



LEAP4FNSSA Workshop, 13 July 2022

Creating an International Research Consortium on Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture: a platform for Research and Innovation between Africa and Europe

- Moving from a partnership towards a platform
- IRC: catalyze joint AU-EU activities





Next steps (1)

- Knowledge database ensures better efficacy
- It needs to be kept open, accessible, updated, connected with other information sources
- Add (data base): private sector and its initiatives
- Concern: maintenance database after project
- Institutionalize partnerships between public and private sector





Next steps (2)

- Get better access to funding (also alternative models)
- Support technology and innovation uptake
 - link science to impact; include non-conventional actors
- Improve science-policy interface in a coherent way
- Prioritise youth, women, entrepreneurs!
- Use a top down AND a bottom-up approach
- Make responsibilities very clear and keep it simple
- Make sure that every member benefits





How to deliver more impact?

- Improve transdisciplinary and action-oriented networks
- Use established relationships and new partners
- Avoid delays in (co-)funding...
- Broker between projects to support the next steps
- Build capacity at all levels; include education and training





The IRC needs to

- Achieve national, regional, global targets together
- Be a network of networks
- Get commitment at the level of institutions
- Provide incentives for funders
- Implement actions in operational working groups
- Show short-term results
- Include the new political agreements: African Free Trade Agreements, EU Green Deal, AU-EU Innovation Agenda, STISA...





Challenges

- Dealing with diversity:
 - We are not on the same page with certain thematic priorities
 - Equal footing?
- Dealing with private sector:
 - Include a business approach; let the private sector, incl. farmers, define their needs (co-creation, multi-actor approach)
- Dealing with co-funding (governments vs (big) business...)
- Dealing with different regions:
 - Organize the work through regional clusters (link with regional CGIAR etc)
- Dealing with other networks:
 - avoid duplication





Key messages

- Connect with existing structures
- Create complementarities!
- Include co-funding partners from both continents
- Reduce fragmentation (Team Europe...)
- Create a *sustainable* structure for impact on the ground
- We need this partnership *now* as a catalyst for the food system





Long-term EU-AU Research and Innovation Partnership for Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture

THANK YOU





Long-term EU-AU Research and Innovation Partnership for Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture

