

Strategic Field 1: Advocacy and Support for an Enabling Policy Environment

Supporting Smallholder Farmers in Asia and Pacific Islands Region through Strengthened Agricultural Advisory Services.

The Asia and Pacific Island Network for Rural Advisory Services (APIRAS) received a substantial grant from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

Strategic Field 2: Professionalisation of Rural Advisory Services

Capacity Needs Assessment of Regional Networks

GFRAS developed a capacity needs assessment tool to strengthen the capacities of the regional and sub-regional networks as well as the country fora, and assessed seven networks. The results were presented and discussed at the GFRAS Annual Meeting in Cameroon, were further developed in consultation with the Regional Networks and outputs have been made available on the GFRAS website.

Strategic Field 3: Knowledge Generation and Exchange

The Role of RAS for Inclusive Agripreneurship

Fostering entrepreneurship in agriculture is now widely recognised as a central concern by most actors involved in agricultural development. However, the links between RAS and agripreneurship have not been sufficiently explored to date. The 7th GFRAS Annual Meeting provided a space to do so during 3–6 October in Limbe, Cameroon.

2017

Gender Mainstreaming in Value Chains

Workshop with representatives from the GIZ Green Innovation Centres in Africa.

29 September–2 October, Limbe, Cameroon.

(Based on the gender module of the New Extensionist Learning Kit.)

The New Extensionist Learning Kit (NELK)

The GFRAS Consortium for Education and Training, together with various partners, developed 13 modules for teaching and self-learning the concepts and functional skills introduced in the GFRAS position paper 'The New Extensionist: Roles, Strategies and Capacities to Strengthen Extension and Advisory Services'.

After extensive testing, six modules were published in 2016.

Agenda 2030 Put into Practice: What Future for Rural Eevelopment?

At the Annual General Assembly of the Global Donor Platform for Rural Development (GDPRD), GFRAS organised a side event, 1–2 February, Brussels, Belgium.

The Best RAS Provider in 2016 in Central Asia

In February, the Central Asia and the Caucasus Forum for Rural Advisory Services (CAC-FRAS) and several partner organisations elected the Best Rural Advisory Services Providers in Central Asia and the Caucasus 2016.

Training of Advisors and Innovation Brokerage for Efficient Agriculture, General Assembly and Conference of the European Forum for Rural Advisory Services (EUFRAS),

22–23 February 2017, Starosel/Plovdiv, Bulgaria.

Transforming Rural Advisory Services Towards Networked Innovation and Process Facilitation

A workshop by the Innovation Centre Knowledge and Innovation (RICKI) April, Yiangling,

Read more on back page.

Special Debate on Rural Urban Linkages and Food Systems

GFRAS contributed as a speaker in this event organised by IFAD/FAO/IIED, on March 20, Rome, Italy.

Reformed Steering Committee of the Global Forum for Agricultural Research (GFAR), March and June 2017, Rome, Italy.

One World - No Hunger: Future of the Rural World, 27–28 April, Berlin, Germany.

From Innovation to Market

9th ICT4D Conference, 15–18 May, Hyderabad, India.

Gender Mainstreaming in Agricultural Value Chains: Promising Experiences and the Role of Rural Advisory Services

A scoping study by GFRAS.

Manual on Good Practices in Extension Research and Evaluation

A publication by the Agricultural Extension in South Asia Network (AESAN).

"Through the accreditation process of the New Extensionist Learning Kit NELK in 2016 and 2017, the University of the Free State created credit bearing short courses on NELK topics, with assistance from GFRAS who provided the content for the courses. It is wonderful and very valuable for us at UFS to be able to present courses in South Africa, which are internationally recognised, and we appreciate the assistance from GFRAS."

*Johan van Niekerk,
South Africa*



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article #1

**Agriculture and
Advice in Change: New
Paths Between Globalised
Markets and Regional
Demands**

56th Conference of the International Academy for Agricultural Advisors (IALB) and the 6th conference of the European Forum for Rural Advisory Services (EUFRAS), 18–22 June, Münster, Germany.

**Professional-
isation of Rural
Advisory Services**

Two publications by GFRAS: a study and a policy brief.

**New Extensionist
Learning Kit (NELK)**

In the past two years, the principles of the “New Extensionist” – a revised view of the roles, strategies and capacities that a modern extension professional needs to know to face the ever-changing challenges in rural advisory services – was molded into 13 learning modules. In 2017 this kit has seen its adoption by several university programs.



