



Partnerships in Action: Towards Sustainable Food Systems



Global Forum
on Agricultural
Innovation and
Research

Coordinating the:



Supported by the
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Partnerships in Action: Towards Sustainable Food Systems

GFAiR Annual Report 2025

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Coordinating the:



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STRATEGIC PARTNERS

GFAiR was established by the IFAD, FAO, The World Bank, and CGIAR



Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research

GFAiR works in the regions through six Regional Fora



Acknowledgments

GFAiR extends its deepest gratitude to all partners, members, and collaborators who contributed to the progress, insights, and institutional transformation documented in this report. We are especially thankful to the European Commission and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) for their continued trust and financial support.

We express our sincere appreciation to The Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT, which serves as GFAiR's host organisation, providing operational support and institutional stewardship. We thank the members of the GFAiR Steering Committee, whose strategic guidance and collegial spirit have shaped the Forum's evolving identity.

Special thanks to the six regional fora—European Forum on Agricultural Research for Development (EFARD), Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA), Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI), Association of Agricultural Research Institutions in the Near East and North Africa (AARINENA), Central Asia and the Caucasus Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (CACAARI), and Forum for the Americas on Agricultural Research and Technology Development (FORAGRO) — for their guidance and for embedding regional voice and ownership into global processes.

We also acknowledge the contributions of our technical partners, affiliated institutions, and the wide network of organisations, research bodies, civil society actors, and innovators who continuously advance GFAiR's mission.

Finally, we thank the GFAiR team, consultants, and platform members for their dedication, agility, and professionalism. This report is a testament to everyone's commitment to inclusive innovation and collective effort to transform agrifood systems for the better.

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1 About Us

The Global Forum on Agricultural Innovation and Research (GFAiR) is a global multi-stakeholder network. It brings together over 1,000 institutional members from 13 constituencies of the agrifood research and innovation systems.

GFAiR advocates and catalyses Inclusive Equitable Partnerships in agrifood research & innovation.



Vision

To make agri-food research and innovation systems that are more effective, responsive, and equitable – contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals.



Mission

To advocate for and catalyse Collective Actions at national, regional, and global levels that strengthen and transform agri-food research and innovation systems.

Theory of Change

The challenge. Agri-food R4D is lacking full uptake and scaling. This is severely impacted when research and innovation are designed and implemented without the relevant stakeholders and without an inclusive, equitable research. Partnership approaches in agri-food research and innovation need to be transformed, or the agri-food system will not be as effective.

The solution? Equitable partnership principles applied, engagement of all multi-stakeholders, farmers at the centre, and empowering women and youth.

How We Work: Our Partnership Principles in Practice

GFAiR's work is grounded in nine foundational Partnership Principles embedded across all activities and projects.

PP1: Co-design goals & plans	PP2: Free & fair knowledge exchange	PP3: Shared responsibilities
PP4: Mutual learning	PP5: Enhancing collective research capacities	PP6: Equitable benefits
PP7: Results shared that enable application	PP8: Sustainable outcomes	PP9: Contextual flexibility

2 Achievements

2.1 Global NARS Consortium

In 2025, a major milestone was the launch of the **Global NARS Consortium (GNC)** in Nairobi, Kenya. This is a flagship platform bringing together National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) from around the world to collectively address the challenges facing agricultural research and development.

For years, NARS lacked a unified global voice — limiting their ability to influence policies, mobilise resources, and engage in international research agendas. The GNC transformed this into a cohesive, globally representative platform for collaboration, amplifying perspectives, and enabling joint action through shared priorities and structured partnerships.



Executive Directors / Secretaries of EFARD, FARA, APAARI, GFAiR, AARINENA, and CACAARI, after signing the Bangkok Declaration on 17th March 2023 that paved the way for the formation of the GNC.

GNC — key progress in 2025:

Endorsement from over 250 institutions and operational systems put in place.

GFAiR developed the NARS database as part of the foundational work for establishing the GNC.

The GNC advanced a democratically governed structure to be facilitated by GFAiR and made strong progress towards prioritising flagship activities.

Strategic tools, such as Call to Action and communication products, were developed.

GNC membership expanded from 126 to 220 NARS across 34 countries, with approximately 50% active engagement.

