

SNRD conference 2019 – 28. Oct. – 1. Nov. , Abidjan, Ivory Coast

Conference Documentation

Rural Africa is changing, are you ready?

**The Green Portfolio in Africa:
Innovations Towards a Better Future**

28. Oct. – 1. Nov. 2019 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire



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Introduction

Dear SNRD Africa members,

End of October 2019 we had our biennial SNRD Africa conference in Abidjan. It was very exciting, not only for us behind the scenes, organizing the event, but according to the evaluation it was also very well received by the participants. For all those who were present, thank you very much for your active participation, the fruitful inputs and your willingness to try new formats and keep on networking and exchanging for a better future in rural Africa. Many of you have several years of SNRD Africa experience, others are new and participated for the first time. You came from different project backgrounds, from Francophone and Anglophone countries all over Africa, and you brought new input and ideas into the network. Also, a warm thank you to those who could not participate in person this time, for the continuous support of SNRD Africa through other activities. It is through all of you that the network lives and is still able to unite so many practitioners in one place and to create a space to exchange, learnt and co-create!

We had designed this 2019 conference in Abidjan to be different from our habitual formats. We tried to make our exchange and joint learning even more beneficial, more inspirational, more flexible, open and creative with more space for networking, ideas and innovations. We reduced traditional conference formats and gave the opportunity to choose what's most interesting and important for you, to dive deeper in discussions that really matter for your work, and get inspired as much as possible by colleagues, speakers and innovations.

This year's conference also aimed high to be a "Lighthouse of sustainable GIZ events in 2019" – the first one in Africa and quite a challenge! Besides total CO2-compensation, we welcomed several innovations and measures towards a more sustainable conference format.

We also elected a new team of SNRD Africa speakers to manage and develop the network further in the coming 2 years. Welcome Rita Weidinger (SNRD Africa Speaker), Lucie Pluschke (Co-speaker) and Thomas Breuer (co-speaker)!

To keep in mind what has been discussed, exchanged, achieved and learned, we compiled this conference documentation, thanks a lot to all who contributed.

In this conference documentation, you will find:

- information about all the **key note speakers** that talked about the megatrends and their impact on rural Africa,
- a list of all **innovators** that presented their innovations from Africa and beyond,
- the outcomes from the different **thematic working sessions**,
- a short summary of the **working group meetings**,
- a feedback from the various **fieldtrips**,
- a list and analysis of all **participants** and
- the **evaluation** of the conference.

Furthermore, we have uploaded all **presentations** from the **innovators and keynote speakers** in our [SNRD Africa IDA community](#).

On the [SNRD Africa Website](#), you find a multitude of interesting **videos clips** with inputs from keynote speakers, innovators and conference participants.

In the IDA communities of our four working groups, you find **minutes of the working group meetings and the new work plans**.

Thank you all for having participated, it was a great pleasure to host this SNRD Africa Conference in Abidjan and having been able to shape the SNRD Africa with you during the last years,

Michaela Braun (outgoing Speaker SNRD Africa),

on behalf of the organizing team:

Nadine Guenther (outgoing Co-Speaker SNRD Africa), Sophie Koch (outgoing SNRD Secretariat), Juliane Bing (ComCashew Abidjan), Julia Mueller (SV BLR), Irene Prieto Duran (Event Manager)

SNRD Africa - who are we?

For all those who are new to SNRD Africa and want to learn more about the network itself, please have a look at our [website](#) and on the [SNRD Africa IDA page](#), where you will also find our [organisational chart](#).

The Sector Network Rural Development Africa (SNRD) is a community of practice of national and international GIZ professionals working in the area of rural development in Africa. It constitutes a profound knowledge sharing hub and stands for a solid promoter of capacity development. SNRD Africa covers all aspects of rural development, sustainable natural resources management and the impacts of climate change. In this context, sustainable economic development and good governance also play a decisive role.

Our goal is to keep our members updated. As national and international experts, we set out to seize the opportunities and challenges of rural development and always be one step ahead. The joint work on development issues and methods within SNRD Africa supports the introduction of innovative and standardised development approaches across programs and countries. The joint development of new approaches and the transfer or adaptation of existing approaches enable substantial reductions in programme development costs. Moreover, cooperation between sector projects in Germany and bilateral, regional and global programs facilitates the organisation of joint and individual study initiatives, workshops, webinars and other products. These products draw on the knowledge and experience of employees from a diverse range of programs across Africa and Germany.

At present, the network consists of over 110 projects and programs from over 30 different African countries and Germany as well as representatives from the consulting sector. For more information on our member projects, please have a look [here](#).

SNRD Africa has four working groups...

- Agribusiness and Inclusive Value Chain Development (ABIVCD) – ([IDA](#), [Website](#))
- Policy Processes for Agriculture and Rural Development (PPARD) - ([IDA](#), [Website](#))
- Climate Change, Livelihoods and Natural Resource Management (CCLNRM) – ([IDA](#), [Website](#))
- Food Security, Nutrition and Resilience (FSNR) – ([IDA](#), [Website](#))

... and four Communities of Practice

CoPs are more flexible and primarily support the exchange of expert knowledge and networking on specific and upcoming topics.

- Rural Employment (with focus on youth) – ([IDA](#), [Website](#))
- Contract Farming – ([IDA](#), [Website](#))
- Information and Communication Technologies for Agriculture – ([IDA](#), [Website](#))
- Agriculture Technical Vocational Education and Training – ([IDA](#), [Website](#))

These four working groups along with the CoPs are the heart and soul of the network. They bring together professionals from GIZ-supported projects and experts from the respective sector departments in FMB as well as from projects in GloBe and organize knowledge management, provide training in best practices and develop new approaches based on exchange and peer learning. The working groups are supported by tandem partners from the respective sector departments in FMB.

Conference Topic 2019

This year's conference topic looked at:

The Green portfolio in Africa: Innovations towards a better future

In the coming decades, megatrends will shape the green sector and Africa's rural landscapes. New challenges will have a great impact on our work with our partners and the future of rural Africa.

Five of these **megatrends** seem most relevant for our work in rural Africa:

- **Globalization** with changing (agricultural) trade relations and new African markets
- **Climate change**, among other consequences, causing loss of arable land and affecting millions of small holder farmers and especially affecting **rural women** and their role in a green economy
- **Rapid demographic developments** with millions of **young Africans** entering the rural labour market every year
- **Changing food systems and a global nutrition transition** due to an increasing urbanization, higher incomes and a rising African middle class
- Advancing **digitalization and new technologies** provoke ever-faster changes in farming, the rural economy and the sphere of labour.

These global trends have local impacts shaping rural Africa – now and in the future. Tremendous challenges are associated with them. However, also great new opportunities are coming along, emerging innovations and new ways of thinking and acting.

In the member projects of SNRD Africa awareness and understanding of these trends, their impacts and challenges need to be fostered. There are opportunities to be seized and impending innovations must be integrated better into project work and design as well as in the advice we are giving to partners.

During the 2019 SNRD conference, we discussed these megatrends, their effects, challenges and opportunities as well as the need for action with outstanding and inspirational keynote speakers. We had a look at related innovations and young innovators from Côte d'Ivoire, West Africa and beyond — some still in the development stage, others ready for the market.

There was time to dive deep into thematic discussions on specific approaches with inspiring speakers from science, politics and development, with creative people and start-ups, with innovators and young African leaders, as well as with younger but also more experienced GIZ colleagues.

The 2019 SNRD Africa conference did not only show innovations, it also gave us the chance to try, test and spread them across rural Africa, back to our projects and countries.

Keynote Speakers

Dr. Agnes Babugura

Dr. Agnes Babugura holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Science. She serves as a senior academic, social science researcher and program leader for Geography and Environmental Science in the Faculty of Social and Health Science (IIE MSA: Previously Monash South Africa). She has worked with various international development organizations to support national governments with mainstreaming gender into development policies, strategies and programmes. This has been in an effort to promote gender equality and equity. In her role as the Regional Technical Expert on Gender, Environment, Climate Change and sustainable development, Dr. Babugura worked closely with UNEP and the UNDP gender team to assist 21 African countries with gender mainstreaming.

Dr. Babugura's work is mostly devoted to gender equality, equity and empowerment of women and youth. This is reflected in her publications. In 2016 she had the opportunity doing a TED talk, where she delivered a talk on child marriage, highlighting the plight of young girls forced into marriage before the age of 18. This year her policy brief titled "Gender Equality in Combating Climate Change: The African Context" made it in the top eight international policy briefs which were published in a Special Edition: Women, Power & Policy Making.

Dr. Benjamin Bodirsky

Dr. Benjamin Bodirsky is a researcher of the Land Use Modelling Group at Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK), and one of the core developers of the land system model MAGPIE. He has previously worked for the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO, Brisbane, Australia) as member of the Food Systems and Global Change research team, as well as the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT/CGIAR, Cali, Colombia) in the area of decision and policy analysis. Dr. Bodirsky holds a Ph.D. in Economics from TU Berlin and he studied Economics, Politics and Sociology, University of Potsdam, Sciences Po Bordeaux, Université Montesquieu Bordeaux and University of Edinburgh. His work focuses on designing and developing quantitative computer models to generate estimates of the global nitrogen cycle, future food demand, as well as greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture and land-use change. He has also been involved in the design of land system scenarios and policy options to enhance agricultural sustainability under climate change.

Dr. Laouali Garba

Dr. Laouali Garba is the Coordinator of the African Development Bank's African climate-smart agriculture (ACSA) programme which aims to scale up the development of climate-smart agriculture infrastructure and technologies in Africa. Dr. Garba is a Civil Engineer with a Ph.D. in environmental engineering from Ecole Polytechnique of Montreal. He has more than 20 years of experience in environmental and climate change studies, preparation and implementation of infrastructure projects in various fields such as natural resource management, energy, pollution control, water supply and sanitation, urban and rural infrastructure, agriculture, agribusiness, climate change adaptation and mitigation. He started his career as an environmental engineer with private companies for promoting the building of sustainable infrastructure in Canada and in Africa. Since 2011, with the AfDB, he is working on the development of sustainable and climate resilient infrastructure for a sustainable and resilient transformation of African agriculture.

Michael Hailu

Michael Hailu is the Director of the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) in Wageningen, a position he has held since 2010. He has more than 30 years of experience in agricultural research, communications and development in Africa and other parts of the world. Prior to joining CTA, he held senior leadership positions at the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) in Nairobi, Kenya and at the Center for International Forestry Research in Indonesia. Mr Hailu has led a major strategic realignment of the CTA refocusing the Centre's work on promoting innovations and building capacities to advance youth and women entrepreneurship, digitalisation and climate resilience in agriculture. He has degrees from the Universities of Pittsburgh, USA and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and has been trained in strategic leadership at the Stanford University Graduate School of Business in the United States.

Kingsley Iweka

Kingsley Iweka is a writer and communications consultant. He is the Founder and Editor of Africa-OnTheRise.com, a platform committed to propagating the potentials and positive changing realities of the African continent. He is a World Summit Awards Youth Ambassador, and winner of the World Summit Awards for Digital Innovation. He is also the winner of the African Blogger Awards for “Best Blog about Africa” and “Best Social Issues and Active Citizenship Blog”. He volunteers as a Grant Advisor with the Pollination Project in the United States.

Dr. Felix Kwame Yeboah

Dr. Felix Kwame Yeboah is an Assistant Professor of International Development and a member of the Food Security Group at Michigan State University. In this role, he conducts agricultural and food policy research and advises various development-related initiatives in Africa. He has expertise in multiple areas of social policy including agricultural and food system transformation, natural resource management, and youth livelihood issues in Africa.

For the past decade, Dr. Yeboah has provided critical analysis to inform a range of social policies both in the US and in Africa. Notably, his research informed The MasterCard Foundation’s strategies promoting youth employment in Africa’s agri-food system; the State of Michigan’s effort to reduce non-point source pollution in the Great Lakes; and strategic change initiatives advancing solid waste recycling and energy conservation at Michigan State University. More recently, he served as the lead author for the 2018 Global Food Security Report commissioned by the Chicago Council on Global Affairs to advise the US Government’s strategies addressing youth livelihood challenges in developing countries. His research was also featured in the 2016 Africa’s Agriculture Status Report, a flagship report of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa. He is also the lead Principal investigator of the Young Innovators in Entrepreneurship and Leadership Development (YIELD) project that is capacitating young agripreneurs in Ghana and Tanzania to access and maximize opportunities in Africa’s agri-food system. In 2012, he was recognized as a Milton H. Steinmueller scholar of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy, and a George and Nancy Axinn fellow of International Development.

