

Concept Note for the Regional Workshop
on
Scaling up of Successful intervention models in CARD countries
and
Peer Review of CARD Pilot Initiative for Improved Rice Seed Sector

<Introduction>

1. Scaling-up best practices (Defining Pathways for Pro-Poor Scaling up of Rice Value Chain in Sub-Saharan Africa)

In the context of shared concerns about efficiency and impact at scale, South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) is receiving significant attention from Governments and development partners as an entry point to open up new spaces for learning and partnerships in agriculture and rural development, including commodity value chains. This is of particular relevance to the objectives of CARD as a partnership initiative aiming at doubling rice production in Africa between 2008 and 2018. Since its establishment, the CARD initiative has carried out SSTC mainly through bringing Asian experiences into Africa. There is, however, increasing demand for sharing experiences and technology transfer among African countries, given the accumulation of experiences in rice sector development in the continent, and its relevance based on commonality in a number of socio-economic aspects across countries in the region.

While successful experiences in one country can be easily shared with others, their application into other contexts depends on adaptability and scalability of experiences. With this in mind, and in response to recommendations from the CARD general meeting in Arusha, Tanzania, IFAD has undertaken –as a member of CARD steering committee- to support the development of a decentralized SSC platform for rice development in SSA with scaling up mind-set¹. IFAD has provided CARD with a grant to finance a project to take stock of successful interventions in rice value chains in Africa and to define pathways for scaling up successful models of interventions in CARD countries through enhanced “Integration of NRDS in relevant overarching development frameworks and sector strategies”.

2. Peer Review Workshop

Considering the importance of timely and sustainable production and supply of quality seed for the rice sector development, CARD has launched the Pilot Initiative for Improved Rice Seed Sector in 10 CARD member countries with the objective to develop country-specific Rice Seed Development Strategy, “Rice Seed Road Map”, and future investment/intervention plans for its realization. “Rice Seed Road Map” is to be drafted by the year end of 2013 based on the situation analysis and discussion on issues by stakeholders relevant to rice seed production and supply in target countries.

The CARD secretariat has a view that sharing progress and issues among target countries must be helpful for target countries to enhance the process of the Pilot Initiative, and the draft “Rice Seed Road Map” to be prepared by target countries will benefit from technical comments/ contributions from resource organizations/ institutions such as Africa Rice Center, IRRI and other CARD steering committee members. It is with this backdrop that the CARD Secretariat decided to organize a regional peer review workshop for the CARD Pilot Initiative for Improved Rice Seed Sector for mutual learning and improvement of the draft Seed Road Map by CARD countries targeted in the Pilot Initiative.

¹ Scaling-up has become one of the key concepts behind IFAD operations, and its validity is confirmed by the assessment by Brookings Institution, and scalability assessment framework was developed.

<Regional Workshop>

1. Date and Venue

4th-6th February 2014, Nairobi, Kenya

2. Objectives

The regional workshop will be organized to share the progress made in; i) analytical work under the IFAD funded project for scaling successful models of intervention in CARD countries, and ii) Development of “Seed Road Map” in the CARD Pilot Initiative for Improved Rice Seed Sector. The below is the specific objectives;

- With the objective to take comments and feedback from participants for improvement, presenting; i) Success cases of NRDS integration into overarching national development framework, and ii) Scalability assessment of some best practices in rice value chain in CARD member countries.
- Updating and sharing the progress of CARD Pilot for Improved Rice Seed Sector in target countries for technical comments from relevant institutions/ organizations as well as other CARD countries that participate in the Pilot Initiative.

3. Participants

- CARD Steering Committee members (AfDB, Africa Rice, AGRA, FAO, FARA, IFAD, IRRI, JICA, JIRCAS, NEPAD, and World Bank)
- CARD Secretariat (Officers and CARD Consultants)
- Representatives from CARD countries participating the CARD Pilot Initiative for Improved Rice Seed Sector
- Other experts from relevant organizations/institutions for technical contributions

AGENDA

Day 1: Tuesday 4th February 2014 (Peer Review of CARD Pilot Initiative on Seed)

Time	Event	Presenter
09:00 – 09:15	Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AGRA/CARD • IFAD 	
09:15 – 09:25	Overall Introduction of Regional Workshop	CARD Secretariat
09:25 – 09:35	Introduction on Scaling up best practices in rice value chain	CARD Secretariat
09:35 – 09:45	Concepts and Issues of Scaling Up and its link to SSTC	IFAD
09:45 – 10:35	Presentation on Best Practices in NRDS Integration (completed) into overarching national strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uganda (25 min) • Madagascar (25 min) 	Country delegates
10:35 – 10:55	Coffee break	
10:55 – 12:30	Presentation on Best Practices in NRDS Integration (on-going) into overarching national strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guinea (25 min) • Other Countries & Conclusion (15 min) • Q&A and Wrap Up (45 min) 	Country delegates CARD Secretariat
12:20 – 13:20	Lunch	
13:20 – 15:20	Presentation of Scalability Assessment on Best Practices in Rice Value Chain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 cases (20 minutes each, including Q&A) 	CARD Secretariat
15:20 – 15:40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coffee break 	
15:40 – 16:10	Wrap Up of Scalability Assessment on Best Practices in Rice Value Chain (Continued) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wrap up (30 min) 	CARD Secretariat
16:10 – 16:30	General Wrap Up and next steps	CARD Secretariat
16:30	Closure of Day 1	

Day 2: Wednesday 5th February 2014

Time	Event	Presenter
09:00 – 09:10	Introduction on the CARD Pilot Initiative for Improved Rice Seed Sector	CARD Secretariat
09:10 – 10:30	Presentation of Draft Seed Road Map by CARD Countries <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Burkina Faso (20 min)• Cameroun (20 min)• Comments (40 min)	Country delegates
10:30 – 10:50	Coffee break	
10:50 – 12:10	Presentation of Draft Seed Road Map by CARD Countries (Continued) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cote d'Ivoire (20 min)• Guinea (20 min)• Comments (40 min)	Country delegates
12:10 – 13:20	Lunch	
13:20 – 14:40	Presentation of Draft Seed Road Map by CARD Countries (Continued) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ghana (20 min)• Tanzania (20 min)• Comments (40 min)	Country delegates
14:40 – 15:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coffee break	
15:00 – 16:20	Presentation of Draft Seed Road Map by CARD Countries (Continued) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Senegal (20 min)• Nigeria (20 min)• Comments (40 min)	Country delegates
16:20	Closure of Day 2	

Day 3: Thursday 6th February 2014

Time	Event	
09:00 – 10:20	Presentation of Draft Seed Road Map by CARD Countries (Continued) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Madagascar (20 min)• Uganda (20 min)• Comments (40 min)	Country delegates
10:20 – 10:40	Coffee break	
10:40 – 12:45	General Comments/ Discussion/ Wrap up <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Africa Rice• AGRA• FAO• IRRI• JICA• WB• Others	CARD SC members CARD Secretariat
12:45 – 13:00	Closing Remarks	
13:00	Lunch	
	Closure of Day 2	