

Strengthening Capacities for Evidence-based Policy Planning and Implementation in Africa: *IFPRI's Support to CAADP in 2014-2015*



Introduction

Since 2006, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) has provided policy research and capacity-strengthening support to guide the planning and implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). Endorsed in 2003 by African heads of state and government, CAADP is a continentwide framework for accelerating growth and progress toward poverty reduction and food and nutrition security through an agriculture-led growth strategy.

As part of IFPRI's support to CAADP, the Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS) was established in 2006 to provide policy-relevant analysis, data, and tools necessary to support the formulation and implementation of evidence-based agricultural-sector policies and strategies, as well as to facilitate CAADP policy dialogue, peer review, benchmarking, and mutual learning processes. ReSAKSS is facilitated by IFPRI in partnership with Africa-based CGIAR centers, the African Union Commission (AUC), the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), and leading regional economic communities.

More recently, the African Growth and Development Policy (AGRODEP) Modeling Consortium was established in 2011 by IFPRI in partnership with African subregional research organizations to create a critical mass of Africa-based experts who can take a leading role in addressing strategic development issues faced by the continent, including analytical needs of the CAADP implementation agenda. Led by IFPRI, the AGRODEP Modeling Consortium facilitates the use of economic modeling tools, promotes access to data sources, provides training and research grants, and supports collaboration between African and international researchers.

In addition, IFPRI has supported the CAADP agenda by conducting country-level analyses of agricultural growth and investment options for poverty reduction that have fed into various CAADP planning, implementation, and dialogue processes, including CAADP round tables, compacts, and national agriculture and food security investment plans. This report highlights achievements made in 2014 and the first half of 2015 by IFPRI and its partners in support of the CAADP implementation agenda through ReSAKSS, the AGRODEP Modeling Consortium, and analytical work on agricultural growth and investment options.

