CONSULTATIVE, REVIEW AND PLANNING WORKSHOP ON KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING AND EVALUATION FOR CLIMATE RELEVANT R&I UNDER CAADP-XP4 PROGRAM

Date: 16-20 December 2021

Action Points and way forward

Summary of action points:

The M&E and Knowledge Management experts drawn from ASARECA member NARIs have undergone a five day integrated, training, consultation and brainstorming on the role that KM and M&E play in Agricultural Transformation and making our food systems better.

Overall, it has emerged that M&E Knowledge management and communication have been neglected for a long while.

This meeting has produced evidence to launch advocacy within and outside our institutions to fast track the role of this twin functions to transformative agriculture.

It has been confirmed that nearly half of the NARIs do not have the basics, including communication and knowledge management strategies, website and portals leave alone having qualified people to manage the functions.

This workshop has produced a checklist of Knowledge management best practices. ASARECA will finalize the check and share with you all to start implementing change in your NARI.

The workshop has also produced a summary of action points that the KM managers, ASARECA and the DGs have to implement to make KM successful.

- Member NARIs commit to adopt and implement the checklist of best practices for Knowledge Management and Communication, which has been developed from the workshop.
• Member NARIs commit to mainstream Knowledge management, including the cost elements in all projects from the time of project design by embedding KMC in project objectives/outputs.

• ASARECA to share the Knowledge Management and Communication Strategies of NARO, KALRO, ASARECA (IFAD, ILRI), including knowledge resources from the workshop, with participants for benchmarking.

• **Use of structured template for data collection and knowledge sharing:** A template was developed during the workshop for knowledge sharing. Member NARIs have already identified and started sharing knowledge resources for the Ki-hub. Member NARIs to continue interacting with ASARECA one on one on how to refine the presentation of the resources in the Ki-Hub.

• It is incumbent upon the KM specialists in countries without Communication and Knowledge Management Strategies, websites and knowledge portals such as Eritrea, RoC, South Sudan, Central African Republic to raise advocacy within their institutions to establish this basic KM resources and other cost elements.

• ASARECA Executive Director to catalyse this advocacy during his briefing of the CDGs to act as champions of KM in their institutions, embedding KM and M&E in their projects as well as allocate resources (physical and financial) to areas such as purchasing licenses for collaborative ICT tools; digitization of knowledge resources; development of strategies and portals; establishing fully fledged Knowledge management and communication units using structure models from Kenya, and Uganda.

• NARIs encouraged to adopt Communication and Knowledge Management Strategies as opposed lone Communication or Knowledge management strategy.

• ASARECA Commits to sensitize members on Intellectual Property Management, promote property rights of contributors to the knowledge management platforms, as well as increase the visibility of the NARIs through the one-stop Ki-Hub.

• Where resources are available, ASARECA to compliment the NARIs, especially those with hardly any CKMs infrastructure to acquire basic infrastructure including, internet connectivity, knowledge capture tools, to improve the CKMs processes.

• ASARECA to continue coordinating and convening the member countries in harmonizing data collection processes, data quality and relevance.

• Member countries commit to operationalize the ASARECA M&E Community of Practice and the ASARECA Knowledge Management Community of Practice.

• Regular capacity strengthening for CKMs & M&E experts: ASARECA commits to leverage resources for regular training of M&E and Knowledge management and communication experts through knowledge cafes/brainstorming sessions/Communities of Practice, writeshops, and physical workshops.

• Consider a KM benchmarking exercise for member countries to Ethiopia & Kenya to learn from the advanced EIAR KM system.
- Member countries commit to deepen training in knowledge management to cover knowledge management staff in the regional and zonal agricultural research institutes.

- NARIs commit to capture tacit knowledge from resource persons in the NARIs as part of the continuous KM process through brainstorming sessions and triggering interviews.

- Develop mechanisms for capturing and applying indigenous knowledge. It can be captured through video recordings. Could be applied through studying the active ingredients and striving to improve it.

- NARIs establish mechanisms to institutionalize knowledge capture. ASARECA Secretariat working with NARO, KALRO, Ethiopia and Tanzania to champion development of the guidelines and share with other NARIs.

- Noting that ODK is effective means of data collection, ASARECA to organize training for member countries in developing and implementing digital data collection using ODK.

- Undertake to use knowledge management to create impact in livelihoods by designing systems and products with the user in mind.

- NARIs with institutional portals scattered in the zonal research institutes encouraged to integrate this resources into a national hub/portal. ASARECA to highlight this as part of advocacy with the CDGs.

- ASARECA to organize training on household surveys to be conducted next year next.

- M&E experts to complete the survey tools shared to have it ready by 1st week of January.

- ASARECA and the NARIs to consider developing a joint financial proposal on knowledge management to close the gaps in the Knowledge process.

- Advised that it is a good professional approach for NARIs to start the process of certification beginning with the basic ISO 9001.