



**Civil Society and Government Contributions
to the SARD Initiative**

People shaping their sustainable futures

A selection of proposals prepared by civil society and government partners with support from the SARD Initiative team in FAO

April 2005

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Introduction to the Collection

This document contains a selection of priority actions or “contributions” proposed by Major Groups of civil society and governments to achieve Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD). They form part of an innovative civil society-government-intergovernmental partnership known as the SARD Initiative that was launched by FAO’s Director General at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg in 2002.

The Major Group contributions are an important part of the SARD Initiative because they recognize that the expertise, resources, and skills of civil society have a critical role to play in implementing SARD and in achieving the Millennium Development Goals and that this role is particularly important for reaching the world’s poorest and most marginalized peoples. They are based on the premise that rapid and tangible improvements in social, economic and environmental well being are urgently needed and can only be accomplished if the key actors affected work together.

This collection is, however, just a small subset of the many civil society and government ideas to achieve SARD, many of which remain invisible or unrealized due to linguistic and cultural barriers, poor access to information, or gaps in capacities and technologies. These contributions were selected from a larger set on the basis of their relevance to the SARD Initiative themes (access to resources, good practices for SARD, fair conditions of employment), goals, activities, and mechanisms, their potential to demonstrate clear and measurable benefits for the poorest rural communities at country level, and the relevance and scope of background, capacity, and experience of the implementing partners.

How to become involved

We will continue to collect Major Group and government contributions over the months to come and expect to present revised collections periodically. Civil society groups and governments wishing to propose contributions are invited to contact the relevant Major Group focal point, the contact for which is available at <http://www.fao.org/sard>

Governments, UN Agencies, private foundations and others who are interested in funding or otherwise becoming involved in these efforts are invited to communicate directly with the appropriate contact person listed at the bottom of each sheet. For those interested in becoming involved in the SARD Initiative, please write to SARD-Initiative@fao.org

Acronyms and abbreviations used in the set of proposals:

ADAB: Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh	IIRD: Institute for Integrated Rural Development
AIDS: Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome	IIRR: International Institute for Rural Reconstruction
ANGOC: Asian NGO coalition	IITC: Indigenous Indian Treaty Council
AOA: Agreement on Agriculture	ILEIA: Centre for Information on Low External Input and Sustainable Agriculture
AVARD: Association of Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development	ILO: International Labour Organization
CBO: Community Based Organization	ILRI: International Livestock Research Institute
CGIAR: Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research	IP: Indigenous Peoples
CIRPED: Center of Initiatives and Research for the Environment and Sustainable Development	IPIAT: Institute of Production and Research on Tropical Sustainable Agriculture
CNAC: Cambodia NGO Alliance for Cooperation	IPM: Integrated Pest Management
CoAg: Committee on Agriculture (FAO)	IPSA: International Partners for Sustainable Agriculture
CSD: Commission on Sustainable Development of the United Nations	IUF: International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Associations
CSO: Civil Society Organizations	LWG: Livestock Working Group
EEAPI: EcoEarth Alliance Partnership Initiative	MDGs: Millennium Development Goals
ECOSOC: Economic and Social Council of the United Nations	M&E: Monitoring and Evaluation
EU: European Union	MG: Major Group
FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	NGO: Non-governmental organization
FATNEA: Food and Trade Network for East Africa	NNGOC: National NGO Council of Sri Lanka
GA: Gender Analysis	NRM: Natural resources management
GAHSD: Global Alliance for Human Sustainable Development	ODI: Overseas Development Institute
GAP: Good Agricultural Practices	PR: Participatory Research
GB: Great Britain	R&D: Research and development
GLO: Global Learning Opportunity	RDF: Rural Development Foundation of Pakistan
GO: government	RRAFA: Rural Reconstruction Alumni and Friends Association
GPP: Global Pesticide Project	SA: Sustainable agriculture
HH: Households	SARD: Sustainable agriculture and rural development
HI: Heifer International	SD: Sustainable Development
HIV: Human Immuno-deficiency Virus	S&T: Scientific and technological community Major Group
H&S: Health and Safety	TCSA: Training Center for Sustainable Agriculture
HSE: Health, Safety and Environment	UNDP: United Nations Development Programme
HSI: Humane Society International	U.S.: United States of America
ICSDRA: International Center for Sustainable Development of Rural Areas	WOCAN: Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resources Management
IDRC: International Development Research Center	WN: World Neighbors
IFAD: International Fund for Agricultural Development	WSSD: World Summit on Sustainable Development
IFAP: International Federation of Agricultural Producers	WTO: World Trade Organization
IFSA: International Farming Systems Association	
IGOs: Intergovernmental organizations	
IIED: International Institute for Environment and Development	

“ • ” *introduces the objectives of the project*

“ ➤ ” *introduces the approaches used to achieve the objectives*

The 8 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs):

1. Halve extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce under-five mortality by two-thirds
5. Reduce maternal mortality by three-quarters
6. Reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development, with targets for aid, trade and debt relief

Proposal 1: Organizational Capacity Building of Farmers' Organizations in Developing Countries for SARD

Submitting MGs / CSOs	Farmers: International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP)
Country of Implementation	Global
Agro-ecological context	Various
Duration and Total Budget	3 years; 2, 000, 000 Euros

Major groups (MGs) concerned:

- Farmers
- Business and Industry
- NGOs
- Women
- Youth
- Scientific and Technological Community

Success indicators:

-No. of farmers' organizations with improved capacities for SARD

-No. of farm families with improved access to market information

Partners to be engaged:

Canadian International Development Agency; Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs; AgriCord Belgium (farmers development NGO), national farmers' organizations from the IFAP global network, FAO.

Expected Outcomes and Contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Strengthened capacity for SARD of 20 national farmers' organizations in developing countries (mainly in Africa) in the first instance, which will benefit up to one million farm family members. Impact on MDGs 1, 3, 7 and 8.

Proposed Objectives and Approaches

- Strengthening organizational capacity so that farmers in developing countries can play an active role in SARD to fight poverty in their own country and contribute to global economic development and a more secure world.
- Establish technical, economic and trade information systems.
- Raise awareness of the importance of SARD.
- Farmers helping farmers by sharing knowledge and experiences through their international network IFAP, facilitated by partnerships with donors, development NGOs, FAO and others.

