

SKiM PROJECT NEWSLETTER

Strengthening Knowledge Management for Greater
Development Effectiveness



**RAHAD AGRICULTURAL
RESEARCH SCHEME**

SUDAN
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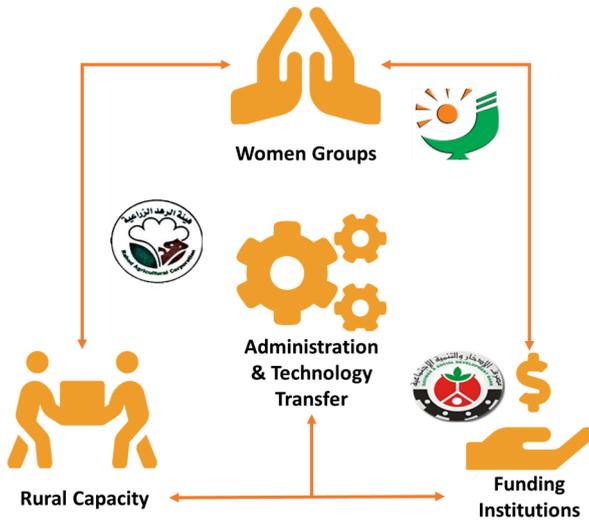
**2020 VIRTUAL LEARNING
ROUTE**

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**SKiM PARTNERS ONLINE
TRAINING**

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SKiM-RAHAD AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SCHEME POSTER



Dr. Tyseer O. E. interviewing Women Groups and Associations, extensionists and farmers. (RAS, 2010). Ph: RAAKS Team.

The past SKiM newsletters [Issue 4](#) and [Issue 5](#), introduced how [Dr. Tyseer Omer ElHadi](#) From University of Khartoum, employed the approach of social network analysis to understand knowledge sharing in agriculture production schemes.

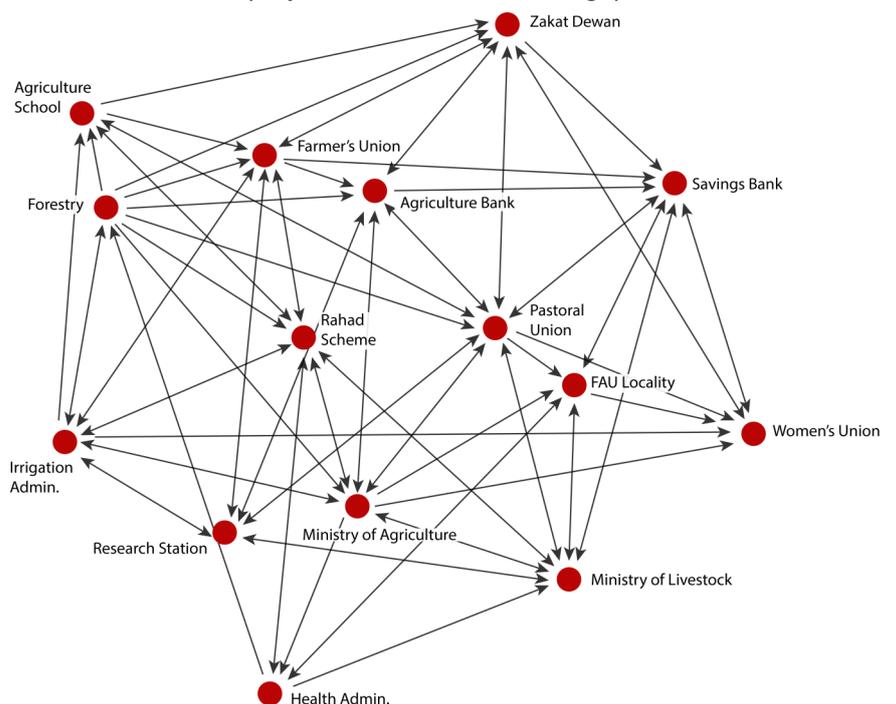
She has recently investigated how farming knowledge is networked among different actors in the Rahad Agricultural Scheme in Eastern Sudan (RAS) (260 Km South East of Khartoum) so as to facilitate the settlement of agro-pastoralist farmers that practice irrigated farming.

The objectives of this research were to use the concept of knowledge networking examine the roles of these actors within RAS, and understand the structure and pattern of communication in seeking information on farming and livestock keeping.

Through this project, Tyseer also presented the network of women groups to the extension and finance institutions in RAS. She argues that social network analysis can be a suitable research technique to organize knowledge management within agriculture innovation systems and to examine the intersection of gender and agriculture.

Dr. Tyseer has [developed a poster](#) in association with the SKiM project, that examines the gaps and needs in the RAS. The poster also outlines the implications of including women groups and extension personnel in participatory management that can significantly improve the capacity building and tuning the network for multi-stakeholder interfacing. This is achieved through better knowledge management, adding information brokers to link local farmers and financial institutions.

