



GCARD3 Organizing Committee

Meeting #4: Thursday 6 August 12.00 GMT/UTC, Virtual

Minutes

Approved on no-objection basis 19 August 2015

Participants:

Frank Rijsberman (co-Chair, CGIAR Consortium Office),
Mark Holderness (co-Chair, GFAR Secretariat),
Tom Randolph (CGIAR Research Program – Livestock and Fish)
Kwesi Atta-Krah (CGIAR Research Program – HumidTropics)
Esther Penunia (Asian Farmers Association)
Fiona Chandler (GFAR Secretariat, *ex-officio*)
Nadia Manning-Thomas (Consortium Office technical support)

Apologies:

Sigismundo Bialoskorski Neto (International Cooperative Alliance)
Alain Vidal (CGIAR Consortium Office, *ex-officio*)
Irene Annor-Frempong (Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa)

1. Welcome (and introductions if we have alternate representatives)

With apologies noted the meeting started at 12.05 GMT

2. Matters Arising from Minutes of OC Meeting #3

No points were raised and so the minutes were accepted as written.

3. Selection of GCARD3 Host Country

The summary of the three bids was reviewed and discussed. The point was made that all three are suitable from different perspectives:

- Senegal is a francophone and it would be good to do something in West Africa.
- Best backed is the South Africa bid; South Africa bid has demonstrated commitment good organization
- Ethiopia has advantages with links to AU;

It was noted that it might be useful to revert to Ethiopia and ask what resources would be committed from their side although, it was reported that it would be unlikely that they'd be able to commit funds.

With due respect to the other bids, and the clear procurement process outlined in the Expression of Interest documents, a request for more information to Senegal and Ethiopia would not be appropriate.

The Committee felt that based on their consideration of the bids and the qualitative summary done, the Senegalese bid doesn't meet the criteria proposed in the Expression of Interest. Ethiopia and South Africa meet the basic criteria and both qualified. The South African bid is more attractive and was considered the preferred offer by those present, based on the additional criteria (funds offered, commitment of partnerships), subject to confirmation by the absent members of the OC.

ACTION: The support team will provide a quantitative assessment and circulate this to the Organizing Committee for their review and required confirmation by members of the preferred bid within 2 weeks of this meeting.

ACTION: As soon as the successful bidders are advised on the OC decision, they will be invited to join the Organizing Committee with a member of the OC to join the local organizing committee. Discussions on potential dates will be discussed with the successful bidder.

4. Planning of GCARD3 consultations related to CGIAR Research Programs (CRPs)

The Committee were informed on the 3-step process in identifying and selecting the draft list of 20 countries for site integration with six countries (Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Nigeria, Nicaragua and Vietnam) targeted for greater focus and integration (background document). Now at the stage of starting the planning for the national consultations

As pointed out, there is a need to be realistic in the key deliverable and goal of these consultations so that countries and CGIAR are clear on the expectations.

It was noted that there is lack of synergies and effectiveness among the CRPs at national/site level which should be addressed in the site integration consultations. In addition, and equally important, the consultations are also married to alignment with national priorities and the investment and impact perspective.

Other observations included how some of the outliers (not included in the list) might be addressed e.g. countries in protracted crisis, dry land countries.

Suggestion that there is now strong ownership from the CRPs and now be more widely circulated to be commented on and validated by external partners. Comments and feedback should be solicited from external partners including GFAR, FARA, Fund Council, ISPC and CGIAR Centers. (It was added that FARA has had some input to the draft list with a match of 5 out of the 6 focus countries for the Science agenda for Africa). The purpose would be to have a list that would be more widely supported by external partners as well and avoid the perspective that this is a CGIAR-only list.

ACTION: CRP coordination team to edit the document to reflect the OC discussions and share the paper with the members of the Organizing Committee and other external partners with the invitation to provide feedback and comments. In addition the CRPs will start with this list in initiating the planning for the consultation meetings (especially the ++ countries).

ACTION: Feedback received will be discussed at the next Organizing Committee meeting.

5. Update on planning of regional GCARD3 consultations

The summary paper (GCARD 3 Regional Consultations Priority List) was presented and discussed. It was agreed that regional consultations in Central Asia, North Africa and LAC were priority because there were less (or no) national consultations. There would be others coming along (e.g. Africa, and Asia).

DECISION: go ahead with planning for the regional consultations alongside meetings identified for Central Asia, North Africa and Asia

The OC indicated that the GCARD3 budget might be able to afford up to \$20K for each meeting (to be confirmed on the budget). Furthermore, the meetings need to be confirmed with the Centers/CRPs in the region. It was decided that if no existing meeting can be found in Latin America, then another means will be found to hold a regional consultation.

ACTION: Fiona and Nadia to check the budget to see if a 20K allocation per regional meeting is viable

6. Outline for GCARD3 Global Event Program

It was decided to put this agenda item on the next OC meeting.

ACTION: OC members are asked to come back with more ideas of the frame as proposed for the next meeting.

7. Next Meeting

The GCARD3 support team will initiate a Doodle poll for early September (10-11 September)