

The Fourth CGIAR Senior Leadership Program, Switzerland, 29 June – 4 July 2008

The Fourth CGIAR Senior Program was held with the support of Swiss Development Cooperation, SDC at IMD in Lausanne, Switzerland from 29 June - 4 July 2008. About 35 senior leaders and top managers from CGIAR including 15 NARS leaders attended the Program. From the WANA region, Dr. A. Al Bakri, President of AARINENA and Dr. M. H. Roozitalab, Advisor to AARINENA Executive Committee participated in the Program. A unique feature of the program was the opportunity it offers for dialogue between CGIAR leaders and leaders of CGIAR's partner institutions in developing countries. This peer group wrestled with the current strategic and leadership challenges of the CGIAR and partner agricultural research institutions.

The week's program included hands-on media training for all participants, coordinated by the Center for Development Communication. Also, participants had an opportunity to practice media strategy development as well as their on-camera communication skills. The Program aimed to strengthen the leadership competencies of the participants through development of:



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- strategic thinking and insight in an international organization acting in a context of complex relationships and alliances;
- capabilities in leading change and managing people, focusing on best practices in governance and leadership;
- awareness and understanding of current research and thinking on issues of interest to CGIAR, including innovation and organization design;
- Strategic approach to working with the media, including the design and delivery of a strong message.