



CAADP SUMMARY

Prepared by

The NEPAD Secretariat

**For the Southern Africa Regional Implementation Planning (RIP)
Meeting in Maputo, Mozambique, February 15th- 18th 2005**

Introduction

The Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) has been endorsed by the African Heads of State and Government as a framework for the restoration of agriculture growth, food security, and rural development in Africa. The primary CAADP goal is agriculture-led development that eliminates hunger, reduces poverty and food insecurity, opening the way for export expansion. CAADP has the following specific targets for achievement by the year 2015:

- Improve the productivity of agriculture to attain an average annual growth rate of 6 percent, with particular attention to small-scale farmers, especially focusing on women;
- Have dynamic agricultural markets within countries and between regions;
- Have integrated farmers into the market economy and have improved access to markets to become a net exporter of agriculture products;
- Achieved a more equitable distribution of wealth;
- Be a strategic player in agricultural science and technology development; and
- Practice environmentally sound production methods and have a culture of sustainable management of the natural resource base.

Four specific thrusts for improving Africa's agriculture that are outlined by the CAADP:

1. Extending the area under **sustainable land management** and reliable water control systems;
2. **Improving rural infrastructure** and trade related capacities for market accesses;
3. Increasing **food supply**, reduce hunger, and improve responses to food emergency crises; and
4. Improving **agriculture research**, technology dissemination and adoption.

In addition, there are three clusters of critical issues that cut across the four CAADP pillars and which need to be addressed as part the implementation of agenda. These are:

5. **Capacity Strengthening** for Agriculture and Agribusiness: Academic and Professional Training; and
6. **Information** for Agricultural Strategy Formulation and Implementation.

The section below briefly describes the key challenges, strategies, objectives and illustrative activities in each of the four pillars and two cross-cutting areas.

The CAADP Pillars & Cross-cutting Areas

1. Extending the area Under Sustainable Land Management and Reliable Water Control Systems

Reliance on irregular and unreliable rainfall for agricultural production is a major constraint on crop productivity. Rain-fed agriculture is moreover often unable to permit high-yield crop varieties to achieve their full production potential. Accordingly, it is of concern that for Africa, the percentage of arable land that is irrigated is 7 percent (barely 3.7 percent in Sub-Saharan Africa), while the corresponding percentages for South America, East and South-East Asia and South Asia are 10 percent, 29 percent, and 41 percent respectively. Furthermore, 16 percent of all soils in Africa are classified as having low nutrient reserves, while in Asia, the equivalent figure is only 4 percent. Moreover, fertiliser productivity (expressed in terms of maize yield response) in Africa is estimated at some 36 percent lower than in Asia and 92 percent lower than in developed countries. Building up soil fertility and the moisture holding capacity of agricultural soils and rapidly increasing the area equipped with irrigation, especially small-scale water control, will not only provide farmers with

opportunities to raise output on a sustainable basis but also will contribute to the reliability of food supplies.

Sustainable land management and reliable water control systems will contribute to increased food supply and will depend on improved agriculture research, academic and profession training and information and knowledge systems.

Objectives:

- To revert fertility loss and resource degradation, and ensure broad-based and rapid adoption of sustainable land and forestry management practices in the small-holder as well as commercial sectors; and
- To improve management of water resources while expanding access to irrigation both small and as well as large scale.

Indicative Improvements:

- a. Reinforcement of national capacities for land administration, including those of local governments, to improve access to land and protect user rights;
- b. Improvement of national research and extension systems to develop and disseminate conservation-friendly forestry and farming technologies;
- c. Design and implementation of community-based reforestation and resource conservation programs;
- d. Expansion of proven interventions in soil health, restoring soil fertility with mineral fertilizers, agroforestry, cover crops, and green manures.
- e. Improved management of river basin water resources;
- f. Enhancement of strategic public infrastructure for water control, thereby creating opportunities for the private sector to invest in irrigation;
- g. Improvements in small-scale water management, including rainfall-harvesting and drip irrigation; and
- h. Greater partnership with farmer organisations and local administrations to manage access to and use of farmland.

