



## Africa Agriculture Science Week & FARA General Assembly

10-16 June 2007  
Johannesburg, South Africa



### FARA General Assembly Side Event Reporting Format June 10-11, 2007

<b>Name of side event:</b>	NEPAD-CAADP Partnership Platform
<b>Sponsoring organization(s):</b>	NEPAD
<b>Name(s) &amp; email(s) of contact persons:</b>	Richard Mkandawire (RichardM@nepad.org)

#### Background/rationale of the side event

The NEPAD Secretariat held a CAADP Partnership Platform meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> of June. This meeting was attended by over 60 delegates whose composition included regional and national representatives, the AU, various development partners and the Regional Economic communities. The CAADP special side meeting was arranged as part of the on-going dialogue among key players in supporting country and regional level implementation of the agricultural agenda within the CAADP framework.

The purpose of the gathering was to share information and take stock of progress in implementation of CAADP. Specifically, the objectives of the meeting were set as follows:

- To take stock of the progress made in implementation of CAADP and pillar development
- To identify some critical challenges emerging in the implementation
- To identify some main action points
- To identify issues / topics to be discussed in the Partnership Platform meeting in September 2007

#### Principle agreements/actions/recommendations

Discussions were mainly centred along three lines namely: reports from the RECS, reports from the four CAADP Pillars and brief statements from development partners.

##### Report from the RECs

Progress in the RECs seems to be more advanced in some RECs than others.

##### COMESA

In COMESA, there is quite a lot of momentum. They are working towards creation of a Custom's Union, which will come into effect in December 2008. CAADP is the tool for integration of agriculture into COMESA and it is also fully recognised by the business sector and by all tools within COMESA.

**Progress in implementation:** one country in COMESA has completed the compact, four are in the process of finishing the compact, three are about to start and the remaining eleven will start the process before end of the year.

At regional level, there is agreement on 13 umbrella programmes covering all the pillars of CAADP. COMESA compacts will be completed by September 2007.

**Early Actions:** The COMESA council of ministers has agreed on about 20 early actions with a budget of about \$1.4billion. The capacity to implement CAADP has increased in COMESA. There are now five officers working on full time. Communication between COMESA and various partners has greatly improved with the engagement of a Communication officer and creation of the COMESA newsletter. There is also heavy engagement with civil society, e.g. SACAU and the COMESA business network.

There was general consensus that more support is needed for Rwanda, which has recently completed the compact. More support is also needed for pillar 2, which is still quite behind. In the early actions identified, it is important that there is support for

these, otherwise they become meaningless.

### *Way forward*

1. it is important to make sure that we sustain the involvement of policy makers
2. a few stakeholders are still out, it is important to make sure that they are involved in the process
3. We need to enhance our communication efforts

### **ECOWAS**

ECOWAS is the second major REC involved in the CAADP process next to COMESA and SADC. It has chosen CAADP as the tool for its agricultural development programme. The region has had an early start, but somehow things have slowed down. There has been a mission to start up the process in Nigeria, Niger, Mali and Senegal. Progress in these countries has slowed down except in Ghana, Mali and Senegal.

ECOWAS has been very proactive in mobilizing regional and national expertise. It is working with CIRAD, ECA, and MSU. There is investment framework which it has been working on since December to see how they can begin implementing. A methodological experts meeting was held in March to see how to move forward with roundtables. Beyond that there hasn't been much progress and things seem to have slowed down a bit.

**Challenges:** Coordination has not been as robust and systematic as it has been in COMESA. The expertise is there and countries are ready, but the Secretariat is weak.

**Way forward:** Plans are to get things moving in the next few weeks. Nigeria, Senegal and Mali are most likely to have roundtables. There will be country to country visits in the next 4 to 8 weeks (Ghana, Burkina, and Benin).

There has been an agreement between SADC and COMESA that the latter will be facilitating the roundtable process in SADC region. There has been major progress on FAAP with two officers recruited to advance FAAP agenda.

