

AARINENA Presentation to GCARD 2010



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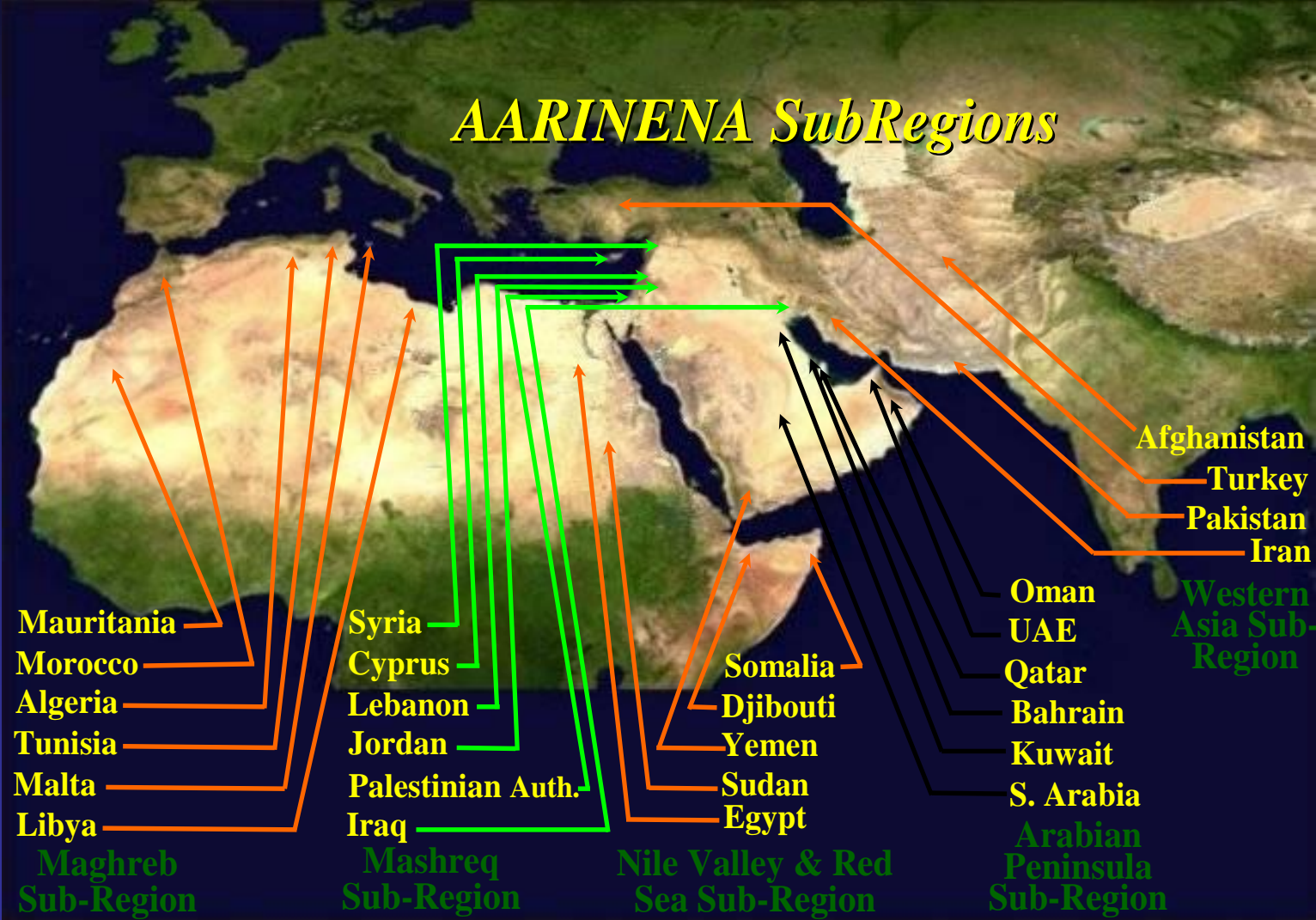
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WANA Region



AARINENA MISSION

To contribute to the enhancement of agricultural and rural development through **fostering agricultural research and technology development**

To **promote the exchange** of scientific and technical experience and information

To strengthen **collaboration within and outside the region** to achieve greater degree of self-reliance in food and agriculture

AARINENA now represents **all stakeholders** in the region:
NGOs, farmers, private sector, NARS, ARI, IARCS, donors

It is a **platform for dialogue on AR4D** in WANA to promote collaboration and partnerships



WANA Region Features (I)

- Fragile **ecosystems** of dry areas
- Hot spot for **climate change** impact
- Increasing **water scarcity & drought**
- Land **degradation** and progressing **desertification**
- The largest **food deficit** region in the world
- **Population boom & poverty**
(think beyond the “oil rich gulf”)



WANA Region Features (II)

