



**THE 15<sup>TH</sup> (AND 2000 ANNUAL) MEETING  
OF THE ASARECA COMMITTEE OF DIRECTORS**

**Nairobi, Kenya**

Reporting Period – June 1999 – October 2000

**Foodnet is an ASARECA Network funded by USAID**

# **Foodnet Review Report Year 1, Timeframe – June 1999 – November 2000.**

This document is an updated overview of the development and progress of the FOODNET project since its inception. The highlighted areas on the progress tables show the most recent developments in the project from June 1999 – Nov 2000.

## **Development of the project**

In June 1998, ASARECA assisted the development of the FOODNET by supporting a regional team of scientists to meet in Entebbe, to develop the proposal. At this meeting the guiding principles of FOODNET were developed with a focus on market research and postharvest processing. The Network was reduced to working on two themes, (i) market analysis and (ii) enterprise development. At this time, IITA was also provided with bridging funds from USAID-REDSO to assist in the regional development of the programme.

In 1998, IITA was also awarded a grant, from the IDRC's small grants initiative, and these funds were used in conjunction with the bridging funds to start the work on market analysis. The IDRC funds were received to conduct a survey on the market opportunities for cassava flour and starch in Uganda. This work was completed in May 1999. In 1998, IITA also developed a pilot scheme for collecting market information for cassava in Uganda and this was submitted to USAID / ACIDI Uganda.

In June February 1999, the FOODNET proposal was funded by USAID-REDSO, alongside their commodity networks. In September 1999, the establishment of FOODNET was enhanced with two buy-in projects including the ACIDI funded, Market Information Service in Uganda and a smaller CTA project which aimed to design a service to provide market information to farmers and smaller traders.

## **Progress**

A summary of progress in the Foodnet project is provided in **Tables 1 and 2**. **Table 1** provides the highlights since inception, such as the first steering committee meeting, marketing training course, the development of the Ugandan marketing information service, Website design and the competitive grants scheme. The information in **Table 2** provides details of the joint projects that will be conducted in collaboration between FOODNET and the other commodity networks in 2000-2001. The final aspect of this report outlines the training courses that are being developed over the next 6-8 months and an update on PhAction, the Global Postharvest Forum.

**Table 1. Progress of activities within Foodnet, highlighted areas include those from July – November 2000**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Donor / Sponsor</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Location of outputs</b>
<b>Bridging funds to IITA coordination unit</b>	1998	USAID	IITA	Bridging funds received, REDSO	Enabled the design from a project into a network
<b>Marketing survey to determine the market opportunities for cassava flour and starch in Uganda</b>	May 1998 – May 1999	USAID / IDRC small grants initiative	NARO, CIP, Matilong, Vietnames Cassava programme, Uni NBO	Activity completed, report available	Foodnet office, 1. Short version for donor 2. Detailed version, to be published in 2001
<b>Full funding of the project approved.</b>	June, 1999	USAID	IITA / ASARECA	REDSO proposed to fund FOODNET project alongside existing projects, start date June 1999.	
<b>IITA-FOODNET becomes member of PhAction / inter-centre postharvest working group</b>	June 1999	IITA	FAO, CIRAD, NRI, ACIAR, GTZ, CIAT, CIP, IRRI, IITA	New global postharvest forum established which aims to promote postharvest research from a number of research organisations as shown left.	Forum established in June 1999
<b>Linkages with InPh0 strengthened</b>	June 1999	IITA - FAO	The InPho project	FOODNET will serve as a regional node for INPHO and will seek to disseminate information to regional partners	INPHO is the FAO, website for postharvest technology. See <a href="http://www.fao.org/inpho">www.fao.org/inpho</a>
<b>Foodnet attends Second PhAction Meeting</b>	July 2000		FAO, CIRAD, NRI, ACIAR, GTZ, CIAT, CIP, IRRI, IITA	New agenda developed and reported in the third issue of PhAction NEWS	
<b>Marketing sub-sector study for cassava in Uganda</b>	Start Sept 99 End April 00	USAID, DFID, NRI, NARO cassava and postharvest programmes	NARO, NRInternational, NRI, EARRNET	First part of project survey work completed,  Draft report available to be completed in March 2001	Marketing channel analysis completed and report in draft form. This section will be on website in April 00.
<b>Industrial survey for cassava in Uganda</b>	Start 6 Nov	USAID, DFID, NRI, NARO cassava and postharvest programmes	NARO, NRInternational, NRI, EARRNET	First draft to be completed by December 2000	<b>Ongoing 6-26 Nov. Final report to be a training manual for researchers to conduct rapid market surveys</b>

