Executive Summary

2012 has been a highly productive year. The Global Forum has reinforced its status as the unique multi-stakeholder body addressing agricultural research, extension, education and enterprise and their role in national development (here termed agricultural research-for-development, AR4D). Demands for GFAR’s involvement in increasing the relevance and impact of these systems are growing fast and from many quarters.

With the GCARD Roadmap as our point of departure, stakeholders in GFAR have taken forward actions addressing issues such as access to information, the role of youth and women in rural development and farmer-centred research and innovation, as well as engaging civil society with research actions, particularly those of the CGIAR. In all cases, our emphasis is on the involvement and inclusion of stakeholders from civil society, farmers and the private sector in processes of agricultural innovation, research, extension, education and enterprise.

In 2012, actions mobilized and supported through GFAR have directly addressed delivery of the GCARD Roadmap into practice. Very practical and high profile steps were taken towards making agricultural innovation systems around the world more effective and more accountable to those they serve. GFAR, with the CGIAR, organized the very successful Second Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development (GCARD2), attended by 680 participants, 80% of whom stated that they would be likely to change their practices as a result of what they discussed at the conference.

To bring the principles of the GCARD Roadmap through into actions in each region, a series of agreements were established with each Regional Forum in 2011 and implemented through to 2012, all with an outcome-based framework that mobilizes awareness and delivers practical actions against the Roadmap themes.

Following the formal endorsement of G20 Agriculture Ministers in 2011, GFAR established the Global Foresight Hub (GFH) as a response to the challenge of bringing together diverse perspectives on desired future agricultural and rural development options and understanding their associated innovation needs.

Following GCARD1 in 2010, GFAR stakeholders have played a significant role in the formulation of the CGIAR Research Programs (CRPs).
The impact pathways of eleven of these programmes were discussed among a wide range of stakeholders at GCARD2. GFAR also played a significant role in shaping and distributing a subsequent survey of partner’s perceptions of the role and work of the CGIAR.

In 2012, GFAR fostered a series of actions linked with the ASTI programme of IFPRI to generate more consistent baselines and data on the status of investments in AR4D systems around the world, creating the first truly global database of such investments and supported farmer-based initiatives working to scale-up farmer enterprises and attract outside investment, technology and expertise.

The Coherence in Information for Agricultural Research for Development (CIARD), a collective movement for information access and interoperability, has continued to gain momentum, and other GFAR-supported capacity-building action networks, in extension and rural advisory services, have been enabled to produce solid outcomes.

In 2012, GFAR activities strongly championed the role of women in agriculture, sponsoring and enabling a range of international actions that led to the first Global Conference on Women in Agriculture, organized by APAARI and ICAR and supported financially and technically through GFAR. This very successful event itself gave rise to the Gender in Agriculture Partnership (GAP), a global initiative organized through GFAR and embracing all the actors involved in addressing gender-related issues in agriculture.

This Report follows the GCARD Roadmap structure and more specifically, the 6 themes of the GFAR Medium Term Plan developed through extensive consultation in 2012 and setting the frame for actions and areas of focus of the GCARD2. The MTP will give GFAR a clear outcome-oriented focus and brings together a wide range of collective actions, each geared to deliver significant change in the different systems concerned. The Plan also clearly sets out the involvement of GFAR Secretariat vis-à-vis the GFAR Stakeholders, a distinction that is important to GFAR’s function as the pre-eminent global forum on agricultural research, extension, education and enterprise.

This report describes activities and results achieved through the Forum in 2012, across the priority areas determined in GCARD1. It provides a clear demonstration of how collective action and effective partnership can really make a difference to the relevance and value of agricultural research and innovation in development.
1. The Global Forum on Agricultural Research

GFAR is a unique multi-stakeholder mechanism, bringing together international, regional, and national research and advisory systems, UN agencies, civil society, farmer organizations, private sector organizations and educational institutions from around the world to shape the future of agriculture and the roles demanded of agricultural knowledge and innovation.

The Global Forum stimulates change and large-scale actions to increase the relevance, value and impact of agricultural research and innovation around the world. We work through a range of implementing stakeholder bodies at national, international levels, through Regional Fora and in public, private and civil sectors, according to the processes established via the Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development.

The Global Forum operates through a Multi-Donor Trust Fund established between FAO and IFAD and works to strengthen links between agricultural research and wider society and to foster change in agricultural research for development (AR4D) systems, programmes, technologies and policies to better meet the needs of the poor and in particular of resource-poor smallholder producers.

The GCARD Roadmap

Developed through the interaction of thousands of stakeholders from all sectors in the GCARD1 regional and global processes, the GCARD Roadmap is an outcome-based plan for change and greater accountability for impact in AR4D systems at all levels: local, national, regional and international. Uniquely, the Roadmap has been endorsed by representatives from all sectors involved. The Roadmap sets out 6 principles for changing the way AR4D systems are focused and operate, so that they can become more effective agents of development impact. Applying these principles now forms the Theory of Change, by which GFAR’s actions are conceived, shaped and determined.
The GCARD Roadmap priorities for action:

1. Improving foresight and collective focus on future needs and key priorities as determined and shaped by science and society

2. The need for true and effective partnership between research and those it serves

3. Increased investments to meet the huge challenges ahead and ensure the required development returns from AR4D

4. Greater capacities to generate, share and make use of agricultural knowledge for development change among all actors

5. Effective linkages that embed research in the wider development context and actions enabling development change

6. Better demonstration and awareness of development impacts and returns from agricultural innovation

These are established at national, regional and international levels, recognizing the transformations are the responsibility of all those who are involved in shaping the future of agriculture. A series of agreements were established with each Regional Forum and partner organisations in 2011, all based around an outcome-based framework delivering against the GCARD Roadmap. This support through GFAR has enabled a range of dialogues and actions towards real change, in particular enabling multistakeholder actions, centred on the needs of poor smallholder farmers.
More than a Conference, the GCARD process was begun in 2008 as an innovative rolling process of prioritization, partnership and accountability, working through successive cycles of learning and feedback to provide public advocacy and accountability of agricultural research and innovation processes around the world.

Second Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development

In further practical steps towards transforming agricultural innovation systems around the world, in 2012 GFAR, in partnership with the CGIAR, successfully delivered the Second Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development in Punta Del Este, Uruguay. GCARD2 was the second biennial global conference shaping and tracking processes of change towards outcome-based AR4D systems, in line with the principles agreed in the GCARD Roadmap.
The GCARD Process

Reform Demand
- GFAR & CGIAR agree joint GCARD process for accountability of reform

Priorities & Needs Identified
- GCARD1 Consultations, Reviews, Regional & Global Reports

Common Objectives Agreed
- GCARD Roadmap for change in research and innovation agreed by representatives of all sectors

New Programmes Developed
- GFAR Stakeholder Programmes aligned with GCARD Roadmap

Programme Partnerships for Greater Impact
- GFAR MTP Delivery

Impact, Accountability & Planning Next Cycle

- CRP delivery
- CGIAR CRPs initiated and developed
- CGIAR Consortium established
- CGIAR SRF development
- GFAR in CGIAR Transition Management Team
- CGIAR represents partners in CGIAR Change Steering Team & Partnerships Working Group
- CGIAR Reform launched after external review, WDR, IAASTD
The GCARD2 organisation and execution was cost-effective, combining face-to-face and virtual with preparatory consultation and stock-taking. It brought together 660 participants from all sectors involved in agricultural innovation, from 101 countries, including the President of Uruguay and Ministers from across the region and with active participation throughout from the Uruguayan Minister of Livestock, Agriculture & Fisheries. Pioneering full social reporting, GCARD2 also built upon real-time inputs from another 1000 participants who took part via Twitter, Facebook and the internet. Over 220 speakers presented their work and its implications, covering diverse constituencies, perspectives and realities on each issue. In addition, GFAR supported 20 pre-conference sessions including detailed public discussions of the existing CGIAR Research Programs (CRPs).

