



Global Donor Platform
for Rural Development

Capacity Development *in* ***Agriculture and Rural Development***

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Global Donor Platform for Rural Development***

*Capacity Development: Accra and Beyond.
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www.donorplatform.org



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What is the Platform?

- A strategic alliance of 31 donors, international finance institutions and development agencies, created in 2004;
- Aim is to enhance the fight against rural poverty and hunger and promote sustainable natural resource utilisation;
- Platform outcomes:
 1. Advocacy and outreach;
 2. Knowledge and innovation;
 3. Aid effectiveness.

Capacity Development in agriculture



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- **The agricultural sector:**
 - is private sector led with limited role of the state;
 - includes a wide range of stakeholders;
 - is cross-sectoral and institutionally complex;
 - the challenges and needs are heterogeneous and location-specific.
- **Current Capacity Development experiences:**
 - farm level (knowledge and innovation: e.g. productivity, sustainability, risk management);
 - institutional level (producer organisations, state institutions, research institutions, civil society and other private sector);
 - Sectoral level (governance, ownership, MfDR, mutual accountability).



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Current CD Efforts at individual level

- Small holder farmers (men and women):
 - Increased productivity and market integration;
 - Sustainability (environmental as well as economic) of production.
- Individuals in agricultural institutions:
 - Enhance functional capacity: **banks, ministries**;
 - knowledge development & dissemination: **research, extension**;
 - Advocacy support: **CSOs**.

How: the challenges

- Under-investment in human resources (i.e. lack of professionals and high average age of staff [app 40% of researchers retire soon] etc.);
- Agriculture needs gender specific approaches.

How: the approaches

- Support of CD for all stakeholders;
- Strengthen existing in-county systems (NARS, Neuchatel, CGIAR etc.);
- Focus on demand driven pluralistic agricultural extension systems.



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Capacity initiatives at institutional level

- **State** and other public institutions;
- **Private sector** institutions (including producer organisations);
- **CSOs**, (including rural CSOs).

How: the challenges

- Institutional CD needs to advance beyond government-to-government. E.G. to support MfDR in private sector (with clear targets and indicators);

How: the approaches

- Support of existing reform agendas e.g. SWAps, which need donor acceptance of country systems;
- Encourage network of functioning agricultural institutions to act as catalysts.



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Capacity for agricultural sector governance

Priority Initiative: Agricultural sector governance and coordination need to be embedded in national policies and strategies.

Why: Potential of Joint Assistance Strategies (JAS)

How: the challenges:

- Define the role of state and non-state actors and inter-sector governance and coordination;
- Reduce ownership gaps through greater participation of stakeholders, (producer organisations, rural CSOs, private sector, parliaments etc.).



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Capacity, agriculture and the AAA

- Key productive sector like agriculture need to be better included into the Accra HLF process;
- Lack of Capacity with agricultural sector focus currently constrains “MfDR” and “alignment” which would drive improvements in ownership and mutual accountability to attain MDGs.
- AAA should promote capacity development as inclusive process (i.e. smallholders, producer organizations & CSOs, private agribusiness) for meaningful participation in policy making and implementation (such as PRSPs, JASs and PBAs like SWAps).