Dr. Yeboah holds a Masters and Ph.D. in Environmental Policy and International Development, with specializations in Environment and Resource Economics from Michigan State University, USA and a Bachelor’s in Natural Resource Management from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana. He was also a John M. Gunn Exchange Scholar at Washington and Lee University, Virginia, USA.

Dr. Steve Wiggins

Dr. Steve Wiggins is a Principal Research Fellow in Overseas Development Institute’s (ODI) Agricultural Development and Policy. He has worked extensively on agricultural and rural development since 1972, initially in Latin America, and subsequently focusing on Sub-Saharan Africa. His interests centre on rural livelihoods, agricultural development, rural poverty, and food and nutrition security. Recent and current research includes the commercialisation of smallholder farming in sub-Saharan Africa, change in rural Asia, obesity in the developing world, rural labour in Asia, rural demography and the lives of rural women and girls. He is lead editor of Development Policy Review and a former President of the (UK) Agricultural Economics Society. He has also received the awarded “2012 Outstanding Contribution to Teaching and Learning”, by the Agricultural Economics Society.

Dr. Wiggins Steve Wiggins has worked on rural markets throughout his 35-year career, above all those that apply to smallholders in Africa, their operation of rural labour markets, the rural non-farm economy and specific application of market analysis to crises of food insecurity, providing the basis for policy recommendations on pro-poor market development. He has led ODI’s work on food price dynamics in national, regional and international markets since 2008, analysing drivers and impacts of price spikes and assessing policy responses. Dr. Wiggins holds a Ph.D. in Administration and Management from the University of Reading, and two Master degrees in Agricultural Economics, University of Manchester, as well as in Geography, University of Cambridge, UK.

Sustainable Conference

The ambition of the SNRD Africa conference 2019 was to maximise the sustainability of the event. This event served as an example and was **one out of five “Lighthouse projects” of GIZ in sustainable event management in 2019** and hopes to inspire colleagues as well as the partners we work with.

Catering

To avoid food waste, the hotel was asked not to refill the buffet. Usually those are quickly refilled at events so that the appearance of the buffet is perceived as positive, but the remaining food quantities must be thrown away. At the SNRD Africa Conference 2019 the hotel was asked not to refill the buffet and to let the dishes run out. This was communicated to the participants and, of course, everybody had enough to eat. The hotel was also asked not to serve meat. The SNRD Africa buffet stations consisted of 70% vegetarian and 30% fish and seafood dishes. Since there were other hotel guests besides the participants of the SNRD Africa conference, for whom not offering meat in a hotel buffet would be considered negative, not all buffet stations of the hotel could meet the requirements of the SNRD Africa. Furthermore, 95% of the ingredients that the hotel uses are locally cultivated and produced. The other 5% are products like mustard, which are mainly requested by European guests. The aim of the hotel, however, is to achieve 100% local sourcing in 2020.

CO2 Compensation

In addition to energy, catering, logistics, accommodation and paper printing, the main focus was on aspects of mobility. In addition to the energy used in the hotel for the conference and the offered grouped shuttle to all locations to which the participants had to travel, also all SNRD Africa conference-related flights were compensated by the GIZ sustainability office as part of the “Lighthouse project”. The hotel was also constantly reminded to adjust the AC in the meeting rooms to a convenient but not freezing temperature. GIZ aims to be climate neutral by 2020. This compensation will go to a Community Reforestation Project in Nicaragua, which was also chosen by the participants of SENECA Green Network Conference in Sarajevo, and the Just Transition Conference in Berlin, both June 2019.

Flights

Flights caused most of the CO2 emissions of the conference; therefore, all participants were sensitized beforehand to book economy instead of business class flights to reduce their individual CO2 emissions. 82% of the participants arrived by plane and 2% by car (16% n.a.). Of those who flew, 86% were booked in economy class and only 14% booked a business flight. More than 70% of the business flights are attributable to colleagues from Germany, although the proportion of flights from Germany is limited to only 36% of the total flights. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all colleagues, especially in Africa, that arrived in economy class.

Venue

The Novotel has been striving for a sustainability concept for quite some time and is already implementing some sustainability measures. Through the cooperation with SNRD Africa, they have introduced further measures such as fair trade products in the bathrooms, working more with water dispensers instead of plastic bottles, and the avoidance of superfluous or substitutable packaging. Other measures have also been initiated, such as a newly started cooperation with a local women's cooperative that produces local soaps in a sustainable packaging that will be available in the rooms in 2020. Novotel Abidjan was very cooperative and supportive of all aspects that SNRD Africa proposed. Nevertheless, in some aspects, due to the hotel's daily business it was only possible to raise awareness. There is always more that can be done, for example with the lunch packages for the field trips: The packaging could not be completely avoided, but the drinking bottles with the SNRD Africa conference design, which had been donated to each participant, have been used instead of the plastic bottles, the normal hotel cutlery was used instead of the disposable cutlery, recycled plates instead of full plastic plates, as well as the avoidance of meat for the sandwiches.

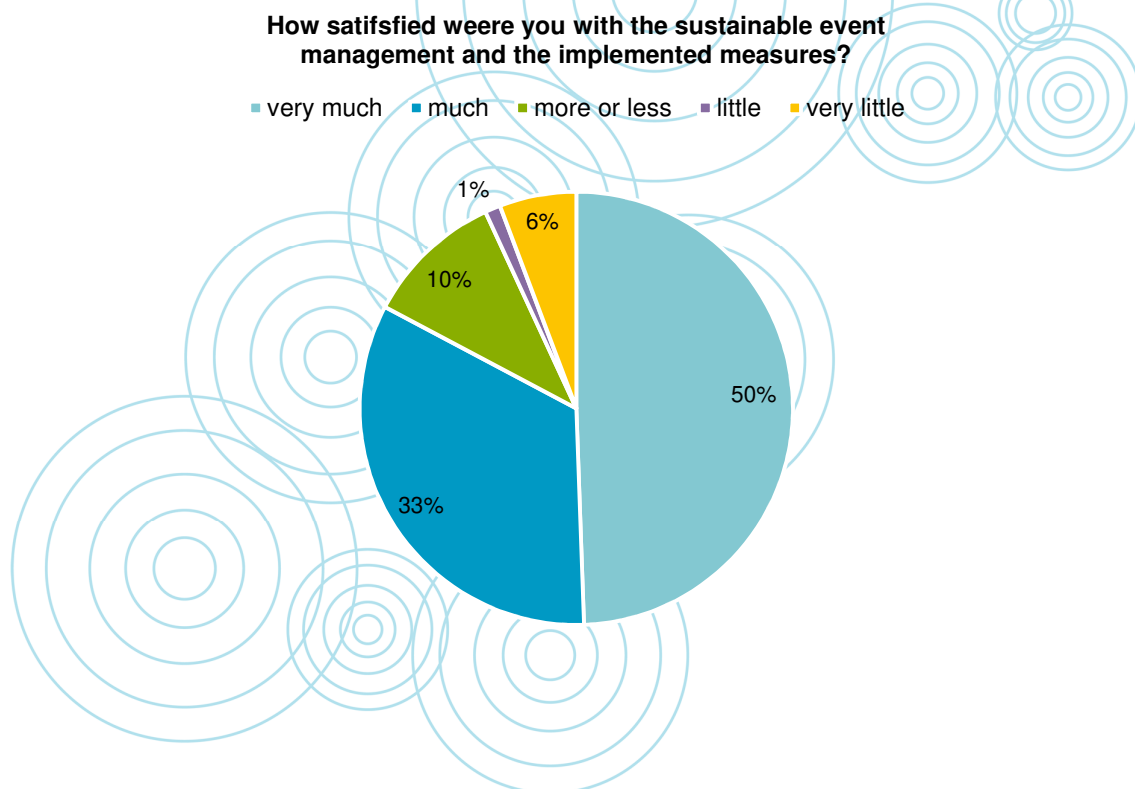
Paper and Event App

With the help of the SNRD Africa Event App it was possible to host an almost paperless conference. If print materials were necessary, visual materials were laid out with a reference to where the corresponding information could be found digitally. 220 event folders and printed info packages were saved due to the app. In Addition, each participant received a sustainably produced notebook from Ghana that came in the car with colleagues from Ghana, and a recycled pen to avoid unnecessary and uncontrolled paper consumption. Lenyards and further decorations had been recycled from previous GIZ events and collected afterwards to be reused in future events.

Decoration

The decoration used throughout the conference was also chosen with sustainability aspects in mind: locally grown potted plants instead of cut flower bouquets which were donated to GIZ projects in Abidjan after the conference for their gardens; materials already available in the hotel as well as local fabrics, which were later distributed to the participants for further use.

Evaluation of the conference's sustainability measures



Sustainable event management is more than working with checklists, creative ideas and solutions are needed to make an event as sustainable as possible, also in Africa!

Digital Conference

Live Streaming

The panel sessions on Tuesday as well as the closing session on Friday were streamed live online.

IDA

The official conference hashtag for IDA is: #SNRDAfricaConference2019

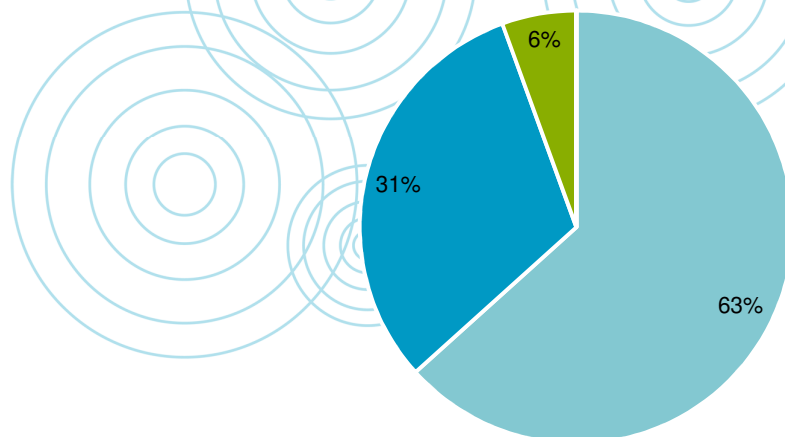
Participants are most welcome to share further experiences, impressions, presentation or results on the SNRD Africa IDA community or the respective working groups and CoPs. Use this opportunity to discuss happenings of the conference, ask questions or stay in touch with colleagues. Don't forget, that the first two lines of your post are the ones visible and should pitch your post. Please also add fitting hashtags, in order to find the post later again. For example, #workshopresult #InnovationXXX

Evaluation of conference app

The vast majority of the participants throughout the conference has actively used the conference app. The MEA conference applications is available via Google Playstore and the AppleStore, therefore most participants had easy access to the app. Only few participants with Windows Phones could not download the application directly to their phones, however with the web app even this could be solved easily.

To what degree were you satisfied with the Conference App?

■ very much ■ much ■ more or less ■ little ■ very little



Thematic Working Session: How to make GIZ Agriculture Policy Advisory great again?

Organizer & Contact Person: Ousmane Djibo SP Agriculture Policy and Food Security (APES) in cooperation with SNRD WG PPARD, SV Agriculture Policy and Food Security, SV Agricultural Trade, Agribusiness, Agricultural Finance, GV Agriculture policy advisory Fund, SV Sustainable Rural Areas, Steve Wiggins

Description:

A consistent and innovation-oriented agri-food policy can either initiate the whole sectors development or it can nip every innovation in the bud. However, for some, agri-food policy is still difficult to grasp, sometimes even perceived as boring. Which it surely isn't. Are we up to date in our daily working routines? How can we frame a contemporary agricultural policy agenda in Africa? This working session will provide a platform for exchanging country experiences and learning among peers. Considering current global megatrends, innovations and the rapid turnover of staff in projects or partner organizations updating and exchanging seem imperative. Participants will benefit from guiding frameworks allowing them to better adapt their advisory services to the challenges and opportunities in the context of broader and dynamic agricultural policy debates. This working session is a first building block for the design of an agricultural policy-learning event, which shall take place on an annual basis. A needs assessment was sent out by PPARD prior to the conference to match this session with the requirements of our colleagues.

Main Session Outcomes:

1. There is a demand for more soft and technical skills in the GIZ policy advisory services
 - a. The soft skill refers to Moderation and facilitation of policy processes
 - b. The technical competences are related to i) political economy, ii) Agriculture and Economy, iii) Climate change, iv) trade, v) rural development and vi) youth employment
2. Reorienting the agricultural policy towards a success story, the narrative of progress, particularly in the development and cooperation context.
3. Awareness of the cultural and political environment must be taken into account; there is no norm or model solution.

