

EIARD-FSTP project

“Good practices for integration of Agricultural Research for Development into the wider development agenda – workshops for decision makers”

Summary notes on “Asia workshop”

1. Pre-workshop process

1.1. Selection of target zone and countries

In the project proposal, ICRA tentatively identified South-East Asia as target zone for the workshop. The final choice of the target zone in Asia was part of the implementation process and was to be made after exploration of possibly coinciding interests of individual countries in the zone and of EIARD member countries. During implementation, the best opportunities for the intended workshop to provide added value appeared to be in the Central Asia and Caucasus region (CAC). This choice was first suggested in contacts between Triple Line (Barbara Adolph), that monitors the project on behalf of EIARD, and the GFAR Executive Secretary, Mark Holderness. Subsequently, this choice was endorsed by the EIARD Executive Secretary, Philippe Petithuguenin.

1.2. Integrating the “ICRA-workshop” with an on-going regional change process in AR4D

GFAR provides technical and financial support to the Central Asia and Caucasus Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (CACAARI¹) to develop a “Regional Strategy for Transformation and Strengthening of Agricultural Research and Innovation Systems for Development in the CAC-Region”. This Regional Strategy development is part of the “GCARD Road Map: Transforming Agricultural Research for Development (AR4D) Systems for Global Impact”, launched by GCARD1 in Montpellier in March/April 2010.



GFAR has funded the activities of eight National Experts (one in each CACAARI member country, most of them leading people in the national agricultural research system). These were to coordinate the joint formulation of national strategies for the transformation of AR4D by key stakeholders in each country (research, education, farmer organisations, other private sector interests and policy

¹ The eight CACAARI member countries are: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

makers). These national strategies were then to be synthesised in a Draft Regional Strategy to be circulated among key stakeholders and then finalised in a two-day “Brainstorming Meeting” (BM) in Tashkent, originally planned for October and finally held in November 2011.

Mark Holderness and Barbara Adolph suggested that the kind of EIARD-FSTP workshop that ICRA intended to organise could well be used to support this Regional Strategy process. The ICRA consultant, Jon Daane, then explored interest of CACAARI’s Executive Secretary, Alisher Tashmatov, and Chair, Djamin Akimaliev. Based on the very positive response, it was decided to integrate the “ICRA workshop” in the CACAARI BM, thereby extending the meeting to four days, including a two-day field visit to an illustrative case of integration of AR4D with smallholder innovation in the poultry sector in Samarkand, at four hours travel from Tashkent.

By combining the GFAR and ICRA resources, it was possible to invite a larger number of people for a longer time than foreseen/budgeted by either GFAR or ICRA (about four participants from each member country, including representatives from Ministries, research organisations, universities and farmer organisations). It also allowed to expose high-level decision makers to the potential impact on smallholder livelihoods that is to be gained from better integration of AR4D with smallholder innovation, and, thus, by creating policies and institutional arrangements that favour such integration.

1.3. Case study on innovation in the poultry sector in Samarkand

The poultry case in Samarkand had already been the subject of a study conducted in June/July 2011 under the FAO-Turkish Partnership Programme (FTPP) that finances eight case studies in four CACAARI countries. Jon Daane had in-depth consultations with CACAARI’s consultant, Botir Dosov, who had done the original study and Julien de Meyer and Karin Nichterlein of FAO’s Office of Extension, Knowledge and Research (OEKR) as well as with Ajit Maru (GFAR) on adaptations and further development of this case study for the purpose of the BM. Jon also gave detailed comments on the case study.

1.4. Innovation system posters and the (failed/limited) involvement of ICRA-alumni

As the FFTP financed case studies in four countries, it was decided to focus the ICRA resources on the development of four “innovation system posters”, one each from the countries that were not covered by the FFTP. These countries were Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan. In this way a complementary set of cases was developed (FFTP-ICRA). It is expected that these posters, after further improvement, will also be presented at a synthesis workshop of the FFTP-case studies, planned by FAO in March/April 2012 in Turkey. ICRA may also be invited to participate in this.

In discussions between Jon Daane, Alisher Tashmatov and Botir Dosov it was decided that these posters were to be developed by the National Experts thereby enhancing their capacities and understanding of agricultural innovation system analysis and ensuring that the results of the poster development would continue to be used in the Regional Strategy process. It was decided that the National Experts would select and agree on a topic with the policy makers in their country who would also attend the BM. Depending on the selected topic Jon Daane would try to identify an ICRA alumnus/alumna in Armenia and one in Kazakhstan (the only alumnus in Georgia was not to be recommended for this task and there are no alumni in Turkmenistan) to assist the National Expert with the development of the poster.