### **Progress on the Pillars**

#### **Pillar 1**

Pillar 1 has got two main thrusts; the Country Sustainable Land Management Investment Framework (CSIF) and the Strategic Investment Programme (SIP). The CSIF is a planning tool that provides a mechanism for countries to identify and implement investment programmes. Over the past year, FAO has provided technical backstopping in terms of development of the CSIF guidelines and development of the Vision Paper. The vision paper is currently being finalized and will be validated by the end of July. Technical backstopping from the UNCCD's Global Mechanism was in the development of the Country Engagement Strategy (CES). The CES provides a road map on how countries engage in the process including guidelines on diagnostics and stocktaking, M&E and indicators for SLM.

There have also been discussions with the African Union (AU) in the context of harmonization of CAADP, and the AU has reiterated their great commitment and support of TerrAfrica as a framework for implementation of Pillar 1.

The SIP is about mobilization of resources for the CSIF. It will make available about 50% of GEF funds under its OP15 for SLM in Africa. This will be about US\$150 million. SIP has been submitted to the GEF Council and is set to be approved when the Council meets this week 14-18 June 2007.

**Country level engagements:** There are several national platforms in many countries engaging in SLM and many of these countries are quite advanced in SLM activities, built upon their previous engagements like development of their NAPs, PRSPs etc. In such countries we are now dealing with issues of prioritization, harmonization and streamlining of SLM activities. Harmonization of donors and partners is in good progress, with more and more donors getting involved. A few countries are quite advanced in this. Eritrea, Kenya, Senegal, Madagascar, Nigeria, Mali & Niger have already sent in formal commitments and have on-going work along the SLM programmatic approach. In Uganda, Ethiopia, Ghana, Burkina Faso, Namibia and Malawi national platforms are underway in the development of SLM Investments framework/programs and in Lesotho, Gambia, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and South Africa close consultations are underway through the UN (TerrAfrica partnership) and Development agencies.

**Emerging challenges:** there was consensus on the following emerging challenges:

- Clarity is required for the national processes
- Information flows: we need to look for mechanisms that encourage dialogue
- Harmonization across pillars is yet to be taken on board
- Need to find a way of internalizing into other processes the lessons learnt

**Early actions:** there is an MOU with WWF to support the Nacala Cotton-tobacco out grower scheme. WWF is securing US \$ 100,000 in a joint COMESA-WWF-NEPAD initiative, which is expected to support scaling up of SLM and greater market access among the smallholder cotton-tobacco out-grower scheme farmers in the Nacala corridor.

### **Pillar two**

A tentative list of experts and reference group has been drafted. The first ERT meeting will be held in July and by September will have draft zero of the ERT framework. The target is that by December, this framework will have been circulated and have it adopted in January 2008. An expert has been recruited to assist in advancing the agenda and a proposal document has been drafted. Progress has been slow but now we are in the process of recruiting short term consultants.

### **Emerging challenges**

- How to bring stakeholders in the process so that they are representatives of the group
- How to identify the real farmers' associations

**Way forward:** The next step is to move towards programme definition, but in order to define programme of implementation at national and regional levels, there is need for commitment of donors, private sector and government. Currently, there is recognition of NEPAD, AU and RECs; donors are yet to partner in implementing this pillar.

### **Pillar 3**

A draft framework for African food Security was developed during a three day workshop in Johannesburg. Eighteen African experts attended and produced the draft FAFS, which provides a basis for consultation. FAFS focuses on Pillar 3 challenges and targets the chronically food insecure. A full draft will be produced in September before presentation at the Partnership Platform and the final document will be sent to the AU in January 2008 for adoption.

**Way forward:** There will be wide consultations and engagements in this framework. We are also going to design two web pages; one for experts to engage and another one for comments.

### **Pillar 4**

Considerable progress has been made on pillar 4 in the last few months including; strengthening relationship with partners, particularly with SROs such as ASARECA and CORAF. We have been closely working with other partners, CGOs etc and NGOS have formed the Sub-Sahara African consortium of NGOs. We are now working on plans on how to promote objectives of CAADP pillar four. FAAP has been endorsed by African Heads of State calling upon AU, NEPAD and RECs to realign their programme to the targets set by FAAP.