Read more on back page, article #2

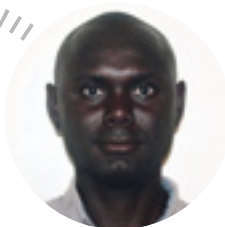
**Cooperation
Agreement between
AFAAS and EUFRAS**

The African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (AFAAS) and the European Forum for Rural Advisory Services (EUFRAS) signed a cooperation agreement to bring together the wealth of knowledge, experience, capacities, technologies and innovations available within the two networks. 21 June, Münster, Germany.

**Rural
Innovation
Centre for
Knowledge and
Investment (RICKI)**, the GFRAS network in East Asia, was officially launched following two Knowledge Workshops, July 2017, in Yangling and Beijing, China.

“Agriculture was always viewed as a dirty job by youth in my country, but this is not true. I have now learned methods or ways to inform young people and raise their awareness on the importance of agriculture for our future.”

*Hika Joseph,
Solomon Islands*



Global Good Practices Initiative

The GGP Initiative published four new Global Good Practice Notes: Note 27: Professionalisation of Rural Advisory Services; Note 28: Rural Advisory Services Curricula Development; Note 29: Private Sector Provision of Rural Advisory Services; Note 30: Rural Advisory Services for Agripreneurship Development.



Read more on back page, article #3

How Can RAS Foster Agripreneurship?

As the focus of RAS has moved away from technology transfer towards a more systems-focused approach, several market-oriented strategies have emerged. Along with collective marketing and value chain methods, greater emphasis has been placed on fostering agripreneurship. In 2017, GFRAS published a Global Good Practice Note on this topic.

Rural Advisory Services and Empowered Youth for Balanced Transformation in Rural and Urban Communities

The 8th Annual Meeting of GFRAS took place from 9–13 September 2017, in Ingham and Townsville, Australia, hosted by the Australasia-Pacific Extension Network (APEN). The topic of 'Rural advisory services and empowered youth for balanced transformation in rural and urban communities' offered space to not only look at the role that RAS could play for young people in agriculture but also the role that young people could play within RAS.



Read more on back page, article #4

GFRAS Youth Working Group

At the 8th GFRAS Annual Meeting a Youth Working Group was founded.

Training Workshop to Promote the New Extensionist Learning Kit (NELK)

Organised by the Centre for Research on Innovation and Science Policy (CRISP), in association with National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Indian Agricultural Extension Network (IAEN), and Agricultural Extension in South Asia (AESAs) network, 5–6 October, Hyderabad, India.

Facilitating Balanced Change for Rural and Urban Communities:

Profitability & Sustainability, Land & Sea, Private & Public, Farms & Communities; International Conference of the Australasia-Pacific Extension Network (APEN), 12–15 September, Townsville, Australia.



"During the 2017 GFRAS Annual Meeting in Australia, participants acknowledged the relevance of family processes as a proper tool to look into the not-so-easy-to-grasp social dimension of agriculture in RAS program design. This fact helped me realize the need RAS has to reflect on the opportunities that a better understanding of family-agriculture linkages can provide in terms of its pertinence and effectiveness in creating a sustainable future for rural youth."

*Fernando Manzo Ramos,
Mexico*

"At GFRAS/APEN 2017, youth were identified as the driving force that can enhance RAS' creativity. Leveraging on their assets and developing their capacities in RAS will better position agricultural extension and advisory services, in and across the agricultural value chain, and thereby provide them with more opportunities in RAS, via the 'PERFECT' concept."

*Marc Bappa Se,
Cameroon*



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Committe
Security CFS,

GFRAS took
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Making Difference in Food Security and Nutrition

Session of the UN
High Level Panel of
Experts on World Food
Security, 12–13 October, Rome,
Italy.

Participated in the plenary
and had a publications
workshop. Also participated in side
events organised by the
High Level Panel of Experts
Private Sector
Mechanism.

Improving the RAS System in Honduras

GFRAS organised a series of
policy dialogues in collaboration
with the 'Feed the Future:
Developing Local Extension Capacity
(DLEC)' project. The events were
based on country studies published
by DLEC where the RAS systems
were analysed and concrete
actions to tackle identified
problems elaborated.



Read more on back page, article #5

The 2017
GFRAS/APEN
conference in Australia
opened my eyes, and the eyes
of most of the delegates, to see
that the issues faced by most rural
extension and advisory services are similar
globally. These services are sometimes faced
with significant challenges (like financial
support, government policy, community
perception, etc.) to achieve positive change
in the communities where they operate. The
recognition, value and contribution of
these services is now being realised more
throughout the world, in areas in
which they operate.