The Conference set out and drew together the intentions and desired partnerships of over 200 programmes in 20 workshop sessions, each of which had a very defined purpose and intended outcome. Prior to the Conference, each speaker prepared public briefing papers on their programmes, identifying the gaps and barriers constraining their impact and identifying the forms of partnerships required along intended pathways to achieve greater development outcomes.

“I really think that the GCARD Conference is absolutely necessary because there is no place in the world where we can bring farmers and scientists together looking at institutional building, at knowledge sharing, at building platforms, other than at GCARD.”
Alexander Müller, FAO

The GCARD2 provided an unparalleled opportunity for such interactions. From the survey conducted at the conference end:

• 79% of participants found that the GCARD provided useful or very useful opportunities to interact with others to help further understanding of AR4D
• 80% of participants found the sessions to have been either Useful (50% of participants) or Very Useful (30% of participants) to their work
• 79% plan to change the design or implementation of their agricultural research-for-development activities and programmes as a result of what they heard during the GCARD conference
Through the GCARD2, GFAR has:

• Considered how AR4D systems can align with major development policies such as those of national Governments of the G8 and G20 and the establishment of post-2015 development goals.

• Repositioned women farmers’ needs firmly at the centre of AR4D processes.

• Directly engaged the voices of youth into consideration of the issues involved.

• Developed and agreed collective actions that will bring together diverse foresight analyses, to better understand future needs and priorities and help us all to shape the future we desire, particularly exploring the future for smallholder farming.

• Brought a range of innovative agricultural research-for-development agendas to centre stage: household nutrition, gender-based needs, attracting young people into agriculture, meeting the needs of communities shattered by protracted crises, linking farmers to markets, adapting to climate change impacts and fostering community-centred innovation were all addressed as key agendas alongside actions generating productive, sustainable and resilient agricultural production systems.

• Set out what is required for solid actions to track and stimulate investments and returns and make these more effective and comprehensive, linking public, private and civil mechanisms.

• Agreed practical concerted actions to develop required capacities at national, regional and global levels, providing a launch pad for a wide range of new partnerships and collective actions to deliver change, including the CRPs, the Tropical Agriculture Platform of FAO and partners, the Global Confederation of Higher Education Associations for the Agricultural and Life Sciences, the Gender in Agriculture Partnership and the New Extensionist focus of GFRAS.

• Met desired expectations of the Conference in a very inclusive and cost effective way.
**GCARD2 at a Glance**

The Second Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development

28 October – 1 November 2012
Punta del Este, Uruguay

**PARTICIPATION**

- 680 On-site participants
- 1000 Online participants

![Participation Pie Chart]

**MAIN THEMES**

- Partnership
- Foresight
- Capacity building

Lively discussions centered around 20 sub-themes in parallel sessions

**MEDIA OUTREACH**

- 136 Social Media Reporters from 44 Countries
- 188 Blog Posts
- 63 Articles on GCARD2 in the International Media
- 1500 Tweets per day reaching up to 353,623 people
LAUNCHED

- First Global Assessment of AR4D Investments (ASTI)
- Global Consortium on Higher Education and Research in Agriculture (GCHERA)
- Association of International Research and Development Centers in Agriculture

79%

79% plan to change their activities or programmes as a result of what they heard at GCARD2

20 pre-workshops on CGIAR CRPs and major themes

BUDGET

- GCARD2 total cost $1.65 million
- $800,000 enabled participants from the South to take part
- $10.1 million advertising equivalent value of GCARD news coverage for agricultural research and innovation organizations

PUBLICATIONS

- 41 Foresight analyses
- 55 Briefings on programme partnership needs for impact

Through GCARD2, CGIAR Consortium made 15 new commitments in:

- Foresight
- Open Access to Knowledge
- Updating their Strategy and Results Framework
- Partnership
- Governance
- Capacity strengthening

In the survey conducted at the conference end 80% of participants found the sessions to have been USEFUL of VERY USEFUL to their work in AR4D
GCARD2 Main Themes

Foresight

“The Futures of Agriculture”, a series of forty-one Foresight Briefs, and a report on the State of Foresight in Food and Agriculture, were produced and published. Eleven Briefs and the report were presented by their authors during the GCARD2 and used for debates and commitments. Through GCARD2, the CGIAR has now committed to continue development of a foresight capacity in the CGIAR, building on the analysis of over 40 diverse foresight studies debated in the context of the GFAR Foresight Hub, the foresight studies of the CGIAR Independent Science & Partnership Council (ISPC) and the CGIAR Research Programme on Policies, Markets and Institutions, to bring a dynamic foresight element into the 2013 Management Update of the CGIAR Strategy and Results Framework.

Civil society and farmer organizations present committed to facilitate and build grassroots foresight and empower their leaders with the capacities to conduct this process at local level. With GFAR technical assistance they will directly implement foresight studies and integrate the implications into the build up to and programme of the 2014 International Year of Family Farming and the GCARD3 process.

81% of participants found the foresight sessions gave them new knowledge and understanding.

“Feeding the world without wrecking the planet is still the greatest challenge facing humanity in coming decades, and we want to use GCARD2 to make sure that agricultural research and development are ready to take on that challenge.”

Frank Rijsberman, CGIAR Consortium
Partnership

The CGIAR Research Programs (CRPs) formed the core framework for discussion on partnership, as requested by the CGIAR Fund Council and the CGIAR Strategy and Results Framework, set in the wider context of the development changes. They are seeking to contribute to change and to the complex ‘mosaic’ of actions and interactions required among multiple partners to achieve development impacts from agricultural innovations. Two-thirds of CGIAR participants agreed i) that the knowledge they acquired through GCARD2 would be likely to change the design or implementation of their activities, and that ii) their participation in GCARD2 is likely to change their approach to existing, or new, partnerships in AR4D programmes and activities. The importance of partnership to the success of the CRPs was highlighted by CRP Directors in the GCARD2 events and reinforced in CGIAR Consortium CEO Frank Rijsberman’s statement of CGIAR commitments resulting from the GCARD process. The CGIAR has now committed to:

- Engage through a participatory approach key stakeholders in the development of the 2013 Management Update of the CGIAR Strategy and Results Framework.
- Align CGIAR research priorities with national and regional priorities and investment plans.
- Carry out a Stakeholder Perception Survey of more than 3000 partners of the CGIAR Consortium and the CRPs, to serve as a baseline against which to measure and improve the CGIAR’s partnership performance.

83% of participants found the GCARD2 partnership sessions either useful, or very useful, to their work.

“...We believe that GCARD has got it right. Inclusive and innovative partnerships, guided by well-informed foresight, will illuminate the road ahead. Let’s strengthen our partnerships to accelerate the engine of development for smallholder farmers.”

