

MEMO

to: Mr. Yves Leterme, Deputy Secretary-General, OECD
 from: AgriCord, Ignace Coussement
 date: 14 December 2012
 re: OECD and AgriCord.

Background

1. AgriCord is an network of OECD mainstream farmers' organisations, for development cooperation, and specifically for support to farmers' organisations in developing countries.
2. Boerenbond (with its development agency leder voor Allen, now Trias) is a founding member (2003) of AgriCord, together with the Dutch LTO (and its development agency Agriterra) and with farmers' organisations in France, Canada and Norway. Currently AgriCord has 14 members, of which 9 agri-agencies.

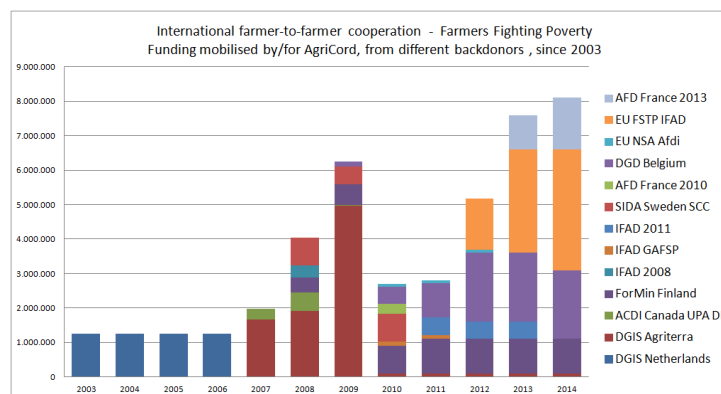
country	farmers' organisation	agri-agency	member since
1 France	FNSEA, APCA, Jeunes Agriculteurs, CNMCCA	Afdi	2003
2 Netherlands	LTO, SSVO, NCR and NAJK	Agriterra	2003
3 Belgium	Boerenbond, Landelijke Gilden, KVLV and KLJ	Trias	2003
4 Canada	UPA Union Professionnelle Agricole (Québec)	UPA DI	2003
5 France	Groupe Céréaliers de France (AGPB, AGPM, ARVALIS, UNIGRAINS)	Fert	2003
6 Sweden	LRF Federation of Swedish Farmers	SCC	2004
7 Finland	MTK Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners	-	2006
8 Italy	CIA Confederazione Italiana Agricoltori	-	2009
9 Spain	UPA Union de Pequeños Agricultores y Ganaderos	-	2009
10 Belgium	FWA Fédération Wallonne d'Agriculture	CSA	2010
11 Portugal	CAP Confederação dos Agricultores de Portugal	-	2010
12 Asia	AFA Asian Farmers Association for Sustainable Rural Development	AsiaDHRRA	2011
13 Senegal	Organisations agricoles du Sénégal membres d'Asprodeb	Asprodeb	2011
14 Germany	DBV Deutscher Bauernverband	-	2012

The membership of AgriCord increases steadily. AgriCord also has 2 members from developing countries: an Asian network of agri-agencies based in the Philippines, and an African agri-agency based in Senegal.

3. All members mobilise technical and financial resources in their own countries. Since 2007, members of AgriCord work together in one common programme for support to producer organisations in developing countries:



4. A diversified funding for Farmers Fighting Poverty is coming into place, from several OECD governments. DGIS (the Netherlands) has been the initial and main backdonor since 2003, and very important in 2007-2009. Several other backdonor governments (Canada, Sweden, Finland, Belgium, France) and international organisations (IFAD, EU) became involved, first with year-by-year funding contracts, on a project basis, but increasingly with longer-term commitments.



AgriCord has ODA-status with the OECD as international organisation (under nr. 21047), whose received core contributions may be reported as official development assistance (ODA).

5. Results of *Farmers Fighting Poverty*, in terms of strengthening of farmers' organisations as well as in terms of the member farmers' incomes, are encouraging. Every year since 2009, AgriCord publishes a report on "Evidence of impact", now available for 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012.
6. The credibility of AgriCord, at international level, is solid: contracts with IFAD (2 contracts) and with the European Commission via IFAD. One contract with IFAD is linked to the public window of GAFSP (Global Agriculture and Food Security Program), managed by the Worldbank. AgriCord and its Asian member AsiaDHRRA have organised a side-event during the last IMF/Worldbank Annual Conference in Tokyo (October 2012). The AgriCord network is considered as a valid partner to support involvement of farmers' organisations in (governmental) programmes managed by IFAD, FAO, regional development banks a.o.
7. Members of AgriCord (*agri-agencies*) are building a strong track record of effective *farmer-to-farmer* cooperation, focusing on the role of farmers' organisations as policy/lobbying organisations as well as (and increasingly) as economic players, service deliverers to farmers as entrepreneurs. Focus is also on business initiatives, on cooperative actions, on contract farming with processors, traders and retailers.

