

Charter of the TSARA initiative

Transforming food systems and agriculture through research in partnership with Africa¹

We, research organizations, universities, schools, sub-regional organizations, African and European, affirm our willingness to implement TSARA, a research and innovation partnership aiming to share knowledge, methods and networks and to co-construct programs and projects in support of field actors, public policies, and international initiatives, resulting into productive, resilient, autonomous and sustainable food systems.

In order to contribute to the UN sustainable development goals of the 2030 Agenda on a global level, in Europe and Africa,

We:

- Emphasize the need to strengthen international cooperation to promote productive, resilient, self-reliant and sustainable food systems in Europe, Africa and the rest of the world, contributing to food security and sovereignty, nutrition, job creation for young people and gender equity, adapting to and combating global warming, preserving resources (water, biodiversity, soil, forests) and safeguarding environmental, human and animal health;
- Underline the importance of impact-oriented research, support for innovation in all its dimensions (technical, ecological, organizational, institutional, social), and capacity-building, to achieve these sustainable development objectives;
- Recall that this research and innovation partnership should:
 - make the most of existing collaborations and partnerships, strengthening them and creating new partnership instruments, if necessary, for an equitable and mutually beneficial partnership;
 - be open to new cooperative ventures on the African and European continents, and even beyond;

- enhance and develop research infrastructures, experimental mechanisms, observatories and methodological approaches shared by all partners;

- Insist on the importance of promoting our values (ethics, compliance with Personal Data Protection regulations, scientific integrity and open science) in the conduct of research and innovation activities;
- Emphasize the role of local communities and all stakeholders in the development of innovations, and the importance of involving them in research through participatory approaches;
- Call for concerted interdisciplinary action organized by thematic area, and for an efficient use of existing tools and financial resources to intensify and integrate research, innovation and capacity building as part of an integrated approach;
- Recognize, each in the light of our missions and mandates, the need to:
 - encourage the development and the launch of research, innovation and capacity-building programs, to deepen and share knowledge and contribute to economic, environmental, social and political impacts;
 - jointly explore opportunities for funding research, innovation and capacity-building, joining with other partners and initiatives where appropriate;

¹ Cf. website address to come.



- support participatory approaches in the development of innovative solutions and their adoption for the benefit of all, especially for women and youth;
- contribute through science to informing policies in our areas of expertise, from local to national and global levels;
- ensure the sustainability of the activities implemented through the shared management of this joint research and innovation initiative between our institutions.

We express our willingness to contribute to the implementation of TSARA through an inclusive, iterative and transparent process.

Name of institution:

Date:

Signature: