



Long-term EU-AU Research
and Innovation Partnership
for Food and Nutrition Security
and Sustainable Agriculture



European
Commission

Horizon 2020
European Union funding
for Research & Innovation

Long-term EU-AU Research and Innovation Partnership for Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture

Long-term **Europe** **Africa** R&I Partnership for Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture: proposal for a bi-continental Platform.

Philippe PETITHUGUENIN | LEAP4FNSSA Coordinator
November 18th, 2020

RUFORUM event on Strengthening the role of African Researchers in
the EU-Africa Research and Innovation partnership on Food &
Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA)



European
Commission

Horizon 2020
European Union funding
for Research & Innovation



- **Established in 2010, operational since Oct. 2011**
- **Serves as a platform for regular exchanges on research and innovation policy**
- **Strategic priority areas:** *Investing in people - Education, science, technology and skills development - Cross-cutting themes*
- **HLPD SOM:** *Senior Officials Meetings (SOM) - take stock of achievements of the partnerships and establish new priority areas of cooperation for the future*
- **HLPD Bureau:** *operational arm of the HLPD*





HLPD SOM Meeting (2013)



- Identified common priorities and selected first one for action
 - *“Role of STI in ensuring **food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture (including water)**”*
 - Priority endorsed at Africa–EU Summit in April 2014
 - Expert Working Group (EWG) formed (5 African & 5 European) to develop input to a roadmap towards jointly financed R&I Partnership on FNSSA





HLPD SOM Meeting (2016)



- **ADOPTED** the **Roadmap towards the Research and Innovation Partnership on food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture;**
- **WELCOME** the substantial investments already being made in FNSSA;
- **REQUESTED** the Bureau to start work towards defining the next priority area





Roadmap on FNSSA



Priority areas

1. Sustainable Intensification

2. Agriculture and food systems for nutrition
3. Expansion and improvement of agricultural markets and trade

- Ecological Intensification approaches
- Maintain / increase productivity through breeding, improving health and feed
- Animal and crop health incl. aquatic and inland fisheries
- Soil, water land and inputs management
- Marine planning and functional marine ecosystems
- Organisational innovations to facilitate research uptake





Roadmap on FNSSA



Priority areas

1. Sustainable Intensification

2. Agriculture and food systems for nutrition

3. Expansion and improvement of agricultural markets and trade

- Research on improved value chains to deliver nutritious rich foods
- Improving nutritional value of crops
- Understanding consumer behaviour
- Public – Private partnerships to improve nutritional quality of foods





Roadmap on FNSSA



Priority areas

1. Sustainable Intensification

2. Agriculture and food systems for nutrition

3. Expansion and improvement of agricultural markets and trade

- Surveillance, monitoring and diagnostic systems for sanitary and phytosanitary and food safety
- Science Agenda of mutually beneficial bio- economy innovations
- Reducing excessive fluctuations and improving resilience of food systems
- Global market chains and market power





Roadmap on FNSSA



Cross-cutting priorities

1. Creating a framework for improved coordination
2. Supporting innovation processes
3. Strengthening the capacities for collaboration
4. Understanding social and cultural contexts





Roadmap on FNSSA:



What is different ?

- **Not an “aid” programme but a balanced partnership between two continents (programming R&I on issues of joint interest and for impact on both continents, joint funding...)**
- **Propose to align and coordinate policies and programmes for greater impact**
- **A coherent framework for all stakeholders from both continents (multi actors approach to R&I : researchers, farmers, experts, suppliers, civil society...)**





How to “bridge the gap” between this policy process (HLPD + Roadmap) and the many R&I activities on the ground, between European and African institutions, and between the whole range of diverse stakeholders with their diversity of visions and expectations ?

⇒ Establish an institutional Platform



European
Commission

Horizon 2020
European Union funding
for Research & Innovation

Long-term EU-AU Research and Innovation Partnership for **Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture**



Long-term **EU - AU** Research
and Innovation **Partnership**
for **Food and Nutrition Security**
and **Sustainable Agriculture**

- Financed under H2020 (CSA type of action)
- Coordination by CIRAD
- Nov 2018 – Nov 2022
- Budget : 5 M €



European
Commission

Horizon 2020
European Union funding
for Research & Innovation



Partners

35 partners (20 European partners and 15 African partners)

