



European Union

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To: **All Media Houses**

PRESS RELEASE

CCARDESA TO LAUNCH GRANT FACILITY IN GABORONE

The Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa (CCARDESA) Secretariat in collaboration with the European Union Delegation to the Republic of Botswana and SADC will launch the CCARDESA Grants Facility in Gaborone on the 19th November, 2014 at Boipuso Hall. About 60 representatives from the SADC region, the development partners (World Bank, USAID and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation), national agricultural research institutes and universities, NGOs, and the private sector will be attending the launch. The Botswana's Minister of Agriculture, Executive Secretary of SADC Secretariat, EU Ambassador and CCARDESA Board Chairperson are also expected to participate in this ceremony.

CCARDESA is a Sub-regional Research Organisation established by SADC member states to facilitate coordination and cooperation in agricultural research and development in the SADC region for purposes of promoting technology generation, dissemination and adoption, in support of improved regional food security and livelihoods. CCARDESA head office is housed at the Ministry of Agriculture in Gaborone. Its activities are funded by the EU under the 10th European Development Fund (EDF).

Since its establishment in 2011, CCARDESA has developed a Medium Term Operational Plan (MTO) through which it implements its activities. Early this year CCARDESA launched a call for proposals on collaborative research and development projects. Project beneficiaries to be funded from the CCARDESA Grants Facility include

Member States:

Angola	Lesotho	Malawi	Namibia	Swaziland
Botswana	Madagascar	Mauritius	Seychelles	United Republic of Tanzania
Democratic République du Congo	Mozambique	South Africa	Zambia	Zimbabwe



universities, agricultural research institutes, private companies and non-governmental organizations from the regional countries.

The objective of the launch is to inform the public of the important milestones for CCARDESA in supporting regional research.

For more information visit the CCARDESA website at www.ccardesa.org and facebook page www.facebook.com/ccardesa or contact Dr Baitisi Podisi (bpodisi@ccardesa.org +267 755 09 755).

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