

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

> United Nations Decade of

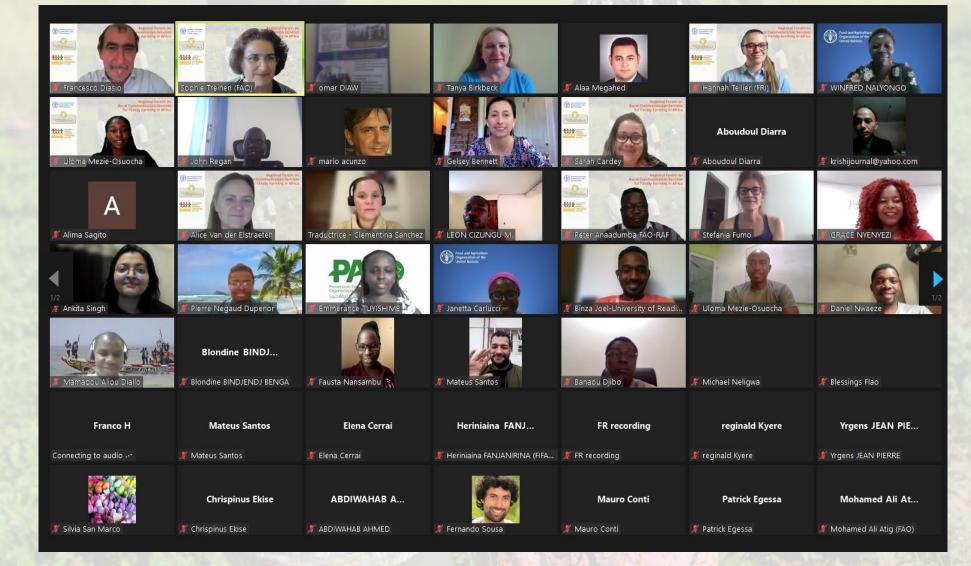
FARMING

FAMILY

2019-2028

Facilitating Dialogue

Regional Forum on Rural Communication Services for Family Farming in Africa





« Our talk » in Akan of Ghana« Notre parole »



Partnership in communication for rural development between family farmer organizations community media communication entities and institutions

World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (AMARC);

Digital Green

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

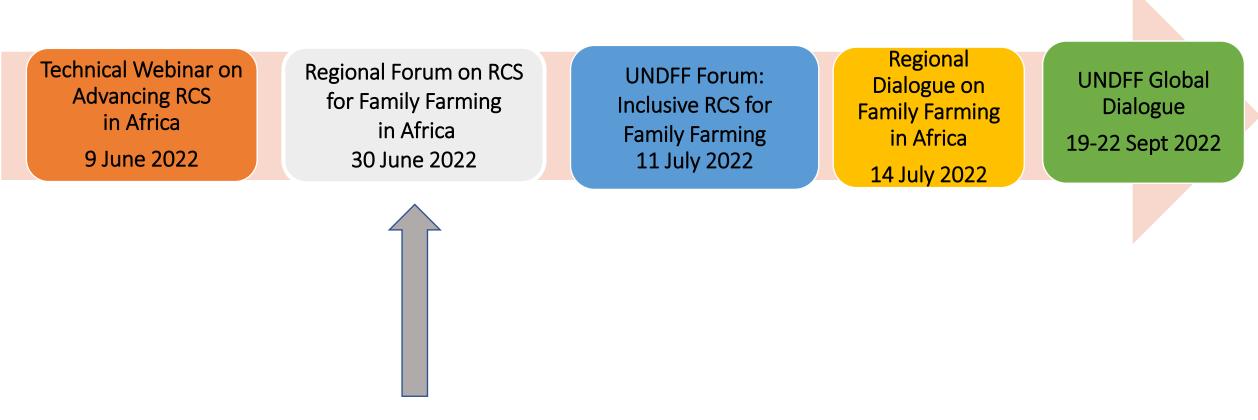
Farm Radio International (FRI)

La Via Campesina (LVC)

Pan African Farmers Organization (PAFO)

Réseau des Organisations Paysannes de Producteurs de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (ROPPA) Plateforme Régionale des Organisations Paysannes d'Afrique Centrale (PROPAC) World Association Christian Communication (WACC)

