MINUTES OF THE 31ST GFAR STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
FAO, ROME, ITALY
8-9 FEBRUARY, 2017[1]

Executive Summary
During a dynamic two-day meeting on 8-9 February, Members of the renewed GFAR Steering Committee (SC) met together at the GFAR host organization, FAO in Rome, to set the agenda for this unique global forum on agri-food research and innovation, towards helping to meet the UN's 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

GFAR has undergone a major transformation and now brings together a vibrant and fast-growing community of self-declared Partners in GFAR (presently 433 Partner organizations), who recognize that these complex challenges can only be met through working together for success. GFAR is a global network for concerted action, knowledge exchange and advocacy and the Steering Committee now comprises 34 elected representatives, from across 13 sectors involved in agricultural research and innovation at international, regional and local levels: farmers and agricultural workers, civil society organizations, private sector, women organizations, youth organizations, international public research, regional fora of public agricultural research and policy bodies, advanced research institutions/G20, rural advisory services, higher education, donor/investment, consumer organizations and GFAR's facilitating UN agencies. Through the meeting, SC Members agreed the key areas of focus to be addressed in their next GFAR Medium-Term-Plan and set out ideas and alternatives on the forms of partnership and means of communication needed for collective action and advocacy in these focal areas. The SC addressed the following needs, using highly participatory processes:

Creating the GFAR community
This first meeting of the newly formed GFAR Steering Committee introduced both new and renewed members and the vast constituencies they represent in this network of networks. Preliminary events facilitated interaction and engagement among the new and renewed SC Members and demonstrated the rich diversity of the GFAR community and the opportunities that this brings. Meeting sessions helped build a common understanding of GFAR's role and purpose towards meeting the SDGs, and how each SC member can best mobilize their respective constituencies, with others, into their desired GFAR Collective Actions. The importance of the SC's role was well expressed by the Members, e.g.:

- "GFAR is the mechanism to join efforts and build bridges, for research and communities to work together." Ren Wang, FAO
- "GFAR offers a fantastic platform for multi-sectoral solutions to complex problems." Shantanu Mathur, IFAD
- "The impact the EC is looking for is not in terms of increasing productivity, but in terms of how research and innovation translate into less poverty, less hunger." Roberto Aparicio-Martin, EC

[1] Draft Minutes circulated 16 March 2017

- "Research in itself cannot achieve the development outcomes set by the SDGs. The same for extension or any other sector alone. Teaming up with other constituencies they can change the whole equation, influence policies, and achieve real impact." Juan Lucas Restrepo, GFAR Chair

Learning from past and current experiences

By discussing and learning from the challenges encountered in previous networked actions, through different group work activities, the Committee recognized that the SDG challenges could not be addressed by any one constituency alone and that ingredients for success included ownership of a common purpose, inspiring champions, clear and integrated implementation pathways to demonstrable impacts, mutual recognition and integrated resourcing of each involved constituency, and equitable partnership valuing all required sectors. This process helped SC Members clearly identify their roles and responsibilities in fostering the community of GFAR partners as a global action network, based on the new Charter and Partners' Assembly, the current MTP and the planning processes of GCARD3.

DECISION: These elements and comments will be analyzed and compiled by the Secretariat as a draft GFAR Partnership Strategy to be agreed by the SC.

Framing our Collective Actions as GFAR

Based on the challenges determined through the GCARD3 process and the need to deliver towards the SDGs, the SC identified the following GFAR key areas of focus in 2018-2021. These are key constraints to greater impact from agricultural research and innovation around the world and all require collective action for success:

1. Enable and empower sustainable rural communities: Poor communities have little say in their own future, nor the innovations needed to get there. Communities need to be able to determine their own futures, through tools such as foresight, farmers' rights advocacy and capacity development, and to drive and 'own' the research, innovation, policies and support needed to achieve their desired sustainable futures.
2. Increasing knowledge flow for development impact: Innovation systems operate as complex webs, yet links between their elements are often fragmented and disconnected. Multi-stakeholder research and innovation platforms must be fostered at different levels, to create more effective and equitable systems, capable of collectively generating, accessing and using the knowledge and resources required for successfully meeting the SDGs.
3. Supporting transformative learning and youth leadership development: Neither formal nor informal education are as yet meeting the needs of youth facing global challenges. Comprehensive transformative learning and leadership development schemes are needed, to develop not only academic skills, but also intellectual, spiritual and emotional development, to inspire and equip our youth with the knowledge, skills and attitudes to meet their aspirations, access resources and mobilize themselves to create sustainable rural development.
4. Changing value systems and metrics to deliver the SDGs: "Agricultural Productivity" has long been the core driver of agricultural research and innovation. However, the SDGs set out much wider development objectives and indicators, all impacted by, or on, agriculture and food systems. Meeting these requires re-thinking the values and metrics for agri-food innovation, and demonstrating delivery towards SDG social, environmental and economic impacts.
5. Enabling sustainable rural enterprise: Agriculture is often seen as unattractive and in decline and there is a global exodus of rural youth. Sustainable rural enterprise development can address this challenge through using agriculture and food innovation, new developments such as ICTs, value-added linkages to consumers/markets, and supportive policies and inputs, to create new rural enterprise opportunities, particularly for resource-poor women and youth.

SC Members recognized that within this frame, there is tremendous opportunity for a wide range of new and existing networked actions towards specific SDG outcomes. The Members set out initial ideas for their actions within each area of focus.

DECISION: The SC endorsed the 5 key areas of focus. These will be further elaborated through input from GFAR Partners, solicited through SC members, who will discuss with their constituencies in the coming weeks to identify and shape proposed Collective Actions for inclusion in the GFAR Medium Term Plan 2018-2021 MTP. These elements, and specific Partner commitments entailed, will be integrated and compiled by the Secretariat as the draft MTP, for discussion and resolution at the next GFAR SC meeting.

Getting the messages out

As the Committee representing and mobilizing diverse constituencies, the Steering Committee explored how best to communicate and promote their Collective Actions as GFAR, while also celebrating their own identities and roles. Juan Lucas Restrepo, GFAR Chair: "GFAR should be publicly recognized and we should all be proud to label our actions as GFAR Collective Actions, and to present them as such to potential partners and donors". Communication needs were identified through discussion in 5 sub-groups, who recommended:

- SC Members need to communicate within and among GFAR constituencies, share the changes in GFAR, promote Collective Actions, and engage potential partners in GFAR
- Actions towards GFAR's aims need to be widely shared, including by SC Members as advocates
- Steering Committee Members will identify and make use of existing communication tools in their constituencies, and tools provided through the Secretariat, and assess progress in getting the messages out
- Members volunteered to establish specific spaces in their own websites to spread GFAR news and some may issue quarterly newsletters on GFAR activities and actions
- The GFAR website will be revamped to reflect the discussed changes and needs of the SC Members and as a common repository to track Collective Actions and their impacts in each area
- Members suggested introducing a common e-mail address for all Members e.g. @gfar.net
- Respective communication roles of the Steering Committee, Partner constituencies, Secretariat, EXCO and any sub-committees need to be better framed
- The Secretariat is requested to provide timely, regular updates, fact sheets and create platforms for communication e.g. video conference, webinar space and/or demand-driven basic training.