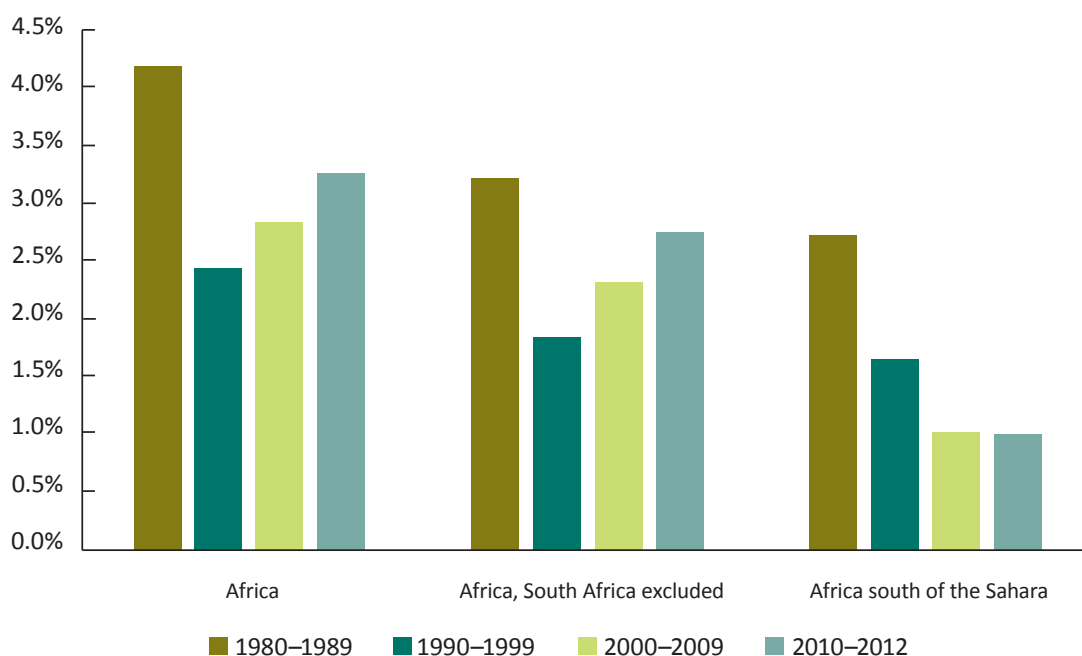
INFORMING CAADP REVIEW AND DIALOGUE PROCESS THROUGH RESAKSS

In 2014, ReSAKSS produced and published its flagship Africa-wide *Annual Trends and Outlook Report (ATOR)* for 2013. The 2013 *ATOR*, which also serves as the official CAADP monitoring and evaluation report, assesses Africa's agricultural trade performance and competitiveness, as well as how trade can help mitigate the effects of weather shocks and build the resilience of domestic food markets. The report finds that Africa's share of world trade in agricultural goods made a turnaround and started increasing in the 2000s. Agricultural exports increased by a factor of four in value terms, while agricultural imports rose almost twice as fast as exports. Moreover, African countries increased their competitiveness

in intra-African and regional markets. The report attributes the improved trade performance to recent improvements in economic growth and infrastructure on the continent, together with higher world prices from some key raw materials. The report also shows that while regional trade has the potential to buffer against biophysical and weather shocks, the potential is threatened by these very shocks, especially as they become more severe and numerous. The *ATOR* was presented at the tenth CAADP Partnership Platform meeting held in Durban, South Africa, in March 2014, where it was officially endorsed by AUC and NPCA.

The 2014 ReSAKSS annual conference was successfully held October 8–10 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The conference was organized by IFPRI in partnership with AUC, which hosted the event at its headquarters. The ReSAKSS conference, which is now an official AUC event, was designated by AUC as one

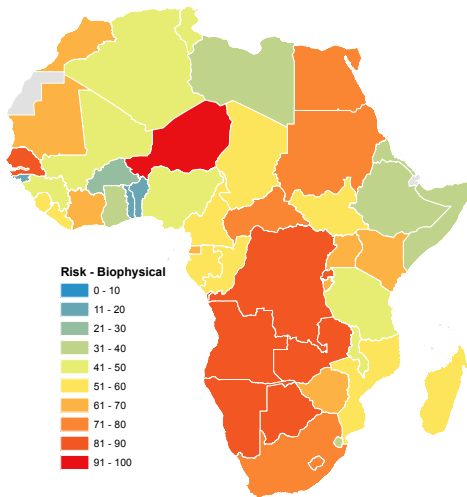
Evolution of Africa's share of world exports of goods and services (1980–2012)



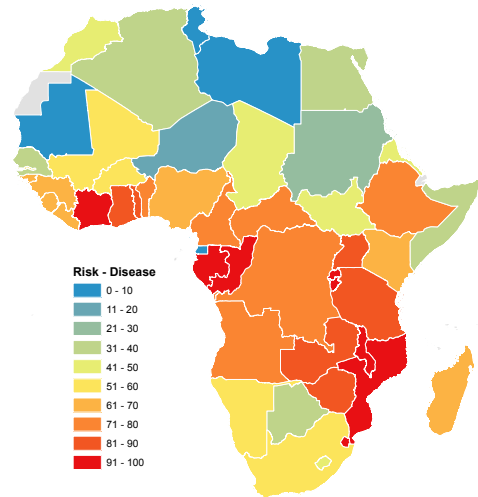
Source: Bouet, A., D. Laborde, and L. Deason. 2014. "Global Trade Patterns, Competitiveness, and Growth Outlook." In *Promoting Agricultural Trade to Enhance Resilience in Africa: ReSAKSS Annual Trends and Outlook Report 2013*, edited by O. Badiane, T. Makombe, and G. Bahigwa, Chapter 2, 4–17. Washington, DC: International Food Policy Research Institute.

Biophysical risks by country

a. Growing conditions risk index (including temporal variability of Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI), rainfall, temperature, and low soil nutrient capital indicator)



b. Pests/disease/weeds prevalence index



Source: Azzarri, C., G. Piras, C. Roberts, J. Koo, Z. Guo, and Q. Y. Gong. 2014. "Regional Trade Flows and Resilience in COMESA and ECOWAS Countries." In *Promoting Agricultural Trade to Enhance Resilience in Africa: ReSAKSS Annual Trends and Outlook Report 2013*, edited by O. Badiane, T. Makombe, and G. Bahigwa, Chapter 5, 54–69. Washington, DC: International Food Policy Research Institute.