Challenges and future potential:

- Adapted involvement of all partners does not matter if from the civil society, public or private sector.
- Link the efforts on the micro level with the activities on the macro level in order to create synergies
- Approaching and dealing with the partner government

Next steps:

- An in-depth exchange amongst GIZ policy adviser on the design and implementation of policies shall take place
- the stay of the National (Senior) Policy Advisors in Germany is planned in 2020 as well as
- our next Learning Event: "managing strategy and policy change processes" in Ghana (second half 2020)

Thematic Working Session: Farmer's Organizations and the Upscaling of Innovations

Organizer & Contact Person: Nicole Bolomey, Andreas Hermes Akademie (AHA) in cooperation with ProCIVA Benin, Strengthening of Farmers Organizations, GIC project: Aufbau organisierte Landwirtschaft, Benin

Description:

Why should you work with the National Farmer Federation? How can the producer organizations enhance the sustainability of your project? What can Young Farmer Associations contribute to upscaling your innovation? Farmer Organizations (FOs) are unique in that they are direct democratic representations of and give direct access to the producers. Using FOs as partners may at times be challenging – in the long run, however, they may be able to ensure the sustainability of innovation development, dissemination and upscaling! The workshop explores, how FOs are different from other implementing partners, and what the potential benefits and challenges of using FOs as partners in sharing and upscaling agricultural innovation are. We shall share experiences and develop key factors that lead to a successful cooperation with member-based FOs at local, regional and national levels, and explore, how project-design can be adapted to harness the unique potential of FOs.

Main Session Outcomes:

1. Understand the organized farming system and chose the Farmer Organization (FO) who's character (i.e. as an association, cooperative, grass-root or Apex organization) matches the project idea.
2. Respect FO autonomy and work with FO partners according to their mandate and strategy. Do not merely use them as 'implementing partners'
3. Develop your innovation design together with FOs, based on the needs of their farmers. Have an entrepreneurial approach, keeping in mind the project may be based on market requirement and outcomes develop into a longer-term (economically viable) services of the FO
4. Promote good governance through cooperation with FO

Challenges and future potential:

- Everyone means something else when talking about a FO => there is a need to inform development partners about organized farming sector
- Clarification of the role of the State in the scaling up of innovations by POs"
- Aspects of terminology were discussed to bring clarity to the discussion on FO, and to ensure old terms do not hamper positive development of organized farming sector
- FO at national level have great outreach of they work well through their system at county and local levels
- FOs may need to be strengthened (professionalization, service development, etc.) through the cooperation in innovation projects

Next steps:

- The GIAE working group on farmers organizations WGFO is well placed to increase effective role of FO
- Andreas Hermes Akademie, together with the German Farmers Organization, through the Global Program 'Strengthening of Farmers Organizations' is actively working towards the professionalization and business orientation of FO

Thematic Working Session: Promoting agricultural finance in rural areas

Organizer & Contact Person: Lilian Steinhäuser (Didier Djoumessi, Ernest Muwamba, Moutalabi Baba, Nico Wilms-Posen, Bastian Domke)

Description:

The workshop aims at sharing and discussing approaches and tools to promote agricultural finance in rural areas. One of the elements will be an interactive group simulation on technical assistance to producer groups to access loans from formal financial institutions. During the workshop, you will also learn about other training and advisory approaches such as the Agricultural Business Analysis and Investment Training (AgBAIT).

Global project “Promotion of agricultural finance for agri-based enterprises in rural areas” in cooperation with Projet de Promotion du Financement Agricole (GIZ/ProFinA), Sector Project „Agricultural Trade, Agribusiness, Agricultural Finance”

Main Session Outcomes:

1. Matchmaking between producer cooperatives and financial institutions involves a process of analyzing profitable business models, identifying individual financing needs, negotiating loan conditions, setting up appropriate risk management as well as training and advisory on both sides to accompany the process of loan application, appraisal and repayment.
2. Capacity building for potential loan applicants from the agricultural sector needs to be adapted to their needs. It can range from financial literacy plus training such as the Farmer Financial Cycle that demands only low levels of literacy to advanced trainings and coaching such as the Agricultural Business Analysis and Investment Training (AgBAIT) that enables entrepreneurs with financial records to plan investments. Both examples involve a personal interaction with or pitch in front of a financial service provider.
3. Capacity building for financial institutions that aim at increasing their agricultural portfolio needs to target different levels of the institution, from agricultural finance training for loan officers to management advice. If repayment rates are satisfactory the financial institution will gain trust and voluntarily scale up their agricultural lending in the following year.

Challenges and future potential:

- Access to finance remains one of crucial elements in promoting rural development.
- Digital solutions may play a role in overcoming some of the limiting factors (such as transaction cost, rural outreach and risk management).

Next steps:

- The Global Project “Promotion of agricultural finance for agri-based enterprises in rural areas” together with the Sector Project “Agricultural trade, Agribusiness and Agricultural finance” will continue to share their experience and knowledge products.
- So far, the Global Project operates in five countries (Benin, Cameroun, Mali, Nigeria, Zambia) and will start operations in three additional countries in 2020 (Burkina Faso, Malawi, Togo).
- All interested practitioners are invited to join the IDA community on agricultural and value chain finance.

Thematic Working Session: Modernizing Skills Development in Agriculture: Getting Africa's Youth and Women ready for the World of Work

Organizer & Contact Person: Joseph Sarpong, Qualification for sustainable agricultural growth in Africa NEPAD/CAADP in cooperation with Qualification of women in the agriculture and nutrition sector (CAADP ATVET for Women), SP Rural Employment with Focus on Youth

Description:

By 2030, an estimated 440 million African youth will enter the job market. Equipping a growing and youthful population with the right skills and tapping into employment opportunities are huge challenges at hand. The majority of Africa's labour force is still employed in agriculture – mostly women and smallholder farmers without formal training. However, countries are yet to realise agriculture's full potential for sustainable development. The agricultural sector in many African countries is not yet sufficiently professionalised to reap the full benefits for poverty alleviation, food security, job creation and economic growth. This session will focus on the importance of modern skills development for rural development and employment. a) Which innovative approaches can be used to increase employability? b) How has competency-based training along agricultural value chains helped to prepare trainees for the world of work?

Main Session Outcomes:

1. Acknowledgment of and discussion on the importance of modern skills development to provide opportunities and enhanced employability for Africa's youthful population.
2. Emphasis on the agricultural sector as a potential driver for youth employment and economic growth on the continent – using the Agricultural Technical Vocational Education & Training (ATVET) and ATVET for Women projects as examples.
3. Analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) of digital approaches (e.g. 3D animation and virtual reality as learning material) and other modern approaches (e.g. gender-transformative change and competency-based training to transform public training institutions).

Challenges and future potential:

- Potential to set up a network between rural development practitioners within GIZ to exchange on gender aspects (i.e. how to move from gender-sensitive to gender-transformative approaches).
- Identified weaknesses and threats relating to digital approaches in skills development should be assessed further.
- Potential negative effects of gender-transformative approaches should also be explored (according to 'do no harm' principles).

Next steps:

- Further exchange between participants on approaches to modern skills development (including CBT and curricula development).
- Explore possibility to set up a network to discuss gender-related topics in rural development projects.

Thematic Working Session: Setting up a Digital Knowledge Platform

Organizer & Contact Person: Mara Lindtner, Knowledge Centre for Organic Agriculture in Africa (KCOA), Sustainable Agriculture (NAREN), Strengthening Drought Resilience in the arid and semi-arid lowland of Ethiopia (SDR), Green Innovation Centre in the Agriculture and Food Sector (GIC)

Description:

Many GIZ projects are developing digital knowledge platforms. In a World Café, we would like to critically discuss the development of contents, management aspects as well as questions of sustainability and collectively come up with conclusions: What are the actual needs? Which formats would be feasible? What can colleagues contribute? Digitalization – yes please – but how many and what type of platform are actually contributing to knowledge transfer rather than creating a jungle. We will use three specific platforms as examples. First, the platform for knowledge dissemination on organic agriculture in Africa of the global programme “Knowledge Center for Organic Agriculture in Africa (KCOA). Second, a dry valley rehabilitation and pastoral livelihoods platform (DVR-Platform) of the programme “Strengthening Drought Resilience in arid and semi-arid lowland of Ethiopia” (SDR). Third, the internal exchange platform in form of a wiki of the global project: “Green Innovation Centres for the Agriculture and Food Sector” (GIC).

Main Session Outcomes:

1. **What has to be taken into consideration when setting up a digital knowledge platform?** Before setting up a digital knowledge platform you need to verify if it is the right tool for your objective. Once you took this decision, think about your target group and carry out a user analysis. What are their needs? How do they access information and in which formats? The purpose of the platform and the results of the user analysis will determine the design and format of the platform. Consider analysing existing platforms to check whether your idea already exists or could be integrated somewhere. Be aware to carry out the assessment in a participatory way integrating key stakeholders. Last, but not least, come up with an inclusive business model for your platform.
2. **How can the quality of the content be guaranteed?** A certain set of rules regarding content of the platform has to be defined, also to manage the type of content uploaded. However, the strictness of the rules may vary according to the purpose of the platform. In case of formal knowledge dissemination, quality of the content needs to be assured through a formal review process. On a co-creative knowledge platform, in contrary, users should be relatively free to participate in the knowledge creation and sharing. A managing team could set the rules of the game and control them. Another interesting way is a rating system by the user community. Further important aspects are to regularly update the platform, ensure that it does not become overloaded and that content respects data privacy issues.
3. **How can sustainability and usage of the knowledge platform be ensured?** We realized that sustainability issues often go back to the design stage of a knowledge platform (“know your target group”). A vision for the institutionalization is crucial to be begin with while bringing these partners and users on board (co-design). Cost-usage analytics will create transparency and help their decision to engage. Open source solutions (Wiki, kiwix with offline access, etc.), private sector involvement or addressing a big as possible mass to get significant turn-out might be good strategies. Build-in plug-ins or translation programs need to be anticipated to make the platform functional in the long run. A reward system might motivate the target group to a) contribute and b) provide quality (“5-star-user”). But in the end, it might be wiser to just scale an already existing solution rather than starting from scratch again.

Challenges and future potential:

We consider the biggest challenges of digital knowledge platforms to actually meet the needs of the target group and ensure sustainability. Moreover, there is almost like a digitalization hype currently, which bears the risk of creating a jungle and overflow of digital tools. For this reason, we want to appeal to creators of digital knowledge platforms to ask themselves whether the platform is actually needed, and its establishment provides a benefit for users.

Next steps:

Interested participants gave us their contact details to receive the workshop documentation and stay in contact for future exchange.

Thematic Working Session: Communicating Your Project — How to easily produce Video Testimonials

Organizer & Contact Person: Pascal Corbé (SNRD Africa consultant)

Description:

Bring your phone and learn how to shoot a short testimonial interview with your project's key stakeholders and beneficiaries. Hands-on workshop in double teams. Clip-on mics and mini-tripods will be supplied as a takeaway for your continued work later on. The workshop seeks to make the case, that FOs are uniquely placed to reach a maximum of farmers and spread innovations most effectively and sustainably. It aims to showcase that it is therefore worth-while adapting project design to their situation.

Main Session Outcomes:

1. 20 Participants received basic guidelines on how to prepare questions, select prospective testimonial interviewees
2. They were instructed in how to use the provided equipment (lavalier microphones, LED ring lights, mini-tripods) in conjunction with their own cell phones incl. basics on picture framing, lighting and location and especially interview technique
3. Two practical rounds of hands-on practical exercises were conducted. One interviewing one another, the second entailed going out on the conference floor and interviewing a conference participant on a "real" subject. Samples of which are available.

Challenges and future potential:

- The session proved to be rewarding as participants showed real interest and action. The challenge was that there was not enough time to come back and review the individual clips for comprehensive feedback via the trainer and the co-participants of the workshop.
- The workshop can definitely be repeated. The feedback was very positive not only concerning the conduct of the workshop but also with regards to the potential of the underlying concept. Therefore, continued participation can be expected.

Next steps:

- Besides conducting further workshops, it would be ideal to follow up with participants to get a constant flow of testimonial videos from the projects to the SNRD website. Budget would have to be made available to work on the postproduction of the footage shot by the former participants.

