

Tuesday, 13 October 8:30– 9:30

Red Room

**Revisiting capacity development for greater impact on food security and nutrition #22****ORGANIZERS**

EU/European Commission – DG International Cooperation and Development (EC – DEVCO)

New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA)

France (Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Agroalimentaire et de la Forêt &amp; Ministère des Affaires Etrangères et du Développement International) and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Research and Extension Unit (DDNR)

**Abstract:** Recent needs assessments for capacity development (CD) in different regions of the world clearly show that the past initiatives: (i) did not match the CD needs due to lack of planning tools and little involvement of stakeholders; (ii) had little impact but high transaction costs due to numerous but small scale interventions; and (iii) were poorly coordinated with weak governance and insufficient alignment with national and international policies. The Tropical Agriculture Platform (TAP), a G20 initiative, works as a multi-partner dynamic facilitation mechanism aiming at increasing coherence and effectiveness of CD interventions for agricultural innovation systems (AIS), so they can lead to sustainable change and impact at scale. The side event will present progress made at global, regional and national levels to revisit CD for greater impact on Food Security and Nutrition including: i) Development of a “common framework on CD for AIS” by TAP Partners; ii) An improved Africa's Agriculture Education for ending hunger and achieving AU/Malabo Declaration goals on Agriculture-led development; iii) CD in the Research and Innovation continuum in EU food and nutrition security strategy; and iv) reorganization of an OECD country's (France) research, higher education and training system to serve more effectively its vision of an agroecology-based agriculture.

**KEYWORDS:** Capacity Development , Agriculture Innovation Systems , Knowledge Sharing , Needs Assessment

**Languages:** EN,FR

Refreshments

**Summary:** The side event “Revisiting Capacity Development for greater impact on Food Security and Nutrition” aimed to present the different initiatives working toward strengthening and improving the global coherence and efficiency of capacity development (CD) approaches for agricultural innovation systems (AIS). In this context, the Tropical Agriculture Platform (TAP), a G-20 initiative, which acts as a multilateral and dynamic facilitation mechanism that enables more effective and streamlined capacity development interventions in agricultural innovation systems was introduced by FAO. The implementation of the TAP Action Plan is supported by the European Commission funded project on Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CDAIS), jointly implemented by FAO and AGRINATURA. The TAP Common Framework on CD for AIS provides guidelines and a toolbox for the assessment of needs as well as for the design, monitoring and evaluation of capacity development interventions, taking into account the different dimensions of capacity development (individuals, organizations, enabling environment). The EU Representative provided an overview of the CDAIS project. It is implemented in eight pilot countries through a country-led multi-stakeholder process, where efficient CD interventions for the identified values chains, based on assessed capacity development needs, will be proposed through joint innovation and demand-driven partnerships, and scaled up later at global level. Ongoing activities in Africa and France were presented as examples of capacity development interventions at country and regional levels following TAP principles. The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), through its Agriculture and Food Security Programme introduced the Knowledge Management Platform on Food Security and Nutrition (currently in the pilot phase), which will strengthen the knowledge sharing, expertise, capacities and peer-learning across the continent, including the agriculture-nutrition nexus and the accountability for food security and nutrition. NEPAD emphasized the importance of the TAP Common Framework as providing coherent approaches for capacity development. The French Ministry of Agriculture on the other hand, launched in October 2014 a national agro-ecological project, as an integrated answer to food security and nutrition, highlighting economic and environmental performance. In order to assist farmers in the transition towards agro-ecology, capacity development programmes for farmers, and students were developed jointly with technical institutes, agricultural and rural associations, and by the creation in April 2015 of the Institut Agronomique, Vétérinaire et Forestier de France (Agreenium). Examples of international actions taken by the French Government in Africa showed that they are aligned with the TAP principles. The main message conveyed during the side-event was that all three dimensions of capacity development must be addressed concurrently and to develop or strengthen efficient and sustainable agricultural innovation systems. Finally, an invitation to the organizations and country delegations, who participated in the side event, was made by the TAP Chair and the key speakers to join the efforts of the TAP and its Partners to develop and implement national and regional capacity development visions and action plans by using the “TAP Common Framework”. More information about TAP and the TAP Common Framework can be found here: <http://www.tropagplatform.org/>.