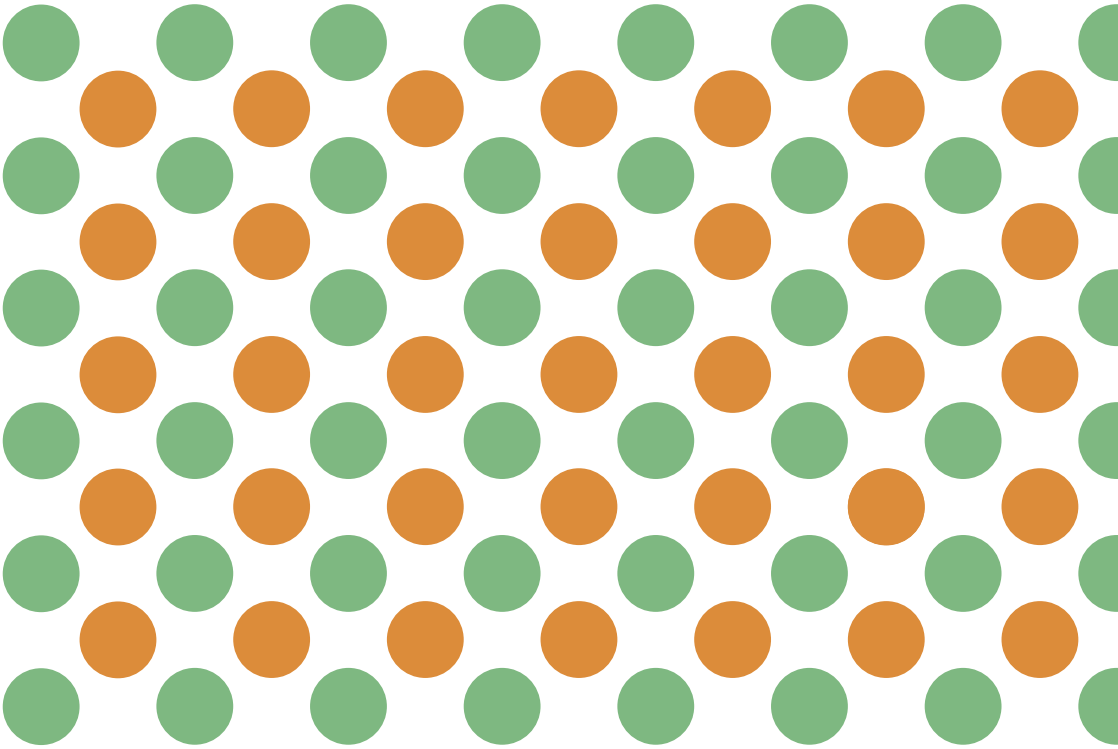
AIRTEA

Strengthening Agricultural Knowledge & Innovation Ecosystem for Inclusive Rural Transformation & Livelihoods in Eastern Africa

AIRTEA Project Implementation Plan

Inclusive Rural Transformation & Livelihoods in Eastern Africa



August 2021

Strengthening Agricultural Knowledge & Innovation Ecosystem for Inclusive Rural Transformation & Livelihoods in Eastern Africa (AIRTEA)

Project Implementation Plan

August 25, 2021

List of Acronyms

ABLA	**Agricultural Business Learning Alliance**
ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific
ACP-IF	African, Caribbean and Pacific Innovation Fund
AIRTEA	Strengthening Agricultural Knowledge & Innovation Ecosystem for Inclusive Rural Transformation & Livelihoods in Eastern Africa
ARD	Agricultural Research for Development
ASARECA	Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa
CVP	Communication and Visibility Plan
D-group	Discussion group
EAFF	Eastern Africa Farmers Federation
EU	European Union
FARA	Forum for Agricultural in Africa
FO **GDP**	Farmer organization Gross Domestic Product
IAR4D	Integrated Agricultural Research for Development
IEC	Independent Evaluation Committee
IP	Innovation Platform
MSP	Multi-stakeholder partnership
MTR	Mid-Term Review
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OACPS	Organisation of African Caribbean and Pacific States
PAFO **PMT**	Pan-African Farmers Organization Project Management Team

PROPAC	La Plate-forme Régionale des Organisations Paysannes de l'Afrique Centrale
R&I	Research and Innovation
ROPPA	Le Réseau des Organisations des Producteurs et Paysans de l'Afrique de l'Ouest
SACAU	Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions
SC	Steering Committee
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SME	Small and Medium Enterprise
SMS	Short message service
TAU	Technical Assistance Unit
WP	Work package

Introduction

A consortium consisting of FARA, ASARECA, and EAFF[1] is implementing the project ***Strengthening Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Ecosystem for Inclusive Rural Transformation and Livelihoods in Eastern Africa* (AIRTEA)** sponsored by the Organisation of African, Caribbean, and Pacific States (OACPS) through the ACP-Innovation Fund, part of the OACPS R&I Programme that is financed by the European Union (EU) through the 11th European Development Fund (EDF). The OACPS is supported by a Technical Assistance Unit (TAU) in the management of the OACPS R&I Programme (https://oacps-ri.eu).