**Sub-regional level:** There is the WAAP programme in West Africa to promote actions adding value to cross-border collaboration. WAAP outlines actions to be taken at sub-regional level and ECOWAS is already following the guidance of this programme.

In SADC, there is the MAAP coming through and FARA has put in a three man team to assist in driving this programme. ASARECA is also coming up.

**National level:** A range of countries are aligning their programmes and strategies. Some have produced their productivity programmes based on the FAAP. These include Sierra Leone, Guinea and Mozambique.

### **Sub-Sahara Challenge Programme (SSA CP)**

This is a programme to strengthen capacity of scientific institutions. On SSA CP, FARA received the green light to implement the IAR4D. SCARDA is up and running under the umbrella of CAADP. Right now a scoping exercise is ongoing in various sub-regions and implementation is to start next September.

There are region-wide activities: DONATA to provide information on good technologies; RAILS on information gathering and dissemination towards key players and ABBI, which is yet to receive funding. This will be related to biotechnology policy-related issues.

Communication is through the monthly bulletin which has a section specifically for CAADP progress.

### **Emerging challenges**

- Coordination of these initiatives needs improvement
- Decisions should not be taken by the extension workers only, all entities should be involved.
- For too long we have been working in isolation. How do we encourage all partners to participate?

- There is a question of ownership – Who owns the programme at national, regional and sub-regional level?
- Funding of the programme is also a challenge: support received so far is partial. We need additional support including that of governments. Capacity building is being supported by DFID, AfDB

**Way forward:**

There is need for clear linkages with other pillars, good communication and flow of information from other pillars. It is also important to have clear understanding of clearly defined roles and responsibilities; NEPAD, SROs, FARA? We also need a clear roadmap on M&E.

**Statements from development partners**

With regards to the G8 support to this process, Andrew Kidd told the meeting that not everything that was mentioned in Sea Island and Gleneagles was mentioned in Hellingedamm, but CAADP was re-affirmed and this is significant. They will try to maintain the political commitment to Africa through CAADP.

**SIDA:** revealed that they put 50% of their energy in convincing their people back home that CAADP is something to go for. However, they would like to see an improvement as far as communication and governance of CAADP is concerned. The newsletter from COMESA is very good initiative, but it is not enough. There is need for a good and well managed website where people can access accurate and up-to-date information.

**Consensus on issues needing further action:**

The meeting agreed on the following:

- Communication / information sharing needs to improve. There is great need for interaction among the various pillars. The Newsletters are good but insufficient. **Action:** two web-pages to be put on the NEPAD website, specifically for the purpose of sharing information on CAADP and enhance communication among players and between levels.
- There should be an African organization taking the lead in Pillar 1. **Action:** NEPAD has engaged CILSS in West Africa, in discussions on it taking the role of Centre of Excellency in SLM. Plans are underway to establish other centres of excellence in the other sub-regions.
- Governance with regards to the different frameworks needs to improve. **Action:** Lead institutions for each pillar have now been identified. As we go to the AU in September, we will be reporting on the status. There needs to be clear discussion on CAADP management / roles and responsibilities of the various players.
- We need to develop synergy among the 4 pillars for coordination, leadership and ownership by African Countries.
- It is difficult to report on progress in a consistent way by the various key players. There is therefore need for an M&E as tool to track progress in each individual pillar. It is critical that there are good indicators for this exercise.
- There is the need for stronger inter-sectoral coordination within NEPAD Secretariat to assure cross-fertilization among key players as first step, before moving to the other levels.
- Governments should illustrate commitment to resources / budgets. The budget bill should keep agricultural issues on the political agenda.
- There is need for a coordination mechanism between funders. Rwanda was cited as a good example: the signed Compact saw creation of partnerships between private sector, government and donors for their compact-noted priorities.
- Pillar 1: should address water management issues
- NEPAD should provide update on progress with regards to the CAADP companion Document

<p><b>Side event linked to which FARA networking support function? (check one)</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Advocacy and resource mobilization</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Access to knowledge and technologies</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Regional policies and markets</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Capacity strengthening</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Partnerships and strategic alliances</b></p>
--	---