2. Improving rural infrastructure and trade-related capacities for market access

Improvements in roads, storage, markets, packaging and handling systems, and input supply networks, are vital to raising the competitiveness of local production vis-à-vis imports and in export markets. Investment in these areas will stimulate the volume of production and trade, thereby assisting to generate an appropriate rate of return on needed investments in ports and airport facilities. Moreover, exporting countries within the region need to raise their capacity to participate in trade negotiations and to meet the increasingly stringent quality requirements of world trade.

Unlike the situation in Asia in the sixties where countries were primarily faced with a supply constraint and could, therefore, easily find outlets for incremental output quantities, the context of globalised agricultural markets imposes upon African countries an additional constraint on the demand side. It is not sufficient any more to manage to raise production levels. An equally strong focus needs to be put upon the development of the supply chain across most agricultural sub-sectors. Africa's revolution cannot therefore be a green one, as important changes need to take place far from the farm.

Improving rural infrastructure and trade-related capacities will contribute to increased food supply and sustainable land management and reliable water control systems. In addition, this

pillar will depend on improved agriculture research, academic and profession training and information and knowledge systems.

Objectives:

- To accelerate growth in the agricultural sector by raising the capacities of private entrepreneurs, including commercial and small-holder farmers, to meet the increasingly complex quality and logistic requirements of markets focusing on selected agricultural commodities that offer the potential to raise rural (on and off-farm) incomes; and
- To create the required regulatory and policy framework that would facilitate the emergence of regional economic spaces that would spur the expansion of regional trade and cross-country investments.

Indicative Improvements:

- a. Enhanced quality control and management systems to facilitate access to quality certification services, promote firm and farm level training, provide export market intelligence, and facilitate business partnerships with importing companies;
- b. Expansion of commercial infrastructure and equipment to improve product packaging, handling, and export logistics at the ports and airports;
- c. Promotion of competitive farming and manufacturing technologies and practices;
- d. Building strategic alliances to create industry-to-industry linkages, strengthen supply chain linkages that enable rural communities to participate in markets, and strengthen information systems that improve smallholder access to markets.
- e. Development of agricultural sector and trade policy surveillance systems to effectively monitor and remove barriers to trans-border commodity movement (Regional Policy Monitoring Systems and publication of Policy Report Cards);
- f. Collection and disseminate of information on regional trade flows as well as study trends in regional commodity markets (Regional Trade Information Systems and publication of Regional Commodity Outlook Reports)

Linkages to other The Regional Policy Monitoring Systems and Regional Trade Information Systems would be integrated into the Regional Strategy Knowledge Support Systems described below.

3. *Increasing Food Supply and Reducing Hunger*

The CAADP programme clearly argues the critical importance of improving food security based on the recognition that one third of the African population suffer from chronic hunger and malnutrition. NEPAD in this regard intends to pay special attention to focusing on investments that will respond to the growing frequency and severity of food emergency crises, in addition to focusing on long-term development interventions.

Objectives:

- To establish at the national level, well managed, and regionally coordinated food reserves and early warning systems that would allow African countries to respond in a timely and cost-effective manner to food emergency crises.
- To reduce malnutrition in school-going children, through diet supplementation with a complete meal that is adequate in carbohydrates, protein, fat, vitamins and minerals; and
- To expand local demand and stimulate production by smallholder farmers.

Indicative Improvements:

- a. Establishment of country-level emergency food reserve stocks sufficient to meet three-months of food needs during emergency-induced food shortages;
- b. Building capacities of management teams and provide technical assistance where necessary;
- c. Enhancement of regional financial reserves to finance large-scale food emergencies.
- d. Provision of basic school lunch meals that are balanced in terms of calorie and micronutrient to 1,000,000 school children in poor and vulnerable areas;
- e. Improved storage facilities and transport equipment;
- f. Enhanced equipment of school kitchens.

4. Agricultural Research, Technology Dissemination and Adoption

It is widely recognized that the most effective way to reduce poverty and improve food security in the long run is to raise the productivity of resources that poor people depend on for their livelihood. In the case of most African countries, these resources are agricultural land and labour. Furthermore, the option of agriculture-led development and the objective of a 6% agricultural growth require a more rapid and sustained increase of productivity in the agricultural sector.

Objectives:

- A sustained flow of technologies, which are suitable to the context and adequately meet the challenges of African agriculture
- National agricultural technology systems that are responsive to opportunities and constraints facing farmers
- To mobilize the large potential of Cassava to contribute to food security and income generation among African countries.

