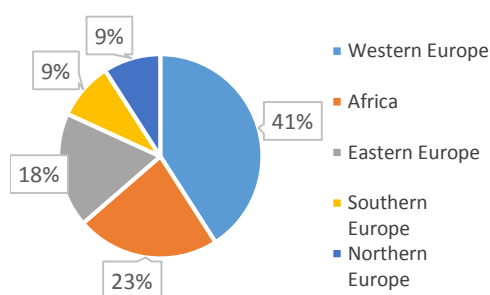


2016 Annual Technical & Business Meeting Key messages

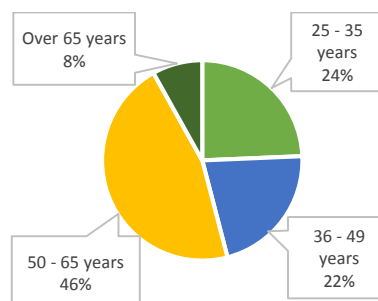
Future of Users'-Led Research and Innovation Partnerships
Learning from the PAEPARD Experience & Engaging with Eastern & Central Europe
Czech University of Life Sciences, Prague
29 & 30 November 2016

This year, the EFARD annual meeting was organised in collaboration with PAEPARD and brought together research and non-research actors from Western, Central/Eastern Europe and Africa, including young professionals from YPARD. Forty-three delegates from Europe and Africa attended the EFARD annual meeting. The diversity of participants is shown in diagrams A, B and C below.

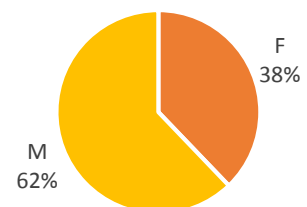
A-Participants' origin;



B - participants' age class;



C-Gender.



SUMMARY OF THE KEY PRESENTATIONS

The EU Approach on Agricultural Research for Development in Developing Countries – Roberto Aparicio.

The four European Commission (EC) strategic priorities were presented. The EC will ensure success of global and regional agricultural research for development (AR4D) at country and local level, stimulate partnerships between farmers, governments and private sector to boost innovation, improve European Union (EU) leadership in research, and launch a new initiative to support AR4D to achieve impact and to ensure that research is effectively serving innovation.

PAEPARD Users'-Led Process and Multi-Stakeholder Innovation Partnerships – Learning from the PAEPARD Experience

- Building multi-stakeholder innovation partnerships (MSHIPS) involving users is a process, which takes **time**.
- Small funding has enhanced the **motivation** and **capacity building** of partners, especially farmer organisations, which has increased European interest to work together with African-led innovation partnerships. A **change of mindset especially on the value of research has been noted** among the non-research actors involved in the PAEPARD Users'-led process (ULP).
- **Funding** is a key incentive to the engagement of (European) actors. European partners are motivated to join a MSHIP when there is a call for proposals launched by donors.
- **Good communication** is a key component of MSHIPS.

- **Passion** and commitment are key factors for actor engagement and the success of MSHIPs.
- Engaging users in MSH and research and innovation (R&I) partnerships must be **adequately funded** and funds should be **disbursed** in a timely manner. Innovative and diverse funding mechanisms are critical.

RESULTS AND IMPACTS from PAEPARD Consortia

Aflatoxin Groundnut Value Chain (GnVC) in Malawi-Zambia led by FANRPAN (African-led):

Major constraints related to production, income and gender pathways in selected GnVCs have been analysed., Promising Aflatoxin contamination- reduction practices and technologies have been identified, validated, further developed, disseminated and adopted.

Adding Value to Mango Waste in West -Africa led by COLEACP (European-led): - 3 consortia have been built around 3 concept notes -- Cosmetics (mango seed); Mango butter extracted without any solvent (hexane); Animal Feed (pulp, peel, crushed kernel and seed) with bio-energy-compost. Tangible results are expected in 2017.

Irish Potato Consortium – Burundi: -Published a scientific paper in a short time frame; training of trainers (farmers, extension services and administrative officers); low cost but very effective facilities were developed; increased household incomes and welfare (success stories).

Trichoderma for Horticulture Soil Fertility Management – Burkina Faso: - Increased yield and incomes; developed new products; target groups reached (vegetable farmers -1600; farmers’ organisations - 10; NGOs - 10; vendors of farm inputs - 5.

