



## **The 8<sup>th</sup> Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) Partnership Platform (PP) Meeting 30 - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012, Nairobi Kenya**

### **Concept Note (rv1)**

#### **1. Background to the CAADP PP**

The establishment of CAADP Partnership Platform (CAADP-PP) was a key recommendation of the 2005 consultative process involving the African Union Commission (AUC), New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), national Governments, private sector, Civil Society including Farmers Organisations and Development Partners. This was in response to the need for a collective multi-stakeholder mechanism with a continent-wide perspective to coordinate collective and mutual responsibilities in CAADP implementation. The need for the CAADP-PP was reaffirmed at the meeting of the African Partnership Forum (APF) in May 2006 which recognised the Platform as an instrument to rally commitment and partnership as well as alignment and harmonisation of efforts supporting African agriculture.

The CAADP-PP was established as, and continues to be, a voluntary forum open to all interest groups, players and stakeholders. The CAADP PP has no legal identity. Its thrust and undertaking, are however, driven by considerations of mutual as well as collective responsibility and commitment. Outcomes and recommendations, normally reached through consensus, are voluntary and non-legally binding. Notwithstanding, members endeavor to abide by any commitments made, including policy, technical, coordination and financial support.

Since 2006, the African Union Commission (AUC), the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) and Development Partners have organised seven PP meetings in different parts of Africa. Until 2010 the CAADP-PP always was organised twice a year. At that time, the CAADP evolution process was characterised by limited buy-in from different range of stakeholders. Therefore, the PP was organised every six month in order to galvanise country and stakeholder buy-in by showcasing already existing experiences and lessons learnt. The experiences so far has further grown, with now 29 countries having signed CAADP Compacts and over 20 countries with CAADP-based Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plans. The attention has now moved from mobilising stakeholders for buy-in to establishing systems for effective implementation of the CAADP investment plans. In fact, the post Compact actions are, and will continue, to shape and rally other countries to buy in using mechanisms such as peer support and motivation as well as show-casing countries that have fully aligned and continue to attract attention including resources for effective implementation.

Thus, the 7<sup>th</sup> CAADP PP, in Yaounde Cameroon endorsed a Decision to move from conducting the CADAP-PP twice to once a year but maintaining a Business-like meeting in-between with a view of

supporting this new orientation to focus on implementation<sup>1</sup>. The Decision contained that the CAADP-PP will be held every twelve (12) months - normally in March, with a scaled-down and purpose-specific Business Meeting in September-October to make decisions and guide the implementation.

## **2. Rationale for the 8<sup>th</sup> CAADP PP –Strengthen consultations on positioning CAADP for sustained relevance and enhanced implementation.**

In 2013, it will be 10 years since CAADP was endorsed in Maputo in 2003. The implementation of CAADP has since created space for inclusive participation of all relevant sector players – from within and outside the state and to the grassroots level. CAADP has raised the profile of the agricultural sector in national domestic politics and the attention to agriculture has significantly increased. CAADP has contributed to more specific, purposeful and incentive-oriented agricultural policies. CAADP has facilitated a noticeable improvement and progress towards donor coordination, harmonisation and alignment to country priorities. In a number of countries, additional resources have been allocated to targeted programs that have the highest potential to generate returns to these investments. Regional co-operation has been increased as a result of CAADP engagement. CAADP has also facilitated the establishment of mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation, peer review, dialogue and accountability.

This progress, however, has exposed the critical constraints and experiences in CAADP implementation. Implementation of CAADP country plans to achieve results and impact has now elevated the concern that the policy environment provided needs to be leveraged to provide incentives to translate investments plans into outcomes related to growth, food security and increased incomes. The call for faster and better implementation for results is evident and on the increase. As a result, CAADP stakeholders, and especially the African Union institutions (notably AUC, NPCA and RECs), together with Development Partners have embarked on a rigorous consultation process on how to respond to this challenge and so as to propel and sustain the momentum in CAADP implementation. There are critical and strategic issues that require greater attention if CAADP is to achieve its medium and long-term objectives in changing the face of Africa's food security situation, significantly raising incomes of households and spurring rural development. At national level, the questions are now centred on issues like:

- how best can institutional and policy environments be shaped in order to respond to the calls for faster and better implementation (including more efficient and effective use of available resources)?
- can instruments like Public Expenditure Reviews, Peer Review Mechanisms, Mutual Accountability platforms, M&E frameworks and knowledge support systems be harnessed to facilitate institutional change and propel implementation?
- How can CAADP become more effective in leveraging private sector investments?
- How can vertical integration between country programs and regional programs be strengthened?

Such questions could inform the consultation process. Moreover, there are a number of emerging global and national issues and concerns that will impact on CAADP implementation. Important among these include:

- climate change and its variability;
- increasing global food and energy prices;

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<sup>1</sup> Implementation in this case means translation of National and Regional Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plans into concrete actions and investments on the ground with systems for monitoring progress and ensuring accountability functioning.