- Low investment in AR4D at national levels
- Geo-political tensions and conflicts
- Gender imbalance
- Constraints in human resources
- Weak institutional capabilities
- Weak governance



GCARD: Relevance for WANA



- Vital food crops e.g. **barley** and **lentils** originate in WANA
 - WANA was the **bread basket** of various empires
 - Now a major **net importer of food**
 - Implications for **regional food security and beyond!**
- Needs **strategic regional agricultural development plans**
 - Needs **increased and improved investment in AR4D**
 - Needs **better regional cooperation and cooperation beyond the region**



Regional Review (I)

Process

- **Desk review** on evolution of agricultural research priorities and lessons learned
- **Survey** in 4 sub-regions to identify past priorities, and regional exchange networks
- Results included in **draft regional review report**
- **E-consultations** to get feedback on draft
- **Face-2-Face** consultation to consolidate review

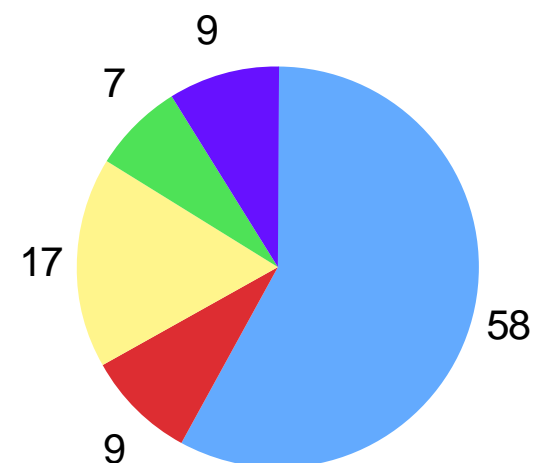
Regional Review (II)

E-consultations

- Poor linkages between research, extension and farmers
- Adopting innovative ways of knowledge sharing
- Implications of water scarcity and its impact on regional food security
- Adopting a strategic approach towards agricultural research
- Integrating policy and institutional issues in research

150 messages,
85 participants,
18 countries

Face-2-Face consultations



RC and uni Farmers/PS
NGOs Int'l org
Govt.

Regional Review (III)

Face-2-Face Consultations

Nov 9-12, Alexandria

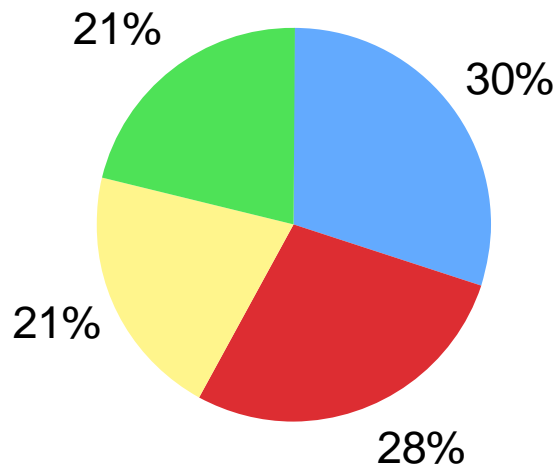
- 1) Review key-researchable issues
- 2) Prioritization based on development impact at scale
- 3) Identify constraints in research systems, solutions and partnerships

How: working groups, plenary feedback and voting



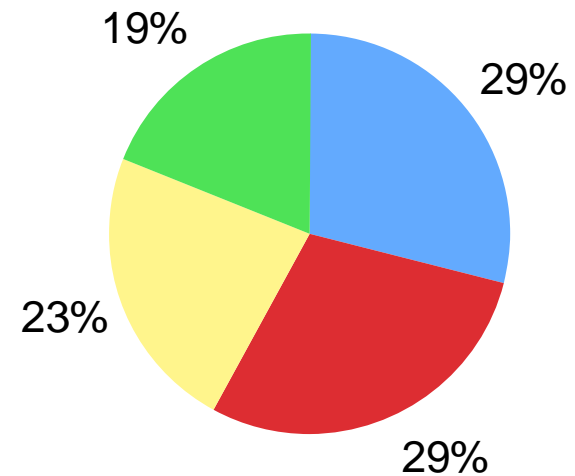
Prioritization: Result of voting

Thematic issues



- food security and productivity
- natural resources management
- livestock, rangeland and fisheries
- markets and value chain

Cross-cutting issues



- Research management & capacity
- Climate change
- Poverty and socio-economic policy
- Dissemination and scaling up