For several reasons this intended support from alumni did not work out as hoped: (a) poster topics were identified late, despite regular reminders by CACAARI's secretariat; (b) Jon Daane could not communicate directly with the National Experts because only one of the four National Experts understands English; and (c) despite clear TOR, National Experts did not inform CACAARI or Jon Daane of the selected topics before they started the work. The topics² were communicated when the National Experts sent in the first draft of their poster texts to CACAARI for translation and for comments by Jon Daane. This was only one week before the workshop.

At this late stage it was impossible to involve alumni in the improvement of the posters. Jon Daane then arranged for CACAARI to invite three alumni (Bayan Yesperova from Kazakhstan, Levon Gyulkhasyan from Armenia and Bakhtiyor Khalmanov from Uzbekistan) just for the BM, in order to bring in some "ICRA flavour" into the discussions. Only Bayan could get permission to participate (for the first two days only); Levon could not get permission from USDA in time (due to a national holiday in the USA); and Bakhtiyor could not attend for other reasons.

The draft texts of the four posters received (after rough translation by CACAARI) had a number of elements in common. Despite elaborate TOR, which CACAARI carefully translated to Russian, all of them focused largely on describing the development and use of a technology, often by a large industrial farm³ or firm. Although they showed linkages between these farms/firms and many other actors, their links with smallholder innovation were not very clear. It turned out that these links exist⁴, but they were not mentioned in the drafts. Jon Daane commented extensively on the draft texts of the posters to help poster-authors to bring these links out more clearly. There was no time to incorporate these comments in the posters before the BM.

1.5. Review of the draft Regional Strategy and supporting documents

Prior to the BM, Jon Daane also extensively commented on a Regional Synthesis report composed by Botir Dosov (CACAARI) based on the eight National Strategies developed with the help of the National Experts. In fact, the documents resulting from this work are rather technical descriptions of the agricultural sector in each country, but do not contain the elements of a national strategy. The regional synthesis consequently suffered from the same shortcoming. After this, CACAARI (Dosov) wrote a more strategic document. Jon Daane also commented extensively on this draft Regional Strategy.

2. The Brainstorming Meeting

The Brainstorming meeting was held from 29 November to 3 December (see programme in Annex 1). The first two days were organised in Tashkent and focussed on the Regional Strategy. The last 3 days focussed on a field visit to the poultry case in Samarkand, the four innovation system posters, and

² The topics of the four posters are: Aquaculture development (Armenia); role of a large private farm/firm in breeding grain crops and seed supply (Georgia); water-saving technologies in cotton/winter wheat relay systems (Turkmenistan); large-scale development of veterinary test-kits for diagnosing serious animal diseases (Kazakhstan).

³ For instance a large private seed production farm in Georgia and a large fish farm (one of the most advanced in the country) in Armenia. Large farms also played a key role in the poultry case in Samarkand

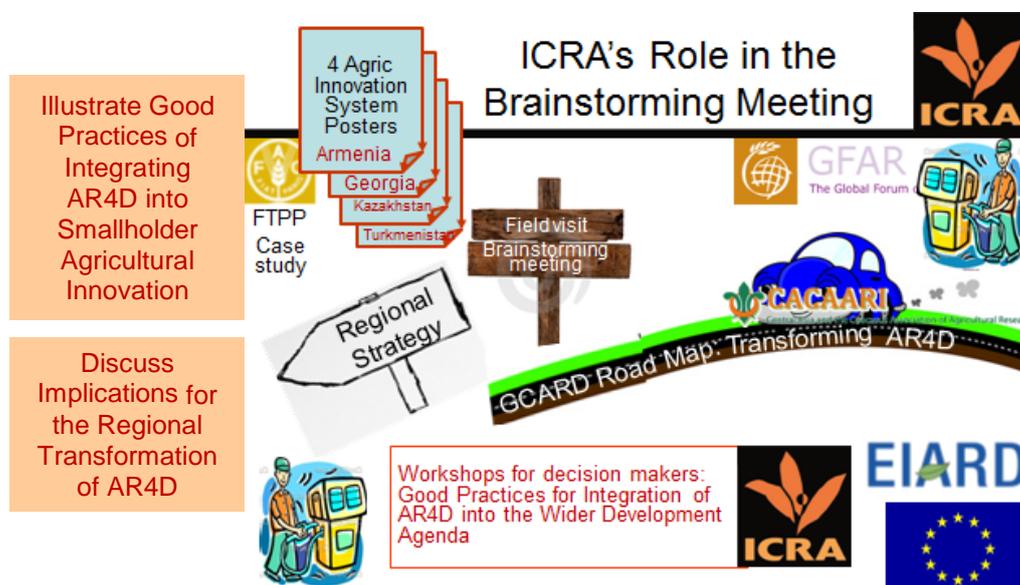
⁴ With the exception of the case of the large-scale development of veterinary test-kits for diagnosing serious animal diseases in Kazakhstan, where there are no clear links with smallholder development. These test-kits are applied yearly on all animals in the country by the 210 branches of the national veterinary lab. Although smallholders are said to benefit from this (just as large farms, by reducing unnecessary culling and loss of animals), they did not play a role in this development.