Thematic Working Session: Strengthening biodiversity-based Value Chains for Global Markets - Ensuring local economic, environmental and social Benefits

Organizer & Contact Person: Friedrich zur Heide (G330) in cooperation with BMCC, Namibia, ABioSA, South Africa, and ABS Capacity Building Initiative, global

Description:

Markets and consumer demand for natural ingredient-based products are growing. However, Africa's rich biodiversity and traditional knowledge to be used in the food, cosmetics, fragrance/aroma and pharma sector is still to a large extent untapped. The workshop will show examples and discuss potentials of African natural products in national / international value chains while also looking at the different hurdles related to market access. Finally, rationales and support packages of GIZ projects addressing challenges to regulatory compliance, quality, quantity and sustainability will be discussed.

Main Session Outcomes:

1. International markets for consumer products based on natural products (including sourced from Africa) are growing at 10-20 % annually.
2. In many rural areas of Africa, value chains based on natural products (such as the Marula fruit) can complement or may even replace agricultural value chains securing local livelihoods. Their natural climate change resilience plays a key role.
3. Building and strengthening biodiversity-based value chains can differ considerably between agricultural value chains. Accessing new markets with new ingredients / products requires addressing a set of non-tariff trade barriers. These need to be identified and coping strategies need to be developed.
4. There are key bottlenecks along the value chains – from the biological resource (collection / cultivation) over ingredient production (oil, extract, etc.) to the final consumer product (flavour/fragrance/cosmetic/nutraceutical/pharmaceutical formulation). These include supply reliability and sustainability questions, regulatory hurdles (incl. ABS) in exporting and targeting countries, quality, traceability and stability issues, certification, as well as skills and capacities of local SME and laboratories.
5. Given the above complexity, supporting development projects need to deal with a variety of stakeholders, standards and regulations at different stages of the value chains at the same time, and manage interests and expectations closely.

Challenges and future potential:

- Identify trade-offs and benefits of biodiversity-based value chains in both biodiversity and agricultural projects;
- Ensure adequate partner and institutional arrangements to change mindsets and overcome established settings and boundaries (e.g. to familiarize Ministries of Environment with value chain approach and its economics);
- Establish stakeholder understanding and partnerships along the value chain to create social, economic and environmental benefits.

Next steps:

- Further exchange and elaboration of the inter-linkage of VCs, biodiversity and FLR in CCLNRM working group (e.g. webinars);
- Increased conceptual exchange and seeking of synergies with different projects in the context of SEWOH (incl. FLR);
- Conceptualize and showcase benefit-sharing schemes for conservation and sustainable utilization.

Thematic Working Session: Engaging local Communities in a participatory approach for writing Concept Notes for the Green Climate Fund (GCF)

Organizer & Contact Person: Oladjewou Odjoubele (Benin) in cooperation with Science-based support for National Adaptation Plan (NAP) processes in francophone Least Developed Countries (LDCs) of sub-Saharan Africa (PAS-PNA)

Description:

Are you considering developing Green Climate Fund (GCF) projects in your country or with your implementing partners? Learn from a recent experience in Benin, Senegal and Burkina Faso using a bottom-up approach that targeted local communities, NGOs and local institutions to put forward their adaptation needs and participate in a competition for ideas. The “winners” were granted a scientific and technical support process to convert their ideas into concept notes that can be submitted to GCF. More information about this will come during the workshop. The presentation will be held in French and discussion will be in both French and English.

Main Session Outcomes:

1. Attendance: 10 participants from seven countries (Germany 1, Madagascar 2, Cote d'Ivoire 2, Mali 1, Cameroun 1, DRC 2, Benin 1)
2. The participants were interested in this approach, this was manifested through their inputs / questions and experiences sharing during the session
3. All the participants testified how innovative this approach is in a process of concept note writing for climate fund mobilization.

Challenges and future potential:

- Compared to the traditional approach for concept note writing, this community engaging method seems more expensive. But the result of the activity revealed that the approach was more economical and favored the local competence empowerment and development for concept note writing.

Next steps:

- Sharing of the presentation with the participants (done)
- Giving out technical support for the replication in other countries
- Replicate the bottom-up participatory approach to engage local stakeholders in complex process for better ownership

Thematic Working Session: Become your own Boss – How to promote Agripreneurship and Business Formation in rural Areas?

Organizer & Contact Person: Sven Braulik and Nadine Guenther, Sector Project Employment in Rural Areas with Focus on Youth in cooperation with GIC Benin and GIAE Steering Unit, external consultants and innovators

Description:

What does it take to form a business and become a successful agripreneur? During the workshop the various phases of establishing a viable business are examined. We clarify key words and concepts linked to startups, entrepreneurship and SME creation. Key steps - business ideation, developing a viable business model and pitching the business concept to secure funding – are practiced in a group simulation. An African agripreneur will coach us and provide real-life insights. In order to identify and design project interventions to promote agripreneurship and business formation, participants will also learn about the importance of understanding the entrepreneurial ecosystem and how to map it in order to identify gaps and constraints that need to be addressed. Existing approaches and tools in GIZ to promote entrepreneurship and business formation in rural areas will be presented and discussed.

Main Session Outcomes:

1. 14 millions of rural youth are entering the labor market in Africa every year and especially in rural areas, employment opportunities are desperately needed. Under the integrated approach for employment promotion one pillar is the demand side, which can be supported by promoting entrepreneurship, business formation and the growth of existing businesses. In recent years, the role of entrepreneurs and MSMEs has steadily gained importance in rural development. Being one of the driving forces for job creation, business innovation and green and inclusive growth, development cooperation seeks ways to support entrepreneurs and MSMEs.
2. In order to develop efficient supporting measures, a clear understanding of what it takes to form a business and become a successful agripreneur is essential. During the workshop the various phases of establishing a viable business were examined. Key terms linked to startups, entrepreneurship and SME creation as well as the steps of the business startup cycle were introduced. Key steps - business ideation, developing a viable business model and pitching the business concept to secure funding – were practiced in group exercises.
3. The working session participants have gained a clearer understanding of what constitutes an entrepreneur, how innovative business ideas can be developed and further refined. With this insight, and by building on the briefly introduced existing GIZ tools they are able to better design project interventions aiming at supporting rural entrepreneurs in establishing or growing their businesses.

Challenges and future potential:

- Generally, GIZ advisors and project staff are not entrepreneurs and have no first-hand experience of how to start a business. The ability to thoroughly assess business models is essential to support and grow viable MSMEs. Projects must ensure that this expertise is retained in order to successfully support entrepreneurship.

Next steps:

- All working session presentations and additional material have been uploaded to the SNRD [COP Rural Employment](#) where colleagues can also engage in further discussion and exchange of best practices.

Thematic Working Session: Bringing the Potential of Farmer Cooperatives to Scale

Organizer & Contact Person: Andrea Rüdiger, Supporting Sustainable Agricultural Productivity (SSAP) in cooperation with Green Innovation Center, Farmer Business School Advisory Facility (Agribusiness Advisory Facility), Agricultural Mechanization and Technology for Smallholder Productivity (AMTP)

Description:

Small farmers often lack opportunities to participate in agricultural markets. Where farmers pool resources, where they organize marketing of outputs or the procurement of inputs jointly through cooperatives, they can leverage market opportunities and improve livelihoods. In this working session, we will discuss the challenges and opportunities of moving from successful pilots to scale. Proven and tested approaches such as the business school models will be explored based on experiences from Ethiopia and Cameroon. In a World Café, specific questions around building successful partnerships for scaling, applying the Cooperative Business School (CBS) approach as well as monitoring and evaluation in scaling will be discussed. In an Upscaling Lab, participants can share their expertise and develop proposals for upscaling based on case studies from existing GIZ programs or receive peer advice for their own working context.

Main Session Outcomes:

1. Need for common understanding of support for cooperatives/ producer organizations and of upscaling approaches is high, collection of best practices, possible tools and support for strategies, planning and implementation. Orientation to support cooperatives/ producer organizations evident in many projects.
2. Identification of the right cooperation/ implementation partners for supporting cooperatives in various country and sector contexts is key to successfully and sustainably support cooperatives/ producer organizations. Relevant partners vary depending on the role and capacity of respective government institutions as well as on the dominance on cash vs. food crops, with private sector partners being more relevant for producer organizations engaged in cash crop production.
3. Many challenges of cooperatives/ producer organizations tend to be focused on leadership and governance. To measure professionalization of cooperatives and efforts to support this, success factors have to be defined in advance.
4. Upscaling to broaden outreach of support for cooperatives/ producer organizations need systematic approaches, advice and appropriate tools.

Challenges and future potential:

- Peer-learning format through case giving as experiential learning very effective. Transfer of results from case-examples to different program contexts as a challenge.
- Define common understanding, strategies and tools to support a large number of cooperatives to professionalize and diversify their business activities.

Next steps:

- The two case examples: integration of results into planning of (new) phase.
- Utilizing established network and relations between projects to foster knowledge exchange.
- Agribusiness Facility 4 Africa* can offer tools and support for large-scale support to producer organizations and other Agri-Business capacity building
(*follow-on project of Sustainable Smallholder Agri-Business, SSAB, awaiting commission by BMZ)

Thematic Working Session: Food Safety and Food Quality Standards - Necessary for Consumer Protection or intentional Obstacle to Trade?

Organizer & Contact Person: Stefan Pletziger, SP „Agricultural Trade, Agribusiness, Agricultural Finance“ in cooperation with MOAP Ghana, Global Programme on Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture, ComCashew

Description:

You work in an export-oriented project and support value chains? You want to get a general overview of trends and challenges in agricultural trade in Africa? You're tired of black and white debates on agricultural trade with a lack of fact-based statements? You would like to know more about projects and GIZ experience having worked on food safety issues – and learn what you better NOT do?! Join our session and hear about the latest developments in agricultural trade, new markets and their food quality standards! Trade can be a potent as well as a critical instrument, especially for the least developed countries that are often only marginally involved in international trade flows. No matter which countries are targeted: Food safety and food standards are always an issue in cross-border trade. Effective food safety systems and trade facilitation should not contradict one another. This is where the AfCFTA could come in, which, if properly implemented, has great potential and can lead to a strengthening of intra-African trade. However, food safety systems can also be misused as pretext to unfairly raise the market entry bar for unwanted competition from outside.

Main Session Outcomes:

1. Participants have a better knowledge about Food Safety and Quality Regulations in Global Trade. They know the difference between public and private standards and about Food safety/ SPS-setting organisations.
2. Clearance about why food safety management systems are important in the cashew sector – and in the fruit and vegetable sector in general.
3. In international export, the only thing that helps is a clear and transparent approach. No one benefits from acting in bad or unprofessional faith. Export products that do not meet the standards will be rejected at the (EU) border anyway. After that, the pity for an export sector is even bigger and export bans might be issued.

Challenges and future potential:

- Considerations about a South-South Exchange concerning food safety issues. What is Kenya in the horticulture sector much more successful than Ghana is?
- What might African fruit and vegetable exporters learn from Asian producers and exporters?

Next steps:

- Briefing of participants about possibilities of STDF funding.
- Could this topic also be relevant for SNRD-Asia? A discussion on this will follow with the respective colleagues.

Thematic Working Session: Small is beautiful? - Promoting Businesses along Agricultural Value Chains

Organizer & Contact Person: Igor Vinci, Project Promotion de l'agriculture durable et du développement rurale (PAD), Tunisia

Description:

African countries have agricultural-based economies facing a historical dependency on a limited number of main actors. In this landscape, the economic value is unfairly distributed along value chains, normally beyond national borders and to the advantage of big players. The aim of this workshop is to provoke a reflection on promoting businesses for small and medium enterprises in agriculture. Our reflection starts from two practical examples of business links in agriculture. We examine the role of current development approaches such as contract farming, farmers' organizations, multi-stakeholder platforms, extension and advisory services, Farmers Business Schools, and value chains. You are engaged in role plays and group works, and our goal is to define innovative business opportunities to better integrate local agricultural economies into national markets and exports. Be creative! You can propose alternative solutions such as branding agricultural products, ITC, sustainability, climate smart agriculture.

