



PARTNERSHIPS - CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

FACILITATING CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION IN THE TROPICS

ICE - PARTNERSHIPS - CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT - TOO

INNOVATION HAS A HIGH POTENTIAL FOR INCREASING PRODUCTIVITY AND FARMERS' INCOME, AND CONSEQUENTLY REDUCING POVERTY AND IMPROVING FOOD SECURITY. HOWEVER SEVERAL TROPICAL COUNTRIES LACK THE RESOURCES AND CAPACITIES TO SUITABLY DEVELOP THEIR AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION SYSTEMS. TO ADDRESS THIS GAP, THE G20 ESTABLISHED THE TROPICAL AGRICULTURE PLATFORM (TAP), A MULTILATERAL DYNAMIC FACILITATION MECHANISM, WHICH FOSTERS BETTER COHERENCE AND GREATER IMPACT OF CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION SYSTEMS IN TROPICAL COUNTRIES.

THE DIFFERENCE THAT TAP WILL MAKE

The strategic goal of TAP is to contribute to the development of national capacities in agricultural innovation in the tropics. TAP's activities enhance the integration of regional and international capacity development programmes, encouraging interventions to be aligned with national plans and policies. The platform strengthens existing partnerships and promotes new ones between actors of all types, facilitating the emergence of agricultural innovation systems that increase farmers' income, food security, nutrition and environmental sustainability. Ultimately, small and medium-scale producers are the beneficiaries of TAP's activities.

HIGHLIGHTS

REGIONAL ASSESSMENTS OF PRIORITIES, CAPACITIES AND NEEDS IN AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION SYSTEMS

Needs assessments, carried out by TAP partners in selected tropical countries in Africa, Central America and Asia, identified three major constraints: Capacity Development (CD) is not sufficiently targeted to meet the needs of agricultural innovation systems; interventions by different actors are often incoherent, remain small in scale and narrow in scope and neglect the institutional and organizational capacity dimensions; a lack of political and operational mechanisms limits the coordination of interventions. TAP offers three services to address these challenges: a Policy Dialogue to enhance the coherence of policies for capacity development for agricultural innovation in the tropics; a Marketplace to broker effective CD approaches and partnerships; and TAPedia to stimulate knowledge flows in support of CD.

TAP ACTION PLAN

Based on the regional assessments TAP partners agreed on an Action Plan with global and country-level activities. As part of the Action Plan, a Common Framework for CD for Agricultural Innovation Systems (AIS) has been developed. It provides concepts, principles, methodologies and tools to better understand the architecture of AIS, to assess CD needs and to plan, implement, monitor and evaluate CD interventions. The Framework is validated through country-led multi-stakeholder processes and its adoption is advocated through global and national policy dialogues. This will increase the coherence of capacity development interventions. It will also lead to better defined CD needs of the various stakeholders at system level as well as at innovation niche level, for example along value chains. TAP supports countries to apply the Common Framework, to build partnerships and capacity development programmes that result in demand-driven, efficient and sustainable AIS.



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