group work on creating favourable policy and institutional conditions for the integration of AR4D with smallholder innovation in the CAC-region and necessary actions to be included in the Regional Strategy. All sessions had simultaneous translation Russian-English. Apart from the representatives of GFAR, ICRA, FAO, EFARD, IFPRI and YPARD, all other participants (including regional representatives of ICARDA and CIMMYT and a representative of Wageningen University) used Russian. PowerPoints were projected simultaneously in Russian and English on two screens.

Nearly 40 people participated in the first two days in Tashkent and 24 of them also participated in the field visit to Samarkand (see Annex 2). Almost all members of the national delegations of the eight CACAARI member countries participated in the field visit. The 24 comprised representatives of the Ministries of Agriculture (4), farmer organisations (4), Directors of research organisations and Vice-Presidents of Academies of Agricultural Sciences (6), Heads of research units (2), Directors of advisory services (1) and Vice-Rectors of universities (1), as well as CACAARI Executive Secretary and Consultant (2) and four foreigners (1 ICRA, 2 FAO, 1 IFPRI). The country composition of the 24 was as follows: Armenia (4), Azerbaijan (3), Georgia (3), Kazakhstan (1), Kyrgyzstan (3), Tajikistan (2), Turkmenistan (1), Uzbekistan (3), non-CAC-Region (4).

The first day started with general introductions, which Jon Daane used to present ICRA's role in the BM and the regional strategy development, the contributions of the European Commission and EIARD, and how they complemented the contributions from GFAR as well as the work of FAO (see slide below). The day focused on the presentation of the GCARD Road Map, ICARDA's programmes in the region, the draft Regional Strategy, and presentations by each country of the results of national-level multi-actor discussions on the draft Regional Strategy (see Annex 1). The objectives of the Regional Strategy closely follow the six functions that a well-functioning AR4D system should perform according to the GCARD Road Map and which are summarised as follows:

1. Define needs-based priorities and actions;
2. Ensure equitable partnerships and accountability;
3. Achieve increased investments in AR4D resources;
4. Develop human and institutional capacity for generation and use of knowledge;
5. Coordinate linkages relating innovation to development programmes and policies;
6. Demonstrate the value of AR4D by letting its clients speak for it.



The main results expected from the transformation of AR4D through the Regional Strategy are improved, more impact-oriented national agricultural innovation systems in the CAC-region with a better integration of research, education and extension. The draft strategy document ends with a general set of measures and phasing of their implementation.

The first day ended with a plenary discussion of the Regional Strategy. This was endorsed in general, but the document was found too long, too wordy (so that the message was lost) and needing a logframe. Jon Daane, followed by several other speakers, also emphasised the need to more clearly bring out what the Regional Strategy adds to the eight national strategies of each of the countries. In other words, why does the region need a *Regional Strategy*?

The morning of the second day was used for some general presentations on the need for an M&E strategy (IFPRI), the Regional Agricultural Information System (RAIS) under development, and the opportunities for collaboration with Europe (EFARD). This was followed by a presentation on the role of AR4D in agricultural innovation systems (ICRA) and on capacity development for analysis and strengthening of agricultural innovation systems (FAO), as well as a presentation on the poultry case that was the focus of the field visit (Uzbek Ministry of Agriculture). Jon Daane used his presentation to also give some information on ICRA and its capacity strengthening partnerships. Several participants requested copies of the presentation in Russian (which were sent).