of the major events to contribute to the 2014 Year of Agriculture and Food Security in Africa. The 2013 *ATOR* was launched during the conference, which brought together more than 200 state and nonstate actors to review progress in supporting evidence-based policy planning and implementation under the CAADP agenda. Conference delegates discussed findings of the 2013 *ATOR*, including progress in the achievement of key CAADP targets. Achievements and plans in advancing mutual accountability through comprehensive agriculture joint sector reviews (JSRs) and establishing country-level strategic analysis and knowledge support systems (SAKSS) were also assessed. The conference provided an opportunity for policymakers and nonstate actors to begin initial discussions about operationalizing one of the main commitments of the Malabo Declaration made by heads of state and government during the

Africa Union Summit held in June 2014—that is, to triple intra-African trade in agricultural goods and services by 2025.

In December 2015, ReSAKSS organized a methodology workshop for contributing authors to discuss potential chapters and methodologies for the Africa-wide 2014 *ATOR*, the theme of which is "Beyond a Middle-Income Status: Ensuring Sustained Growth with Rising Employment and Incomes." The 2014 *ATOR* will examine Africa's prospects for going beyond a middle-income status and the opportunities and challenges to faster growth with maximum impact on employment and income generation. The report will be launched at the 2015 ReSAKSS annual conference in September in Addis Ababa.

Efforts to establish and strengthen country SAKSS were significantly expanded in 2014. The year saw the signing of five additional collaborative



ReSAKSS Annual Conference, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, October 8-10, 2014

agreements to launch SAKSS platforms in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Tanzania, Togo, and Uganda. By mid-2015, a SAKSS platform had been launched in Benin, thus bringing to nine the total number of countries with operational SAKSS platforms (together with Mozambique, Rwanda, and Ghana). In addition, capacity needs assessments (CNAs), a first step to setting up or strengthening a SAKSS platform, were completed in Burkina Faso and DRC during 2014, thus completing CNAs in all the 15 countries where they were launched in mid-2012. Several CNA reports were reviewed and edited in preparation for publication, while reports for Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia were published in 2014. Outcomes of

the assessments are being used to develop country capacity-strengthening strategies and help direct the work of each country's SAKSS.

In an effort to improve analysis and visualization of policy data, ReSAKSS has been developing interactive agriculture e-atlases for SAKSS platforms. The e-atlas is a mapping tool that will help policymakers access and use high-quality, geographically disaggregated data and thus better inform agricultural policies and investments. In early 2015, ReSAKSS developed e-atlases for initial SAKSS platforms for Ghana, DRC, Rwanda, Senegal, Togo, and Uganda. The e-atlases map biophysical, socioeconomic, agricultural, and rural development indicators from 2000 to 2014; the CAADP results framework informed the selection of indicators. Key stakeholders in these countries will



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soon receive training on effectively using the e-atlas in agricultural policy and investment decisions.

An important highlight of 2014 was the effort by IFPRI and ReSAKSS to set up comprehensive, inclusive, and technically robust agriculture JSRs. IFPRI and ReSAKSS led efforts to assess agricultural review processes and to lay the groundwork for the planning, coordination, and execution of stronger JSRs in seven pilot countries—namely, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, Mozambique, Senegal, and Tanzania. In addition to reviewing the status and quality of agriculture JSR or related processes in which a “proper” JSR does not yet exist, the assessments collected and analyzed data on key outcome indicators and reviewed the institutional and policy landscapes in each country, including progress in meeting key commitments. Following the assessments, IFPRI and ReSAKSS, with the support of Africa Lead, organized workshops in the pilot countries for key stakeholders to review and validate findings of the assessments. Input from the stakeholder workshops was incorporated into the assessment reports, which have been published on the ReSAKSS website. Findings of the JSR assessments have helped advance JSR and mutual accountability processes in the countries. For example, countries with ongoing JSR processes, such as Ghana and Malawi, incorporated JSR best practices and recommendations of the assessments in their JSR meetings held in June and October of 2014, respectively. Meanwhile,