*Lawrence Di Bella,
Australia*



Scaling Up Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA): Integrating Youth, Women and the Digital Revolution

3rd African Agricultural Extension
Week, organised by the African
Forum for Agricultural
Advisory Services (AFAAS),
30 October–3 November,
Durban, South
Africa.

Enhancing Knowledge and Experience Sharing Along the Mekong River

3rd Annual Meeting of the
Mekong Extension Learning
Alliance (MELA), 30
October–1 November,
Siem Raep, Cambodia.

RELAX the Proc Change and in the Latin Rural

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5–7 Dec
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2018: Looking ahead

New Extensionist Learning Kit (NELK)

All the NELK modules will be available as online, self-guided, e-learning units.

9th GFRAS Annual Meeting

22–25 October, Republic of Korea.

GFRAS Issue Papers

The first two papers in this new series will look at the role RAS can play with regard to youth and in migration.

"While there are many manuals and even online modules on basic nutrition training, few are developed specifically for RAS providers. Over the last year, GFRAS and INGENAES have successfully collaborated to develop gender and nutrition NELK modules. This collaboration has resulted in multiple success stories of organisations utilising the NELK in Zambia, Uganda, and Liberia!"

*Maria Jones,
United States*



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ng of the Latin
work for Rural
ces (RELASER),
ember,
olis, Brazil.

Note: This diagram does represent only a selected number of activities of GFRAS in 2017. To find out more visit the website of GFRAS and its regional networks. www.g-fras.org



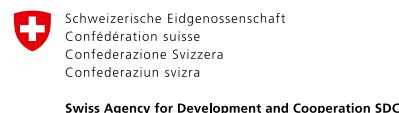
Annual Report 2017

The Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services (GFRAS) is about enhancing the performance of rural advisory services so that they can better serve farm families and rural producers, thus contributing to improved livelihoods in rural areas and sustainable rural development worldwide. Rural advisory services help to empower rural people and better integrate them into the agricultural innovation systems.

GFRAS reaches smallholder farmers via the regional rural advisory services networks, which are made up of national-level platforms, the country fora. The country fora include actors from all sectors engaged in rural advisory services, who work directly with smallholders. Country fora help prioritise national-level issues and formulate demands to be taken up to regional and global levels.

Aside from the regional networks, GFRAS consists of individual persons, the so-called affiliates. Many more people than those listed below are continuously and diligently contributing to the success of GFRAS, many on a voluntary basis. GFRAS thanks you all for an exciting and fruitful year and looks forward to collaborating with you in 2018.

Supporting Partners



The Global Forum on
Agricultural Research



Preface

Dear reader,

In 2017, GFRAS finalised a number of flagship initiatives and products: the Global Good Practices Initiative and the New Extensionist Learning Kit (NELK), just to name two. A successful Annual Meeting was also organised in collaboration with APEN in Australia in September.

Given the strategic importance of mobilising resources for GFRAS and its future activities and, in order to do this, increasing the visibility of GFRAS in fora of development partners and donors, the GFRAS Secretariat, supported by the Steering Committee members, has invested a significant amount of time on networking, global engagement activities and seeking opportunities to mobilise new partners and donors. As examples I would like to highlight the following:

In January 2017, GFRAS organised a side event at the Annual General Assembly of the Global Donor Platform for Rural Development (GDPRD), held in Brussels, Belgium.

- The conference 'One World – No Hunger: Future of the Rural World', held in April in Berlin, Germany, provided an opportunity to present GFRAS to the G20 representatives and to contribute to the subsequent Berlin Charter.
- A presentation at the Inter-Sessional Panel of the UN Commission for Science, and Technology for Development (UNCSTD), in Geneva, Switzerland, in January gave visibility to GFRAS with the Commission's member states, and allowed for discussions on potential areas for collaboration.
- In September, GFRAS was invited to participate in the high level UN Rome-based agency event hosted by International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) on 'Food Loss and Waste Reduction' in Rome, Italy. This provided an important opportunity to highlight the roles of extension and RAS in supporting the reduction of FLW.
- GFRAS became a partner of the Smallholder and Agri-Food SME Finance and Investment Network (SAFIN) and was invited to contribute to its initiating meetings, and partner on knowledge activities.
- GFRAS presented insights on new directions in Rural Advisory Services at a meeting organised by the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in Rome, Italy, on 'Access to Services' to feed into the development of the work programme of FAO Strategic Programme 5: Reducing Rural Poverty.