For the last part of Day 2, CACAARI had scheduled a plenary discussion on the implications of the integration of AR4D in agricultural innovation systems for the Regional Strategy, whereas this part had still been reserved for group work in the last agreed version of the programme that CACAARI circulated a week before the BM. At the request of Jon Daane, supported by GFAR and EFARD representatives, this was reverted to group work. Participants were asked to prioritise the main activities for the first (short-term) phase of the Regional Strategy, with a focus on cross-border / regional issues, and to plan concrete steps that the different countries should take to implement these. Participants considered this group work (the first since the start of the BM) as a welcome change from the formal plenary presentations and discussions. Outputs will be presented in the report of the BM to be composed by CACAARI.

On Day 3, participants in the field visit travelled to Samarkand (leaving Tashkent at 6:15 and arriving at lunch time). In the afternoon the group was accompanied by the Mayor of Samarkand District and a Samarkand regional official of the Ministry of Agriculture. The group visited a small private input supplier and a large private poultry farm (the "Agalyk-Lohmann-Parranda" farm, a joint venture with Lohmann in Germany). The latter is the only one in Uzbekistan that receives parents from Lohmann, which they cross locally. The young chicks are partly used for their own farm and partly sold to other large-scale farms and family farms. At the Agalyk-Lohmann-Parranda farm, participants also met with the Director of another large poultry farm (Joint Venture "Marokand Parranda") and two managers of local communities who showed pictures of family farms engaged in poultry production and highlighted the community services supported by the Joint Venture farms. A summary of the discussion will be included in the report of the BM.

The morning of Day 4 was used for presentations of the Director of the Scientific Innovation Centre of the National Ministry of Agriculture in Tashkent and representatives of the Samarkand Agricultural

Institute and the university on their various activities in the poultry sector. This was followed by a presentation of the innovation system posters from Georgia, Armenia and Kazakhstan. The poster from Turkmenistan was displayed, but the author had been unable to attend the BM. Especially the poster from Georgia (on a private firm that plays a key role in breeding, multiplying and distributing seeds of wheat and maize) raised a lively and sometimes heated debate between those who were opposed to a private sector role in basic seed supply and those who favoured such a role.

The final part of Day 4 was used for group work (in three randomly composed groups). Participants were asked to identify and describe, from their own experience, good examples of integration of AR4D with agricultural innovation involving smallholders and other users, and to list the reasons why they found these examples good. They also discussed and prioritised the most important institutional and policy changes that are needed to mainstream integration of AR4D with agricultural innovation involving smallholders in their countries. Finally, they identified actions to be included in the Regional Strategy for transformation of AR4D in order to ensure that these changes are made. The plenary presentations showed that the results of the group work were heterogeneous, but complementary. **It was decided that CACAARI secretariat would merge the three group results into one synthesis report that would be circulated among participants for comments. It was also agreed that individual country delegations would use this final synthesis to initiate steps at national level to obtain buy-in from higher government levels (Minister/Cabinet of Ministers) for the proposed actions.**

CACAARI did not evaluate the BM and Jon Daane found it inappropriate for ICRA to initiate this on its own. Informal feedback from many participants indicated that they highly appreciated the field visit because it was found more action-oriented and practical, as well as more interactive than the formal sessions in Tashkent.

3. Expected outputs for ICRA (and EIARD)

CACAARI will provide ICRA with the following products from their joint activities up to now:

1. Report of the Brainstorming meeting (in English), **including the synthesis of the three group reports resulting from the group work at the end of Day 4;**
2. Case study on innovation in the poultry sector in Samarkand (in English);
3. Four agricultural innovation systems posters (Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan) in English.

There will also be Russian versions of these documents. CACAARI will make the PowerPoint presentations presented at the BM available on its website in Russian and English. The deadlines of these various products are all before the end of 2011.

4. Follow-up by CACAARI and possible collaboration with ICRA

CACAARI will now focus on next steps in the finalisation of the Regional Strategy and on initiating its implementation. It was agreed that national delegations would take a couple of weeks to further work out concrete proposals for immediate regional action that can be launched with available resources and to obtain buy-in from their ministers and, where possible, cabinets. The CACAARI Executive Secretariat will finalise a next draft of the Regional Strategy based on the results of these national consultations and on comments received during the BM. This will be submitted to the members for approval. Following this, CACAARI will coordinate the implementation of the first steps of the strategy. What these will be concretely is as yet unclear pending the results of the work of the

national delegations after the BM. CACAARI will need to report its progress with the change process at the GCARD2 in Uruguay (end of October, early November 2012).