Main Session Outcomes:

1. The workshop saw the proactive participation of around 15 colleagues, who demonstrated a concrete interest for identifying measures to integrate in their national projects
2. The first part of the workshop focused on practical / real examples of collaborative business models between cooperatives and other private and public clients and / or service providers. The participants showed different levels of knowledge of tools, such as FBS, CBS, business models, contract farming, that are being tested and improves worldwide by GIZ. This made the exercise particularly productive for many. At the same time, it allowed those who are more informed to share their experiences in the mobilization and leveraging of small actors and the informal economy.
3. The deliverable of the second part of the workshop was a matrix identifying some of the challenges and opportunities around business links for the exchange of products and services along value chains. The exercise proves a strong means of reflection, but the inadequate number of concrete experiences limited the realization of the matrix. It was a brainstorming exercise around business links, rather than a in depth-analysis of priority links based on the group's experience.

Challenges and future potential:

Challenges

- The (partly) limited knowledge of approaches and tools to promote small businesses across GIZ
- The insufficient experience in agricultural farming, particularly for those value chains that are not dominated / regulated / stabilized by big public and private actors.

Potential

- The increasing application and impact evaluation of different approaches such as FBS, CBS and contract farming (which includes integrated services for farmers and their organizations) particularly in terms of: increasing revenues and employment; membership to farmers' organizations (FOs); creation of SME and new FOs; trust among private actors (including financial organizations) and sustainability of business links

Next steps:

- Share existing impact evaluations through the SNRD
- Increase the exchange among GIZ projects that are testing approaches in favor of small and medium scale economies
- Widen the evaluations to more countries and diverse economic contexts (particularly value chains)
- Develop new approaches to support the transition from farming as means of subsistence towards agriculture as a profession, particularly with youth.

Thematic Working Session: Improving Nutrition is achievable and measurable!

Organizer & Contact Person: Robin Rothweiler (G530) in cooperation with SV APES, GV Ernährungssicherung und Resilienzstärkung

Description:

Most rural development projects focus on the production side to increase income and food security. But how can we impact nutritional outcomes such as healthy eating patterns? The guideline on results models for nutrition-sensitive rural development programs offers tools to easily integrate nutrition activities into programs. After a short introduction to this, we will share our experience on implementing nutrition activities and measuring impact – improving nutrition is achievable and measurable! In groups, we want to reflect on integrating promising nutrition activities and measuring their impact, using those results for GIZ's aggregated results data, and furthermore using evidences to advocate for the integration of nutrition measures into policies and programs.

Main Session Outcomes:

1. There is an interest and need for guidance on nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific indicators to measure impact on nutrition outcomes and outputs.
2. Results and experience exchange between the global programme and other nutrition /non-nutrition projects was successful. Stronger integration nutrition indicators for policy advice/nutrition advocacy was recommended.

Challenges and future potential:

- Specific guidelines for the participating projects are available but need for adaptation was identified.
- Measuring impact on nutrition
- Using results of nutrition impact assessments
- Raising awareness on policy level on nutrition outcomes

Next steps:

- The guideline on sample results models and indicators for nutrition-sensitive rural development projects will be reviewed, adapted to up-to-date literature and designed closer to project staff's need. Together with colleagues from the Global programme on Food and nutrition security and resilience as well as the Sector programme on Agribusiness and agricultural trade the guideline will be adjusted.
- Close collaboration with the Knowledge for Nutrition programmes in order to mainstream nutrition activities throughout the GIZ portfolio.

Field Trips

The future of the agri-food sector in Africa and Cote d'Ivoire – Focus areas, strategies and policies for the next generation

The SNRD Working Group “Food Security, Nutrition and Resilience” organized a half-day visit to the newly founded Regional Centre of Excellence against Hunger and Malnutrition (CERFAM) in Abidjan. The center is a result of the cooperation between the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Government of Ivory Coast in order to increase the documentation and scaling-up of good practices as well as peer learning on food security and nutrition in the region.

The participants of the SNRD field trip to CERFAM were warmly welcomed by its Director, Dr. Issa Sanogo, the Head of the CERFAM Programme, Mrs. Christiani Buani and by the Director of the WFP in Ivory Coast.

Dr. Sanogo explained the background and mandate of CERFAM as well as its objectives, followed by a presentation of the activities of the WFP in Ivory Coast. The participants were very interested in the multisectoral approach of the WFP to fight malnutrition and food insecurity and were able to discuss with the WFP representatives on the food and nutrition situation in Ivory Coast.

The second part of the visit was dedicated to a very active and interesting discussion about good and promising practices and its defining criteria. The participants were invited to share their experiences on developing and documenting of good practices which led to a very active discussion and the sharing of a multitude of hands-on experiences from the SNRD participants coming from rural development and food security projects all over Africa. The participants highly appreciated the invitation to CERFAM and are looking forward to continuing this exchange in the future.

<https://www.wfp.org/news/joint-news-release-wfp-cerfam>

<https://insight.wfp.org/inauguration-of-a-regional-center-of-excellence-against-hunger-and-malnutrition-a-ray-of-hope-for-5af1d9944938>

Afterwards the group went ahead to the Conseil du Café-Cacao (CCC).

Here the participants were welcomed by a bigger group of staff members from CCC and the discussion was chaired by the Vice president of the Conseil. After a good cup of local hot chocolate, the group entered a discussion about the role, responsibilities, mandate and governance structure of the Conseil as an institution and as well the future challenges of the cacao sector mainly in Ivory Coast as prices, labor and youth in the sector and strategies and policies how to tackle them. But also, the work with the German cooperation (mainly the pro planteurs project).

Further information

<http://www.conseilcafecacao.ci/>

<https://www.kakaoforum.de/en/our-work/pro-planteurs-project/news-from-pro-planteurs/>



Director of CERFAM, Dr. Issa Sanogo holding a presentation GIZ delegation at CERFAM

Farmer Business School and Producer Cooperatives

Our excursion led us to the cocoa cooperative S.C.A.F.R.A. We first visited the warehouse and office of the coffee and cocoa cooperative. The majority of the harvested beans are UTZ-certified. Subsequently, we visited a field school. We were warmly welcomed there and could take part in a practical lesson. Good agricultural practice in cocoa is imparted. The former GIZ-funded project for the promotion of GAP takes place in interactive learning sessions. The participants are actively involved in the exchange of experiences and discuss problems or challenges in the daily cultivation on their farm. In the field school, the steps of the value chain from harvesting to pod breaking, fermentation and drying were presented and practically demonstrated. This enables the visitors to get a better understanding of the challenges faced by the producer. We were then invited to the community and received an official reception from the traditional community. This warm welcome showed us to what extent the field school is also anchored in the community. After the official ceremony, the local extension officials from Anader showed us a typical FBS session. The training curriculum consists of different modules. The form, the right time of measuring and sowing or planting of the crops, as well as the cash flow planning up to the calculation of the gross margin of the agricultural activities.



(from left to right: pod breaking, preparation of fermenting, after fermenting, drying)

The conclusion of the trip is that the capacity of farmers and the emphasis on the fact that agriculture is a business and must be considered as one, with taking into account the expenses spent and revenues generated during the year.

Cocoa and Cashew Processing in Cote d'Ivoire

With around 30 excited conference members we had the chance to get out of the hotel facilities and into the field. Cote d'Ivoire is a country known for its agricultural products cashew and cocoa. This fieldtrip, with its visits and tours of two large processing factories of exactly those two products, was therefore highly relevant for the conference theme and the regional context as it provided participants the challenging and multi-layered process of transforming agricultural products.

After a short drive we reached “CEMOI Chocolate Factory” and were welcomed by the director and two of his employees who guided us in three groups through all of the processing steps (ranging from the arrival of the beans at the offloading docks including the initial cleaning to the huge warehouse with high reaching piles of cocoa bean bags, giving an insight of the quantity of cocoa collected, processed and transported in Cote d'Ivoire. But further along the line, we were guided through different halls, with different temperature levels, noise levels and cocoa smells which added physical to the experience. Dressed in lab coats, with gloves, and shoe cover, we were then even able to taste the different forms in which the chocolate is being exported (liqueur de cacao, cocoa mass, Chocolate bars, with small amounts of sugar or none, etc.). All of that animated the participants to stop at the factory shop and buy tasty souvenirs.

After a lunch and highly amusing dramatic Nollywood series in the bus, we reached the cashew factory: Ivoirienne Noix de Cajou. The recently established factory is run by Salma SEETAROO, who was represented by her operations manager Mr Caramello and Mr Tiro. The tour in a steamy and noisy factory showed the numerous interlinked processes of cracking the cashew nut and how difficult it actually is to separate the nut from its shell. In a separate hall we saw diligent women at conveyor belts, not only manually cleaning the nuts through fickle removal of the last thin skin called testa covering the nut and finally also sorting the cashew kernel by quality and size. Being left almost dizzy from the rapidity in which the women were working at fast conveyor belts, we were shown some of the 26 different quality categories, into which the kernels are being grouped.

In both factories the participants had the chance to ask questions to the management team, for example how the product is being sourced, how the prices are set, which form of regulations the government puts in place.



Agroforestry and Afforestation

A very early morning departure on Thursday 31 October for 47 GIZ colleagues in Abidjan. After the last checks, water bottle, passports and sunglasses, we leave Abidjan for 2 hours by car towards Adzopé. Once we arrive at the entrance to the city, our host partners, the NGO Nitidae, welcome us in the company of the regional councilor of La Mé. We embarked for one last hour on the bush track and finally arrived in the village of Diasson in the middle of the morning.

Our excursion is part of REDD+. Indeed, 57% of Côte d'Ivoire's forests disappeared between 1990 and 2015 (BNETD, 2016). Only 3.4 million hectares of forest remain, and this decline is largely due to cocoa cultivation, of which Côte d'Ivoire is the world's largest producer.

To address this situation, the objective of the REDD+ de la Mé Project (PRM) is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in the Mé region while improving the living conditions of people living near these forests.

The visit begins with a session to present and introduce Nitidae's activities with the Regional Council and villagers in forest conservation, management and cocoa production. The GIZ delegation was able to attend exchanges between villagers and representatives of the NGO and the Regional Council and also took the floor to introduce itself and present the different actions of German cooperation in agroforestry in West Africa.

We visit the cocoa plantation of a farmer converted to organic farming and the conditions of exploitation of sustainable cocoa pods. The presentation is made in the middle of the cocoa trees, an opportunity for novices to discover the taste of fresh pod beans, but also to taste the coca fruit. This is followed by a long discussion session between colleagues and the farmer on techniques, yield, production, processing, certification and income.

For the lunch break, we taste dishes prepared by the women of the village, once again, the opportunity to discover local gastronomy such as futu (cassava paste mixed with banana purée). The terrace where the table is set up overlooks a wooded valley and offers an impressive view of the forest.

Before taking the bus again and making the opposite way back to Abidjan, we visit a reforested plot. The Regional Councilor informs us that the Ivorian government has classified the Diasson forest as a Natural Reserve 2 days before our visit. The rest of the reforested plots are intended for agroforestry.

We get back on the bus to take the road back to Abidjan. We remember a warm welcome, interesting visits, fruitful exchanges and the feeling of having participated for a day in a small adventure.



Abidjan's Innovation Hubs

32 participants from all over Africa and Germany had the opportunity to visit three of Abidjan's innovation hubs.

The first stop of the day was at BabyLab in Abobo, Abidjan, about 15km away from Plateau. Abobo is one of Abidjan's "quartiers defavorisées" – which is also what makes the location of BabyLab special. Founder Guiako Obin was the first to found this type of organization in one of Abidjan's quartier defavorisées. BabyLab is a FabLab (a space in which start ups can develop prototypes and other digital solutions). At the beginning of the visit, the BabyLab team presented their organization. Then the visitors were shown around the office, consisting of a MediaLab in which prototypes can be developed, we were shown a 3-D Printer which is mainly used to print spare parts for the robots that would otherwise take several weeks to be shipped from China. The team also spoke about the different programs they offer, amongst others a program for children to familiarize them with small robots. They also collect old computers and recycle the spare parts. The motto written on the wall in one of their rooms fittingly highlights their mission "The next Einstein will be African!". Afterwards, participants had the chance to ask questions and interact with both the startups as well as the BabyLab team.

The next stop was at the organization Empow'Her – a French NGO with offices in Niger, Burkina Faso, France and Cote d'Ivoire. They offer different types of programs with the aim of strengthening female entrepreneurship. The field trip participants got to hear about the organization's programs aimed at addressing the underlying issue of the economic and social vulnerability of women in West Africa. Three different program tracks are offered by Empow'Her: one aimed at women vendors selling different products on the street, the second one addressed at rural women, and the third that supports women to develop their own startups. The participants were inspired to hear from two women at work closely with the organization: one that went through one of their programs and now has her own company that sells tomato sauce, and another woman that advocates for gender equality at the political and social level.