- France | [CIRAD, ANR](#)
- Germany | [BLE, DLR, UHOH, Go Africa](#)
- Austria | [BOKU](#)
- Denmark | [UCPH](#)
- Spain | [INIA](#)
- Finland | [LUKE, JYU](#)
- Greece | [KINNO](#)
- Hungary | [SIU](#)
- Italy | [CIHEAM/AMB](#)
- NL | [WR](#)
- Portugal | [FCT](#)
- Czech R | [CULS](#)
- UK | [Greenwich U\(NRI\), ACU](#)
- Sweden | [SLU](#)
- S. Africa | [NRF, ARC, DST](#)
- Burkina Faso | [FONRID](#)
- Egypt | [MHESR, KEF](#)
- Ethiopia | [UNION AFRICAINE](#)
- Ghana | [FARA, CSIR-GH](#)
- Kenya | [MEST, NASAC](#)
- Nigeria | [IITA](#)
- Uganda | [ASARECA, RUFORUM](#)
- Senegal | [MESRI](#)



Objective of LEAP4FNSSA

Contractually, the project objective and expected impact is to :

→ “establish a sustainable structure, or platform, for the efficient and coherent implementation of the EU-AU Research and Innovation Partnership as described in the FNSSA Roadmap”

Features:

- **Bi-continental by nature**
- **Supporting the FNSSA Roadmap,**
- **link the policy dialogue between the EU and the AU to the R&I activities**



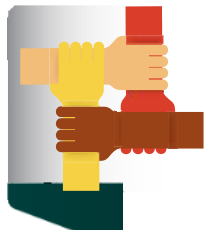
Our vision for this EU-AU FNSSA Platform

“A committed and operational partnership of actors in FNSSA that aims to :

- reduce fragmentation,
 - support the interaction,
 - and improve the coordination of programmes,
- and which implement joint Europe Africa activities in support of the FNSSA Roadmap.”

This Platform will be formed as an International Research Consortium (IRC).

What is an IRC?



A group of committed institutions, including research and innovation institutions



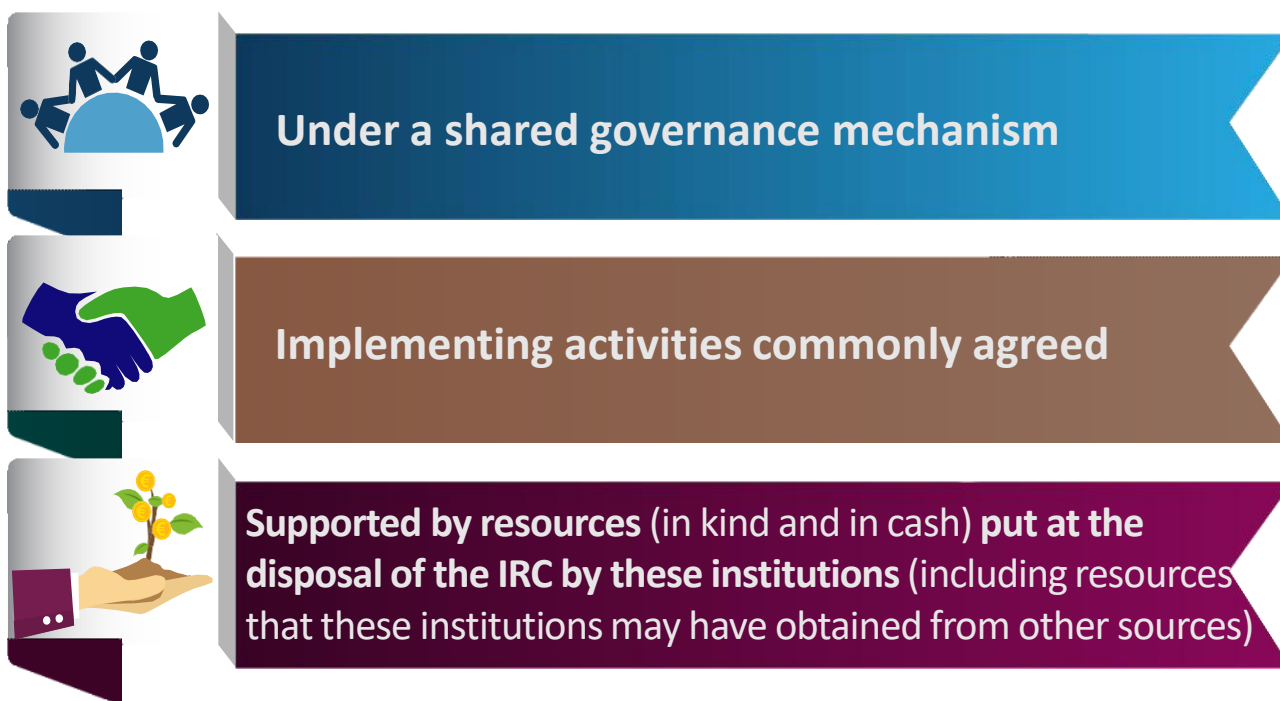
Which agree formally (existence of some sort of MoU signed by the heads of the founding institutions)