Dr. Tyseer concludes that knowledge networking improvements in RAS has potential to scale in similar agricultural environments. She also recommends that linear relations between stakeholders could evolve into participatory discussions that can be further analysed scientifically in workshops, that will facilitate new connections to positively impact



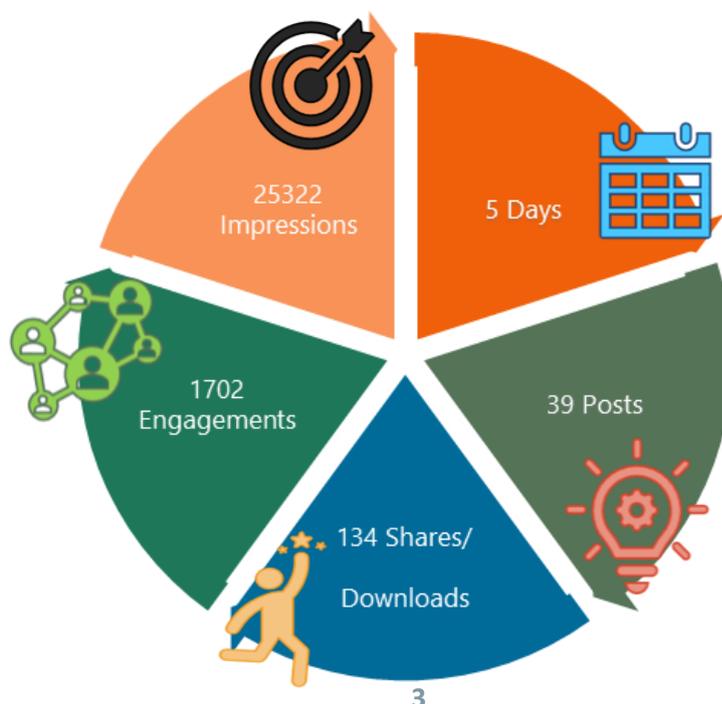
VIRTUAL LEARNING ROUTE– KM BEST PRACTICES IN SUDAN– SOCIAL MEDIA REPORTING

In the framework of the IFAD funded SKiM project, the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), and Procasur Corporation (PROCASUR) published together a wealth of Information on Sudanese agricultural knowledge management best practices through a closely monitored and interactive-like social media campaign on Virtual Learning Route from 30 November to 4 December, 2020. The [Virtual Learning Route](#) was packaged to be shared in a joint social media campaign by IFAD, ICARDA, CIHEAM-Bari, Procasur and Virginia Tech over the course of five days. The campaign and all preparation steps to it have been laid out jointly by SKiM partners and are detailed in the 2020 Virtual Learning Route Delivery and Communication Plan: <https://hdl.handle.net/20.500.11766/12250>

A [Social Media Toolkit](#), containing all posts all posts and photos needed for the campaign, ready to be published for the five days of the campaign, was prepared for the partners to use. The event was announced on the ICARDA website, the ICARDA MEL webpages <https://www.icarda.org/media/events/strengthening-knowledge-management-greater-development-effectiveness> and blogs <https://hdl.handle.net/20.500.11766.1/cba7e3>. A total of 24 Tweets and 15 Facebook post were produced over 5 days, scoring 25332 impressions, 1702 engagements of which 134 retweets, shares and downloads. The social media campaign has made use of the hashtags #SKiM and #Sudan. Over the course of the campaign, the organisers were able to collect metrics across the following channels – with IFAD providing Arabic coverage in addition to English.

Twitter	Facebook	LinkedIn
@CIHEAMBari	@CIHEAMBari	www.linkedin.com/company/iamb
@ICARDA	@icarda	www.linkedin.com/company/icarda
@IFAD, @IFADnews	@IFAD	www.linkedin.com/company/ifad
@PROCASUR	@procasur.corporation	www.linkedin.com/company/procasur
@VTAgecon	@VTAgecon	www.linkedin.com/school/virginia-tech - agricultural-and-applied-economics

The core participants were at 134, an assumption based on the number of shares/downloads of the Route knowledge through the social media and the MELSpace repository hosting the publications, validated against the 155 average viewers of the Learning videos through YouTube.



