



AARINENA Experiences on Inter-regional Cooperation

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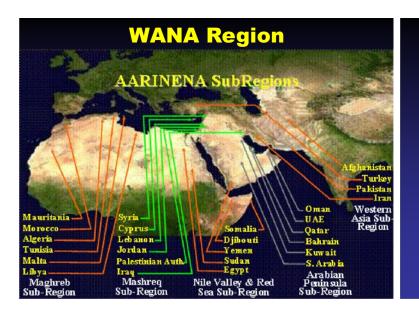
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AARINENA MISSION

To contribute to the enhancement of agricultural and rural development in the WANA region through fostering agricultural research and technology development.

To promote the exchange of scientific and technical experience and information.

To strengthen collaboration within and outside the region to achieve greater degree of selfreliance in food and agriculture.

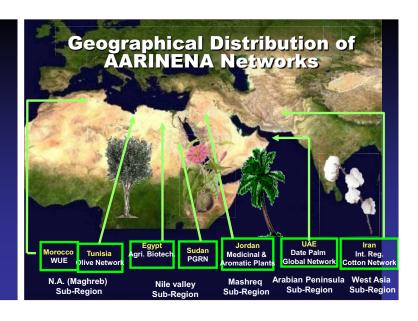


Importance of Inter-Regional Cooperation

- Inter-regional experiences (success or failures) in one region can serve as lessons for implementing actions in another region for better addressing key challenges related to the poor.
- Regional cooperation and collaboration will enforce and facilitate implementation of the identified regional research priorities.
- Regions should not work in isolation as research groups, they should link their efforts with Regional & international R&D organizations; share their knowledge with extension workers and even social workers in order to reach the real end users of their research efforts: "the farmers".
- Advocacy to policy makers for securing political support on the importance of ARD through inter-regional collaboration is a must for any successful impact sought after.

AARINENA Technical Networks

- Technical cooperation networks have become a generic model for the establishment of functional mechanisms for collaboration and enhancement of communication and exchange of experiences among different countries in the region and other regions of the world.
- When the resources are limited, networks become more effective means for the optimal utilization of indigenous expertise and available resources
- AARINENA Established with the support of its cosponsors 7 Networks on: Date-Palm, Cotton, Olive, Medicinal Plants, Water Use Efficiency, Agricultural Biotechnology and Plant Genetic Recourses (PGRN)



Examples of AARINENA Interregional Collaboration

- with ERA-ARD: Southern Advisory Group (SAG): implementation of the Inter-regional Bioenergy Project by 4 regional fora
- with APAARI and CACARI: INCANA: Travelling Workshops & SC meetings are conducted altenatively among the 3 regions
- with APPARI:AARINENA Biotechnolgy Network & APCoAB conducted jointly a series of training courses with participants from both regions
- with FARA: AARINENA assisted the Establishment of NASRO as a subregion with dual membership in both regions
- with GFAR Global Partnership Program (GPP) on Linking Farmers to Market: Success stories were published however, The Interregional proposal still pending for donor support
- AARINENA is participating in ARIMNet Project, A cooperative network for Agricultural Research in the Mediterranean basin supported by European Commission (EC).

Future Inter-regional Partnership

- Facilitating synergies in agricultural information systems among all Regional Fora
- Dissemination and sharing of new and proven technologies among different regions
- Innovations in faster growing, drought and salt tolerant crops will be required to deal with climate change.
- Facilitating south-south & north-south collaboration through Regional Networks and in capacity building and joint ARD activities.
- Strengthening civil society involvement in ARD i.e. NGOs, private sector, farmer's organizations
- Through this assembly we recommend that GFAR take more active role in promoting Inter-regional Cooperation among Regional Fora.

