

# N2Africa: Putting Nitrogen Fixation to Work for Smallholder Farmers in Africa



## ILRI-N2Africa Annual Partners' Review and Planning Workshop

# 16-17 March 2017 ILRI Campus, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

#### Introduction to the meeting:

N2Africa is a large scale, science-based "research-in-development" project focused on putting nitrogen fixation to work for smallholder farmers growing legume crops in Africa. Its vision of success is to build sustainable, long-term partnerships to enable smallholder farmers to benefit from symbiotic N2-fixation by grain legumes through effective production technologies (including improved seeds, inoculants and fertilizers), efficient input supply chains and market linkage.

As a mode of implementation approach, ILRI-N2Africa has developed Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) with legume value chain actors to achieve the project's Visions of Success i.e. knowledge transfer, legume technology dissemination, access to input and output market. These PPPs are composed of multi-stakeholders (different public, private and development institutions) and are clustered based on the priority legume crops and geographical areas. So far the project has heavily invested on the PPPs to ensure sustainable long-term collaborations among the stakeholders and overall significant progresses have been made on delivering targets set for the different project objectives. However, the PPPs differ in the level of maturity, operational capacity and the challenges faced during implementation processes. Thus, periodic evaluations and further syntheses of the partnerships is required to maximize impact in the remaining period of the current project. In addition to the regular regional partners and the task force meetings at local levels within each partnership clusters, the **Annual National Partners Review and Planning Workshop** provides an important platform to all partners to review overall achievements, lessons, challenges and to set out clear future directions for increased performance and sustainability of impacts.

Therefore, the main objectives of the Annual Partners' Review and Planning Workshop are to critically review and understand the level of performances of the PPP clusters in terms of technology dissemination, knowledge transfer, input supply and grain market access. What did we learn? How is the feedback loops from development activities to research and back again to learn and adopt? What are the benefits of the partnerships? The barriers they faced in the implementation process? Overall, the partnerships and project achievements during 2016 will be presented and discussed culminating into the development of work plan for 2017 at each partnership cluster.

#### **Expected outputs:**

- Project progress and achievements against targets set for 2016 presented and reviewed
- The PPPs evaluated and further synthesized to maximize impact and achieve the intended results in the remaining period of the project
- Partnership experiences and lessons learnt shared among the different clusters
- Challenges and opportunities identified, discussed and new ideas for locally-tailored approaches explored
- Clear directions for exit strategies and project impact assessment agreed
- Agreed focus, and concrete plans for 2017 developed among cluster partners

#### Process to meet expected outputs:

Presentations, focused meetings and group discussions between and within each partnership clusters. Partners will come with their respective brief cluster joint PowerPoint and/or poster presentations (few lead firms and input companies will make separate poster presentation), highlights and issues to stipulate discussions (progresses with implementation of activities, synergies with stakeholders-initiatives/plans to pull together efforts; undertakings within the legume value chain, challenges and suggested solutions, future directions).

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Participants will arrive at their respective Hotels by 15 March 2017.

Day One: 16 March 2017

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Time	Activity	Presenter	Facilitator	Rapporteur			
8:30-9:00	Arrival and Registration	-	Simret	-			
9:00-9:15	Welcome remarks: Introduction to the workshop, aims, process Participant introductions	Azage  Endalkachew  Participants	Tsehay	ILRI CKM			
9:15-9:40	Update on Project Progresses in 2016	Endalkachew	Tsehay	ILRI CKM			
9:40-10:00	Overview of the Public-Private Partnership (PPPs) Clusters	Tamiru	Tsehay	ILRI CKM			
10:10-10:20	Coffee/Tea Break and Group Photos						
10:20-12:20	Poster presentation: Session 1: Progresses on Public-Private Partnership Clusters: Achievements, lessons, challenges and opportunities by key PPP pillars.	Lead partners	Tsehay	ILRI CKM			
12:20-13:00	Plenary discussion on Poster Session 1	Group leaders, co-leaders	Tsehay	ILRI CKM			
13:00-14:00	Lunch Break	Organizers					
14:00-15:15	Poster presentation: Session 2: Legume Input-Output Marketing strategies towards sustainability (MBI, Guts Agro, Tsehay Union and ACOS Ethiopia)	Representative partners	Tsehay	ILRI CKM			
15:15-15:25	Plenary discussion on Poster Session 2	Group leaders, co- leaders	Tsehay	ILRI CKM			
15:25-16:05	Highlights of N2Africa agronomic and M&E results, lessons for 2017 planning and Q&A	Birhan and Participants	Tsehay	ILRI CKM			
16:05-16:15	Preparation for the group work: Guiding presentation and key questions for reviewing the PPP clusters' performances and gaps	Endalkachew/Tamiru	Tsehay	ILRI CKM			
16:15-17:15	Group sessions (roll out coffee/tea as part of group work): Participants sub- divided into the seven clusters and make an in depth analysis of the PPPs in terms of the key pillars, suggest strategies to ensure sustainability	Group leaders, co- leaders	Tsehay	Group co- leaders			
17:15-17:20	Close of day 1	Endalkachew	Tsehay	ILRI CKM			

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8:30-9:00	Recap of day one / plans day two	Abere	Tsehay	ILRI CKM
9:00-10:25	Plenary presentation and discussion on the group work	Group leaders, co- leaders	Tsehay	ILRI CKM
10:25-10:55	Cross-cutting: Gender-Labour saving tools, possible models for service provision and Q&A	Telaye (BrazAfric), participants	Tsehay	ILRI CKM
10:55-11:10	Coffee/Tea Break	Organizers		
11:10-11:35	Rhizobiology research: Highlight of activities, lessons for 2017 and Q&A	Tulu/ Abere/ Zerihun/Participants	Tsehay	ILRI CKM
11:35-11:05	Preparations for annual planning: Guiding presentation on priority implementations for 2017 and planning template	Endalkachew/Tamiru	Tsehay	ILRI CKM
11:05-13:00	Group work: Partners sub-divided in to their respective groups (into the seven partnership clusters and one group on labour saving), synthesize previous group work and agree on priority plan for 2017	Group leaders, co- leaders	Tsehay	Co-leaders
13:00-14:00	Lunch Break	Organizers		
14:00-16:00	Work plan development: roll out coffee as part of group work	Group leaders, co- leaders	Tsehay	Co-leaders
16:00-17:25	Plenary presentations and discussions on work plans for 2017	Group leaders, co- leaders and participants	Tsehay	ILRI CKM
17:25-17:30	Wrap up/closing and cocktail	ТВА	Tsehay	ILRI CKM