Activity	Dates	Donor / Sponsor	Partners	Action	Location of outputs
<b>Macro - Marketing information service in Uganda</b>	Start Sept 99	USAID via ACIDI Kampala	FEWS, NARO, ADC, Min Finance, Min of Industry Trade & Tourism	MIS project funded for 2.5 years. Aim to establish a national price information system to collect daily and weekly prices.  Data collection is ongoing made available to policy groups and traders or farmers via Radio	All price data now on the Foodnet website. Information is also broadcast on national and local radio stations on a daily and weekly basis. Summary data for Kampala reported in the East African Newspaper.
<b>Macro-MIS presents paper to IGAD</b>				Paper outlined the approach being used in Uganda to deliver MIS in Uganda	
<b>Design of a Marketing Information Service (MIS) for small-scale producers and traders in Uganda (Micro level service)</b>	Start Oct 99	CTA, USAID	CMIS, FEWS, ADC, Radio Uganda, Min Fin, IFCD, World Food Programme, DANIDA, National Farmers	Project to disseminate market information to target groups of farmers and traders has been designed and proposal will be submitted to CTA in April 00	Two reports on Marketing information for farmers and traders on the FOODNET website 1. Preliminary study 2. Project design document
<b>Regional Workshop for Market information held in Nairobi 25<sup>th</sup> October</b>	October 25	FOODNET	Foodnet grantee 1 Foodnet grantee 2 KACE, Min Trade Kenya, Min Trade Tz and Min Finance Uganda	Meeting to review ongoing MIS activities in Uganda, Tz, Kenya. Redesign of Foodnet projects to fit regional perspectives and needs	<b>Projects to be redesign and re-submitted</b>
<b>Workshop for Marketing information projects CTA</b>	Oct 30-31	CTA	FOODNET MIS, KACE, KAB Consultants, FAO, CMIS, CTA	Meeting to review 3 CTA funded MIS projects. Foodnet project to be developed as a new model for national / regional MIS	<b>Design paper published by CTA and on CTA website.</b>
<b>Implementation of the Micro marketing information service</b>	From Nov 1, 2000	CTA, DANIDA, WFP	CMIS, FEWS, ADC, Radio Uganda, Min Fin, IFCD, World Food Programme, DANIDA, National Farmers	Staff hired and trained.	<b>Workplan and M&amp;E process being designed.</b>

