



Regional Agricultural Information & Learning System (RAILS):

Background and Updates about Kenya Portal

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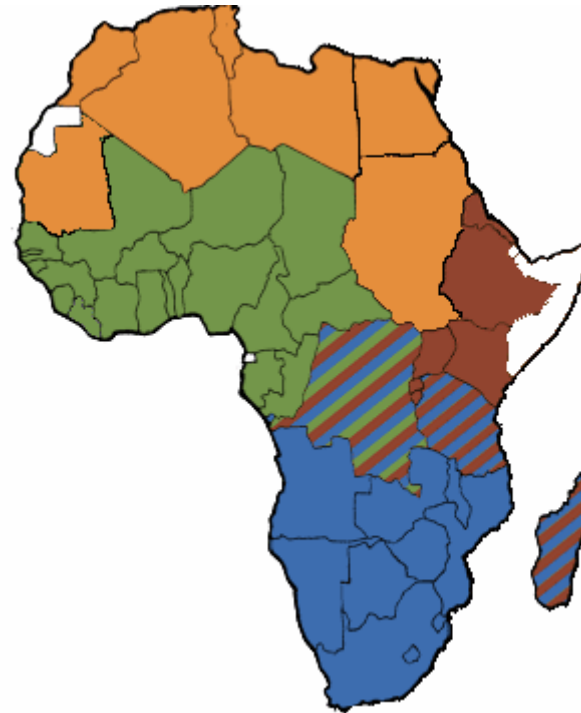


Background of RAILS

- RAILS = Regional Agricultural Information & Learning System (RAILS)
 - is a new platform initiated by FARA (Agricultural Research in Africa)
 - Purpose = facilitation, capturing, storing and sharing of agricultural information for advancement.
 - Partners = research institutions, universities, relevant government ministries and other agricultural stakeholders
 - The activities coordinated through collaboration with **regional bodies**, of which ASARECA is responsible for Eastern and Central Africa



Africa Regional bodies



- ASARECA
- CORAF/WECARD
- SADC/FANR
- NORTH AFRICAN REGION

Objectives

- To undertake **advocacy** to encourage increased **investment** in agricultural information systems (AIS) by African governments and institutions;
- To **improve access to information** and the ability of African stakeholders to contribute to global agricultural knowledge;
- To **facilitate synergies** by linking African information conduits to global providers of agricultural information; and
- To **develop an African platform** for agricultural information and learning systems.

RAILS Kenya Portal

- KAINet (KARI) chosen by ASARECA to Coordinate Kenya RAILS Portal
- National focal person identified and sensitized
- National administrator of Kenyan portal identified

Equipment Received

- Supplied for **RAILS/DONATA**
 - Servers = 2
 - Computers = 4
 - Printers-Scanners = 2
 - UPS = 2

Activities

1. Establishment of National Learning Teams
(Responsibilities!!)
2. Provision of infrastructure
3. Assisting development of Agricultural Information systems
4. Facilitating Internship at the FARA secretariat
5. Facilitating RAILS groups

OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

- Create awareness among stakeholders about RAILS and introduce the Africawide Agricultural Information System being established under RAILS
- Establish the **national learning team** to support the development of the national AIS gateway
- Agree on the **roles, terms of reference (TORs) and outputs** of the National learning team
- Select members of the core national learning team and **agree on its responsibilities**
- Identify **activities** to be carried out by the learning team.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS

- National **awareness** about RAILS created
- Awareness among stakeholders about the Africa-wide being established under RAILS presented and **comments from participants collected**;
- The national learning team to support the development of the national **Awareness gateway** established
- The **roles, TORs and outputs** of the national learning team **agreed upon**
- Members of the **core national learning team selected** and their responsibilities agreed upon
- **Activities** to be carried out by the national learning team **identified**