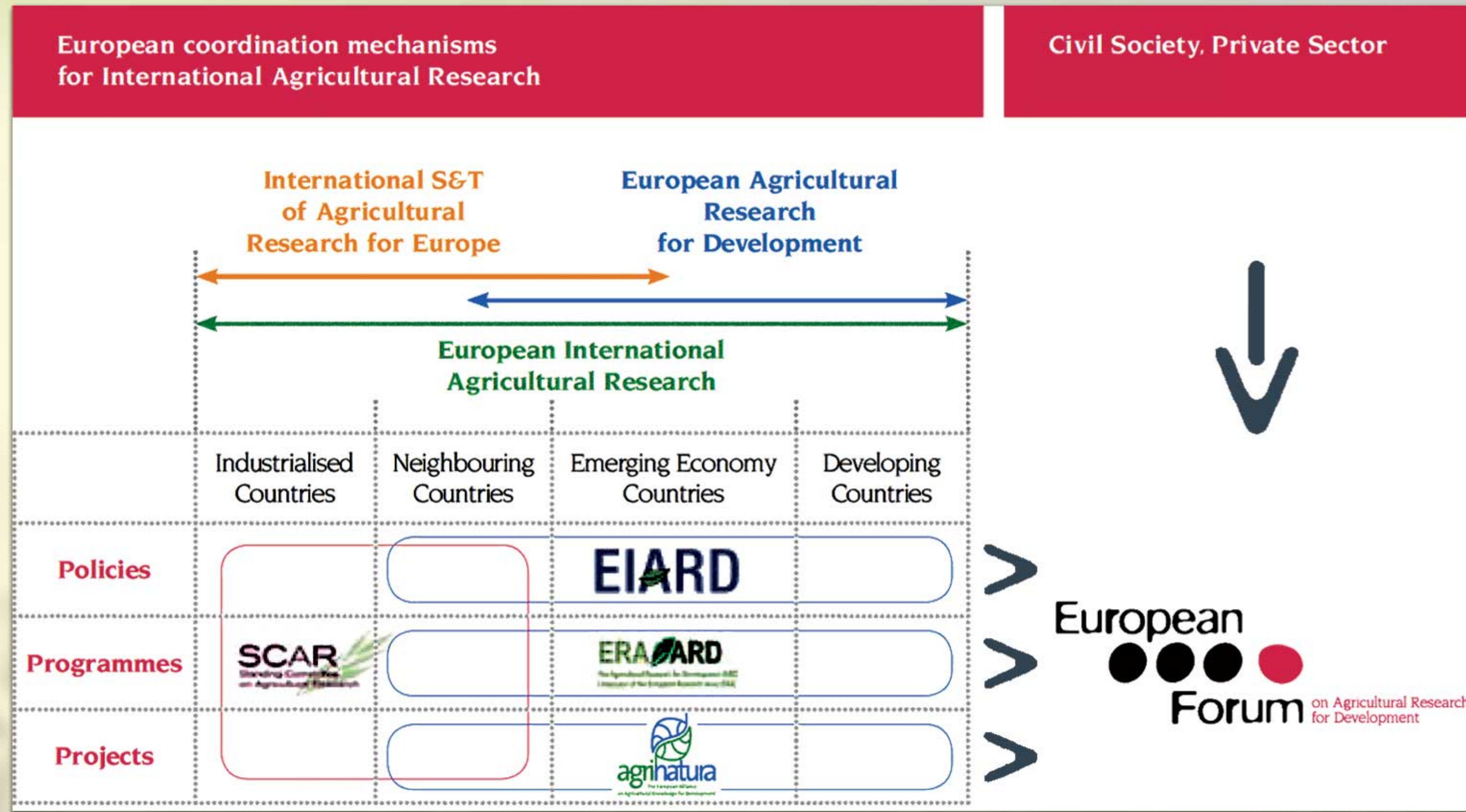


# EIARD in the European ARD landscape



# European Initiative for Agricultural Research for Development **EIARD**



*EIARD is a permanent policy coordination platform on Agricultural Research for Development (ARD) between European Countries (European Union Member States but also non Member States like Norway and Switzerland) and the European Commission.*

*EIARD's goal is to promote and implement coherent European policies at international, regional and sub-regional levels in order to increase the impact of agricultural research for development on poverty reduction, food security and sustainable management of natural resources in developing countries.*

*EIARD has been active since 1995 and is recognised by the European Council and Parliament.*

## EIARD members are

- Austria
- Belgium
- Czech Republic
- Cyprus
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
- Lithuania
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Portugal
- Slovak Republic
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- United Kingdom
- and the European Commission

## Contact Information

**EIARD Executive Secretary:**  
Philippe Petithuguenin  
Unit E4 - Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and Aquaculture  
DG RTD  
European Commission  
Tel: +32 (0)22960148

Email: [Philippe.Petithuguenin@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Philippe.Petithuguenin@ec.europa.eu)

For additional information, please visit [www.eiard.org](http://www.eiard.org)

EIARD is implemented by a European Coordination Group, which meets annually, and a smaller Working Group, which ensures the continuing activities of EIARD





## Aim and objectives

To achieve enhanced effectiveness of European policies, instruments and support in Agricultural Research for Development (ARD), EIARD objectives are to ensure effective coordination:

1. of European ARD policies.
2. of European investments in the international research organisations of the CGIAR (Consultative Group of International Agricultural Research).
3. of European investments in strengthening ARD organisations at global, continental and sub-continental levels, especially in Africa.
4. between European investments in ARD and investments in rural development.



## Activities

To achieve its objectives, EIARD uses:

- Exchange of information between members. Before key international events related to ARD, in particular before the meetings of the CGIAR Fund Council, EIARD delegates meet to share their views and develop a pan-European consensus (the "EIARD positions") on strategic issues.
- Commissioning of studies on selected topics, which are used to develop policy recommendations.
- Communication -through conferences, publication, website and other media- to advocate for better alignment and increased support to ARD at national, European and global level.



## Guiding principles

**Complementarity:** European support to ARD complements and adds value to existing bilateral aid provided by EIARD members. It also promotes regional ARD cooperation, where relevant and cost-efficient.

**Alignment:** European support to ARD is aligned with ARD policies, strategies and priorities in the South.

**Participation:** Collaboration amongst all stakeholders is necessary to make research relevant to and for end-users.

**Relevance:** Demand-driven ARD is defined by southern partners and takes into account the social, economic and cultural conditions in partner countries.

**Subsidiarity:** ARD activities are proportionate to the objectives to be achieved and planned and executed at the lowest possible levels at which they can be carried out effectively.

**Partnerships:** European supports to ARD seek to promote partnerships, equity and balanced management responsibilities among partners in the South and in Europe.

## Achievements

1. EIARD has promoted the need for change in the CGIAR and contributed actively to the reform process. This has been achieved through efficient coordination and active participation in all key CGIAR governance bodies. As a result, European views are well represented in the new CGIAR and its objectives are in line with European priorities.

2. GFAR, the global forum for agricultural research, supported for many years by EIARD, is now recognised as the legitimate apex global organisation in ARD. This was a clear outcome of the recent global conference, GCARD, held in March 2010.

3. After two decades of serious decline, EIARD advocacy on the key role of ARD to enhance food security and alleviate rural poverty has helped to renew public investments in this field. For instance, several European governments have launched in 2010 a joint programming of their research activities on "agriculture, food security and climate change". Another example is the EC policy approved in 2010 to "substantially increase support to demand-led agricultural research for development, extension and innovation," aiming at a 50 percent rise by 2015."