Brainstorming and strategic planning sessions were conducted, with heavy engagement from the Regional Fora. This resulted in a draft governance structure for the GNC being designed, inaugural flagship activities being analysed through participatory processes.

2.2 Collective Actions

In GFAiR's Collective Actions, those who face the challenges lead the way. The result has been a portfolio of initiatives that are genuinely co-designed, co-owned, and sustained by the partners themselves. GFAiR's role has been facilitator.



GFAiR's Collective Actions are a portfolio of initiatives that are genuinely co-designed, co-owned, and sustained by the partners themselves. Photo by GFAiR.

Collective Actions — key progress in 2025:

All five CAs were activated, Letters of Agreement signed, and work was launched — aligned with the Partnership Principles. The CAs included:

- Agroecology: Biosolutions
- Agroecology and Digital Agriculture: Adopting AI for Farmer extension of agroecological approaches
- Forgotten Foods: Advocacy
- Forgotten Foods and Transformative Higher Education: Developing an open source curriculum on Forgotten Foods.
- Land Tenure and Climate Change.

Three CAs advanced rapidly — Forgotten Foods, Agroecology (Biosolutions), and Land Tenure & Climate Change — launching major multi-stakeholder initiatives, mobilising youth and indigenous voices, and delivering global policy engagement.

Inclusive Digital Agriculture and Transformative Higher Education were aligned with the topics of the active Collective Action. Specifically, the CA on Inclusive Digital Agriculture was aligned with the CA on Agroecology to use AI to improve the extension of agroecological technologies to farmers in North Africa and Asia. The CA on Transformative Higher Education was aligned with the CA on Forgotten Foods, to produce open-source curriculum on Forgotten Foods.

GFAiR's Collective Actions are rooted in the principle that those closest to the challenges should lead the solutions.

What each CA is working on:

Agroecology is advancing the sustainable use of biopesticides and biosolutions through policy dialogue and the establishment of a global Community of Practice linking Africa, Asia, and Europe.



Inclusive Digital Agriculture is developing a multilingual chatbot with videos and AI-supported tools to share knowledge on climate-resilient crops and agroecological practices.



Forgotten Foods is focused on advocacy and market linkages to restore indigenous food systems, valuing community knowledge while stimulating demand and markets.



Transformative Higher Education is developing the first open-source curriculum on Forgotten Foods, co-designed by universities, industry, and communities from Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America and the Caribbean.



Land Tenure and Climate Change is advocating for climate disaster prevention and resilience policies that recognise the land rights of the rural poor — especially women, youth, and indigenous communities.



2.3 Partnership Principles

GFAiR operationalised the 9 Partnership Principles (PPs) across its programme initiatives. These principles were integrated into GFAiR's governance arrangements, partnership agreements, and implementation guidelines, transforming the PPs from a normative framework into a practical standard guiding equitable collaboration across multi-stakeholder partnerships.

In 2025, GFAiR advanced the PPs — promoting them across global and Regional Fora. The principles were adopted by all five Collective Actions and the GNC, positioning them as an emerging global standard for inclusive agricultural innovation partnerships. This reinforces GFAiR's identity as a broker of trust-based, multi-stakeholder collaboration. At the global level, GFAiR elevated PPs' visibility through high-level platforms, including CGIAR Science Week in Nairobi. GFAiR had earlier been a major contributor to the CGIAR Partnership Framework, embedding the principles in the agenda.

The promotion of the Partnership Principles will be accelerated in 2026 through activating a Global Movement. A Global Movement means this is no longer just a GFAiR or GNC voice — it becomes jointly-owned advocacy around a shared cause. This drives wider engagement, deeper ownership, and ultimately greater adoption.



GFAiR Steering Committee members in a panel discussion during a side event organised by CGIAR in the UAE, December 2025. In 2025, GFAiR advanced the Partnership Principles — promoting them across global and Regional Fora. Photo by GFAiR.



3 Message from the Chair

GFAiR has reached a remarkable turning point. The single most significant milestone of 2025 was the official launch of the Global NARS Consortium (GNC). GNC is a **groundbreaking mega Collective Action** and a mindset shift. For too long, global research has followed a hierarchical model driven by international organisations. With GNC, research and innovation will become demand-driven – rooted in local realities and the challenges identified by National Agricultural Research Institutes (NARIs).

