WORKING GROUP 4

KNOWING HOW:
SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND MODERN ICT

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ICT and Youth in agriculture

CTA initiatives and perspectives
Technical Centre for Agriculture and Rural Cooperation (CTA) EU – ACP joint institution, 1983, based in Netherlands

Mission
• advance food and nutritional security
• Increase prosperity
• encourage sound natural resource management

Via
• Agribusiness and value chains
• ICT4Ag
• Knowledge management

Key Intervention Areas
• Youth employment & entrepreneurship
• Digitalisation/Innovation
• Climate change
Some data on youth/employment

62% of Africa’s overall population fell below the age of 25

– if we consider the youth age limit up to 35, this statistic is higher

Up to 60% of young people in developing countries are either without work, not studying, or engaged in irregular employment (Jacqui Kew, GEM, 2015)
Documented stats/ ICT4Ag impacts

- In **Sudan**, thanks to SMS-based advisory services, **farm productivity increased by 300%** with improved water efficiency (CTA, 2015)

- Esoko market pricing SMS service revealed that farmers received a 10% **price increase** for their respective crops (Subervie, 2011)

- In **Mali**, yields have increased on average by 1 ton/ha thanks to RiceAdvice (among 600 farmers)
Documented stats/ ICT4Ag impacts

- In Ghana and Rwanda, digital payments cut transaction costs for farmers and agribusinesses by 90% (CGAP/Intermedia, 2015)
- In Tanzania, producers who received daily SMS receipts (versus monthly paper receipts) for their daily milk deliveries, were able to reduce delivery losses stemming from theft by 20%
- In Malawi electronic crop payments to farmers’ resulted in increased follow-on season input acquisition(+13%), which resulted in 21% yield increase (Brune, et. al, 2015).
Framework for engaging Youth in Agriculture through ICTs

1. ICT uses by young farmers and agro-entrepreneurs
   - Records keeping, ICT for agri-business processes (office software, etc.)
   - Trade & marketing of products, access to inputs, finance (mobile phone, SMS, web, etc.)

2. Development of ICT services & applications for agriculture
   - Tools/Apps for e.g. for production, trade, water, extension, traceability, & pest management
   - ICT4Ag (social) entrepreneurship

3. Other uses of ICTs along the agriculture value chains
   - e-Extension
   - Precision agriculture (use of sensors, GIS, GPS, etc.)
   - Knowledge brokerage & management
   - ICT4Ag R&D & policy

4. Promotion of agriculture by young agriculture advocates via social media
   - Blogs
   - Twitter
   - Facebook
   - Other social media and web 2.0 tools
   - Social reporting

Support for youth engagement in agriculture through ICT by agri-friendly institutions
a) Support ICT adoption by young agripreneurs
Example New project

Key objective

Support young ICT entrepreneurs to offer services to young agriprenurs for growth and increased revenues, jobs for both categories of youth

- Launched in April 2018
- 400 direct beneficiariries
- 50 000 youth to reach
- **Operating by Yam-Pukri**
- 2 years

Services

- Key office software
- MIS (market access)
- Advisory information
- Social media for business (Facebook Page, Twitter, etc.)
- Some value addition
- e-commerce, drone?
- ICT incubation & mentoring
- Some financial support
PEJERIZ project
Mali & Senegal
(2 years)

Support youth rice entrepreneurship (CTA, AfricaRice, Syngenta Foundation)

ICT services to young rice farmers

Rice app service delivery by youths
Promoting young agripreneurs through a WEBTV

More than 6 million views
12 countries
Multi-awarded CTA supported project
b) Support ICT service delivery to agric stakeholders by young ICT4Ag entrepreneurs
Initiative AgriHack Talent

Pitch AgriHack

- Ensibuuko Node 420
- CropGuard
- AgriInfo
- AgriVas
- Agri-Kari
- FarmDrive
- AgriDirect

- Market information
- Land & Pest management
- Finance
- Advisory services
- Weather data
MOBIS, A PLATFORM FACILITATING ACCESS TO FINANCE FOR FARMERS

“...a mobile wallet for smallholder farmers – I would have enjoyed using that as a young boy!”

GERALD OTIM, ENSIBUUKO

Used by +500000 farmers via SACCOs (Uganda & others)

Service Provider for the CTA MUIIS Project
### Process & impact of AgriHack Talent initiative

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><strong>Multistakeholder collaboration/ incubators/ others</strong></td>
<td>Collab with 26 incubators</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td><strong>Competitions in various phases</strong></td>
<td>+ 700 young innovators</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td><strong>Training at boot camp (finance, business model,..)</strong></td>
<td>+ 500 000 farmers/users reached</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td><strong>Showcasing finalists’ apps (Pitching Day)</strong></td>
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<td>5</td>
<td><strong>Linkage with investors, networking</strong></td>
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<td>6</td>
<td><strong>Support for scale-up, linkage with market</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td><strong>Documentation/promotion</strong></td>
<td>+ 2 million Euros by investors</td>
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Theme “Women entrepreneurs innovate for agricultural transformation in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific”

both male and female founders/cofounders of e-agri start-ups

50% of finalists will be women

Between Euros 5,000 to 15,000 for each winning company

Follow-up with winners a key element of the activity

Collaboration with Women In Tech Africa and InfoComm Tech / the Community Hub
International awards for CTA ICT4Ag projects involving youth
An ICT Agripreneurship Guide: 
*a Path to Success for Young entrepreneurs*