Rural Communication Services and UNDFF









Objectives of the regional forum

- Share the findings and lessons learned of the regional study on RCS
- Make recommendations for promoting mechanisms for policy dialogue, knowledge sharing and collaboration on RCS
- Promote the Rural Communication Services agenda as part of the African region's UNDFF process
- Define activities to support RCS as part of family farming national action plans





Process

- Opening
- Session 1 : Rural communication services trends and experiences
- Session 2 : Recommendations for advancing rural communication services for family farming
- Way forward
- Closing



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Regional Forum on Rural Communication Services for Family Farming in Africa

Session 1 Rural communication services trends and experiences



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Regional Forum on Rural Communication Services for Family Farming in Africa

Trends in policies and appropriation of RCS by family farmers in Africa Dr. Sarah Cardey, University of Reading - UK

Trends

Initially top-down, driven primarily by governments

Move towards more inclusive and farmer-centric approaches

From nationally controlled to local – multiple rural service providers

Expansion of telecommunications in rural areas

Expansion of national telecommunication infrastructure

Expansion of individual ICT capacities

Gender inequalities in access and control of communication

Social and geographic inequalities in access, control and use of communication

Disparity between rural and urban areas (digital rural divide)

Media diversity in types of media channels and uses of media

Communication processes are as important as communication technologies and outputs



Main elements & conditions for inclusive RCS

Awareness raising and information

- Right content at the right time
- Adapted to context

Knowledge sharing and training

- Empowerment
- Developing communication capacities including ICTs
- Appropriate channels

Advocacy towards policy makers

- Policies
- People centred

Networking, partnerships and social mobilization

- Inclusiveness
- Equitable access to information and communication

Priorities How to promote and implement inclusive RCS?

Awareness raising and Information

- Access
- Literacy
- Timing (right information at the right time)

Knowledge sharing and training

- Adaptation
- Innovation
- Inclusiveness
- Capitalization

Networking, partnership and social mobilization

- Participation
- Equity

Advocacy towards policy makers

- Accessibility
- Infrastructure
- Policies
- Sustainability
- Affordability



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Regional Forum on Rural Communication Services for Family Farming in Africa

Lessons learned from selected case studies

- Ethiopia: Temesgen Gebeyehu, Agricultural Transformation Agency (ATA)
 Ghana: Gordon Nikoi, Esoko
- Tanzania: Michael Neligwa, La Via Campesina at MVIWATA FM radio
- Africa: Hannah Tellier, Farm Radio International
- Global Farmers Field Schools: Winfred Nalyongo, FAO

Please put your questions in the chat Veuillez poser vos questions dans la chat







8028 Farmers Hotline is digital advisory service

DAs

Smallholder farmers

Direct advice; FTC demos

used for improving access to information of smallholder farmers across Ethiopia since February 2014

	Training/information on extension package	Helpdesk	Awareness via alerts
Key issues	Farmers do not receive up- to-date information and knowledge in a timely manner	Lack of enough physical support to smallholder farmers by DAs	Early warning (EW)) information takes long time to reach the beneficiaries
Solutions through 8028	Developed an automated hotline platform to deliver extension information directly to farmers through cell phones	Launched a Helpdesk system that enables farmers & DAs to ask questions and report issues to experts	IVR/SMS based early warning alerts can be sent to SMFs to war or inform them about unexpected circumstances, crop disease, weather information, etc within minutes
Information flow th EIAR / RARI Zor Wor	Annual	Information flow through ICT solu EIAR / RARI ICT platform Immediate	Targeted info for farmer based on crop, location, method, prior experience

DAs

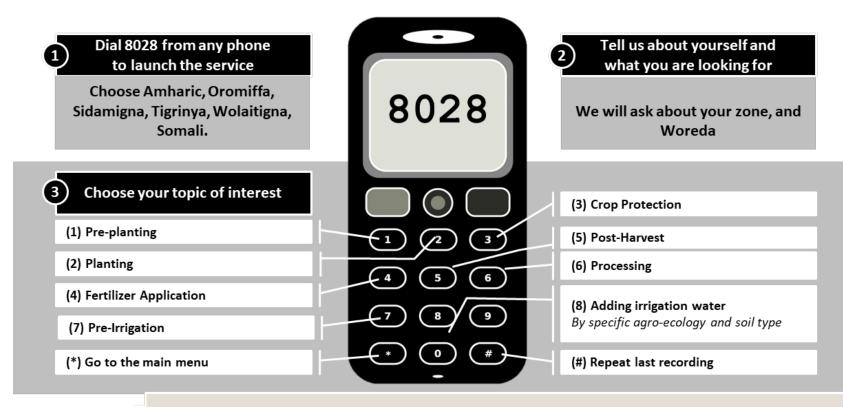
Zonal and

Woreda SMS

Smallholder farmers



8028 Farmer's Hotline contents can be accessed via any phone in 6 local languages across the country with Ethio-Telecom network



