

Transferring Knowledge into Solutions

Feedback from Day One

Welcome and Introduction Session

Welcome by UNCST (host) - Ismail Barugahara, Uganda
and Stefan Haffner – PT-DLR Germany

Welcome by CAAST-Net Plus

- Prof. John Kirkland, ACU, UK
- Dr. Eric Mwangi, MoHEST, Kenya (African Region coordinator)

Welcome by Forum's chairs Mr. Prof. John Ouma-Mugabe, University of Pretoria,
South Africa

PRESENTATIONS

**Roadmap towards a jointly funded EU-Africa Research and Innovation Partnership
with first focus on FNSSA**

- Mr. Hambani Masheleni, AUC-HRST, Ethiopia, Africa-EU HLPD representative –

Towards enhanced Africa-EU Partnership – Transferring Knowledge into solutions

- Mr. Cheka Mailula, DST, South Africa (CAAST-Net Plus member)

PANEL 1

How do the challenges of Climate Change, Food and Nutrition Security and Health affect each other and what, in this context, is the role of R&D in providing sustainable and appropriate solutions?

- What are the climate change issues related to FNS and health? Then, what is the role and what are the contributions of climate-change science to provide solutions to the practical challenges in the FNS and health sectors?
- What are the FNS issues related to climate change and health? Then, what is the role and what are the contributions of FNS science to provide solutions to the practical challenges in the climate change and health sectors?
- What are the health issues related to climate change and FNS? Then, what is the role and what are the contributions of health science to provide solutions to the practical challenges in the climate change and FNS sectors?

Panel Chairs

George Essegbey, CSIR-STEPRI, Ghana

James Haselip, DTU, Denmark

Speakers

Simon Agwale, Innovative Biotech LTD, Nigeria

Patrick Worms, ICRAF, Belgium

Discussants

Francoise, Stepman, PAEPARD, Belgium

Frederik Staun, UNDP, Uganda

Garry Aslanyan, TDR-WHO, Switzerland

Plenary session

Questions were asked around how much of R&D is really taking place in Africa,

- What is missing is translating research into product development.
- Knowledge is out there but does not reach us, therefore key to look at dissemination strategy

Rapporteur Arne Tostensen gave his feedback on the panel presentations and discussion

- Highlighted the reference that had been made to models in India Thailand South Korea but how to replicate to African conditions
- Important to focus on the various reasons for lack of uptake of research results which can also include cultural factors.

PANEL 2

- **How can Africa-EU research collaborations strengthen knowledge creation that feeds directly into the development and/or patenting of new technologies?**
- What are the 'good practices', from either Africa or Europe, of R&D outputs being translated into specific goods and services
- What role do the outputs of research have in developing new products and services? Is this clearly understood? What are the key motivations for this, and how does it happen?
- Which mechanisms may enhance private sector uptake of R&D outputs, for example knowledge sharing schemes, pre-commercialization subsidies, venture capital and financing, etc.?

Panel Chairs

Zeinab El-Sadr, MHESRT, Egypt |

Prof. Angela Brand, FHML, The Netherlands

- leading 3 questions should cover whole valorization line:

Speakers

- **Simon Jochim, Foundation
Entrepreneurship, Germany**
- **Ole Olesen, EDCTP, The Netherlands**
- **venantio Marovha Mzenda CSIR Council
for Scientific and Industrial Research
South Africa**

Discussants

- **Mr. Gregory Chishinba, AU-Private Sector Network, Zambia**
- **Bahati Prince Ngongo IAVI International AIDS Vaccine, Kenya**
- **Dr. Thanyani Simon, University of Pretoria - Department of Research and Innovation Support, SA**

PLENARY

- Why can entrepreneurship in India be successful and not in Africa. India has fairly developed infrastructure – whereas in Africa in some places have to import almost everything
- Role of governments in promoting R&D not just about money but also need to provide right environment to proceed with projects (incubation).
- Need systematic review of what constitutes good practises, how can it inform future research
- Example given of AfDB long term strategy to 2023 with S&T highlighted as one of the pillars.

Rapporteur Jan Haakonen Feedback

- EDCTP very inspiring model and questioned whether this can be replicated in other areas.
- Lot to learn from the CSIR model,
- Important intervention need for researchers to understand IPR. Not well developed in most African countries.

Answers to Panel One Questions

How do the challenges of Climate Change, Food and Nutrition Security and Health affect each other and what, in this context, is the role of R&D in providing sustainable and appropriate solutions?

- Health inextricably linked to climate change, e.g. change in pattern of vector borne diseases
- Climate Smart Agriculture –Trees can regain land. Agro-Biodiversity for balanced diets. By choosing right tree combinations can have diet all year round. Also support Mitigation measures
- Health, agroforestry and Climate Change research done in silos. Need for deep collaboration to resolve issues together
- Examples given of Aflatoxins and their effect on health –To reduce issue of better post harvest technologies and storage systems were needed and it was key to include farmers and the private sector in finding solutions, also a possible link to Climate Change

Answers to Panel Two Questions

How can Africa-EU research collaborations strengthen knowledge creation that feeds directly into the development and/or patenting of new technologies?

- Why is entrepreneurship in India more successful than in countries in Africa. India has well developed infrastructure – however through partnerships and use of technologies can make development of these systems in Africa faster.
 - Entrepreneurship is key - don't need a lot of money to start something using modern professional modular components provides a large amount of freedom.
- EDCTP - Participation 13 European and 11 African countries each one representative in general assembly which decides priorities / funding decisions. True African participation
- Government policy makers support development of innovation eco-systems – however EDCTP studies have shown that Government policies can be a major barrier
 - Need to improve communication and dissemination to improve uptake both in Government and end users
- Need to work with existing structures such as High Level forums including RECs. Can they support with feeding information down to practitioners
- IP rights and filing for patents - Need strong policies and enabling legislation to protect researchers but also encourage investors.