



DRAFT MINUTES

2nd meeting of SATTIFS STEERING COMMITTEE Gulu , 11 September 2014

1. Adoption of the draft agenda

The draft agenda was adopted (see Annex A).

The Project Coordinator asked to the S C to vote on his proposal to allow the OUs of the partners and the experts to attend to the meeting. The SC unanimously approved.

2. Project coordinator's activity report

Prof. Luciano CINQUANTA, Project Coordinator, welcomed the delegations to the meeting and thanked all participants. He underlined the reinforcement of the team and the increasing of the relationship .

"From our single history - he affirmed - we can now move thought new goal".

Prof. Cinquanta emphasised the quality of the first field inspections and the capacity of the group in perfectioning of the contacts .

Concerning the Cons, The Project Coordinator underscored the effect of the burocreacy and he assured that the next meetings will be different, money will be send to all the participants to organize their travel and accomodations. Prof. Cinquanta noted the significant achievements accomplished so far and made during the field inspections and the different sessions of the meeting and the bilateral relations. He stressed the importance of these meetings. He also summarized the carried out activities in the implementation of the SATTIFS project from April to now:

- 1) Creation of the website SATTIFS: <http://www.sattifs.unimol.it/index.php/en/> dedicated to the project;
- 2) Selection of the Audit Firm;
- 3) Sending to African partners of the first part of funding (50% of the cost of the first year), as approved in the first Steering Committee;
- 4) Purchase and shipment of the first batch of scientific equipment in the three African countries (Kit ELISA with reader for the determination of mycotoxins);
- 5) Organization of stakeholder conferences;
- 6) Drafting of baseline reports;
- 7) Contacts with Mr Papa and Mr Sassi, involved in the making of products made with cocoa and other experts, involved in maize and rice production;
- 8) Contacts with University of Naples, whose Rector, Prof. Marrelli and Prof. D'Urso, have just visited the University of Gulu to renew an agreement between the Universities;
- 11) Contacts with several ONG and other institutions, such as IFAD, trough Mr. Marini, involved in a development project at Gulu; TRAQUE, trough Mrs Sandini, involved in an "assistance & quality enabling programme" in Ghana;
- 12) Start procedures for the purchase of the second batch of scientific equipment. To optimize this phase prof. Cinquanta thought to be appropriate to verify personally the facilities and equipment already available at several CITED, in order to make "tailored" purchases.

Prof. Cinquanta reported very positive elements, which have emerged from field inspection. In particular:

- There has been a strong integration between the activities of open field cultivation, with the identification of the model farms and groups of local farmers interested in technological innovations.
- Similarly, the activation of the laboratories for the quality control of foods is in start-up phase, with the selection of specialized personnel capable of performing the chemical-physical analysis envisaged in the project.
- Nevertheless, in the early stages, there has been some misunderstanding due to communication difficulties and bureaucratic delays. Therefore, prof. Cinquanta invited the partners to prepare well all the initiatives and activities, to reduce the waiting times of payment, delivery goods and so on.

- For the reasons already described, the exchange of information and experience among partners must increase, as well as the activities of dissemination and promotion of the project.
- Another critical point to emphasize concerns the problem of customs clearance of equipment, for which we had problems in both Ghana and Ethiopia. In this regard, prof. Cinquanta asks the partner to acquire all the information to make effective delivery of equipment.

The Steering Committee unanimously approved the Project Coordinator activity Report.

2) a Ghana Report

Prof. Daniel Obeng-Ofori the Operational Unit Coordinator of Ghana partner presented the progress made by the project in his country.

Concerning the recruitment of project personnel, he informed the SC that in Ghana the team is formed by six members with the following titles: Project Coordinator, Operational Unit Assistant, Field Officer, Chemistry/Scientific Assistant, Project Accountant, Office Assistant

Prof. Obeng Ofori underlined the importance of the stakeholder workshops on maize and cocoa organized with the participation of about 50 peoples from the entire project area. These were made up of farmers, agricultural extension officers, cocoa research scientists, technicians from the seed production unit and officials from the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. An inventory of existing and exploitable knowledge and technologies on maize production in Ghana was developed and priority needs were identified.

Further, Prof. Daniel Obeng-Ofori informed participants of the Ghana Field visit 2014 by the SATTIFS project officials. On the 23rd of August 2014, a 10 member team visited the Techiman trial farm and irrigation project, and the Techiman market in order to familiarize with postharvest handling of maize. On the same day, the team also visited other model farms that produce maize.

On the 25th of August 2014 the team visited Cocoa farms and the Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana, to familiarize themselves with the Cocoa industry in Ghana.

The Steering Committee unanimously approved the activity Report of prof. Daniel Obeng Ofori.

2)b Ethiopia Report

Dr. Tikubet Getachew, the Operational Unit Coordinator of BEA put forward that there are 2 important commodities for Ethiopia i.e. coffee and maize. He also further added that coffee originated from Ethiopia in a place called Kaffa and Ethiopia supplies coffee all over the world.

He also informed the participants that burning of coffee husks causes Asthma (Negative impact) and coffee provides a major GDP for the country.

Furthermore, he added that initially Ethiopia's major food was teff (free from gluten) but now maize is a major food and animal feed and it is also used for energy production.

He also talked about Integrated Bio-Economy systems in Ethiopia which has transformed lives of many rural people in Ethiopia. Participants were informed that the capacity building program in Ethiopia was linked with the Ministry of Agriculture that takes technical development very seriously.

Participants were informed that a memorandum of understanding was (MOU) signed with an engineering company to create a strong technological centre.

The Steering Committee unanimously approved the activity Report of dr. Tikubet Getachew.

2)c Uganda Report

Dr. Martine Nyeko made a presentation on the progress of the SATTIFS project in Gulu.

Firstly was presented the baseline report produced focusing on activities made and on the locally available technologies and technological gaps in the maize and rice value chains. Dr. Nyeko also presented the results of the stakeholders' workshop to select and prioritize of technologies for immediate intervention for great impact considering the available resources. Dr. Nyeko emphasized the importance of the participation of graduate students of Gulu University in SATTIFS Project. Finally he summarized the activities made during the Field inspections and the positive feedback that he received from the farmer

involved.

The Steering Committee unanimously approved the activity Report of dr. Martine Nyeko.

2)d ARPAM Report

Dr. Remo MANONI presented the scientific support of ARPAM in such a project and the contribution done regarding the equipment necessary for simple test on Aflatoxins. He also asked the partner to give their important contribution to choose the most appropriate tools in accordance with the technical possibilities and competences of the CITED created in ACP institutions.

The Steering Committee unanimously approved the activity Report of dr. Remo Manoni.

3. Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Inter-Institutional Network (by Daniel Obeng Ofori)

Prof. Daniel Obeng Ofori on behalf of UENR Ghana, charged of the task presented a draft of the document concerning the Inter-institutional Network of SATTIFS. **After a large and participated discussion the following document was unanimously approved. The SC decided that in three week a list of potential partner of the STI Network must be sent to UNIMOL for the following actions.**

STRENGTHENING INNOVATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY DISSEMINATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN CEREALS, COCOA AND COFFEE VALUE CHAINS IN WESTERN AND EASTERN AFRICA

This project is on strengthening innovations and technology dissemination for sustainable development in cereals, cocoa and coffee value chains in western and eastern Africa . It aims at building capacity in science, technology and innovation in these regions to boost food security and socio-economic development. This is to achieved by establishing three centres for innovation and technology dissemination (CITED) to effectively disseminate proven appropriate technologies in cocoa and cereal production in the study regions.

This project is under the ACP-EU Cooperation programme in Science and Technology II (S&T II) and is being implemented in Ghana, Ethiopia and Uganda by Univeristy of Molise (UNIMOL), Italy; Gulu University (UGU), Uganda; Bioeconomy Africa (BEA), Ethiopia and the University of Energy and Natural Resources (UENR), Ghana. The University of Molise, Italy is the International Coordinating Partner as required by ACP-EU cooperation programme.

The overall goal of the project is to contribute to build and strengthen Science, Techonology and Innovation (STI) capacities in the agicultural sector of Western and Eastern African countries to enhance food security and socio-economic development.

The specific objectives are:

- Establishment of working partnership among the participating institutions.
- Establishment of 3 Centres for Innovation and Technology Dissemination (CITED) in each ACP partner country.
- Dissemination of successfully proven appropriate technologies in each ACP partner country.

It is envisioned that the projects sustainability hinges on the following key actions:

- i) Institutionalisation of project activities in each ACP partner especially CITED
- ii) Effective and sustainable networks among partner institutions, research and scientific organisations, farmers, agricultural experts, governments, nongovernmental organisations, private enterprises, etc...
- iii) Measures to combat low farm productivity and weak productivity grows in food growing areas.
- iv) And, underlining all this education, training and capacity building in sustainable agricultural practices that will lead to environmental sustainability

Consequently, we are inviting all stakeholders and individuals who share in this vision to adopt this document and its measures as a tool to fostering lasting partnership to ensure sustainable food security in the project regions and the world over.

In order to attain the project objectives, it is imperative the partners agree and adopt measures that will help all meet the project objectives, outcomes and deadlines. As founding partners we need to come to a consensus od measures that can be employed in particular to establish the first of the three main objectives of the project.

To this end the following actions are being proposed to facilitate effective networking.

- I. Website forum
 - a) Partners are encouraged to post monthly updates of progress or lack of progress (main achievements and critical challenges)
 - b) Partners are also encouraged to respond to or comment on each other's posts.
 - c) Reminders and notices are to be posted on the forum as milestones and deadline approach.

II The use of other existing social network in media to facilitate regular and constant communication.

- a) Start a Facebook page, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram etc..
- b) Partners can then invite people in their circles as well as other stakeholders to these sites to keep them updated on progress being made in the projects
- c) Viber and Whatsapp group chats must also be started to provide those already using them further opportunities to network.
- d) Post short videos and a lots of pictures to the social network sites and project sites. These will draw new stakeholders to their sites.

III E-mails and phone calls:

- a) As and when necessary, e-mail and phone updates must also be encouraged among partners.

Steps to establishing and maintaining sustainable networking between partner institutions and stakeholders.

I Identify other key stakeholders- institutions and organisations.

- a) Identify and contact key persons.
- b) Phone, e-mail, SMS messages, Write letters, and follow up in person to share the objectives of the projects with stakeholders.

II Involve stakeholders in TOT (Training of teachers), Field Trials, Farmer field the schools, etc. to keep them actively involved in all aspects of the SATTIFS project.

III Invite and add stakeholders to websites forum, social-networking pages and phone chat groups so they will also receive periodic updates of project progress.

4. First Dissemination conference (by Martine Nyeko)

Martine Nyeko highlighted the activities realized with the First Dissemination Conference. In total, there were 44 participants, six (6) were from Italy, 2 from Ghana, 2 from Ethiopia and 34 Ugandans from Gulu University, government extension agencies, NGOs, farmer groups, and the private sector dealing in agro-processing. Participants were informed of the main activities of the project that were divided into work-packages. A number of issues were discussed which leading to the following observations:

- Training of farmers and establishment of demonstration facilities were noted to be important for the success of the project
- The project gives flexibility to the different stakeholders to choose various technologies depending to their requirements.
- Baseline study for each country or community was carried out to select the appropriate technology as they desire.
- The project aims at improving the technologies that the people already have but not to impose new technologies.
- In case of use of controversial technologies such as Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs), participants must adhere to prevailing legislations of individual countries.
- For African farmers to access the European market, they must develop good agricultural practices and ensure that food quality improves.
- Technologies in this project should be demand driven in order to ensure sustainability

In summary, the dissemination conference provided great insight into the technological needs of the maize and rice value chains in Northern Uganda, as well as the order of priority with which any interventions should be implemented. A quality assessment centre is crucial for monitoring the products available, both for public health and safety, as well as for appropriate commodity pricing. Specifically, technology for moisture content measurement, chemical and biological content determination, and laboratory grading is essential. For maize, it was concluded that shelling and drying emerged as the main operations for

urgent technological intervention. For the rice value chain, key priorities are planting, weeding, harvesting and drying. It is also important that any technological intervention should be affordable, functional, simple to operate and readily available; and ensure improvement in product quality.

The SC thanked Gulu University for the hard work made for the success of the Dissemination Conference and approved, unanimously the report of Martine Nyeko.

5. Pro and Cons of the relationship among ACP partners (by Diantom AGOURA)

Dr. Diantom AGOURA underlined the very good experience made during the visits in Ghana and Uganda. Concerning Ethiopia, he focused the very good experience made by BEA with the experimental farm annexed to the institution in Addis Ababa but also highlighted the necessity to improve the task of the SATTIFS project.

The Steering Committee unanimously approved the activity Report of dr. Diantom AGOURA.

6. Training activity

Dr. Remo MANONI presented a PowerPoint with the programme of the training activity on the ELISA kit. The PP presentation is attached to this minutes.

7. Dissemination products

The Project Coordinator pushed Mr Tikubet Getachew to realize the dissemination products, an important instrument for the project and required by the Grant Contract. Prof. Cinquanta underlined that is a BEA task in the Project.

8. Activity Planning

The Project Coordinator asked the partner to implement the WPs and to follow the Annual Plan adopted in the first SC meeting on April 2014 .

9. Any other business

Mr. Getachew asked to the SC to vote for the decision to send to the partner the money needed for the purchase of the equipment. The SC adopted the decision to give mandate to the Project Coordinator to find the best solution for the purchase and delivering of the necessary tools.

STEERING COMMITTEE
SATTIFS
Gulu 11th of September 2014

The Project Coordinator, **prof. Luciano Cinquanta**, invites you to attend the Steering Committee's 2nd meeting, to be held at Gulu University, **on 11 September 2014, beginning at 4 p.m. and finishing at 6 p.m.**

The draft agenda is as follows:

1. Adoption of the draft agenda
2. Project coordinator's activity report
 - a. 2 a Ghana report
 - b. 2 b Ethiopia report
 - c. 2 c Uganda report
 - d. 2 d ARPAM report
3. Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Inter-Institutional Network (by Daniel Obeng Ofori)
4. First Dissemination conference (by Martine Nyeko)
5. Pro and Cons of the relationship among ACP partners (by Diantom AGOURA)
6. Training activity
7. Dissemination products
8. Activity Planning
9. Any other business

Participant are asked to sign the attendance list in order to ensure the correct application of the Grant Contract.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

**2nd meeting of SATTIFS STEERING COMMITTEE
Gulu , 11 of September 2014**

Prof. Luciano CINQUANTA Project Coordinator

Dr. Remo MANONI Operational Unit Coordinator ARPAm

Dr. Joseph DIANTOM ACP Project Coordinator

Prof. Martin NYEKO Operational Unit Coordinator GULU

Prof. Tikubet GETACHEW Operational Unit Coordinator BEA

Prof. Daniel OBENG-OFORI Operational Unit Coordinator UGU