



NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency
Agence de Planification et de Coordination du NEPAD

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CAADP

SUCCESS STORIES 4: POLICY AND INCLUSIVENESS



Kick-starting groups for women farmers, such as this one in Ghana, is a key aspect of CAADP implementation

A framework for policy and engagement

The policy environment is the key to progress in agricultural development and poverty alleviation. This is why the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) is focusing on improving agricultural policy processes, including promoting the engagement of key stakeholders, such as farmers, the private sector and donors.

The Programme has made good progress: developing frameworks to guide national and regional policy-making; engaging with national governments to develop comprehensive, coherent, costed and evidence-based strategies for agricultural development; and promoting broad engagement of stakeholders in the policy-making process.

Thematic policy guidance

Developing effective policies requires clearly identifying both the constraints that need to be addressed and the most promising opportunities, including the most effective interventions. CAADP, in consultation with governments, the private sector and farmers' organisations, developed four framework documents to guide policies.

CAADP – the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme – is the framework set up by the African Union's NEPAD programme to raise the amount and quality of food produced in Africa. The aim is to provide a secure supply of food for families, communities and countries and to make exports more profitable. CAADP is an Africa-led initiative, founded in 2003.

The NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency – a technical agency of the African Union – works closely with the African Union Commission, regional economic communities, national governments, civil society and the private sector to implement the CAADP Agenda.

- Framework for Sustainable Land and Water Management
- Framework for the Improvement of Rural Infrastructure and Trade-related Capacities for Market Access
- Framework for African Food Security
- Framework for African Agricultural Productivity

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Applying CAADP frameworks at national level

In Rwanda, a new strategic plan for agricultural development guided by CAADP frameworks is strongly geared towards giving incentives to producers to adopt new technologies in crop and livestock production.

In Ethiopia and Ghana CAADP has contributed to the analysis of key issues facing agriculture and is working with governments to ensure that policy and investment are consistent with CAADP frameworks.

In Rwanda, the CAADP framework played a key role in engaging donors in a dialogue about the strategy and financing needs for agriculture.

Wider engagement, more ownership, more progress

CAADP sees engaging a broad range of stakeholders in the development, implementation and monitoring of agricultural policy as crucial to encouraging collective responsibility for agricultural growth and development.

At the continental level, the CAADP Partnership Platform is a mechanism for policy dialogue and review. Meeting twice a year, it links CAADP core institutions with farmers' organisations, the private sector and development partner agencies.

The annual CAADP Africa Forum gives African farmers a voice and helps farmers' organisations engage with agricultural policy debates. In 2010, regional farmers' organisations took the lead in focusing the 2010 Africa Forum on smallholder strategies for income growth and food security.

Challenges ahead

More needs to be done to ensure the legitimacy and accountability of the representatives of various stakeholder groups and to boost the ability of stakeholders to participate effectively in the policy-making process.

Efforts are already underway to address these issues. For example, in Burkina Faso, development partners funded a training programme for civil society organisations and farmers' organisations to help them better understand the CAADP process and plan their engagement with it and with the government. ActionAid is providing similar support in Ghana and other countries in West Africa.

This publication is based on the study *CAADP - Highlighting the Successes*, which was commissioned by the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency and GIZ, and implemented through the Overseas Development Institute.

The study looked at emerging successes in terms of country-level policy changes and their subsequent impact on agricultural productivity and policy inclusiveness. It was carried out in Ethiopia, Ghana and Rwanda.

Special recognition is given here to the farmers, policy makers, researchers and partners who participated in this study in the three countries. The full study is available at www.nepad.org or www.nepad-caadp.net.



Engaging stakeholders at country level

At the country level there has been considerable progress in engaging a broad range of stakeholders in the CAADP process. Ethiopia's CAADP National Steering Committee involves several government ministries, civil society bodies and a farmers' cooperative.

In Ghana, farmers' associations and private sector federations have contributed to policy-making through the CAADP process, and interactions between the Ministries of Agriculture and Finance on budgeting have been strengthened.

Similar processes are under way in Tanzania and Kenya.

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