To work (jointly or in alignment) for the mid to long term (duration of the MoU) towards commonly defined goal

*An IRC is not an “EC legal instrument” but it is an **organisational model promoted by the EC** because it is compatible with EC rules while also being adaptable to partners specific requirements*

What is an IRC?



*An IRC is not an “EC legal instrument” but it is an **organisational model promoted by the EC** because it is compatible with EC rules while also being adaptable to partners specific requirements*



Why an IRC for the EU-AU FNSSA Platform ?

- **Founders commitment** is key to platform sustainability
- **Less restrictive** than EC instruments
- **Supported** by the EC (and other international R&I actors)
- **Well known examples (STAR-IDAZ, IRDiRC...)** and existing experiences successfully supported by funders
- Flexible enough, so it **can be adapted as its founders want**
- **Many governance options available**
- **Enables equal access** for EU and non-EU institutions
- Can embrace all sort of activities along the **innovation chain**



Who can join the IRC?

All institutions

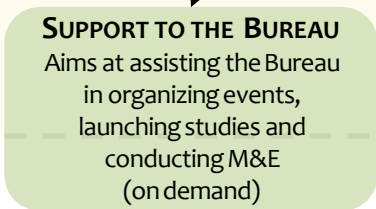
- **Looking for enhanced impact of their own activities through improved alignment**
- **Willing to contribute to the FNSSA R&I Roadmap ambitions and to work under the auspices of the EU AU Dialogue**
- **Mobilising resources** (in cash and/or in kind) contributing to this Roadmap
- **Endorsing the IRC workplan and organisation**
- **Taking part in the Platform activities and being recognized for their commitment**



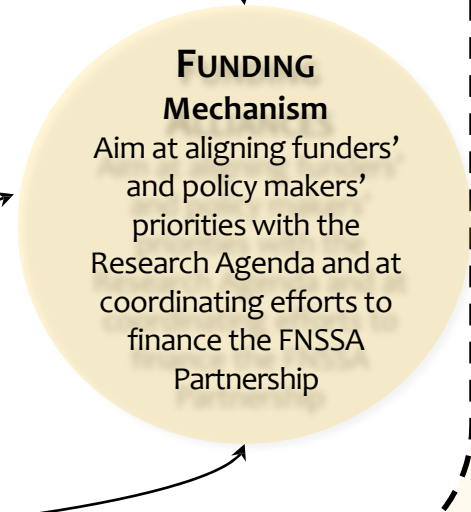
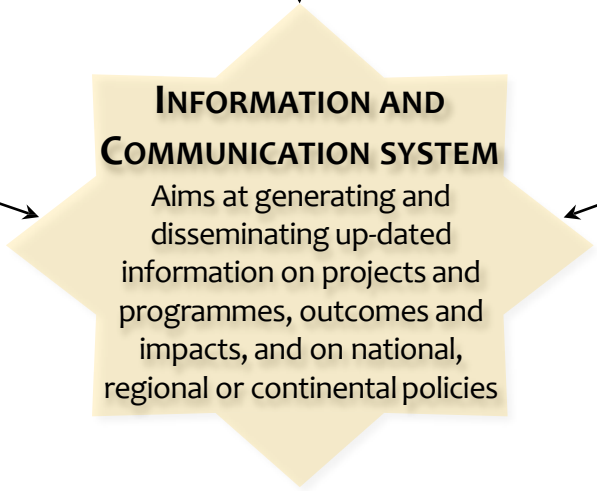
Long-term



Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture



Contour of the Platform





Long-term EU-AU Research and Innovation Partnership for Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture

What are your expectations from such a Platform ?
Are you interested to join in the Platform design ?
How can we build on all your ideas ?

Just let us know !



leap4fnssacoordination@cirad.fr
info@leap4fnssa.eu

Visit our website:
www.leap4fnssa.eu