

Terms of Reference for Break-out Sessions November 8 and 9, 2005

Group 1: Achieving competitiveness for domestic rice production

- What specific policies have been successful in promoting rice production in which country? What are/or were the specific strategies put in place? List key factors or drivers that made the policy/strategy to work?
- Which exogenous and endogenous factors are affecting competitiveness of rice production and marketing: (a) at country level; and (b) sub regional level (e.g. West Africa)?
- What can we in Africa learn from the success stories in Asian countries for targeting the development of rice production, post-harvest, and marketing.
- How can researchers work with the civil society organizations (NGOs), farmers' organizations to promote rice policy advocacy? What should be the specific role of (a) rice policy research and (b) civil society organizations?

CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

- What are the priority research areas required for advocacy work (a) at national, (b) regional and (c) international (trade) negotiations (e.g. WTO)
- For each country list the research institution (including academic) and CSO that WARDA policy research and market development unit should collaborate with for policy research and advocacy. Please list name and email of contact.
- What are the priority capacity building needs for (a) NARES and (b) CSO to enhance agricultural policy research and advocacy.

FOOD SECURITY AND POVERTY REDUCTION ISSUES

- Which specific lessons on assuring food security/domestic rice production from sub-regional economic and trade organizations can we highlight (a) as successful and (b) failure; for each what were the causes?
- How can we factor food security and poverty reduction objectives in:
 - Agricultural production and trade policies
 - International trade organizations (like WTO negotiations)?
- Which priority areas can we recommend in (a) West and Central Africa and (b) East and Saharan Africa, for more public support to ensure food security. For each recommended intervention area, list the costs and benefits.

Procedure

- Two facilitators are provided per group. These are supposed to keep discussions within focus of the workshop themes and TOR of group
- Please nominate group rapporteurs to record discussion and someone to make oral presentation of workgroup conclusions and recommendations at the plenary.