DECISION: The Secretariat will distil these inputs and will prepare a draft communication strategy in three weeks, for review and approval by the SC, together with the partnership strategy. This strategy will cover both how constituencies communicate within themselves and how they can raise awareness of their Collective Actions with others, as GFAR.

Governance and next steps

The GFAR Chair, Mr. Juan Lucas Restrepo, confirmed his intention to step down, due to an anticipated change of role. The Committee unanimously appointed Shantanu Mathur, IFAD, as interim Vice-Chair. The composition of the Executive Committee (EXCO) will remain as stands. ToRs for the Chair and Vice-Chair will be advertised openly and EXCO will lead the process to identify potential lead candidates, the names of which will be informed to Partners on a no-substantive-objection basis, before final decision by the Steering Committee. Invitations/proposed venues for the next SC meeting are welcomed from SC Members.

DECISION: As next steps, it was agreed that GFAR Secretariat will prepare the below listed documents for the SC, who will in turn discuss with their constituencies, particularly to identify potential Collective Actions for the MTP, and provide input to the Secretariat for their final compilation, in preparation for the SC meeting scheduled for May 2017:

- Key messages to share with constituencies (done)
- Report on the SC meeting and potential Collective Actions identified during the meeting towards the agreed focus themes (done as these Minutes)
- Draft Partnership Strategy and Draft Communication Strategy (pending)
- Selection Process for Chair and Vice-Chair including ToRs and draft announcement (pending)

In attendance:

Constituency	Name	Organization
Chair GFAR	Juan Lucas Restrepo	GFAR
Vice-Chair GFAR	Vacant	
Advanced Research/G20	Frank Begemann	Federal Office for Agriculture and Food (BLE), Germany
Rural Advisory Services - Global	Karim Hussein	GFRAS
Rural Advisory Services - Local	Shaibek Tentlmishovich Karasartov	Public Foundation Training and Advisory and Innovation Centre
International Public Sector Agricultural Research	Ann Tutwiler	Bioversity (representing CGIAR)
International Public Sector Agricultural Research	Trevor Nicholls	CABI (representing AIRCA)
Donor Support Group	Roberto Aparicio-Martin	European Commission (Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development)
Higher Education – Global	John Kennelly	GCHERA
Higher Education - Local	Agnes W. Mwang'ombe	University of Nairobi
Facilitating Agencies	Ren Wang	Agriculture and Consumer Protection Department, FAO
Facilitating Agencies	Shantanu Mathur	IFAD
Farmer and Agricultural Worker Organizations - Global	Marco Marzano de Marinis	World Farmers' Organization (WFO)
Farmer and Agricultural Worker Organizations - Local	Fernando Lopez	Confederación de Organizaciones de Productores Familiares del MERCOSUR (COPROFAM)
Farmer and Agricultural Worker Organizations - Local	Rula Al-Khateeb	Palestine Farmers Union

Civil Society and NGOs - Global	Stephanie Barrial	World Rural Forum
Civil Society and NGOs - Local	Nathaniel Don Marquez	Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC)
Private Sector - Global	Robynne Anderson	International Agri-Food Network (IAFN))
Private Sector - Local	Nana Osei Bonsu	Private Enterprise Federation (Ghana)
Regional Representation	Mohammad M. Ajlouni	AARINENA
Regional Representation	Ramakrishna Akkinapally	APAARI
Regional Representation	Alisher Tashmatov	CACAARI
Regional Representation	Patrick Van Damme	EFARD
Regional Representation	Ephraim A. Mukisira	FARA
Regional Representation	Maria Rodriguez	FORAGRO
Regional Representation	Audia Barnett	PROCINORTE
Regional Representation	Zhang Huijie	Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences
Women's Associations - Global	Venge Nyirongo	UN Women
Women's Associations - Local	Yogesh Jadhav	Barli Development Institute for Rural Women
Youth – Global	Nidhi Nagabhatla	YPARD
Youth - Local	Keron Bascombe	Tech4Agri
GFAR Executive Secretary	Mark Holderness	GFAR (*ex officio*)

GFAR Secretariat staff: Iman El-Kaffass (Meeting Planner), Nathalie Doré (Facilitator)
Harry Palmier, Thomas Price, Juanita Chaves Posada, Ajit Maru, Jennie Dey De Pryck, Charles Plummer, Gianna De Cesare, Pierluigi Masciotta, Courtney Paisley (YPARD), Marina Cherbonnier, Emmie Wachira, Irene Cukic

BACKGROUND

OPENING NETWORKING EVENT, Tuesday, February 7, 2017 - Hotel Santa Prisca, Rome

Opening words from the GFAR Executive Secretary emphasized the diversity of the SC community and the wealth and opportunities that this brings to GFAR as a truly multi-stakeholder network of networks. A team activity involved Members working in groups, with facilitated interaction and engagement among them and acted as an ice breaker in preparation for the following day of work.

DAY 1 - Opening

1 & 2[2]: Welcome and introduction

GFAR Chair Juan Lucas Restrepo formally opened the meeting and outlined the proposed agenda. The agenda was unanimously approved by the Committee and no other business issues were raised.

Overall objective of the meeting and expected outcomes

This first meeting of the newly formed GFAR Steering Committee (SC) for the period 2017-2020 aimed to introduce and engage the new and renewed Members of the SC, introduce the constituencies that make up this unique global forum on agricultural research and innovation, review the performance of GFAR in the last 3 years towards fulfilment of the current Medium-Term Plan (MTP) 2014-2017 and agree on key priority areas for Collective Actions under the new GFAR MTP 2018-2021.

Meeting Facilitator Ms. Nathalie Doré outlined the expected outcomes as:

1. Clearly identifying the role of the SC of GFAR and the roles of each member of the SC, building a community among the Members.
2. Establishing that the role of the SC and its Members has evolved over the years and that - in addition to their previous roles of agreeing on the focus and MTP of GFAR - the members are now responsible for inspiring, facilitating and catalyzing the work of their constituencies towards the implementation of the Collective Actions to be agreed upon as part of the MTP.
3. Acquainting the new SC Members with the type of Collective Actions that have taken place previously in GFAR through the renewed Members and learning lessons from these.
4. Agreeing on the new key areas of focus in the coming MTP.
5. Agreeing on the communication mechanisms that SC Members may use to communicate with their constituencies and between constituencies in developing and implementing Collective Actions and the exchange of knowledge, experiences and expertise.
6. Agreeing on the process to select a new Chair of GFAR, the appointment of Vice Chair and the future selection of the Executive Secretary.

