

**REGIONAL CONSULTATION MECHANISM (RCM)****ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT****OF****THE AGRICULTURE, FOOD SECURITY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
CLUSTER (AFSRDC)****PREPARED****BY****THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS****(CLUSTER CONVENER)****Rome, October 2010**

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS

3ADI	African Agribusiness and Agro-industries Development Initiative”
ADWG	Agriculture Donor Working Group
AfDB	African Development Bank
AFSI	L’Aquila Food Security Initiative
AFSRDC	Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Development Cluster
AU	African Union
AUC	African Union Commission
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
CAADP PP	CAADP Partnership Platform
CAADP/TT	CAADP Task Team
CCTT	Core CAADP Task Team
DPs	Development Partners
DREA	Department for Rural Economy and Agriculture
DSWG	Donor Sector Working Group
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
ECOWAS	Economic Community Of West African States
ECTT	Extended CAADP Task Team
EICA	International Centre for Agriculture
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GDPRD	Global Donor Platform for Rural Development
GAFSP	Global Agriculture and Food Security Program
GTZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit
HLCD-3A	High-Level Conference on Development of Agribusiness and Agro-Industries in Africa NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee
HSGIC	Committee
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
MAFAP	African Food and Agricultural Policies
MDG	Millennium Development goal
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa’s Development
NPCA	NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency
PPPs	Public-Private Partnerships
RCM	Regional Coordination Mechanism
RECs	Regional Economic Communities
RIP	Regional Implementation Plan
TICAD-IV	The Fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development
TCP	Technical Cooperation Programme
UN	United Nations
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WFP	World Food Programme
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization

## **1. Introduction**

### **1.1 Framework for Cluster Activities**

The Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Development Cluster (AFSRDC) for which FAO is the convener, brings together 14 UN Agencies and financial institutions involved in supporting food security and agricultural development in Africa. These are FAO, IFAD, WFP, ECA, the World Bank, IAEA, UNDP, UNIDO, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNHCR, WIPO and WTO. The Cluster's mission is to provide coordinated and effective support to the agriculture, food security and rural development agenda of the African Union Commission (AUC), NEPAD, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and ultimately the countries themselves.

The Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP), adopted in July 2003 by African Heads of State and Government, remains the overarching framework guiding the work of the Cluster. It is the continent's programme launched with the objective of revitalizing agriculture growth as a strategy to combat poverty and hunger in Africa, thus achieving the Millennium Development Goal 1 (MDG1) of halving the number of the hungry and poor by half by 2015. Accordingly, the AUC and the NEPAD Secretariat, now NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) called on all development partners to align their food security and agriculture development support in Africa with the CAADP principles and targets.

It should be recalled that CAADP was formulated with strong technical input of the key members of AFSRDC notably FAO, WFP and the African Development Bank. At the first meeting of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee (HSGIC) in Abuja, Nigeria, in October 2001, the FAO Director-General (DG) offered FAO's assistance in the formulation of the NEPAD agriculture and food security programme. This offer heralded the birth of the ongoing and strong collaboration especially of the Rome-based Institutions FAO, WFP and IFAD with the AUC and the NPCA both individually and collectively.

By 2004, NPCA, at the time the NEPAD Secretariat, and DREA/AUC had already developed a CAADP Roadmap with a view to facilitating the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and national governments to align their policies, strategies and programmes with CAADP principles and targets. The CAADP roadmap included four steps: i) specification of actionable programs and initiatives based on the CAADP pillars; ii) definition of a strategy to mobilize a limited number of lead financial partners for each of the programmes and initiatives; iii) identification of major centres of expertise, international as well as regional and national, as lead technical partners; and (iv) organization of a series of Regional Implementation Planning (RIP) meetings to agree on rules and procedures for country and regional-level project preparation, in-country resource mobilization, access to funding by development partners, coordination and governance, and project performance.

