



Joint EU-Africa initiatives on the role of science, technology and innovation in promoting food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture¹

A Side-event to the EU-Africa High Level Policy Dialogue on Science, Technology and Innovation on 28 November 2013

SOFITEL Brussels, room Paul Henri Spaak I

Place Jourdan 1, 1040 Brussels

(Lunch offered to registered participants from 12.30 to 14.00)

Agenda and biographies

Purpose: An open event intended to provide interested participants, possibly including delegates of the EU-Africa High Level Policy Dialogue on Science, Technology and Innovation, with a glimpse at the current and upcoming landscape of bi-regional cooperation initiatives in food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture.

Intended focus: Each of the initiatives participating in the agenda will be explaining how it aims to contribute to improve food security and livelihoods of citizens, the role of science, technology and innovation in achieving the objectives, and the added value of Africa-Europe cooperation.

Format: A half day event in two sessions by EU and Africa, presenting not more than 7 initiatives/talks and based around a discussion with all participants.

Networking: booths and promo material will be made available. Networking lunch included

Participation is open and free but due to limited availability of space pre-registration is required:

<https://hlpd-sideevent.eventbrite.co.uk>

¹ This event is also supported by the FP7 funded project CAAST-Net Plus

Agenda

Co-Chairs:

Professor John Wood, Secretary General, Association of Commonwealth Universities, UK

Dr. Yemi Akinbamijo, Executive Director, Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa

09:00	Welcome and opening remarks by EC and AUC	<p>Dr Elisabeth LIPIATOU Head of Unit European Neighbourhood, Africa and the Gulf, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission</p> <p>Dr Abdul-Hakim ELWAER, Director of Human Resources, Science and Technology, African Union Commission</p>
	Session I. Existing joint initiatives	
09:20	PAEPARD: Platform for African European Partnership on Agricultural Research for Development. Funded by the Food Security Thematic Programme of the EU's Development Cooperation Instrument, and erected under the EU's 6 th Framework Programme.	Francois STEPMAN , European co-manager PAEPARD, The Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation, Brussels office
09:40	The Sub-Saharan Africa Challenge Programme of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, led by the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA). Funded by a consortium of donors.	Adewale ADEKUNLE , FARA, Ghana.
10:00	ADAPPT: African Dryland Alliance for Pesticidal-Plant Technologies: A network for optimising and promoting the use of indigenous botanical knowledge for food security and poverty alleviation in Africa. Funded by the ACP-EU Cooperation Programme in Science and Technology.	Philip STEVENSON , Natural Resources Institute, University of Greenwich, UK
10:20	Refreshments	
	Session II. Promising joint initiatives	
10:50	CAAST-NET Plus: Advancing SSA-EU cooperation in research and innovation for global challenges. Funded by the EU's 7 th Framework Programme.	Judith Ann FRANCIS , The Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation, The Netherlands.
11:10	IntensAfrica: A research partnership between Europe and Africa on sustainable intensification of agri-food systems.	Philippe PETITHUGUENIN , CIRAD, France.
11:30	Validation and dissemination of bio intensive eco-friendly management strategies for thrips – a critical constraint to cowpea production in Africa. Funded by the African Union Research Grants Programme.	Sevgan SUBRAMANIAN , International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology. Kenya.
11:50	General discussion led by the co-chairs	
12:30	Lunch	

Speakers' biographies

Francois STEPMAN, European co-manager PAEPARD, The Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation, Brussels office.

Francois Stepman is European co-manager of PAEPARD. He has a background of 25 years of development cooperation project management at UN, NGO and Donor level. He was scientific adviser at the Cabinet of the Belgian Minister for Development cooperation and communication officer at the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa.

Prof. ADEWALE Adekunle: Director for Partnerships and Strategic Alliances: Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa

Prof. Adewale Adekunle is the director of FARA's Network support function five that works on partnerships and strategic alliance. The aim of NSF 5 is to catalyze and facilitate the establishment and strengthening of partnerships and strategic alliances at various levels, to sustainably increase the impact of agricultural research and development in Africa by increasing its productivity, competitiveness and access to markets. Prof. Adekunle was also the Director of the Sub-Saharan Africa Challenge Program (SSA CP), which aimed to increase the productivity of agricultural research and development by developing, testing and scaling out the Integrated Agricultural Research for Development (IAR4D) concept. The project is currently being implemented in eight countries across sub-Saharan Africa.

Prior to joining FARA, Prof. Adekunle managed a multi-million Dollar World Bank Program in Nigeria for three years and later worked at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) for about two decades. His professional engagement encompasses diverse research and development activities toward improvement in agricultural productivity and sustainability of the smallholders system. He worked extensively with farmers, to develop workable technology transfer techniques in many communities in Africa. He pioneered the use of ICT technique as means of communication and linkages between farmers and other agricultural research and development stakeholders. He has many years experience with significant outcomes in the use of innovation systems approach to implement research and development activities in Africa. His work with farmers also included the development of Innovation Platforms and community based integrated resource centers, linking farmers to credit sources and establishment of inventory credit to augment microfinance, establishment of non-formal seed supply chains and facilitation of farmers' access of to the non-traditional produce markets. Recently, he has developed the Innovative Funding for Agricultural Transformation to improve competitiveness and agriculture driven economic development.