- In October, the GFRAS Secretariat took part in the 44th session of the UN Committee for Food Security (CFS) in Rome, and set up a stand with GFRAS materials in the information market. Additionally, GFRAS had a special meeting with the Private Sector Mechanism (PSM) of the CFS to explore avenues for co-operation between GFRAS and the private sector.
- Also in October, GFRAS shared the results of the Australia Annual Meeting at an 'Urban Breakfast' organised by UN Habitat on World Habitat Day in Geneva, Switzerland.

We also began preparing the first two GFRAS papers in a new series to be launched in 2018: the GFRAS Issues Papers Series (GIPS). The first two will focus on 'RAS and Youth' and 'RAS and Migration'.

These are but a few opportunities that we were able to take advantage of. We will continue with these efforts in 2018 and are confident that they will contribute to further strengthen the recognition of the roles of extension and RAS in international development, as well as enhance awareness of the important roles played by GFRAS in the development community.

I sincerely thank all the individuals and organisations that have participated in GFRAS in 2017 and contributed in taking forward its vision and mission. Your valuable work – often unpaid and voluntary – lies at the heart of GFRAS as a forum and network, and ensures that it will continue to thrive.

With my best regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Karim Hussein', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Karim Hussein
GFRAS Executive Secretary

1 Blended Finance: An Imperative for Scaling up RAS

2017 saw the formation of the new regional network Rural Innovation Center for Knowledge and Investment (RICKI) which comprises the countries of China, Japan, Korea and Mongolia and is exploring innovative ideas about how a regional network in particular, and RAS in general, could be organised and financed. Xiang-ping Jia, the promoter of RICKI, explains it further.



RICKI has set out some unconventional ideas on how to engage advocacy and organise itself. Can you give an example (or two)?

RICKI is not a hierarchical structure. The members are working and allying themselves with great autonomy. To develop and strengthen the institutional capacity and to engage in knowledge-based advisory services, RICKI is experimenting by engaging advisory service with innovative blended finance, in which multiple financial resources are pooled, be they public or private, grants, loans or equities.

Can you elaborate on this blended finance approach?

RICKI highlights agro-entrepreneurial innovations through 'blended finance'. To eradicate global poverty and reach the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), additional resources, as much as \$2.5 trillion per year, are required according to estimates by the United Nations (UNCTAD 2014). As public resources are not sufficient to meet these numbers, innovative funding approaches such as 'blended finance' are needed. This term was initiated by the World Economic Forum and OECD, and appeals have been put out to development agencies such as the European Commission and IFAD. Blended finance is a mixture of grant/concessional/philanthropic funds from the public sector along with private capital (such as venture capital and private equity). This form of financing added up to 51 billion USD from 2000 to 2016. It increased by 20 % per year in the last four years. While agriculture accounted for 13 % of blended finance deals during the 2000–2016 period, its value was only 3 % of the total investment in agriculture, suggesting a relatively low contribution to the sector as a whole.

How does RICKI plan to pursue this topic further?

On October 17–18 2018, RICKI will partner with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and organize a global knowledge workshop on 'Social Entrepreneurship: Innovative Finance for Rural-Urban Transformation (E&T Annual)'. We will start with a workshop that aims to promote entrepreneurial innovations and to leverage finance through public and private partnerships for accelerated and scaled-up impacts in rural-urban transformation. The overall vision is to increase efficiency, inclusiveness

and sustainability. Moreover, this will also be an occasion to enhance and disseminate the knowledge of this new approach among regional and global networks.

The formation of country fora contributes to the GFRAS Strategic Field 1: 'Advocacy and support for an enabling policy environment and appropriate investment in RAS', by initiating contextualised discussions and consultations on the importance of RAS at regional and national levels.

2 The New Extensionist Finds its Way Into Universities

The New Extensionist Learning Kit (NELK) consists of 13 modules that cover various capacities relevant for the daily work of an extension professional: adult education, ethics, gender sensitive approaches, value-chain consideration, etc. The modules focus on functional or soft skills and are suitable for use in a classroom or for self-study. In addition the modules were adapted for an online e-learning platform.



In South Africa, the NELK was taken up by two universities: the University of Free State and the University of Pretoria. Local experts, who also participated in the development of the NELK, initiated the process of accreditation for the NELK. So far, nine modules have met the criteria set up by the South African National Qualification Framework and were integrated into the undergraduate agriculture BSc program. As intended by GFRAS, the modules were marginally adapted and enlarged in some cases to account for the specific local context of South Africa.

Also the Advanced Diploma and Master's programs use elements of the NELK and promote it as a resource for those students who want to pursue their own studies.