Regarding the identification of African Centres of Excellencies, CAADP, NPCA/DREA, in consultation with the Regional Economic Communities and development partners, one or more institutions have been assigned to provide technical leadership in the implementation of CAADP based on the four pillars. These are referred as CAADP Pillar Institutions. Each

Institution, with technical support from members of AFSRDC, have prepared a Pillar Framework document which was reviewed and adopted as a guideline to preparation and implementation of the four CAADP pillars and the Programme at large.

## ***1.2 Cluster Business and Annual Work Plans***

As the Cluster has reported in previous RCM meetings, the Strategic and Annual Work Plans of the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA/AUC) and NPCA represent the three-year business and annual plans of AFSRDC. This is further strengthened by the strategic and annual work plans of the RECs.

The NPCA Strategic Plan was formulated, with inputs from the individual and collective AFSRDC members, in 2008 with time horizon of five years. It outlines CAADP's key principles and targets, priority strategic areas of action for NPCA in the CAADP process, responsibilities of key actors and modalities of the implementation CAADP.

Similarly DREA/AUC prepared, with technical assistance of FAO and other development partners especially the WB, its Strategic Plan for the period covering 2009-2012. This provides the framework for DREA/AUC activities in support of sustainable agriculture, food security and rural development in Africa. The Strategic Plan focuses on Policy coordination and harmonisation, managing strategic information and developing advocacy systems, Capacity building, research and technology development, and resource mobilization.

## **2. Coordination of AFSRDC and other partners' input into the CAADP Process**

There are various coordination and collaboration mechanisms that strive to make the Cluster input effective in advancing CAADP implementation at national and regional levels. Some of these coordination mechanisms in which most Cluster members are actively engaged are briefly outlined below.

### ***2.1 The CAADP Task Team (CAADP/TT) of the Global Donor Platform***

The CAADP/TT of the Global Donor Platform for Rural Development (GDPRD) is an avenue through which development partners' input is coordinated and aligned with the CAADP agenda. Until recently the CAADP/TT was facilitated by the Secretariat of Global Donor Platform, but it is not and has never been an integral part of GDPRD.

The CAADP/TT involves almost all the member institutions of AFSRDC, bilateral and multilateral donors and international financial institutions. The TT holds weekly telephone conferences and face-to-face meetings in one of the European capitals on average twice a year. During reporting period one face-to-face meeting was held in London and a second in Berlin. The Chairmanship is rotational which changes every six months. DFID was chairing the meeting until May 2010 when it was replaced by GTZ.

The CAADP/TT discusses operational and technical issues impacting on the implementation of CAADP, with focus on the latter. Its main objective however is to ensure that development partners' support at country and regional levels is coordinated and synchronized. Furthermore, it strives to mobilize technical, political and financial support from the institutions it represents.

### ***2.2 The CAADP Partnership Platform Meetings***

The establishment of CAADP Partnership Platform (CAADP PP) was a key recommendation of the 2005 consultative process involving The AUC, NEPAD, the Regional

Economic Communities (RECs), national governments, private sector, farmer organizations 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 Partnership Platform was reaffirmed at the meeting of the African Partnership Forum (APF) in May 2006 which recognized the Platform as an instrument to rally commitment and partnership as well as alignment and harmonization of efforts supporting African agriculture. The most active players among the AFSRDC members in the CAADP/PP are FAO, WFP, the WB, the African Development Bank and IFAD.

The specific objectives of the CAADP PP are to:

- facilitate a constructive consultation, dialogue and exchange among senior level representatives of African governments, development partners, the business sector, farmers' organizations, and civil society organizations (including professional associations) on CAADP implementation, as well as on the broader strategic issues facing African agriculture;
- review lessons and good practices as well as challenges in the implementation of the CAADP as a framework to support the identification, design, and implementation of national and regional agricultural policies and programmes
- facilitate advocacy and building of a common understanding for increased buy-in and rallying effective CAADP-based partnerships in support of African agriculture;
- facilitate and support alignment and harmonization of development partners' actions, options and commitments that are undertaken to support priority CAADP efforts and investments;
- take stock of the types of assistance provided and assess CAADP accomplishments through the MDTF and related support mechanisms; and
- provide a forum for mutual-review of progress with CAADP implementation based on the overall CAADP M&E indicators and the Mutual Accountability Framework.