Activity	Dates	Donor	Partners	Action	Location of outputs
Supply of root crops processing equipment	From Sept 99	IITA / CIP	EARRNET, PRAPACE, SARRNET	Equipment being sold in Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Angola and Malawi. New orders for Zimbabwe and Swaziland	Equipment is place with NARS, NGOs and farmers groups
Supply of root crops processing equipment	From		SARRNET, OFDA, FOODNET, PL-480	New orders for Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda and Tanzania	Equipment for processing being fabricated by local private sector agents.
Crop quality analysis for cassava	Ongoing	USAID / IITA	EARRNET	Ongoing activity in collaboration with EARRNET regional trials	Serere and Namulonge stations, Uganda
Newsletter of the Global Postharvest Forum,  PhAction NEWS	October 1999	IITA / GTZ	PhAction members	First PhAction newsletter published Oct 99 Second newsletter published June 00 circulation 1400 copies <b>Third Newsletter published in October 2000</b>	See FOODNET website for electronic copies
FOODNET Marketing course 1999	22-27 Nov 1999	IARCs Networks	Resources people from CIAT, CIP, ICRAF and ILRI.	Held at ICRAF, Nariobi . <b>Participating CG centres:</b> CIAT, CIP, ICRAF, ICRISAT, IITA, ILRI, IPGRI	Participants from: FOODNET, ECABREN, EARRNET, SARRNET, BARNESA, PRAPACE, ECAMAW, AFRENA.
FOODNET Website established	1-5 Dec	Africa-link / IITA	IITA / FAO	Designed and loaded website	Foodnet website online from Dec 10 <sup>th</sup> 1999. <a href="http://www.cgiar.org/foodnet">www.cgiar.org/foodnet</a>
FOODNET / ANETS Website Course	1-5 Dec 2000	Africa-link / IITA	IITA / FAO	Designed and loaded website	Foodnet website online from Dec 10 <sup>th</sup> 1999. <a href="http://www.cgiar.org/foodnet">www.cgiar.org/foodnet</a>
FOODNET Marketing course for Francophone countries 2000	14-21 Nov 2000	Networks	Resource people from CIRAD.	Held at ICRAF, Nariobi . <b>Participating Networks:</b> ECABREN, ILRI, ICRAF, AFRENA, EARRNET, FOODNET, PRAPACE <b>Participating IARCs</b> ICRAF, ILRI, IITA	Participants from: ECABREN, ILRI, ICRAF, AFRENA, EARRNET, FOODNET, PRAPACE

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Donor</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Location of outputs</b>
<b>Funding of FOODNET projects</b>	November 2000	13 out of 20 projects sent first tranche of funding			Financial arrangements in place for 13 projects.
<b>Evaluation and improvement of processing equipment</b>	Nov 18 – Dec 20	FOODNET, FAO, USAID / ACIDI	IITA / FAO	Evaluation and improvement of the most promising cassava processing technologies.	Report compiled by FAO, preliminary report on website
<b>Establishment of Monitoring framework</b>	Feb – March 00	USAID	USAID-Africa Bureaux	To be done in March	Information available through USAID
<b>Developed competitive grants scheme and reviewed 100 projects submitted.</b>	Dec 99	FOODNET	USAID	Call for proposals sent in Dec 99 100 projects reviewed April 00 20 projects approved in June 00	Projects being amended by successful teams. Successful projects on website

**Table 2 Projects recommended by the Project Review Panel for implementation in 2000 - 2001**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Linkage</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Funding first Tranche</b>	<b>Additional support</b>
1. Commercialisation of agricultural market information and commodity exchange services in Tanzania.	<b>Tanzania</b>	<b>ECAPAPA</b>	<b>Market Information</b>		Held meeting with Tz Marketing Bureau and KACE
2. Investigation of the viability of a farmer based network for on-line market information centres in Kiambu District Kenya	<b>Kenya</b>	<b>ECAPAPA</b>	<b>Market Information</b>		Held meeting with Tz Marketing Bureau and KACE
3. Market Study to establish demand for value added cassava products in Kenya for cassava starch, flour and snack foods	<b>Kenya</b>	<b>EARRNET</b>	<b>Cassava</b>	✓	++ EARRNET
4. Cassava Processing and marketing of products in Umutara and Bugesera Regions of Rwanda for improved income and food security	<b>Rwanda</b>	<b>EARRNET</b>	<b>Cassava</b>		IITA/ ISAR
5. Establishment and commercialisation of a small-scale integrated cassava processing enterprise in Lira District Uganda	<b>Uganda</b>	<b>EARRNET</b>	<b>Cassava</b>	✓	PRESTO funding 15,000
6. Introducing and demonstration of cassava processing equipment into the eastern zone of Tanzania	<b>Tanzania</b>	<b>EARRNET</b>	<b>Cassava</b>	<b>Equipment sent</b>	++ TARO
7. Popularization Of The Manual Chipper/Slicer Machine For Processing Cassava Roots in Tanzania.	<b>Tanzania</b>	<b>EARRNET</b>	<b>Cassava</b>	<b>Equipment under fabrication</b>	
8. Market study to determine the options within the ware and seed potato markets in Rwanda and in the region.	<b>Rwanda</b>	<b>PRAPACE</b>	<b>Potato</b>	✓	IITA/ ISAR USAID Rwanda
9. A Marketing survey for potatoes in Njabini Kenya	<b>Kenya</b>	<b>PRAPACE</b>	<b>Irish Potato</b>	✓	PRAPACE