In South Africa, agricultural extension is a registered profession, and professionals are required to get a certain amount of points each year through the Continuous Professional Development Program. Currently, the professional body is exploring the possibility of endorsing the NELK modules for this program.

In India, the Agricultural Extension in South Asia Network (AESAN), the GFRAS network in the area, together with the Centre for Research on Innovation and Science Policy (CRISP), the National Institute of Agricultural Extension

Management (MANAGE), and the Indian Agricultural Extension Network (IAEN), organised a national NELK training workshop in October 2017. The aim was to promote the NELK among key persons from the extension education and training sector. The participants were strategically selected from various national and state level organisations, both governmental and non-governmental, in regard of their roles as multipliers. They were presented 11 modules in detail, and trained on the use of the different teaching materials. Finally, the participants were asked to offer their ideas on how to adapt and integrate the NELK into their organisations.

The NELK modules are available at nelk.g-fras.org

The New Extensionist Learning Kit contributes to the GFRAS Strategic Field 2: 'Professionalisation of RAS' by strengthening the capacity of regional networks to support the professionalisation of activities within countries.

3 How Can RAS Foster Agripreneurship?

Working with agripreneurs requires a fundamental shift in the relationship between those providing and those receiving RAS: A provider–client model has to be replaced with a partnership approach. Given that agripreneurs have particular needs that depend on the maturity and scale of their business, RAS need to work in partnership with agripreneurs to facilitate links to relevant actors and specialized training agencies in accordance with evolving business needs. RAS effectively play an incubation role for new enterprise ideas, finding the right local expertise to help accelerate business growth, and developing networks.

There are several ways in which RAS can begin to engage and advise agripreneurs.

- Awareness building: A first step for RAS agencies is to hold learning events with their staff and potential clients about their role in going beyond traditional training to strengthening agripreneurship.
- Learning alliances: These are innovation platforms for both service providers and agripreneurs in target value chains to support innovation, adaptive research, and learning.
- New project designs: Development projects may be designed to support different types of clients, including farmers and agripreneurs. For instance, in Nicaragua, Catholic Relief Services designed a project where half the funds



were used in grant form so that RAS could provide technical assistance in training, innovation, and business planning; the other half were assigned to a community investment fund that was used to help launch agripreneurs with finance for their new businesses.

- Impact investment networks: Investors hold regular meetings to identify how to support specific sectors, offering opportunities for agripreneurs to discuss ideas with impact investors, and to make pitches that typically combine a combination of grants and investment options.

This transition from trainer to facilitator means that RAS need to re-skill and reconfigure their roles in order to help agripreneurs.

This is an excerpt from the GFRAS Global Good Practice Note 30: Rural Advisory Services for Agripreneurship Development, published in 2017 and available at www.betterextension.org

The Global Good Practice Initiative contributes to the GFRAS Strategic Field 3: 'Facilitation and enhancement of effective and continuous knowledge generation and exchange', by coordinating spaces to facilitate knowledge exchange and learning.

4 Working With Youth as Drivers for Change

The global youth population is estimated by FAO/CTA/IFAD (2014) to be 1.3 billion in 2050, of which the majority will live in developing countries in Africa and Asia, an estimated 55 % of that in rural areas. There, various economic, social and environmental problems persist, along with limited access to education, quality employment and career opportunities, land and other resources as well as financial and information services. As a consequence, there is a global trend of rural youth seeking employment and livelihood opportunities in urban centers – leading to many new issues in both rural and urban areas.

Rural areas, and particularly the agricultural sector, play a crucial role in reaching the Sustainable Development Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture. Motivating, attracting and retaining youth in agriculture becomes imperative in reaching this goal. But agriculture is not just farming; to open up possibilities and opportunities for youth to get involved one needs to also incorporate trade, processing, technology, education, research, and last but not least,



extension and RAS. It's therefore important to work not only FOR youth but also WITH youth. Too often, youth are not seen, so it's important to treat them as actors with equally important opinions, visions, experience and skills as the older generation.

Therefore, the participants of the GFRAS Annual Meeting issued a series of recommendations:

- RAS need to adapt their tools and approaches to the specifics of different groups, especially youth;
- RAS need to learn to work with actors from an entire value chain at various entry points;
- RAS need new technical and functional skills to work effectively with youth;
- RAS need to learn how to use collaborative approaches in a pluralistic system.

You can find a full report of the event at www.g-fras.org/en/annual-meeting-2017.html

The Annual Meeting is the main instrument of GFRAS to provide spaces for knowledge exchange and learning. It constitutes a major activity within the GFRAS Strategic Field 3: 'Facilitation and enhancement of effective and continuous knowledge generation and exchange'.