The CAADP/PP meetings are held every six month around March/April and October/November. Since the launching of the mechanism six of such meetings have been organized. The first meeting for the current year, representing the 6<sup>th</sup> CAADP/PP meeting, was held from 21 to 23 April 2010 in Johannesburg, South Africa, hosted by NPCA. The meeting was attended by approximately 200 delegates, and the main issue discussed was a post-compact roadmap to advance CAADP implementation at national and regional levels.

The second CAADP/PP meeting will be held from 21 to 23 November in Yaoundé, Cameroon, and it will be hosted by the Economic Community for Central African States (ECCAS). An organizing Committee that includes representatives of NPCA, AUC, ECCAS, FAO and GTZ are currently preparing the background documents for the meeting.

### ***2.3 The Country Agriculture Donor Working Group***

The Agriculture Donor Working Group (ADWG), also referred as Donor Sector Working Group (DSWG), is a conference of representatives of the key development partners supporting the food and agriculture sector in a given country. The ADWG, whose membership comprises representatives of all the members of the AFSRDC present in a country, is a forum established to coordinate inputs into the development, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of national food security and agricultural development policies, programmes and projects. In countries where CAADP implementation has progressed, the

work of the ADWG has been transformed into supporting the CAADP agenda. Every member of the ADWG liaises closely with, and is supported by, its headquarters representative in the CAADP/TT. In many countries members of the AFSRDC, such as FAO and the WB perform as the chair of the ADWG and provides support to the in-country CAADP processes.

#### ***2.4 AFSRDC Cluster meetings and collaboration with other clusters***

Given the mechanisms outlined above, organizing regular AFSRDC meetings has been difficult. The only AFSRDC meeting that was held during the course of the year was the one held on 22 April 2010 on the margins of the 6<sup>th</sup> CAADP/PP meeting. The meeting was attended by NPCA, FAO, WFP and the WB, and the purpose was to brainstorm joint Cluster activities that could be implemented in 2010 and beyond. However, the meeting concluded that CAADP/TT and CAADP/PP, in which the key Cluster members are already actively engaged, provide adequate coordination mechanism. Accordingly, the meeting could not identify any joint Cluster activity beyond those implemented in the context of the above two mechanisms.

There was a second attempt made by the Convener to organize a second cluster meeting on the 8 and 9 September 2010, in Rome. However it had to be cancelled due to limited confirmation from members. The objective of the second meeting included: (i) update on CAADP implementation processes and progress on the ground; (ii) presentation of the activities implemented in collaboration with one or more of the cluster members in support of AU and NEPAD; (iii) group work to prepare/consolidate the cluster report; and (iv) finalisation and adoption of report.

Notwithstanding the difficulties to organize its own cluster meetings for the reasons mentioned above, the AFSRDC convener has held several consultations with the employment Cluster. The objective of the consultation is to ensure mainstreaming of youth and employment issues in CAADP national and regional investment programmes and projects.

#### ***2.5 The FAO Extended and Core CAADP Task Teams***

Internally FAO has a strategy for ensuring effective Technical support in the organization of round tables and operationalization of Compacts. This is anchored on four mutually reinforcing pillars: (i) mobilizing FAO's internal technical resources; (ii) alignment of FAO field programme with the CAADP agenda; (iii) building Partnership and alliances with development partners; and (iv) advocacy work and resource mobilization. To this effect, FAO has established an Extended CAADP Task Team (ECTT) that embraces all technical division in headquarters, the Regional Office for Africa and four subregional offices in Africa covering Central, East, South and West Africa. The Core CAADP Task Team (CCTT) consists of the Regional Representative for Africa, the FAO Representative to Ethiopia, African Union and ECA and three technical Units in Rome: Policy Assistance Support Service, FAO Investment Centre Africa Service and the Special Programme for Food Security Management and Coordination Service. The ECTT meets on the last Friday of every month, while the CCTT meets once a week.