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Linkage</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Funding</b>	<b>Additional support</b>
10. Feasibility study on the commercial establishment and operation of Irish Potatoes storage facilities in Kenya	<b>Kenya</b>	<b>PRAPACE</b>	<b>Irish Potato</b>	✓	
11. Assessment of potato production, marketing and utilisation systems in the central highlands of Ethiopia	<b>Ethiopia</b>	<b>PRAPACE</b>	<b>Irish Potato</b>	✓	++ Prapace
12. Sweet potato market survey in north Omo zone, southern Ethiopia	<b>Ethiopia</b>	<b>PRAPACE</b>	<b>Sweet Potato</b>	✓	++ Prapace
13. Value adding of banana in Burundi through preservation of juice and wine making	<b>Burundi</b>	<b>BARNESA</b>	<b>Bananas</b>	✓	++ INIBAP
14. Development of convenience foods from traditionally fermented sorghum flour	<b>Sudan</b>	<b>ECASAM</b>	<b>Grain Crops</b>	✓	
15. Pigeon Pea processing and utilisation ( <b>Pending review by ICRISAT</b> )	<b>Sudan</b>	<b>ICRISAT</b>	<b>Grain Crops</b>	✓	
16. Improvement of marketable traditional dairy products	<b>Sudan</b>	<b>A-ANET</b>	<b>Livestock</b>	✓	
17. Strategies for the improvement of Poultry feed industry in Tanzania	<b>Tanzania</b>	<b>A-ANET</b>	<b>Livestock</b>	✓	
18. Needs assessment and for small scale production of fruit pulp as an intermediate raw material in processing	<b>Kenya</b>	Subject to linkage with Project High Value 16	<b>High Value</b>		
19 Establishment of a small-scale Fruit and Vegetable Processing Plant in Machakos District of Kenya ( <b>Pending</b> )	<b>Kenya</b>	Subject to linkage with Project High Value 15	<b>High Value</b>		
20. Conduct a market study for Bread fruit in Madagascar	<b>Madagascar</b>	<b>CIRAD</b>	<b>Market Analysis</b>	✓	++ FOFIFA

## Training courses.

### 1. Website design.

(Course developed by FOODNET, IITA, and Africa – link)

#### Course Aims

This course aimed to assist the ASARECA co-ordinators to establish a dedicated website for their project and to develop the skill to maintain the site once loaded. At the end of the course all the the participants should a clear understanding of how to maintain their site and the knowledge required to update the site with new information during the year.

#### Participants

1. Mr. Raphael Marambii,	A-AARNET	8. Dr. Charles Lyamchai,	ECAMAW
2. Dr. John Okorio,	AFRENA-ECA	9. Mr.Geoffrey Ebong,	ECAPAPA
3. Miss. Olive Kyampaire,	AHI	10. Dr. Berga Lemaga,	PRAPACE
4. Dr. Berhane Kiflewahid,	ASARECA-TTP	11.Mr.Celestin Randrianarivonizandriny,	FOFIFA
5. Mr. Charles Eledu,	BARNESA	12. Mr. Sicco Koliijn	SARRNET
6. Dr. James B. A. Whyte,	EARRNET	13 Mr	SARRNET
7. Dr. Pyndji Mukishi,	ECABREN		

