



Brussels Development Policy Briefing no. 43

27th October 2015, 9h00-13h00

ACP Secretariat, 451 Avenue Georges Henri, 1200 Brussels, room C

East-Africa - India Cooperation : New Opportunities for Farmers in ICTs

Paul Thangata, EAFF, Kenya



The Eastern Africa - India initiative is a result of two meetings organized by CTA:

1. The ICT4 AGRI International Conference, 4-8 November 2013 Kigali, Rwanda
2. Facilitating the Convergence of ICT Channels for Agriculture, 29 to 31 October 2014 in Rhenen, the Netherlands

CTA invited both:

- The Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF)
- The Indian Fertilizer Farmers Co-operative (IFFCO)



CTA:

- At the Kigali meeting, IFCCO made a presentation on a very successful mobile and web based aggregation platform.
- EAFF was very interested in the presentation
- Why? EAFF with its stakeholders were looking at developing a virtual aggregation. The aim of the virtual platform is to help farmers aggregate farm produce and, in the process, help link farmers and trader associations to national and regional buyers through the use of ICT.
- This is now the “e-granary” : information can be matched with possible buyers based on demanded quantities, quality, price and time of delivery.
- EAFF and IFCCO continued discussions and agreed to have EAFF visit IFCCO



EAFF CEO exchange newsletters with IFFCO CEO

JUNE 2015





EAFF team at the Meerut IKSL/IFFCO office and Kusawali Village, in Uttar Pradesh



MEETING IFFCO FIELD STAFF, JUNE 2015



EAFF meeting with farmers at Kusawali Village in Uttar Pradesh



MEETING WITH FARMERS, JUNE 2015



In September 2015, EAFV requested FAO to support 15 leaders and farmers to India. The participants came from Rwanda, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda

SEPTEMBER 2015



Purpose: Expose leaders of cooperatives/FOs from the Eastern Africa sub-region to success stories/best practices in India, especially on the promotion of agribusiness and agro-industry development strategies and approaches.



With farmers and BAIF staff

(BAIF Development Research Foundation (formerly registered as the Bharatiya Agro Industries Foundation), a voluntary organization, supports the federal initiative to promote sustainable livelihoods in Rural India.

IFCCO: MOBILE REVOLUTION: 'IKSL GREEN SIM CARD' and MIS/DATA MANAGEMENT

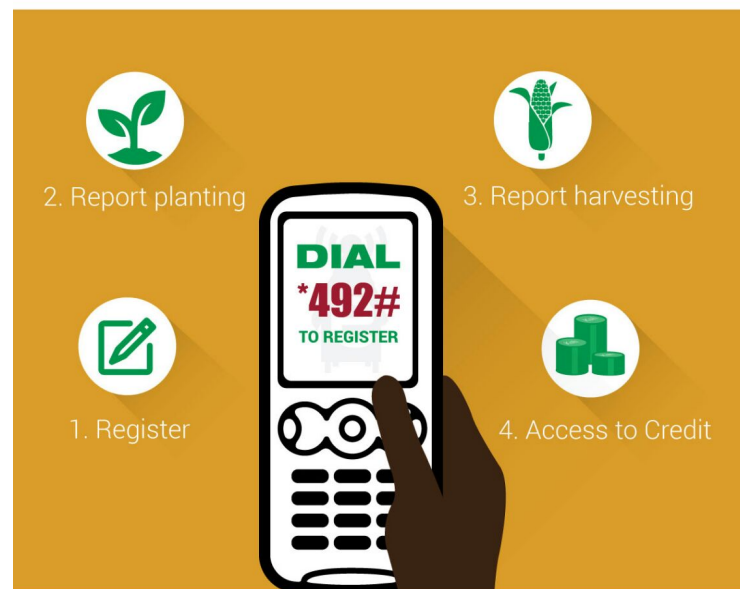


Bridging Information Gap

- Providing Leverage to the Communication Needs of Farmers
- Converting their Mobiles into Dynamic Power House of Knowledge



EAFF...>





Deliberate agricultural policies that support smallholders



Value Addition Culture: This is the missing link in East African Agriculture. Membership Retention: Cooperatives retain their membership due to value addition. Farmers see value in Value Addition.





Transparency in milk marketing, farmers get receipts as soon as their milk is electronically tested



Collective mechanization and precision agriculture:

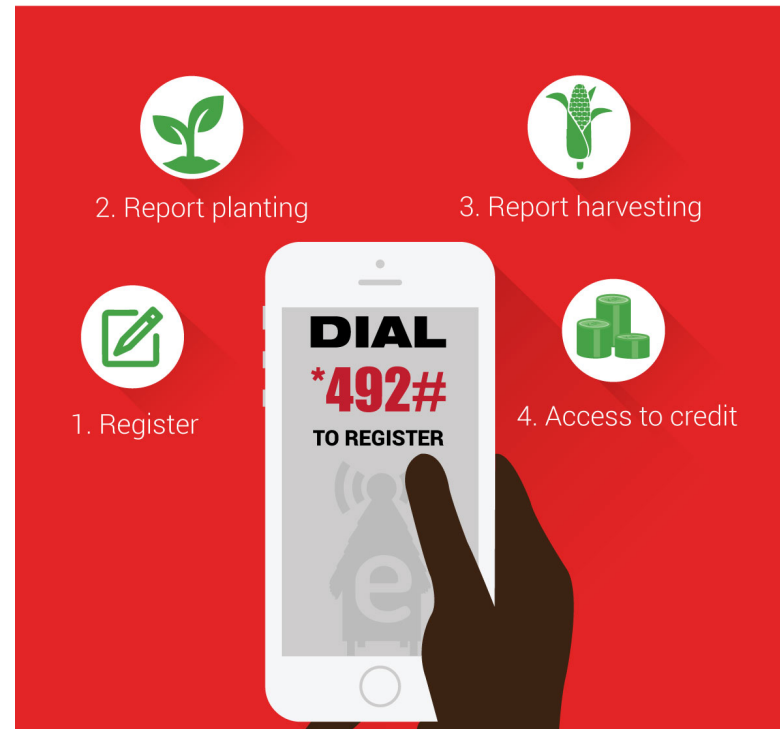


Demand driven R+D available at the grassroots level





Today e-granary is under pilot in Kenya



An initiative of



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1. EAFV needs support for more piloting in Eastern African countries
2. Then, roll out the e-granary



The Eastern Africa - India initiative is a result of two meetings organized by CTA:

- EAFV is looking for opportunities to implement a south-to-south initiative.
- South to South partnerships can benefit farmers in eastern Africa.
- Farmers can learn from the experience and expertise of farmers in other developing countries through the exchange of knowledge, skills and ideas.
- The cooperative movement in India can offer lessons to East African cooperatives.