



Ministry of Tourism, Air Transport,
HandiCraft and the Social Economy
State Secretary for Handicraft and the Social Economy



International Co-operative
Alliance – Africa
A Region of the International
Co-operative Alliance

مكتب تنمية التعاون
Office du Développement de la Coopération



Report on the Consultative Meeting on the Establishment of the Africa Agri- cultural Co-operative Federation (AACF)



International
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Introduction:

The Consultative meeting on the establishment of the Africa Agricultural Co-operative Federation took place on 23 May, 2017 before the 3rd Africa Co-operative Conference during which the Ministerial Conference Technical Committee (MCTC) and the Ministerial Conference Mid Term Review took place between 24 and 26 May 2017 in Casablanca, Morocco.

The overall theme of this pre-conference was *Strengthening Agricultural Co-operatives in Africa*, with the overall aim of consulting with the Alliance Africa members, partners, (including the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)), and collaborators on the current challenges that face African farmers with respect to achieving food security, and how a regional federation of agricultural co-operatives could address their challenges while contributing to zero hunger¹ in Africa.

The one-day consultative meeting targeted national and regional Agricultural Co-operatives whose main activity is agriculture (fishery, crops and livestock, etc) as the main economic activity, and financial co-operatives such as saving and credit co-operatives or co-operative banks which support agricultural co-operatives to access finances are the secondary target groups.

Background

The International Co-operative Alliance (The Alliance) secured funding from the European Commission to implement a project entitled “*Co-operatives in Development: People-Centred Businesses in Action*”, whose overall objective is to strengthen the Alliance, and their regional offices organized in four geographical zones: Europe, the Americas, Africa and Asia & Pacific.

Specifically, the project aims to strengthen and enable 187 co-operative federations in 75 EU partner countries and their regional and global umbrella organizations to promote, develop and advocate the co-operative enterprise model at national, regional and global levels on behalf of their members. Activities related to strengthening the Alliance network will contribute to reinforce the regional and global structures, facilitate the development of a common identity, support policy dialogue and advocacy, and thus promote greater impact of the co-operative movement worldwide on development.

As one of the geographical zones of the Alliance, the Alliance Africa has a significant role to play in the implementation of the EU project in collaboration with the other geographical zones of the Alliance.

¹ SDG 1 and Agenda 1 of Agenda 2030

The members of the Alliance in Africa Region met in May 2014 in Nairobi (report on our website) and discussed the progress made by each country present in the implementation of the Africa Co-operative Development Strategy 2013-2016. The Africa Agricultural Commodity Exchange Platform and other agricultural co-operative initiatives were also discussed. Among them, and as a first step, there is a need to better understand the current landscape of Africa agricultural co-operatives with the following objectives:

1. Understand the historical challenges of agricultural sub-regional and regional organisations in Africa.
2. Identify the need for an Africa Agricultural Co-operative Sectoral Organisation.

The Alliance proposed to undertake a feasibility study, in consultation with partners including FAO and others, on the establishment of an Africa Agricultural Co-operative Sectoral Organisation that would reach out to organisations of smallholder farmers in the Africa Region, in particular agricultural cooperatives.

The aim of this consultative meeting, specifically targeting African agricultural co-operatives, was to revive the above-mentioned discussions, and evaluate the proposal for a feasibility study on the establishment of an Africa Agricultural Co-operative Sectoral Organisation with a view to seeing how to move forward, by collecting views and buy-in from the Alliance Africa members directly involved in agricultural co-operatives, as well as from partners including FAO and other stakeholders. The draft Terms of Reference for the study was attached for discussion at the consultative meeting.

The Consultative Meeting

The consultative meeting drew Ministers from Co-operative Development Ministries from Morocco, Botswana, South Africa and Zimbabwe; the Permanent Secretary from Lesotho, as well as 178 participants from, Morocco, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Argentina, Belgium, Sweden, Japan, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

The overall topic under discussion resonated well with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) No. 2, which *aims to end hunger and all forms of malnutrition by 2030. It also commits to universal access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food at all times of the year*, as well as SDG 1, which *calls for an end to poverty in all its manifestations by 2030. It also aims to ensure social protection for the poor and vulnerable, increase access to basic services and support people harmed by climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters*, of the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals. It also aimed at contributing to achievement of the African Union's Agenda 2063: *The Africa we want* and the Malabo Declaration on *Accele-*

rated Agricultural Growth And Transformation for Shared Prosperity And Improved Livelihoods.

