



Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa

# **The African Agricultural Science Agenda: Why is it needed and how we can work together to deliver**

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**GCARD pre-event on Dublin  
Process 28<sup>th</sup> October 2012**

# Outline

## 1. Why do we need an African Agricultural Science Agenda?

- Context of agricultural science in Africa
- Role to be served by the Science Agenda

## 2. Essential components of the Science Agenda

## 3. Actions to deliver on the Science Agenda

# Context of African Agric. Science ...1/5

## 1. Increased recognition of role of science in improving Ag. Productivity → (↑food security & poverty reduction) + Resilience

- CAADP 2003; IAC report 2004; Commission for Africa 2005; WDR 2008, L'Aquila 2009
- AU summit resolutions (July 2006 and July 2009), etc

## 2. Low adoption of technology

Region	Estimated number of varieties released, 1965-98	% area under modern varieties, 1998
Sub Saharan Africa	1,157	23%
Latin America	3,146	51%
Asia	2,229	83%
MENA	715	56%
All Regions	7,246	65%

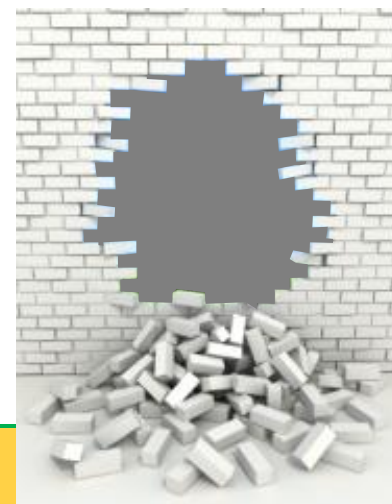


# Context of African Agric. Science ...2/5

## 3. An institutional structure covering all levels (*regional, sub regional, national*) & components (*research, extension, education, end users*)

Regional	Sub regional	National
<b>AUC, NPCA, FARA, AFAAS, TEAM-Africa, PAFFO, PanAAC</b>	<b>RECs, SROs, Ruforum, Subregional FOs</b>	<b>MoA, NARIs, NFAAS, Higher Education, NFOs, etc</b>
CGIAR		

## 4. Efforts underway to minimize fragmentation among the components



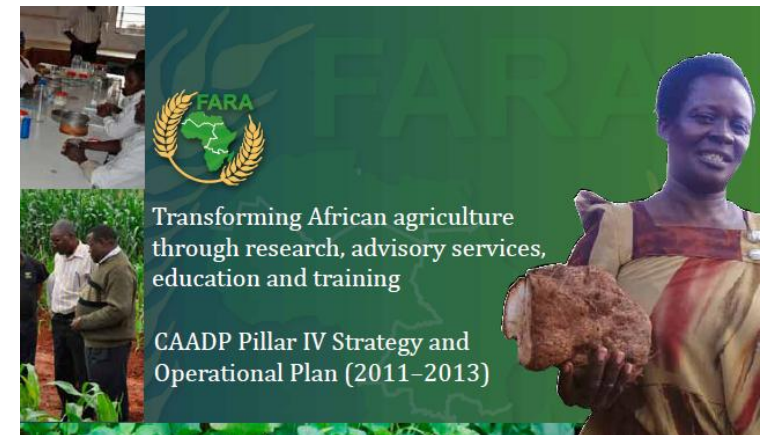
# Context of African Agric. Science ...3/5

## 5. Key planning frameworks in place

- Principles for guiding formulation of productivity programmes (FAAP)
- Strategy for supporting countries & RECs to develop productivity investment plans & programmes