William Dar, ICRISAT
Capacities

Effective partnership requires capacities, knowledge sharing and collective actions at all levels. The GCARD multi-partner processes have enabled exciting new initiatives to be catalyzed addressing key barriers to the generation, uptake and scaling out of agricultural innovation:

- Advocating and tracking increased AR4D investments and determining their development returns. Examining new models of public-private partnership and their implications and new AR4D investments based on farmer-driven processes.
- Scaling out the value of inter-regional partnerships and learning and exploring what is required to better mobilize advanced science capabilities towards development aims.
- Launching new collective actions to share learning and rapidly advance skills in innovation systems via FAO and partners in the Tropical Agriculture Platform.
- GCARD2 strongly recognized that systems have to change drastically to meet the needs of women farmers and householders and to attract a new generation of young professionals into agriculture. Processes such as AWARD and YPARD are doing a great deal to address this and these successes now need to be scaled out.
- The launch of the Global Confederation of Higher Education and Research Associations for the Agricultural and Life Sciences (GCHERA) via GCARD2 brings together over 500 universities, with more than 1.5 million students, now geared to changing the way they work.
- New systems set out through the CIARD collective partnership for opening access to agricultural information have moved forward greatly since GCARD1. Examples of open access to agricultural information, e.g. in China and Ghana, were presented. Recognizing this collective movement for change, as expressed also in the G8 Open Access event at GCARD2, the CGIAR has now committed to becoming an Open Access organization, with policies and standards in place in 2013.
- The GCARD2 discussions endorsed the need for a fresh approach to extension, based on the realities of modern advisory services (the ‘New Extensionist’ concept), and for collective advocacy through the Global Forum on Rural Advisory Services, an initiative co-founded by GFAR, the Neuchatel Initiative, FAO and others, specifically to strengthen the advisory service sector around the world.
76% of participants felt that the GCARD2 gave them new knowledge and understanding of capacity development needs and opportunities.

“The level of discussions and results achieved over the entire event were remarkable. I am also particularly glad to notice that GCARD’s conclusive remarks focused on farmers, women, youth and extension as main partners to work with for the future challenges and activities of GCARD.”

Robert Carlson, World Farmers’ Organization
Collective Advocacy - the G20 Meeting of Agricultural Chief Scientists (MACS)

GFAR was strongly involved in the formulation of the G20 meeting on agricultural research for development organized through the French G20 Presidency in 2011 and this process of expert dialogue was continued through support to the G20 Meeting of Agricultural Chief Scientists in Guadalajara, Mexico in 2012. The G20 MACS provides an interesting opportunity to bring together scientific leaders from the G20 Nations to discuss and agree priority areas for collective action in the global agricultural science agenda.

The meeting, framed by presentations from GFAR and USDA, covered a range of relevant topics and included presentations on international partnership programmes from a range of GFAR Stakeholders, including the CGIAR, FAO, GFRAS and national initiatives such as those of China, Mexico and Brazil.

Outcomes from the meeting were reported into GCARD2 by Mexico as G20 Host Nation and it is intended that GFAR will continue to support and facilitate these important interactions in years to come.
Advocacy and Accountability of agricultural research and innovation to farmers and society

Following directly on GCARD2 was a meeting of the CGIAR Fund Council in November 2012. GFAR has continued to contribute directly to the governance of the CGIAR through a seat on the Fund Council on behalf of all stakeholders not represented among the funders themselves. Through the GCARD, GFAR presents stakeholders’ contributions to the generation, access and use of agricultural knowledge and innovation to help shape the CGIAR to a more development outcome focused operation. The primary vehicle for this has been through GFAR’s input into the CGIAR’s cross-cutting CRPs (see section 5).

In addition, policy dialogues on needs assessment for better prioritizing of AR4D were organized in Bangladesh, India and Nepal. Based on these policy dialogues, a regional synthesis report for South Asia was developed and presented in GCARD2. APAARI, with the Asian Farmers’ Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA) organized a workshop in Bangkok to address the problems of small holder farmers and outcomes from the workshop were also presented in GCARD2.

GFAR’s support was pivotal to the Sixth International Meeting of FORAGRO, in Lima, Peru. This meeting involved heads of all the national systems of research, extension and education in Latin America and placed special emphasis on the participation of organizations of family farmers and those who work with them in the area of technology development and innovation. The meeting worked to set the research and innovation agenda for family farming in Latin America and the Caribbean, in line with the forthcoming International Year of Family Farming, defined how LAC countries could best participate at GCARD2 and fostered multi-stakeholder discussion on relevant issues, such as: the bio-economy; new partnerships for research/extension; a prospective vision for sustainability of agriculture and rural areas; knowledge management and the role of women in the development of technology.

The meeting developed inputs towards a strategy to strengthen the national agricultural research institutions of the LAC region. As a result of GFAR’s participation, the President of IICA then formally requested GFAR to commission an external review of FORAGRO’s governance to ensure farmers and other stakeholders can participate fully and effectively in driving and shaping agricultural research in development processes across the region.
CACAARI surveyed existing regional linkages among agricultural stakeholders, research and education institutions, Government agencies, extension/advisory services, agricultural producers and processors in the project “Capacity Development for Analysis and Strengthening of Agricultural Innovation Systems (AIS) in Central Asia and Turkey” as part of the final activities under the FAO/Turkey Partnership Programme (FTPP).

A Post-study workshop in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, in May, discussed the findings and recommendations for further interventions.

The workshop recognized progress made in increasing capacity at national and subregional level and analyzed the status of AIS in each participating country and in the Central Asian subregion as a whole, identifying gaps and making recommendations for interventions.

Outputs of similar workshops in the other participating countries fed into a regional synthesis workshop in Turkey.

Following this learning process, GFAR support then enabled CACAARI to develop the first regional framework for agricultural innovation, agreed among the heads of national institutions of the Central Asia and Caucasus region.

This Regional Strategy for Transforming and Strengthening of Agricultural Research and Innovation Systems for Development in the Central Asia and Southern Caucasus region derives directly from the GCARD Roadmap, now interpreted in terms of its relevance to the CAC region.

The Strategy addresses important elements including establishing main priorities and measures; ensuring equal opportunities for participation and transparency among all stakeholders in the planning and implementation of agricultural research; increasing investments in agricultural research and innovation; strengthening human and institutional capacity required for the generation of relevant agricultural knowledge, and linkage with its users; integration of innovation into national and regional development programs and policies; systematic monitoring, evaluation and reporting of measures and increasing the impact of ICT on transforming AR4D and agriculture development.
Inter-regional linkages

FARA continued development of a number of activities of the Platform for African-European Partnership on Agricultural Development (PAEPARD), a collaborative project between FARA and EFARD and financed by the EU, which seeks to build “enhanced, more equitable, more demand-driven and mutually beneficial collaboration of Africa and Europe on AR4D with the aim of attaining the MDGs”. Phase 2 started in 2009 and ran through December 2012 and contributed to the implementation of the GCARD Road Map outcome area 5 on embedding research in the wider development context and enabling development change through more effective stakeholder linkages.

FARA also led inter-regional collaborations with FORAGRO and EFARD such as an online consultation to identify AR4D priorities for collaboration between Africa and Latin America and a face-to-face workshop to identify opportunities and define modalities for tripartite collaboration between Africa, Latin America and Europe.
During its Steering Committee (June 2012) EFARD reaffirmed the forum’s strategic objectives: to encourage dialogue between European ARD stakeholder groups promoting awareness, innovative approaches, and partnerships in order to build a more efficient and impact focused ARD; support global AR4D initiatives within the framework of GFAR and the GCARD process; and promote inter-regional partnerships and collaborative AR4D activities for joint research initiatives, capacity strengthening and greater impact, particularly in developing countries.

EFARD members discussed the role of AR4D in Horizon 2020 (the successor of FP7), a communication strategy and its contribution to the GCARD 2 conference in Uruguay (October 2012). Activities carried out over the year include:

• increased efforts to enhance awareness of policy makers and funders to the importance of AR4D in the context of the formulation of Horizon 2020. A letter was sent to the Chairman of the Commission on Agriculture and Rural Development of the European Parliament on food security;

• a study commissioned to CIRAD on implementing GFAR’s agricultural information and communication management programme for enhancing stakeholders’ access to agricultural knowledge; and

• support to GCARD Road Map activities related to Foresight, the role of the ARI’s, Capacity Strengthening and coordination with CSOs and NGOs.
Establishment of the Association of International Research and Development Centers in Agriculture (AIRCA)

Recognizing that a number of international centers that were not part of the CGIAR still had much to gain from greater partnership and collective actions, GFAR convened a meeting of these international centers to explore where they might find common ground and achieve greater impact at scale in their areas of expertise.

