

Collaboration: AARINENA and EFARD

Dr. Derk Rusell, the European Forum for Agricultural Research for Development (EFARD) consultant attended the 12th AARINENA General Conference and presented to the Conference opportunities for AARINENA to collaborate with EFARD. He prepared a scoping study on re-Bi-regional dialogue between EFARD and AARINENA. The study indicated the next steps in bi-regional dialogue between the EU countries and the WANA region. The study is an output from the letter of agreement between FAO and AGRINATURA-EEIG for EFARD: Support of regional and inter-regional actions contributing towards the transformation of AR4D systems, as described in the GCARD. The study recommended a) to demonstrate to AARINENA members the progress made in generating individual benefits through agricultural community

action in Europe by facilitating contacts between the WANA Farmers Association and the European farming community through reciprocal visits; b) EFARD explores directly with the MIRA and ARIMNET projects the agricultural research priorities and their fit with the GCARD Road Map and the opportunities for support in WANA; c) EFARD and AARINENA to facilitate the dissemination of information on the European Framework programmes (esp. Framework 8); d) EFARD explore with AARINENA the potential for the strengthening of the regional agricultural information networks (esp. RAIS, NARIMS and NERAKIN) through collaboration with EU agricultural information networks; and e) AARINENA Olive Farmers Network be assisted to enter dialogue with the European olive growers of the ESCORENA Olive Group.