countries with no previous JSR processes took steps to establish them. For example, the government of Burkina Faso revised a decree on establishing the country’s JSR process to reflect outcomes of the country’s JSR assessment related to inclusivity, thematic coverage, reporting, and review. In addition, findings of the assessments fed into the preparation of 10 country New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition (New Alliance) reports for 2013/2014. The reports assess progress and challenges in implementing mutual commitments made by G7 countries, African governments, and the private sector under the New Alliance. The consolidated report fed into meetings of the New Alliance Leadership Council held in late 2014. During the first half of 2015, ReSAKSS provided ongoing technical support for JSR enhancement activities in the 7 pilot countries and conducted JSR assessments in 11 new countries, in collaboration with AUC, NPCA, Africa Lead, the CAADP Non-State Actors Coalition, and the AGRODEP Modeling Consortium. The 11 countries are Benin, Burundi, Côte d’Ivoire, DRC, Kenya, Mali, Niger, Swaziland, Togo, Uganda, and Zambia. In early 2015, ReSAKSS also collected data on progress made by 10 New Alliance countries in meeting government policy commitments. The data will feed into New Alliance progress reports for 2014/2015. Also in early 2015, ReSAKSS, in collaboration with key partners, provided technical support to the Economic Community of West African States to help establish its regional JSR.



Key products of this support have been the drafting of a regional JSR roadmap and a scope of work detailing key activities and division of labor among key technical partners.

ReSAKSS made significant progress in its effort to build institutional and technical capacity through training, collaboration with local partners, and sharing best practices. In 2014, ReSAKSS organized

13 regional methodology and technical training workshops for 271 participants drawn from various departments of ministries of agriculture across the continent. The participation of women improved as compared with the level in 2013, reaching 25 percent of attendees. The training sensitized participants on CAADP implementation processes and country SAKSS operationalization and enhanced participants' understanding of research processes and analytical methodologies.

The ReSAKSS website has been used as one of ReSAKSS's main tools for informing CAADP planning, dialogue, and review processes. It is continuously updated with data on, analysis of, and tools for key agricultural growth and spending, as well as poverty and hunger indicators. The website attracted more



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than 24,360 visits in 2014 and 13,176 visits in the first half of 2015. In addition, social media platforms in the form of a ReSAKSS blog, Twitter, and Facebook continue to relay current news and events on African agricultural development. The ReSAKSS Twitter account has more than 2,000 followers, while Facebook likes increased to 710 by June 2015. ReSAKSS presentations attracted about 18,000 views on SlideShare. In addition, a ReSAKSS newsletter is regularly sent out to more than 1,800 people in government ministries, research institutes, universities, national statistical authorities, the private sector, and nongovernmental organizations.



STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES FOR ECONOMIC MODELING THROUGH AGRODEP

The AGRODEP Modeling Consortium successfully implemented various activities under its data, modeling, and network components. Following a sixth membership call in February 2015, AGRODEP expects to register 40 new members by the end of July. This will bring the AGRODEP membership to about 180 members representing 27 African countries, with women making up about 30 percent of the members. The sixth membership call targeted researchers who are strongly interested or experienced in impact evaluation, value chain analysis, or both, and it drew a total of 465 applications. The selection of AGRODEP members is based exclusively on technical qualification. A qualifying member must be based in Africa and have obtained a PhD within the past 15 years, currently be pursuing a PhD, or have a master's degree combined with notable technical skills and experience. The second set of criteria is based on the applicant's research experience and publications record. Efforts to ensure geographical and gender diversity are considered once the technical threshold

has been satisfied. Following selection, members are given free access to cutting-edge economic research tools, data, mentoring, and training, as well as opportunities to apply for competitive research grants.

In 2014, AGRODEP instituted an affiliate membership status, through which partial membership remains open to members who have relocated out of Africa. It is also open to qualified African researchers living outside Africa and qualified African and non-African researchers who work in international and CGIAR centers within Africa. The consortium also recognizes individuals and institutions that have provided support and contributed to AGRODEP's activities with the new "Friends of AGRODEP" designation. As of June 2015, the consortium had about 19 affiliate members and 52 individuals with the designation of Friends of AGRODEP.