Building upon Experience

IFAP, founded in 1946, currently has a membership 107 national farmers' organizations in 75 countries around the world most of which are developing countries. IFAP has General Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. It has 30 projects currently underway in developing countries, managed by AgriCord, which are mainly focused on capacity building for trade, co-funded by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Major Group Inputs

IFAP brings together the professional experience of a worldwide network of national farmers' organizations with the operational experience of development NGOs involved in capacity building through AgriCord. This farmer-to-farmer development cooperation strengthens the capacity of farmers as a major group to engage with FAO and other partners in the SARD Initiative.

Proposal 2: Local People-to-People Learning Exchange and Policy Linkages

Submitting MGs / CSOs	Scientific & Technical Community + NGO's: IFSA & IPSA
Countries of Implementation	Africa, Asia, and Latin America
Agro-ecological context	Various
Duration and Total Budget	1,5 year \$ 150,000.

Major groups (MGs) concerned:

- Farmers
- Women
- Indigenous Peoples
- S & T Community
- NGOs

Success indicators:

- No. of grass root groups using internet learning support service
- No. of uploaded stories, good practices and contacts
- No. of policy recommendations and collaborative partnerships developed

Partners to be engaged:

International Farming Systems Association (IFSA), International Partners for Sustainable Agriculture (IPSA), International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP), International Indian Treaty Council, WOCAN, Ministry of Agriculture in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.

Expected Outcomes and Contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Grass root learning facilitated by internet; learning resource kit to support expansion to other regions; formalized local support arrangements; effective demand-driven local learning services; knowledge base of achievements, lessons learned & good practices; core material for "Linking Good Practice for SARD to National Policies" Multi-Major Group proposal (4). Impact on MDGs 1, 3, 6, 7 and 8.

Proposed Objectives and Approaches

- Build capacity of grass root groups to share achievements, lessons learned and good practices with each other using the internet.
- Enable high levels of interaction between local groups so that the many dispersed 'success' stories of major group's can be made available to assist those struggling to succeed.
- Make available to regional and global bodies the data, context and contacts necessary for better policy making at international levels based on grass roots good practices through multi-major group assistance.
- Provide opportunities for local and national governments and IGOs to make direct investments in and spread grass root successes.

Building upon Experience

Actions taken to date include global and regional conferences (since 2001) organized by major groups and their websites including IFSA's electronic journal (since 2003). IFSA Mentoring Group of practitioners to support capacity building in local multi-stakeholder learning processes. Linking Local Learners internet learning support service was also developed at <http://www.linkinglearners.net>. Field level lesson learning activities in East Africa and Learning in European Agricultural and Rural Networks (Learn Group – EU project) have also been initiated, respectively in 1998 and 2002.

Major Group Inputs

Major group networks identify success stories and good practices as well as provide resource persons for capacity building. Organization by IFSA of Global Learning Opportunity (GLO) in Rome for all SARD stakeholders. The project will help the SARD Initiative develop ways in which local success stories in SARD can be a source of learning for other local groups and for national, regional and global levels of policy making.

Proposal 3: Documenting, Exchanging and scaling up good practices of high impact SARD programs for selected ecologically fragile, marginalized rural areas in Latin America, Africa and Asia

Submitting MGs / CSOs	NGO: World Neighbors (WN)
Countries of Implementation	Burkina Faso, Kenya, Honduras, Guatemala, Bolivia, Ecuador, Indonesia, India, Haiti
Agro-ecological context	Mountains & drylands
Duration and Total Budget	2 years, \$ 432,000

Major groups (MGs) concerned:

- NGOs
- Indigenous Peoples
- Farmers
- Local Authorities
- Scientific and Technological Community
- Women

Success indicators:

- No. of households with improved food security and child nutrition
- No. of communities with improved natural resource base
- No. of women with improved access to assets and decision making

Partners to be engaged:

International Institute for Rural Reconstruction (IIRR), specialized government technical services, existing community based organizations, Local government, Local and International NGOs (ODI, IIED, ILEIA), etc.

Expected Outcomes and Contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Improved food security for farm households suffering from chronic hunger; reduced child malnutrition and mortality; reversal of degradation of the natural resource base; reduced gender disparity in income, access to assets, well being, and decision-making at the household and community level. Impact on MDGs 1,3, 4 and 7.

Proposed Objectives and Approaches

- Identify elements of good practice for supporting farmer-led community based initiatives for sustainable intensification of small-scale agriculture.
- Determine and advocate for key practical policy changes and stakeholder collaboration mechanisms.
- Develop local multi stakeholder networks that support local capacity building to improve, coordinate and scale up existing programs consistent with agreed locally determined good practices.
- Promotion of “people centered” approaches that begin by helping people analyze their problems, plan and implement their own programs. Tangible benefits are sustained and spread within and across communities through group formation, training of volunteer promoters, local capacity building, and coordinated action with local government. Promotion involves facilitating local “good practices” workshops, documentation of process and results of successful programs and publication of key lessons from 9 countries.

Building upon Experience

The programme builds on successful experience of WN in more than 40 countries. World Neighbors has helped organize and convene regional and national level workshops and networks since 1997 in many of the countries cited, on agro-ecology, peasant farmer organization, action research and community capacity building and has contributed to the scaling up of good practices.

Major Group Inputs

WN provide staff support for organizing, convening and coordinating. Interested partners contribute time to document and present concrete field experiences and to participate in workshops. Partners also contribute to promoting a local network and develop joint collaborative scaling up plans.

Proposal 4: Linking Good Practice for SARD to National Policies

Submitting MGs / CSOs	International Partners for Sustainable Agriculture
Country of Implementation	Global
Agro-ecological context	Temperate, tropical, subtropical and mountain areas
Duration and Total Budget	3 years; US \$ 150,000

Major groups (MGs) concerned:

- NGOs
- Indigenous Peoples
- Farmers
- Scientific & Technological Community
- Women
- Business and Industry
- Workers and Trade Unions
- Youth
- Media & Consumer interest groups

Success indicators:

- Increased engagement in collaborative action
- Governance mechanisms devised and implemented
- Demonstrated effective engagement in policy

Partners to be engaged:

IPSA and MG/CSO SARD Initiative partners in Africa, Asia and the Americas including World Neighbors, ANGOC, CIRPED, IPIAT, ICSDRA, etc., In Motion Magazine, International Land Coalition; IGOs IFAD, FAO, and interested Governments.

Expected Outcomes and Contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Increased capacity of civil society actors, governments, and disadvantaged communities to collaborate and take action on strategies to end poverty and hunger based on scaling up endogenous successes in each country with policy support at national & international levels; removed barriers and increased resources for sustainable development including provision of essential resources such as access to land, water, credit, information & technical assistance; effective public/private partnerships with equity among partners; development of civil society leadership and access and subsidiarity principles. Impact on MDGs 1,7 and 8.

