



CIARD 

A New Way Forward

**Coherence in Information for
Agricultural Research for
Development**

Historical perspectives in agricultural information access

Previous/current initiatives:

- National initiatives e.g. AGROS
- AGRIS / GFIS Networks
- AgroWEB Network
- ESCORENA Networks
- GFAR - ICM4ARD
- CGIAR - ICTKM
- WISARD
- etc

A new partnership for truly accessible information

CIARD - new global movement
formed in 2008 building on
consultations in 2005 and 2007
to provide a platform for coherence
between information-related initiatives



The Community



CIARD

Founding Partners



and growing.....



Advocacy Task Force

Capacity Building Task Force

Content Management Task Force

CIARD launched on August 26th at the World Conference on
Agricultural Information and IT in Tokyo.
[Read more >>](#)



What is CIARD?

The Coherence in Information for Agricultural Research for Development (CIARD) initiative is working to make agricultural research information publicly available and accessible to all. This means working with organisations that hold information or that create new knowledge – to help them disseminate it more efficiently and make it easier to access.

Thinking globally, but acting locally

Importantly, CIARD emphasises the need to respect the roles of national, regional and international institutions. Our aim is to help them to align their efforts to develop better connected information collections and services. Aligning local efforts in different countries in this way means that they'll have a global impact, changing the way that knowledge changes hands and gets used worldwide.

What you can do

We encourage any institution interested in joining the partnership or finding out more to contact us: information@ciard.net.



News from CIARD

Capacity Building in CIARD

Fri, 10 Jul 2009 19:21:00 +0200
In association with the IMARK
Steering Group held at CTA
headquarters on June 18-19 2009,
a short...

no records found.

Contact us

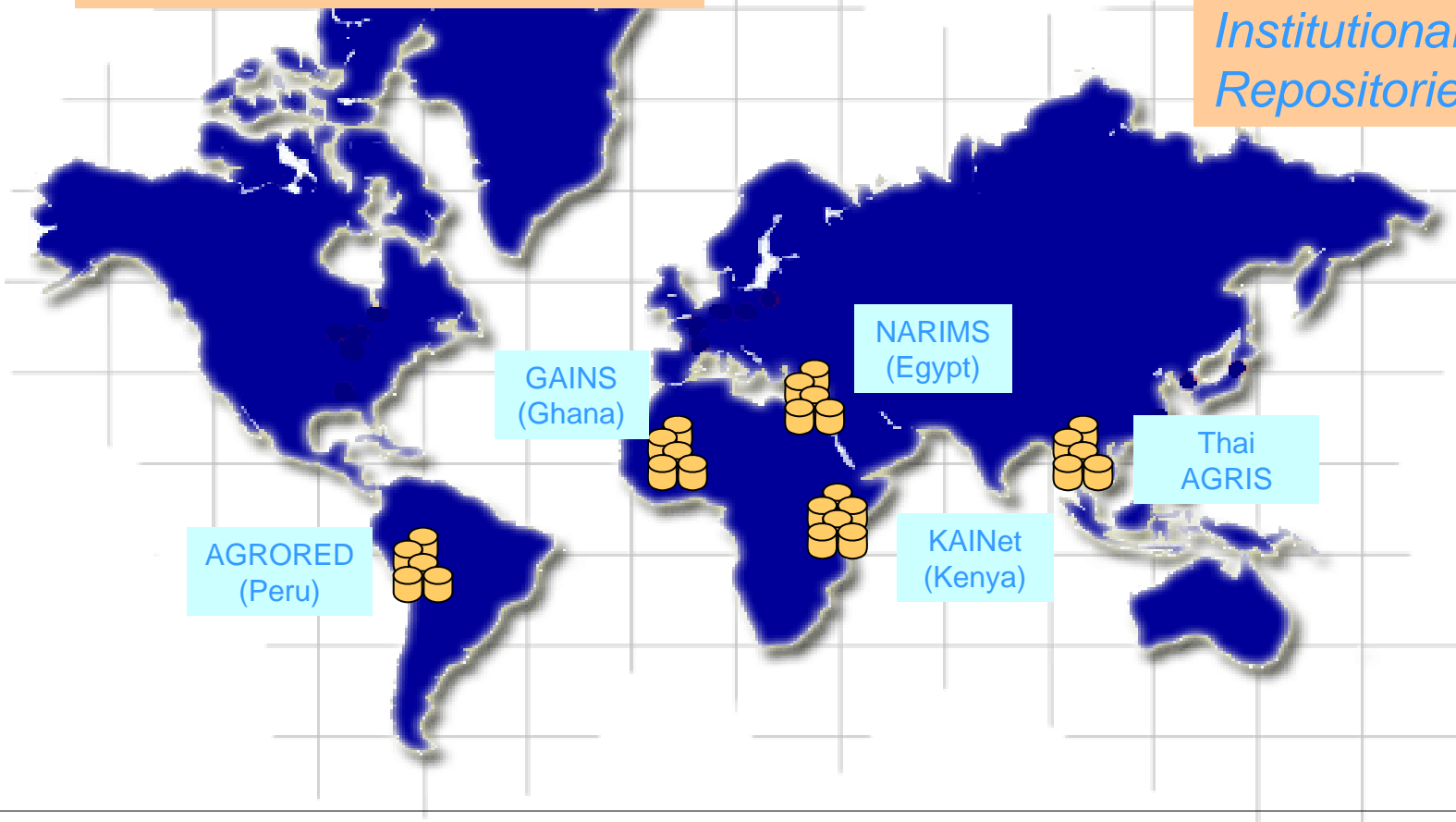
e-mail
information@ciard.net

Website : www.ciard.net

CIARD - Case Studies

Capacity Building Activities

Creating Institutional Repositories





The Vision



The CIARD vision

“To make public domain agricultural research information and knowledge truly accessible to all”



CIARD Vision

- All organizations that create and possess public agricultural research information disseminate and share it more widely
- CIARD partners will (a) coordinate their efforts, (b) promote common formats, (c) adopt open systems
- Create a global network of public collections of information

The CIARD objective

To develop effective and coherent institutional approaches to sharing agricultural science and technology information based on common standards



The purpose of CIARD

think global, act local

- CIARD partners will:
 - combine/align efforts in common international approaches
 - address their own priorities and constraints
 - maximise the return on public investments
- enable local/national innovation systems and services
- harness support of regional/international systems



The Manifesto



Pueraria phaseoloides
C.V. Kuitzu (CIAT 9900)
Familia: Leguminosa
Manejo: 50-100 kg de N/ha/año
Fertilidad Suelo: Alta, Agua: Escasez/medio
Prefereza: 18%-20%
Digestibilidad: Óptima

Why are CIARD's actions so important?

- Innovation systems in agriculture critical to the fight against hunger & sustainable use of natural resources
- Rapid agricultural innovation is knowledge-intensive and depends on access to information



Why are CIARD's actions so important?

- Most public domain agricultural information not yet widely accessible
- New types of research, organisations, and collaboration create new demands
- Coherence in information management will increase efficiency & reduce duplication
- Improving the way the partners work together

CIARD: Benefits to Partners

- increased national/international visibility and use of their research output and content services
- increased exchange of information content between their system(s) and others
- increased awareness of other research outputs through information content and services
- increased access to specialised expertise and knowledge and other partners' proven solutions

CIARD: Partners' Contributions

- promote the CIARD vision and objectives
- implement policies and actions promoted by CIARD
- share products and services on research outputs through the CIARD RING
- adopt/promote international standards related to digital research outputs
- share their experiences for others to benefit





The Values



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The way forward: investment

- demonstrate new approaches
- provide evidence of real benefits
- encourage change in attitudes, policies and institutions
- promote investment in systems, services & people