### **3. The CAADP implementation process and progress achieved**

The roadmap prepared by NPCA and the AUC with the participation and technical contribution of the RECs, Development Partners (DPs) has distinct milestones. These include: (i) the CAADP Launching Event; (ii) the CAADP Country/Regional Round Table Meeting leading to the signing of national/regional Compacts; (iii) the preparation of Investment Plans and their technical review; (iv) the organization of a Business meeting to discuss the

Investment Plans; (v) formulation of detailed investment programmes and projects and financing; and (vi) the launching of the CAADP implementation and monitoring and evaluation.

### ***3.1 Launching of CAADP and organization of Country Roundtable meetings***

After several attempts to fast-track CAADP implementation with support of key members of AFSRDC, especially the Rome-based UN agencies, World Bank, IFPRI and the African Development Bank, in 2006, the NEPAD Secretariat and the AUC adopted the round-table process as a vehicle to advance the process on the ground. The process starts with holding a national or regional launching event involving key state and non-state actors. It is an event demonstrating national commitment to the CAADP principles, targets and pre-requisites.

The launching Event is followed by putting institutional and technical arrangements towards preparing the documentation and logistics for holding a round-table meeting whose main outcome is the signing of a Compact. The Compact outlines the country's strategy for CAADP implementation. Its underlining principles and features are: (i) local ownership and leadership in which a government, at the highest level, is committed to the CAADP agenda and all national stakeholders are engaged; (ii) priority agricultural investment areas are identified based on analytical studies and critical reviews of constraints and growth drivers; (iii) policy gaps and weaknesses to be addressed are identified; and (iv) support and buy-ins from development partners are assured.

After rather a slow start, the CAADP country round-table process has gained considerable momentum in the last couple of years. As of the end of September 2010 twenty-two countries<sup>1</sup> and one REC (ECOWAS) have signed their Compact, of which nine signed during the course of this year, compared to only one country, Rwanda, in 2007 and twelve countries between 2007 and 2009. Furthermore, preparation for the round-table meeting is either at an advanced stage or has progressed well in Djibouti, Guinea Bissau, Lesotho, Mauritania, Mozambique, Sudan, Zambia and Zimbabwe and preparation has recently taken off in Central Africa Republic, Egypt, Madagascar and Seychelles.

Although the input provided by AFSRDC varies from one country to another, members of the Cluster have provided significant technical, and at times, financial contribution to countries in the preparation of their country round-table meetings. For example, FAO collaborated in Sierra Leone, Tanzania and Togo and with the WB, AfDB, IFAD and WFP in the preparation of the background documents for the roundtable meetings.

### ***3.2 Formulation of Agricultural Investment Plans and holding Business Meetings***

It should be noted that the Compact represents a policy statement of government commitment to prioritize agriculture and increase its budgetary share, engage all stakeholders in the CAADP agenda, make the necessary policy adjustments and ensure the commitment of development partners to support government efforts to implement CAADP. However, the Compact is not an operational document and has to be developed through investment plans, programmes and projects. The next step in the CAADP process is therefore the formulation of a relatively detailed and costed investment plan that is subject to technical review by NPCA, DREA/AUC, the concerned REC and the Lead Pillar Institutions (LPI).

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<sup>1</sup> Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Swaziland and Uganda in COMESA, Tanzania in SADC, and all 15 in ECOWAS but Guinea Bissau.

The latest NPCA report shows that 19 of the 22 countries who have signed the Compact have advanced into preparing Investment Plans of which nine have organized a Business meeting. Most of the remaining 14 countries are expected to complete their Investment Plans and hold a business meeting before the end of the year.

### ***3.3 Application for funding under GAFSP***

The Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme (GAFSP) is a multilateral mechanism to address the under-funding of country and regional agriculture and food security strategic investment plans already being developed by countries. The GAFSP includes both a public and private sector financing window, and it has been launched to operationalize the L'Aquila Food Security Initiative (AFSI) pledged at the G8 meeting in 2009 in L'Aquila, Italy.

