

Strengthening Capacities for Evidence-based Policy Planning and Implementation in Africa: *IFPRI's Support to CAADP in 2013*



ReSAKSS Africa Wide
Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System

FACILITATED BY **IFPRI** | A PROGRAM IN SUPPORT OF CAADP IMPLEMENTATION

AGRODEP
African Growth & Development Policy
modeling consortium
FACILITATED BY **IFPRI**

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 NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, the African Union Commission (AUC), 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. In particular, 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 roundtables, compacts, and national agriculture and food security investment plans.

This report highlights achievements made in 2013 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.

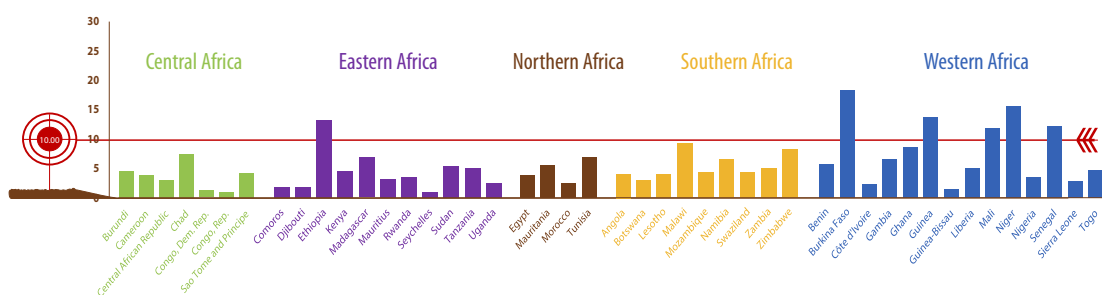
INFORMING CAADP REVIEW AND DIALOGUE PROCESSES THROUGH RESAKSS

In 2013, ReSAKSS produced and published its flagship *Africawide Annual Trends and Outlook Report (ATOR)* for 2012. The 2012 *ATOR*, which also serves as the official CAADP monitoring and evaluation report, takes an in-depth look at public agricultural expenditures (PAE) and assesses progress toward the Maputo Declaration target. The report finds that although PAE in Africa as a whole grew rapidly by 7.4 percent from 2003 to 2010, the share of PAE in total expenditures declined as the rate of growth in PAE was slower than that in total expenditures. And in any year since 2003, a total of 13 countries met or surpassed the CAADP 10 percent budget share target for the agricultural sector. They are Ethiopia and Madagascar in eastern Africa; Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe in southern Africa; Burundi and Republic of the Congo in central Africa; and Burkina Faso, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Niger, and Senegal in western Africa. The *ATOR* was presented at the Ninth CAADP Partnership Platform meeting

held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in March, where it was officially endorsed by AUC and the NEPAD agency.

The ReSAKSS 2013 Annual Conference was held November 12–13 in Dakar, Senegal. ReSAKSS convened the conference, in partnership with AUC and the NEPAD agency, as part of its efforts to promote review of and dialogue about the CAADP agenda among policymakers, donors, researchers, advocacy groups, farmers' organizations, the private sector, and other key stakeholders. The opening of the conference was combined with the launch of Senegal's Cooperation Framework under the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition (New Alliance)—a shared commitment by the G8, African countries, and the private sector to achieve global food security and poverty reduction through sustained and inclusive agricultural growth. The joint meeting demonstrated the recognition of ReSAKSS as a key player and partner in fostering review of and dialogue about the CAADP implementation agenda. The prime minister of Senegal, Madame Aminata Toure, was among the high-level delegates who gave welcome and opening remarks. The prime minister noted Senegal's

Who met CAADP 10% agricultural spending target?



★ >10% Ag Spending

Burkina Faso	19.2
Niger	15.5
Ethiopia	13.7
Guinea	13.7
Senegal	12.1
Mali	11.8

✕ 5%-10% Ag Spending

Ghana	8.6	Chad	6.0
Tunisia	8.5	Egypt	5.9
Ethiopia	8.2	Kenya	5.7
Malawi	8.2	Tanzania	5.7
Benin	7.0	Botswana	5.1
Mauritania	6.6	Rwanda	5.1
Senegal	6.4	Sao Tome and Principe	5.0

SHARE OF PUBLIC AGRICULTURE SPENDING IN TOTAL PUBLIC SPENDING, ANNUAL AVG. LEVEL (2003-2010)



Source: ReSAKSS calculations based on data from IMF and national sources

commitment to improving and accelerating reforms that encourage private-sector investment in agriculture and reduce the fiscal burden imposed by government input subsidies. The conference was themed "Achieving the Maputo Declaration Target and Prioritizing Public Agricultural Expenditures," in line with the 2012 ATOR, which was officially launched and presented as the keynote address at the conference.