Showcasing Examples of Research and Innovation Partnerships led by YPARD Eastern and Central European Partner Organisations

Presentations of YPARD (Young Professionals in Agricultural Development) representatives demonstrated efforts aiming at transforming the lives of rural people. They described how their work responded to citizens’/users’ needs by applying different approaches (e.g. call centre for farmers) and resulted in demonstrable impacts on the ground (jobs, improved livelihoods, increased earnings).

They emphasised the role and importance of working with young professionals e.g. regarding cooperation: *“Farmers who suffer after effects of communism don’t want to come together; as young farmers, we are motivated because we did not live this experience”* – *Zrinka Filipović Dermit*. The showcasing of experiences revealed the significant number of similar challenges between Eastern/Central Europe and Africa such as resilience building, postharvest losses linked with food waste and consumption of unhealthy food.

Success Stories from Eastern and Central Europe YPARD representatives

Monika Varga presented how process systems modelling & simulation help to understand and respond to users’ demands.

Ivana Radic described a territorial approach to reinvent networking and collective action using a three dimensional concept; Intergenerational, Interdisciplinary, Innovative.

Davit Gogilashvili introduced the Regional Development Association (RDA), a non-profit organisation founded in Tbilisi, Georgia in 2010. As a monitoring and evaluation specialist, Davit described how RDA’s activities have increased food production and reduced rural poverty in Georgia.

Zrinka Filipović Dermit presented three important issues in Croatian - land degradation, hinterland depopulation and high youth unemployment. Zrinka described how to motivate and teach young professionals to work and develop business in agriculture and how to encourage early entrepreneurial mindsets.

Anudari Enkhtur introduced the agriculture sector in Mongolia and how YPARD in Mongolia is engaging youth in agriculture.

Key messages - Technical meeting, Panel discussions and Group Work

- **The need for demonstrating impact.** This was clearly asked by the EC representative, especially given the levels of investment in AR4D. It is also clear that other actors such as farmers need to see the potential impacts (on their livelihood) before engaging in and collaborating via MSHIPs or other collaborative action.
- **Relevance and legitimate representativeness** - Who is really representing the hundred million smallholder farmers in Africa and Central and Eastern Europe? Are we targeting the right people? We need to recognise the different types of smallholder farmers and organize our interventions accordingly.
- **Learning lessons is central.** How do we avoid recycling? Lessons learnt across countries, regions and programmes should be analysed to be able to share good practices but also to be used so as to minimise or prevent recycling of failed interventions. The EC is examining more strategic evaluation systems.
- **Transformative change to reach Sustainable Development Goals.** Collaborative research and citizen-led innovation are key elements to ensure success of global and regional as well as to improve EU leadership in research. AGRINATURA and EFARD need to better respond to the fragility of agri-food systems that also exists in EU.
- **Passion, money and motivation:** Insufficient funding is a constraint on European researchers' engagement in a MSHIP yet even small amounts of money can also motivate collaboration. European researchers are also motivated to engage in a MSHIP when they have a passion for the topic. We need to mobilise both passion and resources to promote MSHIPs for development impact.
- **Farmers' engagement:** Farmers need to see the returns on their investment (earning) and the potential impacts on their livelihood before they engage in a MSHIP. Without leverage and monetary stimulations, farmers will not cooperate. This was well described by the YPARD team.
- **How can we best engage with the private sector?** What are the incentives for the private sector to engage in research and innovation partnerships? However publicly funded research must be retained as it would be wrong to concede the research funding only to the private sector. International, regional and national public goods are necessary for equitable development.
- **Role and importance of working with young professionals.** Young professionals have passion and have shown clear impact of their research work on citizens'/farmers' livelihoods. In addition, young farmers show more interest in MSHIP whereas older farmers in transitional economies are often reluctant to cooperate.
- **Similar challenges between Eastern/Central Europe and Africa** such as resilience building, postharvest losses, food waste and consumption of unhealthy food, and farmers' attitude regarding cooperation in transitional economy countries.
- **PAEPARD has been successful in building MSHIPs and promoting the ULP. MSHIPs have enhanced capacity of actors especially of non-research actors.** PAEPARD has developed good/best practices and should document and share achievements so that they can be used to sustain the momentum for increasing engagement of non-research actors to achieve the desired impact; economic, environmental, social.

Key Messages – Focus on EFARD

EFARD management team: Two members, Andre Stucki (YPARD) and Juergen Anthofer (EIARD), resigned as of October 2016. Rahel Wyss, YPARD Country Representative Switzerland has been nominated to take over Andre Stucki's position. Anna Kroutilova, AGRINATURA Secretariat and Vladimir Verner, Czech University of Life Sciences, were nominated to join the management team. No replacement has been made for EIARD (European Initiative for Agricultural Research for Development), which is going through a transitional period. The EFARD management team appears below (page 5).