4

The system will provide tailored information from national agronomic experts on

Cereal Crops	High-value horticulture crops	Livestock
 Maize Bread Wheat Sorghum Rice Sesame 	 (1) Potato (2) Onion (3) Tomato (4) Carrot (5) pepper 	 Fattening Dairy Small Scale Poultry Household Poultry Apiculture



Lessons learned

- VR = good extension tool for improvement of farmers knowledge about new agricultural practices
- IVR improves participation of females comparing to other channels such as Video.
- public-private partnership required
- Making content participatory
- Awareness creation must be a continuous exercise

Outlook

The Project's N

Simplified Access

- Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning Engine
- Development of Voice Recognition Engine
- Implementing menu rotation feature

Localized Content

- Develop and integrate meteorology components to the existing IVR/SMS system to support IVR PULL application
- Integrate the geospatial tool to localize and contextualize the content

Additional Channels

- Web Portal
- Mobile application which can be accessed on and offline and pull and push disease related information



Ghana - Esoko







Our solutions enable organizations to profile, engage and service unconnected communities...



Send information through various mobile channels

Deploy enumerators to the field Worldwide impact over the decades... Over 1.2 million farmers across Africa reached with digital agric services - resulting in 10% increase in farmer incomes in Ghana.

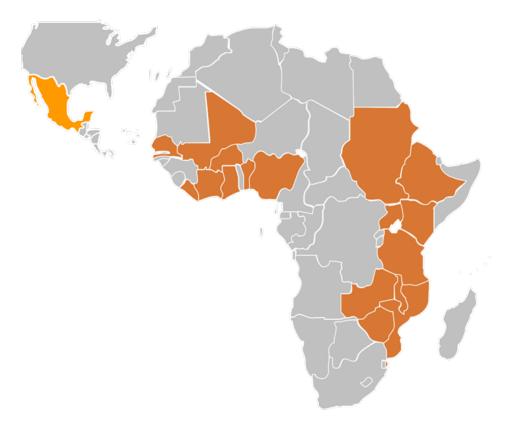
Over 6 million individuals in underserved communities registered onto intervention and social protection programs.

Agric organizations who work with us...

Technology and services deployed in 18+ countries, across 150 agriculture and rural development projects.



Geographical footprints:



Ghana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia, Sudan Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Benin, Liberia, Senegal, Gambia, Malawi Mozambique, Mali, Ivory coast, Mexico.







MVIWATA FM Radio 106.7 MHz Tanzania What for?

- Amplifying voices from the grassroots in numerous aspects of peasants struggles
- Disseminating information to rural communities that are rarely covered by mainstream media
- Facilitating dialogues between intellectuals and rural communities through numerous radio programmes.





So what? = Result or impact

- Farmers' agendas are increasingly becoming at the center of discussion at different decision making levels.
- Agricultural budget increased in
 Mvomero district, thanks to the role of
 MVIWATA FM radio programmes.





Then what? = lessons learned, tips to share

- The defender of the peasants are the peasants themselves.
- Communication should be people's centered and it begins at the grassroots.
- To have impactful interventions, support should be directed more to community radios and producer organizations.





Farm Radio International – On-Air Dialogue What? = why and how Quoi? = comment et pourquoi

- Goal: Get the voices of rural people into the UN FSS 2021
 How: A short series of radio programmes on climate change, prompting listeners to share their own ideas, knowledge, needs, and experiences using an Interactive Voice Response System (close-ended using the keypad, open-ended using recordings)
 - **Why:** Rural people know best the issues facing them and the solutions they want / need, must play an essential role in informing policy, programmes, projects



So what? = Result or impact Et alors? = Résultat et impact

Result

We heard from 3,494 people in four countries. They provided 11,854 total response, of which 2,648 were recordings. Data analyzed, report created and submitted to UNFSS A website now features the real voices of respondents.

