conditions affect agricultural intensifications. Food security is not possible with an impoverished population, and global food security requires adding the production of agro-business to the production of smallholder farmers who must find profitability in agriculture. GCARD2 is an excellent opportunity for the development of public policy, competitiveness and innovation as well as a pathway of opportunity for farmers to improve their livelihoods and help build global food security through more environmental efficiency.

Dr Mark Holderness (GFAR Executive Secretary) highlighted some of the outcomes and ways forward from the conference before presenting certificates of recognition to various personalities for their role in GCARD2. Appreciation went to those who provided funds for the conference – particularly the CGIAR Fund Council, CTA, and Agropolis. The conference not only matched the scale of GCARD1 in Montpellier--bringing together 680 people from 101 countries--but came at a lower cost. Over the course of the conference, 34 articles on GCARD2 were published in the international media, 88 of which in national (Uruguayan) newspapers and 124 in external blogs. A total of 131 blog posts were read 10,000 times in 127 countries, with 813 people following the conference proceedings via webcast globally. 1,500 tweets a day moderated by 135 social reporters reached 100,000 people – all done with less money.

Rachel Kyte’s call to take the messages coming out of GCARD2 to the world at large is crucial to delivering the change we want to see. In two years the success of GCARD3 will be measured not by the number of participants or cost savings, but by the actions already taken by all those who have a stake in agricultural research for development.

**Continuing to Deliver the Change**

Capacity Development

**Towards Collective Actions**
Implementation of the GCARD Roadmap
The new CGIAR and the GCARD Roadmap
Innovation for Impact on Smallholders
Agricultural Innovation for Rural Women
Continuing to Deliver the Change