The third and final stop of the day led us to Incub'Ivoir, a start-up incubator that supports and trains young Ivorians with ideas to solve social and development challenges in both urban and rural settings. We watched a video on their yearly entrepreneurship competition held across the country to find the best candidates for their incubation programs. We also got the chance to hear from two of their entrepreneurs: one that has started an organization that develops organic enriched soil and the other that has developed an irrigation system for farmers. It was highly interesting to exchange questions with them and to hear about their challenges and what inspires them to do their work.

A very inspiring day highlighted the innovative ideas young people in Abidjan have to tackle urban and rural challenges and the potential to scale and replicate their ideas in other parts of Africa.



Working Group Meetings

The SNRD working groups had their **annual meetings** during the conference. More information about the groups can be found on the [SNRD Africa Website](#).

Working Group on Agribusiness and Inclusive Value Chain Development (ABIVCD)

At the SNRD Africa Conference, 48 of the 140 members of the working group came together in a full-day workshop with the aim to defining the new workstreams, constitute a new ABIVCD coordinating team and more importantly, exchange and discuss in person. The feedback received illustrates the still growing importance of programmes and projects promoting agribusiness and inclusive value chain development in the German development cooperation environment. The main objective of the working group is to promote inclusive and sustainable value chains for increased productivity, income generation and employment creation, as well as improved livelihoods. Capitalising on the synergies of the ABIVCD network, the members thrive to facilitate structural transformation of rural economies in the GIZ partner countries “towards a decent standard of living for the current and the next generations”, which was the slogan of this year’s meeting.

To achieve our common goals for 2018-2019, the working group has been active in three main thematic subgroups: Viable Business Models, Agricultural Finance, and ICT, Training and Farmer Based Organisations (FBO). The aspects of Agriculture Technical Vocational Education and Training (ATVET), gender and youth employment are equally important for all themes and hence were selected as crosscutting topics of the working group. To give an insight into the diversity of themes covered by member projects, a market place was organised. Seven subjects were displayed (Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships, contract farming, cooperation with the private sector, rural youth employment, value chain development and finance, water and energy for food). Participants and especially the new members of the working group had the opportunity to get an initial idea of the different approaches or products that GIZ use. There was ample exchange, questions asked and possible opportunities for collaboration with fellow members identified.

With a view to streamlining the management of the working group to create better results and improve the communication on our achieved results and impacts, members proposed the following new thematic clusters for 2019/2020 — taking into account the interests expressed during the meeting and the feedback from an online questionnaire sent prior: 1. Farmer organisations, 2. Employment (youth/self-employment), 3. Advisory services, 4. Cooperation with the private sector — inclusive business models, contract farming, multi-stakeholder partnerships, etc., 5. Agricultural finance & insurance, 6. Monitoring & evaluation. ICT as well as gender in the agriculture and food sector are conceived as cross-cutting topics and incorporated in all thematic clusters.

Before we introduce the new ABIVCD coordinating team, we would like to give our heartfelt thanks to the groups previous speaker Florian Winckler and tandem partner Eberhard Krain. A big thanks to Florian Winckler, who was speaker of ABIVCD for the last two years, for the time and dedication that he invested in the organisation and coordination of the WG. Another big thanks to Eberhard Krain, who was our tandem partner from the GIZ Sectoral Department (FMB) and who will also be leaving us after nine years. During this tenure, Eberhard has put his wealth of institutional knowledge and experience at our disposal, in this position and for some of the time as speaker.

The new team: Speaker: **Laura de Guevara**, currently working at the “Green Innovation Centres” (GIC) – Ethiopia, Co-Speaker: **Thuweba N. A. Diwani**, currently working in the Bilateral Programme “Promotion of Productive Agriculture” (PromAP) – Niger, Tandem Partner (from 2020): **Johannes Peters**, currently working in the Sectoral Department, “Rural Development and Food Security” (FMB 4D30) – Eschborn, Germany, IDA Community Manager: **Carolyn Voigt**, currently working in the Sector Project “Agricultural Trade, Agribusiness, Agricultural Finance” (SP AAA) – Bonn, Germany

We will start into the new year with a webinar on Living income and living wages — so keep your eyes open for upcoming information.

Working Group on Policy Processes in Agriculture and Rural Development (PPARD)

The Policy Processes in Agriculture and Rural Development (PPARD) working group focusses on peer-learning and exchange about policy advice in GIZ projects. Although the group said farewell to the GIZ CAADP support program, progress on the NAIP formulation and use in some African Countries was a success and key lessons learnt is that national ownership drove the success of the NAIP.

In 2018, the working group created a sub-working group focusing on National Policy Advisors with the purpose of enhancing networking and knowledge sharing among the advisors.

This year, 2019, the interesting application for use among Policy Advisors is the Agri-Policy tool kit that provides various instruments to aid with policy advice. Turning to the speakers, Thomas Breuer (Namibia) remains as the speaker and the group introduced a new co-speaker Theresa Kinkese (Zambia) and Tandem Partner is Dominik Fortenbacher. The working group is looking into the possibility to include an adviser from the sector project food security and agricultural policy into the speakers' group.

Looking into 2020, the future work streams aim to continue and strengthen the learning and exchange amongst the National Policy Adviser Group through a learning visit in Germany (Eschborn and Bonn) in the first half of the year. In addition, a policy learning event focussing on "Methods and strategies of support and policy reforms and changes processes" in all relevant areas of the SNRD to be held in Ghana in the second half of 2020. Furthermore, the rural areas, the nutrition status of the people and the agri-food sector are currently been affected by climate change among other factors. So future topics are to fight all forms of malnutrition, climate change, youth in sector and access to finance.

Moving forward policy advisory seeks to shift away from discussion and exchange about topics towards exchange about strategies, methodologies, skills of adviser, exchange formats (including south-south exchange) and management strategies for policy reforms and changes to find "fit for the future" strategies, policies and implementation instruments and tools. And another forward process is to find a way to organise the generation shift (from Senior expert to the upcoming younger generation of policy advisers) and ensure knowledge and experience transfer within the team and groups.

Working Group on Climate Change, Livelihoods and Natural Resource Management (CCLNRM)

This year's SNRD Africa meeting in Abidjan brought about considerable change for the Climate Change, Livelihoods and Natural Resource Management (CCLNRM) working group. The working group meeting took place on November 1 and started with a review of the past two years. During a thematic session, some key topics were presented including a flagship study on the impacts of climate change on employment and migration. An open market place gave all members the opportunity to present and discuss their topics such as interactive climate change data bases, wood value chain development and many others.

From sub-working groups to workstreams

Towards the end of the session, members decided to opt for a more flexible way of cooperation. The group decided to abandon its three sub-working groups and their work plans pursue time-bound workstreams and an innovation fund as new mode of cooperation. Workstreams will allow more flexibility while more cost-intensive projects can receive higher funding from the competitive innovation fund. Various workstreams such as wildlife crime and anti-poaching, environmental education, digitalization, climate risk analysis, biodiversity-based value chains and several others have been suggested after a first brainstorming. These and other possible workstreams may either submit a proposal to the innovation fund or decide to work without additional funding. A Call for Proposal and workstreams forms with more information about the format have been shared with CCLNRM members on IDA and via Email.

New faces and more digital cooperation

At the organizational level, working group members agreed that online collaboration through IDA and Skype for Business should be strengthened and that the group should continue to work in English and French in order to stay inclusive. Lastly, Dr. Désiré Tchigankong was again appointed speaker. Sven Schuppener took over the role as co-speaker from Rosa-Stella Mbulu. Dr. Kirsten Probst, Andreas Müller and Anna Hennecke will support their work as tandem partners.

Working Group on Food Security, Nutrition and Resilience (FSNR)

The working group organized its second meeting during the SNRD Conference in Abidjan since its foundation in 2017. During the working group meeting, the participants - coming from all over Africa as well as from GIZ Headquarters in Germany - had the chance to learn more about a wide range of topics related to food security, nutrition and resilience.

In a marketplace exciting inputs from participating projects were presented:

- Multi-Country Resilience Study – Country Case Study Mali
- Use of Digital Technologies in Nutrition Projects - *e-Nutrition*
- Monitoring *Social Behaviour Change* – an example from Burkina Faso
- Portfolio analysis of nutrition-sensitive rural development projects
- Aflatoxin and its impact on Nutrition
- Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition training material from Kenya
- New Manual on *Social Behaviour Change*
- New Training on Nutrition – material available in English and French

The participants also reviewed the five exciting work streams and discussed relevant and newly emerging topics. Based on the discussions, five key work streams have been identified:

- Nutrition and Agriculture & Aquaculture
- Climate Change and Nutrition
- e-Nutrition
- Nutrition Governance
- Monitoring and Evidence for Nutrition

At the end of the meeting, the new Speaker Team of the FSNR Working Group was elected and we congratulate the new Speaker Anna-Vanessa Kullanek from Kenya and the new Co-Speaker Youssif Kamil-Abdulsalam from Benin, both working for the SEWoH Global Programme “Food Security, Nutrition and Resilience”. The Tandem Partner, Ines Reinhard from FMB, will continue to support the working group. We also thank the outgoing Speaker Team, Ricarda Schwarz from Zambia and Susanne Schwan from Malawi, for their commitment over the last year.

Innovations

Name of Innovation	Name of Organization / Company	Short description	Partners collaborated with (if applicable)	Countries	Contact
ITC: SEABEX, PLANTIX Dairy value chain: FIL (innovative training in the dairy value chain)	GIZ GIAE Tunisia	SEABEX: piloting an automatic and sustainable irrigation system (currently tested for the Potato value chain). PLANTIX: digital solution well suited to Tunisians farmers that allows them to identify pathogens and quickly access information /advice on treatment and preventive measures. FIL: Innovative practical training for dairy farmers to improve milk production and quality.	PLANTIX: PEAT & RGT (German and Tunisian startups) SEABEX: IT GRAPES & INAT (Tunisian startup and Tunisian university) FIL: GFA (international consultancy group)	Tunisia	Rima Gmati: rima.gmati@giz.de Athar Chrigui: athar.chrigui@giz.de
e-Phytiatrie	GIZ Promotion de l'Agriculture Productive (PromAP)	e-Phytiatrie is an e-extension platform on the mobile application WhatsApp. It offers rapid responses to phytosanitary problems experienced by farmers and is part of a bigger agricultural advisory strategy employed by PromAP. It targets agricultural advisors that are first line responders to farmers practicing small-scale irrigated agriculture in the regions of Agadez, Tahoua and Tillabéri in Niger.	1. Réseau de Chambre de l'Agriculture (RECA) Niger 2. Institut National De La Recherche Agronomique (INRAN) Niger 3. Direction General de la Protection des Végétaux (DGPV) Niger	Niger	Dr. Thuweba Diwani (thuweba.diwani@giz.de)
ICT tools like an Interactive Radio programme, Rice Advice and 3D animations MOCAP (Mobile Cassava Processing Innovation)	GIZ Green Innovation Centre for the Agriculture and Food Sector – Nigeria	MOCAP aims at improving cottage processing of cassava into gari. It was jointly developed with the public and private sector. The ICT tools complement trainings (3D animations), improve extension services (RiceAdvice) and also allow for further dissemination of information (radio program). Using different approaches, animation, app and radio can highlight how different technologies address different target groups and provide different solutions for participation.	Radio programme in collaboration with Farm Radio International · RiceAdvice together with Africa Rice · MOCAP in collaboration with Bosch and FIRO	Radio programme: Uganda, Senegal, Mali, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique Rice Advice: Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali, Senegal	Johanna Trauernicht (johanna.trauernicht@giz.de)
Raspberry Pi: A digital solution in areas without access to internet	GIZ Biodiversity conservation and sustainable forest management	A digital solution has been developed for a local chiefdom in Eastern DRC. It includes a micro server that gives the possibility to store and share information, even without constant access to electricity and internet. A Raspberry Pi as a server is the central piece of the solution with four offline platforms with: - a library - a website server - Wikipedia and alike - a platform for primary and secondary education	Chiefdom of Kabare	Democratic Republic of Congo	Pieter Vanwildemeersch Pieter.vanwildemeersch@giz.de

