



CARD UPDATE

Feb
2016

6th CARD General Meeting

The 6th CARD General meeting was held in Accra, Ghana on 18-19 November 2015. Co-chaired by JIRCAS and Africa Rice, the meeting discussed: 1) Update of CARD Activities (NRDS implementation, Rice Seed Sector, Mechanization), 2) South-South Cooperation, 3) Overall View on Rice Sector Development in Sub-Saharan Africa, 4) CARD Mid-Term Review and 5) Way Forward for 2016-2018. NRDS Focal Points presented their successful experiences in respective activities for knowledge sharing with CARD stakeholders and other CARD member countries.

The meeting discussed critical factors for prosperous rice sector in Africa that include strong commitment by governments, implementation of right sets of policies for yield increase through identification of suitable areas for rice production, prioritization, realistic targeting, differentiation of approaches and introduction of best solutions tailored to the diverse conditions of respective areas. The meeting affirmed that CARD will provide technical, coordination and facilitation support to the rice sector in order to ensure these elements in the efforts made by African governments toward rice sector development.

The meeting also discussed "post CARD", to brainstorm what comes after 2018. The possible way forward includes the expansion of CARD member countries and adding target crops. Final decision will be made after continuous discussions by CARD Steering Committee.



11th CARD Steering Committee Meeting

Before the 6th General Meeting, the 11th CARD Steering Committee meeting was held in Accra on 17th November. The progress of mid-term evaluation was briefly presented by IFAD consultant and the SC members confirmed the schedule of mid-term review. The SC members agreed that the 12th CARD Steering Committee will be held in Nairobi, Kenya during TICAD IV.

Collection of Successful Experiences

Successful Experiences of Rice Value Chain "Getting to Scale with Successful Experiences in Rice Sector Development in Africa" was bound in 2015 by support from IFAD.



CARD Home Page

The CARD Homepage address was officially changed into (<http://www.riceforafrica.net/>) due to a technical issue at our server.

Scaling-Up of Pilot Initiative for Improved Rice Seed Sector

Scaling-up phase of CARD Initiative for Improved Rice Seed Sector was launched at the kick off video conference in April 2015. 10 participating countries, namely **Benin, DRC, Ethiopia, Gambia, Kenya, Mali, Mozambique, Rwanda, Sierra Leone and Togo**, declared their participation in Rice Seed Development. Seven countries out of ten organized 1st working week and started drafting of Rice Seed Road Map. Two taskforces realized a validation workshop in **Benin and Kenya**.

Ten countries of pilot initiative, namely Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Madagascar, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania, and Uganda, have elaborated project concept notes through working weeks and some countries have already started the implementation of rice seed strategy through mobilizing fund for their concept notes. 3 Rice Seed Road Maps were officially validated in **Ghana, Guinea and Madagascar**.



Validation Workshop,
Nairobi, Kenya, January 2016

Training and Dialogue Program

A two-week training course was conducted in Japan in August to September, 2015, on "Promotion of African Rice Development through strengthening coordination between CAADP and CARD". The purpose of the course is to develop country specific Action Plans to enhance integration of NRDS into CAADP investment plans. The 26 high-ranked officials, including a permanent secretaries of Ministry of Agriculture from Madagascar, participated in this program. Various successful cases were shared among participants and they visited Niigata prefecture to learn about rice development efforts in Japan. The new training program will be started in 2016.



CARD Secretariat

Technical coordinator in CARD Secretariat was changed from **Mr Hiroyuki WATANABE** to **Mr Yuichi KUMAGAI** in June 2015. Also, Operation coordinator was changed from **Mrs Michiko KONO** to **Mrs Ryoko TAKAHASHI** in March 2015.

COALITION for AFRICAN RICE DEVELOPMENT

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