Presentation on Opportunities for African Co-operatives in Working Together; International Co-operative Agricultural Organisation (ICAO)

This presentation revolved around ICAO's experience of a global sectoral organisation representing agricultural co-operatives as well as challenges and opportunities with which agricultural co-operatives may be confronted with in Africa. Headquartered in Seoul, South Korea, ICAO has 289 organisations ranging from international corporations to community stores in 95 countries, representing one billion individuals.

ICAO has several initiatives to assist in developing co-operatives and Alliance African members are encouraged to apply for membership.

Taking stock: Panel discussion on the status of agricultural co-operatives in Africa: achievements and challenges for food security and zero hunger

Panelists:

- i) Mr Arnauld Aganze ZOZO** (Central Africa)
- ii) Mr Shimelles TENAW** (Eastern Africa)
- iii) Mr Obi EZENWA**, Managing Director, Pine Global (Western Africa)
- iv) Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises and Co-operative Development**, Zimbabwe (Southern Africa)
- v) Mr Mostafa BENOUAICHA** of Office of Cooperation Development: Development of Moroccan Cooperatives: A Focus on Agricultural Cooperatives.

Panelists drawn from the five regions of Africa addressed a set of questions which included a brief description on the role agricultural cooperatives play in their regions in feeding the population; the level of food needs of their regions that is covered by agricultural co-operatives; the key achievements of agricultural co-operatives in achieving sustainable food security in their regions; the challenges constraining agricultural co-operatives from achieving sustainable food security in their regions as well as possible solutions, and also a reflection on the need for agricultural co-operative unions and federations to work closer together in their regions.

The panelists had various recommendations to most of the challenges confronting African Agricultural co-operatives. Among them;

- Agricultural co-operatives should integrate with emerging global/private investments to cope with climate change
- Agricultural co-operatives should be encouraged to work along all the value chain (production, distribution, marketing and consumption).
- Agricultural co-operative members should be encouraged to diversify the crops to mitigate risks of over relying only on one crop.

- There is need for more collaboration among the co-operatives along the value-chain
- More information/data is required from cooperatives to judge performance and enhance decision making
- There is need to have information on impact of co-operatives on production as opposed to just providing information on the increase in the number of registered co-operatives
- There is need for human resource development in co-operatives through formal/informal training
- Promotion of contract farming could be a solution to market access challenges for farmers
- There is need to deliberately find ways to replicate best practices in African Co-operatives. For example the Israel Potato chain, the Nigeria Cassava chain
- Co-operatives need to work as enterprises if they have to access financing.

There was unanimity in the call for African agriculture taking greater steps to adapt to the effects of climate change in order to counter food loss as a result of increased droughts and floods as well as take in a more market oriented production system with inbuilt resilience to climate change, focusing on generation of wealth and capital, as well as integration with global and private investments. This can be done by shifting informal co-operative models to more formal primary co-operatives.

Round table discussions on strategies for supporting agricultural co-operatives

Participants:

- i) Office of Cooperation Development, Morocco
- ii) **Mr Kaz FUJIWARA**, Partnerships Officer, UNFAO Regional Office for Africa
- iii) **Ms Simil ESIM**, International Labour Organisation (ILO)
- iv) **Ms Dorothy KIPSANG**, Global Co-ordinator, Financial Inclusion, We Effect Regional Office for Eastern Africa

Participants of the round table discussion spoke about the ways in which their organisations have supported agricultural co-operatives in Africa to increase access to inputs, productive assets and markets as well as what the biggest impact of their organisation's support to agricultural co-operatives has been. Additionally they shared their thoughts on co-operatives working together, either within sectors or across sectors, and how their organisation have identified and built upon the opportunities and how challenges arising from this have been overcome.

Mr Fujiwara stressed the important roles of the agricultural co-operatives and producers organisations as key strategic partners to unlock the potential of inclusive and sustainable agricultural and rural transformation in Africa. He further stated that FAO supports member states to foster an enabling environment including the development of appropriate regulatory and legal framework and a conducive investment climate and inclusive consultation frameworks for policy-related dialogues, to support and facilitate the devel-

opment of producers' capacities and to produce and disseminate knowledge on the role and impact of co-operatives and producer organisations in achieving food security and nutrition. FAO also supports cooperatives and producers organisations in various innovative ways including the Cash+ concept as well as the use of ICT tools in distribution of inputs to smallholder farmers, the development of community grain banks/ warehouse receipt system in ensuring food security and in improving access to market and finance, the promotion of contract farming and other value chain developments, among others.