The CACAARI Executive Secretary suggested the following follow-up to the activities initiated with the support of ICRA/EIARD-FSTP:

- Circulation of the poultry case study and the four posters among CAC countries;
- National discussions on the use to be made of lessons learnt from the BM on the integration of AR4D in the wider development agenda. [These discussions should be part of the wider discussions on the initiation of the Regional Strategy and adoption of the final version and on Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators (ASTI)];
- A regional consultation meeting resulting from these national discussions, where CAC delegations report what changes occurred after the BM and discuss the enabling environment and institutional changes needed in research, extension and education to serve small producers and processors in their orientation to markets. This consultation meeting should discuss how regional partnerships and collaborative approaches can improve the agricultural innovation system in the region. In accordance with CACAARI's work plan this event is to be conducted in one of the CAC countries before GCARD2. CACAARI plans to invite as partners: ICRA, IFPRI (ASTI), FAO / FTTP and other institutions and programmes. Depending on the number of co-organizers, this event could take two or three days.

The CACAARI Executive Secretary expressed the hope that GFAR and ICRA could provide support to this follow-up and regional consultation (but realises that this means finding new, additional funds for ICRA's role, as the EIARD-FSTP project will end in 2011).

Further support of ICRA to the Regional Strategy development and to the transformation and strengthening of AR4D in the CAC-region would be a logical next step in view of the three-year MOU that ICRA signed with CACAARI. In terms of new ideas, practices and skills, new organisational cultures, new institutional arrangements, ICRA probably has a lot to offer to the region and this engagement will also provide a rich source of learning for ICRA. Two obvious and considerable handicaps are the language (ICRA has no Russian speaking staff) and the business model of ICRA, which requires that all services including overhead (which may be a large proportion for what will necessarily remain a relatively small activity in view of the language constraints) are paid by the client (CACAARI, national organisations in the member countries) and/or its/their donors. Perhaps EFARD/EC and EIARD would be willing to mobilise financial support for such an ICRA role if this is well-argued and requested by CACAARI and coordinated with GFAR and FAO.

For the immediate future, it is recommended to keep contact with the CACAARI Executive Secretariat on next steps and on the role expected from ICRA in these and specifically in the follow-up meeting (regional consultation) suggested by CACAARI above. If ICRA Management sees possibilities to continue its collaboration with CACAARI, it is also recommended that an ICRA representative participate in the workshop planned by FAO in Turkey in March/April 2012 to present the FTTP case studies and possibly also the posters supported by ICRA. FAO would welcome ICRA's participation. ICRA's participation will not only allow it to share its knowledge, but also to familiarise itself further with the peculiarities of smallholder innovation in the CAC-region, which seems distinctly different from that in other parts of the world.

5. Reflections on the entire process by the ICRA Consultant

At the risk of making this report lengthy, some reflections of the ICRA consultant, Jon Daane, are presented here, especially because most of the CAC-region is a new environment for ICRA and these considerations are important for decision making regarding future involvement of ICRA.