Proposed Objectives and Approaches

Help poor and underserved or disadvantaged communities to raise their voice, by increasing major group and Civil Society partners' participation in SARD implementation in selected target developing countries by 2008, including:

- Facilitation of multi-stakeholder engagement in the SARD Initiative in each target country,
- Collaboration with IGO and governments to build capacity of partners to achieve their goals and objectives,
- Facilitating resource mobilization for MG/CSO outreach, communication and case study profiles for policy analysis,
- Support for development of multi-stakeholder governance structures to bring good practice into national policy forums in each country.

Building upon Experience

IPSA has worked with focal points for major groups and with country CSO partners for over 6 years, focusing on bringing SARD good practices to policy in national, regional and international arenas, including national Agenda 21 processes, UN CSD, FAO World Food Summit and CoAg, and the WSSD. Experiences from developing country partners have been successfully reflected in SARD policy and specifically the SARD Initiative, SARD in Mountain Areas and other international partnership initiatives.

Major Group Inputs

Capacity building through training and mentoring of partners in national and international contexts. Networking international major group/CSO networks and their representatives active in target countries. Briefing and coordination support for engagement in Global Learning Opportunity (GLO), regional CSD and FAO processes, with a culmination in the 2008 focus on land and agriculture by the CSD at UN Headquarters.

Proposal 5: 2nd Global Consultation on the Right to Food and Food Security for Indigenous Peoples

Submitting MGs / CSOs	Indigenous Peoples: International Indian Treaty Council (IITC)
Country of Implementation	Mexico, with global participation, all regions
Agro-ecological context	Various tropical, sub tropical and mountain areas
Duration and Total Budget	6 months, \$ 125,700

Major groups (MGs) concerned:

- NGOs
- Indigenous Peoples
- Farmers
- Scientific and Technological Community
- Local Authorities

Success indicators:

- A set of culturally relevant indicators available for development programmes
- Increased awareness of key development actors about the importance of culture for SARD

Partners to be engaged:

FAO, UNDP, the UN Permanent on Indigenous Issues, other UN agencies, local university and Zapoteca communities in Mexico, Indigenous Peoples in all regions, and a range of Civil Society Partners.

Expected Outcomes and Contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Effective “cultural indicators” applied by development actors to benefit indigenous communities and improve agriculture, food systems and rural development. Impact on MDGs 1, 7 and 8.

Proposed Objectives and Approaches

- Mainstream a complementary cultural “pillar” of sustainable development and food security, since the economic, social and environmental “pillars” do not fully acknowledge the crucial role of cultural factors for Indigenous and other local communities.
- Develop a set of practical, useful and appropriate “cultural indicators” that express the best interests and concerns of Indigenous Peoples (IP), incorporating relationships between traditional cultural practices, local food security, human rights and environmental protection as a basis for sustainable development.
- The workshop will adopt a highly participatory approach with input by 80+ Indigenous participants from all regions in collaboration with FAO and other agencies to produce a useful, representative outcome.

Building upon Experience

IITC was the first Indigenous organization to receive UN Consultative Status in 1977. Collaboration between IITC and FAO led to the First Global Summit on the Right to Food and Food Security for IP in Guatemala in 2002, attended by over 125 Indigenous delegates from 28 countries in all regions, as well as FAO and NGO International Planning committee representatives. The resulting “Declaration of Atitlán”, adopted by consensus, addressed the links between human rights, economic development, protection of local livelihoods, food systems and cultures. It was presented as policy contribution to the World Food Summit: *five years later*, the Permanent Forum, the World Bank and the WSSD. The 2nd Global consultation will help to implement recommendations of this declaration.

Major Group Inputs

The main inputs will include coordination, research/facilitation on how to incorporate cultural indicators, as well as Indigenous Peoples’ rights to resource access and traditional practices, into the SARD framework.

Proposal 6: Documenting and Communicating Sustainable Development Practices through an Interview and Photograph Database

Submitting MGs / CSOs	Media Interest Group: In Motion Magazine
Country of Implementation	Global
Agro-ecological context	Wide spectrum of rural, (sub)tropical, mountain areas
Duration and Total Budget	2 years, US\$ 240,000

Major groups (MGs) concerned:

- Farmers
- Indigenous Peoples
- Women
- Workers & Trade Unions
- Youth
- NGOs
- Business & Industry
- Local Authorities
- Scientific and Technological Community

Success indicators:

- Interview database (60+)
- Photo archive (1000s)
- No. of self-evaluations of local SD experiences
- Journalist mentoring

Partners to be engaged:

International Partners for Sustainable Agriculture; all major groups; CBOs of farmers, rural/urban workers, unemployed workers, landless farmers organizing to improve their lives.

Expected Outcomes and Contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Communication of successful sustainable development practices through a database of in-depth interviews and photographs documented in the words (and images) of the participants. This database will help lay the groundwork for an exchange of practical experience through a variety of media (Internet, print, photography and others). Impact on MDGs 1, 3, 7 and 8.

Proposed Objectives and Approaches

Document sustainable development practices in order to facilitate communication on SARD. More specifically, the project objectives are to:

- Conduct extensive interviews with the practitioners of, and leading members of communities involved in, successful sustainable development practices in various parts of the world.
 - Take photos of the participants, their environment, and what they think shows the effectiveness of their work.
 - Edit the interviews, review them with the interviewees (whenever possible), publish them online (on the SARD site and also in In Motion Magazine), and make them available for print.
 - In the second year, offer simultaneous training in the techniques of this method of documentation.
- The most basic approach to these interviews is to offer the opportunity to people to express in their words what they do and why. The Internet approach to publication of their experiences allows others to learn and test the experiences for themselves.

Building upon Experience

In Motion Magazine has been online since August, 1995 (www.inmotionmagazine.com). The publisher, Nic Paget-Clarke, has been developing this interview and photography process since then and has conducted 104 published interviews. In the last five years, many of the interviews have been conducted in series, including at the UN's World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa; in India; in the U.S.; in New Zealand; in Brazil; in Venezuela; and in Trinidad & Tobago. His photographs have been published in over 25 magazines, text books, and reference books.

Major Group Inputs

This Interview and Photograph Database Project creates readable, viewable, and exchangeable first-hand experiences of sustainable development practices. These data, portrayed in accessible formats, can help lay the groundwork for the exchange and learning which are at the center of the SARD Initiative.

