

APPRI International Workshop 2008

Learning, Producing and Sharing Innovations

Tools for co-construction and sustainable implementation of innovations in Dryland Africa



First announcement

Registration

Participants are strongly invited to register online <http://appri2008.cirad.fr> and propose their abstract in attached file indicating if it is an oral contribution or a poster.

Exceptionally, registration will be possible by e-mail to

nathalie.curiallet@cirad.fr
with a copy to
daniele.clavel@cirad.fr

Important dates

7 May
online registration and contribution submission open

20 June
closure of the call for contributions

15 July
deadline for online registration

15 September
final programming

Background

In a context of strong pressure on natural resources, fresh thought needs to be given to agricultural development in the countries of the South. If agricultural production is to be sustained and sustainable, it must be considered not only in biophysical terms but also in social and economic terms. The food supply and income of rural African populations can only be improved if the impact of technical results can be guaranteed, whilst ensuring the ecological sustainability of technical systems, particularly in environments where ecological equilibrium have been weakened by drought. It is a difficult task, and technical and institutional innovation will be crucial.

Workshop objective

By analysing actual practices in the field, the workshop will set out to identify the knowledge needed and the tools to be created and developed to enable production of shared know-how and to improve the impact of agricultural innovations.

Numerous experiences exist in Africa and another challenge of the workshop will be to compare them to the farmer universities (UNICAMPO) in the Brazilian Nordeste, a semi arid region where farms show great similarities with those in the drylands of Africa. In their training programme for young rural people, these universities use interactive methods involving farmers, researcher and multi stakeholder from the civil Society.

Public

The workshop is intended for an audience of professional smallholder organizations, research and training institutes, international and regional organizations, NGOs and policy makers operating in Dryland Africa. The scientific Committee involves personalities from the scientific sector, NGOs and farmer organizations from West Africa.



Scientific programme

The programme will involve strengthening capacities and accompanying measures for the co-learning, joint construction and sustainable implementation of innovations in the rural drylands of Africa. The aim will be to contribute to identify tools and multi stakeholder training and learning methods and synergise existing innovation dynamics and dialogue in regional fora, and funding agencies. Ample time will be devoted to group discussions between stakeholders. Further information on the scientific programme will be consultable online <http://appri2008.cirad.fr>.

Contribution submission is open from May 7

Participants are invited to submit an abstract indicating if it is for a poster or communication and respecting the format available online on website: <http://appri2008.cirad.fr>.

Participants whose contribution will be selected by the Scientific Committee will be partially or entirely sponsored by APPRI.

Logistic

The workshop venue is planned from 21 to 24 October 2008 and will be held at the Palm Beach hotel in Ouagadougou under the responsibility of CIRAD Regional Management in Ouagadougou (secretariat_draoc@cirad.fr).

Participation in the workshop is free of charge.

The workshop language will be French with simultaneous translation and English.

Contacts

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