**Dates** – September 18-22, 2000-06-19, **Venue** – Grand Imperial Hotel, Kampala

**Resource persons** – P. Philpot, A. Muganga, S. Ferris, J. Nyagahima and C. Light

**Software** – Dreamweaver, Acrobat, and Fireworks.

#### Evaluation:

Highlights from evaluation scores:

**Course score overall:** - The course received an overall score of 9.11 out of 10.

**Trainers:** - Trainers received an overall score of 9.44 out of 10.

**Conference Organization:** - Conference Organization received an overall score of 9.44 out of 10.

### 2. Marketing Analysis Training course.

The aim of this course is to develop skills of researchers within the national agricultural research system (NARS) and in other organisations involved in agricultural marketing research. This will involve

- Familiarising participants with methods for analyzing agricultural marketing in developing countries
- Presenting participatory methods for identifying and evaluating market opportunities for rural producers
- Providing hands-on instruction in these methods in both the classroom and the field
- Offering feedback on on-going and/or proposed marketing research
- Familiarizing participants with on-going marketing research,
- Briefing on funding opportunities for market-oriented research
- Practice and feedback on developing concept notes for research projects.

#### Participants

Trainees will be people from Francophone countries, likely to be involved in marketing research after the course. Those who have had some training in economics or the social sciences will have an advantage. Some basic familiarity with computers is useful, but not essential. All nominations MUST be supported by the employing institutions.

#### For more information about this course, contact:

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### 3. Rural Agro-Enterprise Training Course.

(Course to be developed by FOODNET, CIAT and A. Networks)

#### Course Objectives

This course aims to contribute towards the strengthening of institutional capacity in the design, formulation and implementation of research and development projects that integrate the components of production, postharvest processing and marketing in a business context. The aim of developing these skills is to be better able to work with farmers to gain improved access to markets.

**Dates** - March 25<sup>th</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> April 2001

**Duration** – 10 days.

**Location** - Uganda, Kampala

**Language** - English

**Resource Institutions** – CIAT, FOODNET, IDEA, Technoserve

**Participants** –NARS, NGOs and IARCs.

#### Linkage Developments



, The Global Postharvest Forum held its first official meeting this year from 5-7 June at the GTZ headquarters in Eschborn in association with the GTZ Agri-business section. At this meeting the PhAction team which comprised of FAO, GTZ, CIRAD, ACIAR, NRI, IFAD, JIRCAS, IRRI, IITA, CIAT, IFPRI and CIP, further developed the strategy. This group will be developing new proposals for postharvest research

#### PhAction Vision

Establishing a dynamic and integrated post-harvest sector makes a major contribution to livelihoods, food security and sustainable development.

#### PhAction Mission

- To achieve recognition of the importance of the post-harvest sector in developing economies and to increase the resources allocated to it.

#### PhAction Slogan

'Linking farmers to markets' (this can be changed from time to time).

#### PhAction Strategy points

- ◆ PhAction will provide a leading advocacy role in raising the profile of postharvest research and raising the level of funding into this research area.
- ◆ Provide a leading body of expertise, which will render services to partners.
- ◆ Develop new areas of postharvest research.
- ◆ Make more effective linkages with a wider range of partners.

#### **PhAction / GTZ Workshop**

Workshop discussed a range of issues from the effects of WTO to food quality and developing the influence of farmer organisations. **Output:** PhAction asked to develop areas for future action research.

1. PhAction will participate in and contribution towards a post-harvest conference to be hosted by FAO in Rome in Sept/Oct 2001. The PhAction Chairperson will sit on the organising committee.
2. The Japanese International Research Centre for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS) is now a member of PhAction and there are plans for JIRCAS to host the 2002 annual meeting.
3. Dr Ellen Hanak Freud (CIRAD) was elected PhAction Chairperson for 2000/2001.