

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION (FAO)

Support to NEPAD

Period of Report: August 2004 to April 2005

The present note covers activities undertaken and/or planned for the period August 2004 - April 2005 in support of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) of NEPAD.

Support to the CAADP implementation through the formulation of National Medium-Term Investment Programmes and Bankable Investment Project Profiles

In 2002, at the request of the NEPAD Steering Committee, the NEPAD Secretariat prepared in cooperation with FAO the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) of NEPAD. The CAADP, first endorsed by African Ministers of Agriculture at a special NEPAD-focused session of the FAO Regional Conference for Africa (Rome, June 2002), was later adopted by the Second Ordinary Session of the African Union (AU) Assembly of Heads of State and Government (Maputo, July 2003).

The Maputo Summit also unanimously adopted the “Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security in Africa”, thereby providing strong political support to the CAADP. The Declaration committed AU member countries to, *inter alia*, implement as a matter of urgency the CAADP and to allocate to the agricultural sector and rural development at least 10 percent of their national budgetary resources within five years.

As a follow-up to the Maputo Declaration, 49 African countries requested FAO to assist them, technically and financially, in the formulation of National Medium-Term Investment Programmes (NMTIPs) and the preparation of Bankable Investment Project Profiles (BIPPs). FAO committed some US\$6 million from its own resources and about US\$1 million from a Trust Fund Project for Food Security and Food Safety, funded by the Government of Italy.

The implementation of the initiative commenced in early February 2005. The current status is as follows:

- **National Medium-Term Investment Programmes:** preparation has been completed in 40 countries¹;
- **Bankable Investment Project Profiles:** formulation has been finalized in 35 countries, 23² of which have undergone FAO internal review;

¹ Angola, Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Comoros, Côte d’Ivoire, Djibouti, DRC, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

² Benin, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Côte d’Ivoire, Egypt, Eritrea, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Togo, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

- Forty-seven *Summary National Strategies on Food Security and Agricultural Development – Horizon 2015* have been drafted.

Collaboration with other UN agencies

Collaboration with other UN organizations takes the form of regular consultations in which the various organizations share their views and inform each other on their support to NEPAD and CAADP. Such meetings were organized twice in 2004 (in July in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and in November in Midrand, South Africa), providing the opportunity to learn about activities being carried out by other organizations and to avoid duplication of efforts, thus engaging in fruitful collaboration. One example of the latter is the document on *Food Reserve Systems* requested by the NEPAD Secretariat, on the preparation of which FAO collaborated closely with WFP.

To boost support to agricultural sector development, a CAADP Support Group was set up in 2003. Chaired by the NEPAD Secretariat, the CAADP Support Group includes not only several UN organizations (e.g. FAO, WFP, IFAD, UNIDO, ECA, WTO), but also the World Bank and the African Development Bank, as well as the African Union and representatives of the CAADP Advisory Council. The CAADP Support Group is proving a useful tool through which UN and other institutions can channel their support.

NEPAD Regional Implementation Planning Meetings

Following the 3rd Africa Partnership Meeting (APF) held in Washington, D.C., in October 2004, the NEPAD Secretariat undertook to organize a series of regional consultations to discuss and agree on the way forward for the implementation of the CAADP. These meetings, held between January and April 2005, were attended by representatives of national Governments, Regional Economic Communities, farmers' organizations, private sector, civil society and development partners. The G-8 agreed to provide substantial funding for the meetings, and FAO is also contributing to their financing to the tune of US\$ 250,000.

The meetings are organized by region, and the first one, for Eastern and Central Africa, was held in January 2005 in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, co-sponsored by COMESA and ASARECA³. Subsequent meetings were held in February 2005 in Maputo, Mozambique (Southern Africa); in March 2005 in Bamako, Mali (Western Africa); and in April 2005 in Cairo (Northern Africa). A high level wrap-up meeting took place in early May 2005 in Accra, Ghana.

Funding of NEPAD activities

FAO has provided support to the NEPAD Secretariat through three major projects funded by its Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) for a total amount close to US\$1 million, as follows:

³ Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa. Central Africa member states include Burundi, DRC and Rwanda.

i) ***Advisory support to the NEPAD Secretariat (TCP/RAF/2917)***: The objective of this project is to provide advisory support to NEPAD, while contributing to the mobilization of Africa and partners to achieve a vibrant agricultural sector in line with the priorities of the CAADP.

ii) ***Incorporating forestry, fisheries and livestock sectors in the NEPAD-CAADP (TCP/RAF/2924)***: The overall objective of this project is to assist the NEPAD Secretariat in elaborating a vision for a comprehensive development programme for the forestry, fisheries and livestock sectors. A companion document to the CAADP is currently being finalized for its presentation to the AU-NEPAD approval channels.

iii) ***Assistance for the establishment of a Common Market for Basic Food Products (TCP/RAF/3007)***: This ongoing project is providing support to the African Union and its member states in reviewing and assessing the status of current constraints hindering the flow of trade, with special focus on basic food products, and identifying the best option for establishing an African common market for agricultural products.

FAO advocacy work

In addition to numerous public interventions of the Director-General at major Summits and other international meetings, as well as in the media, FAO has carried out a consistent public information effort in support of African agricultural development and food security and, in particular, of NEPAD. This includes more than 100 news and feature stories in printed and audiovisual media, multimedia production and booklets, as well as nine videos and four illustrated booklets relating to Africa in the "FAO in the field" photo-reportage series.

FAO launched the edition of *The State of World Food Insecurity* (SOFI 2004) in Johannesburg, South Africa, among other world cities, where special reference was made to the famine situation in Africa.