3. Welcome by host agency FAO

Mr. Hans Dreyer, Director of the Plant Production and Protection Division of FAO, represented FAO Management as a GFAR Facilitating Agency and the Host of the GFAR Secretariat. Mr. Dreyer welcomed SC Members, recapping that GFAR was established as a network to meet the need for a global mechanism to strengthen national agricultural innovation and research systems. The Global Forum aims to make agriculture research and innovation more equitable, effective and

[2] Numbers used refer to SC meeting agenda items throughout

representative. GFAR's reform has created a unique open and multi-stakeholder forum that is highly complementary to the inter-governmental work of FAO. FAO appreciates that GFAR offers links between partners and FAO's strategic objectives. FAO and GFAR are thus highly complementary. The SDGs, as the overarching objectives of development, are now broad in scope and this brings new challenges. There is a need to strengthen innovation systems at all levels and across all value chains. FAO's Strategic Framework focuses on 5 key issues: help eliminate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition; make agriculture, forestry and fisheries more productive and sustainable; reduce rural poverty; enable inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems; and increase the resilience of livelihoods to disasters. The aims of these objectives are in line with GFAR's key priority issues and there is a great opportunity to link both. FAO would wish to partner with partners of GFAR to undertake Collective Actions. Through inter-governmental deliberations of the Committee on Agriculture (COAG), FAO has a renewed focus on agricultural innovation. FAO aims to convene a conference on this topic later this year, in which GFAR will be directly involved. FAO sees benefits from closer collaboration with GFAR, shares the Global Forum's aims, and is supportive of GFAR.

Mr. Ren Wang, Assistant Director General, FAO Agriculture and Consumer Protection Department, spoke on the next day, focusing on the role of GFAR as a Network of Networks. He emphasized the transformative change required by the 192 countries who signed on to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and how this was linked to FAO's Strategic Framework, and to the shared sense of common responsibility for future generations. He then asserted the importance of GFAR as a mechanism to link policy makers (FAO) and scientists (CGIAR) with the grass roots and explained that this was not a linear relationship but required working together with the big picture of the SDGs in mind. This was why GFAR's new vision and mission were highly relevant, as there is great potential power in the renewed GFAR. Mr. Wang emphasized that only networked actions can make the change happen, that no one organization or one country can achieve the change and that GFAR is the mechanism to join efforts and build bridges, for research and communities to work together. Finally Mr. Wang explained recent changes in FAO. FAO is also moving towards multi-stakeholder action (for example at the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)), aiming to partner not only with governments but also private sector, civil society and other stakeholders. While FAO's mandate has been to work with governments, FAO now has partnership strategies with other sectors, such as the private sector and civil society organizations. FAO seeks to reach out to different constituencies through GFAR and asks the Partners in GFAR including the regional fora and local communities to also be multi-stakeholder themselves and reflect the current composition of GFAR.

Opening comments from EXCO Members

IFAD: GFAR offers a fantastic network and programme, which should help overcome some of the important challenges recognized at the recent meeting of the GDPRD. GFAR's search for multi-sectoral solutions is certainly an asset for addressing the increased complexity of food and nutrition security issues.

EC: DG-DEVCO in the European Commission is strongly convinced of the need for a multi-stakeholder approach to deliver research targeted to development.

Opening round table of SC Members, expressing why they are on the Steering Committee

The meeting started with the renewed and new Members introducing themselves through stating their name, organization and why they have joined the GFAR Steering Committee. Some interesting statements were made in this respect, such as to:

- Learn and share on innovation to impact private sector activities especially in what concerns youth and women
- Make a difference in Africa with GFAR

- Apply multi-stakeholder approaches at the regional and also the local level to address common challenges and priorities
- Participate in a needed multi-stakeholder forum to shape agri-research and innovation agenda to face challenges
- Re-orientate our processes to meet the challenges
- Exchange information and work together instead of individually to maximize results
- Continue to achieve through, and with, GFAR as originally being established as a product of GFAR
- Learn from other perspectives and bring in other perspectives to enrich experiences and potential for working together
- Bring in perspectives of the represented constituencies
- CGIAR Research Programs can be enriched by inputs coming from other partners in GFAR
- Discuss how to be more proactive
- Link to other constituencies/strengthening links
- Join dialogues on priority issues
- Learn what communication tools are available for mutual exchange of information between constituencies
- Learn how to be more effective in terms of contributing to food security
- Strengthen the multi-stakeholder approach, and bring this approach to local and national levels
- Promote GFAR's mechanisms at sub-regional levels
- Discuss how research and innovation could be closer to sustainable development needs
- Bring the needs and voices of farmers to GFAR to support the improvement of their livelihoods
- The Association of (non CGIAR) International Research and Development Centers for Agriculture (AIRCA) is itself the result of a convening process facilitated by GFAR
- Learn from all constituencies, particularly FOs, CSOs and the Private Sector, to shape research through this excellent Forum
- If GFAR did not exist, then we would need to create it as a mechanism for linking all sectors.

The exercise helped SC Members to take on the new vision of GFAR and think about what is required to move forward with its implementation.

4. Chair's Report - Setting the stage

Mr. Juan Lucas Restrepo, GFAR Chair emphasized that greater inclusiveness has certainly now been achieved as GFAR governance now includes all actors in agri-food research and innovation systems. He added that other achievements of the new GFAR included:

- Being already a forum of thousands of institutions, considering that each of the (around) 430 current self-determined partners have very many constituents they are themselves bringing into the Global Forum.
- Breaking the walls between sectors: Research by itself cannot achieve the development outcomes set by the SDGs. Same for Extension or any other sector alone. Teaming up with farmer organizations, civil society organizations, agribusiness etc. they can change the whole equation, influence policies, and achieve real impact.
- Having established, as recommended by the recent GFAR Governance Review, a Constituent Assembly and a Partners' Assembly which adopted a new vision and mission.
- A revamped GCARD process leading to a global event offering a critical mechanism for change.
- Confirmed Collective Action (CA) as GFAR mode of operation. CAs are prioritized by the Global Forum, but the Partners in GFAR are the ones to engage and to be accountable for delivery.
- Formulating a GFAR Medium-Term Plan which should be able to guide investors.

The new SC has a role in strategic governance, promoting GFAR's vision and mission and in programmatic governance. It is responsible to develop the Medium-Term Plan and agree on the Collective Actions. The SC also oversees the performance of the Secretariat. In the current structure, a crucial element is that SC Members are accountable to their respective GFAR constituencies, and should play crucial interactive roles liaising within the constituencies they represent. There will be rotation of the seats and constituencies will decide who represents them in the SC. Also, in two and one half years, attendees at the Partners' Assembly will have to be elected from among the constituency partners. GFAR should continue working under the principles of complementarity, volunteerism, accountability and subsidiarity.

The Chair further emphasized that the Partners represent what agricultural research and innovation require in contributing to development. He stressed that to set our priorities we need to associate with the GCARD3 outcomes and priorities and implement actions through GFAR's role as a catalyst of change, dropping the wrong perception of GFAR as a funding agency. As a catalyst of change, part of what we do is to identify who needs to be involved with whom, to achieve which goal, and to - together - facilitate the achievement of these goals. GFAR is not there to manage Partners' own individual programmes, but to empower Collective Actions that benefit from our effective network. Through GFAR, people do not look for the best for their organization, but the best for the overall system, and within it the whole constituency they represent. The Chair further emphasized that we should all be proud to label our actions as GFAR Collective Actions, and to have this collective image known to other potential partners and to donors, and to be able to stand in solidarity and influence the global agenda.

(11). GFAR Secretariat's report: GFAR, the new spirit.