Impact

Through radio, it is possible to consult rural people **directly**;

run participatory processes to inform climate solutions



Then what? = lessons learned, tips to share Et après = enseignements et conseils

Gender

Better to have women-only phone lines Training to use keypads (literacy skills can be an issue) Women doing the voice recordings for women Promotion within women's groups / listening groups.

Language:

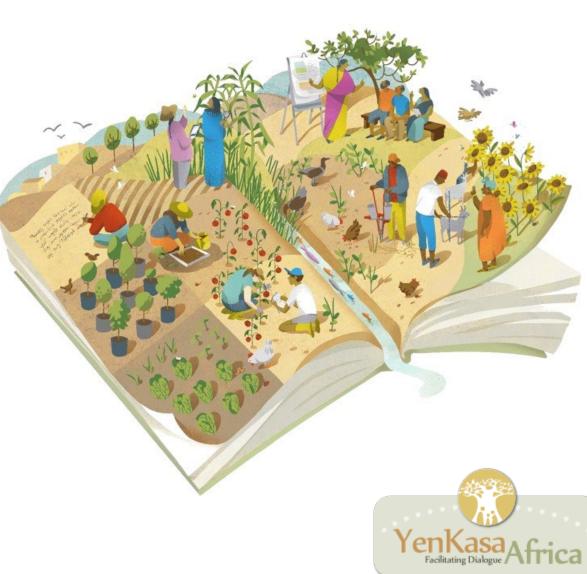
Information MUST be in the language of the user At minimum, translate your materials into 1-2 local languages outside of English/French Familiarize audiences with outside terms, concepts



Farmer Field Schools and ICTs

Winfred NALYONGO The Global FFS Platform





Farmer Field Schools and ICTs - What for ?

FFS – participatory learning processes- research thru experimentation validation to understand the HOW and WHY of a given phenomenon



FFS Objectives:

- Empower with knowledge, skills
- Make farmers experts in their fields
- Informed decisions, in a timely manner



To address challenges - more intense widespread, frequent

- Disease/pest infestations
- Environmental deterioration
- Soils and water
- PLUS need for other services market information, ...



The need for ICTs

- Adapt to context
- Innovate
- New techniques/ technologies
- New knowledge /information



E-tips Manual

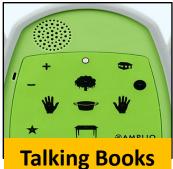
Empower the facilitators and farmers to embrace ICTs



Support them operate within their means



Dimitra listeners' clubs



When Some connectivity but no access (gender, incomes)

> When connectivity and access

Bring ICTs to the farmer



Access Agriculture farmer to farmer videos

Give knowledge/information Sensitize, train, recommend, support ... Show them how to download/use apps to connect, to diagnose field problems, find services/ information, learn ...



Therefore: work "outside of the box"

- Demystify ICTs ICT space is wide enough to accommodate all levels basic radio/phone to high tech drones
- **Be creative** make ICTs usable by the rural population
- Support them to evaluate their situation and to decide what can work in their setting

ICTs should not be regarded as rocket science that requires high tech and high literacy levels; I acknowledge these are relevant, but farmers should **"cut their coat according to the cloth."**

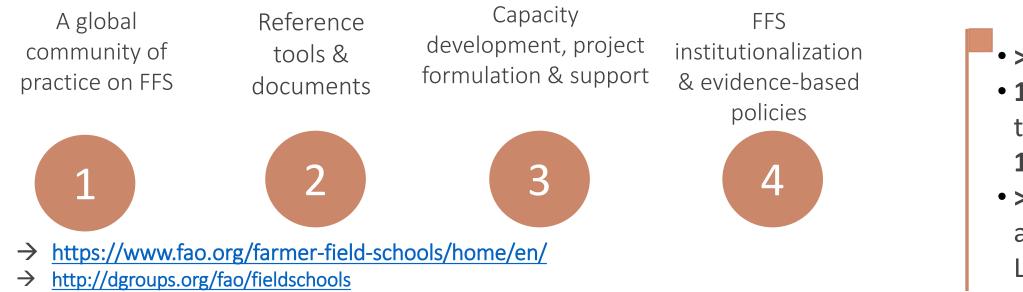
... find their level in the ICT space, fit in, learn and grow with time ...