Professor Philip STEVENSON, Natural Resources Institute, University of Greenwich, UK

Professor Phil Stevenson is Professor of Plant Chemistry at the University of Greenwich where he has worked within the Natural Resources Institute since 1994. Throughout this period he has also been employed on a joint basis with the Jodrell Laboratory at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; an arrangement that continues today.

Professor Stevenson obtained his BSc studying Applied Biology in 1988 and was awarded a PhD on Resistance Mechanisms in *Arachis* spp. to the Tobacco armyworm from the University of London in 1992 before carrying out his post-doctoral work on resistance mechanisms in Chickpea to the fungal pathogens Botrytis grey mould and Fusarium wilt.

Within the University Phil Stevenson is Professor of Plant Chemistry and Head of Chemical Ecology and Plant Biochemistry and leads research on biological chemicals associated with environmentally benign pest management and ecosystem enhancement to improve food security in agriculture. He is responsible for the development and leadership of international research projects that provide effective, appropriate and environmentally benign agricultural technologies for poor rural families in tropical Africa and Asia to improve crop yields and enhance livelihoods. Target crops include rice, maize, cowpea, beans, chickpea, pigeon pea, groundnuts (peanuts) and sweetpotato for which he has studied natural resistance to insect pests and diseases or the use of pesticidal plants as pest control alternatives with the aim of reducing the reliance on pesticides. Phil also leads University of Greenwich research on the interactions of pollinators with crops and wild plant species to better understand how plant chemistry mediates pollination and how pollinators might be affected by plant chemicals.

Stevenson has been or is the principle investigator or co-PI on research grants and consultancies with a total value of >£4 million won through competitive bids to programmes including: DFID, Biochemical and Biological Science Research Council (BBSRC, UK), Departemet for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra, UK Govt), McKnight Foundation, European Union (ACP S&T Prog), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and National Science Foundation (NSF-USA). Other smaller grants have been won competitively through the Science Foundation of Ireland, Higher Education Funding Council for England and the Millennium Science Foundation (Uganda) and DFID's competitive research facility. The projects have funded research activities, training and capacity building activities and agricultural development.

His international scientific role is represented through positions on the editorial boards of journals including Subject Editor at the *Bulletin of Entomological Research*, Regional Editor of *Biopesticides International* and the Editorial board of *Crop Protection*. He has chaired Organising Committees for and been invited to provide key note lectures at International Conferences and is a Fellow of the Royal Entomological Society.

He is the author of over 100 publications in international journal articles, books and books chapters including recent (2013) work in *Science*, *PLoS One*, and *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*.

<http://www.nri.org/staff/583-professor-philip-c-stevenson#selected-publications>.

Judith Ann FRANCIS, Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation, Netherlands.

Judith Ann Francis is Senior Programme Coordinator, Science and Technology Policy at the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation ACP-EU (CTA) based in the Netherlands. Since joining CTA in 2003, she has been responsible for promoting science, technology and innovation (ST&I) for agriculture and rural development in the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States. Through her leadership; improving foresighting capacity and tertiary education in agriculture as well as recognizing and rewarding excellence of women scientists and young professionals have gained prominence in the policy, academic and research communities. She has contributed to intensifying science and technology collaboration within and across the ACP regions and between the ACP and European partners. She has also championed the application of the innovation systems approach for transforming the agricultural sector in the 79 ACP member countries.

Prior to CTA, Judith worked with the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), and before that as a researcher with the Caribbean Industrial Research Institute in her home country, Trinidad and Tobago. She also lectured at undergraduate and postgraduate levels in Food Science and Human Nutrition. Judith holds post graduate degrees in Management, Food Technology and Human Nutrition; BSc honours in Science and; certificates in the Management of Technology and Innovation, ST&I Policy and, Evaluation of Science and Innovation Policies. She has benefitted from international fellowships in France and The Netherlands and served on several boards and international committees. She has held various positions in professional organizations including as president of both the Caribbean Association of Food Science and Technology and Caribbean Association of Nutritionists and Dieticians. Judith is a member of the board of SciDev.net and of the International Advisory Panel of the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture

(RUFOM) in Africa. In 2013, Judith was nominated to serve as Executive Secretary, of the European Forum for Agricultural Research for Development (EFARD). Judith also manages the CTA S&T portal Knowledge for Development <http://knowledge.cta.int/>.

Philippe PETITHUGUENIN, Deputy Director for Research and Strategy, CIRAD, France.