Through this meeting, hosted by GFAR Secretariat in Rome, the group established AIRCA (Association of International Research and Development Centers for Agriculture), a nine-member alliance focused on increasing global food security by supporting smallholder agriculture within healthy, sustainable and climate-smart landscapes.

The combined expertise of AIRCA centers cover a large spectrum of the research for development continuum including agrobiodiversity, agroforestry, integrated pest management, drought-tolerance crops, natural resource management and the conservation and use of underutilized species.

The nine-member alliance comprises of:

AVRDC – The World Vegetable Center
CABI – Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International
CATIE – Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center
CFF – Crops for the Future
ICBA – International Center for Biosaline Agriculture
ICIMOD – International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology
icipe – International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology
IFDC – International Fertilizer Development Center
INBAR – International Network for Bamboo and Rattan
3. Foresight for better futures

Foresight activities, whether by projections, visioning, or scenario building are plentiful and diverse and raise a lot of expectations. However, they also lead to diverging results; foresight capacities are unevenly distributed worldwide and across sectors and foresight outputs may not themselves result in directly attributable changes, often because they are seen as contradictory or only exploring one dimension of a problem. A contrast is seen in climate change where concerted action among many different institutions and analyses has produced consensus on the scale of the challenge and its many-fold implications.

As a global multi-stakeholder forum, GFAR has a unique role to play, in helping to create learning and integrated actions that bring together and help bring convergence and understanding among diverse perspectives. Our work in foresight is not just about projecting what the world may become, but deciding what kind of world we would like to see in future, and what innovations we need to get to those desired scenarios, recognizing that trends are products of our behaviour – and can be changed!
Global Foresight Hub

GFAR established the Global Foresight Hub as a clear response to these challenges, following requests from its constituencies. The need for the Hub was first articulated during preliminary discussions in Maputo 2008 for bringing greater coherence across analyses of diverse studies, including from the World Development and IAASTD Reports. Extensive review of major foresight efforts prior to GCARD1 (2010), showed that the evidence basis for prioritization was incomplete, often contradictory and applied incoherently in projecting future needs and, by extension, the roles required of AR4D systems.

One aim of the Hub is to help empower and enable less developed regions and sectors to envision their own future and associated needs, rather than rely on an external viewpoint. Improved and more inclusive foresight was identified as a key need in the GCARD Roadmap, as developed from GCARD1. Commitments were incorporated into the GFAR MTP and will form the basis of the GFAR Secretariat’s catalytic role in improving foresight, as set out in the GCARD Roadmap.

GFAR Secretariat has provided expert input to a wide range of foresight processes, responding to demands from the organizations concerned. GFAR’s inputs in scaling up of new thinking are actively sought in many areas. These include shaping of regional and global research priorities, developing more equitable partnerships and improving the voices of the farmers and civil society in shaping research and innovation through their own foresight capacities.

Foresight outputs are clearly delivering substantive change in the relationship between civil society stakeholders and research, bringing the voices of smallholder farmers to the fore.

At GCARD2, members of the Hub’s Forward Thinking Platform defined an Action Plan, including production of reference papers and a standard glossary of terms used in analyses, together with technical support to foresight initiatives undertaken by different sectors. The Action Plan includes support to Procisur, to Oxfam, and to an initiative of grassroots foresight by Farmers’ and Civil Society Organizations, to develop their perspectives on the future of family farming.
The Foresight Academies now being pioneered in Africa also aim to develop regional capacities for the young people on the continent to inform their own initiatives and make their own judgments on the implications of future agricultural scenarios.

Foresight and projection scenarios from CGIAR Research Programs on Policies, Institutions and Markets, and on Climate Change, were presented at the GCARD foresight sessions. Work related to CRP 5 and CIFOR has been incorporated in the inventory of foresight produced for the GCARD. These have been published as GFAR Foresight Briefs in the series ‘The Futures of Agriculture’. As a result of discussions during the GCARD, the CGIAR has now committed to collective foresight and involvement in the Global Foresight Hub:

1. We commit to continuing development of a foresight capacity in the CGIAR, through the Global Foresight Hub, the foresight studies of the CGIAR Independent Science & Partnership Council (ISPC) and the CGIAR Research Programme on Policies, Markets and Institutions.

2. We commit to bringing a dynamic foresight element into the 2013 Management Update of the CGIAR Strategy and Results Framework, based on the outputs of the Forward Thinking Platform established in the Global Foresight Hub, that will focus on three key trends identified as priorities at GCARD2:

• farm size dynamics;
• from sustainable production to sustainable consumption;
• urbanization
4. Partnerships for impact

**CGIAR Research Programs (CRPs)**

CRP leaders set out their partnership aspirations in a series of Briefing Papers developed by GFAR for GCARD2. These have set the frame for further consideration of partnership with the respective CRPs and described what can be achieved under existing plans and what more could be achieved with new partnerships and additional resources. Impact pathways of eleven of the CRPs were discussed among a wide range of stakeholders at GCARD2. This included summaries on their intended achievements, where they saw gaps in delivery pathways that required the involvement of others and what is required to achieve greater impacts at scale.

GFAR played an active part in shaping the extensive CGIAR perception survey of its partnerships undertaken in 2012. The survey showed that partners very much valued the role and capabilities of the CGIAR and that the organization performed well in research outputs and outcomes. However, it also showed that areas where most improvement was needed in the CGIAR’s partnerships included transparency, collaboration, accessibility, and capacity building. These are core areas for the Global Forum’s operation and as expressed in the GCARD Roadmap. In light of the survey, GFAR will be redoubling its efforts to help ensure effective and equitable partnerships around the work of the CGIAR.
GFAR directly provided Steering Committee and advisory board members for the CRPs on Dryland Systems, and Water, Land and Ecosystems. In 2012, active partnership has been established with the CRPs on Roots, Tubers and Bananas; Aquatic Agricultural Systems; Forests, Trees and Agroforestry; Climate Change (CCAFS); Rice (GRiSP); Policies, Institutions and Markets (PIM); and Water, Land and Ecosystems. A strategy paper for strengthening foresight in these CRPs to shape their evolution, co-authored by the CGIAR and the GFAR Secretariat, is under final revision.

Through GFAR support, a Regional Consultation on Improving Wheat Productivity in Asia was organized jointly by APAARI and FAO RAP at Bangkok in April, 2012. The meeting was co-sponsored by CIMMYT, ICARDA and JIRCAS. The consultation brought together different stakeholders including researchers, policy planners, NGOs, farmers and private sector to discuss various aspects for enhancing production and productivity of wheat in Asia. Very useful recommendations emerged and a clear road map was developed for further research and development on wheat in Asia.

**Partnership for Action on Climate Change**

GFAR’s activities on climate change have continued in close partnership with CCAFS, AARINENA and others, including co-sponsorship of the Agriculture & Rural Development Day at Rio+20, Rio de Janeiro and Landscapes day at UNFCCC, Doha. Significant progress has already been achieved, well beyond the milestones set: notably CCAFS has now engaged in large stakeholder consultations at the regional level in the building of regional scenarios.