Name of Innovation	Name of Organization / Company	Short description	Partners collaborated with (if applicable)	Countries	Contact
techDetector – radar for emerging technologies for sustainable development	GIZ Eigenmaßnahme Technology Innovations for Sustainable Development	Technological innovations are key factors for social and economic change worldwide. In order to achieve the SDGs the use of the potentials of innovative technologies will be of central importance. But how can particular innovations be evaluated and assessed? The techDetector offers a systematic analysis of both the technological maturity and the potential sustainability impact of 100 relevant technologies for sustainable development.	Envisioning	Morocco	Gitta Sender, gitta.sender@giz.de
Information and communication technologies (ICT) in agricultural research 4 development, and scaling of innovations	GIZ Advisory Service on Agricultural Research for Development (BEAF)	The GIZ program will present the latest digital information and communication technologies (ICT) that have been utilized in agricultural research 4 development projects. The Task Force on Scaling presents their approaches of scaling innovative technologies and implementing them in agricultural practice worldwide.	CGIAR, icipe, World Vegetable Center	Rwanda, Uganda, Philippines, Africa, worldwide	Anne Borisch, Anne.borisch@giz.de Marlis Lindecke, Marlis.lindecke@giz.de
GIC knowledge network – an comprehensive mechanism to boost innovations across 15 countries	Green Innovation Centres for the Agriculture and Food Sector; Steering Unit Germany	Green innovation centres promote more than 200 innovations in 15 countries. But how do we disseminate them at broad scale? An overall network enables dissemination of ideas and cooperation between hundreds of project members and partners incl. private sector and research institutions. Our approach encompasses a wide range of harmonized measures: From thematic working groups to our new digital knowledge platform.	Wide network of partners	15 (+ Germany)	Bastian Beege, bastian.beege@giz.de
Seekewa	Seekewa	Seekewa is a community platform that allows any person or organization to directly finance smallholder farmers' projects in exchange for priority access and special discounts on food from their crops.		Côte d'Ivoire	Fred Zamblé : +225 07 61 66 90 – fz@seekewa.com Serge Zamblé : +225 08 41 10 10 – sz@seekewa.com
ATA Solution (AgriTech for Africa)	ALONE GROUP	ATA Solution offers connected sensors based on the internet of objects using artificial intelligence for better soil diagnosis and crop monitoring. The user automatically receives interpretations and action to be taken via web, mobile, SMS and voice SMS platforms in local languages for illiterate people.	- PWC - Fondation Jeunesse Numérique - PSNDEA - CivAgriHack - WelikeCiv	Côte d'Ivoire	ADOU Nomel'Ess Jean Alexe-Olive +22577003170 / essnomel1@gmail.com
GELICO Virtual Market e-Variété	ICT4dev.ci	Gelico is a platform for managing agricultural cooperatives with payment to farmers by mobile money. Virtual Market is a virtual market where offers and requests for agricultural products are combined and e-Variety is an application on seeds.		Côte d'Ivoire	EHUI Jean-Delmas (delmo225@gmail.com) EHUI Sausthène Guy (princesostyguy.snge@gmail.com)

Name of Innovation	Name of Organization / Company	Short description	Partners collaborated with (if applicable)	Countries	Contact
Shepherd App for Demand Aggregation	CowTribe Technology	A smart logistics platform that leverages the power of mobile technology to deliver life-saving animal vaccines and veterinary care to last-mile farmers. Our technology is also build for Livestock identification and centralized data management.	Government of Ghana, Care International, IDRC, ACDEP,	Ghana	Alima Bawah, COO, alima.bawah@cowtribe.com Peter Awin CEO, peter.awin@cowtribe.com
PHYTO-TECH	INNO4AGRI	PHYTO-TECH is a mobile application that provides farmers with audio and language training (from Côte d'Ivoire) on the use of phytosanitary products and at the same time serves as a reminder calendar on the different periods in which to apply the products.	CivAgriHack et Callivoire	Côte d'Ivoire	Issa Laetitia : fatoulaetitia@gmail.com Yeo Yedjande : yeoyedjande@gmail.com Ogou Ines : ogou.ines@yahoo.fr Sourabié Lassina : lassinasourabie1@gmail.com
WeFly Software, We GEO, Aerospace Industrial design by WeFly Design	WeFly Agri	Empowering local farmers with drone data to enhance their produce.		Côte d'Ivoire	Ackson Kondwani Mwenda, ackson.mwenda@weflyagri.com
Green Value – Natural Capital Assessments in protected areas	GIZ (Sector Program Environmental Policy)	The economic value of protected areas (PAs) for income, livelihoods and natural resources is heavily underestimated. Green value applies a framework to bring the PAs' true value to light and improve decision-making and management concerning PAs.	UFZ (Helmholtz-Zentrum für Umweltforschung), possibly University Felix Houphouët-Boigny, Abidjan, GIZ country offices (Biodiversity projects) from the countries mentioned	DRC, Ethiopia, Côte d'Ivoire, Madagascar, Mauritania, Morocco	Elias Huland, elias.huland@giz.de
Upscaling of afforestation activities in the Sahel zone for women, youth employment and poverty reduction	Support program for implementation of rural development strategies forest environment component	Our innovation is dealing with holistic perspective on afforestation initiatives for a better future both for human beings and environment through the implementation of a holistic approach which combines plants production, agroforestry, vegetable oil production based on species promoted, adoption of improved cooking stoves and benefits that enable women contribute to managing their households.	Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development Institute for Research and Agricultural Development EnviroProtect National Forestry development Agency Municipal councils	Cameroon	Tchigankong Désiré desire.tchigankong@giz.de
Climate Risk Insurance for the Agricultural Sector	GIZ KC 4B20; Competence Centre for Financial System Development and Insurance	The innovative approach consists of the usage of virtual reality game (implemented by VR googles) to increase financial literacy on climate risk insurance. As the topic is complex, but know-how in this area very important, the game provides a playful approach to climate risk insurance and first hands-on experience with the use of insurance products.		Climate Risk Insurance projects exist several countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia with a focus of the portfolio in Asian countries.	Alexander Jäger, alexander.jaeger@giz.de

Name of Innovation	Name of Organization / Company	Short description	Partners collaborated with (if applicable)	Countries	Contact
The River Basin Game	GIZ AWARE (Accelerate Water and Agricultural Resources Efficiency)	The game strengthens capacities in Water Resources Management in times of climate change and population growth, which both increase the competition for water. The game plays a crucial role in smallholder trainings on efficient agricultural water use by showing them that their water use has an effect on the water availability for other water users: https://youtu.be/lwVVPgZ7VxM	Zambian Water Resource Management Authority (WARMA)	Zambia	Saskia Kuhn (Saskia.kuhn@giz.de) Beatrice Nyimbili Beatrice.nyimbili@giz.de Henrik Otte (Henrik.otte@giz.de)
Adaptation options in response to climate change impacts on youth employment and migration in Africa	GIZ	Climate change has already caused net negative impacts on jobs and work productivity, and these impacts are expected to become more pronounced in the coming decades. This is particularly true for the agricultural sector, where workers will be the first to feel increasingly unbearable heat stress. Adaptation is necessary and can present an opportunity for employment creation. We introduce innovative solutions based on a review of literature and evidence from GIZ projects in Africa.	Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research	Mali, Togo, Madagascar (tbc)	Till Below, Till.Below@giz.de Stefanie Wesch, Stefanie.Wesch@pik-potsdam.de
AgriLab Yiri-drôtô 1000 agripreneurs	Grainothèque	Grainothèque is an integrated climate-intelligent system to monitor pest action, increase productivity, increase youth employability in value chains, while mitigating the impact of climate change.	Fondation Orange Fond de dotation pierre Castel Mairie de Danané	Côte d'Ivoire	Daniel Oulaï, +225 57 52 38 94 , danieloking2013@gmail.com
KuBeKo	LONO	The Kubeko is a "low tech" solar composter that maintains optimal decomposition conditions, particularly humidity and ventilation, for composting in 15-30 days. This solution is adapted to the residues of Ivorian agricultural sectors, allowing village plantations to increase their income and improve soil quality.	ANADER, FIRCA, SCB	Côte d'Ivoire	Noël N'GUESSAN, Louise BIJLEVELD tech@lonoci.com
European-African partnerships for new natural products	GIZ BioInnovation Africa (BIA) – equitable Benefit-sharing for the Conservation of Biodiversity	BIA supports value chain development together with industry and governments. Intervention levels are: 1. Innovation for new products based on sourcing new ingredients and product development 2. Extension of existing supply chains for export to Europe 3. Regularization of existing value chains for ABS compliance 4. Upscaling of supply chains through new sourcing and business partnerships	Union for Ethical BioTrade (UEBT)	Cameroon, Madagascar, Namibia, South Africa	Friedrich zur Heide friedrich.zurheide@giz.de Suhel al-Janabi s.aljanabi@geo-media.de
Coaching des Agribusiness-Clusters locaux de ProAgri3/ICRA.	GIZ Promotion de l'agriculture au Bénin ProAgri3	A team of 40 coaches supports the actors of 20 Agribusiness Clusters at the communal level, composed of 100 soybean and shea cooperatives, in optimizing the production, processing and marketing of their products through the construction of trust relationships, the establishment of contractual links and control of financing.	Ministry of Agriculture BENIN (MAEP), ICRA-Wageningen, Private organizations in soya and shea butter value chains, Public organizations in agricultural sector	Benin Bénin	Becker Joachim, joachim.becker1@giz.de Akele Olivier, Olivier.akele@giz.de Toon Defoer, iCRA; Toon.Defoer@icra.global

Name of Innovation	Name of Organization / Company	Short description	Partners collaborated with (if applicable)	Countries	Contact
Agripolicykit	GIZ Sector Project "Agricultural Trade, Agribusiness, Agricultural Finance"	The agripolicykit is a website aiming at closing the gap between political intention and implementation on the ground. A vast compendium of concrete policy instruments used for boosting a sustainable development of the agri-food sector on- and off-farm. The agripolicykit is a collaboration between GIZ, the University of Hohenheim and others.	University of Hohenheim and others	Global	Julia Reimers julia@jnr-reimersconsulting.com Bastian Domke bastian.domke@giz.de
SEWOH Innovation Fonds (working title)	GIZ GV "Funds for Agricultural Policy Advisory and Innovations"	In the coming months, our project will launch a new format to identify innovations for the agricultural and food sector. It will be kind of a competition, which we will hold regularly. It is our goal to find solutions for the agriculture and food sector and to support and (partly) fund their further development. German as well as international public and private actors can submit concepts and work together in partnerships on their innovation. The innovation can be digital as well as technical solutions that address challenges in the agri-food sector. The fund is not restricted to specific countries.		Global	Sarah-Kay Schotte sarah-kay.schotte@giz.de Ralf Rogowski ralf.rogowski@giz.de
The NELGA digital ecosystem	GIZ Strengthening advisory capacities for Land Governance in Africa (SLGA)	The NELGA digital ecosystem aims at supporting a network of above 50 leading African universities with proven leadership in education, training and research on land governance through a digital platform that would: - Enhance training opportunities and curricula on land governance in Africa; - Promote demand driven research on land policy issues; - Connect scholars and researchers across Africa through online academic networks; - Support availability of data and information for monitoring and evaluation on land policy reforms	African Land Policy Centre (ALPC) / Over 50 African universities	Africa	Anita Hernig – anita.hernig@giz.de Jean-Eudes Fournial – jean-eudes.fournial@giz.de
Using ICT for improving Non-Timber Forest Product Value Chains (#eskills4Girls Initiative)	GIZ Forest and Environment Program Cameroon	GIZ's Forest and Environment Programme in Cameroon will train up to 300 Girls from local communities to become e-skills trainers to increase digital competences of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) business women. Furthermore, digital solutions will be developed for the NTFP business women. The human centered design approach will help to ensure that this solution will tailored to their specific needs.	Ministry of Forests and Wildlife Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development	Cameroon	Ute Nuber; ute.nuber@giz.de
The Green Innovation Slam	GIZ Green Innovation Centre Ethiopia	The Green Innovation Slam (GIS) is an annual agri- business competition where entrepreneurs and businesses with bright ideas in the sector can apply to. The GIS serves as a platform and mechanism to identify innovations and to upscale them. Find more information here: https://innovation-slam.com/		Ethiopia	Laura de Guevara – laura.guevara@giz.de

