
Events

Members' Workshop

AGRODEP held its [second workshop for members](#) in June 6-8, 2011 at the Novotel Hotel in Dakar, Senegal. The workshop brought together 43 AGRODEP members and 21 other participants including guest speakers, members of the AGRODEP [Scientific Advisory Board \(SAB\)](#), and members of the [Steering Committee \(SC\)](#). The event provided [AGRODEP members](#) with an opportunity to present their ongoing research, exchange ideas, and attend expert sessions on analytical tools used to study three research topics, [Climate Change](#), [Food Prices and Price Volatility](#), and Foreign Direct Investment in Land.

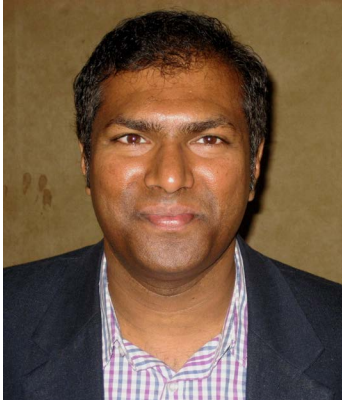
Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) and Steering Committee (SC) Meetings

The SAB and SC held their first meetings on June 9, 2011 following the members' workshop in Dakar, Senegal. These two committees support AGRODEP's scientific, policy, and operational functions by providing advice to the [AGRODEP Management team](#). More specifically, the role of the [Scientific Advisory Board \(SAB\)](#) is to offer expert advice to the Consortium on i) scientific topics and approaches; ii) institutions in and outside Africa that can contribute to AGRODEP's objectives; iii) scientific pertinence of research projects developed by AGRODEP members; and iv) improvements and/or innovations on analytical methodologies. The [Steering Committee \(SC\)](#), on the other hand, guides AGRODEP on key matters of policy, operational issues, and resource mobilization. In addition, the Committee ensures that the initiative remains focused on its objectives and mission, is run effectively, and recommends strategies and actions to increase the effectiveness and impact of AGRODEP. The Committees met to discuss their roles and responsibilities in supporting AGRODEP. Each committee approved its terms of reference. In addition, the Steering Committee reviewed and approved the 2011 workplan, membership extension plan, and the grants program which AGRODEP plans to launch soon.

News

[AGRODEP members](#) have elected two representatives for the Steering Committee and two for the [Network Advisory Committee \(NAC\)](#). The elected members for the Steering Committee are: **Vinaye Ancharaz**, Principal Research Economist at the African Development Bank in Tunisia; **Mutasim Mekki Mahmoud Elrasheed**, Professor at the Sudan University of Science and Technology (SUST) in Sudan. For NAC, AGRODEP members elected **Azharia Abdelbagi Elbushra**, Assistant Professor at the University of Juba in Sudan; **Miriam Omolo** Program Officer at the Institute of Economic Affairs in Kenya. See featured members below to find out more about the elected representatives.

Featured Members



Steering Committee Representatives

Vinaye Dey Ancharaz is a citizen of Mauritius. He has been an AGRODEP member since October 2010. At present, Vinaye is a Principal Research Economist at the African Development Bank where he conducts research on trade and development-related issues in Africa, writes policy briefs and contributes to the Bank's flagship publications, notably the African Economic Outlook. Previously, Vinaye worked for the University of Mauritius where he was a Senior Lecturer in International Economics.

Vinaye holds a BA degree in Economics from the University of Mauritius, an MA and PhD in International Economics and Finance from Brandeis University. Vinaye's research interests include International trade issues, FDI, trade policy, regional integration and WTO etc.

Mutasim Mekki Mahmoud Elrasheed is a citizen of Sudan. He has been an AGRODEP member since April 2011. At present, Mutasim Elrasheed is an Associate Professor at the Sudan University of Science and Technology (SUST). He lectures and conducts research in different areas, and participates in community development in his country. Before joining SUST, Mutasim Elrasheed worked for Upper Nile University, South Sudan. He holds a BS degree in Agriculture from University of Khartoum, Sudan, an MS in Agricultural Economics from Ahmadu Bello University, Nigeria, and a PhD in Agriculture from University of Khartoum, Sudan. His research interests include food security and pro-poor policies.

Network Advisory Committee Representatives

Azharia Abd Elbagi Elbushra is a citizen of Sudan. She has been an AGRODEP member since October 2010. At present, Azharia is an Assistant Professor at the University of Juba where she teaches courses on agricultural economics and supervises research by students. Previously, Azharia worked for the Industrial and Consultancy Research Centre, Khartoum, Sudan. She holds a BS degree in Agricultural Sciences from University of Khartoum, an MA in Agricultural Economics from Faculty of Agriculture Science, University of Gezira, Wad Medani, and a PhD in Agricultural Economics from Faculty of Agriculture, University of Khartoum. Her research interests include agricultural trade and policy, food security and poverty alleviation issues, etc.

Miriam W. Omolo is a citizen of Kenya. She has been an AGRODEP member since October 2010. At present, Miriam is a Trade Program Officer at the Institute of Economic Affairs. In this position, Miriam examines the trade agreements that Kenya is party to, and conducts research on their impact on development and poverty reduction. Before joining Institute of Economic Affairs, Miriam worked for The African Economic Research Consortium. She holds a BA degree in Economics from Kenyatta University, an MA in Economics from University of Nairobi, and a PhD in Economics from University of South Africa. Her research interests include trade liberalization, poverty, and CGE Modeling.