EFARD social media and website: EFARD is building a new website to better manage EFARD membership. EFARD will also invest in new communication channels, using social media to increase its visibility, to have a direct link with its members, and to reach and engage young professionals and all AR4D stakeholders from

Europe who are already using this type of communication channel. EFARD members can start following EFARD on twitter: [@efardeurope](https://twitter.com/efardeurope)

EFARD member update

AGRINATURA has been asked by the EC to run a global support facility in charge of fostering the implementation of NIPN (National Information Platforms for Nutrition) in pilot countries.

Standing Committee on Agricultural Research (SCAR)/ European Agricultural Research towards greater impact on global Challenge (ARCH): ARCH emphasizes that AR and RD are more and more interlinked, and the need to work more toward a temperate vs tropical approach. ARCH has been successful at organising meetings on specific strategic topics (e.g Consumers and Global Food Systems) and in mobilising key actors. (n.b. Following the meeting, two policy briefs on *The Impact of EU Agricultural Research and Agriculture research in developing countries: from a “culture of promise” to a “culture of impact”* “were shared by Philippe Petithuguenin; see attached)

YPARD will focus on YPARD representation in Central and Eastern Europe (Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Slovenia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania) as well as on fundraising opportunities and will collaborate with the hosting institution for YPARD Asia and Pacific: Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS)

GFAR: The New GFAR Steering Committee (SC) will come into effect in 2017 and a meeting is planned for early 2017. EFARD has expressed interest in continuing to be represented on the SC.

Repositioning EFARD: EFARD is still not adequately representative of different stakeholder groups. EFARD needs to develop mechanisms to be more inclusive, notably for including the private sector and civil society organisations. EFARD members need to recognise the constraints of the private sector and should consider inviting the private sector in short meetings on specific topics. EFARD also has to be stronger as a collective and be less fragmented. EFARD also needs to not only contribute to the AR4D dialogue and lessons learnt but also to promote collaborative research and citizen-led innovation. From an EC perspective, EFARD should present a more coordinated view on AR4D and innovation, so as to have an even bigger impact on the EC decision-making process.

Annual Meeting 2017: EFARD should consider hosting the 2017 annual meeting in conjunction with a major event, e.g. the next EURAgri meeting in Estonia. Plans should begin early.

EFARD Annual meeting: link to presentations

- [ARD4D in the EU development cooperation](#)
- [The future of demand-led research and innovation](#)
- [Strengthening the Engagement of Eastern and Central Europe in Agricultural Research and Innovation Partnerships](#)
- *PAEPARD project*
- [PAEPARD innovative funding mechanisms and lessons learned from Africa-EU AR4D partnerships](#)
- [Stemming Aflatoxin pre- and post-harvest waste in the groundnut value chain in Malawi and Zambia to improve food and nutrition security in the smallholder farming families](#)
- [COLEACP Users'-led process](#)
- [Seed potato quality innovations for small scale farmers in Burundi](#)
- [Effects of Trichoderma sp improved composts on vegetable production in Sub-Saharan area](#)
- [PAEPARD Users' Led Process](#)
- *YPARD representatives*
- [Process model-based decision support for multi-stakeholder water-food-energy-ecosystem network](#)
- [Capacity building for youth in organic agriculture](#)
- [Engaging youth through YPARD in mongolia](#)
- [Transforming lives to better in rural Georgia](#)
- [Reinventing networking and collective action in the Balkans: the case of slow food in Velika Plana](#)
- *Update from EFARD member*
- [GFAR evolution and GCARD 3: Implications for governance](#)
- [Capacity development for Agricultural Innovation Systems \(CAIS\) project 2015-2018](#)
- [Updates on YPARD - Young professionals for agricultural development](#)
- [Latest news on SCAR, the SCAR CASA Project and the SCAR ARCH WG](#)
- [EFARD Mid-Term Report](#)

2016–2017 EFARD Management Team



– Patrick van Damme, Ghent University – **Chair**



– Ann Waters-Bayer, Prolinnova – **Vice-chair**



– Judith Francis, CTA – **Executive Secretary**



– Anja Hansen, University of Copenhagen – **Member**



– Murat Sartas, VIONI (Vi och Ni) – **Member**



– Anna Kroutilova, AGRINATURA – **Member** (new)



– Vladimir Verner, Czech University of Life Sciences – **Member** (new)



– Rahel Wyss, YPARD Country Representative Switzerland – **Member** (new)