- Idea generation
- Overcoming early challenges
- Understanding agricultural value chains
- Developing the business plan: The Lean Canvas
- Generating revenue streams and sustainability
- Common mistakes, solutions and advice
- More than 20 case studies

Download a copy

Recommendations for Improvements

- Stronger support for young ICT4Ag businesses operations
- Support ICT adoption by youth agripreneurs along the value chains targeting youth
- Promoting access to capital for young entrepreneurs
- Fostering ICT incubation schemes for young agripreneurs
- Improving rural ICT connectivity and ICT adoption in the entire agrifood sectors
- Strengthening R&D support and related skills development
- Multistakeholder collaboration to develop ICT initiatives and support schemes
Some key youth resources


CTA: http://www.cta.int

AFD’s Support to Agricultural and Rural Training in Africa

JEAN-RENÉ CUZON
AFD
Task Team Leader, Division Agriculture, Rural Development and Biodiversity

#WorldInCommon
AGENCE FRANÇAISE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT | FRENCH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
Why is it important to support Agricultural and Rural Training (ART) in Africa? (1/2)

- **African Agriculture is facing many challenges:**
  - Demography (more food production)
  - Youth employment (now, about 17M entering every year in the labor market, 25M in 2025!)
  - Urbanization (but rural population is increasing too...)
  - Climate change (Africa countries = some of the most affected)

⇒ *Need of structural change in African Agriculture, in order to face these different challenges and increase Ag. Productivity, and for that, new skills are needed*
Why is it important to support Agricultural and Rural Training (ART) in Africa? (2/2)

Now, the transmission of Ag. Knowledge: mainly (only?) within family farming system, from parents to youths

- Budget for vocational training = very small % in the national budget dedicated to education; budget for ART: even smaller...
- And on Donors side, few support on ART
- As a result = Lack of Ag. Vocational centers + Very weak extension system in most of the countries...
- .... Even if Agriculture is still the 1st activity in term of job’s creation and represent a big % in term of GDP in most of African countries!

Donors and States shall invest more in ART financing, because we need a massive Agricultural and Rural Training, coherent with the number of youths entering in Ag. Activities every year.
The example of Cameroun (1/3) :
Since 2006, AFD is supporting ART in Cameroun

- Work on the flow of new farmers + on the stock of farmers already in activity, through 2 complementary Programs:
  - AFOP : Renovation and development of vocational training in Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries sectors
  - ACEFA : Enhance the Competitiveness of Agropastoral Family Farms

- Significant Amounts :
  - AFOP = 81,9M€ grant (C2D) + 5M€ Loan
  - ACEFA = 201,5M€ grant (C2D) + 73,7M€ Loan

- Long term involvement/support, with 3 phases :
  - 2008-2012 : « pilot » phase ;
  - 2012-2017 : « maturation/deployment » phase ;
  - 2017-2022 : « sustainability » phase
The example of Cameroun (2/3) : 

Main Results of AFOP

- 8,000 young people trained and 3,000 young people inserted since the beginning of the program
- Every two years, an average of 2,700 young people trained and 1,000 young people installed in agriculture
- 90 training centers and 26 renovated schools
- Implementation of training center’s strategy, integrating local actors in the management and operation of the training system
- Development of 10 different cursus
The example of Cameroun (3/3):  
Main Results of ACEFA Programs

- Network of 2,000 advisors spread over the 58 departments of Cameroon
- 18,000 farmers organizations supported by the program, representing about to 240,000 family farms
- More than 4,000 collective investment projects financed, with strong impacts (income and return on investment) for producers
- Creation of a national platform of farmers organizations, for dialogue with the State, and co-management at different decentralized levels (local, departmental, regional)
How to capitalize and share experiences on ART?

The Agricultural and Rural Training international network

- **12 years of existence**: created in 2006 by a group of professional of the agricultural and rural training programs

- It brings together **16 member countries** and **over 1,400 individuals** in the Northern and Southern hemispheres

- It is involved at different levels in:
  - **mobilizing expertise** for the renovation of agricultural and rural training programs;
  - **capacity-building of senior staff** in agriculture and education ministries;
  - **sharing experience and knowledge** about agricultural and rural training in an open access through the network’s website **www.reseau-far.com**;
  - **training of trainers** in agricultural and rural training programs;
  - **promoting youth projects** anchored within a territory.
• Need of structural change in African Agriculture, in order to face the different challenges and increase Ag. Productivity, and for that, new skills needed

• Donors and States shall invest more in the financing of ART, because we need a massive Agricultural and Rural Training, coherent with the number of youths entering in Ag. Activities every year
SUMMARY OF THE WORKING GROUP DISCUSSION

What are the main lessons that we learnt today?

What can we donors do better on these topics?
SUMMARY OF WORKING GROUP 4

WORKING GROUP 4:
KNOWING HOW: Skills dev. and modern ICTs

MAIN INSIGHTS:
* ICT content and technology to be appropriate
* Young ppl to be part of the solution locally based
* Investment in VET by private to watch national education systems

POTENTIAL ACTIONS:
* ICT content development
* Technical solutions + work with private sector