

Intensifying EU-African agricultural research

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Global challenges

Food security



Climate change



Agro-food

Food and health



Stewardship

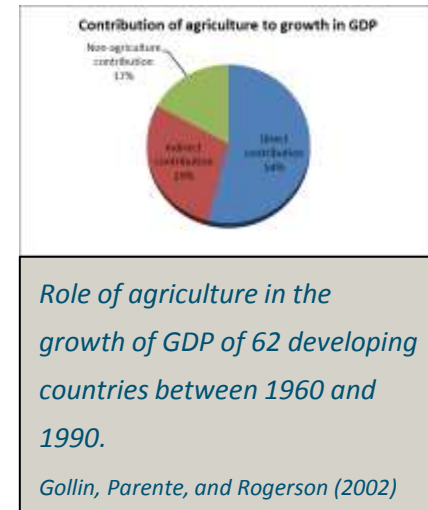


Biobased Economy



A common challenge

- Agriculture is the motor of economies in DC
- Agriculture is the motor of the bioeconomy
- Agriculture is the base for food security
- Agriculture must be sustainable
- Agriculture must be inclusive
- Agriculture must be climate smart



Agriculture Research is in the joint interest of Africa and EU

The borders between AR and ARD are fading

Ongoing collaboration

- International collaboration often focuses on ARD (The first driver of CGIAR programs)
- Many countries have bilateral ARD programs with Africa
- EU stimulates collaboration within FP7 (for example FoodSecure, ERA-ARD, ERA-Africa)
- Challenge to link AR and ARD
- Challenge to align and integrate national activities
- Challenge to balance between African and EU interests



Nutrition security

Nutrition security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to food, which is safe and consumed in sufficient quantity and quality to meet their dietary needs, allowing for a healthy and active life.



Availability



Access



Consumption

The world in 2050



- More food available
 - A higher production (*two times more*)
 - A sustainable production (*two times less*)
 - A more efficient use of food (*two times better*)
- Access for all
- A balanced utilization

The world in 2050



*Suggested
domain for
intensified
collaboration*

■ More food available

- A higher production (*two times more*)
- A sustainable production (*two times less*)
- A more efficient use of food (*two times better*)

■ Access for all

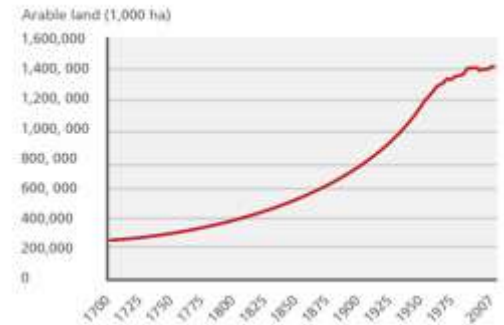
■ A balanced utilization

Sustainable intensification

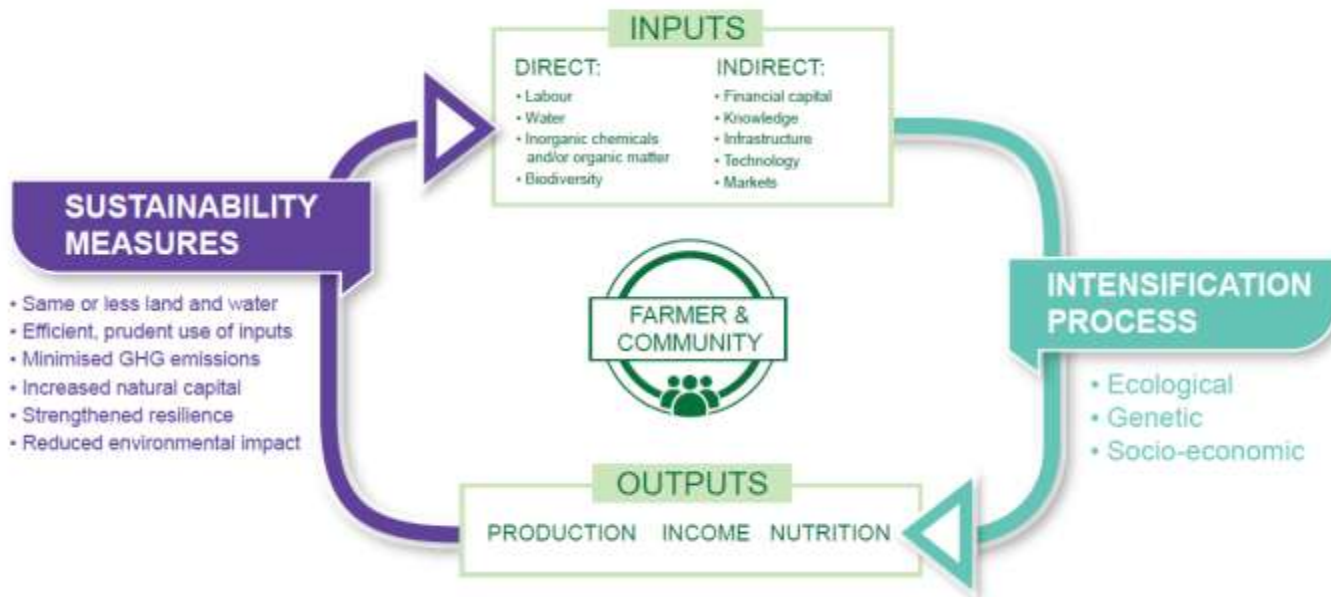
- Limited options for new agricultural land
 - Desertification and urbanization
 - Care for our biodiversity
- = *Intensify globally the land productivity*
- Decreasing our footprint
 - Limiting resources

= *Enhance the sustainability of our production systems*

Figure 3.1: Total global arable between 1700 and 2007



Sustainable intensification in context



Intensifying collaboration: history

- RJ Smits expressed the opportunity for more integrated European approach in ARD to CIRAD (April 2012)
- Consider an Article 185 initiative (joint activities, strategy and governance)
- CIRAD and Wageningen UR decided to jointly explore the idea
- Concept note on Sustainable Intensification
- Meeting representatives 13 European institutions active in ARD in Africa (September 2012) on content an road-map
- Discussion of initiative with national ministries

Intensifying collaboration: history (*cont*)

- Meeting of European and African representatives in Montpellier on content and road-map (March 2013)
- Serious interest expressed by EC in a meeting with RTD and AGRI in Brussels (April 2013)
- Presentation and discussion ERA-ARD meeting (today)

Intensifying collaboration: situation today

- Provide documented knowledge and evidence on the diverse pathways of sustainable intensification of African agriculture
- Feedback from RTD and AGRI:
 - Broaden approach
 - Added value compared to existing initiatives
 - Attention for innovation and implementation processes
 - Co-ownership is important
 - Well aligned with 3 priorities of CAP

Input from FARA



- Expert panel of African scientists is currently finalizing African Agricultural Science Agenda, and the current initiative may well help to operationalize the Agenda
- Clear link with CAADP (Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme) is needed
- Acceptance at policy level important; African countries should financially contribute to IntensAfrica
- Need to broaden concept note to 'agro-food transformation'



Next steps

- Draft a new version of the concept-note with African input
- Map ongoing activities
- Present the initiative in a side-event of the FARA 6th African Agricultural Science Week.
- Discuss the initiative with African scientists and politicians
- Consider an ERA Net plus Europe – Africa as a stepping stone



Thank you for
your attention!