Name of Innovation	Name of Organization / Company	Short description	Partners collaborated with (if applicable)	Countries	Contact
AgribusinessTV	MEDIAPROD	Agribusiness TV is a web TV channel that uses video as a tool to (re)valorize agricultural jobs in the eyes of young people.	Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA)	Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Kenya, Togo, Mauritius.	MAIGA Inoussa inoussa@agence-mediaproduct.com agribusiness.tv@gmail.com
Integrated Farmer Training (IFT)	GIZ Employment Promotion Programme (EPP III)	The Integrated Farmer Training (IFT) is a modular training for literate as well as illiterate farmers to increase their knowledge about farming techniques along the planting cycle. It combines the essential components of three learning areas: good agricultural practice, derived from FFS, basic entrepreneurial skills, derived from FBS and behavioral reflection and change, derived from bju's that were formerly taught separately, but actually belong together for successful business management.		Sierra Leone	Ralf Zimmermann ralf.zimmermann@giz.de Sarah Thomas-Parensen (sarah.thomas-parensen@giz.de)
Precooked improved flour for preparation of enriched pap for child nutrition	GIZ Projet d'amélioration de l'Alimentation, de la nutrition et de l'Hygiène en milieu familial (PAH)	The precooked improved flour is produced with mothers of young children (< 2 years) and pregnant women according to a fixed formula. The flour includes 3 essential food groups (cereals, beans, oily grains) and can be prepared quickly thanks to the precooking. Other food groups (fruits, vegetables, eggs) can be incorporated during pap preparation.	VARENA-ASSO (local associations)	Burkina Faso	Sabrina Dold Sabrina.dold@health-focus.de Abou Bayo Abou.bayo@health-focus.de Margarethe Ihle Margarethe.ihle@giz.de
Le Grenier	Le Grenier	The "Grenier" is a carpooling platform dedicated to market gardeners who wish to organise group deliveries, whether as part of short circuits (direct sales to consumers on a market) or for long circuits (supermarket chains, grocery stores, wholesalers, restaurants etc...).	Incub'Ivoir	Côte d'Ivoire	YAPO ASSI URBAIN RENE SEKA Urbainyapo95@gmail.com
Jami Programme	AfrikaMarkt	JAMI FRESH PROGRAMME makes it possible to organize, monitor and coach farms according to market demand, in order to guarantee good product quality and a constant supply for the market. Result = anticipation of counter-season effects, less price fluctuation for traders, constant and better incomes for farmers.		Senegal	Mignane Diouf mignane@afrikamart.com
AgriPack	Fenou Packaging	AgriPack is the first online platform that allows farmers and agripreneurs to find the right packaging for their products. It offers a selection of quality biodegradable bags and helps farmers pack their products in the greatest respect for the environment.	CTA (Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Co-operation)	Benin	Sonita TOSSOU +229 97351639 packaging.fenou@gmail.com

Name of Innovation	Name of Organization	Short description	Organisations/Partners collaborated with (if applicable)	Countries	Contact
Regional Centre of Excellence against hunger and malnutrition of United Nations World Food Programme (CERFAM)	World Food Programme	The Regional Centre of Excellence against Hunger and Malnutrition (CERFAM) is a partnership between the Government of Côte d'Ivoire and the World Food Programme (WFP) to support countries in their national efforts to implement sustainable policies and programmes to achieve zero hunger and eliminate malnutrition in line with the 2030 Agenda. Its objectives include facilitate and mobilize expertise, promote hunger and nutrition solutions, including through innovative approaches and strengthen networks and community of practice by connecting national, regional and international actors.		West and Central Africa	Christiani Buani christiani.buani@wfp.org
FoodHubs	FoodHubs	FoodHubs uses IoT enabled mobile solar powered cold carts to help small holder farmers store their produce to avoid post harvest losses.		Nigeria	Oluwamayowa Salu hello@foodhubs.store salumayowa@yahoo.com
Nutritious Meal Plan Intervention for Vulnerable Mothers and Children (NUMEPLAN)	Lagos Food Bank	NUMEPLAN is a wholesome approach which improves nutrition and reinforces the need for mothers and children to be healthy by having sufficient intake of essential nutrients in food which is necessary for optimal growth, function, health and vitality. To drive sustainability, we started a family farming program and the fabrication and sales of solar dryers to make our beneficiaries more self-reliant.		Nigeria	Michael Sunbola, Michaelsunbola@gmail.com

Evaluation of the Conference

The Evaluation of the conference was conducted with the Conference Application. The overall satisfaction with the SNRD Conference 2019 is excellent. Asked **to what extent they were satisfied with the different aspects of the conference** 84% of the participants overall replied with “very much” or “much”.

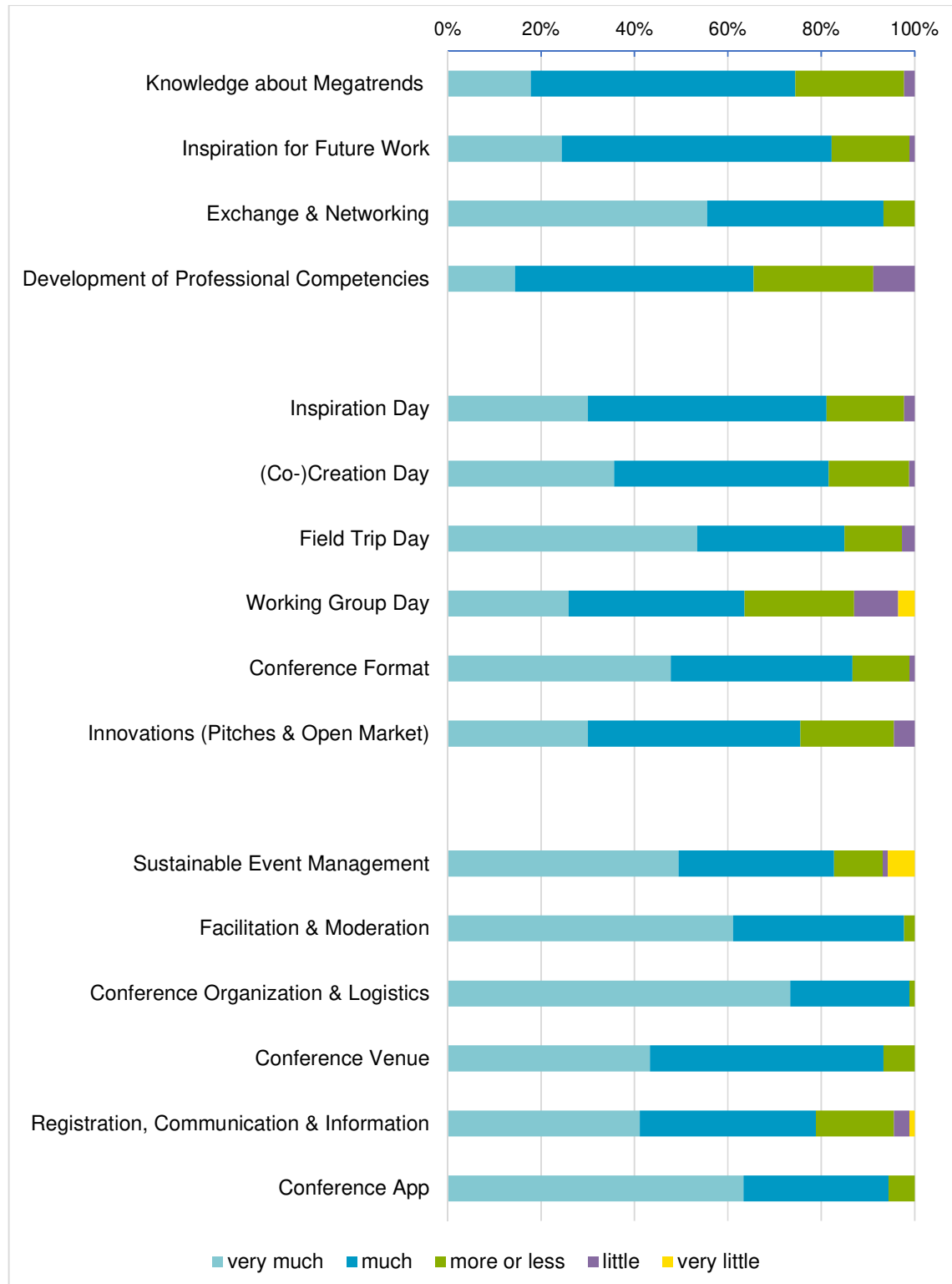


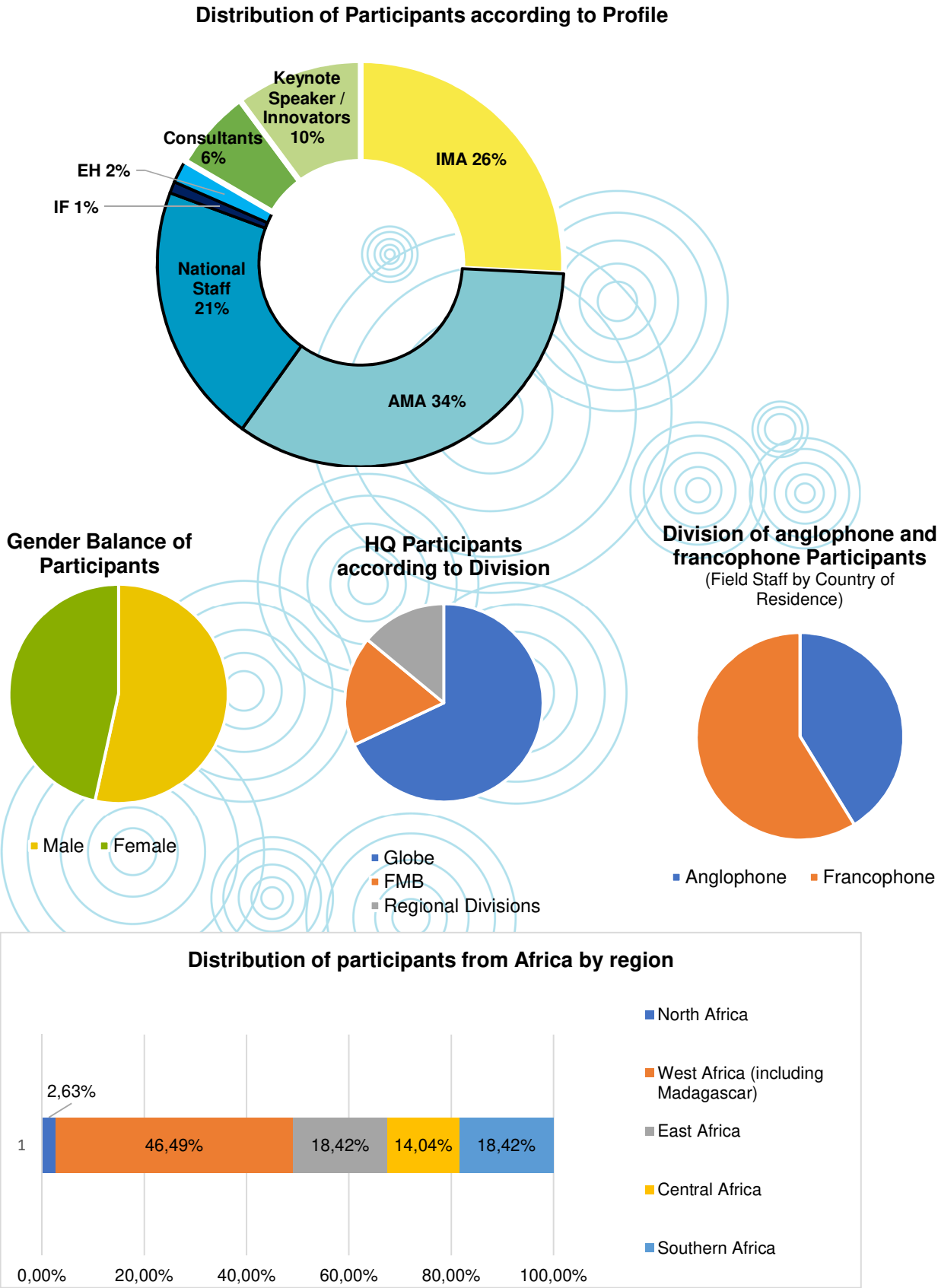


Figure 1: Participants' SNRD Africa conference highlights



Figure 2: Participants' suggestions for the next SNRD Africa conference

Conference participants





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Registered offices
Bonn and Eschborn, Germany
Postfach 5180
65726 Eschborn

T +49 61 96 79-0
F +49 61 96 79-11 15

E info@giz.de
I <http://www.giz.de>

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Responsible:

Nadine Guenther, Sophie Koch, Juliane Bing, Julia Mueller, Irene Prieto Duran

Pictures:

SNRD Africa, conference participants

GIZ is responsible for the content of this publication.