

AARINENA IN ACTION

A workshop on the Global Partnership Program: Linking Smallholder Farmers to Growth Markets, Egypt 11-15 September 2006



**The Participants in the workshop on the Global Partnership Program:
Linking Smallholder Farmers to Growth Markets, Egypt, 11-15 September 2006**

A workshop on global partnership program^o linking smallholder farmers to growth markets was held in Cairo, Egypt, during 11-15 September 2006, and sponsored by GFAR, to discuss the elements of a common inter-regional agenda and prepare a GPP concept note for presentation to GFAR's decision-making bodies in December 2006. More than 22 participants representing the Regional ARD Forums of Asia-Pacific, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and Caribbean, West Asia and North Africa attended the meeting. Representatives of GFAR Secretariat, FAO, AARINENA, and institutions that had shown interest to provide potential technical support to the program attended the meeting.

The workshop included five sessions. Sessions 1 and 2 focused on contributions of each regional partner and resource organizations needed for the success and attainment of the GPP vision, mission and outcomes. The results of the consultations and the subsequent planning of regional proposals by regional working groups were presented. A consensus was reached on the identification of three main components around which the GPP might

be developed: policy and institutions, farmer capacity building, understanding markets and value chains.

The third session dealt with experiences, skills and tools brought by resource persons/institutions and what expectations of each with respect to the global program's outcomes. During the fourth session, four working groups were organized: formulation of the vision, mission and identity of the GPP; development of the three identified components of the GPP; a proposal for the GPP governance structure; and a short term action plan and associated budget for GPP start-up.

During the fifth session, the following actions were agreed on:

- * Development of GPP concept note proposal to be completed and forwarded to the GFAR Program and Steering Committee.
- * Development of a plan of work and budget for the start-up phase of the GPP that will contemplate the following activities: governance; resource mobilization; program implementation; and communication.