Indicative Improvements:

- a. Improved capacity of farmer organisations to participate more actively in the generation and dissemination of agricultural technologies, in particular through more proactive partnering with the research and extension systems;
- b. Improves efficiency, accountability, and sustainability of the national agricultural technology generation and advisory systems, including by strengthening their linkages with regional and international institutions;
- c. Development of efficient market chains for the delivery of agricultural technologies and inputs;
- d. Increased capacity of national governments to deliver their core functions; and
- e. Development of effective regional organisations (associations, networks) of producers/technology users, research institutions, technology suppliers and policy makers, to facilitate efficient technology transfer across countries.
- f. Enhanced capacity of commodity chain institutions;
- g. Improved technology development and dissemination; and
- h. Improved access to finance

5. *Capacity Strengthening for Agriculture and Agribusiness: Academic and Professional Training*

The need for increasing capacity in agricultural science and agricultural and development economics in Africa arises out of the fact that in the next several decades, agriculture, including livestock, forestry and fisheries, will continue to be the foundation for development, hunger eradication, and poverty reduction in the continent. Presently, Africa is experiencing a significant capacity shortage. The capacity gap must be addressed if the advances made thus far in agriculture-led poverty reduction in the continent are to continue and the regions currently experiencing serious declines in food security are to reverse their situation.

Constituting a first step in this process would be the reform and strengthening of Africa's academic and research institutions so that they can more effectively use their existing human resources. As programs for advanced student training will require some time to create large enough numbers of staff in research and policymaking in the various countries to make a difference, enabling the region's institutions to make better use of the knowledge they possess is an urgent step that must be embarked upon immediately.

In addition to the challenges in the formal education sector, African countries will have to expand technical and professional training to upgrade the skills of the future farming generations. The demands of modern marketing and distribution systems cannot be met with yesterday's skills. Moreover, broadly accessible technical and professional training would modernize the farming sector and raise its appeal for future generations.

Objectives:

- To significantly increase the number of Africans with Post-Graduate degrees in agricultural sciences and agricultural/development economics;
- To modernize smallholder farming through broad-based access to professional training; and
- To reform and restructure training and technology institutions, where necessary, to raise efficiency of use of existing resources and improve the quality of services.

Indicative Improvements:

- a. Upgrade and expansion selected universities to become regional centers of academic excellence and create new centers of excellence where required by the specificity of the academic field;
- b. Establishment of partnerships and exchange programmes between African universities and targeted leading universities and colleges around the world;
- c. Creation of professional training centers to modernize smallholder farming and raise its attractiveness as a career for young people in rural areas.

6. *Information for Agricultural Strategy Formulation and Implementation*

An important part of strategy and policy formulation and implementation is to have access to adequate benchmarks, best practices, statistical information, and other relevant technical information. This access is lacking in most African countries. The situation can be remedied by using modern communication technologies to collect, store, and expand access to the above information. Doing so collectively at the regional level would allow economies of scale and encourage mutual learning and exchange of experiences.

It is also critical to achieve consistency of long-term development efforts in African countries and in particular maintain the focus on poverty reduction through higher productivity and incomes among the poorer segments of the population. It is therefore necessary to ensure that PRSP processes are in line with the CAADP agenda. As more and more countries move further on the PRSP process, it is important that the associated budget support programmes reflect the pro-poor and pro-small holder options that underlie the CAADP program.

Objectives:

- To improve the quality of sector governance and strategy formulation and implementation in the agricultural sector by African countries.
- To raise the allocation of resources by countries to the agricultural sector and improve the implementation effectiveness of support programmes based on PRSPs, as well as the impact of such programs, in terms of their contribution to the objectives of growth, higher smallholder productivity, and poverty reduction.

Indicative Improvements:

- a. Improved documentation of successful development strategies in the agricultural sector across Africa;
- b. Enhanced databases on international best practices in sector governance and strategy preparation and implementation;
- c. Improved statistical information and modeling tools to support and inform policy design and formulation;
- d. Enhanced quality of national policies in the agricultural sector;
- e. Reviews of sector trends and performance at the country and regional level.
- f. Improved budget tracking systems for the agricultural sector;
- g. Enhanced country-level ability to mobilize expertise to improve programme design and implementation;
- h. Development of improved systems for monitoring the design and implementation of budget support programmes and facilitate learning across countries.