After years of consultation with the six Regional Fora – EFARD, FARA, APAARI, AARINENA, CACAARI, and FORAGRO – the GNC moved from concept to reality. Launched in Nairobi with endorsement from over 250 institutions, the Consortium has grown to 220 NARS members across 34 countries, spanning every region of the world. For the first time, NARIs have a collective platform to shape global research agendas, influence policy, and mobilise resources.

The GNC directly addresses the challenges that have long held NARS back – fragmented systems, leadership challenges, short-term funding, shortage of capacity, and priorities not recognised by others – while amplifying collective voice and fostering equitable partnerships between the Global South and international research organisations. Built on Partnership Principles advocated by GFAiR, the GNC is a testament to what can be achieved when regions and organisations work together as equals.

In 2026, the GNC will focus on three priorities: democratic governance and transparency, tangible value for NARS through flagship activities, and global visibility through increased engagement. These flagship activities will be finalised and activated in 2026, with lessons learned feeding into the Global Movement for Equitable Partnerships. But the GNC is only one part of the story. Five Collective Actions were activated in 2025, each applying the Partnership Principles to real-world challenges. In 2026, GFAiR will strengthen coordination, governance, and capacity – enabling NARS to lead agri-food system reform at national, regional, and global levels.

Deep gratitude goes to the European Commission, our founding partners – FAO, IFAD, the World Bank, and CGIAR – and all 1,000+ members across the GFAiR network, including the six Regional Fora. I invite you to explore this report. It reflects a shared purpose and commitment – to Collective Action, to science, to partnership, and to transforming agrifood systems for the better.

With gratitude,

Dr. Ravi Khetarpal
Chair, GFAiR Steering Committee



4 Message from the Executive Secretary

When I joined GFAiR in August 2025, I found a network rich with potential. Five flagship Collective Actions were at various stages of development. The Global NARS Consortium had just been launched. The task was not to start from scratch. My predecessors had set a solid foundation. It was to accelerate, align, and deliver.

By the end of 2025, all five Collective Actions were fully activated and aligned with the 9 Partnership Principles. Most significantly, across all five Collective Actions, 70% of primary representatives are women and youth — by design. The real impact is in the people served and the knowledge shared across regions, cultures, and systems — whether a young farmer in Morocco using agroecological approaches for pest management thanks to knowledge gained from the AI based extension led by the Collective Action on Digital Agriculture, or a young parent in Ghana feeding her children healthy, nutritious meals made from millet thanks to the advocacy of the Collective Action on Forgotten Foods.

Looking ahead to 2026, our focus is clear: First, we will accelerate the promotion of the Partnership Principles by designing and activating a Global Movement for Equitable Partnerships. This moves us from advocacy — raising awareness and building understanding — to a cause-based movement that mobilises a broad coalition of actors who collectively champion and apply equitable partnerships in practice. Second, we will work with like-minded organisations and initiatives — including CGIAR — to strengthen co-partnership models that engage NARS.

Third, to bring credibility to the Movement’s messaging, we will prepare guides on how the Partnership Principles can be applied. We will also identify and document case studies of the Partnership Principles in action — drawn from GFAiR’s activities and those of our partners. These case studies will demonstrate what equitable partnerships look like on the ground.

Finally, we will strengthen resource mobilisation to secure a sustainable future, deliver concrete results that demonstrate value, and attract further investment.

I am deeply grateful to the European Commission, IFAD, the founding partners, the six Regional Fora, and all 1,000+ members across the GFAiR network. This report is a testament to your commitment.

With gratitude,

Joanna Kane-Potaka
Executive Secretary, GFAiR

5 In Pictures



FounderThe Food Bridge vzw, Maureen Duru-Onweni (in blue) and a colleague undertake a survey on the trade of African food in Paris, France. Photo by The Food Bridge vzw.



Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) team during an engagement in 2025. ANGOC is the implementing partner of the CA on Climate Change and Land Tenure: Photo by ANGOC.



During the Strategy Meeting with Regional Fora in Dubai on 7 December 2025, participants co-designed the future of the Global NARS Consortium (GNC) and strengthened regional ownership. Photo by GFAiR.