Mr. Mark Holderness, GFAR Executive Secretary summarized GFAR actions over the last year, as presented in the annual technical report available to the SC. The Global Forum is not a stand-alone institution, but a collective of networks and institutions working together as a global action network. We are all learning from each other, and members are encouraged to interact outside their sector, to broaden their perspectives and build Collective Actions. The reform of GFAR has brought a very unique representation and equitable involvement across all the actors involved in agricultural research and innovation.

GFAR's policies and priorities are shaped by the GCARD dialogues. As the recently published external evaluation of GCARD3 has recognized, GCARD3 has been a phenomenal success on many counts. 89% of the conference survey respondents rated GCARD3 as well or very well organized, while 97% of respondents stated that the sessions met their expectations "fully" (59%) or "to some extent" (38%). 93% of survey respondents stated that they made connections at the conference that could become partners in their work and 81% of respondents would not have made these connections if they had not attended the conference. 29% of survey respondents stated that since the conference they have "made steps to incorporate the idea(s) into their work", while 65% stated that since the conference they have "partially integrated" the new ideas they encountered into their work. 83% of survey respondents reported that they left the conference with specific actions for either themselves or their organisation and 29% of post-conference respondents stated that they had already made "significant changes" to the way they have been working as a result of the ideas/people they encountered at the conference.

In helping the CGIAR to re-work its partnerships, GFAR Secretariat has supported national dialogues and regional meetings, adding GFAR-relevant dimensions to these. National dialogues were a new venture and a learning process, developed together with the CGIAR and have been really productive, although uneven in their application processes. They now have to be taken forward as collective

processes to better understand demands from the wider perspectives of both countries and communities. Regional dialogues built on actions and meetings of partners in GFAR.

In collective investment advocacy, links have been developed with GDPRD, as investors coming into GFAR. GFAR is working with GAFSP to bring farmers' organizations into shaping GAFSP's operations. In addition, GFAR is working with IFAD, through their country strategic opportunities programme (COSOPs) to respond to the demand expressed by national partners for country loans and to bring agriculture and food innovation into the wider rural development agenda. Pilot programs in Egypt and India are examples.

Partners in GFAR are together re-framing the responses we need to mobilize in order to better address development needs. The Steering Committee should drive this process of change and the Secretariat is here to support the SC in this.

The Secretariat has increased its focus on communication, which has greatly increased GFAR's social media profile, with a number of other organizations (e.g. CFS, Global Landscapes Forum) now also making use of GFAR's capabilities in this regard. Communication was particularly intense around the GCARD3, where 78 published blog posts were viewed 170,000 times by 10,200 people in April 2016 alone. 8,843 #GCARD3 tweets were produced by 966 different people in the two weeks around the conference. These tweets were delivered to 2.3 million different twitter accounts.

The Charter has been revised by the Secretariat and made available to the SC. No further comments were received, so **the Charter is now considered accepted by all**. The review of GCARD3 will be circulated to all for any comments. No comments have been received by the announced deadline following this 31st GFAR SC meeting, so **the GCARD3 Review Report is now considered accepted** by the Steering Committee.

DECISION: The Secretariat's report was formally accepted by the Steering Committee.

5. Review of GFAR's Annual Report

Mr. Roberto Aparicio-Martin from the EC emphasized the following important points:

- GFAR has carried out an intense process to increase legitimacy and expand representation.
- The impact the EC is looking for is not in terms of increasing productivity, but rather in terms of how these translate into less poverty, less hunger.
- The challenge is that Increasing complexity of these agendas can also mean increased transaction costs and bureaucracy, so we need a balance between growing and remaining efficient
- EC recognizes the vital need for GFAR as a mechanism for all sectors involved to come together constructively. "If such a mechanism didn't exist, GFAR would need to be invented".
- EC wants to see other donors coming to the table and members contributing. Right now EU provides 80% of the budget of GFAR, at Euro 2 million per year.
- EC commends the new endeavour to foster Collective Actions as it is based on doing something practical together and working together in concrete terms.
- Partners need to identify the specific gaps they will try to fill, and the different levels at which the actions need to be realized. Collective Action is needed, but keeping the whole picture in mind is also needed.
- It is also about lobbying and looking where the real gaps are that Collective Action can best address, for example in CGIAR or at national level. We can always improve on our research and innovation systems.

7. Update on the progress of GFAR's external review

Mr. Shantanu Mathur from IFAD emphasized that "this is the first time the SC Members are truly representing their constituencies. You are bringing in the perspectives of this collective movement. This gathering is in itself a major achievement of GFAR". The challenge of the external review is how to evaluate such a large network and assess impact. We have established clear terms of reference, to evaluate whether the main principles of GFAR are being followed: complementarity, subsidiarity, etc., and ascertain that the governance is truly representative, also defining the theory of change and drawing the line between GFAR and the roles of the Secretariat and ensuring the evaluation is forward looking. We have agreed a meaningful way to move on this external review, building on previous SC decisions and the governance reform process. The EC and IFAD reports were **accepted** without questions being raised.

8 & 9: GFAR Partners in Collective Actions

Poster Activity: The meeting then focused on what would be required of effective partnership between sectors. In a poster session, the 11 SC renewed Members were asked (one week in advance of the meeting) to prepare a poster on a GFAR Collective Action, describing it while stating the successes, challenges and lessons learnt. The objective was to acquaint new SC Members with the concept of GFAR Collective Actions through real cases from renewed members, and to have the new members bring in their own experiences and suggest possible ways of addressing the challenges discussed through the posters. The indirect objective was strengthening knowledge about GFAR and the engagement among the members especially in addressing challenges. The posters were presented in a marketplace format where the new members formed groups and went around listening to posters presentations and addressing questions to the presenters guided by sample questions offered to them by the facilitator.

Comments and lessons learned: This marketplace of posters was planned to lead to group work of members discussing how best to address the outlined challenges and suggesting future improvements to the Collective Actions described. As the SC Members preferred an open discussion on the basis of Collective Actions, the discussion took place around the table rather than in groups.

10. Plenary discussion of learning around mechanisms, challenges and constraints of Collective Actions

Summary of issues raised in discussion:
The concept of identifying multi-partner programmes as GFAR Collective Actions was explored in depth.
Key elements included:

- Involving farmers directly within the process from the outset.
- A clear delivery towards the common objectives and key areas of focus of the Partners in GFAR.
- Collective Actions can happen at different scales within a particular key area of focus.
- Need to ensure both recognition of the actors involved and of their joint purpose in GFAR and towards the key areas of focus concerned.
- Actions may in practice be centrally coordinated by an agency or group of relevant agencies, or can be the composite of individual actions that together make up a coherent mosaic of actions to deliver the larger purpose defined through GFAR dialogues.

- GFAR can be a mechanism for legitimizing collective advocacy/bids for investment in the actions concerned.
- The key areas of focus need to be framed as challenges, rather than processes.