Findings of the report received widespread media coverage inside and outside Senegal. The conference brought together about 140 participants who also deliberated ways to advance the establishment of country-level Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support Systems (SAKSS) and mutual accountability through regular and effective agriculture joint sector reviews (JSR) in line with the CAADP Mutual Accountability Framework.

In 2013, efforts to establish and strengthen country SAKSS picked up with new funding from the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the Netherlands government. Out of 15 countries, 13 completed their capacity needs assessments as a first step to setting up or strengthening a SAKSS platform. They include Benin, Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Togo, Kenya, Niger, Zambia, and Uganda. Outcomes

of the assessments are being used to develop country capacity-strengthening strategies and help direct the work of the country SAKSS. In 2013, IFPRI signed collaborative agreements with the ministries of agriculture in Ghana and Mozambique, which marked the operationalization of SAKSS platforms in the 2 countries, taking the number of operational SAKSS to 3 countries, including Rwanda, where the platform was launched in 2010 as a pilot.

As part of its role in supporting review, benchmarking, and mutual learning, in 2013, ReSAKSS and its partners led efforts to advance and establish agriculture JSRs. JSRs provide a platform to assess the performance and results of the agriculture sector and how well state and nonstate stakeholders have implemented pledges and commitments stipulated in the CAADP compacts, national agriculture and



ReSAKSS Annual Conference, Dakar, Senegal, November 12-13, 2013

food security investment plans, and related cooperation agreements such as those under the New Alliance. In particular, ReSAKSS drafted a concept note outlining content of a JSR, developed terms of reference for conducting a JSR, developed a matrix laying out different building blocks and best practices of a JSR, and held several JSR technical training workshops for the six target countries that are also members of the New Alliance: Ethiopia, Tanzania, Ghana, Mozambique, Burkina Faso, and Senegal. The terms of reference were shared with several countries including Mozambique, which launched its JSR process in August 2013 with the support of ReSAKSS, working closely with IFPRI, the United States Agency for International Development, Michigan State University, and the Mozambique Ministry of Agriculture. Meanwhile, Ghana and Rwanda implemented improved JSRs in 2013.

ReSAKSS made significant progress in its efforts to build institutional and technical capacity through training, collaboration with local partners, and sharing best practices. In 2013, ReSAKSS organized training workshops for about 285 participants from across Africa; 23 percent of participants were women. Participants

came from ministries of agriculture, national statistical bureaus, universities, civil society, and the private sector across Africa, and the training covered methodological aspects of geographic information systems, monitoring and evaluation, and agricultural policy analysis.

THE 5W'S OF AGRICULTURE JOINT SECTOR REVIEWS



WHAT

is a JSR?

Mutual accountability process by which multi-stakeholders regularly assess agriculture sector performance and results against mutually-agreed targets and stakeholder commitments.



WHY

is a JSR important?

Allows key stakeholders to assess the quality and effectiveness of country policy, institutional, and investment efforts and make necessary changes to improve development outcomes



WHEN

is a JSR held?

Annual or semiannual basis. However, other meetings, e.g. the agriculture sector working group can occur as frequently as on a monthly basis



WHO

participates?

- Ministry of Agriculture
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Planning
- Other key ministries
- Donors
- Other development agencies
- Private sector representatives
- Farmers' organization representatives
- Civil society organizations



WHERE

does JSR take place?

National level
However, sub-national level JSRs can also take place



ReSAKSS Annual Conference, Dakar, Senegal, November 12-13, 2013

The ReSAKSS website has been used as one of ReSAKSS's main tools for informing CAADP planning, dialogue, and review processes. To better meet the need for country-specific data and knowledge products, in July 2013, ReSAKSS launched a revamped website (www.resakss.org) that separates the interactive mapping and data analysis tool from the main browser, creates unique pages for each country and region, and improves the flash tool with expanded and more user-friendly analytical and visualization features. The website is continuously updated with data, analysis, and tools on key agricultural growth and spending as well as poverty and hunger indicators. The website attracted more than 6,000 unique visits in 2013, a 68 percent increase from the previous year. In addition, social media platforms in the form of a ReSAKSS blog, Twitter, and Facebook are helping to relay new information about African agricultural development. The ReSAKSS Twitter account has more than 1,716 followers, and Facebook likes increased to 172, up from 82 in 2012. A ReSAKSS newsletter is regularly sent out to more than 1,800 people from government ministries, research institutes, universities, national statistical authorities, the private sector, and nongovernmental organizations. In addition, ReSAKSS presentations attracted about 33,655 views on SlideShare, making them among the top 1 percent of most viewed on SlideShare in 2013.

STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES FOR ECONOMIC MODELING THROUGH AGRODEP

In 2013 AGRODEP's membership grew to 147, up from 117 in 2012. The modeling consortium welcomed new members following its fifth round of membership extension in March 2013, which attracted more than 200 qualified applicants. The selection of AGRODEP members is based primarily on technical qualification. Qualifying members must be based in Africa, have obtained a PhD within the past 15 years or 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 research experience and publications records of applicants. Efforts to ensure geographical and gender diversity are considered once the technical threshold has been satisfied. Thus, current members represent more than 29 African countries and include 43 women. Members come from the various subregions of Africa: west, east, north, southern, and central. 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 2013, AGRODEP made progress in building its modeling and data platforms which are available on its website (www.agrodep.org). The modeling platform now has 15 simulation and econometric models. The simulation models perform ex-ante analysis of various economic policies or disentangle different effects of existing policies. Simulation models in the AGRODEP library include computable general equilibrium (CGE) and partial equilibrium models. Econometric models assess the effects of existing policies or quantify the drivers of an economic phenomenon. The AGRODEP library has econometric models that use both parametric and non-parametric approaches. Meanwhile, data types on the data platform include social accounting matrices, household surveys, national agricultural statistics, trade statistics, and development indicators.



Significant progress was made in building a strong and visible AGRODEP research network. An AGRODEP members' workshop was held November 19–20, 2013. The workshop brought together AGRODEP members and other participants, including members of the AGRODEP scientific advisory board, steering committee, and network advisory committee. The meeting allowed for 21 AGRODEP members and grant awardees to present their research findings on a

wide range of topics pertinent to Africa's economic growth and development and to receive feedback from experts and members of the AGRODEP governance boards. The steering committee held its first meeting of 2013 virtually in July to discuss several proposed membership activities.

The AGRODEP Modeling Consortium held capacity-strengthening activities via advanced training workshops and various grant programs. In

CAPACITY BUILDING

Grants

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 to address 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 course.

Research Valorization



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	✕ ✕ ✕ ✕

TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

Coverage



Models



Data

- Household Surveys
- Firm Surveys
- National Agricultural Statistics
- Social Accounting Matrices
- Development Indicators
- Socioeconomic Indicators
- Trade Statistics
- Tariffs



Country profiles



2013, AGRODEP offered a total of seven advanced training courses to about 56 members, 14 of them women. The courses were structured according to preferences of AGRODEP members derived from a member survey conducted in November 2012. Training courses covered a wide range of topics that included economic modeling, poverty analysis, impact evaluation, and panel data econometrics. Courses were taught by leading experts on the topics covered from around the world including AGRODEP partners such as from Laval University in Canada.

In 2013, AGRODEP launched several of its grant programs. These included the second call for proposals to address gaps in research in July. Open to AGRODEP members as well as to nonmembers, the Gaps in Research Grant supports research on emerging issues in Africa that have received little or no attention. The emerging topic for 2013 was "Barriers to the Expansion of Agriculture and Agroindustry in Africa." The second call for Grants for Innovative Research was launched in August under the theme "Economic Growth and Development in Africa: Lessons from the Last 40 Years and Implications for Sustainability." The Grants for Innovative Research are available only to AGRODEP members and are intended to encourage the development of new models and databases of scientific and policy relevance for Africa.

As a result of AGRODEP capacity-strengthening programs, AGRODEP members worked on numerous research projects and papers, with some of the most promising and outstanding work being selected to receive Research Valorization Grants, which allowed

eight members to travel and present their research at international forums such as the 2013 International Conference on Earth Science and Climate Change in June and the International Conference of the African Association of Agricultural Economists in September. Moreover, the training, together with incentives created by various AGRODEP grants and the Award for Excellence in Publication, have enabled members to publish their research articles in leading academic journals such as *Agricultural Economics* and the *International Journal of Agricultural Science Research*.