The L'Aquila Joint Statement recognizes that "...in Africa, CAADP is an effective vehicle for ensuring that resources are targeted to a country's plans and priorities. We commit to provide resources – whether financial, in-kind or technical assistance – in support of CAADP and other similar regional and national plans in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Asia." Any African country applying to benefit from the funding facility under the GAFSP must have signed a Compact and prepared an Investment Plan in order for its application to be considered.

By the end of September, 11 Countries have submitted a complete package of application to the GAFSP Secretariat meeting the deadline for submission of October 1, 2010. This is in addition to the three countries – Rwanda, Sierra Leone and Togo – that successfully submitted their proposals for the June 2010 window and benefited from USD50 million, USD50 million and USD39 million respectively adding to a total of USD139 million.

The contribution of some AFSRDC members, especially FAO and AfDB, in the preparation and finalization of the countries' CAADP Investment Plans and preparation of the GAFSP applications documentations was quite substantial.

## **4. AFSRDC Activities outside the framework of CAADP**

Members of AFSRDC have collaborated on a number of initiatives in support of African agriculture, food security and rural development agenda. Some of such activities are highlighted below.

### ***4.1 Agribusiness and Agro-industries Development in Africa***

FAO, the AUC, UNECA, UNIDO, IFAD, AfDB and the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, organized a "High Level Conference on the Development of Agribusiness and Agro-Industries in Africa" (HLCD-3A), which was held in Abuja, Nigeria, from 8 to 10 March 2010. The event brought together African heads of state and government, ministers of agriculture and industry, senior level officials and representatives from international development organizations to consider and endorse the "African Agribusiness and Agro-industries Development Initiative" (3ADI). This initiative aims to increase private sector investment flows into agriculture in Africa by tapping resources from domestic, regional and international financial institutions. It consists of a programme framework and an associated financial mechanism that should enable African countries to develop highly productive and profitable agro-value chains, effectively link producers to markets, increase value addition, foster innovative institutions and services, reinforce financing and risk

mitigation mechanisms and promote enabling policies and provision of public goods. The endorsement of 3ADI was proclaimed in the “Abuja Declaration on the Development of Agribusiness and Agro-industries in Africa”, adopted during HLCD-3A

#### ***4.2 Workshop on Lessons learned on post harvest losses in Africa***

FAO and the WB organized a workshop, in March 2010, on “*Lessons learned and practical guidelines to address post harvest losses in grain supply chains in Africa*”. The objective of the workshop was to bring together experts on PHL reduction, to discuss the significance of the issue, past experiences, and identify appropriate future interventions in Sub-Saharan Africa. The workshop was attended by 35 participants including five representatives from the grain sector in Africa as well as representatives of FAO, the WB, AfDB, UNIDO, WFP, IFAD, the European Commission and the Natural Resources Institute of the UK.

#### ***4.3 FAO-UNECA collaboration in agribusiness development in Africa***

The FAO and UNECA collaboration in the development of an appraisal of Public-Private Agribusiness Partnerships (PPPs) in Africa has continued during the current year. The objectives of the initiative included: (i) an assessment of the challenges faced by public sector technical officers in developing agribusiness PPPs; (ii) drawing lessons on specific issues to guide public sector officials when developing PPPs; and (iii) developing a draft guideline that could, after peer review and revision, be used by technical officers in relevant ministries in the continent. An appraisal workshop will be held before the end of the current year and it will be based on cases from Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania and Uganda.

#### ***4.4 MDG Africa Working Group***

Cluster members continued to play an active role in the inter-agency MDG Africa Working Group on Agriculture, chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General. Most of them are members of the Thematic Group on Agriculture and Food Security chaired by FAO and the AUC. The thematic group seeks to reinforce and strengthen the implementation of the NEPAD CAADP Programme at national and regional levels as part of a comprehensive approach to supporting the AU countries in making progress towards reaching the MDG1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger.