5 Improving the RAS System of Honduras

The DLEC Honduras study highlights the existing policy framework that was recently updated to revitalize agriculture, and improve the livelihood of the people that are working in this sector. It is flanked by trade policies so as to give farmers broader market access. However, the study also notes that for implementing this framework resources and support are lacking that can assist it to move towards a more innovative and effective extension services in a systematic way.

To discuss these findings, DLEC and GFRAS organised a series of webinars to share the study and examine best-fit considerations, successes and gaps in RAS systems in Honduras particularly, and in the Central American region more broadly. Participants were asked to identify current and future challenges, as well as opportunities to address them. They developed practice-oriented action plans on how regional and national platforms – especially sub-regional



networks and country fora – can better play their role in improving RAS systems.

In the first webinar, held in Spanish, the Honduras study was discussed by experts and stakeholders and several fields of action were identified. In the second webinar, held in English, these were presented to a broader, more international audience and prioritised. The final three recommendations are:

1. *Create a Country Forum coordinated by DICTA, the national Directorate for Agro Science and Technology in Honduras:* The support group of DICTA, with assistance from the Latin American Network for Rural Advisory Services (RELASER) and the Central American Agriculture Council (CAC), should unite all the important extension actors (public, private, and NGOs) in the country to establish an innovative extension system. This should take the form of a Country Forum. DICTA should have a leading role in the coordination of the Country Forum.
2. *International donors should support DICTA in its endeavor:* There should be a coordinated effort from international donors to support DICTA and to put pressure on the higher levels of the government. This would provide DICTA with the legitimacy necessary to obtain more resources from the Department of Agriculture.
3. *Use the 28 public agricultural colleges as pilots to test extension practices at the local level:* A long-term strategy and a monitoring system must be established within these colleges to turn them into focal points for the betterment of extension at the local level. A pilot project should examine its feasibility before the model is replicated at national and regional levels.

DLEC has published similar studies for, among others, Bangladesh, Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria and Guinea. Some of these will be the topic for similar webinars. Find out more at www.digitalgreen.org/usaid-dlec/

The DLEC Policy Dialogues contribute to the GFRAS Strategic Field 1: 'Advocacy and support for an enabling policy environment and appropriate investment in RAS', by initiating contextualised discussions and consultations on the importance of RAS at regional and national levels.

Working Groups

Policy for Extension and Advisory Services

Lead: Sithembile Mwamakamba (FANRPAN), SNdema@fanrpan.org; Members: Tunji Arokoyo (Nigerian Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services, NIFAAS), Maria Isabel Paredes Saenz (RELASER), Ben Mueller (MEAS), Vicky Sigman (MEAS), Austen Moore (MEAS), Delgerma Chuluunbaatar (FAO), Hajnalka Petrics (FAO), Oladele Oladimeji (North West University Mafikeng Campus Mmabatho, South Africa), Hlami Ngwenya (GFRAS), Natalie Ernst (GFRAS), Harry Palmier (GFAR), Lola Gaparova (CAC-FRAS), Mohamed Abdel Al (MENA), Adolphus Johnson (AFAAS), Botir Dosov (CAC-FRAS), Kemeul Jn Baptiste (CAEPNet), Ismail Moumouni (RESCARAOC), Warren Hunt (APEN)

ICT4RAS

Lead: Saravanan Raj (AESAs), saravananraj@hotmail.com; Members: Lorenz Schwarz (GFRAS), Dan Kisauzi (AFAAS), Rasheed Sulaiman (APIRAS/AESA), Patrice Djamen Nana (RESCAR-AOC), Laura Ramirez (INTA/RELASER), Benjamin Kwasi Addom (CTA), Andrea Bohn (MEAS), Gregory Crosby (USAID), Michael Riggs (FAO), Judith Payne (USAID), Dan Cotton (eXtension)

Nutrition in RAS

Members: Bioversity/CGIAR Agriculture for Nutrition and Health, FAO, IFAD, INGENAES, Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement Secretariat, UN Standing Committee on Nutrition (UNSCN), World Food Programme

Youth in RAS

Marc Bappa Se (YPARD), Jim Leandro Cano (YPARD), Maria Jones (INGENAES), Natalie Ernst (GFRAS)

Steering Committee

Rasheed Sulaiman V

Chair, Agricultural Extension in South Asia (AESAs), India

David Nielson

Co-Chair, The World Bank, USA

Virginia Cardenas

Asia-Pacific Islands Network for Rural Advisory Services (APIRAS), Philippines

Hur Ben Correa da Silva

Latin American Network for Rural Extension Services (RELASER), Brazil

Patrice Djamen

West and Central African Network for Rural Advisory Services (RESCAR-AOC), Burkina Faso

