2\textsuperscript{nd} Triennial GFAR Conference

22 – 24 May 2003
Méridien Président Hotel, Dakar, Sénégal

\textit{Linking Research and Rural Innovation to Sustainable Development}

\textit{Rapporteurs’ report to plenary on global issues & new GFAR business plan discussed in roundtable sessions}

\textit{(Groups 11 to 16)}
Synthesis of Working Groups 11-16

Synthesis by Jon Daane
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General principles

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<td>Global (GFAR)</td>
<td>Policy and priority setting</td>
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<td>Regional (RF)</td>
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Principal functions for GFAR

- Policy advocacy
- Contribute to global knowledge pool on ARD
- Strengthen and facilitate capacity building
- Facilitate exchange of information and knowledge between stakeholders
- *Facilitate* linkages and proposal development, but *not implement* partnerships and projects

Balance of crops, livestock, forestry and fisheries

- Use systems concepts that integrate these elements with technical, socio-economic, policy and institutional aspects
- Inclusion of activities should be addressed at the regional, subregional and national levels
- Support to RF/SRF should be increased with greater emphasis on inter-regional lesson learning
Thematic areas to promote

- The consequences of kind of agricultural development for kind of society in which we will live in the future
- Market oriented development, remunerative smallholder systems, linking farmers to the market
- Financing
- NRM
- Biotechnologies, GMOs and biodiversity
- Policy debate on genetic resources/biotechnology
- Socio-economic research
- Environment

Top five priority ARD issues

- GFAR should catalyse institutionalisation of an integrated R4D paradigm so that GFAR priorities build on RF/SRF priorities
- All stakeholders need to be involved in setting priorities. Farmers are also researchers.
- Civil society should play an important role in validating the relevance of issues.
- (Downstream) Research needs to be decentralised to enhance relevance.

Capacity Building

- Need for a new paradigm for capacity building
- Strengthen both the demand and the supply side of capacity building
- Promote regional collaboration through “centres of excellence”
- Facilitate access to advanced research facilities, capitalising on inter-regional (South-South) differences in development.
- Promote an enabling environment for the application of what is learned to reduce the brain drain
- Brain gain: involve the skills of those who have left
- Information exchange/sharing on capacity building activities across RF/SRF
Communication and EGFAR

- GFAR website should function as a gateway, while GFAR may help to set standards for (sub)regional databases
- Adapt information to the local context and specific needs of the stakeholders (client-oriented information dissemination)

Other issues

- Peace and security are preconditions for development
- Intellectual Property Rights