In November 2011, AARINENA, in partnership with GFAR, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), FAO and the CGIAR, organized the International Conference on Adaptation to Climate Change and Food Security in the West Asia and North Africa region. Over 70% of the poor in WANA live in rural areas. Cereal yields in the region are currently half the world average and all countries in the region are net importers of food. Over 70% of the land area is rangelands. WANA is one of the most water-scarce regions in the world with 1100 m3/capita water availability, which is only 12% of the global average and water overuse or misuse is exacerbating environmental degradation, with groundwater and surface supplies and delta regions further threatened by climate change.
The 80 participants at the Conference, from 18 countries, made a number of recommendations including examining alternative scenarios for the future food security of the region, implications of climate change impacts and the positive and negative implications of potential policy choices in this area. It also agreed on a framework for fostering agricultural adaptation to climate change in this dryland region. The Proceedings are now published as a book\textsuperscript{1}.

Recommendations included the integration of science, practices and policy by mainstreaming adaptation into existing projects and programs; greater cooperation between stakeholders; enhanced capacity building activities in the region for data collection capability, analysis and modelling; enhanced capacity to access safety nets so that poor people could have access to development programmes and insurance; multi-disciplinary research on climate change and food security and innovative strategies that contribute to socio-economic sustainability of the production systems in fragile environments through effective risk management and risk reduction strategies; the creation of a Network for Climate Change and Food Security in WANA; alternative scenarios for the future food security in the region and the positive and negative implications of potential policy choices in this area and perhaps most importantly, communicating and engaging wider society in understanding the implications of climate change, with communities becoming part of the adaptation solutions themselves.

CACAARI also facilitated a regional event to tailor “Climate Change Adaptation Strategies for Agriculture and Food Security in Central Asia and the Caucasus”. A meeting on this theme in Tashkent, Uzbekistan in October, discussed ways of integrating research and practice for adaptation of agriculture and food security in the face of climate change. The meeting reaffirmed the need to reinforce collaboration between academia, research institutions, international organizations and NGOs at local, national and regional levels for crop adaptation, to increase environmental resilience of livestock and fish production systems in the CAC region, and, above all, to identify and implement pragmatic adaptation strategies.

GFAR support also enabled a Regional Workshop on Climate Smart Agriculture: Research and development priorities in Asia to be organized in collaboration with CGIAR CCAFS and WMO at Bangkok in April 2012. Several useful recommendations emerged, the implementation of which will greatly help in setting up research and development priorities for enhancing agricultural production and productivity in the region.
5. Transformative Investments

GFAR has fostered a series of linked actions to generate more consistent baselines and data on the status of investments in AR4D systems around the world.

Recommendations of the Stakeholder Workshop on Tracking Investments in Agricultural Research for Development, organized in January 2012 in Berlin with GDPRD and the European Initiative on Agricultural Research for Development (EIARD), the OECD and others, were incorporated into the work of the G8 L’Aquila Food Security Initiative (AFSI) Managing for Results Group.

This stimulated the work of OECD-DAC through its Mutual Review on Development Effectiveness, and Creditor Reporting System (CRS) and other programmes aiming to identify specific indicators for AR4D. The GFAR Executive Secretary presented the results at the G20 Meeting of Agriculture Chief Scientists (MACS) meeting in Mexico in June 2012.

With GFAR support, AARINENA, APAAARI, CACAARI, FARA and FORAGRO increased their collaboration with the ASTI programme of IFPRI, to generate a first global picture of data on agricultural R&D investments and capacity for developing countries.

They were able to establish national baselines on investments and capacities in AR4D against which changes can be traced and effects determined in their respective regions. The findings were first presented and discussed with funding agencies at the GCARD2.

Support to FARA enabled updating of national investment data for Africa, a database that showed how while some countries have considerably increased their investments in agricultural research, for many others investments are static or even decreasing, a very worrying trend given the challenges ahead.

FARA has also successfully lobbied for increased attention to the sector in investments sought via the CAADP Compacts of African Nations.
Through support to APAARI, collaboration with ASTI/IFPRI enabled the updating of data on agricultural investment and capacities in agricultural research organizations and higher educational institutions of eight Southeast Asian countries: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Viet Nam and Thailand.

The questionnaires for both the macro and full in-depth surveys were also completed. APAARI organized local collection of data on agricultural investment and capacities in Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines.

Further, a “Workshop on Agricultural R&D in the Asia–Pacific region: The need to monitor investments, capacities, and institutional changes” was organized in February 2012 in Bangkok, for representatives of national partner organizations, regional organizations and other stakeholders to share experiences and outcomes of the ASTI-APAARI survey work and institutionalize the process of data collection, analysis and use. The workshop was attended by 17 representatives from project countries as well as experts from the ADB, FAO RAP, JIRCAS and SAARC Agriculture Centre.

A session at GCARD2 on Public investments was chaired by USAID and facilitated by ASTI, launching the 2012 Global assessment of AR&D spending. The special advisor for Food Security of the US State Department leading the G8 AFSI-MdFR Group for 2012 reported on progress made under the Initiative in this session. G8 representatives then discussed the report with GFAR participation at the investment MdFR group in Maputo (December, 2012). Complementary case studies described AR4D investments around the world, demonstrating the impacts of this form of investment.

The AFSI-MdFR report confirmed that AFSI donors collectively met their commitment to mobilize $22.24 billion in global food security investments over the 3-year pledge period. The need for specificity on investments in AR4D remains and it is hoped that the G8 and the G20 will continue to seek fuller data on these investments. GFAR’s continuous support to ASTI has also mobilized advocacy for greater investments in rural advisory services worldwide, through FAO and GFRAS.

During the GFAR-supported GCARD1 dialogues in 2009, farmer organizations in Africa strongly demanded that any new investments in international agricultural research should be directly linked to the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Plan (CAADP).
This was echoed in a GFAR-sponsored Europe-Africa planning meeting for the Framework on African Agricultural Productivity in Zurich in 2011, where the African participants demanded greater coherence of the CGIAR’s agenda with that expressed by African countries.

In 2012 these demands led to a landmark meeting in Dublin, where participants from FARA, NEPAD, AU, GFAR Secretariat, the CGIAR and a wide variety of development assistance agencies including Irish Aid, USAID, DFID, IFAD, the World Bank and African Development Bank, met and agreed a collective process forwards – the Dublin process - to better align their investments and actions towards meeting African national needs. The Dublin Process is already bringing benefits in alignment of diverse programmes towards shared national objectives.
Farmer-centred investments

Partners in GFAR and the GCARD Process put farmers at the centre of programme design, implementation and assessment. They are indispensable to making innovations adaptable, adoptable and sustainable; in particular addressing the needs and priorities of smallholder farmers, notably women and youth.

It is important to have concrete examples of moving from international actions to changes in the field. For research and extension, this has included drawing together the experiences with participatory methods and initiatives such as Farmer Field Schools and IIED-supported regional farmer platforms. In this way, discussions and negotiations with CGIAR CRPs and National Research can be directed toward priority areas of work in advisory services, administrative and physical infrastructure, and investment support.

This can be seen in GFAR’s support to Prolinnova, a multi-CSO partnership programme originally initiated through GFAR, which works to foster the sharing and wider use of local (farmer) innovation. In 2012, this support enabled the central coordination of Prolinnova, its International Partners Workshop in Mali and extension of the programme from Africa into South Asia, through the NGO INHERE.

For Farmers’ Organizations, GFAR and its stakeholders provide intermediaries to both scale-up farmer enterprises and attract outside investment, technology and expertise. The emphasis is on how the smallholder can best profit as small business people from PPPs, delivering a public good of greater incomes and improved food quality and availability at local, national and regional level through the market.