David Dolly

University of the West Indies, Trinidad & Tobago

Michel Evéquo

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Switzerland

Adolphus Johnson

African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (AFAAS), Uganda

Harry Palmier

Global Forum for Agricultural Research (GFAR), Italy

Magdalena Blum

Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), Italy

Sylvie Aubert

AGRIDEA, Switzerland

GFRAS Secretariat

Karim Hussein

Executive Secretary

Natalie Ernst

Programme Officer

Lorenz Schwarz

Communications Officer

Filippo Buzzini

Programme Assistant

Financial Report

GFRAS was supported in 2017 by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA). The table below shows the income in 2017 by contributor. Note that the regional, sub-regional and country-level networks of GFRAS have additional funding partners that are not shown here. Unspent contributions were returned or rolled over into 2018.

Audit

The GFRAS accounting is integrated in the accounting of its host AGRIDEA and as such is submitted to a yearly audit. Further contributions are audited on request by some donors. The audit in 2017 was done by BDO Switzerland.

Financial contributions realised in 2016

| Contributor | Amount in USD |
|--------------------|------------------|
| SDC | 517 207 |
| GIZ | 182 839 |
| USAID | 35 003 |
| CTA | 32 690 |
| Other | 8 164 |
| Rollover from 2016 | 266 721 |
| | 1 042 624 |

Expenses in 2017

| Type | Amount in USD |
|--|------------------|
| Support to regions | 67 558 |
| Strategic Field 1: Advocacy and support for an enabling policy environment and appropriate investment in rural advisory services | 245 716 |
| Strategic Field 2: Professionalisation of rural advisory services | 182 336 |
| Strategic Field 3: Facilitation and enhancement of effective and continuous knowledge generation and exchange | 50 238 |
| Staff time | 346 151 |
| Management fees and overhead | 148 500 |
| Total | 1 040 499 |
| Net profit | 2 125 |

Impressum

Concept & Idea

Lorenz Schwarz
Communications Officer GFRAS

Design & Layout

Isabel Jost, PolyCrea

Photos

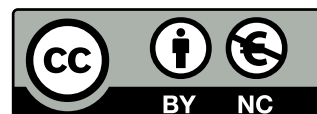
Title page: Rob Nielson

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- 3: Nihal
- 4: Curt Carnemark, World Bank
- 5: OneDrop.Org

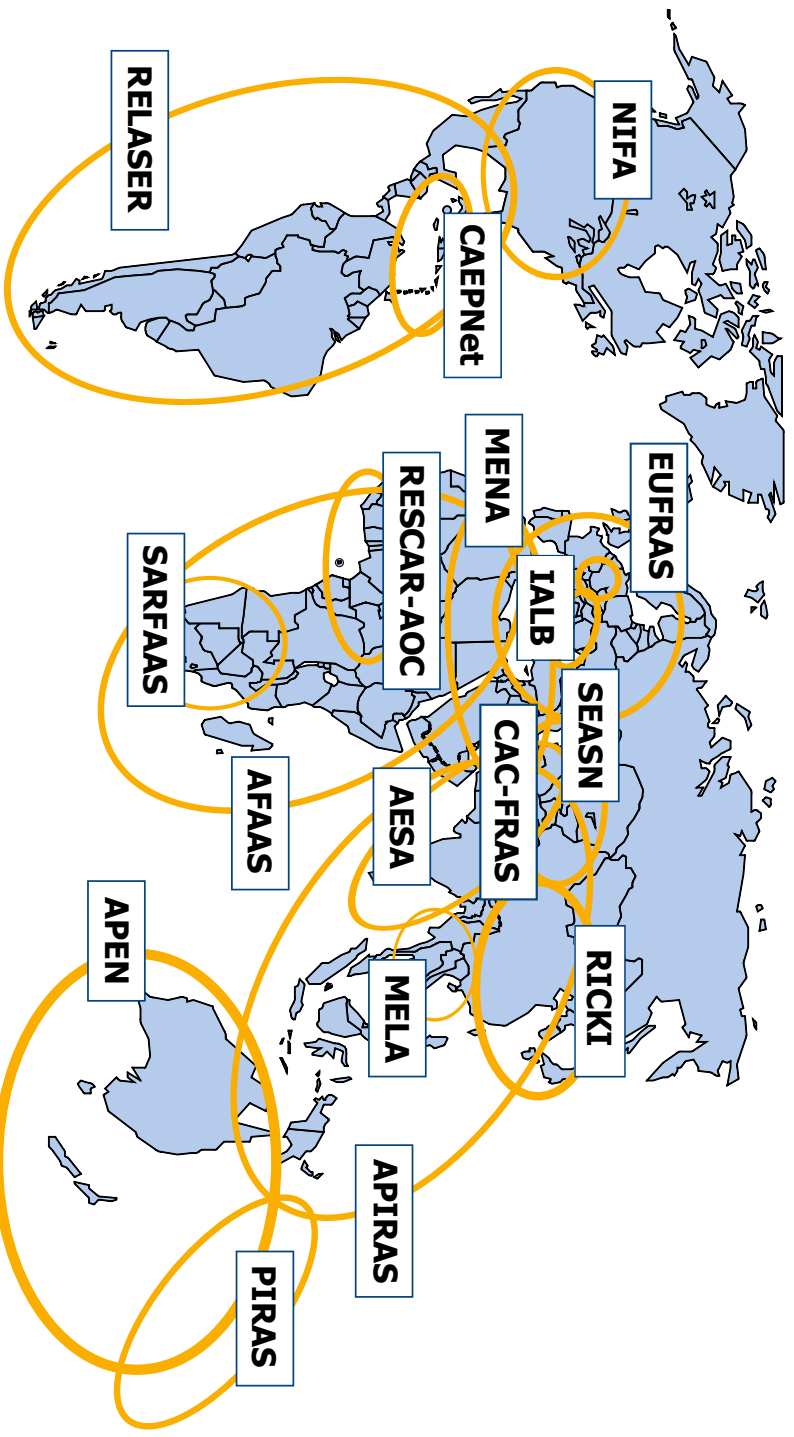
Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services (GFRAS)
c/o AGRIDEA