The way forward: content

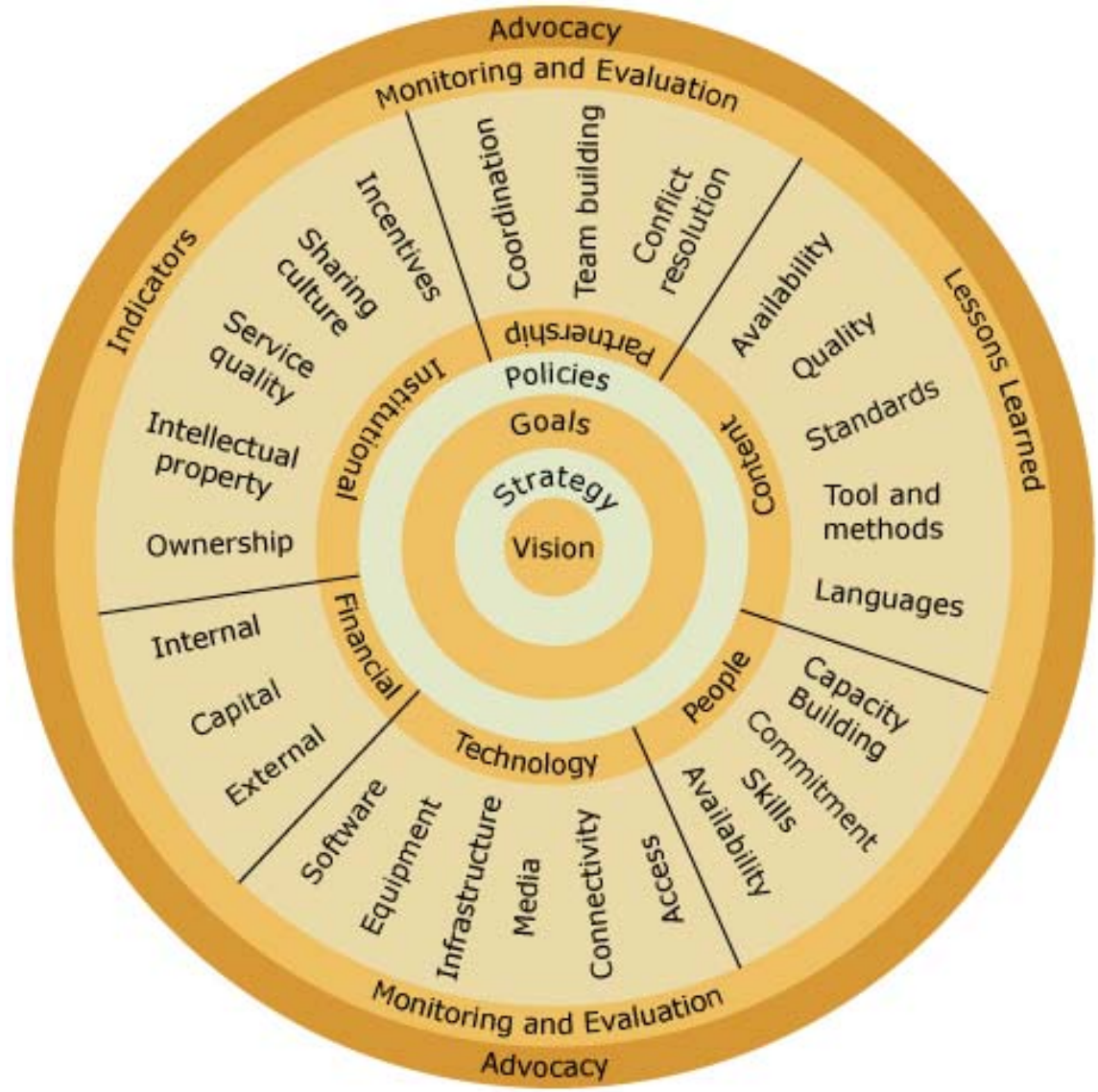
- encourage use/re-use of information
- build/use 'open' systems and applications
- customize information for specific audiences
- help researchers communicate their outputs
- conserve information

The way forward: coherence

- ensure actions complement at local, national and global level
- promote dialogue and active collaboration
- adopt common principles and standards

The way forward: capacity

- promote and build self-sufficiency and local ownership
- develop capacities needed to design and manage policies, skills and technologies
- integrate action at policy, institution, and individual levels





The Checklist





Checklist

Developing Institutional Readiness

1. Gain support for the CIARD Manifesto and Principles from key actors in your institution
2. Have your institution recognised as a CIARD partner through (a) online registration on the Partners page (b) linking your web site to the CIARD site
3. Adopt a formal institutional strategy to ensure the enhancement and long term sustainability of its digital information content and systems, and to ensure the quality of its content
4. Develop the capacities of your institution in terms of policies, institutional structures, individual skills and technology infrastructure
5. Develop national/local partner networks of institutions to share resources and skills

Increasing the Availability, Accessibility and Applicability of Research Outputs

6. Develop the digital availability of research outputs in multiple forms guided by internationally documented best practices.

6. Plan and develop institutional or thematic information repositories as open archives using appropriate international protocols.
8. Use documented metadata standards which tell other systems about the elements contained in metadata.
9. Allow other systems to talk with, and exchange data with, systems using appropriate international protocols.
10. Use widely accepted agricultural vocabularies and thesauri for indexing outputs, which make them easy to find and use.
11. Develop a clearly defined licensing policy for research outputs.
12. Optimize the structure and the content of web sites for global and specialized search engines.
13. Share metadata and give access to full content.
14. Use 'social' Web 2.0 media applications as entry points to outputs and to help them to travel.
15. Work with intermediaries that have communication skills to repackage research outputs for different audiences
16. Build networks to stimulate dialogue and collaboration between researchers and their audiences.



The Pathways



CIARD Pathways



Creative Commons



CAB Abstracts

AgMES



Google books



CGVlibrary

Routemap to Information Nodes and Gateways (RING)



Lastly - 2009/2010 Consultations

The partners will be advocating the CIARD agenda with three stakeholder groups:

(a) rectors/directors/managers, (b) researchers/academics, and (c) information specialists

through

regional forums/meetings,

GCARD 2010 and IAALD Congress 2010, France