Online Training- Facilitating the Entrepreneurs' Journey- Moldova

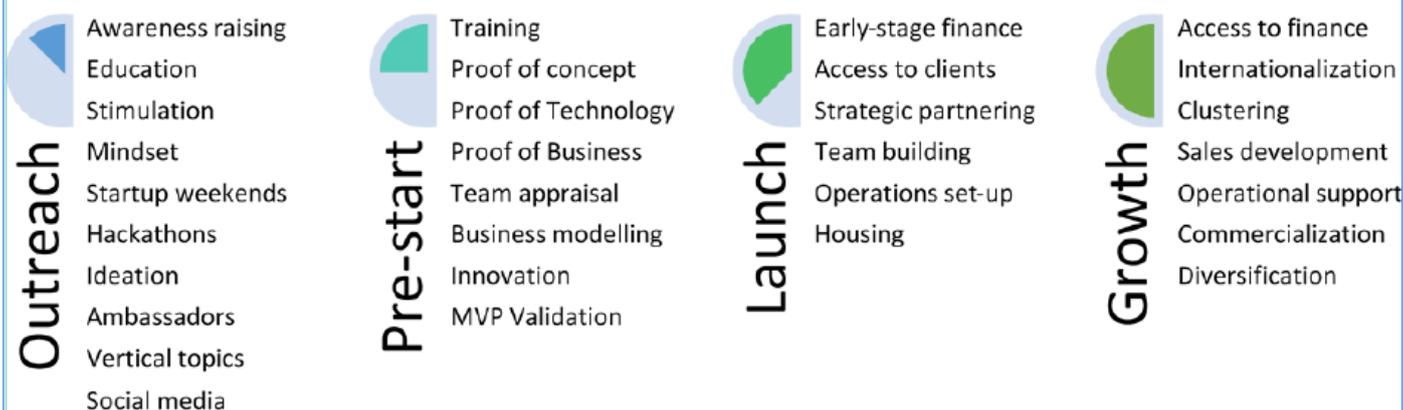
SKiM partner CIHEAM Bari has the task of organizing a series of tailored capacity development interventions in the form of training courses based on the capacity needs assessment undertaken in each of the SKiM target country and in the frame of the Activity 2.1: Delivery of on-demand training courses in knowledge management and capacity development best practices.

Due to Covid 19 related travel and gathering restrictions, the "Online Training- Facilitating the Entrepreneurs' Journey- Moldova" was held virtually on 24 and 25 November 2020. As capacity building is one of the pillars of the project and it is based on the partners' needs, it was ascertained that Moldova, Sudan and Morocco have different interests regarding future trainings. The participants from Moldova had reiterated their interest in entrepreneurship course.

The Moldovan State Agrarian University (SAUM) has aimed to transmit innovative ideas to develop businesses that help graduated students to take initiatives and become integrated into society by becoming participatory in the economy. This meets SKiM's thematic area 'financial inclusion of rural women and youth' through sharing the knowledge regarding the entrepreneurial culture and its challenges.

The 2-days training had an average of 20 participants/day, chosen by and from SAUM's faculties– Agronomy, Economics and Cadastre and Law faculty. The course was organised by CIHEAM Bari- Dr Jocelyne Jawhar and the lecturer was Giordano Dichter (of H&D Partners SPRL). The training was facilitated by Dr Elena Scripnic and Dr Svetlana Petrascu of SAUM. It was a mix of presentations, individual and group work that was based on the Entrepreneurship Support Value Chain Methodology (ESVC) which takes into consideration the 4 elements of a support program and the second day was on Innovation Support Organisation (ISO).

The Entrepreneurship Support Value Chain (ESVC)



Online Training- Information and Knowledge Transfer: Organization, Design and Delivery –Sudan

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CIHEAM Bari's activities fall under the **Component 2: Capacity development and knowledge systematization** and consequently aim to strengthen human and institutional capacities to manage the systematization of good practices. The experience of the "lock down" due to COVID 19 has paradoxically exalted positively, despite the drama of the event, the importance of systems for carrying out various remote activities through recent online technologies on the Web (smart working, e-learning, web meetings, webinars, etc.). The objective of the training was to answer the partners needs for capacity building and to extend (on demand), the session E-Learning and Remote Technical Assistance (RTA): the experience of CIHEAM Bari that was advanced during the 2020 SKiM Learning Week.

The 2-days training titled- **Information and knowledge transfer: organization, design and delivery** was held on 24th– 25th November 2020. It had an average of 20 participants and the training was structured with presentations to accessing the learning management system used by CIHEAM Bari to exercises and sessions of Q&A. The training was delivered by the lecturers Dr Luigi Sisto and Dr Onofrio Lorusso, and moderated by Dr Jocelyne Jawhar of CIHEAM Bari. It was supported by the Sudanese stakeholders, Dr Mahmoud Awad Mekki (of ARC) and SKiM focal point Mrs Sarra Beheiry.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Online Course: The Art of Knowledge Exchange

Hosted by the World Bank Open Learning Campus, available now - course details [here](#).

IFAD Knowledge Management CoP

Want to become a member or ask a question? Please visit the [xdesk page](#) or write to IFADknowledge@ifad.org.

IFAD Rural Solutions Available in Your Country

Rural Solutions providers reachable through the IFAD online portal and officers - solutions details [here](#).

Don't miss any news from the SKiM project! Find past newsletters here: [Issue 1](#) [Issue 2](#) [Issue 3](#) [Issue 4](#) [Issue 5](#) [Issue 6](#) [Issue 7](#) [Issue 8](#)

SKiM PROJECT IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS



Procasur



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Photo Credit: (Cover) IFAD; (2) Tyseer Omar; (4) Giordano Dichter;