6 Impact: How Partner-Led Collective Actions Deliver

6.1 Agroecology – Building an Africa–Europe biopesticides community of practice

The CA on Agroecology addresses the growing demand for safer, sustainable pest management by tackling the environmental and health risks associated with the widespread use of chemical pesticides, particularly Highly Hazardous Pesticides. Farmers in many regions face increasing pest pressures, regulatory constraints, and environmental degradation, yet access to effective biological alternatives remains limited due to fragmented research, regulatory barriers, and weak markets for biopesticides. The CA advances the sustainable use of biopesticides and biosolutions through policy dialogue and the establishment of a global Community of Practice linking Africa, Asia, and Europe.



Led by EFARD, the highlight of 2025 was the completion of the design of an Africa–Europe Biopesticides Community of Practice (CoP). The Annual Biocontrol Industry Meeting (Basel, October 2025) and Innovative Approaches to Sustainable Pesticide Residue Mitigation (Johannesburg, November 2025) – these two events laid the groundwork for the official launch of the platform, which will take place in 2026. The Community of Practice connects researchers, policymakers, regulators, private-sector actors, and farmer organisations to strengthen cross-regional collaboration, knowledge exchange, and coordinated efforts to scale biopesticides and other biosolutions as sustainable alternatives to hazardous chemical pesticides.

The major challenge identified in this CA is that regulatory fragmentation and limited harmonisation of biopesticide approval processes across Africa, Asia, and Europe continue to slow adoption.

The goal is to promote biosolutions as part of agroecological farming systems – helping farmers move toward safer, more sustainable ways to protect their crops.

Future opportunities will focus on positioning the Biopesticides Community of Practice as a global reference – shifting from awareness to regulatory influence, anchoring research in long-term funding pathways, integrating digital and extension innovation, and strengthening early private-sector engagement to accelerate sustainable market uptake across Africa, Asia, and Europe. This will involve consolidating Africa–Asia–Europe exchanges into a recognised policy and regulatory dialogue space linked to FAO, UNEP, and relevant regional bodies. The CoP will produce evidence and policy briefs to support regulatory reform, engage with international and regional regulatory bodies to influence pesticide policies, and align research initiatives with long-term funding mechanisms such as international research programmes and public-private partnerships.

6.2 Inclusive Digital Agriculture – AI-powered extension for agroecology

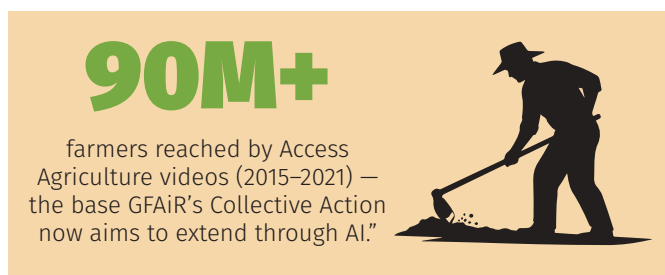
The objective for this CA is to demonstrate scalable digital innovations, inform policy and investment, and strengthen farmer advisory systems across Africa and Asia.

Led by Access Agriculture, the CA commenced the piloting of AI-enabled agroecology advisory services through a chatbot in the Access Agriculture mobile app – testing farmer-centred digital extension. This work culminated in the highlight of 2025: the development and deployment of Ask Agi, an AI chatbot.



This AI-powered multilingual search assistant makes the wealth of Access Agriculture’s knowledge resources more accessible to users. It allows farmers to search using conversational language and guides them, within seconds, to the most relevant training videos, along with links and suggestions for deeper exploration. The team in each country identified relevant agroecology resources to train Ask Agi in Arabic, English, French, and Hindi.

According to Access Agriculture data from combined surveys in 2015, 2018, and 2021, at least 90 million farmers have been reached through Access Agriculture videos distributed via small-scale and mass media. The project will now expand its reach by integrating the material into the AI Ask Agi chatbot, which is currently in the pilot stage. In 2026, the chatbot will be tested in three locations: Morocco, Egypt, and the Indian state of Maharashtra.



Other key achievements include:

- Empowering young researchers in agroecology with technical information and communication skills. Two residential workshops were held: in Kampala (8–12 December 2025, anglophone) and in Cotonou (24–28 November 2025, francophone).

The major constraint noted is that digital infrastructure gaps— inconsistent connectivity, variable smartphone penetration, and low digital literacy among older farmers—persist across Morocco, Egypt, and India, limiting the reach of the “Ask Agi” chatbot and risking exclusion of marginalised farmers without complementary analog support.