However, statistics related to agricultural co-operatives and producer organisations remains a big gap, and FAO, in collaboration with other key partners including ICA, UN-DESA and ILO, is working on an innovative initiative to improve the quality of collecting information and statistics on co-operatives to better understand and advance the economic and social role of co-operatives and producer organisations in sustainable development and the achievement of zero hunger. One of the on-going activities is the development of a global co-operative legal frameworks database.

Ms Kipsang stated that We Effect supports the formation of co-operatives, ensuring that they are capacitated to meet both members' and market needs, viewing co-operatives as owners of a complete value chain - from a seed to the table. In recognition of the need for appropriate financing, We Effect links sectoral co-operatives with financial cooperatives.

Ms Esim stated that ILO is responsible for world of work issues - we are all workers - we all want better terms and conditions of work. ILO considers that co-operatives are critical instruments that promote decent work. Co-operatives have a proven record of contributing to better work and livelihoods. however this needs to be better understood and communicated for recognition and scaling up. For instance child labour is most prominent in agriculture (59%), and co-operatives are most prominent in agriculture hence co-operatives can be critical conduits in delivering the message towards elimination of the worst forms of child labour through capacitating their members on the same.

It was also noted that co-operative to co-operative trade can make global supply chains shorter and more effective.

In conclusion, the three speakers recognized that co-operatives are found to be more successful in some countries that have a conducive policy environment that allow for formation and operation of co-operatives - mechanism to enforce and monitor co-operative laws and policies are needed - members thus trust the co-operatives and the co-operatives are able to thrive. There is need for appropriate capacity within the co-operatives - need capacity strengthening from their governments. The motive for the formation of the co-operative is also a factor determining whether or not a co-operative is successful - voluntarism is a key to success. The speakers acknowledged the role that the co-operative movement plays in achieving food security at household and community level, and with the right mechanisms put in place, they can harness these successes and also contribute to eliminating hunger and extreme poverty in Africa.

They also suggested that to access international markets the co-operatives need to think about consumer needs, branding of their products and an effective supply chain design.

Discussions in working groups by 5 sub-regions: analyse the draft TORs of the Africa Agricultural Federation of Co-operatives feasibility study and propose modifications (elements to include, exclude or revise).

All present participated in the five working groups interrogating what the mandate of the AAFAC would be; how the proposed AAFAC would network all agricultural organisations (structure / form); performance measurements; and also what sustainability structures must exist in order to support the proposed AAFAC.

It was agreed that the name Alliance Africa Federation of Agricultural Co-operatives (AAFAC) be retained, and that the mandate for the AAFAC would be advocacy with respective governments and authorities, market support, capacity building, enhance co-operative trade, develop infrastructure, share knowledge on best practices and information sharing.

In terms of structure, it was agreed that all agricultural co-operatives in Africa need to be members, and must leverage on ICT so that data or statistics from agricultural co-operatives can be collected to enhance better decision making. The members should be equally and equitably represented in the federation, and the federation should create a platform for the agricultural cooperatives in Africa.

In order to measure performance, it was agreed that targets should be based on the 7 co-operative principles, volume and value of production, sales / turnover and profits, stakeholder indicators, and periodic performance audits must be undertaken to verify performance.

For sustainability to be ensured, full participation of members from farmers, to secondary to national and federation is required in all processes. It also requires that affiliates should be strengthened to support their participation, and there should be government support. The Federation, when established, should promote youth employment and women empowerment, ensuring that these two groups are well represented in the management of the same. There is also need to ensure that each country becomes a member of this Federation to ensure that no-one is left behind - strength in numbers. The Federation should be run independent of government, donors and NGOs interference.

Participants committed to the implementation of the SDGs, particularly to support agricultural co-operatives to contribute to an end to hunger in Africa. Through this meeting, a renewed impetus for African agricultural co-operatives to work together was initiated, where existing partnerships were consolidated and new ones established for the purposes of enhancing knowledge sharing and exchange of information, contributing to a strengthened agricultural sector.

Annex 1

Schedule of Events

23 May 2017		
08:00–08:30	Registration	Facilitator
08:30–08:45	Introduction, opening remarks and rationale behind the meeting, including presentation of the idea of a feasibility study for an Africa Agricultural Co-operative Sectoral Organisation	Dr Chiyoge B. SIFA: Regional Director, The Alliance Africa
08:45-09:00	The ICA-EU Partnership Project: A brief presentation of the project and progress made so far	Mr Marc NOEL : International Development Director, The Alliance
09:00-09:15	The Moroccan Law on Cooperatives	Mr Slimane LHAJJI : Office of Cooperation Development Mr Taoufik KNIDI : Minister of Tourism, Air Transport, Craft and the Social Economy, Morocco
09:15-09:35	Questions and Answers	
09:35-10:45	<p>Taking stock: Panel discussion on the status of agricultural co-operatives in Africa: achievements and challenges for food security and zero hunger</p> <p>i) Mr Arnauld Aganze ZOZO (Central Africa)</p> <p>ii) Mr Shimelles TENAW (Eastern Africa)</p> <p>iii) Mr Obi Ezenwa, Managing Director, Pine Global (Western Africa)</p> <p>iv) Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises and Co-operative Development, Zimbabwe (Southern Africa)</p> <p>v) Mr Mostafa Benouaicha of Office of Cooperation Development: Development of Moroccan Cooperatives: A Focus on Agricultural Cooperatives. 10 minutes per speaker</p>	Prof Esther GICHERU: Director, Research, The Co-operative University of Kenya (CUK) and Chair of the Alliance Africa Research and Gender Committee
10:45-11:15	Questions and Answers	
11:15 -11:30	Health break	

11:30-12:30	<p>Round table discussions on strategies for supporting agricultural co-operatives</p> <p>i) Office of Cooperation Development, Morocco</p> <p>ii) Mr Bukar TIJAN, Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Africa, UNFAO</p> <p>iii) Ms Simil ESIM, International Labour Organisation (ILO)</p> <p>iv) Ms Dorothy KiPSANG, Global Coordinator, Financial Inclusion, We Effect Regional Office for Eastern Africa</p>	Prof Faustin BEE : Vice Chancellor, Moshi Co-operative University (MoCU)
12:30-13:00	Questions and Answers	
13:00-14:00	Lunch break	
14:00-14:15	Brief presentation of the feasibility study concept	Dr Chiyoge B. SIFA : Regional Director, The Alliance Africa
14:15-15:15	Discussions in working groups by 5 sub-regions: analyse the draft TORs of the Africa Agricultural Federation of Co-operatives feasibility study and propose modifications (elements to include, exclude or revise).	Dr Rose KARIMI : Africa Nazarene University
15:15 -15:30	Health break	
15:30-17:00	Feedback from the sub-regional working groups in plenary – discussion and key recommendations	Dr Rose KARIMI : Africa Nazarene University
17:00–17:15	Way forward / next steps	Dr Chiyoge B. SIFA : Regional Director, The Alliance Africa
	Meeting communiqué: Overall summary and evaluation	Prof Esther GICHERU : Director, Research, The Co-operative University of Kenya (CUK) and Chair of the Alliance Africa Research and Gender Committee
Closing		

Annex 2

Evaluation

The interaction and networking amongst participants was encouraging

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Strongly Agree	8	25.8	25.8	25.8
Agree	20	64.5	64.5	90.3
Neutral	3	9.7	9.7	100.0
Total	31	100.0	100.0	

The content for the EU Consultative Meeting was helpful for my work

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	3.2	3.2	3.2
Strongly Agree	9	29.0	29.0	32.3
Agree	17	54.8	54.8	87.1
Neutral	3	9.7	9.7	96.8
Disagree	1	3.2	3.2	100.0
Total	31	100.0	100.0	

Time was well managed throughout this event

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Strongly Agree	2	6.5	6.5	6.5
Agree	10	32.3	32.3	38.7
Neutral	8	25.8	25.8	64.5
Disagree	9	29.0	29.0	93.5
Strongly Disagree	2	6.5	6.5	100.0
Total	31	100.0	100.0	

The consultative meeting has helped me learn more about the EU project and how it contributes to support the co-operative movement in Africa

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	3.2	3.2	3.2
Strongly Agree	7	22.6	22.6	25.8
Agree	18	58.1	58.1	83.9
Neutral	2	6.5	6.5	90.3
Disagree	3	9.7	9.7	100.0
Total	31	100.0	100.0	

Please specify what new learning you have received through this consultative meeting