The Global Farmer Field School Platform Sharing tools & knowledge globally

Facilitate the implementation of quality FFS: how?



- > 300 experts
 1600 members in the D-Group from 135 countries
 > 520 documents
 - available in the Library



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Regional Forum on Rural Communication Services for Family Farming in Africa

Lessons learned from case studies

Lessons Learned from case studies

Information

Right information at right time Content adapted to context Diverse info sources Co-creation & participation Voice messages and SMS Technology & infrastructure Communications infrastructure Digital infrastructure Communication devices Knowledge sharing & training Peer-to-peer learning Adapting experiences Local knowledge

Continuous awareness raising Family farmers Policy makers Media

Capacity development Peer-to-peer learning Digital skills E-learning

Participatory methodology for building networks and partnerships for social mobilization





RURAL COMMUNICATION SERVICES A FRAMEWORK

by Mario Acunzo, Team Leader, FAO Communication for Development Team



Forum on Advancing Rural Communication Service in Africa



COMMUNICATION: AN ASSET IN FAMILY FARMING



 Communication is a driver of the rural transformation -Global Action Plan of the UN Decade of Family Farming (UNDFF 2019-28) recognizes the need to give voice to family farmers, to enhance their communication capacities and to institutionalize rural communication services

- Rural Communication Services" (RCS) facilitate informed decisions and collective action
- RCS focus on delivering relevant content, suitable communication processes, media and ICTs applications



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RCS FRAMEWORK

	GUIDING PRINCIPLES	 Right to information – Demand driven Gender equitable – Fostering social inclusion – Local context driven 	
Rural Communication	APPROACHES	 ComDev - Participation – Appropriation – Critical self-reflection, by all at all stages 	
Services Framework	STRATEGY	 Pluralistic use of communication processes, media, ICTs – Deliberate, planned actions – Flexibly designed 	
	FACILITATION	 Access to information – Exchange/ dialogue/negotiation – Inter-stakeholder linkages – Networking 	
	GOAL	 Enhanced capacity for informed decision making and collective action by rural people 	
	INSTITUTIONALISATION: Laws, policies, organisational structures, norms, responsibilities, activities, power relations – Coordination for effective resource use – Capacity for inclusive service provision		



Advancing Rural Communication Service in Africa

United Nations Decade of

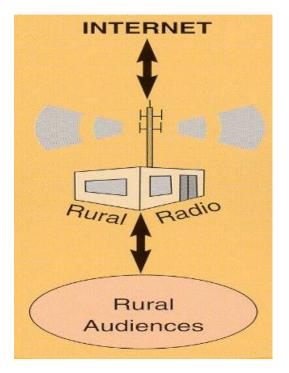
2019-2028

FAO - PARTNERSHIPS AND UN COLLABORATION DIVISION - PSU

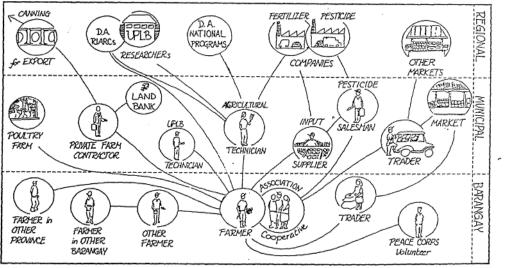


RCS: KEY FEATURES

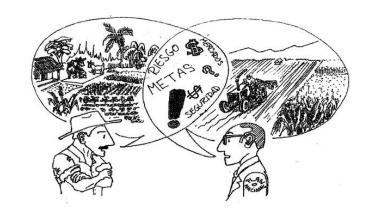
Convergence and appropriation of media and technologies



Starting with people's needs to enhance local communication processes and capacities Fostering dialogue, mediation and knowledge sharing



Linkage map prepared with the farmers of barangay Mamala, Region IV, the Philippines





Forum on Advancing Rural Communication Service in Africa







UNDFF process requires **communication support** at different levels:

- awareness raising
- communication strategies and capacities;
- institutionalization of inclusive rural communications service

RCS to promote inclusive communication services by **mapping and scaling up** existing initiatives and strengthening linkages between rural institutions, Farmers' organizations and rural communities.