The consortium, through the AIRTEA project, will technically and financially support multi-stakeholder partnerships (MSPs) from Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda to develop proposals and implement projects that promote demand-driven agricultural research and innovation. The consortium believes that science, technologies, and innovations in agriculture in Africa in general, and Eastern Africa in particular, constitute the major driver for economic development. This is because the agricultural sector is still the main employer providing jobs to the largest proportion of the population of Eastern Africa and contributes to over 35% of the GDP in the three selected countries.

The theory of change of the AIRTEA project is that the research-policy interface will create a conducive policy ecosystem in the three countries that will enable knowledge generation, exchange, and learning; technology transfer, uptake, and scale-up; and business development through capacity building, etc. These will lead to innovations with socio-economic benefits and impacts.

This Project Implementation Plan (PIP) describes how consortium members and stakeholders - including the OACPS and the EU - will implement the project in order to achieve the project objective of contributing to achieve a *Sustainable agrarian livelihood and rural transformation in East Africa applying inclusive research and innovation* according to the stated timelines.

The action plan will be drawn up using the following format:

Indicative work plan for year 1

Year 1													
	Half-year 1 (month)						Half-year 2 (month)						
Activity	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**	**Implementing body**
Task 1.1. Facilitate the institutionalization of IP model; establish strategic IP in countries													

[1] www.faraafrica.org; www.asareca.org; www.eaffu.org

Identify stakeholders group & conduct IP strategic session with policymakers (Activity 1.1.1)													Applicant and co-applicant
Produce & document strategic pathway, roadmap and policy incentive (Activity 1.1.2)													Applicant & co-applicants
Task 1.2: Establish operational IP along commodity value chains to foster multi-stakeholder interaction and effective utilization of research output for innovations													
Identify key stakeholder for strategic commodities in three location per country per commodity for three key commodities (Activity 1.2.1)													Applicant and co-applicants
Develop Business plan for the IP and establish commodity market as entry point (Activity 1.2.2)													*Year 2*
Conduct the IP forum & implement activities (Activity 1.2.3)													Applicant & co-applicants
Systematize the engagement of youth and women on the IP and define roles along the commodity value chain (Activity 1.2.4)													Applicant & co-applicants
Task 1.3. Creation of country based virtual research and end user interaction platforms to enhance technology demand articulation and prioritization of research action and scaling of innovation													
Create a virtual interactive technology repository with mobile interphase for real time technology sourcing (Activity 1.3.1)													*To commence in year 2*
Support digitization efforts of country value chain operators and link them to regional and continental data and information system (Activity 1.3.2)													
Task 2.1. Establish platforms for collective learning and knowledge exchange													
Facilitate alliance with Agricultural Extension for lesson learning and knowledge sharing on innovative methodologies for technology transfer (activity 2.1.1)													Applicant & co-applicants
Organise capacity development workshops & learning routes on extension and technology transfer along chosen value chains (Activity 2.1.2)													Applicant & co-applicants

Identify appropriate financing models targeting youth and women (Activity 2.1.3)													Applicant & co-applicants
Task 2.2. Carry out capacity development of women and youth as providers of advisory services on the operational IPs along commodity value chain													
Identify and engage key women and youth groups with potential to become providers of advisory services (Activity 2.2.1)													Applicants & Co-applicants
Design, adopt and develop training materials and technology delivery (Activity 2.2.2)													*To commence in year 2*
Implement training across countries (Activity 2.2.3)													Applicant & co-applicants
Task 2.3: Communication of outputs and outcomes of project activities													
Document experiences of marginalised groups being more engaged in technology generation and use (Activity 2.3.1)													*Starting in year 2*
Develop and disseminate the audio, video and print communication materials for project outputs and events (Activity 2.3.2)													*Year 2*
Facilitate Advocacy & Regional Dialogues (Activity 2.3.3)													
Task 3.1. Establish & Facilitate ABLA in project countries													
Identify and engage with key stakeholders operating around agribusiness services along specific value chains (Activity 3.1.1)													Applicant & co-applicants
Organise capacity development on Agribusiness Development, especially among marginalised groups (Activity 3.1.2)													
Support the development of Agribusiness Plans (Activity 3.1.3)													
Task 3.2. Support the involvement of women and youth as providers of business support services within the operational IPs along commodity value chain													
Identify and engage key youths with required background and potentials to be trained into business support personnel (Activity 3.2.1)													*Starting in year 2*

