



The role of NEPAD in CAADP has evolved as the early focus on specific policy initiatives under each CAADP pillar has broadened to address the need for deep-seated changes in the enabling environment, and how agricultural 'business' is done in Africa.

NEPAD provides key support to regional and national initiatives aimed at bringing about these comprehensive changes in policy, and encourages investment in agricultural development programmes that directly target productivity goals and pillar priorities.

A new strategy

The new CAADP Strategic Plan sets out five areas that NEPAD will focus on.

1. NEPAD will promote CAADP principles in CAADP implementation processes and investment programmes.
2. NEPAD will manage communication and information to support the implementation of the CAADP Agenda and partnerships.
3. NEPAD will facilitate and coordinate monitoring and evaluation. This includes assessing impact and facilitating the sharing of lessons and peer review.
4. NEPAD will build partnerships and coalitions to link resources with agricultural investment programmes.
5. NEPAD will focus on harnessing key thinking and experience on emerging national, international and global issues related to agriculture, to articulate African perspectives and contribute to the evolution of the CAADP Agenda.

Under the new strategy, NEPAD will continue to coordinate the development of pillar frameworks and forge links between the pillar frameworks and the country roundtables. NEPAD will also take advantage of its position as a convener to mobilise expertise and technical backstopping.

NEPAD support 2007

In 2007, NEPAD supported the CAADP Agenda through country and regional backstopping, continental and international partnerships, and advocacy and communication.

Country and regional backstopping

Collaboration with regional economic commissions Aide-memoires aimed at strengthening cooperation and supporting the CAADP roundtable process were signed with COMESA and ECOWAS.

Interactive learning session The roundtable and pillar framework concepts were revisited during an interactive learning session involving the regional economic commissions, pillar institutions and other stakeholders. This learning session encouraged NEPAD, the regional economic commissions, the countries and peer institutions to share their expertise and help each other—resulting in frank assessment of challenges and bottlenecks. The result is a much more robust model—defined by benchmarks—for successful roundtables.

Country roundtable processes Together with COMESA and ECOWAS, NEPAD has directly supported country roundtable processes in several countries, particularly by encouraging dialogues across ministries and the alignment of donor partner initiatives. NEPAD also ensured that resources mobilised through international and continental initiatives reached the countries where they were needed and that underpin country processes.

Continental and international partnerships

Throughout 2007 NEPAD supported key partnerships around thematic and regional priorities, ensuring that they support and link directly to country CAADP processes.

Pillar frameworks NEPAD worked closely with the lead pillar institutions to finalise framework documents and have these documents reviewed

by donors. Simultaneously, NEPAD worked to build and strengthen networks of technical expertise for backstopping country roundtable processes.

CAADP Multi-donor Trust Fund The Fund will be launched in October and will make funding more efficient. Initial pledges amount to US\$50 million over five years and will go towards strengthening the institutions implementing CAADP and helping develop the pillar frameworks. NEPAD will coordinate with the World Bank to manage the Fund.

Donor harmonisation During the year, NEPAD worked closely with major development agencies to align agricultural strategies and investment mechanisms. Major outcomes include the alignment of the World Bank's Africa Agriculture Strategy with the CAADP pillars; the European Commission paper *Advancing Africa's Agriculture*; a renewed emphasis on agriculture by Sweden and the United Kingdom; and the United States Initiative to End Hunger in Africa.

Pillar 1 TerrAfrica The TerrAfrica Initiative mobilises US\$1 billion for investment in country programmes for sustainable land and water management through the Global Environment Facility Strategic Investment Programme. The design of country programmes and disbursement of funds is already underway.

Pillar 1 Water and irrigation Under Pillar 1, NEPAD also worked to coordinate, align and manage knowledge initiatives across the continent. An initiative to address regional constraints to scaling up investments in irrigation development was launched. Here, again, NEPAD focuses on ensuring that regional resource mobilisation directly supports country CAADP processes.

Pillar 2 Fertiliser Programme Following up on the Abuja Declaration, NEPAD collaborated closely with the African Union Commission and the African Development Bank to establish the Africa Fertiliser Financing Mechanism. Already over US\$35 million has been mobilised and will be directed to countries through country roundtable processes.

Pillar 3 Investment Initiative Similar in scope to the Pillar 1 Strategic Investment Programme, the Pillar 3 Investment Initiative will develop programmes to target food insecurity. Created with support from the Millennium Development Goal Thematic Group, it will strengthen country roundtable processes.

Climate change and sustainable land management Climate change is inextricably linked with sustainable land and water management and food security, and so is a key focus of initiatives across all the CAADP pillars. One important initiative in 2007 was the creation of an operational framework

and road map for climate change at the inaugural meeting of the COMESA-NEPAD Working Group on Climate, Agriculture, Forestry and Land Use.

Fish Fisheries is another cross-cutting theme. The NEPAD Fish Initiative aims to ensure that country CAADP programmes can access technical expertise and resources.

Advocacy and communication

Engagement with key forums Key forums where NEPAD advocated and communicated CAADP issues include African ministerial platforms, donor platforms, and farmer and research organisations.

New CAADP communication strategy An integrated team approach to communications will ensure better contact with and support to partners in 2008.

The year ahead

The year ahead is off to a good start. Guided by the new CAADP Strategic Plan, NEPAD will work in five key areas.

Promote CAADP principles NEPAD will help countries to adapt the CAADP principles, operationalise the pillar frameworks, and use the CAADP roundtable processes. To do this NEPAD will leverage technical expertise, support regional economic commissions and strengthen links with other NEPAD units.

Manage communication and information NEPAD will collect and share information on processes and tools. Some of the ways this will be done are by establishing a knowledge database and through public information campaigns (local and international) to raise awareness of what CAADP is doing and the changes it is bringing about.

Facilitate and coordinate monitoring and evaluation NEPAD will capture and share key lessons through peer review and joint assessment. This also means evaluating the impact of the CAADP agenda on NEPAD, national and continental development objectives.

Link resources with programmes Strong international and regional partnerships are vital for the success of CAADP. NEPAD will step up work to mobilise resources.

Harness key thinking and experience It is crucially important to articulate and disseminate African perspectives on the key issues that affect agricultural development in Africa. NEPAD will make sure that up-to-date information on trends in African agriculture and rural development is easily available both locally and internationally. NEPAD will direct strategic information about developments affecting CAADP to all stakeholders.