Support to Regional Fora also enabled CSOs participation in AR4D activities for greater impact on farmers’ fields. For example, this enabled significantly increased input by CSOs into APAARI/APARIS activities and effective knowledge sharing with the CSO community in the Asia-Pacific region.

Participants from CSO/farmer organizations from Pangasinan Farmer Association, Philippines; Gene Campaign, India; and All Cosmos Industries Sdn Bhd, Malaysia were supported for their participation in the expert consultation on “Agricultural Biotechnology, Biosafety and Biosecurity” held at Taichung, Chinese Taipei in late 2011.
A representative from NGO INHERE, Dehradun, India participated in the Regional Dialogue on Conservation Agriculture (CA) in Indo-Gangetic Plains in New Delhi, November, 2012. The dialogue focused on conservation agricultural research for development through innovations for greater impacts on small-holder farmers in the region and 64 participants, including policy makers, managers, researchers, private sector representatives, NGOs, CGIAR Centers, CSOs and farmers attended.

**Linking farmers and markets**

Further development of global knowledge sharing and learning on linking smallholder farmers to markets was provided through success stories developed and widely shared by APAARI on:

i) Effective Linkage of Biofuel Growers to Market. prepared by University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, This includes information on status of different bio-fuel species, current marketing systems, initiatives undertaken at UAS Bangalore launching of Biofuel Growers Market Association, benefits, success of the model and future prospects.

ii) Lettuce Export, prepared by Agricultural Research Station Council of Agriculture, Chinese Taipei. The success story includes i) status of production of lettuce, ii) vegetables production, marketing, and post-harvest handling in Taiwan, iii) head lettuce industry and post-harvest handling for export in Taiwan, and iv) major achievements, etc.

iii) Jackfruit Improvement in the Asia Pacific Region, prepared by Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR) Bangalore. This includes information on production status, genetic resource collection, characterization, conservation and utilization, varietal improvement, package of practices, diversified uses and value added products, economics and marketing and future prospects.
Farmers shaping research investments

GFAR commissioned the Institute of Development Studies, UK, to undertake a study with the AfricaRice Centre, FARA, CSIR-Ghana, the CARD programme and a range of in-country partners, on accountability to end-users, using the case of the GRiSP rice research programme and rice in Ghana. The study report was presented and discussed at GCARD2 and forms part of the facilitation by GFAR of a process of discussion among major research institutions and funding agencies, linked with initiatives of the World Bank and IFAD, on scaling-up and scaling-out research products related to major crops.

The authors analysed how participatory trials and other user-focused methods can gather feedback from farmers to build up a body of experience and a ‘community of practice’ to shape the further evolution of the programme. “If this feedback loops mind-set and methodology is effectively taken forward through the CGIAR and other large-scale programmes, better connecting researchers to ‘product users’ as drivers of research, it could impact strongly on the use and adoption of AR4D outputs. The report recommends building up a body of experience with the approach shared and institutionalised as appropriate.

AfricaRice Science Week in October 2012 recommended that rice AR4D actors in Ghana and with GRiSP continue to test whether the seven-element user feedback framework developed through the study can now be used to make researchers’ feedback activities more explicit, planned, systematic and effective. After taking into consideration questions asked to CGIAR research programmes during the Food Security Session of GCARD2, the CGIAR Research Programme on Rice and the Global Rice Science Partnership (GRiSP) published “GRiSP partnership in motion” GRiSP brings together a great number of partners (>900) from the academic, public, private, and civil society sectors with a stake in the rice development sector.

“The report, GRiSP partnership in motion, attempts to give some answers and sheds light on the functioning of the many partnership arrangements under GRiSP. It also serves as input to the GCARD Roadmap, and the GRiSP partnerships described herein follow up on the commitments made at GCARD2.”

Bas Bouman, GRiSP Director
Global Forum on Rural Advisory Services

Inputs have been provided to the governance of programmes fostering change in agricultural innovation systems, including CTA Conversion of Science, the Global Forum on Rural Advisory Services (GFRAS) and programme development for the USAID in Strengthening NARS. GFRAS has been directly supported by GFAR funding and its impacts have included mobilization of actions resulting from a major 2011 conference in Africa, which itself led to the further development and financing of the African Forum on Agricultural Advisory Services (AFAAS). GFRAS members participated in several major international events, including the G20 Meeting of Agricultural Chief Scientists and Rio+20, highlighting and gaining recognition of the importance of effective advisory services to advocate for the importance of rural advisory services for global development and continued to strengthen its evidence and capacity strengthening functions.

GFRAS also pushed forward with evidence and capacity strengthening efforts. Globally, diverse extension approaches have been explored but there is relatively little consensus as to what works and what doesn’t. The GFRAS evaluation initiative set out a framework to assess the effects of extension reform outcomes globally, starting with Brazil. Taking forward the international conference on extension and resulting Nairobi Declaration in 2011, GFRAS led a process to promote the capacity needs within rural advisory services through a document and global electronic survey and discussion on the “New Extensionist” and is now promoting the development of regional networks.

Given the imminent demands and changes agriculture faces, extension has a crucial role to play in serving the diverse needs of producers, entrepreneurs, and society – this requires new roles, strategies, and capacities at individual, organisational, and institutional levels to meet the current and future needs and roles. Collective action is needed at all levels – from local to global – to install this capacity in a meaningful manner. This topic was presented at a session led by GFRAS at GCARD2 in Uruguay.
CIARD: Supporting access to agricultural information by farmers and information brokers

Coherence in Information for Agricultural Research for Development (CIARD) is a collective movement for information access and interoperability, in which GFAR partners with FAO, CTA, CGIAR, Regional Fora and many others. The CIARD movement has established:

- a common Manifesto and set of Core Values around opening knowledge and data;
- a Checklist for assessing institutional status/readiness in information management;
- a set of Pathways as good practices for achieving “openness”;
- a global registry of open data resources of various types;
- more than 400 organizations from around the world already participating;
- case study evidence of how organizations have achieved “openness”

A key achievement has been the global registry of agricultural information resources and services, the CIARD.RING, which continues to grow, and is expected to exceed 400 organisational contributors shortly. The RING brings together many millions of published records and this year has expanded to include the published data of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences and Indian Council of Agricultural Research, to enable access and interoperability of such data - an essential underlying process needed to make data accessible and usable into new ICT forms.

High priority was given by CIARD members to advocacy for broader involvement in CIARD, and to resource materials for adaptation and use by partners. Priority was also given to two sets of evidence, namely the effectiveness of the CIARD movement itself and benefits to agricultural and rural communities of ‘openness’ in agricultural knowledge.

GFAR’s financial and technical support provided to Regional Fora has enabled a series of workshops to strengthen regional agricultural information and learning systems around the world and most notably in sub-Saharan Africa and Asia. These steps provide essential technical underpinning and capacities required to open access to agricultural information at many levels.
GFAR has also pursued important cross-cutting agendas that directly embed agricultural research and innovation processes within specific development agendas. These are gender equity, a future for youth and the role of agriculture in rebuilding hope following protracted crises.

**Gender in Agriculture**

In 2011-12, GFAR identified and sponsored a range of studies highlighting the roles and needs of women in agriculture. These included:

- a study by FAO of rural women’s knowledge networks through community clubs and local language radio that highlighted gender-differentiated household needs for innovation in Niger
- a review paper by FAO and IFPRI on engendering agricultural research that sets out a thorough analysis of women’s innovation needs and priorities
- direct inputs by GFAR and GAP partners to the development of the CGIAR equity and gender strategy
- the sponsorship and publication of a ground breaking AARINENA report on Women’s Empowerment in the Middle East and North Africa
These cumulative GFAR actions gave rise to the First Global Conference on Women in Agriculture (GCWA), organized in New Delhi on March 13-15 by the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and sponsored and technically supported through GFAR. This landmark event was the outcome of two years of intensive partnership building among the many organizations involved in GFAR, including the Regional Fora, CGIAR, FAO and IFAD.