AGRODEP has continued to administer its various grant programs, including the Innovative Research, Gaps in Research, Research Valorization, and Seed Funds grants. AGRODEP launched the 2014 grant season with the third annual call for the Gaps in Research grant series in August. The theme was "Using Trade for Development," with a special emphasis on investment in infrastructure and trade, African regional integration schemes, and the measurement

of informal trade and policy responses. The grant is open to both AGRODEP and non-AGRODEP members and thus receives a large number of applications. The

call closed with 55 proposals. After a thorough review of proposals, three were selected due to the limited resources available under the type of grant program.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Grants (60)
Innovative research



Funding for innovative research focused on African economic development, open to AGRODEP members only; applications accepted during calls

Gaps in Research



Funding for research addresses gaps in current literature, topics vary by year, open to any researcher; applications accepted during calls only

Seed fund



Funding for research using techniques learned in training courses; open to AGRODEP members only; applications accepted after training courses

Research Valorization



Funding for AGRODEP members to disseminate their research through the journal, *Journal of Global Economic Analysis*. Also open to non-members by AGRODEP














Funding to attend conferences or submit papers for publication; open to AGRODEP members only; applications accepted on a rolling basis

Members



Networking



- AGRODEP Impact Evaluation Network 
- Annual Members' Workshops   
- AGRODEP members' blog    
- AGRODEP outreach     

TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

Coverage



Models

- AGRODEP LAMS TRAINING TOOLBOX
- VIRTUAL EQUILIBRIUM TRADE SIMULATION (VETS) MODEL
- MACROECONOMICS MODELLING TOOLBOX
- SUPPLY AND DEMAND ELASTICITIES TOOLBOX
- TASTE Project
- DIMPAM Model
- PEP 1.1 Model
- GTAP Model
- MPICAF Model
- MRPAC Model
- IBPR1 Simulation Model
- MRPAC Model
- MRPAC-CLIP Model
- Supply-chain Global Analytical Decision
- PE Trade Model
- PE Trade Model
- PE Trade Model
- EMU Model

Data

Documentation of SAMs developed for AGRODEP are provided in the Data Reports series

- Household Surveys (128)
- National Agricultural Statistics (47)
- Social Accounting Matrices (27)
- Model output (23)
- Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators (14)
- Firms (14)
- Socio-economic Development Indicators (14)
- Bilateral Trade Statistics (5)
- Tariffs (1)



Country profiles



In October, AGRODEP launched the 2014 call for Innovative Research grants, which are open only to AGRODEP members. The 2014 theme was "Linking Country Policies to Agricultural Development Outcomes." Three proposals were selected in early 2015. AGRODEP also continued its other grant programs in 2014, including the Research Valorization grant series, which provides members with financial support to present their research at international conferences or to pay for journal publication fees, and the Seed Fund grant, which funds proposals related to AGRODEP training course topics. Eight research valorization grants were awarded in 2014 and another six during the first half of 2015. Since 2013, 12 Seed Fund grants have been awarded to training course participants. AGRODEP members continued to publish in top-rated journals. Six members received the Excellence in Publications Award for their journal publications in 2014 through the first half of 2015.

The AGRODEP working paper series has expanded significantly; seven papers were released in 2014 and another four during the first half of 2015. To date, a total of 13 working papers have been published. The purpose of the series is to enhance the visibility of African researchers and experts and to contribute to the policy dialogue on African growth and development.

The AGRODEP Modeling Consortium held seven of nine scheduled training courses in 2014 for its

members. Two courses that were postponed due to the Ebola outbreak eventually took place in March 2015. Training courses covered various topics, including "Applied Panel Data Econometrics and Applied Microeconometrics," "Poverty Measurement and Analysis," "Assessing Crop Production, Nutrient Management, Climate Risk, and Environmental Sustainability with Simulation Models," "Experimental Methods for Impact Assessment," and "Impact Evaluation and Analysis of Development Interventions."

AGRODEP has continued to expand its modeling and data platforms. It now has 20 simulation and econometric models and 280 datasets, including social accounting matrixes, household surveys, national agricultural surveys, and trade statistics. In July 2014, AGRODEP launched a Data Report Series, which provides key metadata on various datasets. Five data reports providing documentation for the social accounting matrixes for Togo, Senegal, the Gambia, Liberia, Mauritania, Sierra Leone, Kenya, and Guinea-Bissau have since been published. During the same period, AGRODEP launched Supply and Demand Elasticities Toolbox, which provides a technical guide, Stata code, and data files to estimate supply and demand elasticities. The toolbox is documented in the AGRODEP technical note "On the Estimation of Supply and Demand Elasticities of Agricultural Commodities." To date, the consortium



AGRODEP Training Course: Experimental Methods for Impact Evaluation, May 26–27, 2014, Dakar, Senegal

has published 12 technical notes that help guide users on the use of various models and other analytical tools. In support of its modeling platform, in early 2015, AGRODEP launched a GAMS (General Algebraic Modeling System) Training Toolbox, which includes 10 video lessons in English and French that train researchers how to effectively use the GAMS software to program various economic models.