WANA Constraints in AR4D

Different languages

Communication overlooked

Illiteracy & individualism farmers

Poor communication effort

Different worldviews

Politicians and policy

makers are not on board

Low funding AR4D at national level

Low awareness on

benefits of AR4D

**Development
impact at
scale**

Weak regional exchange

and collaboration outside region

Weak institutional and

coordination capacity

Too much focus

on scientific publications

**Incentive system not geared towards
development impact**

Weak human resources

Solutions for more effective AR4D



- Make an evidence-based case to increase funding
- Invest in communicating impacts
- Strengthen regional collaboration and beyond
- Redefine extension models
- Employ new technologies for scaling up
- Attract private sector funds
- Tailor-made capacity development on all levels
- Use (social) networking for scaling-up
- Organize collective action of smallholders

Partnerships



- Revitalize regional networks, such as AARINENA
- Reconnect to global AR4D community
- Really work more with grass-root organizations
- Work with opinion leaders for scaling-up and adoption
- Work more with women and their networks
- Work with national champions
- Work with policy makers, go beyond MoAgriculture
- Explore public-private partnerships
- Tap experience of new-media / ICT organizations

Role CGIAR and MPs



- Capacity platform need to be well linked to MPs
- MPs need a strong national system
- Research management experience needs to be built
- Ensure equal partnerships and ownership
- Involve national and regional centers
- MPs need to be designed flexibly
- Establish links among MPs
- Establish inter-regional learning networks

Key messages (I)



On finance:

- Scaled-up investments for AR4D at national and regional level

On collaboration:

- Strong link of WANA with Global AR4D community
- Strengthen AARINENA as regional platform
- ICARDA as a focal point for CGIAR in WANA

On capacity building:

- Regional and inter-regional learning networks are needed

Key messages (II)



On priorities and focus:

- Climate change is crucial for WANA
- Emphasis on *both* urban and rural poor
- Special attention to smallholders
- Priority on water, NRM and food security

On policy:

- Link up with policy, e.g. role of agriculture in national development

On scaling-up:

- Work with new partners
- Use new technologies

Thank you



For Discussion

**More Information on Thematic &
Cross Cutting Priorities**

Thematic priorities (I)

Food security & productivity:

1. Improve crop varieties
2. Increase productivity
3. Plant and animal diseases
4. Gene banks
5. Alternative income generation
6. Improve nutritional value
7. International trade policies
8. Food security & vulnerability mapping
9. Position WANA in global context

Natural resource management:

1. Preservation, conservation and utilization of biodiversity
2. Water management and optimization of water productivity
3. Preservation and use of soil, water, forestry and rangeland
4. Integrated management of plant-soil-water resources
5. Ecosystem services for environmental protection

Thematic priorities (II)

Livestock, rangeland, fisheries:

1. Animal health and disease control
2. Conservation of animal genetic resources
3. Land property rights
4. Enhance feed base for livestock
5. Value addition
6. Integrated crop and livestock systems
7. Range management utilization
8. Improve productivity of fisheries
9. Development of native rangeland species
10. Develop farmer / producer organizations
11. Animal nutrition
12. Improve productivity of livestock

Markets and value chain development:

1. Indicator system for agro-food businesses
2. Comparative advantage of regional products
3. Developing better post-harvest systems
4. Food safety and tracing system
5. Innovation in marketing extension services
6. Market information systems and ICT
7. Agricultural market policies
8. Adding value processes on-farm
9. Improving access to markets
10. Agro-enterprises and cooperatives
11. Relationships in supply-chain

Cross cutting priorities (I)

Research management and capacity development:

1. Align research with development needs
2. Support R&D with increased funding
3. Set-up incentive system for NARS
4. Awareness on value of AR4D and innovation
5. Farmer engagement in priority setting
6. Impact assessments of agriculture research
7. Network for regional centers of excellence
8. Improve agricultural education system

Socio-economic policy and poverty:

1. Risk and vulnerability mapping and mitigation strategies
2. Food security and trade-policies
3. Role of women in agriculture
4. Social policies and safety nets
5. Opportunities and challenges for poverty reduction
6. Local governance and institutions targeting the poor
7. Promotion of agricultural growth
8. Conflict / post conflict resolution and reconstruction

Cross cutting priorities (II)

Climate change:

1. Adaptation options and measures
2. Data management, analysis & climate modeling
3. Impact assessments of climate change
4. Climate forecasts, early warning, land use planning
5. Advocacy to policy makers and politicians
6. Use of local community-based knowledge
7. Climate change policies and sector action plans
8. Energy efficiency in agriculture and use of renewable energy
9. Risk management and increased resilience
10. Promote carbon sequestration
11. Feasibility of non-food bio-fuels
12. Collective action of farmers to access carbon credits

Dissemination, knowledge management and scaling-up:

1. National/regional networks on knowledge sharing and exchange
2. Improve availability & accessibility of information (incl. publications)
3. M&E to ensure learning and better knowledge sharing
4. Use farmers, opinion leaders, private sector, etc. in scaling-up
5. Advocacy for policy support for technology transfer and dissemination
6. Revitalize and develop new models for extension service