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# SKiM PROJECT NEWSLETTER

Strengthening Knowledge Management  
for Greater Development Effectiveness



**Sudan National  
Stakeholders  
Consultations**

**1st Sudan Monthly  
Forum on Knowledge  
Management**

**ARC Sudan Headquarters:  
Consultations and  
Knowledge Management  
Symposium**



# Sudan National Stakeholders Consultations

*In September, a series of meetings have been held by the Sudanese national stakeholders, composing the National Technical Committee and the Sudanese SKiM Knowledge Management Community of Practice, with the participation of international guests from the project's unit. The activities have ranged from hearing with the Sudanese Ministry of Agriculture, to assemblies with the academic sector, to meetings at IFAD and FAO Country Offices.*

The objectives of the operational meetings were:

- ✔ to follow up with the National Technical Committee on the 2022 agreement implementations;
- ✔ to elicit the scaling of best practices deployed by national stakeholders in KM;
- ✔ to gather feedback on SKiM implementation efficacy in country;
- ✔ to kick-start the collation of learning points from the SKiM project experience of Sudanese partners and

- ✔ to give impulse to communications among national stakeholders on the needs and plans for a future next phase of the SKiM project.

The Sudanese in-charge **Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry**, Dr. Abubakr Omer Albushra, has expressed full support to the SKiM goal of strengthening knowledge management, with particular appreciation for the knowledge sharing component (project outputs 2 and 3, Capacity Development and Knowledge Exchange), also in the perspective of a next phase. The ministry has highlighted the importance of digitalization for Sudan, to enable quicker and more accurate response of departments across the country and to save knowledge for future generations. Knowledge management interventions based on digitalization have been deemed essential to Sudan development and stability.





The same appreciation has been expressed by the **ARC Sudan** DG, Dr. Abdelmoneim Ahmed, which has expressed full interest and support for a SKiM phase 2, highlighting the need to analyze national KM processes in value chains and research-related decision making. The **FAO** Representative, Dr. Babagana Ahmadu, over the course of a short visit, has also advocated for continuous and steady development of knowledge management capacities in Sudan, especially in value chains.

The **IFAD** Country Office staff, at the presence of the Country Director Dr. Rasha Omari and Country Programme Officer Dr. Ahmed Subahi, has hosted the SKiM representatives expressing interest towards the **ARC Sudan-Virginia Tech** case study supported by SKiM on the “Value of Knowledge”. The study has been regarded of interest and possible scaling of its results could be object of future developments.

At the **University of Khartoum**, the Dean and Vice-Dean of Agriculture Prof. Omer Yousif and Prof. Gazi Badawi, have expressed great

interest towards the improvement in knowledge outreach that SKiM has supported. It has been noted with particular interest that active projects of UofK, such as the “Modern Irrigator System” targeting farmers and farming systems in Sudan, are reliant on the involvement of young professionals in research (PhDs and Masters) whom can benefit from formative activities on KM. UofK has so expressed interest in a second phase of SKiM that might continue to support science delivery (Knowledge Transfer & Sharing), targeting youth and including value chains.

The meeting at **Ahfad University for Women**, held by the Dean of R.E.E.D. (Rural Extension, Education and Development) Prof. Elsamwoul Khalil Mekki and the Vice President of Admissions Dr. Abubakr Abdelazim Hussein, has been focused exchange on the subject of youth academic development in Sudan and the education of national and international students, promulgating high-end curricula, especially in the science and diplomacy departments. It has been noted that many students engage in the Rural Trip Program, a



mechanism of knowledge management for transfer of information from the university to rural areas and back, sharing similarities with extensionism. Potential of this program for KM could be explored in a next phase.

Over the course of a visit at the **AETT** headquarters, the staff at the presence of the Director General, Dr. Salah Tambal, has showcased its fully equipped media broadcasting studio — radio, television, web — ready to support remote knowledge transfer. AETT has noted that a second phase of SKiM might further support the development of national stakeholders' multimedia communication plan. The matter of blogs and online content specific for the Sudanese context and directed to Sudanese people and stakeholders was also

discussed with the **Sudanese Knowledge Society** representative Dr. Rawan Sharfi and the **CCU-IFAD** officer Dr. Ekhlas Elomiry. A continuation of SKiM would allow to further support and follow up this national initiative.