Proposal 7: Capacity Building for SARD Good Practices: Sustainable Livestock-Centred Community Development

Submitting MGs / CSOs	NGOs: Livestock Working Group (LWG)
Country of Implementation	Global, with initial focus on Eastern and Southern Africa
Agro-ecological context	Various
Duration and Total Budget	3 years, \$400,000 to be designed with donors and partners

Major groups (MGs) concerned:

- NGOs
- Indigenous Peoples
- Farmers
- Women,
- Workers & Trade Unions
- Local Authorities
- Scientific & Technological Community
- Business & Industry
- Youth
- Consumer and Media Interest Groups

Success indicators:

- No. of culturally relevant local language educational materials developed
- Training workshops designed and implemented (Zimbabwe and Kenya)
- No. of local learners able to assess needs and implement solutions
- Identification and sharing of case studies for scaling up

Partners to be engaged:

Africa Centre for Holistic Management, Zimbabwe; Heifer International; Humane Society International; IPSA; IUF; Indigenous Information Network-Kenya; Livestock Stakeholders Self-Help Farmers' Association-Kenya and other grassroots organizations; Namibian Meat Board; Global Alliance for Humane Sustainable Development and partners in the Americas; IFSA; Linking Local Learners; In Motion Magazine; CGIAR (ILRI), IFAD, FAO, and Ministries of Agriculture.

Expected Outcomes and Contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Increased sustainable livelihoods and capacity of rural communities to transition to and implement good agricultural practice in livestock and wildlife management; enhanced MG and multi-stakeholder collaboration, and facilitated linking of local lessons learned with policymakers at national, regional and international level. Impacts on MDGs 1, 7 and 8.

Proposed Objectives and Approaches

- Establish a mechanism to promote multi major group/CSO, government and inter-governmental collaboration (LWG) to coordinate activities at local, regional and international level.
 - Develop curriculum for a regional training course addressing holistic management of land and environment; livestock- centered approaches to local development; and humane animal production.
 - Train community leaders and build the capacity of communities to access SARD resources and information through internet, local and regional workshops.
 - Identify, document and report on successful case studies and policy implications; collaborate on shared experiences and expertise through regional and international learning exchanges.
- The approach used is a multi-major group and GO/IGO stakeholder collaboration.

Building upon Experience

The core stakeholders have applied for a planning grant to develop a long-term project proposal that builds on experience that has demonstrated an existing model of holistic management addressing the role of animals in enhancing land, water and biodiversity; building capacities of rural families and communities in problem solving and decision making; demonstrated economic, environmental and health benefits of humane livestock practices.

Major Group Inputs

At the end of three years, the project will have developed relevant curriculum materials and implemented regional training workshops, identified case studies and successful SARD program practices and policies for upscaling successful approaches to livestock-centered community development.

**Proposal 8: FAO/Italy Facility for Sustainable Development and Policy
Implementation Assistance – Pilot Phase (GCP/INT/938/ITA)**

Government and Implementing Agency	Government of Italy, FAO
Countries of Implementation	Global including Bolivia, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Guinea, Democratic Republic of Congo, Nile Basin, Eritrea, Syria, Vietnam, Pacific Region
Agro-ecological context	Various
Duration and Total Budget	1 year; US\$ 300,000

Major Groups (MGs) concerned

- Farmers
- Business and Industry
- NGOs
- Local Authorities
- Scientific and Technological Community

Success indicators:

- Improved sustainability and contribution to SARD of at least 7 FAO-Italy projects including the adoption of appropriate tools and methods
- No. and relevance of the good practices identified

Partners engaged:

Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs; FAO including Special Programme for Food Security; CERFE; selected FAO projects funded by Italy.

Expected Outcomes and Contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Establishment of a facility to capitalize on the experiences and innovations related to SARD and food security that can improve the effectiveness, capacity for innovation and sustainability of ongoing and future FAO projects; strengthened sustainability of 10 FAO projects financed by Italy in the pilot phase. Impact on MDGs 1, 7 and 8.

Proposed Objectives and Approaches

- Take stock of and systematize existing implementation and monitoring methodologies and prepare a dossier on SARD project design, management and monitoring tools.
- Identify, analyze and prepare a repertory of good SARD practices.
- Provide technical assistance, through field and distance support, to 10 Italian-funded FAO projects.
- Produce a newsletter on project activities to assist projects and disseminate good practices.
- Systematization of existing tools; generation and dissemination of lessons from projects on factors that undermine sustainability and impact on target groups; identification of innovative approaches and good practices; provision of a framework for replication and up-scaling to promote sustainable project outcomes; and capacity building of selected project managers for improved SARD outcomes.

Building upon Experience

The project implementation has been subcontracted through a Letter of Agreement to CERFE, an Italian non-profit research and training institute, under the technical supervision of FAO, Rural Institutions and Participation Service. CERFE has general consultative status with the United Nations ECOSOC and has been working with the United Nation system since 1983, implementing projects on poverty, social exclusion, rural development, the environment, civil society, governance, capacity building, training and M&E.

Partner Inputs

The Government of Italy has provided financial support to improve the sustainability of impact of a selection of FAO/Italy projects through this Facility. FAO has the overall responsibility for implementation and, with the SARD Initiative partners, provide technical assistance on SARD and M&E. CERFE provides a team of experts in rural development, including for project monitoring, backstopping and evaluation.

Proposal 9: Sustainet programme

Submitting Government	Germany; SUSTAINET (Sustainable Agriculture Information Network)
Countries of Implementation	India, Kenya, Tanzania, Peru, Bolivia and Brazil
Agro-ecological context	Various
Duration and Total Budget	3 years, 1.800.000 €

Major groups (MGs) concerned:

- NGOs
- Indigenous Peoples
- Farmers
- Scientific and Technological Community
- Local Authorities

Success indicators

- No. of experiences analyzed by local partners in SA in pilot projects
- No. of experiences evaluated and instruments identified transcontinentally in SA
- No. of local partners enabled and networked
- No. of experiences exchanged among major actors in partner countries and in German/multinational development cooperation

Partners to be engaged:

Rat für Nachhaltige Entwicklung (German Council for Sustainability); BMZ (German Ministry of Economic Co-operation), BMVEL (German Ministry of Agriculture); GTZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit / German Technical Cooperation); Misereor, Brot für die Welt (Bread for the World), DWHH (German Agro Action) plus various local project partners in the pilot countries.

Expected Outcomes and Contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Significant contributions made to alleviating hunger in pilot areas through the dissemination of suitable good practices in sustainable locally adapted agriculture; success factors and relevant framework conditions for successful implementation and dissemination of methods and technologies of sustainable agriculture are analyzed with project partners and in professional circles; recommendations to national and international decision-makers are published on promising development strategies to alleviate world hunger and to activate pro-poor growth in rural areas by development of sustainable agriculture. Impact on MDGs 1,7 and 8.