#### ***4.5 Follow-up to the implementation of the TICAD-IV Action***

The Fourth Tokyo International Conference for African Development (TICAD-IV) was held in Yokohama, Japan, in May 2008 with strong technical contribution from FAO, WFP, the WB and IFAD. The four institutions made a concerted effort to ensure that agriculture, and especially CAADP, is prioritized in the TICAD-IV Action Plan. The Japanese Government, in collaboration with various UN agencies, which included members of the AFSRDC, organized a Ministerial follow-up meeting in Arusha, Tanzania in May 2010 to review the state of implementation of the Yokohama Action Plan. The follow-up meetings brought together African ministers, officials of the African Union, the Government of Japan, representatives of partner countries, regional and international organizations, the private sector, civil society and farmer’s organizations in order.

#### ***4.6 Afro-Arab Ministerial Meeting on Agricultural Development and Food Security***

FAO and WFP have contributed to the preparation of the Afro-Arab Ministerial meetings on Agricultural Development and Food Security that was held in Sharm-el-Sheikh, Egypt in February 2010. This was preceded by the High Level Expert Meeting that was held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, from 9 to 11 November 2008. The Ministerial meeting discussed the status of food security and agricultural development in the two regions, as well as a Joint Action Plan that will guide their collaboration in the area of agriculture and food security. The Joint Action Plan proposes a number of areas for collaboration that would be anchored on four mutually supportive pillars: (i) agricultural intensification and diversification; (ii) food reserve initiative; (iii) infrastructure and trade development; (iv) agriculture research and technology transfers; and (v) cross-cutting issues which include capacity building, environment and gender. The Ministerial meeting will be followed by an Afro-Arab Summit of Heads of State and Government to be held in Sirte, Libya, before the end of the year.

#### ***4.7 Brazil-Africa Dialogue on Food Security, Combating Hunger, and Rural Development***

The Rome-based members of AFSRDC participated in the Brazil-Africa Dialogue on Food Security, Combating Hunger, and Rural Development that was held from 10 to 12 May 2010 in Brasilia, Brazil. The objective of the meeting was to solicit support to the African food security and agriculture agenda, in which African countries have undertaken to adopt and strengthen policies aimed at promoting food production, ensuring sustainable agricultural development and bio-energy production. The meeting resulted in concrete collaboration frameworks, and FAO is assisting Brazil and AUC/NPCA in operationalizing the agreements reached.

### **5.0 Technical and financial support to African Continental and Regional Institutions**

The member organizations of AFSRDC continue to provide technical assistance to the AUC, NPCA and RECs during the reporting period. The FAO assistance is financed under its Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) and Trust Fund projects. Furthermore, a project funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation – “*Monitoring African Food and Agricultural Policies (MAFAP)*” is assisting African policy-makers to align national, regional and continental policies to ensure CAADP investments support the achievement of CAADP agricultural growth and poverty reduction targets.

#### ***5.1 Support under to the African Union Commission (AUC)***

FAO has extended the duration of the TCP project facility that was approved to assist DREA/AUC in the preparation of its Strategic Plan 2009-2012. The objective of the extension was to finance the recruitment of consultants to assist with the preparation of the background documents for the Africa Food Basket Initiative; the theme of the meeting of Africa Agricultural Ministers Meeting that will be held in Malawi during the last week of October 2010. A senior international consultant and a national (Malawian) consultant are currently working under the guidance of the AUC and the Government of Malawi. Furthermore, FAO has approved another TCP project to finance the secondment of two additional consultants to the DREA/AUC for six months to support its work. One of the two is already in place and recruitment of the second consultant is under way.

The CAADP Multi-Donor Trust Fund<sup>2</sup> has also allocated USD4 million for the formulation of the DREA action plan and to strengthen its operational and technical capacities.