Jordils 1
1001 Lausanne, Switzerland
Telephone: +41 (0)52 354 97 64
Fax: +41 (0)52 354 97 97
info@g-fras.org
www.g-fras.org



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Regional Networks



AESA – Agricultural Extension in South Asia

Saravanan Raj, India, saravananraj@hotmail.com, rasheed.sulaiman@gmail.com, www.aesa-gfras.net

AFAAS – African Forum for Agricultural Advisory

Services Silim Nahdy, Uganda, msnahdy@afaas-africa.org, www.afaas-africa.org

APEN – Australasia-Pacific Extension Network

Roy Murray-Prior, Australia, roy@agribizrde.com, www.apen.org.au

APIRAS – Asia Pacific Islands Network for RAS

Virginia Cardenas, Philippines, vrc@agri.searca.com, www.apiras.org

CACC-FRAS – Central Asia and Caucasus

Countries Forum for Rural Advisory Services Botir Dosov, Uzbekistan, b.dosov@cgiar.org

CAEPNet – Caribbean Agricultural Extension

Providers Network David Dolly, Trinidad & Tobago, farmdavid42@gmail.com, caepnet@g-mail.com

EUFRAS – European Forum for Farm and Rural

Advisory Services Edgars Linde, Latvia, edgars.linde@llkc.lv, www.eufras.eu

IALB – International Academy of Rural

and Home-economic Advisors Elisabeth Freytag, Germany, ialb@fueak.bayern.de

MELA – Mekong Extension Learning Alliance

Khin Mar Cho, Myanmar, kc458@cornell.edu

MENA – Middle East & North Africa Network

Hala Youstry, Egypt, halaousty@hotmail.com

NIFA – National Institute of Food and

Agriculture

Greg Crosby, USA, gcrosby@nifa.usda.gov, www.nifa.usda.gov

PIRAS – Pacific Islands Rural Advisory Services

Network Gibson Susumu, Fiji, gibsons@spc.int

RELASER – Red Latinamericana para Servicios

de Extension Rural Francisco Aguirre, Chile, faguirre@rimisp.org, www.relaser.org

RESCAR-AOC – Réseau des Services de Conseil

Agricole et Rural des Pays d'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre

Patrice Djamen, Burkina Faso, p.djamen@gmail.com

RICKI – Rural Innovation Centre for Knowledge

and Investment

Yiangping Jia, China, jia.xiangping@outlook.com

SARFAAS – Southern Africa Regional Forum

for Agricultural Advisory Service

Elliot Zwane, South Africa, zwanefrank@gmail.com

SEASN South Eastern Europe Advisory Services

Milan Husnjak, Croatia, Milan.Husnjak@sayjetodavna.hr