Developing partnership

- Collective Actions need to be clearly 'demand driven' and mobilize approaches that link actions to demands.
- Need for an integrated approach to development of actions, based on foresight tools and demand linking innovation with wider investments through needs expressed such as by IFAD COSOPs or regional processes (e.g. CAADP) or FAO Country Programme Frameworks and CGIAR national dialogues.
- In order to realize Collective Actions we must have a clear vision for how we're going to scale up and scale out: "Seeding, scale up and sustainability".
- To be able to scale out Collective Actions to other contexts, foresight, for example, needs to be used in strategic planning at different levels.
- Need to consider Collective Actions at different scales.
- Successful Collective Actions require choosing the right partners and identifying the value of partnership, so that all find interest and value added and are committed to performance and success.
- We need to encourage a culture of reporting back quickly to all our constituents.
- A crucial problem is inequity – funding going to CA should be targeted to levelling the playing field and primarily support FOs and CSOs interventions.
- Need grassroots involvement in actions to ensure long term sustainability.
- Need to engage those who can make the change happen, not just the immediate stakeholders.
- Need to identify effective champions in each area that can mobilize actions on the ground and work through these 'movers and shakers'.
- Development of mutual trust is essential to success.

Purpose

- GFAR must bridge the divide between science and society. In this we need to consider two elements that may seem to be of different strands: One is that researchers need to be independent so that they can 'think the unthinkable' and invent and innovate creatively. The other is that research needs to be demand-driven from the intended clients - and in agriculture mainly from the farmers.
- In certain Collective Actions, we may expand our coverage beyond rural communities and include urban settlers and indigenous populations to address the issues of nutritional security for example, and to compare the impacts of agri-food innovation systems on different parts of the population.
- GFAR needs to take on a few big issues for which it can be known for fostering Collective Actions and where Collective Action can be shown to be the answer to solving the problem concerned.
- Existing actions need to be included, not just generating new initiatives and different phases required need to be considered in each area.

Resourcing

- Members recognized the challenge of obtaining funds as a major issue. However, while opinions were expressed that funding is a first step and necessary pre-requisite for action, others felt that good causes for Collective Action with credible serious partners would readily bring funding.

- The likelihood of funding should not be the driver for the action, the problem definition is more important.
- We have to "think like a lobbyist". This takes networking and personal connections and presenting the agenda in ways that have traction with wider processes and agendas.
- We need to identify new ways to fund the Collective Actions and their incremental transaction costs, not just the direct funding needed to carry out Collective Actions, which should come from each partner themselves (staff salary for instance, and part of operations cost).
- Programmes have to become self-sustaining, with clear business plans for all.
- Different partners have different strengths and may be involved in different elements of the mosaic of actions required.
- GFAR direct financing, where available, should be seen as catalytic seed funding – this has been vital to establishing Collective Actions such as TAP and GODAN.
- Partners need to support GFAR requests for funding to establish processes of demand and partner engagement. Without evidence from those strategic non-institutional documents, it will be difficult for organizations to demonstrate demand and mobilize their own resources.
- Funding of Collective Actions requires clear and consistent partnership and new mechanisms that weave agri-food research and innovation into wider investments, as determined by national policies and commitments.
- Funding is required for knowledge exchange and learning across all actions of GFAR
- New capacities are required in regions to articulate and resource Collective Actions delivered by partners in the region concerned.
- There is great need to cross-leverage investments in well-resourced systems to benefit developing countries.

Knowledge sharing and scale-out

- We need to quickly establish a GFAR common repository of Collective Actions, a place to go to in order to get up-to-date information on what partners in GFAR are working on and to learn of best practices and pitfalls.
- An important function of GFAR is to maintain an inventory of impact reports and proof of returns on investments in agri-food innovation.
- Aligning different interests requires dialogue and sharing of experiences.
- Good M&E of the impacts of Collective Actions is vital.

Through these processes, the Members developed a list of pre-requisites for successful Collective Actions that included:

- The topic on which a Collective Action is formulated is crucial. Needs assessment, identifying the priority-problems/issues, bringing a common understanding on the problem identified and defining a vision of success.
- Multi-stakeholder Innovation Platforms address the breaks which exist along value chains.
- In identifying the right partners, finding the leadership, clarifying the vision, building coalitions and finding important allies, a major dimension is to empower farmers.
- Think as a lobbyist in seeking funding. Importance of lobbying campaigns with farmer's involvement.
- This means bringing in partners who are really going to do the change - sometimes not everybody will be involved in the process – and include different actors with different realities and different visibility.
- The major problem for a CA is to demonstrate impact. This is key for attracting funding.
- We need a common place where we can see the Collective Actions taken place – a GFAR Repository of Collective Actions.

- Identify the beneficiaries of the Collective Action from the beginning/how are they going to appropriate the Collective Action.
- The ultimate impact would be when a CA is able to influence policies as was described in one of the poster presentations.
  Collective Actions are certainly not easy endeavours. This is one of the reasons why GFAR needs to concentrate on a limited range (addressing issues within not more than 5 key areas).

GCARD3 outcomes and 5 key areas of focus for MTP 2018-2021

In this session, the facilitator outlined the 5 outcomes of GCARD3, from which should stem the key areas of focus and Collective Actions of GFAR addressed during the upcoming Medium-Term Plan. A discussion among members took place on these areas, and it was decided that they would be further discussed after presentation on Day 2, by the Executive Secretary, of the processes that gave rise to GCARD3 outcomes.

DAY 2

(13). Summary of progress and expected outcomes

The facilitator reviewed progress over Day 1 and outlined the agenda for Day 2:

- Members identify their communication needs and potential tools
- Members are clear on the 5 key areas of focus
- Members start thinking of Collective Actions to be included under the key areas of focus
- Members approve the process of selection of the next GFAR Chair, the appointment of interim Vice-Chair
- Members agree to an upcoming SC meeting in May 2017 and the work to be done in-between

(12). Communication framework activity

Objective

Discussion on the importance of communicating with constituencies, acting as catalysts of Collective Actions among the partners and using communication tools in mobilizing more partners into each constituency.

Working groups from the SC discussed communication needs for GFAR: Who, What, When, How and Needs. The results were discussed in plenary.

GFAR Chair noted the importance of consultation within the constituencies over the coming 3-4 months in various ways. This is a central role for the SC Members, to involve Partners in GFAR and their member organizations and networks as this group continues to grow, as well as engaging others beyond the current set of Partners. The Chair gave the example of the communication platform in his own organization that links together 6,000 members who use this platform to discuss issues of shared interest. He ascertained that GFAR needs to have its own virtual platform and that it is even better to over-communicate in the initial stages, accepting some inevitable duplication in the process.