# 1st Sudanese Knowledge Management Monthly Forum on “Sudan’s Agricultural Productivity, Challenges and Solutions”

*The SKiM supported Sudanese national initiative of “Knowledge Management Monthly Forum” had its first appointment on the 7th of September at the premises of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry in Khartoum. Scientists and policy-makers have convened to discuss on “Sudan’s Agricultural productivity, challenges and solutions”.*

The forum was attended by the in-charge ministry Dr. Abubakr Omer Albushra, whom has underlined the critical importance for Sudan

of digitalizing knowledge and improve its Open Access status across the country, for all to benefit and the country to develop at a sustainable rate in agriculture. The event was also participated by the national stakeholders, conducting the knowledge exchange.

The national event was organized by ARC Sudan with the support of the Sudanese Ministry of Agriculture and Forests.





# ARC Sudan Headquarters: Consultations and Knowledge Management Symposium

*The Agricultural Research Corporation of Sudan has organized on 8th September a national forum on knowledge management at its headquarters in Wad Madani.*

In that occasion, ARC Sudan has expressed appreciation towards SKiM contribution to target objectives well aligned with the pillars of Science Delivery, the Knowledge Transfer/Sharing component, while it has also been noted that momentum should be kept through a second phase of SKiM in order to capitalize on the linkages created during the project by the Sudanese Community of Practice on KM and the ongoing discourse at policy level on knowledge digitalization and the need to develop stronger linkages between research, extension and civil society nation-wide, advancing development on agriculture, water management, livestock and education.

Best practices scaling, such as the fully digital crop catalogue linking ARC Genebank with the Global Seed Vault through the interoperability between SESTO — fully developed in house at ARC — and Genesys — by Crop Trust, could also be supported through a next phase.



# Moldova — Knowledge and Innovation Transfer through Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs)

**Design business laboratory in order to support entrepreneurship in the universities and research centers (third mission-TTO)**

*In accordance with the SKiM framework and its Capacity Development and Innovation Plans, CIHEAM Bari has organized a five days training in Chisinau, from 3rd to 7th October 2022, with the operational support of IDIS "Viitorul".*

The training has brought focus on the "the goal of technology transfer office that should be to encourage entrepreneurship: stimulate students and researchers to enhance their knowledge through the creation, also in collaboration with the private sector, of new businesses: start-ups or spin-offs. The training has consisted of 5 days of lectures and technical visits as well as simulation activities where lecturers will present the different topic.

Universities and research centers are traditionally thought of as a place for higher education and research but are also aimed at engaging in dialogue with society to contribute to social, cultural, and economic development.

Universities and research centers are called upon to build bridges with businesses, civil society and the territories by leveraging competitiveness. This is the framework in which the "University's Third Mission" activities are defined. The University's Third Mission obliges to enhance the human capital trained by universities, research results and innovation, encouraging the creation of new businesses (start-ups) and innovation in senior companies, through the "Open Innovation" (OI) methodology. By involving external entities — such as companies, associations, organizations — and by focusing on the promotion of knowledge outreach and uptake, the academic and research institutions can contribute to the socio-economic development of the territory, while linking for regional strengthening.





# Learning Opportunities



Financial Management e-learning course

[Open Access →](#)



The Art of Knowledge Exchange (Self-paced)

[Open Access →](#)



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**Strengthening Knowledge Management  
for Greater Development Effectiveness  
in the Near East, North Africa,  
Central Asia and Europe**



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**Procasur**



## SKiM Partners in Sudan



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معهد الحسن الثاني للزراعة والبيطرة  
INSTITUT AGRONOMIQUE ET VÉTÉRIINAIRE HASSAN II



## SKiM Partners in Moldova



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