### **5.2 Support to NPCA**

During the reporting period, FAO and WFP have supported NPCA through the secondment of one expert each. In May 2010, the Italian Government approved a USD2.8 million project for FAO that makes provision for a Senior Policy and Investment Officer to be based at the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), and a Senior Policy Officer to be based in Addis Ababa to strengthen the capacity of the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA) of AUC. The two experts have already been selected and the recruitment process is underway with the view of putting them in place before the end of the year.

The overarching functions of the experts will be to support the continental organizations to lead the advancement of CAADP implementation. Furthermore, FAO is in the process of identifying and recruiting three experts for DREA with funding under the FAO Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP).

NPCA is also expected to receive USD3.5 under the CAADP Multi-Donor Trust Fund towards strengthening its capacity in playing its technical guidance and operational capacities.

### **5.3 Support to the Regional Economic Communities**

Various members of AFSRDC have continued to provide technical support to RECs towards advancing the CAADP agenda in their respective regions. Currently FAO is finalizing the process of approval of a USD4 million Trust Fund project with the Government of Spain. The objective of the project is to strengthen the institutional capacity of ECOWAS and its member states in the formulation, appraisal, implementation and monitoring and evaluations of CAADP. In principle, the project has been approved but formal approval is expected at the end of October. The project makes provision for a long-term expert and short-term international, regional and national consultants.

## **6.0 Achievements and results**

The notable achievements made in the implementation of the CAADP have been discussed in section three of this report. Although this has been achieved through the collective contributions of NPCA, AUC and development partners that include many of the AFSRDC members most credit goes to the countries themselves who have led the CAADP process. The successes of the CAADP process can be described under three sub-headings.

- (i) *Local leadership and ownership of the CAADP process:* the continued efforts of the AUC/DREA and NPCA, and their development partners, have resulted in achieving the highest level of political buy-ins and wide stakeholder participation in the CAADP processes. This is manifested in the high level government engagement and wide stakeholder participation in all the countries that have made considerable progress in the CAADP process. For example, the signing of the Compact in Tanzania was chaired by H.E. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete himself, and it was attended by all the Ministers of the Lead Agriculture Ministries, the Foreign Minister, the Minister of State of Zanzibar responsible for Finance & Economic Affairs, representatives of civil society, the private sector, farmers organizations

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<sup>2</sup> The Multi Donor Trust Fund has been established with contribution of some bilateral donors, which include Holland, Sweden, UK and the United States of America and, and is managed by the WB.

and development partners. Similarly, in Ghana, the signing ceremony was chaired by the Vice President of the Country and the Compact was signed by the Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Finance, representative of the Traditional Rulers, representatives of civil society and other stakeholders as well as representative of the Development partners. This high level government engagement and wide stakeholder participation signify that the NEPAD and CAADP principles of country owned and country driven is adequately realized.

- (ii) *Evidence of development partners' commitment to the CAADP agenda:* most of the bilateral and multilateral donors, international financial institutions, and international development agencies have by now recognized CAADP as the framework for food security and agriculture development in Africa. This was clearly stated at the summit of the G8 governments when they pledged to allocate USD20 billion over three years through this coordinated, comprehensive strategy focused on sustainable agriculture development, while keeping a strong commitment to ensure adequate emergency food aid assistance. The L'Aquila Summit also encouraged other countries and private actors to join in the common effort towards global food security through a coherent approach. Although the funds pledged are not only for Africa, the continent and CAADP remains the main beneficiary.
- (iii) *Engaging African knowledge institutions in providing technical support to the CAADP process:* one of the strategies in CAADP implementation is the promotion of exchange of experience and expertise in the context of South-South cooperation. As discussed before, African Institutions have been identified to provide technical input in advancing implementation of the four pillars of CAADP. These are referred to as the Pillar Institutions. Although their contribution is still being assessed, the concept of engaging African knowledge institutions in promoting food security and agriculture development agenda in Africa is widely accepted and being promoted. In this context, training institutions in Egypt, such as the Egyptian International Centre for Agriculture (EICA) have expressed to NPCA that they would welcome trainees from other African countries to benefit from their agricultural training programme.