SC Member observations and recommendations:

- It was suggested that SC Members develop a tailored communications strategy, rooted in a core plan coming from GFAR Secretariat.
- For consistency of messaging, GFAR Secretariat has been tasked to quickly provide key points on the meeting that the SC Members will share with their constituencies and organizations' partners. There needs to be one message coming out of the GFAR Steering Committee and not multiple different messages, so developing core content to share is fundamental.
- Communicating actions as GFAR will also rely on building on from the existing structures, strategies, mechanisms, tools and means of the Partners themselves. There may be a level of tailored messaging required from SC Members to their respective constituencies, tailoring it to address their particular interests. Geographical level communication includes both the regional and sub-regional dimensions.
- Partners in GFAR wish to have a virtual platform by which they can discuss together, and also be able to discuss within and between constituencies.
- Building on SC Members' own communications capacities and mechanisms, GFAR needs to encompass/address the diversity of constituencies, levels, and tools accessible to different groups within constituencies and across regions.
- Key outcome documents should be made available in other languages, at least SP, FR, RU (need expressed particularly by NGOs/CSOs).
- SC Members were asked to visit the GFAR Website and see how well it meets their needs. There is now an opportunity to revamp the GFAR website. GFAR needs to be clearly seen as a global action network and movement for change that engages all the partners in GFAR in its communication, facilitates their communication and recognition of their work towards the GFAR agenda.
- The discussion also included what communication tools SC Members already have that can be mobilized to communicate with their constituencies. Robynne Anderson from IAFN, for the Global Private Sector, mentioned that she will use her organization's platform to create a special communication group for the constituents of GFAR. Karim Hussein, for Global Rural Advisory Services, offered to do similarly through a GFAR group space on the GFRAS platform. SC Members suggested that they each have a corner for GFAR on their organizational websites, on which to post updates (as a link to the GFAR website.) They will do this as partners in GFAR and include the logo of GFAR.
- SC Members suggested a quarterly newsletter on GFAR, to which all SC Members contribute, representing their constituencies.
- The importance of email lists was emphasized to ease interaction.
- There were suggestions for a common Facebook page for GFAR constituencies and further opening of other social media linkages.
- Side events in conferences can be used by SC Members to include sessions on GFAR and discuss issues or proposals with the constituencies or the participants of the conference.
- It was suggested that reports to constituencies should be tailored, to guide the Partners as to what is relevant to them in a long report, as people usually do not read a long report. For example, The Secretariat could email reports with a note like "please check page 4 and 6 as it covers matters of importance to you" etc. and the SC Members can do the same to draw attention to issues of specific relevance to their constituency.
- Members were happy to receive business cards as GFAR SC Members and stated that this would give them confidence to speak as partners in the Global Forum, and to engage new partners.

- A question was raised as to how the content of the communication among Partners would be checked for consistency with GFAR purpose. Here, specific staff will be assigned within the Secretariat to help guide the SC Members for the constituency concerned.
- Local Private Sector and Global Civil Society described their own comprehensive plans that could be drawn upon.
- Needs were expressed by Members for i. Discussion spaces, ii. Spaces for sharing of experiences and iii. Spaces for working together on proposals. The Regional Fora were seen as a valuable mechanism for translating materials for their different regional constituents.
- Members suggested the introduction of an email address for constituents such as @gfar.net
- A needs assessment for training of SC Members on communication methods should be planned and identified needs addressed.

Key takeaways on the Communication Strategy:

Members recognize they need to represent and mobilize their constituencies and should communicate with them and also communicate with those who are not yet Partners in GFAR, to engage them as partners. They also recognized the essential need for communication mechanisms in catalyzing Collective Actions: SC Members need to communicate within and among GFAR constituencies, share the changes in GFAR, promote Collective Actions, and engage potential Partners in GFAR. Recommendations were summarized as:

- Actions towards GFAR's aims need to be widely shared, including by SC Members as advocates
- Steering Committee Members will identify and make use of existing communication tools in their constituencies, and tools provided through GFAR Secretariat, and assess progress in getting the messages out.
- Members volunteered to establish specific spaces in their own websites to spread GFAR news and some may issue quarterly newsletters on GFAR activities and actions.
- The GFAR website will be revamped to reflect the discussed changes and needs of the SC members and as a common repository to track Collective Actions and their impacts in each area
- Members suggested introducing a common e-mail address e.g. @gfar.net
- Respective communication roles of the Steering Committee, Partner constituencies, Secretariat, EXCO and any sub-committees need to be better framed.
- The Secretariat is requested to provide timely, regular updates, fact sheets and create platforms for communication e.g. video conference, webinar space and/or demand-driven basic training.

DECISION: GFAR Secretariat will distil these inputs and will prepare a Draft Communication Strategy in three weeks, for review and approval by the SC, together with the Partnership Strategy. This Strategy will cover both how constituencies communicate within themselves and how they can raise awareness of their Collective Actions with others, as GFAR.

14. Key Areas of Focus for the MTP 2018-2021

Summary of the rationale for GFAR's key areas of focus, as derived from GCARD3 dialogues - positioning the problem each is looking to resolve and the link to the SDGs

The framing of GFAR Collective Actions and the future MTP is of utmost priority in the next weeks/months for the further development of GFAR. This will also be required, along with the external review, for the EC to assess the possible scale of future funding support to GFAR and GFAR Collective Actions.

GFAR Executive Secretary Mark Holderness presented the context and recent history of the development of GFAR's agenda, emphasizing the reality that, rather than linear innovation pathways, innovation webs are the new reality and a mosaic of actions is required to meet the complex SDGs. He described how GFAR had in previous years supported the creation of fora and networks to strengthen and help transform different sectors, such as GFRAS (advisory services) GCHERA (higher education) and AIRCA (international research and development), strengthening inclusivity in the regional fora, as well as sectoral capacity development actions such as GODAN (open data) and TAP (innovation capacity). Together, these have helped create much greater coherence and knowledge sharing in each area.

GFAR has been very involved in the CGIAR Reform, directly mobilizing the voices of external stakeholders to help reshape the CGIAR. This led to the GCARD process between GFAR and the CGIAR, enabling all stakeholders to have a say in both national agricultural research and innovation priorities and the roles expected of international research. The Roadmap for transforming agricultural research and innovation for development that resulted from the GCARD1 dialogues then provided the basis for GFAR's current MTP. Together with the SDGs, these in turn shaped the 5 themes of GCARD3, the outcomes of which are now setting the frame for the MTP for 2018-2021.

GCARD3 was rooted in national and regional consultations around the big challenges to address in agri-food research and innovation towards achieving the SDGs, with a mandate of "leaving no one behind" and in achieving greater coherence between international research and national demands. GCARD3 recognized that we all need to tackle the "elephants in the room" – the underlying and often unstated challenges that are preventing agricultural research and innovation systems from having greater impact in sustainable development.

Successfully addressing these challenges, across the mosaic of different innovations required in all sectors, demands that diverse stakeholders bring their knowledge and capabilities together in Collective Actions. Innovation platforms and processes need to be inclusive of the poor and the farmers, women and youth, assessing and addressing their needs, bridging the gulf between agricultural science and wider society, developing technologies that respond to these needs and in turn shaping upstream fundamental research. Innovation processes are cyclical, not linear, and for success must be driven by the needs of their intended clients or beneficiaries.

The frame for GFAR's work in addressing these global challenges was set out by 5 key areas of focus:

1. **Enable and empower sustainable rural communities through self-determination:** Poor communities have little say in their own future, nor the innovations needed to get there. Communities need to be able to determine their own futures, through tools such as foresight, farmers' rights advocacy and capacity development, and to drive and 'own' the research, innovation, policies and support needed to achieve their desired sustainable futures.

2. **Increasing knowledge flow for development impact:** We need to go beyond individual institutional and sectoral interests to achieve impact at scale. Innovation systems operate as complex webs, yet links between their elements are often fragmented and disconnected. Multi-stakeholder research and innovation platforms must be fostered at different levels, to create more effective and equitable systems, capable of collectively generating, accessing and using the knowledge and resources required for successfully meeting the SDGs.

3. **Supporting transformative learning and youth leadership development:** Neither formal nor informal education are as yet meeting the needs of youth facing global challenges.