Philippe Petithuguenin is a farming system agronomist, trained at *the Institut National Agronomique de Paris-Grignon*, France, He has been working in the field of Agricultural Research for Development (ARD), at the project, programme and policy level, for 30 years, assuming positions in Côte d'Ivoire from 1984 to 1990, Togo in 1991 and 1992, Ecuador from 1995 to 1999, Brazil from 2004 to 2009. He has conducted research on cocoa and coffee based farming systems and on cocoa value chains for around 20 years. In 2004, he moved to the area of international cooperation, first as Regional Director for INRA and CIRAD in Brazil, then (from 2009 to 2012) as senior advisor on ARD for the EC, DG RTD, in Brussels, and Executive Secretary of the European Initiative on Agricultural Research for Development (EIARD).

French version

Philippe Petithuguenin est ingénieur agronome, diplômé de l'Institut National Agronomique de Paris-Grignon. Il travaille depuis 1984 dans le domaine de la recherche agronomique pour le développement au niveau projet, programme ou politique publique. Il a été basé en Côte d'Ivoire de 1984 à 1990, Togo en 1991 et 1992, Equateur de 1995 à 1999, et Brésil de 2004 à 2009. Il a d'abord conduit des recherches sur les systèmes agraires à base de cacaoculture et de caféiculture et sur la filière cacao durant 20 ans. Puis en 2004, il a opté pour le domaine de la coopération internationale en recherche, d'abord comme directeur régional pour l'INRA et le CIRAD au Brésil, puis, de 2009 à 2012, comme expert national détaché à la Commission Européenne, DG RTD, à Bruxelles, où il a aussi assumé la fonction de Secrétaire Exécutif de l'Initiative Européenne sur la Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement (EIARD).

Dr Sevgan SUBRAMANIAN, International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology. Kenya

Sevgan Subramanian is an entomologist with over 10 years experience in developing Integrated pest management (IPM) strategies for insect pests related constraints to crops especially vegetables. His expertise are in the fields of insect virology, plant virology, thrips biology and ecology. He was trained at the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, India. His research has focused on the use of baculoviruses for the management of key lepidopteran pests such as *Spodoptera litura*, *Helicoverpa armigera* and *Plutella xylostella* infesting cruciferous vegetables; feeding ecology of *P. xylostella* and use of behaviour modifying chemicals and entomopathogenic fungi for the management of thrips infesting vegetables and grain legumes. He has over 50 publications in peer reviewed journals and as chapters in books. He has supervised 3 PhD students and 3 Master's students from Africa to graduation and currently supervises 2 postdocs, 4 PhD and 2 Master's student on various aspects of insect pest management. He is currently based at *icipe*, Kenya as a senior scientist and he co-ordinates a program on Thrips IPM in eastern Africa. He also co-ordinates the IPM cluster activities and interactions in *icipe*. Recently he has co-authored user-friendly interactive software titled "Identification and information tool for Pest thrips in East Africa". The software is also available for free download as a google application.

Co-chairs' biographies

Dr. Yemi AKINBAMIJO: Executive Director, Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa

Dr. Akinbamijo, a Nigerian national, is the Executive Director of the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) since July 20 2013. FARA is the continental organisation responsible for coordinating and strengthening agricultural research for development and is headquartered in Accra, Ghana.

Dr. Akinbamijo has spent the past 28 years of his career in Africa and Europe working in the International Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Development domain. Prior to his appointment as Executive Director of FARA, he was the Head of the Agriculture and Food Security Division at the African Union Commission Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Before that, he served as the Director of the African Union Inter-African Phytosanitary Council based in Yaoundé, Cameroon. Dr. Akinbamijo has published several scientific papers and articles and has served in several international panels including as Chair of the West African Livestock Innovation Centre (formerly the International Trypanotolerance Centre); Continental Working Group on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Issues; Africa-EU Joint Expert Group; Africa-Brazil on Agriculture and Food Security; Africa-Arab Joint Action on Food Security and Agriculture; Steering Committee on African Growth and Development and a host of others. He holds a PhD in Agriculture and Environmental Sciences with specialization on Tropical Animal production from Wageningen University Research Centre, The Netherlands.

Professor John WOOD, Secretary General, Association of Commonwealth Universities, UK

Professor John Wood CBE FREng is Secretary General of the Association of Commonwealth Universities.

John graduated from the University of Sheffield in metallurgy and studied for his PhD at the University of Cambridge (Darwin College). He has held academic posts at the Open University, followed by the University of Nottingham, where he was Dean of Engineering. From 2001-2007, he was seconded from Nottingham to the Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils as Chief Executive, where he was responsible for the Rutherford Appleton and Daresbury Laboratories. John then joined Imperial College London, first as Principal of the Faculty of Engineering, and subsequently as Senior International Advisor.

John sits on the advisory board of the British Library and on the board of the Joint Information Services Committee (JISC), responsible for the UK academic computing network. He is also chair of the International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications (INASP).

John was a founder member and chair of the European Strategy Forum for Research Infrastructures, where he was responsible for producing the first European Roadmap. He became the first chair of the European Research Area Board in 2008, and in 2009 produced a long-term strategic vision entitled 'Preparing Europe for a New Renaissance'.

John was elected as a fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering in 1999. He was made a Commander of the British Empire in 2007 for 'services to science', and in 2010 was made an Officer of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany.