The AGRODEP website, which was launched in October 2011, is continually populated with new resources, news, and information for AGRODEP members and stakeholders. Between January 2014 and June 2015, the portal drew 50,289 unique visits. AGRODEP's presence in social media continues to attract an increasing number of followers who are interested in learning more about AGRODEP and keeping up to date with its activities. The usage of AGRODEP social media accounts continues to grow; AGRODEP LinkedIn currently has 173 members, Facebook has received 577 likes, and Twitter has 1,152 followers. AGRODEP presentations and videos are shared on AGRODEP SlideShare and on the AGRODEP YouTube channel, the latter of which currently has 61 subscribers and had 4,490 total views in 2014 through mid-2015. In 2014, AGRODEP members' online profiles were updated to include their curricula vitae, as well as links to each member's Google Scholar and Research Gate accounts. These links to research network platforms allow members



to more easily network and collaborate with their colleagues both within and outside of the consortium. They also provide updated information about the members' publications.

In June 2014, AGRODEP successfully co-organized and hosted the 17th Annual Conference on Global Economic Analysis with the Center for Global Trade Analysis; 28 AGRODEP members and AGRODEP affiliate members attended the conference, and 15 of them presented their



17th Annual Conference on Global Economic Analysis, June 18–20, 2014, Dakar, Senegal

research work during the conference. The three-day event drew 194 economists from 52 countries, 50 of the economists came from within Africa. The hosting of the Global Trade Analysis Project conference by AGRODEP, which was decided barely three years into the consortium's existence, is a strong testament to AGRODEP's credibility in the global scientific community.

SUPPORTING ANALYSIS OF AGRICULTURAL GROWTH AND INVESTMENT OPTIONS IN CENTRAL AFRICA

In central Africa, the CAADP agenda is being implemented under the leadership of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), with technical assistance from IFPRI and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. In 2014, IFPRI carried out modeling simulations for Angola and Congo Republic on agricultural growth and investment options for poverty reduction that will feed into agricultural and rural development strategies and investment plans of these two ECCAS member countries. IFPRI also helped prepare technical documents for Congo Republic in preparation for that country's CAADP round table. The research also involved the posting of a senior IFPRI researcher in DRC to provide technical support to the government, including to support the design and implementation of DRC's CAADP agricultural investment program as well as to advise the country on the design and development of agricultural business parks. With IFPRI's technical support, DRC launched its first agricultural business park—Bukanga-Lonzo, on 80,000 hectares—in early 2014. Agricultural business parks are an initiative of the DRC government to develop agricultural land and to provide the necessary infrastructure to support self-sustained economic units.



WWW.AGRODEP.ORG

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

For the remainder of 2015, IFPRI and its partners will focus on capacity strengthening and policy research through ReSAKSS and the AGRODEP Modeling Consortium. In particular, ReSAKSS will finalize the establishment of SAKSS platforms in Burkina Faso and Senegal in 2015 and strengthen SAKSS platforms that have been set up in nine countries: Benin, DRC, Ghana, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, Togo, and Uganda. This task will include finalizing the development of various toolkits such as an agriculture e-atlas for each platform and training key stakeholders on effectively using the e-atlas in agricultural policy and investment decisions. ReSAKSS will finalize JSR assessment work in 11 countries—Benin, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Kenya, Mali, Niger, Swaziland, Togo, Uganda, and Zambia—and provide ongoing technical support to the 7 pilot countries—Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, Mozambique, Senegal, and Tanzania. ReSAKSS will also finalize and publish the Africa-wide 2014 *ATOR* with the theme “Beyond a Middle-Income Africa: Ensuring Sustained Growth with Rising Employment and Incomes.” The report will be launched at the 2015 ReSAKSS annual conference September 1–3 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.