Comprehensive transformative learning and leadership development schemes are needed, to develop not only academic skills, but also intellectual, spiritual and emotional development, to inspire and equip our youth with the knowledge, skills and attitudes to meet their aspirations, access resources and mobilize themselves to create sustainable rural development.

4. **Changing value systems and metrics to deliver the SDGs:** "Agricultural Productivity" has long been the core driver of agricultural research and innovation. However, the SDGs set out much wider development objectives and indicators, all impacted by, or on, agriculture and food systems. Meeting these requires re-thinking the values and metrics for agri-food innovation, and demonstrating delivery towards SDG social, environmental and economic impacts.

5. **Enabling sustainable rural enterprise:** Agriculture is often seen as unattractive and in decline and there is a global exodus of rural youth. Sustainable rural enterprise development can address this challenge through using agriculture and food innovation, new developments such as ICTs, value-added linkages to consumers/markets, and supportive policies and inputs, to create new rural enterprise opportunities, particularly for resource-poor women and youth.

SC Members recognized that within this frame, there is tremendous opportunity for a wide range of new and existing GFAR Collective Actions towards specific SDG outcomes. It was recognized that the timeframe for fully delivering on the five key areas of focus will be beyond the lifespan of the next GFAR MTP and this will need to be tailored to what can be achieved within the period.

Plenary discussion to understand and endorse the 5 key areas of focus

- The Collective Actions within the key areas of focus should be concrete and actionable now.
- There may be a hierarchy of scale to establish among the key areas; for example metrics is not at the same level as empowering communities.
- SDG#5 on gender equality relates to all the 5 key areas. Cross-cutting questions will need to be considered across the key priority areas, such as women's empowerment and synergies of interactions among the 5 areas.
- CSOs strongly agreed that the concept of knowledge transfer from research to farmers is obsolete and expected Collective Actions to recognize farmers as innovators, including engaging youth and young farmers.
- Suggestion to ensure focus not only on farming but also on off-farm activities, noting the growing importance of rural-urban and peri-urban linkages and nutrition, with a continuum of production and consumption at household and community level.
- Agri-leaders of the future should include vocational training, not just formal education.
- Attention to the continuing contribution of science and new technologies should not be lost as the Collective Actions are developed within the key areas of focus, recognizing the role of Partners in GFAR in knowledge transfer and exchange between science and farm.
- Suggestion that Key Areas of Focus 1 and 5 could possibly be merged.

DECISION: The SC endorsed the five key areas of focus
They will now be used as the basis for Collective Actions to be developed among the partners in GFAR. In a break-out session, participants began to assemble (on flipcharts) their preliminary ideas for Collective Actions under the five key areas of focus. These can use the sub-targets/indicators of the SDGs to be more specific. Members agreed the importance of repositioning our value as GFAR and to engage in evidence-based, demonstrable, region specific, implementation of recommendations. This effort should include the development of the human, social and environmental capital required.

The GFAR Chair summarised the discussions, noting the MTP will deliver for our Partners and our larger communities as the Global Forum. It will be targeted, with indicators and informed by the GFAR Theory of Change and GCARD process. The process for building the MTP is more complex than the previous MTP, but also highly promising for presentation to governments, our local partners and others. The Chair summarized that this process has begun today so we are on the right track, with the goal of delivering a very good rough draft for discussion and agreement by the next SC meeting in May.

DECISION: GFAR Secretariat is tasked to solicit and compile proposed Collective Action concepts and prepare these into detailed Collective Actions, based on Partners' inputs and self-commitments. This will create the basis for the MTP, which should be produced in final draft within three months.

Market Place Activity over Coffee Break

Objective
To engage Members in filling in examples of Collective Actions they would wish to see and consider important under each of the key areas of focus for the upcoming GFAR MTP. Also indicating who they would want to partner with to achieve the suggested Collective Actions and what resources are available or can be made available for that purpose.

The 6 flipcharts of SC Members' preliminary ideas on Collective Actions are summarized in Annex 2.

15. Selection process for GFAR Chair and Vice Chair

The GFAR Chair, Mr. Juan Lucas Restrepo, confirmed his intention to step down, due to an anticipated change of role. It is very important that a new Chair has a full period towards the next Partners' Assembly and GCARD4, so the SC outlined the process to be followed for the identification, nomination and election of the new Chair and Vice-Chair. The Committee unanimously appointed Mr. Shantanu Mathur, IFAD, as interim Vice-Chair for the transition. The composition of the Executive Committee (EXCO) will remain as stands. ToRs for the Chair and Vice-Chair will be advertised openly and EXCO will lead the process to identify potential lead candidates, the names of which will be informed to Partners on a no-substantive-objection basis, before final decision by the Steering Committee, on behalf of the Partners' Assembly.

An announcement and an open call to select the Chair and the Vice-Chair from the respondents to the call should take place within the upcoming three months and before the next SC in May 2017.

Explanation of selection process: The ToRs are established in the Charter. Beyond these, the main requirement is that the Chair acts independently, to represent the interests of all constituencies and not favour one or a few constituencies more than the others. To help ensure balance, the Chair and Vice-Chair should be from different backgrounds and at least one of the two should be familiar with the business of networked actions and of acting through demand-driven multi-stakeholder agendas.

The Chair and Vice-Chair have seats in the Steering Committee and the timing for this process of appointment should be as soon as possible. In 3 months we should have both on board.

It was also agreed that EXCO should retain oversight of the process and of the Secretariat on behalf of, and in between, Steering Committee meetings. To avoid potential conflicts of interest for specific

sectors, the EXCO was determined to still consist of: IFAD and FAO (as UN facilitating agencies), European Community (for investors), Executive Secretary, Chair and Vice-Chair.

16. Action items

The elements below will be prepared and forwarded to the SC Members. The SC Members in turn will discuss them with their constituencies and across constituencies and get ideas of Collective Actions that the partners would commit to work on together. This information should be returned to the Secretariat by mid-April, one month before the scheduled SC meeting to put in final shape for approval in the meeting.

1. Communication Strategy
2. Partnership Strategy
3. MTP: Key areas of focus with description and potential Collective Actions
4. Selection Process for the Chair and Vice-Chair

The next SC meeting to be held in the 2nd half of May 2017, venue to be determined, subject to invitations by SC Members as hosts.

DECISION (as regards items 15 and 16): It was agreed that GFAR Secretariat will prepare the above listed documents for the SC, who will in turn discuss with their constituencies, particularly to identify potential Collective Actions for the MTP, and provide input to the Secretariat for their final compilation, in preparation for the SC meeting scheduled for May 2017.