Proposed Objectives and Approaches

Focusing on relevant processes promoted so far by the German development cooperation:

- Collate and assess project approaches and models in sustainable, locally adapted agriculture for their tangible benefit to target populations through a self-evaluation process in pilot regions.
- Analyze tried and tested communication strategies and dissemination mechanisms for good practices.
- Analyze the relevant success parameters and ascertain the political, social and economic parameters and/or preconditions for the successful transfer of these models to other settings.
- Select and further develop good practices that appear eligible for scaling up and promotion of these models by actors involved in the process (local partner organizations, NGOs, training centers/universities and scientific institutes, partner organizations in government).
- Enable the transfer of mutual know-how and networking at various levels from resource users (target group) to intermediary organizations (local partner organizations and scientific institutions) to decision-makers (government organizations, international organizations, such as FAO, and the private sector).
- Develop strategies for improved anchoring of sustainable, locally adapted land use systems at various political levels (advocacy, lobbying).

Proposal 10: Global Health and Safety (H&S) Initiative

Submitting MGs / CSOs	Workers : International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Associations (IUF)
Countries of Implementation	Initial focus on Uganda, Malawi, Ghana and Tanzania
Agro-ecological context	Initial focus on tropical regions
Duration and Total Budget	3 years, \$US 150, 000

Major groups (MGs) concerned:

- NGOs
- Farmers
- Women
- Workers & Trade Unions
- Local Authorities
- Scientific & Technological Community

Success indicators:

- No. of workers able to negotiate improved H&S policies and agreements
- No. of workshops held
- No. of materials disseminated in local languages
- No. of success documented

Partners to be engaged:

Government (Ministries of Labour) and Federations of employers in each country, Swedish Society for Nature Conservation, FAO Global IPM Facility, Pesticide Action Network and local NGOs.

Expected Outcomes and Contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Ratification and implementation of ILO Convention 184 by the four countries; better Collective Bargaining Agreements with employers and Functional Health and Safety Committees at all workplaces; agricultural workers, often excluded in national legislation, will be able to voice their concerns and participate in H&S on national matters affecting them and issues affecting at workplaces. Impact on MDGs 4, 5 and 7.

Proposed Objectives and Approaches

Reduce rates of fatalities and ill health due to occupational accidents, diseases and pesticides poisoning among agricultural workers. More specifically:

- Build capacity of participating unions to develop union H&S policies and negotiate better H&S Agreements with employers,
- Participate in and influence national policy specifically on ratification and implementation of ILO Convention 184 by the four countries,
- Support the transition to more sustainable agriculture,
- Offer training workshops, disseminate educational materials, incorporate theater to address illiteracy, and translate written materials into local languages; enable local leadership to emerge and document success stories.

Building upon Experience

Agriculture is one of the three most hazardous occupations, along with mining and construction. IUF carried out the Global Pesticides Project /Health, Safety and Environment (2000-2004) to build capacity for IUF and agricultural unions to reduce the hazards and risks to agricultural workers of pesticide use at local, regional, national and international levels. The workers formed Health and Safety Committees at their workplaces and concluded Collective Bargaining Agreements with their employers. This project builds upon this experience in the context of ILO Convention 184 on Health and Safety in Agriculture.

Major Group Inputs

Education and training, education and communication materials and capacity building for SARD, in collaboration with employers (farmers), employees, governments, NGOs, S&T and others. IUF will provide its experience, skills and knowledge in organizing vulnerable waged agricultural workers to break out of the vicious cycle of poor health that reduces working capacity, lowers productivity and shortens life expectancy.

Proposal 11: Civil Society Networking and Participation in WTO Negotiations on Agriculture, Food Security and Related Processes in Eastern Africa

Submitting MGs / CSOs	NGO: FATNEA (Food and Trade Network for East Africa)
Countries of Implementation	Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania
Agro-ecological context	Various tropical and semi-arid areas
Duration and Total Budget	3 years, US \$ 354,105

Major groups (MGs) concerned:

- NGOs
- Farmers
- Scientific and Technological Community
- Women
- Local Authorities

Success indicators:

- No. of disadvantaged stakeholders able to participate effectively in decision making fora that affect their livelihoods

Partners to be engaged:

Government (Ministries of Agriculture, Trade and Industry (Dept of External Trade)).

Expected Outcomes and Contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Improved awareness of all stakeholders regarding food security challenges faced by small scale farmers so that governments and other actors respond more urgently and positively to the needs of small scale farmers and other disadvantaged groups for improved food security. Impact on MDG 1.

Proposed Objectives and Approaches

- Build capacity of farmers and other stakeholders to participate effectively in current negotiations on the Agreement on Agriculture (AOA) and related processes at different levels and to support governments to represent their views more effectively.
 - Gather information on the effect of World Trade Organization (WTO) policies on food security and on farmers' livelihoods in order to enrich their negotiating positions.
 - Facilitate farmers and civil society actors engagement in WTO's agricultural negotiations.
 - Help small scale farmers to benefit from agricultural trade liberalization by offering them specialized training and trade information to access niche export markets.
- The main approach to be used is participatory training and consultative workshops involving small scale farmers, civil society, researchers and government. Other methods include impact studies, bi-annual workshops, specialized trainings and other forum and special mass media (e.g. radio) programmes.

Building upon Experience

FATNEA has been working with small scale farmers and civil society groups in East Africa since 2001. Senior staff have over 10 years experience working with farmer organizations, international NGOs (such as Oxfam GB-Kenya) and governments (Ministries of Agriculture). Issues and potential programme areas were identified during 3 networking workshops held in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania in 2003. Draft Action Plans were prepared in each country covering policy advocacy and training and specialized training for farmers, such as in good agricultural practices.

Major Group Inputs

The main inputs from the MGs are ideas, proposals and experiences in resolving problems of food security and hunger among resource poor communities, especially small scale farmers, pastoralists and fisher folk.

Proposal 12: Strengthening Capacity of a Training Center for Sustainable Agriculture in Diogo, Senegal

Submitting MGs / CSOs	NGO: Farmers' Center of Initiatives and Research for the Environment and Sustainable Development (CIRPED)
Country of Implementation	Senegal, West Africa
Agro-ecological context	Sahel
Duration and Total Budget	2 years, US \$ 60,000

Major groups (MGs) concerned:

- NGOs
- Indigenous Peoples
- Farmers
- Scientific and Technological Community
- Women
- Media Interest Group

Success indicators:

- No. of farmers adopting sustainable practices
- No. of technicians trained on agro-ecological methods and practices
- Improvement in the natural resource base and access to resources (credit, technical assistance, seeds, etc.)