Yenkasa Africa = space for knowledge sharing advocacy and collaboration











Regional Forum on Rural Communication Services for Family Farming in Africa

Main Conclusions

Francesco Diasio

Priorities to advance RCS for Family Farming in the Africa

PROCESS

Fostering the development of inclusive and sustainable Rural Communication Services Support to NAPs and family farmers' organizations' through communication and RCS Support to the institutionalization of Rural Communication Services



1. Fostering the development of inclusive and sustainable Rural Communication Services

Collection of evidence, needs and priorities

 Mapping the existing Rural Communication Services at the regional level through the collection of primary and secondary data already available

Advocacy towards policy makers

RCS participatory design

- To support farmers reaching their own capacity and owning the process to advocate for an enabling farmers-centered policy
- Support the promotion of an enabling legal framework for communication infrastructures in rural areas to guarantee accessible and sustainable rural communication services
- Support the design phase of rural communication services, fostering among stakeholders a clear and shared concept of rural communication services to increase outreach in communities in their local languages.

2. Support to NAPs and family farmers' organizations' through communication and RCS

Awareness raising and Information

• Promote regular awareness raising campaigns through appropriate channels (i.e. radio and social networks) for stakeholder's engagement in NAPs and collective action for family farming

Knowledge sharing and training

Adapt knowledge sharing in farming practices through communication approaches, social innovation and digital literacy, focusing on women, youth and vulnerable communities.

Promotion of Community of Practices for bottom up and horizontal knowledge sharing

ComDev strategies

• Support to the implementation of the National Action Plans for family farming, through ComDev strategies, mainstreaming Rural Communication Services in selected countries



3. Support to the institutionalization of Rural Communication Services

Evidence of impact

 Capitalize knowledge to promote the institutionalization of rural communication services for family farming by documenting experiences, lessons learned and advocating for their upscaling

Policy dialogue

Mainstreaming Rural Communication Services as part of Family Farming policies and National Action Plans









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Let's have a break with some videos

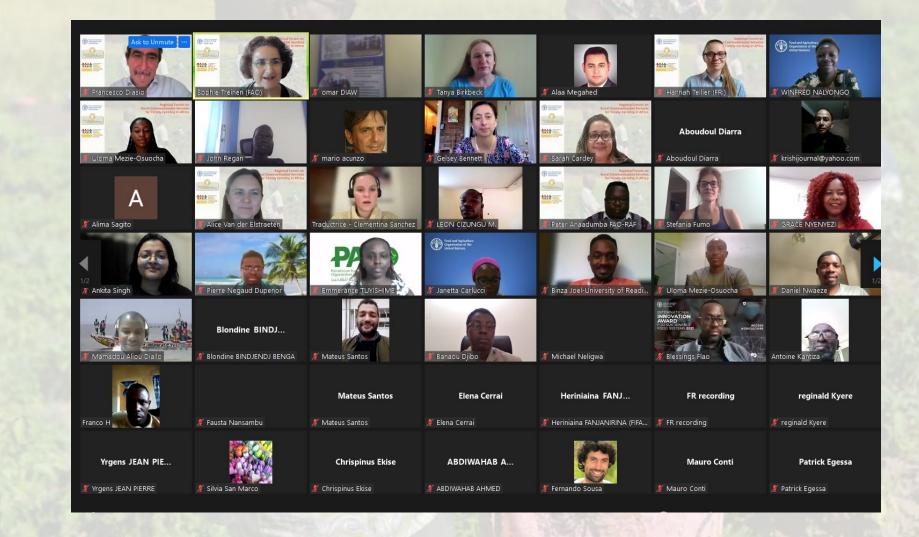
Pause vidéos

<u>https://youtu.be/wdtlQcvvrCA</u> - English <u>https://youtu.be/8pnEWti98-4</u> - French



trica

Regional Forum on Rural Communication Services for Family Farming in Africa





Facilitating Dialogue







Regional Forum on Rural Communication Services for Family Farming in Africa

Session 2 Recommendations for advancing rural communication services for family farming







Regional Forum on Rural Communication Services for Family Farming in Africa

Panel discussion

Panelists







Temesgen Gebeyehu

Program Director Digital Agriculture at Ethiopian Agricultural Transformation Agency (ATA) Alice Van der Elstraeten Knowledge Management and M&E Analyst IFAD **Peter Anaadumba** South-South Cooperation Officer FAO Regional Office for Africa

Omar Diaw

Président l'Association des communicateurs en pêche des radios communautaires et généralistes (ACPRCG)







Regional Forum on Rural Communication Services for Family Farming in Africa

Question 1 - Panelists

How to mainstream Rural Communication Services for Family Farmers in National policies?