Future opportunities will centre on demonstrating the value of inclusive digital agriculture through integration rather than standalone pilots.

They will also focus on validating farmer-centred AI at scale, strengthening regional ownership and positioning Inclusive Digital Agriculture as cross-cutting infrastructure for other CAs.

6.3 Forgotten Foods – Connecting producers to diaspora markets

Modern food systems have concentrated on a few staple crops such as wheat, maize and rice — leading to biodiversity loss, poor diet diversity, and the marginalisation of traditional knowledge that once sustained resilient local food systems. The CA restores indigenous food systems by valuing women’s and community knowledge, stimulating demand for climate-resilient local crops, reorienting agri-research toward diversity and sustainability, and driving policy change at national and global levels.

The CA has promoted Forgotten Foods — often derived from Neglected and Underutilised Species (NUS) — through several pathways: pilot activities in Africa, proposal development, engagement with European diaspora markets, and participation in global policy fora including the UNFSS+4.

Led by The Food Bridge vzw, the CA linked producers in West Africa (especially Ghana and Nigeria) to diaspora communities in London and Paris. Through market studies, youth programmes, school gardens, and policy advocacy, it worked to stimulate demand for indigenous crops, strengthen value chains, and integrate Forgotten Foods into nutrition, research, and agricultural policies.

The highlight of 2025 was the diaspora market research. Missions in London and Paris generated openly accessible evidence of demand for indigenous African crops — including a large-scale consumer survey in London with 1,648 respondents. The research was co-generated by researchers, entrepreneurs, and consumers, creating solid evidence base for market entry and value chain development. The results will be released in 2026.

Other key achievements include:

- Collective Action on Forgotten Foods (CAFF) Agroschooling Initiative and Food Festival. In collaboration with the Nigerian Association of Agricultural Students, this initiative culminated in a Collective Action on Forgotten Foods Food Festival and Cooking Competition in Nigeria.
- Memorandum of Understanding with the Alliance for Local Food and Nutrition Supply Chains Africa – Signed in 2025 to strengthen collaboration on forgotten foods and local food systems.
- The CA delivered write-shops, policy engagements, and collaborative research proposals — creating pathways for innovation, policy influence, and investment in neglected and underutilised species. Potential beneficiaries include Slow Food International, and Harvest Plus.



CAFF Agroschooling Initiative in collaboration with Nigerian Association of Agricultural Students Collective Action on Forgotten Foods Food Festival and Cooking Competition in Nigeria, 2025. Photo by The Food Bridge vzw.

- Write-shops in Ghana (January 2025) and Nigeria (February 2025) strengthened ownership, alignment, and accountability among universities, youth groups, SMEs, farmers, and diaspora actors — through co-designed research priorities, shared objective setting, mutual learning, and joint responsibility.
- The Forgotten Foods CoP grew to 650+ members — providing a safe space for cross-regional exchange, collective capacity building, and knowledge sharing through open-access resources and practitioner insights. A dedicated Facebook campaign, launched in late 2025, reached 3,365 followers in the first few weeks (59% aged 25–44) and 141,767 views.
- Four youth-led pilot initiatives launched under the Forgotten Foods Youth Challenge in Ghana and Nigeria — promoting equitable benefit sharing and strengthening youth leadership in research and innovation.

A key barrier encountered in this CA is that, despite demonstrated consumer demand in London and Paris, supply-side barriers—including certification costs and cold chain logistics—prevent many women and youth entrepreneurs from scaling exports.

Looking ahead, priorities shift from proposal writing to strategic selectivity: scaling diaspora-market evidence into investable pilots, deepening policy anchoring through country- and continental-level partnerships and strengthening synergies with other CAs to embed Forgotten Foods across education, agroecology, and food systems.

“Coordinating the GFAiR Collective Action on Forgotten Foods has been both a busy and deeply inspiring journey for The Food Bridge vzw....”

Maureen Duru-Onweni, Founder, The Food Bridge vzw

6.4 Transformative Higher Education – An open-source curriculum on forgotten foods

Forgotten foods play a crucial role in improving nutrition, climate resilience, and sustainable livelihoods. Yet they remain largely absent from formal higher education curricula. Universities and training institutions focus on major staple crops and industrial food systems, leaving future professionals with limited exposure to indigenous crops and traditional food knowledge.