Partners to be engaged:

Local farmers, women, NGOs, community trainees and technicians; major groups S&T, NGO and Media; FAO.

Expected Outcomes and Contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Increased capacities of small farmers (especially women), local NGO representatives, community trainees and technicians to adopt sustainable agriculture methods, manage natural resources in a sustainable way, and benefit from improved market access and fairer prices. Impact on MDGs 1,7 and 8.

Proposed Objectives and Approaches

- Support its partner organizations through research and training on: environmental action and natural resource protection and management; rehabilitation and protection of flora and fauna; restoration, protection and conservation of soil and water; control of erosion and crop diseases by natural means; integration of agriculture, animal husbandry and forestry.
- Provide information and communication on sustainable agriculture and improved rural livelihoods, including marketing opportunities, access to fair prices for small farmers, and development of policy linkages.
- Support the creation and the management of rural community banks from local savings, micro-credit and investment and promote autonomous finance for local sustainable development.

Building upon Experience

CIRPED is a Senegalese non-profit organization created in 1993 to support farmers' organizations, rural communities and small artisans. CIRPED has worked many years to assist farmers to attain agricultural production systems which are socially just, culturally diverse, economically viable and environmentally sustainable. These systems are designed to allow farmers to use entirely renewable energy sources available locally while limiting external inputs and promoting sound natural resources management. CIRPED has succeeded in initial efforts to build capacity to train disadvantaged groups in good practices for SARD.

Major Group Inputs

CIRPED is the West Africa NGO Focal Point for the SARD Initiative. It will work to train, mentor, monitor and evaluate good practices for distillation and dissemination. Links to other major groups of SARD will permit wider sharing of experiences and linking of local learners, documentation of success stories, and development of policy recommendations for extension to other parts of West Africa through CIRPED and MG networks.

Proposal 13: Replication of the Siongiroi Dairy Development Project

Submitting MGs / CSOs	NGO: Heifer International (HI)
Country of Implementation	Kenya
Agro-ecological context	Semi-arid dryland
Duration and Total Budget	3 years, \$ 1,780,000

Success indicators:

- Milk productivity increase
- No. of business management system instituted
- No. of HIV/AIDS patients with improved nutrition
- No. of jobs created

Partners to be engaged:

Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, African Breeders Service, Total Cattle Management, Siongiroi Dairy Farmers Co-op Society, and farmer self-help groups.

Major groups (MGs) concerned:

- NGOs
- Indigenous Peoples
- Farmers
- Business and Industry
- Scientific and Technological Community
- Women
- Children and Youth
- Local Authorities

Expected Outcomes and Contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Increased agricultural milk productivity and greater efficiency of marketing systems for 12,000 food-insecure farmers in Cheranganyi Hills, 1200 farmers in Siongiroi and 3000 farmers in Makueni. The project also seeks to improve nutrition of HIV/AIDS-affected persons through increased availability of quality goat milk, improved farm and natural resource management, and development of private extension services in the three locations. Impact on MDGs 1,3, 4 and 7.

Proposed Objectives and Approaches

- Increase milk productivity of cows and dairy goats.
 - Establish small-scale goat milk processing units and strengthen the farmer organizations that will own the dairy facilities, as well as develop efficient marketing systems through the establishment of milk cooling centers and the creation of market linkages with milk processors and input suppliers.
 - Develop business management systems appropriate for these enterprises and train the staff and directors of milk cooling and processing centers on business management to enhance sustainability.
- Community-based sustainable development approaches such as organization of self-help groups and cooperative societies; community training and performance of feasibility study as requested by farmers.

Building upon Experience

HI started its operation in Kenya in 1981. In 1996, activities started with milk marketing and strengthening of farmer organizations. This was done with milk collection and chilling centers in Siongiroi. The sale of milk from the plant today facilitates the payment of over Ksh. 6 million to local farmers on a monthly basis. Their herds now produce quality milk and the plant currently receives over 500 tonnes of milk monthly. The installation of collection centers has been completed, training is on-going and milk marketing programs have been put in place. HI Kenya will use lessons learned from implementing the Siongiroi dairy project. One of the lessons learnt in Siongiroi is that well planned and executed development programs where farmers are involved from the start have a higher chance of succeeding.

Major Group Inputs

Major group inputs include capacity building of communities in sustainable farming technologies and natural resources management along with financial and institutional support. The NGO and partners will bring in expertise and new technology in animal production, community mobilization, enterprise development and organizational management.

Proposal 14: Building Capacity to Use Agro-ecological Techniques and Recuperate Soils in the Lower Plateau of the Andean Mountains

Submitting MGs / CSOs	NGO: Institute of Production and Research on Tropical Sustainable Agriculture (IPIAT)
Country of Implementation	Venezuela
Agro-ecological context	Various Tropical and Mountain Areas
Duration and Total Budget	3 years, \$ 105,000

Major groups (MGs) concerned:

- NGOs
- Farmers
- Local Authorities
- Scientific and Technological Community
- Women

Success indicators:

- 355 self-sustaining families
- 95 agro-ecological professionals trained
- Soil and watershed recovery

Partners to be engaged:

Farmer cooperative groups, grassroots organizations, local government, local universities, local and international NGOs, Media (In Motion Magazine), S&T (IFSA) and NGO (IPSA) Focal Points.

Expected Outcomes and Contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Increased skills of rural family groups (355 families) to help set the research and development agenda on soil and watershed recovery and natural resource management; improved capacity of professionals (95) to do participatory research in agro-ecological analysis; and increased collaboration between professionals and rural families looking to strengthen local capacity building efforts. Impact on MDGs 1, 3, 7, and 8.

Proposed Objectives and Approaches

- Improve the quality of rural families' livelihoods by learning and using agro-ecological techniques.
 - Overcome the natural limitations of productive systems by identifying the most appropriate techniques and good practices that support farmer-led, community-based initiatives for sustainable tropical agriculture.
 - Organize networks to advocate for soil recovery and the establishment of agro-ecological seed banks.
 - Document good practices and success stories for scaling up.
- The approach used stresses participation at all levels by families and professionals to reflect and build upon established rural knowledge and lessons learned from community engagement in SARD.

