

GFAR Steering Committee – Actions taken arising from Punta Del Este meeting

Actions noted	Responsibility	Actions taken
Action 1: Follow up on the request for a meeting of the GFAR Chair and MT members with the FAO Director-General, ideally within 2012 and on the MOU issue.	Xiangjun Yao	Letter formally sent to FAO DG, requesting GFAR Chair's involvement in the signing ceremony. Response not received in time. DG Office now requesting a meeting with new Chair and Prof Jones in May
Action 2: Follow up with IFAD to ensure speedy reception of the small grant funds.	Secretariat	Lengthy negotiation involved in grant approval and retrospective sign-off. Funds now received, April 2013
Action 3: Consultant report on GCARD performance to the CGIAR Fund Council subsequent to Management Team review.	Consultant	Consultant report produced to schedule and made available to Steering Committee. Discussed in CGAR Fund Council 26-4-2013
Action 4: Aggregate figures for GCARD2 will be posted through social media and in other ways in the interest of transparency and to dispel impressions of high cost.	Secretariat	Final invoice was received April 2013. Total direct cost now known to be USD 1,655,558 + Uruguay contribution (estimated 300K). Approx 50% of the GCARD direct cost (USD 794,311) was for travel, accom. & subs of sponsored participants.
Action 5: The final draft GFAR Annual Report will be reviewed in future with a clear process and timeline before finalization.	Secretariat & SC	2012 report now due to be prepared. Propose 1 page per stakeholder group
Action 6: Draft Governance Review report will go to the Steering Committee by early January. There will be a virtual meeting to present and discuss the report in January/February 2013. The final report will be tabled at the meeting of the Steering Committee in March 2013, which will also set out a plan for implementation of the review recommendations and decide on commissioning of the next phase. There will have to be specific attention to the Charter also, with identification of inconsistencies in the text and in practice.	Consultant	Draft report submitted in late January. Responses requested from SC. Not all stakeholders/sectors have yet responded Those received have been distributed by e-mail to the SC in advance of this meeting.
Action 7: The Chair of the Search Committee will report on progress electronically by early February 2013, with a deadline for completion by the next meeting of the Steering Committee.	Xiangjun Yao	Position openly advertised in 'The Economist' and via GFAR networks. Search Committee agreed and reviewed shortlist of applicants, interviewed top 5 identified. Shortlist of 3 now recommended to SC for decision

<p>Action 8: The Secretariat will complete the proposed MTP framework from inputs received previously and arising from GCARD 2 and consult with the Programme Committee for their advice in finalizing the revised MTP for submission and endorsement by the next GFAR SC. The picture on availability of funding should be clarified in November.</p>	<p>Secretariat</p>	<p>Extensive revision of the MTP taking account of previous frameworks, actions proposed by GFAR stakeholders and as set out in GCARD2 outcomes. Circulated in advance of SC, few responses received. To be discussed by PC 28 April 2013.</p> <p>GFAR funding was very seriously affected at end 2012 by knock-on effects from IITA investment losses, which triggered an EC audit review, delaying the EC funding cycle for CGIAR and GFAR funds (via IFAD), such that funds could not be made available at the end of 2012. This has meant the anticipated increased EC funding (around 2/3 of GFAR projected income for 2013) is now delayed until finalization of a new longer term agreement, now being negotiated, expected to be in quarter 4, 2013.</p>
<p>Action 9: All regions should also develop MTPs by which to work in GFAR's co-financing actions, relevant to and reported against the GCARD Road Map and GFAR's global role.</p>	<p>Regional Fora & GFAR stakeholders</p>	<p>FARA has revised MTOP, not yet mapped to GCARD-RM & GFAR MTP. No detailed plans received from other regions and stakeholders, other than 2013 activities proposed for GFAR support</p>
<p>Action 10: Follow up on funding opportunities</p>	<p>Secretariat & GFAR SC members</p>	<p>Secretariat has been exploring further funding with IFAD, Ireland, Canada, Norway, Switzerland, BMGF, & CGIAR FC. Govt of France staff placements both successfully extended.</p>
<p>Action 11: The Sub-Committee to generate and communicate the proposed methodology for evaluation of the Executive Secretary to the Chair.</p>	<p>Sub-Committee</p>	<p>Executive Secretary formally evaluated in FAO Performance evaluation monitoring system. No further methodology proposed by sub Committee as yet</p>
<p>Action 12: GFAR Chair & Secretariat will ensure strong representation on the CGIAR Fund Council and necessary communication to reflect members' interests and priorities. Regional Fora need to do the same through their specific seat.</p>	<p>Chair, Secretariat, SC members in Fund Council</p>	<p>GFAR, FAO, Regional Fora and various national members formally supported GFAR and RF's continuing role in the Fund Council after Fund Office Minutes of FC meeting erroneously reported that FC had decided against their inclusion. This was contrary to the understanding of FC members who lobbied strongly and successfully for continued roles of GFAR and RF.</p> <p>GFAR-ES and APAARI, together with IFAD, FAO and CGIAR and national system regional representatives from each region represented GFAR stakeholder perspectives into Fund Council 23-26 April 2013. Very positive feedback on Farmers rights paper and Gender in Agriculture Partnership in particular. Other aspects included: importance of foresight for future research needs, improved functioning of system procedures & clarity of roles, as well as realities of Intermediate Development Outcomes approach.</p>

<p>Action 12 contd: There will be particular effort to communicate GCARD's continuing value to the CGIAR Fund Council and to the Consortium, and propose options for GCARD 3 through the GCARD process review.</p>		<p>GCARD was discussed 26-4-2013. Generally agreed with consultant recommendations. Requests for: greater involvement of Consortium in smaller OC; cycle of process with national/regional actions aligned with Roadmap feeding back into smaller Global meeting with greater farmer and user stakeholder involvement; greater use of virtual involvement; alignment of timing with end of CRP/cycle and development of next CRP phase (end 2014/early 2015 and for involvement of FAO and political dimension. Will now be considered by CGIAR Governance committee for decision in July 2013.</p>
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