

Country Status Report on JSR Best Practices

Zimbabwe

JSR BUILDING BLOCKS/BEST PRACTICES	BEST PRACTICES	PRACTICE IN PLACE? (Yes/No)	WHAT IS THE CURRENT PRACTICE IN THE COUNTRY?
Existence of a JSR Steering Committee (SC)	SC provides strategic direction for the establishment and operation of the JSR. It is usually chaired by the Ministry of Agriculture and includes as members leading donors and 3-4 other representatives of key stakeholder groups	Yes	The Steering Committee is made up of representatives from the Economics and Markets Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Mechanization and Irrigation Development (MAMID) and other Ministries such as Trade and Commerce, Lands, and Finance.
Existence of a JSR Secretariat	Secretariat coordinates activities and operations of the JSR and JSR SC. It can be made up of core staff from the Planning & M&E Unit of the Ministry of Agriculture	Yes	The Secretariat is made up of staff from the Department of Economics and Markets and other stakeholders in the agriculture sector. Despite the lack of resources, the robust work done by the Department of Economics and markets went a long way in making the process a success.
Existence of JSR Terms of Reference (TOR) for the JSR	TOR to lay out JSR objectives, state and non-state stakeholders and their roles, roles of the SC and Secretariat, operating principles, structure and frequency of JSR meetings and follow up and implementation of actions, etc. TOR may also need to be developed consultants hired to conduct JSR studies.	Yes	Generic TOR were adopted and adapted to meet country needs. The roles played by the Steering Committee, the Secretariat, and a Consultant are clearly stipulated. TORs have helped to promote country ownership of the JSR process among stakeholders in the agricultural sector.
Resources are mobilized	Mobilize resources (human and financial) to support operations of the JSR.	Partly	The most recent JSR Assessment was funded through a Multi-Donor Trust Fund at COMESA. The government of Zimbabwe did not have any budgeted resources for the process.

			Limited resources have hindered the technical rigor of the process.
Steering Committee/Secretariat invites a broad and inclusive group of state and non-state actors/stakeholders to participate in JSR	A key aspect of the JSR is that it allows broad group of state and non-state stakeholders to influence overall policies and priorities of the sector by assessing how well they have implemented their commitments stipulated in the CAADP compact, NAFSIP, and related cooperation agreements such as under the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition.	Yes	A broad group of stakeholders is invited. However, because of limited funding most stakeholders came from the capital city area of Harare.
Existing agricultural policy dialogue and review processes; data quality and analytical capacities are assessed	An assessment of any existing agricultural policy dialogue and review processes, data quality, and analytical capacities and tools and networks and any existing knowledge systems is key to identifying any gaps and coming up with ways to fill gaps and enhance capacities, tools, and processes through the JSR	Yes	These were carried out during the 2016 JSR Assessment. The Assessment found quality of data to be good and analytical skills of staff employed by the Department of Economics and Markets and a Consultant to be strong.
JSR Studies/Analysis Conducted	Consultants may need to be hired and supervised by the SC to conduct JSR studies. Consultants can come from think tanks, universities, or private companies and should work closely with staff from the Planning Unit, and the JSR SC and Secretariat.	Yes	The JSR Assessment provided initial analysis.
JSR Review Team Established	Team made up of a multi-stakeholder group (state and non-state actors) with technical expertise to review and comment on various JSR studies and reports and ensures outputs of reviews are implemented.	Yes	A Review Team was constituted to validate the JSR Assessment Report.
JSR Report Prepared	Preparing evidence based on relevant high-quality studies	Yes	AJSR Assessment Report was produced in November 2016.

	and reports on the JSR content areas. To be an effective mutual accountability process, the JSR Report will need to be grounded in high quality data and analysis as well as transparency and inclusive stakeholder participation.		
JSR Meeting Conducted	Organize meeting over 1-3 days, using various formats (plenary, small groups, field visit, etc.) to allow stakeholders discuss/verify the evidence and recommendations presented in the JSR Report. This can be done at different levels (national and sub-national). The process should assist in identifying sector priorities and policies and specific actions for the different stakeholders to put in place. These would be captured in a JSR Aide Memoir.	Yes	A meeting to validate the JSR Report brought together stakeholder from the capital city area.
There is follow up on JSR Meeting Actions	Closely monitor and ensure implementation of recommendations and decisions of the JSR meeting (embodied in the JSR Aide Memoir). Groups that meet more regularly such as the Agriculture Sector Working Group can help with follow up and monitoring. The monitoring forms the basis of the next JSR cycle.	Not Yet	Follow up on actions has been hampered by limited resources. A resource mobilization strategy is needed.
JSR experiences are shared with other countries	As many countries are still setting up JSR, it is essential to share lessons learned, best practices, and experiences to further strengthen country JSRs. Forums such as the CAADP PP and ReSAKSS Annual Conference provide an opportunity to do this.	Not Yet	JSR Representatives from Zimbabwe are yet to participate in Annual ReSAKSS Conference to share their JSR experience and learn from other countries.