Building upon Experience

The program builds on the successful agro-ecological experiences of IPIAT. Since 1987, IPIAT has helped to organize regional and international-level workshops and to network peasant farmers' organizations, actions, research, and community-building capacity in six western Venezuelan states. Currently, IPIAT is actively involved in helping the Venezuelan government incorporate agro-ecological techniques in major agricultural programs, such as Misión Vuelvan Caras, All Hands to the Seeds, and Endogenous Nucleus Development.

Major Group Inputs

IPIAT provides quality technical staff to help articulate the efforts of farmers, cooperatives, and governmental institutions. It will collaborate with the major groups of SARD, to share experiences and support local scaling-up, in cooperation with documentation by media (6), linking local learning and policy recommendations with NGO and S&T SARD leadership (2).

Proposal 15: Improving Sustainable and Humane Beef Production through Indigenous Training and Local Action in Central America

Submitting MGs /CSOs	Global Alliance for Humane Sustainable Development (Alianza Global para el Desarrollo Humanitario Sostenible) and Humane Society International (HSI)
Countries of Implementation	Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador & Guatemala
Agro-ecological context	Various tropical and subtropical
Duration and Total Budget	3 ½ years. US\$ 250,000 (plus \$50,000 match)

Major groups (MGs) concerned:

- Farmers
- Women
- Scientific and Technological Community
- Local Authorities
- Indigenous Peoples
- Business and Industry
- Youth
- NGOs

Success indicators:

- No. of local trainers trained
- No. of successful technology transfer
- No. of cases of good practices replicated through technical assistance
- Documented GAP success stories

Partners to be engaged:

Farmers, veterinarians, local and national livestock/cattlemen’s associations, private business people, extension agents at the Ministries of Agriculture and Livestock, and local universities in participating countries.

Expected Outcomes and Contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Sustainable and humane practices incorporated by local groups and policy decision-makers in beef production to enable smallholder producers to improve knowledge, market share and attain sustainable livelihoods; established industry standards; greater access to production technology; documented success stories and increased collaboration between public and private institutions. Impact on MDGs 1, 7 and 8.

Proposed Objectives and Approaches

- Establish local trainer teams that can develop an appropriate training program for the extension of animal welfare and production priorities in rural and urban areas; increase community and industry awareness of environmental and welfare concerns in meat production; promote technology transfer among Central American producers.
- Participatory group training; delivery of on-site technical assistance to farmers, auctions, transport and slaughter plants onsite and facilitate local good practices development at pilot facilities and at industry level.

Building upon Experience

Since 2003, GAHSD and HSI have implemented training and technical assistance programs that enables NGOs and private sector to influence government trade, agricultural and environmental policies throughout Central America. They were the first organizations to deliver support programs and to officially involve both national policy makers and community action groups within trade negotiations in order to promote environmentally friendly and humane policies. The Global Alliance has successfully worked with Customs, Environment and Agriculture Ministries, while building capacities of public and private sector on the environmental aspects of trade in the pork and beef sectors in the Central America region.

Major Group Inputs

Major groups’ inputs include: capacity building on humane sustainable agriculture and animal welfare at policy and farm level; building local and regional networks of leaders that can upscale and augment national agriculture and welfare planning; good practices distillation and dissemination; facilitation of meetings between farmers, academia, industry, policy-makers, and technical experts to promote participatory decision-making.

Proposal 16: Sustainable Rural Development and EcoVillage Training Program in India

Submitting MGs / CSOs	NGO: EcoEarth Alliance Partnership Initiative (EEAPI) and IIRD
Countries of Implementation	India and other Asian countries
Agro-ecological context	Semi-arid drylands
Duration and Total Budget	3 years, \$ 591,000

Major groups (MGs) concerned:

- NGOs
- Indigenous Peoples
- Farmers
- Business and Industry
- Scientific and Technological Community
- Women

Success indicators:

- No. of women, NGOs and government officials trained
- Resource center and network established (1)
- Success stories identified and documented to support local learning

Partners to be engaged:

Asian Productivity Program, National Productivity Organization in India, Ministry of Agriculture, Global Ecovillage Network.

Expected Outcomes and Contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Enhanced capacity of grass roots communities to implement integrated sustainable rural development actions and to benefit from sharing of successful sustainable livelihood improvement experiences. Impact on MDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Proposed Objectives and Approaches

- Train 24 women eco-volunteers on environmental management, organic agriculture, herbal health, micro-finance management and community development in Aurangabad District.
- Train 200 NGOs /CSOs working in the field of rural development in different parts of India in order to implement programmes based on sustainable livelihoods and multi-sectoral rural development.
- Train government officials from the Asian Region and NGOs from around the world in an integrated, multi-sectoral approach to sustainable rural community based development.
- Establish a resource center for NGOs working in sustainable livelihoods and to support local and national advocacy and educational activities. Establish regional training and resource centers in various regions of India. Establish a network of organizations working for sustainable livelihoods in rural areas of India.
- Community based integrated approaches to sustainable rural development, such as village exchange visits, gender focused community training and learning appropriate intermediate technologies.

Building upon Experience

For the past decade, IIRD has been active in: communities mobilization, including workshops with grass roots communities; identification of success stories in villages and training centers where the Training Programs are be conducted; development of a series of tools and capacity building instruments, including evaluation and inventory of community needs and accomplishments.

Major Group Inputs

Provide training and establish a resource center for on-going learning about and sharing of SARD good practices.

Proposal 17: The 200-Village Project

Submitting MGs / CSOs	NGO: ANGOC (Asian NGO coalition)
Countries of Implementation	Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, China, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam.
Agro-ecological context	Various
Duration and Total budget	2 years, \$ 250,000

Major groups (MGs) concerned:

- Farmers
- NGOs/CBOs
- Local Authorities
- Scientific and Technological Community

Partners to be engaged:

Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh (ADAB) –Bangladesh
 Association of Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development (AVARD) –India
 Sekretariat Bina Desa, WALHI and BINA SWADAYA –Indonesia
 China Association for NGO Cooperation - China
 Rural Development Foundation of Pakistan (RDF) –Pakistan
 Philippine Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Areas
 National NGO Council of Sri Lanka (NNGOC) – Sri Lanka
 Rural Reconstruction Alumni and Friends Association (RRAFA) – Thailand
 Vietnam Gardening Association (VAC VINA) – Vietnam
 Cambodia NGO Alliance for Cooperation (CNAC) and Star Kampuchea –Cambodia

Success indicators:

- No. of households with enhanced food security
- Increased hectareage covered by SA
- Increased no. of farmer-adopters
- No. of farmers with increased income
- 30 community projects implemented

Expected Outcomes and Contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Reduce poverty by enabling at least 600 households across ten Asian countries to achieve food security using SA farming technologies. Households will be selected according to the survey results of the 200-Village Project initiated by ANGOC. Impact on MDGs 1, 7 and 8.