The Conference attracted 760 participants from 50 countries, including Ministers, World Food Prize laureates, representatives of agricultural research, extension and education institutions, gender experts, non-governmental organizations and farmer’s groups, who rallied in Delhi to call for collective action and investment to put the needs of women farmers at the centre of agricultural thinking and practice.

Participants at the GCWA recognized that national mechanisms for gender equality are facing major challenges in implementing their mandates, including inadequate resources, political marginalization of their activities and weak capacities for coordination, monitoring and accountability.

The Conference was organized through Policy Fora, Plenary Sessions, Parallel Sessions, Working Groups, Poster Session, and Innovation Market Place. Thematic sessions addressed the key areas in which change is required, and a number of priorities were identified by the participants in creating a framework for action at all levels, from household and community up to national, regional and international scales.
The GCWA Conference was a great success and the objectives were fully met. The GCWA Synthesis Report and Proceedings were published on websites of APAARI, ICAR and GCWA. Priorities determined through these discussions were:

- Collective advocacy to raise awareness of women’s needs in agriculture
- Generating the evidence base to show the impact and value of addressing women’s needs
- Spurring collective action and leadership among women to develop programmes that directly meet women’s needs
- Addressing discrimination and establishing women’s rights (e.g. access to markets, ownership of land)
- Introducing measures to promote women’s ownership and control of resources (e.g. bank accounts, policy changes)

**Gender in Agriculture Partnership**

These priorities now form the basis for wider collective action through the Gender in Agriculture Partnership (GAP)—a global initiative organized through GFAR and embracing all the actors involved in addressing gender-related issues in agriculture. The GAP was formally launched and expanded upon at the Conference, at which the Government of India publicly pledged their involvement in this global partnership, with the expectation that it will inspire other governments to follow.

The GAP will work to drive forward change and deliver local actions on the ground. Partners in this open and inclusive initiative already include UN Agencies, the CGIAR, Regional Fora, national public institutions, women farmers’ organizations, foundations, universities and NGOs.
An e-survey in 2012 expanded the consultative process to identify needs and priorities for GAP, as initiated at the GCWA. Over 150 respondents, from over 100 organizations across the world, agreed on the crucial need for GAP and 96.7 percent of these agreed it should best focus on addressing the five priority areas outlined in the GAP Concept Note. The great majority of respondents (84.1, 80.5 and 70%, respectively), considered it vital that GAP:

• facilitate dialogue and debate among professionals
• bring GAP partners together to plan and coordinate advocacy activities on women/gender in AR4D, and
• identify gender-based needs in agriculture and collectively developed policies, strategies, programmes and action plans

GFAR Secretariat and FAO/ESW participated in the UN Women/UNRISD workshop on gender research in the UN system (Geneva, Nov 2012) to build linkages with gender specialists across the UN. The GAP now fits well into the wider frame of gender actions supported through UN Women and other UN agencies and gives specific national focus to the GAP, linked as collective actions, responding to national demands.

The GFAR-organized session on Gender at the Agricultural Research and Rural Development Day at Rio+20, involved presentations from FAO, APAARI, CIAT and the Jordanian Women Farmers’ Association. This session redressed the scant attention to gender issues in the report of the International Commission on Sustainability and Climate Change that framed the meeting and together with direct advocacy by GAP partners in the WFP, ensured direct recognition of gender and women farmers in the final RIO+20 Declaration and G-20 intergovernmental discussions. Prof Sir John Beddington, UK Chief Scientist, described the gender focus brought by GFAR as ‘an important addition’ to the Agriculture and Rural Development Day processes.
Towards a new future for youth

In 2012, GFAR continued its support of the Young Professionals’ Platform for Agricultural Research for Development (YPARD), which serves as a medium for young professionals in AR4D to voice their views, exchange perspectives and to contribute to sustainably improved livelihoods, worldwide, through dynamic agricultural research and innovation systems.

YPARD asked youth and employers in AR4D to rate a series of competencies according to their present and future importance. The results of the study reinforce the notion that today’s young professionals must be better able to work across different disciplines within the multi-functionality of agriculture and in partnership with different stakeholders. They must understand the working of value chains and potential for profit and entrepreneurship at different stages.

The report is now available: “Working towards a new generation of Young Professionals in ARD”. The outcomes of the study were discussed in an e-discussion, during the YPARD pre-conference session at the GCARD2, and in the youth and gender plenary session of the GCARD2. This helped bring fresh perspectives on youth and agricultural development into the conference discussions and a team of young social reporters put together by YPARD set the tone, engaging a wide range of young people around the world through their live outreach.

2012 also saw YPARD’s expansion into a new region with the establishment of YPARD Europe. The launch of YPARD China at CAAS in Beijing will also help to strengthen YPARD’s activities on a larger scale in Asia.

GFAR actively supported the development of the Global Consortium of Higher Education and Research in Agriculture (GCHERA) and GCHERA was formally launched at GCARD2. This meta-network of national and regional university networks links over 500 agricultural universities around the world. It represents and addresses the career interests and focus of over 1.5 million students per year, as a tremendous resource for achieving curriculum change and developing exciting new career opportunities for young people in agriculture. GCHERA is now accorded full representation, speaking for the education sector in the GFAR Steering Committee and mobilizing actions across the many networks and institutions involved.
Innovation - Growing out of Protracted Crisis Situations

Agricultural research-for-development (AR4D) systems play a basic role in helping to find the long-term solutions enabling rural societies to rebuild their lives, livelihoods and communities following crises. In September 2012, around 50 participants from 17 of the 22 countries currently characterized as undergoing protracted crises attended a consultative workshop in Kigali, Rwanda. The workshop was supported and catalyzed by GFAR and convened by FARA and regional partners.

The workshop provided a unique opportunity for participants to share views, experiences and lessons on strengthening capacity for agricultural innovation in these countries. The choice of Rwanda as host country for the event was based on the tremendous progress demonstrated by the Rwandan people on key social and economic fronts since the genocide of 1994. Dr. Agnes Kalibata, the Minister for Agriculture, Government of Rwanda, opened the workshop, underscoring the achievements registered in the agricultural sector and reiterating the importance of the workshop in the light of Rwandan history.

The three-day workshop culminated in a set of action plans and elements as the basis for a full-fledged programme for strengthening agricultural innovation capacity in post-conflict and protracted crisis situations. This was unanimously launched as “The Kigali Movement”. Immediate outputs from the workshop included a two-page report on issues discussed and intended outcomes, presented to the High-Level policy discussions of the Committee on World Food Security meeting on “Addressing Food Insecurity in Protracted Crises” at FAO, Rome, September 2012. The Kigali outputs also fed into the GCARD2 session on “Rebuilding Livelihoods in Protracted Crises” in November 2012 and are now being taken up by ICARDA, FAO, WFP and others to foster similar processes in the West Asia region.
8. Strengthening GFAR’s representation, operation & governance

The 6 transformative change principles contained in the GCARD Roadmap now comprise the basis for the theory of change used in GFAR’s programmes catalyzing and supporting change in AR4D systems around the world.