- The CACAARI Secretariat consists of a full time Executive Secretary and (since autumn 2011) a full time consultant, who is essential for CACAARI, but whose prospects with CACAARI are uncertain. These two people worked hard to coordinate the national and regional strategy formulation processes. Obviously, without active engagement of the CACAARI member countries and their national delegations, this small secretariat cannot achieve much. Only the future can tell if this active engagement can be mobilised and sustained.
- It seems that what brought the CACAARI member countries together at the time of its foundation was on the one hand the common history, culture, lingua franca and structures inherited from the soviet days and on the other hand the need for ICARDA, that won the turf war with CYMMIT in the region, to have a vehicle for collaboration with the member countries. There are big differences, however, between the Caucasus and Central Asia, as well as between the various Central Asian countries in natural conditions, population densities, available public resources, etc. The GDP per capita (2007 data) ranges from more than USD 10,000 per annum in Kazakhstan (rich in gas and oil) to less than USD 1,700 in Tajikistan. Political systems have also grown widely apart, with some countries leaving a lot of initiative to the private sector, while other ones exercise strong state control on almost every aspect of life. It is currently not quite obvious what keeps these countries together in CACAARI other than history, the facilitation by ICARDA and (since GCARD1) the financial support by GFAR.
- Coming into the regional strategy formulation process as the newest kid on the block (after CACAARI had already initiated this activity with support from GFAR and inputs from FAO), and being invited to support this on-going process, ICRA has accepted things as they were and has not tried to influence the process in a specific direction other than by ensuring that more attention was paid to smallholder beneficiaries and their role in AR4D. This attitude of modesty seemed the more appropriate, since apart from Armenia, ICRA has no experience in the CAC-region and the ICRA consultant had no experience of the region at all. One unfortunate consequence of this has been the smaller than expected involvement of ICRA alumni for whom there seemed little place next to the National Experts. ICRA also provided technical advice to the CACAARI secretariat and helped enhance the quality of written outputs. The “teamwork” between CACAARI, GFAR, FAO and ICRA was greatly appreciated by all parties.
- About half of the 28 participants from the region did speak enough English for casual conversation, but Russian is obviously better understood and spoken by all of them and thus remains the lingua franca. This is even much more so for written texts. Among the foreigners participating only one FAO consultant spoke reasonable Russian (but also needed translation from time to time). The routine translation by CACAARI Secretariat of all documents produced in the regional strategy formulation process into English is obviously only done and needed because the international bodies involved and the funders of the process do not understand Russian. This puts a heavy extra burden on the CACAARI Secretariat. A future role of ICRA in the region, if any, needs to take this constraint into account. It also increases the

cost for CACAARI of collaborating with ICRA (although not much more than for collaborating with other international partners).

- The CACAARI member countries inherited agricultural knowledge systems that had been under centralised soviet control in the past (perhaps similar to the system controlled and managed from Paris that francophone African states inherited at independence). In these systems it seems that for each scientific field there is a relatively independent Academy (made up of Academicians, i.e. senior scientists) that directs a number of research institutes in this field. Universities are mainly teaching. This system is now being changed. In some countries research institutes are being brought under the universities and the former Academies are being abolished, while universities engage in research. In Kazakhstan, the Ministry of Agriculture set up a Joint Stock Company KazAgroInnovation that is now responsible for agricultural research.
- The staff of these knowledge institutions is highly skewed in terms of age and gender. Like elsewhere, agriculture is not attractive to young people in the region. The presence of YPARD (whose new director is a woman) at the BM was welcomed by all.
- ICRA needs to realise that multi-stakeholder collaboration and innovation platforms in some countries in the region can be strongly directed and controlled by the State. In the poultry case in Samarkand it appears that the Regional Government plays a key role in bringing actors together and in orchestrating the whole process (i.e. directing rather than facilitating). It is not clear what margin of manoeuvre the other actors have in this process. By contrast, it seems that in Georgia, the State has withdrawn from important functions and is telling its agencies to show entrepreneurship and solve their problems on their own.
- Several of the cases of innovation presented (including the poultry case in Samarkand, the aquaculture case in Armenia and the seed farm in Georgia) involved both large-scale industrial farms (some inherited from soviet times, but transformed into private enterprises, sometimes with multinational partners) and smallholders (called household farms or *dekhan*⁵ farmers in the region) and the assumed synergy between these. In these cases, the technology is developed for or by the large farms (with other actors) and then drives the innovation process of smallholders, who, it seems, have to adapt their activities to the requirements of the technology. This seems to work where the State either directly or through the large-scale farms creates the conditions that enable (some) smallholders to fit into the mould. More (interesting) questions than answers here. The large-scale poultry farms also provided social facilities to some smallholder communities (e.g. schools, ...).
- As most of the innovation literature is in English and many of the CACAARI members do not read English, the latter are not familiar with this literature and many of the concepts ICRA uses. Some young scientists are learning fast however, such as e.g. the CACAARI consultant, Botir Dosov. Whether there is a body of literature on innovation in Russian is doubtful, but needs to be explored.
- Finally, some positive points for working in the CAC-region are: the high level of literacy and technical development; a well-developed and maintained infrastructure that one would not expect based on the GDP per capita; attitude to work and respect of time (meetings begin on time!); processes that seem to work even though they are sometimes quite different from

⁵ This concept needs further exploration. Sometimes it seems to refer to individual family farms (similar to poor European mixed farms before World War II), sometimes to groups of farmers who jointly farm areas of about 100 ha (parts of previous Kolkhoz or Sovchoz, but much, much smaller than these) under monoculture.

what we know from elsewhere; opportunity for new experiences that provide food for thought and throw new light on innovation (with prospects of new conceptual development); relevance of what ICRA has to offer to the institutional change processes in the innovation systems that are on-going and being initiated. These have to be offset against the constraints of the political environment in some of the countries and the language.