Moreover, using AGRODEP grants for innovative research, in 2013, AGRODEP produced its second peer-reviewed working paper, "Trade Reform and Quality Upgrading in South Africa: A Product Level Analysis," written by an AGRODEP member. The paper was translated into French and published online. The purpose of the series is to enhance the visibility of African researchers and experts as well as to contribute to the policy dialogue about African growth and development. In addition, the AGRODEP series of technical notes provides its members with state-of-the-art research and modeling tools. The modeling consortium released four technical notes in 2013 that covered (1) Stata training, (2) micro-simulation linked to CGE models, (3) trade policy partial equilibrium modeling in Microsoft Excel, and (4) modeling commodity markets in stochastic contexts.

The AGRODEP website is continually populated with new resources, news, and information for AGRODEP members and stakeholders. There were 33,015 visits to the AGRODEP website in 2013, an



The third annual AGRODEP Members' Workshop, Dakar, Senegal, November 19-20, 2013

AGRODEP Website

increase of about 80 percent from 2012. AGRODEP also is now available in popular social media such as LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter, where numbers of visits are growing. For example, the number of LinkedIn members, Facebook likes, and Twitter followers rose to 113, 153, and 853 in 2013, respectively. In addition, AGRODEP presentations and videos are increasingly viewed on AGRODEP Slideshare and on the AGRODEP YouTube site. Meanwhile, the modeling consortium continued to release its monthly and quarterly issues of the AGRODEP newsletter and bulletin. The newsletter provides information about AGRODEP news and events and featured member profiles and publications to AGRODEP stakeholders, and the bulletin provides insights into major economic development issues facing Africa and announcements on AGRODEP's activities.

SUPPORTING ANALYSIS OF AGRICULTURAL GROWTH AND INVESTMENT OPTIONS IN CENTRAL AFRICA

In 2013, IFPRI significantly expanded its work in central Africa by providing research and capacity-strengthening support to member states of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) within the context of the CAADP implementation agenda. Modeling simulations on agricultural



WWW.AGRODEP.ORG

growth and investment options for poverty reduction were carried out by IFPRI researchers for six countries, namely, Cameroon, Chad, Republic of the Congo, Gabon, Central African Republic, and Sao Tome and Principe. The results fed into CAADP compacts and roundtables for Chad, Gabon, and Sao Tome and Principe that were held in 2013.

THE YEAR AHEAD

In 2014, IFPRI and its partners will focus on capacity strengthening and policy research through ReSAKSS and the AGRODEP Modeling Consortium. ReSAKSS will advance the establishment and strengthening of



The fourth 2013 AGRODEP training course on Applied Panel Data Econometrics, Dakar, Senegal, September, 9-13

country SAKSS nodes and JSR platforms in more countries. The capacity needs assessment reports will be published in 2014 for countries that have completed their assessments. ReSAKSS will finalize and publish the Africawide 2013 ATOR on agricultural trade and resilience. In October, it will hold its annual conference, to be hosted by AUC in Addis Ababa, at which the Africawide 2013 ATOR will be launched and presented.

Meanwhile, AGRODEP will continue to advance activities under its three main components: models, data, and research network. It will develop, test, and document a new set of economic models; conduct data warehousing and special data construction projects; expand training programs; and give its members research opportunities through various

grant programs, the working paper series, and members' workshops. In addition, in June, AGRODEP will host the annual Global Trade Analysis Project (GTAP) conference in Dakar. The hosting of the world's premier modeling conference by AGRODEP, in existence less than three years, is a strong indicator of its recognition by the global research community.

Also in 2014, IFPRI will finalize its analytical support to ECCAS by conducting simulations of agricultural growth and investment options for poverty reduction in the remaining two countries: Angola and Equatorial Guinea. It will complete the preparation of CAADP technical documents for five countries, namely Angola, Cameroon, Republic of the Congo, Central African Republic, and Equatorial Guinea.



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 Africawide 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 community. The regional economic communities include the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) for ReSAKSS–WA, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) for ReSAKSS–ECA, and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) 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 a collaboration among IFPRI, the Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA) ; Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN) ; 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 20 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 as well as knowledge of African countries and the major challenges that 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 (GTAP) in the United States of America; Centre for World Food Studies (SOW-VU) 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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