



National Partnership

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Ministry of Agriculture and
Animal Resources



National Agricultural Export
Development Board



Workforce
Development
Authority



UNIVERSITY OF
RWANDA



Rwanda Agriculture Board



CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT
AND EMPLOYMENT
SERVICES BOARD



UNIVERSITY OF
GREENWICH
NRI | Natural Resources Institute

“Innovation needs motivation, and is an evolving process. It can be simple or complex, but whatever, all actors have to work together for innovation to be effective. Innovation has to respond to an observed challenge or opportunity and not just an interesting topic. It must be linked with agribusiness, and has to be coordinated by a ‘champion’ or local leader.”

(CDAIS country report, 2016)

“We have to work with farmers, not for farmers”

(CDAIS country report, 2016)

Global
partnership



Agrinatura is a grouping of European universities and research organizations supporting agricultural development.



The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations leads international efforts to defeat hunger.

PILOT COUNTRIES

Central America : Guatemala, Honduras

Africa : Angola, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Rwanda

Asia : Bangladesh, Laos

This flyer is intended as one of a series that will report the many and varied activities of CDAIS in each country, including, for example, policy dialogues, ‘marketplaces’, and specific outcomes.



RWANDA



Introducing innovation niche partnerships

STRENGTHENING CAPACITY FOR AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION IN RWANDA



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Matimba catchment

This 900-hectare government initiative in Nyagatare district involves 1,100 farmers, aiming to boost food production, building on stakeholder motivation and the potential high yields from fertile soils and irrigation schemes. Maize and horticulture are the main crops, with the scheme being championed by the Rwanda Agriculture Board, with other active stakeholders including the Nyagatare District Farmers Association, Water Users Association, African Improved Foods, Private farming companies, the Clinton Development Initiative, and Kenya Commercial Bank. This is a 'satellite' innovation niche partnership i.e. CDAIS will not provide direct capacity development support, but will broker support from other development partners and provide guidance on development of the niche.



In Rwanda, capacity is being developed through the following CDAIS innovation niche partnerships.



Rwangingo catchment

Under the crop intensification programme in Gatsibo district, this niche is located on approximately 925 hectares and involves around 1,545 farmers in irrigation, terracing, cropping, animal husbandry, feed and fodder production, artificial insemination, cooperative governance and innovation platform functioning. It aims to improve yields and livelihoods, building on previous partnerships and projects, by strengthening capacities to manage multistakeholder partnerships, to communicate and to engage successfully in agribusiness.



Cassava

Cassava is a major food crop grown by smallholders. This niche aim is an improved and sustainable production of disease-free cassava through developing partnerships between farmers, traders, public and private research and extension services.

Led from district level, partners include the Rwanda Agriculture Board and the Kinazi Cassava Processing Plant. This work supplements the current phase of the national strategic plan that emphasizes market-oriented and privately driven commodity development systems.



Community dairy centres

The dairy processing centre at Burera is one of several Community Processing Centres (CPCs) set up as public private partnerships in Rwanda. It serves around 25,000 cattle farmers in the Northern Province and processes milk to various products such as cheeses, yoghurt and fermented milk. The initial problems with milk supply and cash flow were overcome through the improved stakeholder communication that the CDAIS capacity needs assessment facilitated and the centre has been registered as a company (Burera Dairy Ltd).

The business is developing and the CDAIS project will provide capacity development support to improve management systems, milk yields and quality.



Nutrition and health

National food security has improved significantly in the past decade, but malnutrition remains an issue in Musanze district. It is potentially a food basket of Rwanda, but the prevalence of stunted growth in children remained at 38% in 2015. The newly established Twigire-Muhinzi farmer extension system lacks nutrition-related information, so collaboration is being established with community health advisors to tap into a new partnership opportunities through the Twigire health system, under local government supervision. This is also a satellite innovation niche partnership that CDAIS will broker support for.



CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION SYSTEMS

CDAIS enhances innovation in agriculture by improving the functional capacities of individuals, organizations and systems. It brings partners together and uses continuous learning cycles to address the challenges and opportunities in and around selected 'innovation niche partnerships' in eight pilot countries in Central America, Africa and Asia. Agricultural innovation systems have been repeatedly shown to have great potential for driving sustainable growth, poverty reduction and in helping to meet the Sustainable Development Goals