Annex 1 - Programme for Brainstorm Meeting
for Transforming and Strengthening of Agricultural Research and Innovation Systems
in CAC region

November 29-30, 2011 - Tashkent, Uzbekistan, Hotel Dedeman
December 01-03, 2011 - Samarkand, Uzbekistan, Hotel Regal Palace

Day 1 - Tuesday, 29/11/2011, Tashkent	
09:00-09:30	Registration
Session 1. Chairman: Academician Djamin Akimaliev, CACAARI	
09:30-10:00	Opening Session / Welcome Statements of Ministry of Agriculture of Republic of Uzbekistan by Mr Rustam Ibragimov of GFAR by Dr. Mark Holderness, Executive Secretary GFAR of CGIAR / ICARDA by Dr. Josef Turok of CACAARI by Acad. Djamin Akimaliev, Chairman of CACAARI
10:00-10:10	Briefing objectives of the Brainstorm Meeting by Dr. Alisher Tashmatov, Executive Secretary, CACAARI
10:10-11:40	Presentation of Participants & Statements of ICRA (EIARD-FSTP project) by Dr. Jon Daane of FTTP programme of FAO OEKR of IFPRI ASTI programme by Dr. Gert-Jan Stads of YPARD by Ms. Courtney Paisley of CIMMYT by Dr. Alexey Morgounov of GFRAS by Vugar Babayev
11:40-12:10	Coffee-Break and Group Photo
Session 2. Chairman: Dr. Gayane Sarkisyan, Armenia	
12:10-12:30	Presentation on Key Messages from GCARD1 Road Map for CAC by Academician Djamin Akimaliev, CACAARI, Chairman
12:30-13:00	“CGIAR Research Programs and their implications to Central Asia and the Caucasus”. Presentation by Dr. Josef Turok, Head CGIAR Program Facilitation Unit
13:00-14:30	Lunch
Session 3. Chairman: Academician Asad Musaev, Azerbaijan	
14:30-15:00	Transforming AR4D in CAC. Presentation of Draft Regional Strategy for Transforming and Strengthening the Agricultural Research and Innovation System, by Dr. Botir Dosov, Technical Consultant, CACAARI
15:00-16:15	Presentations of national-level discussions of the Regional Strategy, by CACAARI National Experts
16:15-16:45	Coffee Break
Session 4. Chairman: Academician Guram Aleksidze, Georgia	
16:45-17:30	Discussion on Regional Strategy and elaboration of recommendations for Transforming and Strengthening the Agricultural Research and Innovation System

17:30-17:45	Summary and close of Day 1
18:30	Dinner
Day 2, Wednesday, 30/11/2011, Tashkent	
Session 5. Chairman: Dr. Bayan Alimgazanova, Kazakhstan	
09:00-09:15	Opening and summary Day 1
09:15-09:45	Need for M&E strategy to transform ARD, including investments, methodology and outputs of cooperation. Presentation by Dr. Gert-Jan Stads
09:45-11:15	Discussions on M&E of the regional transformation strategy
11:15-11:45	Coffee break
Session 6. Chairman: Dr. Murad Bayramov, Turkmenistan	
11:45-12:15	Presentation on Strengthening Agricultural Information System (RAIS) to contribute to agricultural research and innovation by Dr. Levon Chabonyan, Georgia
12:15-13:45	Lunch
Session 7. Chairman: Dr. Vugar Babaev, Azerbaijan	
13:45-14:15	Opportunities for mutual beneficial cooperation with European For a and research centers - presentation by Dr. Derek Russell
14:15-14:45	Role of Agricultural Research for Development in Agricultural Innovation Systems - Presentation by Dr. Jon Daane, ICRA
14:45-15:15	"Capacity Development for Analysis and Strengthening of Agricultural Innovation Systems (AIS) in Central Asia and Turkey" project implementing under FTTP and its current outputs - Presentation by Dr. Julien De Meyer, FAO/OEKR research officer
15:15-15:45	Coffee break
Session 8. Chairman: Dr. Academic Bobo Sanginov, Tajikistan	
15:45-16:15	Presentation of AIS Case study "Boosting poultry in Samarkand region, Uzbekistan" by Dr. Botir Dosov on behalf of Dr. Khasan Mamarasulov, NC of FTTP project
16:15-17:15	Group work: Identifying and prioritizing immediate activities to initiate implementation of the Regional Strategy
17:15-17:35	Identifying and prioritizing immediate activities to initiate implementation of the Regional Strategy: Plenary session to present and summarize the results of the group work
17:35-17:40	Briefing on the field visit to Samarkand
17:40	Close of Day 2
19:15	Dinner
Day 3 - Thursday, 01/12/2011, Tashkent-Samarkand	
06:15-07:15	Pick-up from Hotel, transportation to the Train station and boarding the train Tashkent-Samarkand
07:35-11:15	Transportation to Samarkand
11:15-13:00	Arrival in Samarkand, and accommodation in Regal palace Hotel
13:00-14:30	Lunch
14:00-14:45	Departure to Samarkand district / Field visit
14:45-15:45	Visit to private shop selling inputs, equipment and veterinary products for agricultural production.
16:15-18:00	Visit to Joint Venture "Agalyk-Lohmann-Parranda". Discussions involving the Director