- large scale land and water acquisition;
- emerging interest from new –non traditional - donors
- an increasingly dynamic domestic and international private sector
- trends in bio-fuels
- as well as the democratisation and decentralisation processes in Africa.

These too need to be factored in the new thinking on how to propel CAADP implementation.

Global economic crisis and weather variability put Africa at continuous risk for food security. While CAADP is building long and medium term resilience to such effects with sound policy, global attention is still focussed on Africa`s agriculture as engine of growth. The WEF 2011 has linked private sector investment to the emerging CAADP investment plans and 2012 will continue to be a year to build responsible corporate investment climate in Africa. Global fora like the G8, G20 and World Economic Forum for Africa discuss the fate of Africa`s agriculture. African leaders need to talk with a clear and concise voice to inform these platforms on the priorities and challenges of national farmers and agric-processors, as well as on the political realities at country level.

The delegates at the PP have a vital role to play in determining the strategic direction of CAADP implementation for continued relevance and enhanced effectiveness. The CAADP Business PP, held November 2011, identified the need to further the CAADP reform process to include those new developments. The PP itself, as well as a series of other processes, such as the MDTF-MTR, will guide in shaping CAADP`s strategic focus.

The process of propelling CAADP implementation to another level will need to benefit from a series of consultations among all and key stakeholders on what will constitute key actions to maintain and propel the CAADP momentum. The 8<sup>th</sup> CAADP PP will be a huge opportunity and platform for enhancing these consultations, including articulating outcomes and timelines. This will be undertaken with a view to informing the Africa`s political leadership in July 2012 (during the 19<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Summit of African Heads of State and Government) on the new strategic focus of CAADP within the overall set goals and targets.

### **3. Objectives of the 8<sup>th</sup> CAADP-PP**

The overall objective of the 8<sup>th</sup> CAADP-PP is to contribute to effective implementation of the CAADP agenda within and across the various levels in Africa. Specifically the 8<sup>th</sup> CAADP-PP will;

- (i). facilitate a constructive consultation, dialogue and exchange among senior level representatives of African governments, development partners, the business sector, farmers` organisations, and civil society organisations with a view of agreeing key implementation issues and proposing strategies of how to sustain the relevance and propel the momentum of CAADP implementation;
- (ii). review lessons and good practices as well as challenges in the implementation of the CAADP showcasing and exchanging concrete experiences on programming and investments stimulated by CAADP (and the investment plans) at national and regional level.
- (iii). facilitate advocacy and building of a common understanding for increased buy-in for countries that are yet to sign compacts and formulate investment plans;
- (iv). provide a forum for mutual-review of progress with CAADP implementation based on the overall CAADP M&E indicators and the Mutual Accountability Framework.

#### **4. 8<sup>th</sup> CAADP PP Theme**

The 8<sup>th</sup> CAADP PP Theme is built on the key issues of (i) increasing effective support for agricultural and rural livelihoods through the implementation of programmes and projects using CAADP as a delivery mechanism, and (ii) providing the bedrock for CAADP to remain relevant in spite of the significant structural changes that are bound to affect agriculture in Africa. It is, therefore, proposed that the theme of the 8<sup>th</sup> CAADP PP meeting be encapsulated as “Accelerating CAADP implementation and laying a strong foundation for the future’.

#### **5. Date and Venue**

The CAADP PP will be hosted by the East Africa Community as a REC and the Government of Republic Kenya as a Government. It will be held on the 30 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012<sup>2</sup>.

#### **6. Agenda**

The Agenda of the CAADP PP will be drawn from the Theme

#### **7. Organization, Management and Logistics**

Critical issues of importance have been learnt from the organisation of previous CAADP PP meetings. One such a lesson is that AUC and NPCA need to be supported by event management professionals for carrying out the multitude of logistics activities that a well-organised meeting demands. Another important lesson of experience relates to the use of standard templates in guiding presentations and the need for preparing and availing in a timely manner presentations and supporting documents that would provide basic background information on key aspects of CAADP progress.

Thus, under the overall guidance of AUC-DREA and NPCA, an event management company is proposed to be recruited<sup>3</sup> so as to take care of all logistics-related activities of PP organisation, including identification, booking and renting of meeting rooms and facilities, carrying out accommodation booking and reservations for participants, preparation of information note to meeting participants, dispatching and follow up of invitations, following up on presentations and supporting documents and printing and circulation of the same, facilitation of the progress of the meeting, and preparation of meeting Aide Memoire.

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<sup>2</sup> Discussions on the dates are on. Some proposals have indicated that it could be 30<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> March or 2-3 April. Considering that the IGAD will be hosting a Ministers meeting and high Level Partners meeting in Nairobi from 26-29, March, leveraging from this would bring better returns. 30-31<sup>st</sup> are therefore preferred dates.

<sup>3</sup> Discussions are underway about the possibility of engaging the ‘Service Agency’ to carry out all the logistics-related activities that organisation of the PP meeting entails..

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