

Use and adoption of FARA-generated information and research: An assessment among its Constituents



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About FARA

The Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) is the apex continental organisation responsible for coordinating and advocating for agricultural research-for-development. (AR4D). It serves as the entry point for agricultural research initiatives designed to have a continental reach or a sub-continental reach spanning more than one sub-region.

FARA serves as the technical arm of the African Union Commission (AUC) on matters concerning agricultural science, technology and innovation. FARA has provided a continental forum for stakeholders in AR4D to shape the vision and agenda for the sub-sector and to mobilise themselves to respond to key continent wide development frameworks, notably the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP).

FARA's vision: Reduced poverty in Africa as a result of sustainable broad-based agricultural growth and improved livelihoods, particularly of smallholder and pastoral enterprises.

FARA's mission: Creation of broad-based improvements in agricultural productivity, competitiveness and markets by continental-level strengthening of capacity for agricultural innovation.

FARA's Value Proposition: Strengthening Africa's capacity for innovation and transformation by visioning its strategic direction, integrating its capacities for change and creating an enabling policy environment for implementation.

- FARA's strategic direction is derived from and aligned to the Science Agenda for Agriculture in Africa (S3A), which is in turn designed to support the realization of the CAADP vision. FARA's programme is organized around three strategic priorities, namely: Visioning Africa's agricultural transformation with foresight, strategic analysis and partnerships to enable Africa to determine the future of its agriculture, with proactive approaches to exploiting opportunities in agribusiness, trade and markets, taking best advantage of emerging sciences, technologies and risk mitigation and using the combined strengths of public and private stakeholders.
- Integrating capacities for change by making the different actors aware of each other's capacities and contributions, connecting institutions and matching capacity supply to demand to create consolidated, high-capacity and effective African agricultural innovation systems exploiting relative institutional collaborative advantages to mutual benefit while also strengthening their own human and institutional capacities
- Enabling environment for implementation, initially through evidence-based advocacy, communication and widespread stakeholder awareness and engagement and to generate enabling policies, and then ensure that they get the stakeholder support required for the sustainable implementation of programmes for African agricultural innovation

Key to this is the delivery of three Key Results, which respond to the strategic priorities expressed by FARA's clients. These are:

Key Result 1: Stakeholders determine how the sector should be transformed and undertake collective actions in a gender-sensitive manner

Key Result 2: Strengthened and integrated continental capacity responding to stakeholder demands within the agricultural innovation system in a gender-sensitive manner

Key Result 3: Enabling environment for increased AR4D investment and implementation of agricultural innovation systems in a gender-sensitive manner

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