Design, adopt and develop training materials and technology delivery methods (Activity 3.2.2)													*Year 2*
Implement training across countries (Activity 3.2.3)													*Year 2*
Task 3.3. Establish agribusiness incubation system for holistic Agripreneurship training for youths													
Facilitate the development of agribusiness incubator for inclusive stakeholder engagement (Activity 3.3.1)													Applicant & co-applicants
Establish and facilitate a mentoring system (Activity 3.3.2)													
Develop and administer sustainable innovative funding for agribusiness development (Activity 3.3.3)													*Year 2*
Collate and document the experiences of involvement and achievements of marginalized groups on agribusiness incubation for knowledge sharing (Activity 3.3.4)													*Year 2*
Task 4.1. Development of all needed partnerships and strategic alliances towards effective implementation of activities													
Contract development and fiduciary support (Activity 4.1.1)													
Establish project governance structure (Steering Committee) Activity 4.1.2													Applicant & co-applicants
Organize project inception & closing workshops (Activity 4.1.3)													Applicant & co-applicants
Manage call (s) for proposals for engagement of partners in the implementation of project activities (Activity 4.1.4)													Applicant & co-applicants
Development and implement the project communication strategy, including Linkages of the project with continental frameworks for visibility (Activity 4.1.5)													Applicant & co-applicants
Task 4.2: Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL)													
Develop and implement M&E framework for activities and deliverables (Activity 4.2.1)													Applicant & co-applicants
Develop project implementation reports (Activity 4.2.2)													Applicant & co-applicants
Participate in common activities of the Programme with other meetings of stakeholders (Activity 4.2.3)													Applicant & co-applicants

For the following years:							
Activity	Half year 3	4	5	6	7	8	Implementing body
Identify stakeholders' group & conduct IP strategic session with policymakers (Activity 1.1.1)							*Completed in year 1*
Produce & document strategic pathway, roadmap and policy incentive (Activity 1.1.2)							Applicant & co-applicants
Identify key stakeholder for strategic commodities in three location per country per commodity for three key commodities (Activity 1.2.1)							*Completed in year 1*
Develop Business plan for the IP and establish commodity market as entry point (Activity 1.2.2)							Applicant and co-applicants
Conduct the IP forum & implement activities (Activity 1.2.3)							Applicant & co-applicants
Systematize the engagement of youth and women on the IP and define roles along the commodity value chain (Activity 1.2.4)							Applicant & co-applicants
Create a virtual interactive technology repository with mobile interphase for real time technology sourcing (Activity 1.3.1)							Year 2
Support digitization efforts of country value chain operators and link them to regional and continental data and information system (Activity 1.3.2)							Applicant & co-applicants
Facilitate alliance with Agricultural Extension for lesson learning and knowledge sharing on innovative methodologies for technology transfers (Activity 2.1.1)							Applicant & co-applicants
Organise capacity development workshops and learning routes on extension and technology transfer							Applicant & co-applicants

along chosen value chains (Activity 2.1.2)							
Identify appropriate financing models targeting youth and women (Activity 2.1.3)							Applicant & co-applicants
Identify and engage key women and youth groups with potential to become providers of advisory services (Activity 2.2.1)							Applicant & co-applicants
Design, adopt and develop training materials and technology delivery methods (Activity 2.2.2)							Applicant & co-applicants
Implement training across countries of service providers (Activity 2.2.3)							Applicant & co-applicants
Document experiences of marginalised groups being more engaged in technology generation and use (Activity 2.3.1)							Applicant & co-applicants
Develop and disseminate the audio, video and print communication materials for project outputs and events (Activity 2.3.2)							Applicant & co-applicants
Facilitate Advocacy & Regional Dialogues (Activity 2.3.3)							Applicant & co-applicants
Identify and engage with key stakeholders operating around agribusiness services along specific value chains (Activity 3.1.1)							Applicant & co-applicants
Organise capacity development on Agribusiness Development, especially among marginalised groups (Activity 3.1.2)							Applicant & co-applicants
Support the development of Agribusiness Plans (Activity 3.1.3)							Applicant & co-applicants
Identify and engage key youths with required background and potentials to be trained into business support personnel (Activity 3..2.1)							Applicant & co-applicants
Design, adopt and develop training materials and technology delivery methods (Activity 3.2.2)							Applicant & co-applicants

Implement training across countries (3.2.3)							Applicant & co-applicants
Facilitate the development of agribusiness incubator for inclusive stakeholder engagement (Activity 3.3.1)							Applicant & co-applicants
Establish and facilitate a mentoring system (Activity 3.3.2)							Applicant & co-applicants
Develop and administer sustainable innovative funding for agribusiness development (Activity 3.3.3)							Applicant & co-applicants
Collate and document the experiences of involvement and achievements of marginalized groups on agribusiness incubation for knowledge sharing (Activity 3.3.4)							Applicant & co-applicants
Contract development and fiduciary support (Activity 4.1.1)							
Establishment of project governance structure (Activity 4.1.2)							Completed in year 1
Organization of project inception and closing workshops (Activity 4.1.3)							Completed in year 1
Manage a call/ calls for proposals for engagement of partners in the implementation of project activities (Activity 4.1.4)							Completed in year 1
Development and implement the project communication strategy, including Linkages of the project with continental frameworks for visibility (Activity 4.1.5)							Applicant & co-applicant
M&E							Applicant & co-applicant