This CA is developing an open-source curriculum on forgotten foods to integrate these topics into higher education, equipping students with the knowledge and skills to promote diversified, healthy, resilient, and sustainable agri-food systems.

Led by the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), the highlight of 2025 was securing

€200,000 from the International Foundation for Science (IFS) through collaborative fundraising. This enabled RUFORUM to conduct a residential workshop on Transformative Teaching of Neglected and Underutilised Species (NUS) in Nairobi in December 2025, bringing together representatives from across the globe, universities, industry, CGIAR centres, accelerators, private-sector actors, and other experts. The workshop co-created curriculum content strengthened institutional and individual capacities for transformative NUS teaching, and emphasised mutual learning, shared ownership, and South–South collaboration.

A persistent challenge identified is that university adoption of new curricula faces institutional inertia. Rigid accreditation processes, limited faculty time for course development, and the absence of formal incentives for teaching Neglected and Underutilised Species slow integration into credit-bearing programmes.

In 2026, the CA will conduct a baseline survey of participating universities to map current NUS teaching, research, and innovation capacity. A curriculum will be developed as a global public, open-source good, with formal adoption by at least eight universities delivering credit-bearing NUS courses or degree pathways using blended and online modules. South–South collaboration will be deepened with Odisha University of Agriculture & Technology (India), alongside joint curriculum validation and open-source material development. The CA will also strengthen ties with accelerators, MSME incubators, and industry so that curricula directly feed entrepreneurship and job creation.

6.5 Land Tenure & Climate Change – Amplifying youth voices at scale

The CA on Land Tenure and Climate Change aims to mainstream land rights and good land governance within the climate agenda — linking local, regional, and global efforts through collaboration between civil society, National Agricultural Research Institutions (NARIs), and youth movements.

It advocates for climate disaster prevention and resilience policies that recognise the land rights of the rural poor, especially women, youth, and indigenous communities, who are disproportionately affected by climate change and systematically disadvantaged by land rights systems.



The Land and Youth Digital Conference in September 2025 catalysed youth inclusion in the global climate discourse. Photo by GFAiR.

Led by Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC), the highlight of 2025 was the amplification of youth voices at scale. The Land & Youth Digital Conference in September reached 1,404 registrants and 816 live participants from 60+ countries — providing a significant platform for in-depth discussions on strengthening youth inclusion in global climate debates. Building on this momentum, the CA engaged in social media campaigns, youth-led blogs, and direct advocacy at COP30, elevating land tenure as a critical climate policy issue on the international stage.

Several organisations expressed interest in future collaboration, including Espaço Feminista, YOUNGO Nature Working Group, and the Global Environment Facility (GEF). These engagements are expected to deepen regional ownership of land-climate linkages and amplify youth-led voices in policy frameworks.

Other key achievements include:

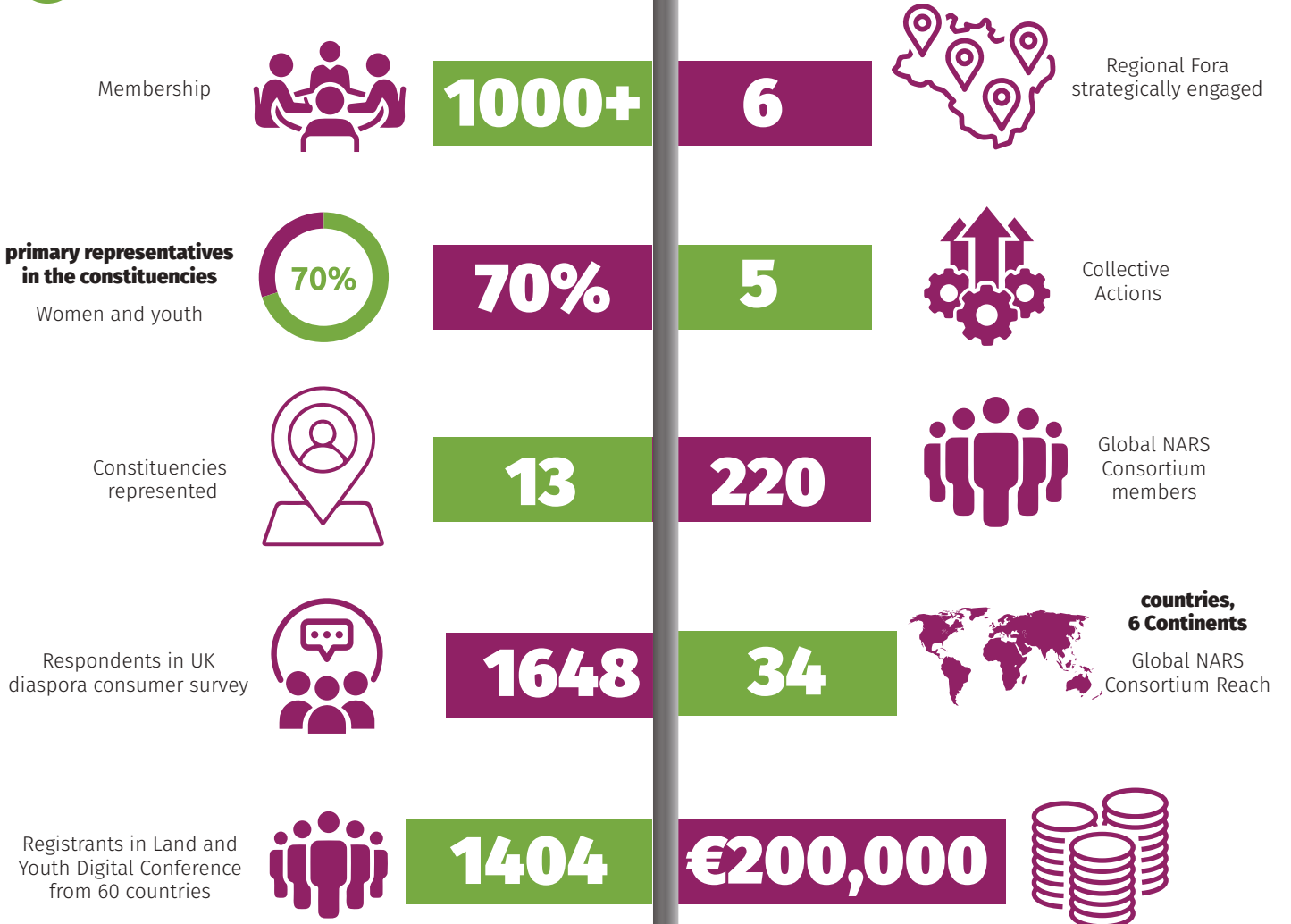
- Partners began co-developing a Framework for Partnership on Agricultural Research and Innovation, advancing community-led, farmer-driven research that integrates land and climate priorities.

- Research for community case studies in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and the Philippines started in 2025 which will demonstrate how secure land tenure can strengthen climate adaptation and expand women’s and youth participation.
- Insights are feeding into a Tenure–Climate Stories advocacy publication, designed to influence national and regional policy dialogue and embed tenure security into climate action strategies.

The major challenge is that, despite strong engagement at the Land and Youth Digital Conference, national governments and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) processes lack formal mechanisms to integrate youth-generated land tenure evidence into Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) and climate adaptation plans.

Future opportunities will focus on scaling the partnership framework to other regions, translating community stories into national policy influence—especially within NDC processes—leveraging youth momentum from global climate platforms, and deepening the youth, gender, and indigenous nexus in land and climate action.

7 2025 in Figures



8 Governance and Leadership

GFAiR Executive Committee Members



Dr. Ravi Khetarpal
Chair



Romano De Vivo
Vice Chair



Christophe Larose
European Commission



Amine Belhamissi
Grant Portfolio Officer, IFAD



Selvaraju Ramasamy
Director of Innovation, FAO



Micheline Ayoub Chief of Staff
CGIAR System Organisation



Joanna Kane-Potaka
Executive Secretary

GFAiR Steering Committee Members

Steering Committee are representatives of all the constituents of the Agri food system