	of this Joint Venture (also Chair of the Samarkand Poultry Producer Association), the Director of Joint Venture “Marokand Parranda”, the Chair of Mahalla community farmers and a farmer representative involved in poultry production.
18:00-18:30	Departure to Regal Palace Hotel
19:00	Dinner
Day 4 - Friday, 02/12/2011, Samarkand	
Session 9. Chairman: Dr. Khasan Mamarasulov, Uzbekistan	
09:00-09:15	Opening and summary Day 3
09:15-10:00	Presentation of Agricultural Research with emphasis on Samarkand Agricultural Institute’s collaboration with the poultry sector by Mr. Davlatov Ravshan, Vice Rector of Samarkand Agricultural Institute (SAI)
10:00-10:30	Presentation on broiler production and innovative production technologies in Uzbekistan by Dr. Yusuf Ermatov, Associate Professor of poultry and broiler production, SAI
10:30-11:00	Presentation of ‘Poultry’ AIS Poster by Dr Khasan Mamarasulov, Executive Director of Scientific Innovation Centre, Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources, Uzb.
11:00-11:30	Coffee-break
Session 10. Chairman: Academician Mohtasim Akhmedov, Azerbaijan	
11:30-12:00	Presentation of AIS poster from Georgia by Academician Guram Aleksidze
12:00-12:30	Presentation of AIS poster from Armenia by Mr Andranik Petrosyan
12:30-13:00	Presentation of AIS poster from Kazakhstan by Mr Aljan Shamshidin
13:00-14:30	Lunch
Session 11. Chairman: Dr. Asanbek Ajibekov, Kyrgyzstan	
14:30-15:10	Plenary discussion on AIS posters
15:10-16:30	Group work: Creating Conducive Policy and Institutional Conditions for Integrating Agricultural Research for Development with Smallholder Innovation in the CAC-region and Proposing Follow-up Activities – Facilitators: Jon Daane, Elizabeth Katz and Julien de Meyer.
16:30-17:00	Finalising Group reports
17:00-17:30	Presentation of Group reports, discussion and synthesis of follow-up actions agreed – Résumé, Dr. Jon Daane
17:30-17:45	Closing
18:30	Dinner
Day 5 -Saturday, 03/12/2011, Samarkand	
09:00-13:00	Sight-seeing
13:00-14:30	Lunch
14:30-17:00	Sight-seeing
17:00-22:00	Departure and travel to Tashkent

Annex 2 - List of Participants

of the Brainstorm Meeting for Transforming and Strengthening of Agricultural Research and Innovation Systems in CAC region

November 29-30, 2011 - Tashkent, Uzbekistan, Hotel Dedeman
December 01-03, 2011- Samarkand, Uzbekistan, Hotel Regal Palace

Cells in blue: Participants who only took part in the meeting in Tashkent from 29-30 November

Cells in pink: Participants who took part in both the meeting in Tashkent and the field visit (29 November – 3 December)

Cells in yellow: Participants who only took part in the field visit (1-3 December)

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