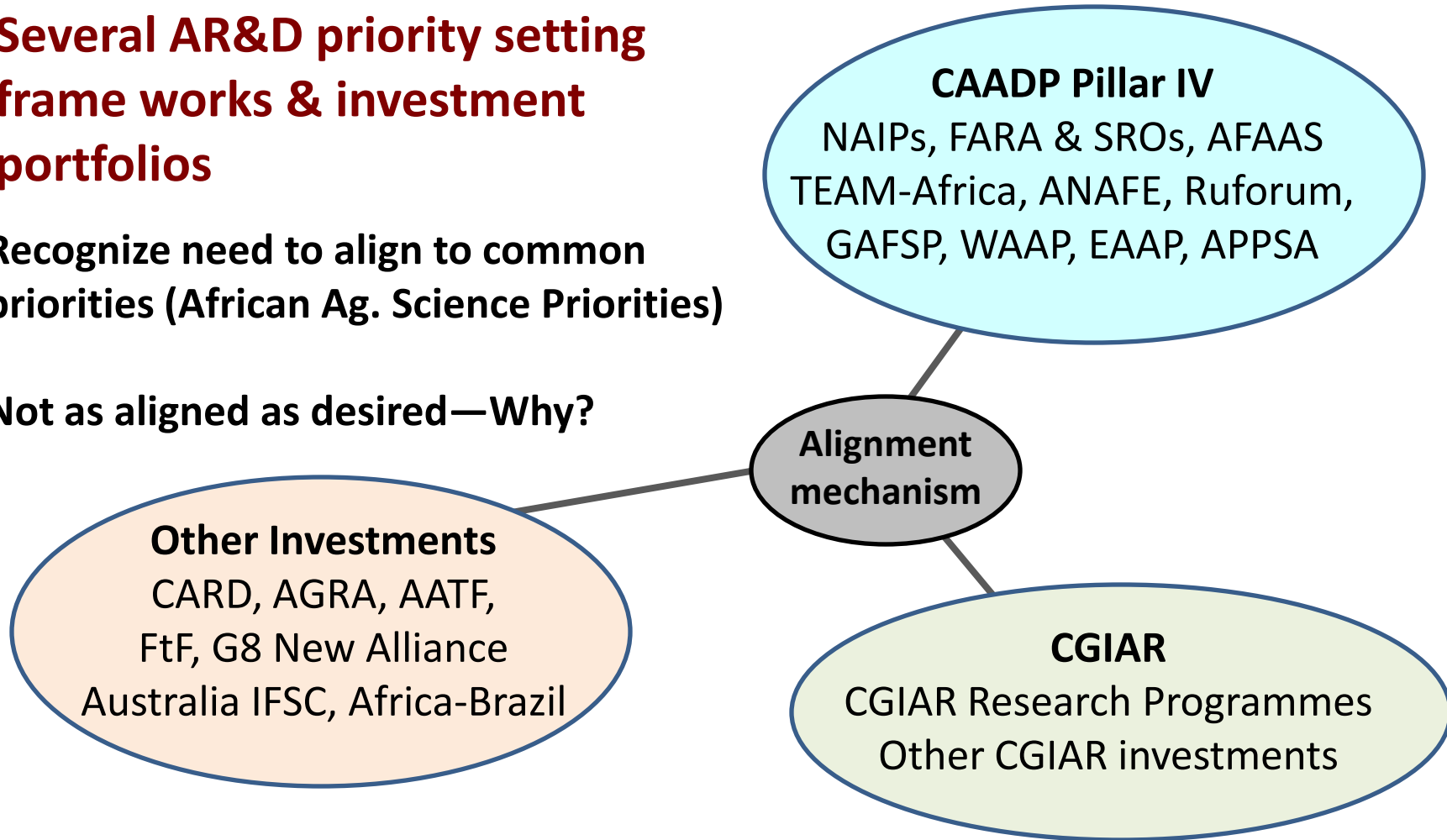
But a key framework is lacking  
For guiding countries & RECs on  
Science content of productivity  
programmes – priority setting



# Context of African Agric. Science ...4/5

## 6. Several AR&D priority setting frame works & investment portfolios

- Recognize need to align to common priorities (African Ag. Science Priorities)
- Not as aligned as desired—Why?



# Context of African Agric. Science ...5/5

## 7. Capacity constraints

- Major impediment to successful formulation and implementation of plans / programmes
- Scale of challenge not sufficiently appreciated

## 8. Planning approach:

- Short horizon;
- based on limited scenarios;
- problem-solving focus





# Rationale for a science agenda

- **Context of fragmentation & capacity constraints → inefficiency & gaps → unrealized targets**
- **Opportunity (stage of CAADP evolution + CGIAR reform + new investments)**
- **Instrument for alignment:**
  - **Mutually agreed priorities (the science agenda)**
  - **Institutional mechanism to support alignment around these priorities**