Over the course of 2012, preparations for GCARD2 offered a great opportunity to reflect on what solid outcomes are desired—and expected - from the work of the Forum and our Stakeholders in future. The GFAR Medium Term Plan 2013-2016 (MTP), is being developed through extensive consultation with a view to best delivering on the key areas of action for the Global Forum:

1. Collective advocacy and dialogue around the global agricultural research and innovation agenda
2. Partnership development for equitable and effective systems
3. Transforming institutions and their accountability for impact
4. Sharing and using knowledge in development

The MTP gives GFAR a clear outcome-oriented focus and brings together a wide range of collective actions, each geared to deliver significant change in the different systems concerned. The Plan also sets out clearly the involvement of GFAR Secretariat vis-à-vis the GFAR Stakeholders, clarifying a distinction that is important to GFAR’s function as the pre-eminent global forum on agricultural research, extension, education and enterprise.

In 2012, we continued to work to strengthen the mechanisms by which stakeholders from farmer organizations, civil society and the private sector are mobilized and engaged in GFAR’s processes and through this better linked with public research institutions. This is most directly seen in the formulation of the new GFAR Medium Term Plan, which is being developed through participatory input from all sectors and regions, with each able to express its priorities for action under the GFAR mechanism.
Beyond the many case studies developed and shared through GCARD2, GFAR has also directly solicited and commissioned case studies attributable to RoadMap objectives into formal publication through the journal ‘New Agriculturist’. Through a commissioning contract, GFAR supports the dissemination of 3 quality documented stories per edition, enabling many stakeholders outside the science publishing world to be heard. Additional items are also posted to the GFAR website.

Part of the process of reform of GFAR in 2012 has been the commissioning of an external governance review, designed to improve the formal governance of GFAR and the value of representation in reaching out to and mobilizing each of the sectors concerned. Agricultural research for development is complex and multifaceted, drawing on representation mechanisms by region, by sector and by subject of particular interest. GFAR is moving towards a structure based on active programmatic delivery and commitment among stakeholder sectors in agricultural research, extension, education and enterprise, right around the world.
2012 Financial Summary

Total expenditures by activities in 2012: USD 4,183,558

Total assessed and Indirect Contributions for 2012: USD 4,569,672

Notes:
1) Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) contributed for USD 75,000 towards the GCWA held in New Delhi. Funds arrived in 2013.
2) France contributed in kind providing two senior officers consultancy: Mr. Robin Bourgeois (from MAE) and Mr. Harry Palmier (IRD) for working for GFAR.
Our Punta del Este Commitments/CGIAR
by Frank Rijsberman, CEO, CGIAR Consortium

The CGIAR Consortium has just completed a week-long series of important meetings in Punta del Este, Uruguay: the 2nd Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development (GCARD2); the 10th CGIAR Consortium Board meeting and special meeting on Governance; the 8th CGIAR Fund Council Meeting and the 2nd CGIAR Funders Forum. Many commitments were expressed in all these meetings. However, as I was reminded in a press conference with the young social reporters at GCARD2, commitments only really count if they are truly owned; that is if we say “I commit” or “we commit”, rather than just being calls to action that are left for others to implement.

So let me give you an overview of fifteen key commitments made by the CGIAR Consortium in this week of meetings that we truly own and for which we can be held accountable.

At the GCARD2 closing session I presented the following commitments of the CGIAR Consortium, related to: (1) foresight; (2) knowledge; (3) capacity building; and (4) partnership.

Foresight

1. We commit to continuing development of a foresight capacity in the CGIAR, through the GFAR Foresight Hub, the foresight studies of the CGIAR Independent Science & Partnership Council (ISPC) and the CGIAR Research Program on Policies, Markets and Institutions.

2. We commit to bringing a dynamic foresight element into the 2013 Management Update of the CGIAR Strategy and Results Framework that will focus on three key trends identified as priorities at GCARD2:
   - farm size dynamics;
   - from sustainable production to sustainable consumption; and
   - urbanization.
Knowledge

3. We commit to making the CGIAR an Open Access organization, with policies and standards put in place in 2013.

4. We commit to making more key data freely available online and to improving transparency, with significant progress in 2013 related to at least:

- internal data on how the CGIAR works, such as data on financial statements, staff, management and governance, appropriately disaggregated by gender, age and nationality;
- data and results of our research across all CGIAR Research Programs;
- monitoring data on the progress made to achieve the development outcomes of each of our CGIAR Research Programs.

Capacity Strengthening

5. We commit to developing and approving a CGIAR Consortium strategy on institutional and personal Capacity Strengthening in 2013, as a cross-cutting priority for the CRP portfolio, similar to our work on gender research in 2012.

6. We commit to fast-tracking development of quick wins that can be made through CGIAR Post-Doctoral Fellow and CGIAR Visiting Scientist programs.

Partnerships

7. We commit to engaging through a participatory approach key stakeholders in the development of the 2013 Management Update of the CGIAR Strategy and Results Framework, including at least national governments, national research organizations and their regional organizations, NGOs and civil society, the private sector, gender and last but not least, youth through young professional organizations such as YPARD.
8. We commit to aligning our research priorities with national and regional priorities and investment plans, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) national investment plans, in 2013.

9. We commit to carrying out a Stakeholder Perception Survey of more than 3 thousand partners of the CGIAR Consortium and the CRPs. The Survey, which was launched at GCARD2 on 1 November 2012, is scheduled for completion in early 2013 and will serve as a baseline against which to measure and improve our partnership performance.

A key agenda of all CGIAR business meetings in Punta was the critical need to continue building the new CGIAR through a reform of CGIAR governance at all levels of the CGIAR System, thereby ensuring that strong oversight over and accountability for the resources entrusted to CGIAR are either in place or will be put in place through reform as a matter of urgency. To this end, the CGIAR Consortium made the following commitments, as presented by the Consortium Board Chair, Carlos Perez del Castillo, on several occasions in the business meetings:

**Governance**

10. We commit, as the CGIAR Consortium Board, to fully exercising the fiduciary responsibility entrusted to us in the CGIAR Consortium Constitution and the Joint Agreement between the Consortium and CGIAR Fund Council, by ensuring that we have put in place effective policies, controls and people.

11. We commit, as the CGIAR Consortium jointly with the CGIAR Fund Council, to undertaking a comprehensive external review of the governance structures and controls across the CGIAR, in two phases, with a first assessment phase expedited to report in February 2013 and a second recommendation phase expected to be completed by mid-2013.

The CGIAR Consortium used a participatory approach to develop an Action Plan to strengthen the CGIAR Strategy and Results Framework that was endorsed by the CGIAR Funders Forum on November 2. As a consequence, the CGIAR Consortium will now kick off actions to develop the Management Update for the SRF, to be completed by October 2013. As part of that process, the CGIAR Consortium has made the following commitments:
2013 Management Update for the SRF

12. We commit to developing the system-level theory of change and impact pathway for the CGIAR, in collaboration with, and under the leadership of, the CGIAR Independent Science and Partnership Council, by March 2013.

13. We commit to convening and facilitating a participatory prioritization process, involving stakeholders and investors in the CGIAR, that will result in a set of prioritized intermediate development outcomes at system level that establish the aspirational goals for the contributions the CGIAR intends to make to reducing hunger, poverty and malnutrition and while conserving our natural capital, to be completed by June 2013.

14. We commit to developing geographically explicit intermediate development outcomes and associated value propositions for each of the CGIAR Research Programs, in a manner that is consistent and coherent across the CRP Portfolio, and that are well aligned with national and regional priorities and investment plans – and to negotiate these Intermediate Development Outcomes (IDOs) with representative stakeholders and investors by June 2013.

15. We commit to developing a draft 2013 Management Update for the CGIAR SRF that will be available for feedback and consultation no later than October 2013.

Taken together, these commitments will shape and drive the 2013 program of work of the CGIAR Consortium in partnership with the Fund Council, ISPC, IEA and numerous partners and stakeholders outside the system.