1. Ravi Khetarpal – Chair
2. Romano De Vivo – Vice Chair
3. Joanna Kane Potaka –Secretariat
4. Ross McLeod – International Research Institutions
5. Christophe Larose – Donor Support Group
6. Marine Noblanc – Donor Support Group
7. Selvaraju Ramasamy – Facilitating Agencies
8. Amine Belhamissi – Facilitating Agencies
9. Katia Vuori – Farmer and Agricultural Worker Organisations (Global)
10. James French – Higher Education (Global)
11. Juan-Lucas Restrepo – International Public Sector Agricultural Research
12. Daniel El Chami – Private Sector (Global)
13. Botir Dosov – Regional Representation (Central Asia and the Caucasus (CAC))
14. Dietrich Darr – Regional Representation (Europe)
15. Muhammed Ibrahim – Regional Representation (Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC))
16. Rida Shibli – Regional Representation (Middle East and North Africa region (MENA))
17. Aggrey Agumya – Regional Representation (Sub Saharan Africa (SSA))
18. Carl Larsen – Rural Advisory Services (Global)
19. Genna Tesdall – Youth Organisations (Global)
20. Silvia Lanzarini – Women’s Associations (Global)
21. Micheline Ayoub – International Research Institutions

GFAiR's Steering Committee has a representative from each of the constituents of the agrifood system

1. Farmers, cooperatives & agricultural workers
2. Civil Society Organisations/NGOs in agriculture, food & rural development
3. Consumer Organisations
4. Donors & investors
5. G20/Upstream Research Organisations
6. Foundation Members
7. Higher Education
8. International research institutions
9. Private sector companies and organisations including input industries, SMEs and market & food industries
10. Regional Fora of national agricultural & food research and development institutions and Regional government agencies
11. Rural Advisory Services
12. Women in agriculture & food
13. Youth organisations

Secretariat

The Secretariat is a tightly focused team comprising the GFAiR Executive Secretary, senior officers and advisers responsible for specific areas of operation, and administrative and technical staff. The Secretariat supports the Partners' Assembly, the Steering Committee, and GFAiR members, facilitating CA's transformation of agricultural research and innovation for greater impact in sustainable development. The current secretariat staff bring together a range of expertise to support GFAiR's work: Joanna Kane-Potaka serves as Executive Secretary, providing overall strategic leadership; Dr. Anne Hennings acts as Agricultural Research and Innovation Advisor and Partnership Facilitator, supporting the design and implementation of Collective Actions; Katarina Spisiakova leads team operations and coordination; Francois Stepman advises on strategic partnerships and Collective Actions initiatives; and Vanessa Bryant provides administrative and office support.

GLOSSARY

NARS	National Agricultural Research Systems
NARIs	National Agricultural Research Institutes
PPs	Partnership Principles
GNC	Global NARS Consortium
CA	Collective Action
NUS	Neglected and Underutilised Species
CoP	Community of Practice
LoA	Letter of Agreement
IBMA	International Biocontrol Manufacturers Association
RUFORUM	Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture
ANGOC	Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development
EFARD	European Forum on Agricultural Research for Development
FARA	Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa
APAARI	Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions
AARINENA	Association of Agricultural Research Institutions in the Near East and North Africa
CACAARI	Central Asia and the Caucasus Association of Agricultural Research Institutions
FORAGRO	Forum of the Americas for Agricultural Research and Technological Development

9 Financial Summary

In 2025, GFAiR's activities were supported by the European Commission and IFAD, with in-kind operational support from the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT as host. The total amount executed in 2025 was EUR 1,664,214.29, against a total grant of EUR 3,438,317.27. Further detail is available in the breakdown of expenditures by component (Table 1) and by category (Table 2).

Annex A: Financial report 2025

Table 1

2025 Expenditures by Project Output	
Row Labels	Sum of Amount in EURO for reporting
Bioversity International Indirect Costs	108,873.83
Bioversity International Management	171,106.95
Output 1 - Partnership Principles (PPs) established as a global standard	42,255.14
Output 2 – Promotion of Partnerships for impact and brokering knowledge (systems)	1,000,679.59
Output 3 - Collective Actions (CAs) related to agroecology and agrobiodiversity in support to sustainable agri-food systems facilitated	341,298.77
Grand Total	1,664,214.29

Table 2

2025 Expenditures by Budget Category	
Row Labels	Sum of Amount in EURO for reporting
Consultancies	289,390.81
Good, Services & Inputs	217,655.02
Indirect Costs	108,873.83
Operating costs	79,111.38
Salaries & Allowances	755,510.88
Workshops & Training	213,672.37
Grand Total	1,664,214.29

GFAiR – Global Forum on Agricultural Innovation and Research

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