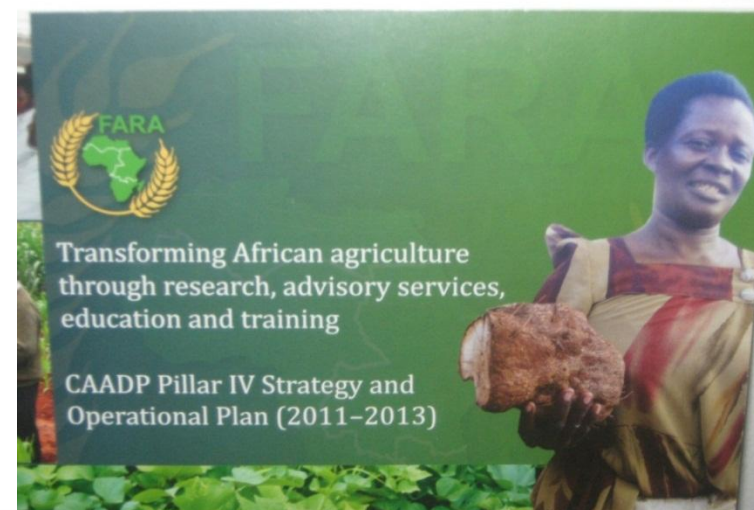
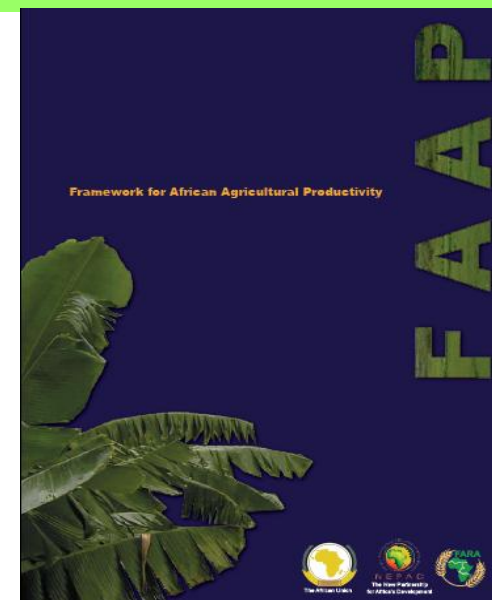


# What will the Science Agenda do

- Identifies & prioritizes needed AR&D interventions for defined spatial domains and/or commodities
- Minimizes duplication and enhances synergy among the various actors → enhances efficiency
- Advocacy tool for African S&T in CAADP (CAADP-CGIAR alignment)

