LEAP4FNSSA is a Coordination and Support Action (CSA) that aims at establishing a Consortium to improve the level of thematic collaboration in research between Europe and Africa. The Consortium will be a tool for all European and African institutions ready to engage in a sustainable partnership platform for research and innovation on Food and Nutrition Security as well as Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA).

Once established, the Consortium will be instrumental to the AU-EU High Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD) on science and technology for innovation in meeting its strategic objectives. It will help to coordinate and prioritise the actions described in the FNSSA Roadmap endorsed by the HLPD. The FNSSA Roadmap is a new approach towards science and technology cooperation between the African Union and the European Union. LEAP4FNSSA will also support the work of the two Commissions, and its member countries, in their science cooperation.

The LEAP4FNSSA project builds on previous EU funded related projects – such as ProIA, CAAST-Net Plus, RINEA – and links with the on-going ERANet Cofund LEAP-AGRI. LEAP4FNSSA will create a platform for all FNSSA projects supported by both Commissions and will develop new ways for a long-lasting cooperation.

**Activities**

The activities put in place by LEAP4FNSSA will be aligned towards:

1. Supporting the Bureau of the AU-EU HLPD in implementing the FNSSA Roadmap;
2. Creating strategic alliances of actors committed to align their R&I activities to the FNSSA Roadmap, improving the coherence between the various projects, programs, and policies, and setting up sustainable joint funding mechanisms;
3. Strengthening the knowledge base to increase the efficiency of the AU-EU Research and Innovation Partnership on FNSSA, by developing new instruments for data analysis and knowledge networks and by enhancing capacities for data management and communication;
4. Facilitating within the relevant FNSSA research and innovation networks, the dissemination of information already existing or generated by the CSA project and the partners.

**The 3 pillars of the Platform**

The activities conducted by LEAP4FNSSA will contribute to build the platform around:

- a multi-institution network designed to schedule actions, improve prioritisation and coordination, and support the larger community of actors involved in the Europe-Africa FNSSA cooperation,
- a set of analytical tools to inform and communicate on the implementation of the HLPD Roadmap,
- a group of funding institutions specialized in Agricultural Research for Development.
Organization

LEAP4FNSSA will be organized in 5 Work Packages, each being coordinated by a Europe-Africa tandem:

1. **Support to the FNSSA Partnership and the HLPD Bureau.** Coordinated by JyU/UniPID (Finland) and DST (South Africa).
2. **Actors, Alliances, and Policies.** Coordinated by DLR (Germany) and STEPRI (Ghana).
3. **Information Generation and Knowledge Management.** Coordinated by SLU (Sweden) and ARC (South Africa).
4. **Dissemination and Communication.** Coordinated by CIHEAM (Italy) and MHESR (Egypt).
5. **Project Management and Coordination.** Coordinated by Cirad (France), all partners and in particular FARA (Ghana-Africa)

Governance

The governance of the project includes three coordination levels and an External Advisory Committee:

*Partnership:* 35 partners, 15 African (from 8 countries), and 20 European (from 14 countries)

*Duration:* 4 years from November 1st, 2018.

*Budget:* 5.15 Mo€

Contact

Coordination: leap4fnssacoordination@cirad.fr

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**Consortium partners**

**CIRAD** Agricultural Research for Development (France) as Coordinator.

**ARC** Agricultural Research Council (South Africa);

**ASARECA** Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (Uganda);

**AU/AOSTI** African Union The African Observatory for Science, Technology and Innovation (Ethiopia);

**CGIAR/IITA** The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (Nigeria);

**CSIR-STEPRI** Council for Scientific and Industrial Research-Science and Technology Policy Research Institute (Ghana);

**DST** Department of Science and Technology (South Africa);

**FARA** Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (Ghana);

**FONRID** National Fund for Research and Innovation in development (Burkina Faso);

**KEF** Knowledge Economy Foundation (Egypt);

**MESRI** Ministry of High Education, Research and Innovation (Senegal);

**MOEST** Ministry of Education Science and Technology (Kenya);

**NASAC** Network of African Science Academies (Kenya);

**NRF** National Research Foundation (South Africa);

**RUFORUM** Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (Uganda).

**ACU** Association of Commonwealth Universities (United Kingdom);

**ANR** National Research Agency (France);

**BLE** Federal Office for Agriculture and Food (Germany);

**BOKU** University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Centre for Development Research (Austria);

**CIHEAM** Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (Italy);

**CULS** Czech University of Life Science Prague (Czech Republic);

**DLR** German Aerospace Center (Germany);

**FCT** Foundation for Science and Technology (Portugal);

**GAKK** Go Africa (Germany);

**INIA** National Institute of Agricultural and Food Research and Technology (Spain);

**JYU/UniPID** University of Jyväskylä Partnership for International Development (Finland);

**KIINNO** Knowledge & Innovation Intermediaries (Greece);

**LUKE** Natural Resources Institute (Finland);

**NRI** Natural Resources Institute - University of Greenwich (United Kingdom);

**SIU** Szent István University (Hungary);

**SLU** Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (Sweden);

**UCPH** University of Copenhagen Faculty of Science (Denmark);

**UHOH** University of Hohenheim (Germany);

**WR** Wageningen Research (The Netherlands).