Annex 1:

Posters presented on previous GFAR Collective Actions

8 Collective Action Posters		
Collective Action	**Partners Involved**	**Presented By**
Regional Foresight Hub, with a network of foresight practitioners for capacity development from 7 countries	National Research Institutions, Farmers' Organizations, Youth and Women's Organizations, AARINENA	**Mohamed Ajlouni** Regional Representation - Middle East and Northern Africa
Transformative Learning and Student Leadership Development	Higher Education Institutions, Private Sector, Youth Organizations, Farmer Associations, Research Institutions	**John Kennelly** Higher Education - Global
Enhanced Quality Investment in Agricultural Research and Innovation	APAARI, ACIAR, DOA Thailand, FAO-RAP, GFAR, IFPRI, Syngenta, ARTI, NARIs, NAROs, civil society (NGOs and FOs), CG centres, AIRCA, regional fora, development organizations, universities, policy bodies	**Akkinapally Ramakrishna** Regional Representation - Asia-Pacific
PAEPARD: Platform for African-European Partnership in Research for Development	Collective representation of various actors at country level: local government agencies, research, farmers' organizations, NGOs	**Patrick Van Damme** Regional Representation - Europe
ICTs for agricultural communities	National Research Institutions, Extension Services, Farmers	**Alisher Tashmatov** Regional Representation - Central Asia and the Caucasus
African Chapter of GFAR Foresight Academy	GFAR, Regional fora, ARIs (University of Denver, Agropolis International), UNESCO, African sub-regional organizations, African Universities, National Agricultural Research Institutes, Development partners (EC, IFAD, World Bank)	**Ephraim Mukisira** Regional Representation - Sub-Saharan Africa
Foresight Academy for Asia & Agricultural Education (for youth relevant skills)	YPARD, GCHERA, Agrinatura, GLF	**Nidhi Nagabhatla** Youth - Global
Agricultural Innovation	GFAR, WFO and its NFO Members, IFAD, FAO	**Marco Marzano** Farmer and Agricultural Worker Organizations - Global

Annex 2: Ideas put forward in GFAR SC Market Place on Collective Actions

1. Enable and empower sustainable rural communities [entitled during the session "Empowering Rural Communities towards self-determination (SDGs 1, 2, 5, 8, 10, 17)"]

1) Use the double potential of GFAR to impact rural communities at grassroots/national level and to contribute to global advocacy for agricultural systems as a global platform working directly with UN ECOSOC and CFS-HLPE on SDG implementation
2) Address gender mainstreaming by practical actions: propose the formation of a forum/network on Gender Mainstreaming in Agriculture Research and Innovation
3) Regional and local gap identification activities key needs in: knowledge generation; technology development from existing knowledge; knowledge management.
4) To feed priority-setting, planning etc: Where are the gaps? Who has the gaps? What is missing? Value chain focus or production-system focus or territorial focus or all of these?
5) Get clarity on the vision & goals of self-determined rural communities in regard to sustainable income opportunities, food-water security and well-being
6) Land rights as an essential component: defending land ownership and farmers settlement
7) Strengthen capacities of farmers' organizations to organize and empower the role of rural communities in innovation

2. Increasing knowledge flow for development impact [entitled during the session "Increasing impact through multi-stakeholder innovation platforms (SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17)"]

1) Organize a GFAR collective fund/investment to support innovation (from ideas through to implementation)
2) Establish GFAR repository of innovation best practices, cases, collaborative initiatives etc.
3) Thematic forums (chat rooms or similar tool)
4) Innovation platform management
5) Establish schedule of information sharing/video-conference dates with regional platforms
6) Incubate gender-focused multi-stakeholder innovation platforms'. Measuring gender
7) Deliver knowledge to farmers through multi-stakeholder innovation systems
8) Partner with other platforms/networks that are already in place to support their actions in innovation e.g.: Global Research Alliance on Green House Gas Emissions (GRA-GHG) or GFRAS + National Networks
9) Explore regional fora, how they function (governance, priority setting, how they include constituencies, communication), and how they can be improved so that no one is left behind
10) Participatory investigation, investigate productive family farming systems

3. Supporting transformative learning and youth leadership development [entitled during the session "Developing Agri-Food Leaders (SDGs 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 16, 17)"]

1) Identify champions to lead the processes
2) Develop relevant curricula for agricultural courses
3) Access to land, water, seeds, sustainable practices
4) Conduct needs assessment for capacity building
5) Capacity building for farmers to be potential leaders
6) Continuing professional development at all levels
7) Organize trainings to farmers using FO's network

8) Assign the importance of women's contributions to agri-food systems (binary stakeholders)
9) Create tangible and sustainable opportunities for, and together with, agri-youth to access resources (land, labour, credit-finance) as well as developing supporting capacities (soft skills, mentoring, technical know-how)
10) With private sector e.g.: GFAR Members advocate and see through to reality policy for agri-youth to secure finance:
    - effort to change ARD is communicated to agri-youth – social video;
    - YPARD mentoring;
    - #agriyouth app – finds and consolidates opportunities for development

4. Changing value systems and metrics to deliver the SDGs [entitled during the session "Changing the metrics of agri-food systems to account for SDG impacts (SDGs 2, 5, 8, 12, 17)"]

1) Create a common set of indicators – investments, impact ratio, but $ value is not always a good indicator
2) Ideas for what to measure:
    - Competitiveness changes in systems (market share, farm income…),
    - Adoption as intermediate outcome
    - Rural communities: demographics and socio-economic indicators (employment, health, poverty figures)
3) New models of extension and advisory services (multidimensional)
4) Product development
5) Valuation of women's contribution to agri-food systems
6) Identify who has good metrics (best practices, e.g.: some CGIAR Centers are more advanced), socialize experiences
7) Determine farmers access to new agri-food systems through pilots
8) Determine innovation in extension systems

5. Enabling sustainable rural enterprise (SDGs 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 12, 16, 17)

1) Linking farmers to markets value chains
2) Support for gender-friendly women's entrepreneurship initiatives for attaining SDGs
3) Look at what SSA-CP did in Africa
4) Database of agri-business training tools for SMEs and cooperatives
5) Youth agri-preneurship + RAS/extension services (build on annual meeting)
6) Develop market infrastructure
7) Creating enabling environments (e.g. appropriate policies, access to land & resources) is essential
8) Off—farm income/employment adding value to production, with focus on rural youth/young farmers capacities and skill sets

In addition: Free Form, Questions, Comments

1) Include innovation as a process and not an end in itself
2) What and how to measure behavioural and institutional changes?
3) Redefining the value of 'research' in line with SDGs
4) Align the new MTP with SDG targets and indicators and take note of emerging issues
5) GFAR Institutional Strategy: governance and membership; communication; knowledge generation and sharing

Annex 3: SC Members' closing words

SC Members one word descriptors for Day 2, compared with end of Day 1 (not in the same sequence). The shift in comments from Day 1 to Day2 clearly shows a progressive increase in understanding of GFAR and engagement with GFAR principles among the Steering Committee members and the great enthusiasm shown by the end of the meeting:

Day 1	**Day 2**
Enlightening	Encouraged
Process	Absolutely fantastic
Not easy	Hopeful
Buy in	Encouraged
Promising	Satisfied
Digesting	Fantastic
Anxiety	Still not easy
Some progress	Enthusiastic
Learning	Much further forward
Reality	Moving along
Not business as usual	Eager
Expectation	Good
Complexity	Outcome
Collective action	Progressing
Belief	Promising
Enthusiastic	Challenging
Getting there	Pleasing
Cloudy but possible sunshine	Inspiring
Funny	Rejuvenating - with an exclamation mark!
Collaboration	Engaging
Dynamic	Hoping
Interactive	Optimistic
Not easy	Moving on
Exciting	Enthusiasm
Relevant	Collaborative