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	16	51.6	51.6	51.6
Benchmarking and best practices	1	3.2	3.2	54.8
Importance of cooperatives in food security	1	3.2	3.2	58.1
Importance of stakeholder engagement; transparency is key to earn trust	1	3.2	3.2	61.3
Learned on the importance of networking	1	3.2	3.2	64.5
Market possibilities which comes with agriculture	1	3.2	3.2	67.7
National - Sub regional - Regional agricultural co-operative organizations and federation	1	3.2	3.2	71.0
Networking in addressing similar issues facing African agricultural sector	1	3.2	3.2	74.2
Progress and achievements made by various co-operatives in various countries	1	3.2	3.2	77.4
Role of agric-coops is critical	1	3.2	3.2	80.6
Secretarial model for co-operative federations	1	3.2	3.2	83.9
Solutions for the challenges faced by the agricultural cooperatives to strive in the food security on national and regional	1	3.2	3.2	87.1
Strategies of enhancing sustainability in Agricultural co-operatives	1	3.2	3.2	90.3
Sustainability for continuity purposes	1	3.2	3.2	93.5
The proposed structure of the Africa Agriculture structure cooperative organization	1	3.2	3.2	96.8
Understanding of the project	1	3.2	3.2	100.0
Total	31	100.0	100.0	

Preparatory communication and logistics

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Excellent	10	32.3	32.3	32.3
Good	18	58.1	58.1	90.3
Fair	2	6.5	6.5	96.8
Poor	1	3.2	3.2	100.0
Total	31	100.0	100.0	

Location of the event

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Excellent	10	32.3	32.3	32.3
Good	21	67.7	67.7	100.0
Total	31	100.0	100.0	

Registration process

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	3.2	3.2	3.2
Excellent	9	29.0	29.0	32.3
Good	15	48.4	48.4	80.6
Fair	6	19.4	19.4	100.0
Total	31	100.0	100.0	

Hotel accommodation

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	2	6.5	6.5	6.5
Excellent	9	29.0	29.0	35.5
Good	8	25.8	25.8	61.3
Fair	10	32.3	32.3	93.5
Poor	2	6.5	6.5	100.0
Total	31	100.0	100.0	

Length of sessions

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	3	9.7	9.7	9.7
Excellent	3	9.7	9.7	19.4
Good	11	35.5	35.5	54.8
Fair	13	41.9	41.9	96.8
Poor	1	3.2	3.2	100.0
Total	31	100.0	100.0	

Speakers / Presenters

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Excellent	11	35.5	35.5	35.5
Good	18	58.1	58.1	93.5
Fair	2	6.5	6.5	100.0
Total	31	100.0	100.0	

Were the sessions informative and did they address the stated topic in depth

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Yes	29	93.5	93.5	93.5
No	1	3.2	3.2	96.8
Not really	1	3.2	3.2	100.0
Total	31	100.0	100.0	

Did the consultative meeting meet your expectations

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Yes	29	93.5	93.5	93.5
No	2	6.5	6.5	100.0
Total	31	100.0	100.0	

What did you like most about the event?

	Fre- quency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumula- tive Per- cent
Valid	10	32.3	32.3	32.3
Creating the organization federation	1	3.2	3.2	35.5
Different participants	1	3.2	3.2	38.7
Discussions	1	3.2	3.2	41.9
Establishment of African federation	1	3.2	3.2	45.2
Information for federation	1	3.2	3.2	48.4
Information sharing	1	3.2	3.2	51.6
Interaction and networking	1	3.2	3.2	54.8
Interactive and participatory approach with participants	1	3.2	3.2	58.1
Networking	4	12.9	12.9	71.0
Networking and facilitation	1	3.2	3.2	74.2
Panel speakers	1	3.2	3.2	77.4
Panel approach for presentations	1	3.2	3.2	80.6
Participation and sharing of views	1	3.2	3.2	83.9
Platform for cooperatives to network and strengthen themselves	1	3.2	3.2	87.1
Presentation methodology	1	3.2	3.2	90.3
Shared participation	1	3.2	3.2	93.5
Sharing and contributions	1	3.2	3.2	96.8
The breadth of case studies on cooperatives across Africa	1	3.2	3.2	100.0
Total	31	100.0	100.0	

What did you like least about the event?

	Fre- quency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumula- tive Per- cent
Valid	14	45.2	45.2	45.2
Bad time keeping of all participants.	1	3.2	3.2	48.4
Conference set up i.e no tables lack of tables	1	3.2	3.2	51.6
Movements of participants in and out	1	3.2	3.2	54.8
Presentation format of discussion tables; presentation for- mats should either be in PowerPoint or Q&A style between moderators and speakers	1	3.2	3.2	61.3
Q&A time could be better managed	1	3.2	3.2	64.5
Short time	1	3.2	3.2	67.7
Sketch information on EU real projects	1	3.2	3.2	71.0
Time	1	3.2	3.2	74.2
Time allocation	1	3.2	3.2	77.4
Time management	4	12.9	12.9	90.3
Time observation	1	3.2	3.2	93.5
Translation services were disappointing	1	3.2	3.2	96.8
Water was not distributed to participants during the session	1	3.2	3.2	100.0
Total	31	100.0	100.0	

What are the critical areas of improvement for future events such as these?