# What will the Science Agenda do

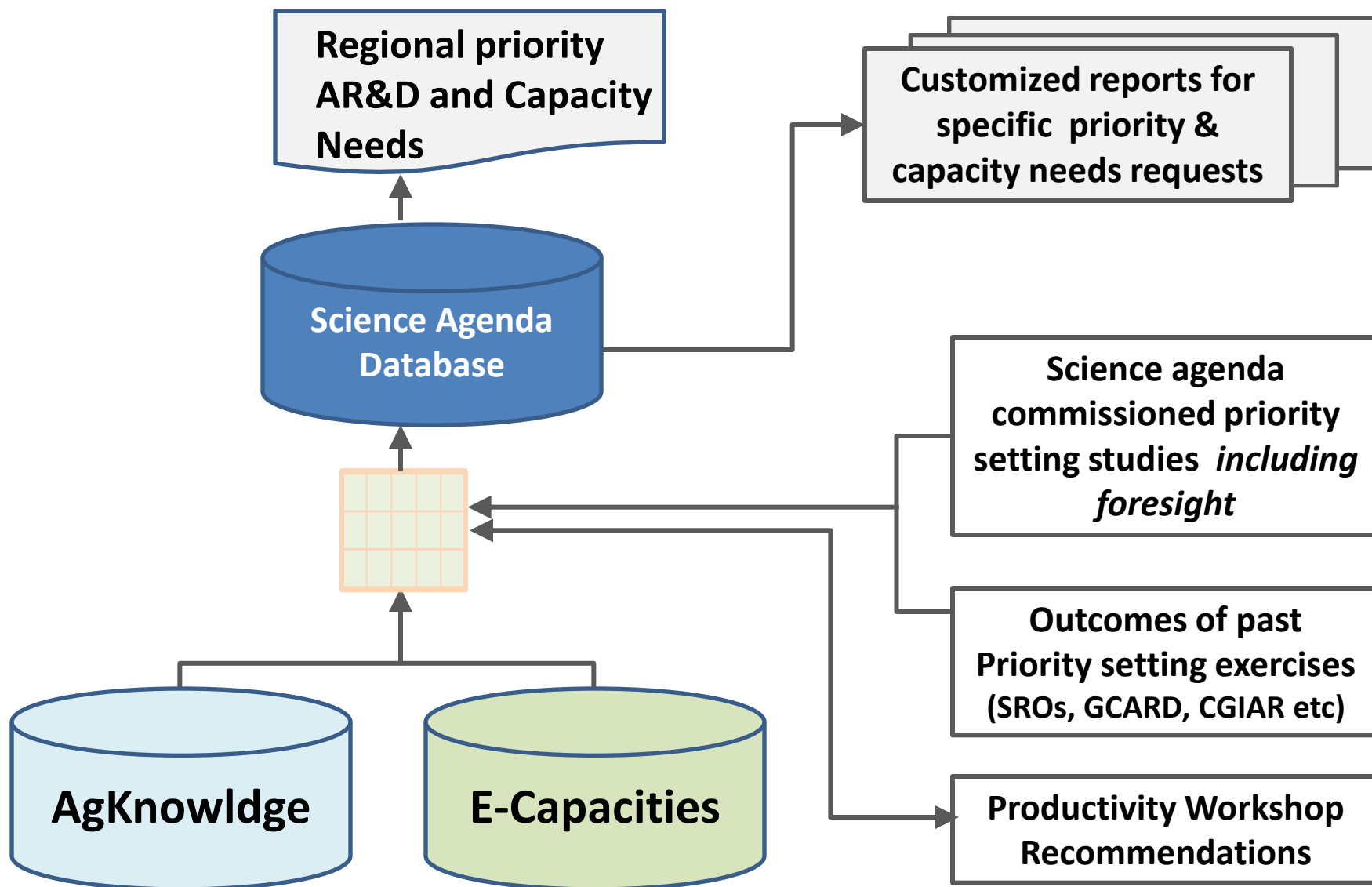
- **Helps to assure that investments are targeted to delivering greater collective impact (*productivity & resilience*)**
- **Complement the FAAP and Pillar IV Strategy and OP to support CAADP**



# Desired features of the science agenda

- **Is Dynamic / readily updated**
- **Is scalable (can provide perspectives of many scales from regional to sub national)**
- **Can identify priority AR&D needs and capacity constraints**
- **Has buy-in and ownership of its intended users**

# Science Agenda Essential elements



# Post Dublin II actions to deliver on the Science Agenda

1. **Formalize role and composition of Steering Committee**
2. **Sign MoU (AUC and CGIAR) and establish Joint Action Group (JAG) on Science Agenda**
3. **Develop foresight plan as input to Science Agenda (African and European partners)**
4. **Feed inputs from Mapping exercise and Productivity WS into Science Agenda**
5. **Technical workshop to further develop and validate methodology**
6. **Drafting of Science Agenda by Technical Team**

# Challenges & Expectations

## Challenges

- Getting suitable Expert Group co-Chairs
- Funding
- Time line
- Getting the three work streams to work in an integrated fashion

# Composition of Science Agenda Expert Group

1. **Kanayo Nwanze (Chair)**
2. **Geoffrey Mrema (Co - Chair)**
3. Idah Sithole (AWARD, AATF)
4. Agnes Mwangombe (CGIAR Consortium Board)
5. Yusuf Abubakar (ARC, Nigeria)
6. Josue Dione (UNECA)
7. Lance O'Brien (TEAGASC, Ireland)
8. Stan Wood (IFPRI and Mapping Workstream)
9. Juliana Rwelamira (SG 2000)
10. August Temu (ANAFE)
11. Francisco Reifschneider (EMBRAPA)
12. Nteranya Sanginga (IITA)
13. Philip Kiriro (EAFF/PAFFO)
14. Brian Mwanamambo (Frontier Associates, Zm)
15. **Rudy Rabbinge, (UWR)**
16. **Mandivamba Rukuni**
17. **Howard Elliot**





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# Thank you for the attention

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