AgriCord expectations related to OECD

- (i) OECD is in the lead for the international agenda on *aid efficiency and aid effectiveness*. AgriCord is looking for possibilities to be more involved in this agenda, as development practitioners. As a network, AgriCord brings together efforts from different actors and from different countries, all in the same core business of farmer-to-farmer cooperation. We are harmonising procedures for project implementation, for monitoring and evaluation of development work. We look at OECD as a place where such processes are shared and discussed. We see this as an opportunity for learning for ourselves, and to share our experience with others.
- (ii) OECD organises the participation of civil society in the process on Aid Efficiency (follow-up of the Busan 4th High Level Forum). AgriCord is interested to participate in this process, as part of civil society. AgriCord is also willing to support the participation of farmers' organisations from developing countries in this process. On this issue, we were in touch with Ms. Marjolaine Nicod of OECD. Farmers' organisations, and AgriCord, are part of civil society, but in a particular way. Farmers' organisations are representative (membership based) organisations, unlike NGOs. Farmers are entrepreneurs. Business and cooperative initiatives of farmers' organisations are part of private sector involvement in development.

Ignace Coussement
11 December 2012

Further information on AgriCord

Composition of General Assembly, Board, Advisory Committee (next page)

Internal AgriCord document "The Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation. Can farmers' organisations contribute to aid development effectiveness? Are we on the right track?" (attached)

Programme document "Farmers Fighting Poverty"

<http://www.agricord.org/assets/uploads/files/agricord/2012%20FFP%20Farmers%20Fighting%20Poverty.pdf>

General Assembly and Board of AgriCord

	<u>general assembly</u>	<u>board</u>
Afdi (France)	FNSEA : Karen SERRES	Laure HAMDI
Agriterra (the Netherlands)	LTO : Albert Jan MAAT	Kees BLOKLAND
AsiaDHRRA (Asia)	AFA : Uon SOPHAL (Esther PENUNIA)	Marlene RAMIREZ (Florante J. VILLAS)
Asprodeb (Senegal)	Farmers' organisations : Ndiawar DIOP	Ousmane NDIAYE
CSA (Belgium)	FWA : Yves SOMVILLE (Joseph PONTHER)	Alex DANAU
FERT (France)	AGPB... : Henri de BENOIST	Anne PANEL
SCC (Sweden)	LRF : Anniqa NYGÅRD	Armando COSTA PINTO
Trias (Belgium)	Boerenbond : Piet VANTHEMSCHE	Lode DELBARE
UPA DI (Canada)	UPA : Marcel GROLEAU	André BEAUDOIN
	CAP (Portugal) João Cyrillo MACHADO	
	CIA (Italy) Giuseppe POLITI	
	MTK (Finland) Antti SAHI (Juha RUIPPO)	Seppo KALLIO
	UPA (Spain) Lorenzo RAMOS SILVA	
	DBV (Germany) Willy Kampmann	
		Ignace COUSSEMENT

presidency

2003-2007	Gerard Doornbos, LTO president, the Netherlands
2007-2010	Laurent Pellerin, UPA president, Québec, Canada
2010-2014	Piet Vanthemsche, Boerenbond president, Belgium

Advisory Committee for Farmers Fighting Poverty

AFA :	Asian Farmers Association – Esther PENUNIA
EAFF :	East African Farmers Federation – Stephen MUCHIRI
PROPAC :	Plateforme des org. paysannes d'Afrique Centrale –president, Gustave EWOLE
ROPPA :	Réseau des org. paysannes et prod. de l'Afrique de l'Ouest – Ousseini Ouedraogo
SACAU :	Southern African Confed. of Agricultural Unions – Ishmail SUNGA
UMAGRI :	Union Maghrébine des Agriculteurs – Fatma BEN REJEB
UNICAFES :	Un. das Cooperativas da Agric. Fam. e Economia Solidaria – Genes DA FONSECA ROSA