	Fre- quency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumula- tive Per- cent
Valid	14	45.2	45.2	45.2
Avoid congesting the programme	1	3.2	3.2	48.4
Dialogue style	1	3.2	3.2	51.6
Extend invitations for many countries to participate; Im- prove on translation services	1	3.2	3.2	54.8
Instructions to panelists and use of Q&A by the moderator instead of 10-15 mins presentations	1	3.2	3.2	58.1
Keep time; Logistics on hotel bookings	1	3.2	3.2	61.3
Meetings to be twice or thrice in a year	1	3.2	3.2	64.5
Need more time	1	3.2	3.2	67.7
Relevant people to be present to present their papers	1	3.2	3.2	71.0
Set up tables early to allow participants to take up their notes in time	1	3.2	3.2	74.2
Time allocated for discussions	1	3.2	3.2	77.4
Time management	2	6.5	6.5	83.9
Time management and circulation of the points of discus- sion	1	3.2	3.2	87.1
Time management and increase the group discussions for experience sharing	1	3.2	3.2	90.3
Time management; conference package	1	3.2	3.2	93.5
Translation of questionnaires to other languages	1	3.2	3.2	96.8
Transport services; Hotel booking	1	3.2	3.2	100.0
Total	31	100.0	100.0	

What capacity building gaps within your organization have you managed to identify as a result of this event?

	Fre- quency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumula- tive Per- cent
Valid	16	51.6	51.6	51.6
Better understanding of regional/sub regional realities	1	3.2	3.2	54.8
Capacitating agricultural coops; Building sustainable cooperatives; Financing co-operatives	1	3.2	3.2	58.1
Capacity building training in particular ; Networking with other co-operative institutions	1	3.2	3.2	61.3
Co-operative integration	1	3.2	3.2	64.5
Establishment of unions and federations on specific areas such as agriculture	1	3.2	3.2	67.7
Information linkage; MARKET LINKAGE	1	3.2	3.2	71.0
Market (Agriculture) Information ; Collaboration of agricultural co-operatives in Africa; Agricultural co-operative bank	1	3.2	3.2	74.2
Market linkage ; share knowledge on the best experience; Advocacy strategy	1	3.2	3.2	77.4
Marketing needs; Skills in Trade organization; Training needs	1	3.2	3.2	80.6
Member participation; knowledge sharing with members; cooperatives growth	1	3.2	3.2	83.9
Member participation; member benefits; member knowledge growth	1	3.2	3.2	87.1
Member training and development; value chain; private sector partnerships	1	3.2	3.2	90.3
Resource mobilization; Event management	1	3.2	3.2	93.5
TFC need more exposure from ICA Africa; TFC need to participate more these movements; Huge gaps in networking and Africa and international level	1	3.2	3.2	96.8
There is insufficient coordination of coops in South Africa; The sectoral segregation of coops to improve support & sustainability	1	3.2	3.2	100.0
Total	31	100.0	100.0	

What is your overall assessment of the Pre-Conference / EU Consultative meeting?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	7	22.6	22.6	22.6
Poor	1	3.2	3.2	25.8
Fair	1	3.2	3.2	29.0
Good	9	29.0	29.0	58.1
Very good	11	35.5	35.5	93.5
Excellent	2	6.5	6.5	100.0
Total	31	100.0	100.0	

Please give any other comment in general that will help us better organize future events

	Fre- quency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumula- tive Per- cent
Valid	20	64.5	64.5	64.5
Federation to be set up quickly for it is of direct help to agriculture co-operatives	1	3.2	3.2	67.7
Grateful for cooperative development	1	3.2	3.2	71.0
Invite practitioners of co-operatives	1	3.2	3.2	74.2
Logistics should be set well before starting of any event; Interpretation gadgets should be tested before start-up of a meeting / conference	1	3.2	3.2	77.4
more time for presentation	1	3.2	3.2	80.6
Overlapping panels; too any questions	1	3.2	3.2	83.9
Registration to be done prior to the day of conference	1	3.2	3.2	87.1
Thank you for invitation and organization	1	3.2	3.2	90.3
Timely communication with all stakeholders involved	1	3.2	3.2	93.5
Well done	2	6.5	6.5	100.0
Total	31	100.0	100.0	