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# Scaling up agricultural mechanization in rice-based systems in Africa

EU-CGIAR (AfricaRice) project for CARD



Thank you



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# Background

Rice has always been a common staple for many countries in Africa

it is now also the most rapidly growing food source across the continent

Production increases mainly due to increase in rice cultivation area

Rice yield stagnant at low levels, especially in rainfed systems (1-2 t/ha)

Consumption and production gap is bridged by importation.

2009 Africa imported 10 million tonnes of milled rice cost of US\$ 5 billion

one largely ignored factor is the lack of use of agricultural machinery all along the chain from land preparation to harvest and post-harvest

**AfricaRice's 2011–2020 Strategic Plan** will be implemented in partnership with many partners along the research-to-development continuum, with the national agricultural research systems (NARS) as the key entry point in each country

AfricaRice will implement its Strategic Plan through the following three mechanisms:

The **first mechanism** is through AfricaRice's participation in the Global Rice Science Partnership (GRiSP). AfricaRice is leading the implementation of GRiSP in Africa

The **second mechanism** is the Rice Task Force Mechanism with six Task Forces:

1. Rice Breeding Task Force,
2. Rice Agronomy Task Force,
3. Rice Processing and Value Additional Task Force,
4. Rice Mechanization Task Force,
5. Rice Policy Task Force,
6. Gender in Rice Research and Development Task Force

The **third mechanism** consists of Rice Sector Development Hubs – zones where rice research products from the CRPs and the Task Forces will be integrated across the rice value chain to achieve development outcomes and impact.

## **2. Project duration, funding and objectives**

**EU is providing Euro 400,000 for a 1-year project**

**to catalyze inter-continental collaboration in rice mechanization**

**Task Forces convened by AfricaRice for the Global Rice Science Partnership (GRiSP) to form platforms for inter-continental collaboration.**

**However there is yet no Task Force on mechanization.**

**This project will establish a Rice Mechanization Task Force.**

**FARA already facilitating inter-continental partnerships under the GFAR umbrella on themes such as ICT and foresight.**

**An inter-continental partnership on rice agricultural mechanization will be established using rice systems as an entry point.**

**This will be connected to the newly established Rice Mechanization Task Force**

## **Activity 1: Launching workshop at AfricaRice**

- (AfricaRice, NARS partners, FARA, IRRI)

**This workshop will be organized with the February 2013 meetings of the Africa-wide Agronomy and Processing and Value Addition Task Forces.**

**During these meetings results of detailed diagnostic and yield and productivity gap surveys conducted in 2012 in 19 countries will be discussed**

**issues related to agricultural mechanization will feed into the **launching workshop for this project.****

**the workshop will match needs and available technologies to identified gaps to be sourced through inter-continental collaboration**

**Result 1: Needs assessments for agricultural mechanization and available technology in Africa matched and identification of 'technology gaps' to be sourced in Latin America and Asia**





**Activity 2:** Identification of national and regional agricultural mechanization 'champions' in sub-Saharan Africa from public & private sector (AfricaRice, FARA, IRRI)

During the workshop and through networks of AfricaRice, FARA and IRRI afterwards a list of national and regional agricultural mechanization champions from both the public and private sector in SSA will be identified by the end of February 2013.

These champions will form the core of the Africa-wide Rice Mechanization Task Force.

This Task Force will meet twice every year at AfricaRice

**Result 2:** A functional platform and implementation framework for agricultural mechanization for rice-based systems in sub-Saharan Africa is established in the form of an 'Africa-wide Rice Mechanization Task Force' convened by AfricaRice.



**Activity 3:** Organization of exchange visits by African agricultural mechanization experts from public and private sector to Latin America and Asia (AfricaRice, IRRI)

Agricultural mechanization champions from the public and private sector, and member of the Africa-wide Rice Mechanization Task Force will visit countries in Latin America and Asia to enable them to see firsthand what agricultural technologies are available and what could potentially be applied to their own circumstances in SSA.

Task Force members will either visit Brazil and possibly one other country (facilitated by AfricaRice) or Vietnam and possibly one or two other countries (facilitated by IRRI).

Around 15 people will visit Asia and another 15 people will visit Latin America

**Result 3:** Exchange visits help match needs assessments in sub-Saharan Africa with available technology in Asia and Latin America

**Activity 4:** Facilitation of inter-continental public-private sector partnerships on agricultural mechanization – using rice as an entry point under the GFAR umbrella (FARA)

Based on the outcome of the exchange visits, FARA facilitates the establishment of public-private sector partnerships based on promising agricultural machinery through follow-up visits and discussions with public and private sector entities in Latin America and Asia under the GFAR umbrella.

**Result 4:** A functional ‘open’ inter-continental public-private sector partnership on agricultural mechanization is established and accessible on the FARA website – linked for rice-based systems to the Africa-wide Rice Mechanization Task Force convened by AfricaRice, but with potential linkages to other commodities

### **Activity 5: Concluding workshop at AfricaRice (all)**

The workshop will bring together potential partners from Latin America and Asia and the Africa-wide Mechanization Task Force, providing an opportunity for face-to-face interactions and discussions of avenues for collaboration in developing the agricultural machinery sector for rice-based systems in SSA.

**Result 5: Workshop organized and clarity obtained about the potential for inter-continental exchange of agricultural machinery options and possibilities for local manufacturing and maintenance of such options in SSA**

## **Activity 6: Reporting**

**Brief 2-3 page bi-monthly progress reports will be produced by AfricaRice and FARA and compiled into one report by AfricaRice.**

**At the end of the project a full technical and financial report will be submitted to IFAD following CGIAR agreed standards.**

**Results 6: Progress and final technical and financial reports**

Activities	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Leader	Participating
1. Launching workshop		■											A-R	National, FARA, IRRI
1. Rice Task Force		■											A-R	National, FARA, IRRI
3a. visit to Latin America		■	■	■									A-R	National, FARA, IRRI
3b visit to Asia			■	■									IRRI	National, FARA, A-R
1. Follow up visist			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■			FARA	National, IRRI, A-R
1. Concluding workshop					■	■	■	■	■	■			A-R	National, FARA, IRRI
1. reporting										■	■		A-R	National, FARA, IRRI



## **Implementation**

**AfricaRice will enter into a grant agreement with IFAD and will be responsible for coordination and reporting to the donor.**

**IFAD will disburse funds to AfricaRice and AfricaRice will disburse funds to IRRI and FARA against sub-agreements detailing the purposes and budgets and reporting requirements.**

**AfricaRice will hire a consultant to coordinate activities 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6**

**FARA will allocate staff or hire a consultant for 6 months to coordinate activity 4**

**Key AfricaRice and IRRI staff will accompany African participants during the exchange tour in Latin America and Asia respectively, without charging staff salary costs to the project.**

**The project implementation period is one year from the receipt of funds by AfricaRice.**

**FARA will use the project as pilot for a platform for wider Africa-South exchanges and will submit a funding proposal to IFAD**

## **Next steps**

**AfricaRice to produce draft agreements between AfricaRice and IRRI, and FARA**

**agreements signed based on agreed budgeted-tasks to be led by these institutions and transfer of funds to IRRI and FARA**

**Link with CARD mechanization to build on recommendations on how to proceed and common policy tools and factors related to local manufacturing**

**and commitment to capturing lessons to be applied in building a larger and wider platform for Africa-south exchanges**





**Thank you**