Proposed Objectives and Approaches

- Implement SA community projects and upscale the most adaptable SA technologies.
 - Conduct capacity building activities by producing a manual on good practices through a participatory workshop.
 - Document case studies in each selected village highlighting critical elements for the success or failure of SA as a local initiative for food security towards poverty alleviation.
- People centered approaches including validation of survey findings by the communities themselves and participation of the communities in project design.

Building upon Experience

In the early 1990s, the ANGOC network instituted a Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture program to promote the practice and policy integration of SA. Gradually, it has succeeded in having SA incorporated into the agendas of governments and other formal groups. The program has helped spread valuable innovations in SA through supporting farmer-field schools, cross site visits, demonstration and breeding farms and farmer-to-farmer extension. For the 1996 World Food Summit, ANGOC convened 101 groups from 18 Asian countries to examine alternative approaches to food security for the region.

Major Group Inputs

At the end of two years, the project will: implement 30 community projects in 10 Asian countries, organize regional workshop to produce a resource book on SA good practices, document at least 10 case studies, and publish and distribute a resource book on SA (good practices and case studies).

Proposal 18: Targeting Agricultural Research and Development (R&D) for Poverty Alleviation through Women's Networks

Submitting MGs / CSOs	Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management (WOCAN)
Countries of Implementation	Laos, Vietnam (and Bhutan, India, China, Nepal)
Agro-ecological context	Various tropical, subtropical and mountain areas
Duration and Total Budget	3 years, US \$ 85,000

Major groups (MGs) concerned:

- NGOs
- Indigenous Peoples
- Farmers
- Scientific and Technological Community
- Women

Success indicators:

- No. of professionals with Improved capacity for PR/SA
- Network functioning (1)
- No. of women with increased skills in NRM

Partners to be engaged:

Indigenous women, professional and rural women in India, Bhutan, Nepal, China, Viet Nam and Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Expected Outcomes and Contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Increased skills of rural women's groups to set R&D agendas on food security and natural resources management (NRM); women's greater access to and control over information, services, markets and income; improved capacity of professionals to do participatory research and gender analysis (PR/GA); increased collaboration between men and women professionals on institutionalization of PR/GA; professional women's greater decision making and control over resources within their organizations. Impact on MDGs 1,3 and 7.

Proposed Objectives and Approaches

Enable poor rural women to emerge from poverty by:

- more effectively managing their own agricultural assets, including labor, knowledge and other assets,
 - gaining access to agricultural and NRM technologies, services, inputs and markets,
 - having more effective input to decision making processes of agricultural and NRM organizations that can affect their livelihoods.
- Gender sensitive participatory approaches including establishment of a network of women's R&D committees; facilitating a process of change within the agricultural and NRM organizations themselves; conducting action research that will generate a viable set of good practices for mainstreaming gender-sensitive participatory R&D approaches within selected organizations; and assessing the impacts of these methodologies for learning and change.

Building upon Experience

WOCAN has provided training on participatory research, gender analysis and organizational change for an IDRC project in the eastern Himalayas with the Participatory Research and Gender Analysis Program of CGIAR from 2002-2004. This project builds on that successful experience, and on the director's decade of experience in working on gender and organizational change with agriculture and NRM organizations in the Himalayan region.

Major Group Inputs

Capacity building through training and mentoring on gender analysis, participatory research, organizational change; building networks of women professionals and rural women; monitoring & evaluation; good practices distillation and dissemination. Links to other major groups of SARD will permit a sharing of experiences and allow a wider extension of good practices to other parts of Asia and Africa through WOCAN and MG networks.

Proposal 19: Poverty Reduction and Job Creation for Rural Youth, Farmers, and Communities in the North Caucasus

Submitting MGs / CSOs	International Center for Sustainable Development of Rural Areas (ICSDRA)
Country of Implementation	Russia
Agro-ecological context	Various
Duration and Total Budget	3 years, 90,000 US\$

Major groups (MGs) concerned:

- Local Authority
- Youth
- Farmers
- NGO
- Scientific and Technological Community
- Women
- Media

Success indicators:

- No. of low-income youth with improved food security and health
- No. of jobs created for low-income populations
- Reduction in environmental damage
- No. of farmers and youth with improved access to micro-financing and sustainable agriculture techniques

Partners to be engaged:

Ministry of Agriculture Extension Centers
 North Ossetia and Ingushetia Administrations
 ACDI/VOCA – Moscow Office
 UNICEF and WHO - North Caucasus Offices
 US Moscow Embassy – Agriculture Mission
 Youth Extension Program for field training IPISA.
 IFSA, In Motion Magazine, Heifer International,
 The Timiryazev Agriculture University.

Expected Outcomes and Contribution to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Reduction of hunger and poverty by combining education, health care, food security, gender equality, and environment sustainability. Impact on MDGs 1, 3, 7 and 8.

Proposed Objectives and Approaches

- Coordinate a consortium of stakeholders including youth, farmers, local government, NGOs, S&T, and women, in collaboration with UN agencies, Ministry of Agriculture and local authorities to implement an integrated approach to SARD in one of the poorest regions of the country, with a focus on youth, including:
- Creation of a new education project for rural low-income youth through development of a teaching farm to train youth to grow produce for the local hospital,
 - Establishment of six new Agriculture Extension Centers in the region,
 - Establishment of micro-credit cooperatives to enable stakeholders to have access to credit for SARD activities,
 - Capacity building of local groups to learn from peers, document and share successes for scaling up.

Building upon Experience

ICSDRA has worked closely with the Russian Ministry of Agriculture in Moscow to establish 67 Agricultural Extension Centers across Russia and has received support to expand six new centers. It also organized Rural Credit Cooperative staff training and Agri-Business training for international credit and agriculture specialists. Collaborative partnerships with regional administrations have been developed, including an artificial insemination livestock project with local farmers and NGOs, and exploration of a partnership with the US Moscow Embassy through the Council on Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD)– USAID program is in progress.

Major Group Inputs

Identify needed projects in poor rural areas in the North Caucasus; coordinate these projects to build partnerships, including creating a new education project for rural low-income youth and establishing six new extension centers. Document success stories and link youth to learning exchange opportunities. ICSDRA will work with The Timiryazev Agriculture University to create a Sustainable Development Department.