



# Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services (GFRAS)

EUFRAS International conference “Advisory service  
networking promotion towards Eastern Europe for  
Agriculture and Rural Development”

14-16 September, 2014

Jūrmala, Latvia

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# GFRAS Vision

*See rural advisory services effectively contributing to the sustainable reduction of hunger and poverty worldwide*

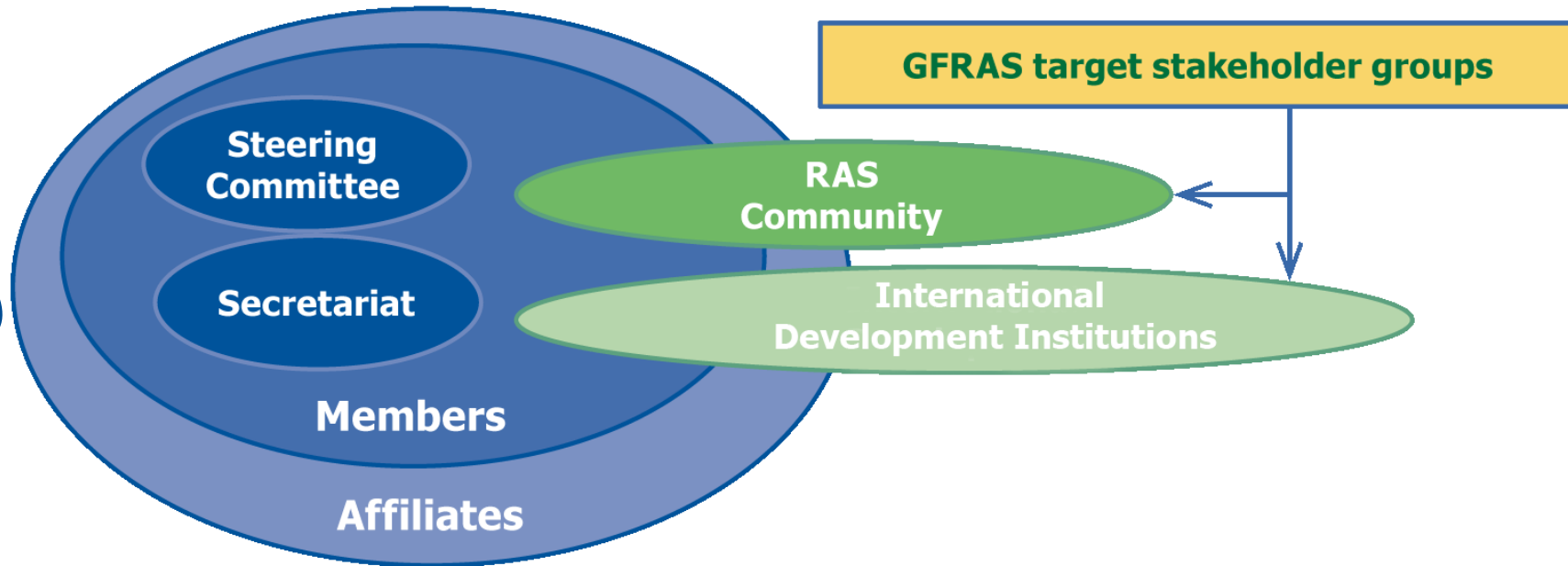
## GFRAS Mission

*Provide advocacy and leadership on rural advisory services within the global development agenda*