How to mainstream Rural Communication Services for Family Farmers in National policies?



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Question 1 - Participants

What are your needs in terms of support to Family Farming polices and UNDFF in relation to Rural Communication Services?

Quels sont vos besoins en termes de soutien aux politiques en faveur de l'agriculture familiale et au DNUAF en ce qui concerne les services de communication rurale ?

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Rural Communication Services

for Family Farming in Africa



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Question 2 - Panelists

What are your needs in terms of support to Family Farming polices and UNDFF with RCS?

Quels sont vos besoins en termes de soutien aux politiques de l'agriculture familiale et de la DNUAF par apport au services de communication rurale?

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Rural Communication Services

for Family Farming in Africa



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Question 2 - Participants

What are your main / priority needs in participatory communication?

Quels sont vos besoins principaux / prioritaires en matière de communication participative ?







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Way forward - Roadmap Feuille de route







Recommendations for global forum on Rural Communication Services 11 July 2022 – 12.00 – 15.00 CAT

- Priorities

- Needs and opportunities
- Roadmap

Regional Forum on Rural Communication Services for Family Farming in Africa

Participation Communication Plan of YenKasa

Cross-cutting : YenKasa coordination (Steering Committee and working groups on Editorial, capacity dev and RCS) + Collaboration with partners (PAFO MoU, ...), update the contact lists, statistics for monitoring of activities

Awareness Raising

- Awareness Campaign
 - Radio initiative (AMARC)
 - \circ UNDFF factsheet
 - Social media cards
 - NAP progress (Parliamentarian documenting progress in Africa)
- YenKasa Website
 - Update multimedia material
- YenKasa Facebook
- YneKasa Dgroup
- ComDev Twitter

Enhancing Communication Capacities

- Training workshops on participatory video
 - o Training material
 - \circ Guidelines
- Community of practice on participatory videos + RCS
- Audiovideo and ICTs
- Experience capitalization

Rural Communication Services

- Events :
 - o Webinar
 - o Regional dialogue
 - RCS forum
 - \circ Global forum
- Policy brief and survey
- Mapping community media,
 - ICT applications, policies and programmes on Family Farm
- Capitalized case studies
- Technical support for Communication for development strategies



YenKasa Facilitating Dialogue



Regional Forum on Rural Communication Services for Family Farming in Africa

Question 3 - Participants

How do you wish to collaborate to advance RCS?

Comment souhaiteriez-vous collaborer pour faire avancer les services de communication rurale?



YenKasaAfrica



Next steps

Regional Forum on RCS for Family Farming in Africa 30 June 2022 UNDFF Forum: Inclusive RCS for Family Farming 11 July 2022 Regional Dialogue on Family Farming in Africa 14 July 2022

UNDFF Global Dialogue 19-22 Sept 2022

Regional Forum on

Rural Communication Services

for Family Farming in Africa

Knowledge Sharing Platforms





ComDev@fao.org



https://yenkasa.org/contact/



https://yenkasa.org/



<u>YenKasa Africa - Facilitating Dialogue</u> https://www.facebook.com/groups/2293828083988941



@FAOComDev
#ComDev #C4D
#FamilyFarming
#UNDFFF

Knowledge Sharing Platforms





Working Groups

- Communication awarenesss raising
- Capacity development
- Rural communication services

Discussion Groups

• Dgroup







Regional Forum on Rural Communication Services for Family Farming in Africa

Thanks to all of you for attending supporting us in the preparation sharing your knowledge and expertise evaluating this forum

Merci à toutes et tous pour votre participation votre soutien à la preparation le partage de vos connaisance et votre experise l'évaluation de ce fourm



YenKasaAfrica

United Nations Decade of FAMILY FARMING 2019-2028

Regional Forum on Rural Communication Services for Family Farming in Africa

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