AGRODEP Training Course: Impact Evaluation and Analysis of Development Interventions III, June 2-6, 2014, Dakar, Senegal

Meanwhile, AGRODEP will continue to advance activities under its three main components: modeling, data, and research network. As part of the modeling component, AGRODEP will strengthen its economic models library by developing several toolboxes, a single-country computable general equilibrium (CGE) model with endogenous saving behavior, and a regional CGE model. Data component activities will include continued data warehousing of social

accounting matrixes and other datasets and documenting new datasets through the data reports. As part of the network component, the AGRODEP management team will coordinate annual meetings of the governance groups and members' workshop, implementation of seven training courses for 2015, expansion of the working paper series, awarding of Research Valorization and Seed Fund grants, and monitoring of existing Innovative Research and Gaps



in Research grants. In addition, as a key source of technical expertise, AGRODEP will continue to explore opportunities for its members to support ReSAKSS and other technical institutions in Africa to help meet the knowledge needs of CAADP.

As part of IFPRI support to ECCAS, IFPRI will finalize the modeling and analytical work for the Central African Republic and Equatorial Guinea and support the preparation of technical documents for

four national round tables in Angola, the Central African Republic, Congo Republic, and Equatorial Guinea. In DRC, IFPRI will support the completion of phase 2 of the first agricultural business park, help develop a governance architecture to attract private investors and international donors to support the parks, and finalize feasibility studies for additional agricultural business parks.

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REGIONAL STRATEGIC ANALYSIS AND KNOWLEDGE SUPPORT SYSTEM (RESAKSS) AND AFRICAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY (AGRODEP) MODELING CONSORTIUM: PARTNERS AND GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES

ReSAKSS is a multicountry network represented by four platforms: one at the continental or Africa-wide level (ReSAKSS-AW) and three at the subregional level—east and central Africa (ReSAKSS-ECA), southern Africa (ReSAKSS-SA), and west Africa (ReSAKSS-WA). The subregional nodes are hosted by the International Livestock Research Institute in Kenya, International Water Management Institute in South Africa, and International Institute of Tropical Agriculture in Nigeria, respectively.

The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) coordinates the ReSAKSS-AW work under a governance structure that is chaired by the African Union Commission and the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency. Meanwhile, each node is governed by a steering committee consisting of representatives from major Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) stakeholder groups and chaired by the respective regional economic communities. The regional economic communities include the Economic Community of West African States for ReSAKSS-WA, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa for ReSAKSS-ECA, and the Southern African Development Community for ReSAKSS-SA. The steering committees provide oversight and ensure that the ReSAKSS agenda remains rooted in agricultural development priorities, CAADP, and regional strategies. ReSAKSS stakeholders and partners include government agencies, policymakers (both international and domestic), policy analysts, donors, research institutes and researchers, the academic community, civil society, farmers' groups, and the private sector.

The AGRODEP Modeling Consortium represents collaboration among IFPRI; the Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA); Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network; West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF/WECARD); and leading academic institutions in and outside Africa.

The Modeling Consortium is managed by IFPRI and governed through a steering committee, scientific advisory board, and network advisory committee. The steering committee guides AGRODEP on key matters of policy, operational issues, and resource mobilization; ensures that the initiative remains focused on its objectives and mission and is run effectively; and recommends strategies and actions to increase the effectiveness and impact of AGRODEP. The 12 members of the steering committee include representatives from regional and international organizations, academic institutions and universities, international aid agencies, and other leading policy and development organizations. The scientific advisory board ensures that AGRODEP is at the forefront of technical innovation and is meeting the technical needs of its members. The scientific advisory board consists of individual members who are experts from the economic research and policy community with an outstanding international reputation and with knowledge of African countries and the major challenges they face. The network advisory committee advises on content and delivery of AGRODEP networking activities, including collaborative research, capacity building, and outreach activities of the consortium. Members of the network advisory committee include representatives of CORAF/WECARD, ASARECA, African universities and research networks from the main geographical subregions of Africa, and the three ReSAKSS platforms.

Other key AGRODEP institutional partners include the Global Trade Analysis Project in the United States of America, Centre for World Food Studies in the Netherlands, Université catholique de Louvain in Belgium, Laval University in Canada, and the University of Pretoria in South Africa.

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