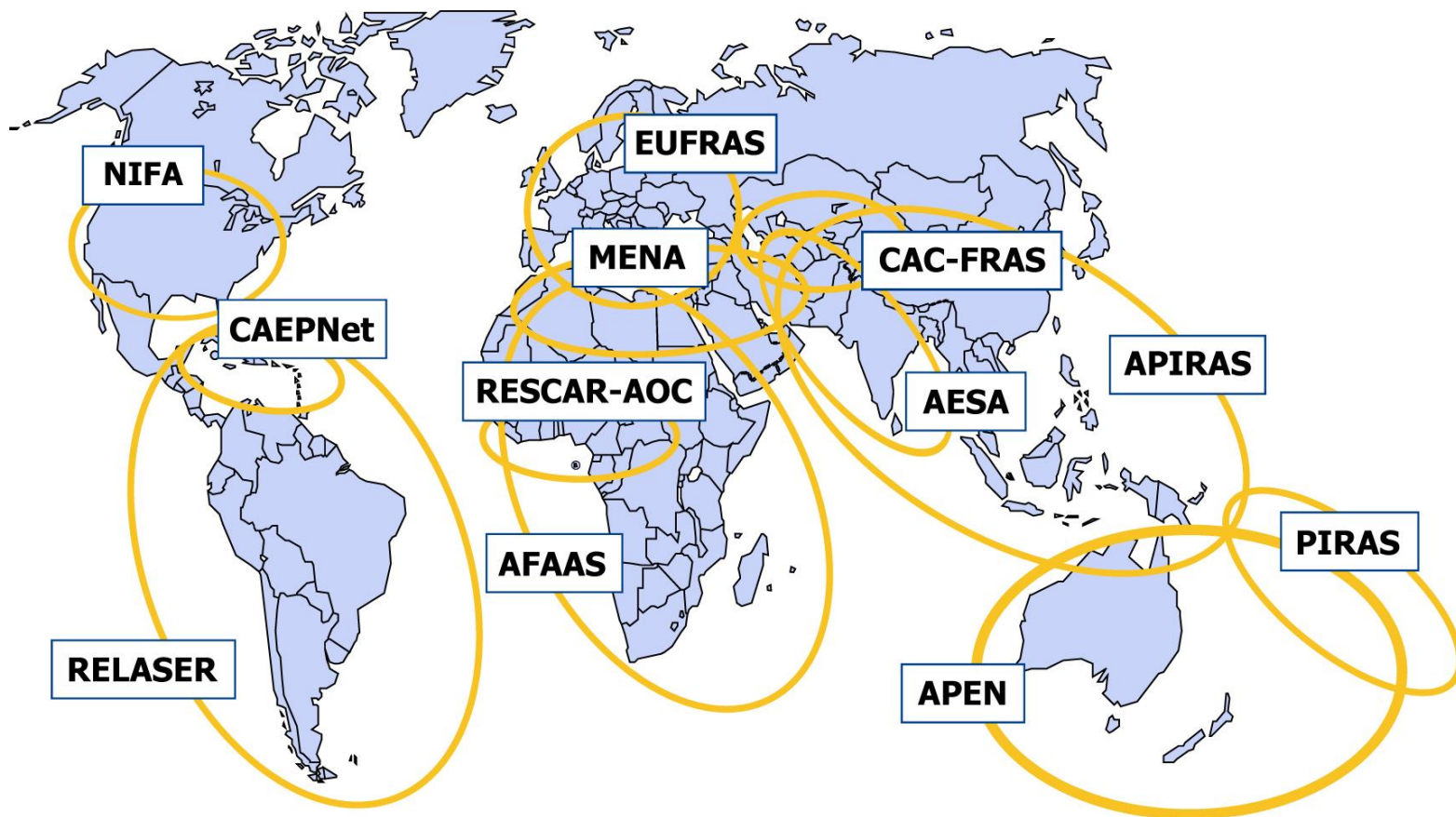
# GFRAS Functions

1. **Providing voice** for advisory services within global policy dialogues and promoting improved investment in RAS
2. Supporting the development and synthesis of **evidence-based approaches and policies** for improving the effectiveness of RAS
3. **Strengthening capacity of actors and fora** in RAS through facilitating interaction and networking

# GFRAS Structure



# RAS Networks



# Function 3: Capacity Strengthening



“The New Extensionist”:  
Roles and Capacities to Strengthen  
Extension and Advisory Services

# What is the “New Extensionist”

A global view of extension and advisory services (EAS) clearly articulating and reinventing its expanded role within agricultural innovation systems (AIS).

A look beyond strengthening individual skills at organisations and systems and their capacities.

# Why the “New Extensionist”

Clarifying the important role of EAS in enabling agricultural innovation

Advocating for strengthening EAS at different levels so that it contributes better to agricultural development





# Outline of paper

Takes an agricultural innovation systems viewpoint

Examines new roles, capacities, strategies for EAS

Makes recommendations to strengthen capacity at individual, organizational, system level, and to actions by actors at national, regional, and global level

# Europe: SOLINSA, CERCA

SOLINSA: Support of Learning and Innovation Networks for Sustainable Agriculture (LINSA)

- Exploring how policy instruments, financial arrangements, research, education and advisory services might support LINSA's in cost-efficient and effective ways



**SOLINSA**

Support of Learning and Innovation  
Networks for Sustainable Agriculture

# Europe: SOLINSA, CERCA

## CECRA: Certificate for European Consultants in Rural Areas

- Consolidating different training approaches of several countries
- Standardizing a competence development scheme



# Central Asia & Caucasus

- RAS Assessment
  - I. Document State of RAS
  - II. Determine gaps of understanding
- 6<sup>th</sup> GFRAS Annual Meeting 2015 in Kyrgyzstan

# Contact

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