





# African Union: Support to the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme

Strengthening the implementation of the African Union's agricultural transformation agenda at country level with a focus on policy advice, climate change adaptation and skills development.

# The challenge

Agriculture plays a significant role in Africa's sustainable development. Over 65% of Africa's labour force is employed in agriculture – the vast majority being smallholder farmers and women. However, the agricultural sector's potential for food security, poverty eradication, job creation and women's economic empowerment remains unrealised. Farmers, especially women, often lack the skills needed to profitably boost production, processing, business and trade. By 2050, the continent will have to feed an estimated 9 billion people. Climate change is already negatively impacting agricultural productivity and food security. Therefore, it is crucial for Africa's agricultural sector to be professionalised, climateresilient and harnessing the power of its female workforce.

# Our approach

The African Union (AU) established the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) as a strategy to achieve agriculture-based growth and food security. The technical body of the African Union Commission (AUC), the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), has been mandated to coordinate the implementation of CAADP. GIZ on behalf of the German government supports the AUC and NPCA in the following areas:

- (1) The Policy Advice intervention strengthens the AUC and NPCA's capacities to advise AU member states on implementing CAADP. This includes support in the development of country-specific strategies to increase agricultural investment and production.
- (2) The Climate intervention emphasises climate change adaptation in the CAADP process to ensure a climate-















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resilient agricultural sector. To achieve this goal, the AUC and NPCA are provided with technical expertise to support AU member states in the implementation of climate-smart agricultural measures.

- (3) The Agricultural Technical Vocational Education and Training (ATVET) intervention promotes labour market-oriented and income-enhancing training and education along different agricultural value chains.
- (4) The ATVET for Women intervention strives to increase women's access to formal and non-formal education in the agri-food sector by promoting training that is geared to women's diverse needs and roles.





Photo (left): Women selling a variety of tomatoes in Ghana © GIZ / Folke Kayser

Photo (right): Workers on a field in Rwanda © GIZ / Dirk Gebhardt





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Photo (left): Pineapples are being displayed at the market © GIZ / Guenay Ulutun

Photo (right): An ATVET student at the Dairy Training Institute (DTI) in Kenya @ GIZ

# Results in figures ...

- As of August 2017, NAIP country support missions by the AUC and NCPA to Malawi, Kenya, Nigeria, Uganda, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Ghana and Tanzania were supported with technical expertise. At least six more country missions to design new or revise existing NAIPs are planned in 2017.
- Several strategies and studies on the involvement of the private sector were developed with the AU counterparts – for example, the continental Agribusiness strategy and the study Taking Stock of Agribusiness Chambers in Africa.
- Over 15 African countries have mainstreamed climate change into their National Agricultural Investment Plans (NAIPs) and are implementing climate-relevant measures

   for example, soil and water management, agroforestry and improved grazing management.
- In six partner countries, over 6,200 students have received Agricultural Technical Vocational Education and Training (ATVET) to date.
- Nearly 30% of all students trained in the six partner countries were women. Previously, women made up on average less than 15% of trainees in formal agricultural training institutions.
- The number of people trained including trainers, tutors, farmers and young students – is set to double in the next three years of ATVET implementation.

## ... and in stories

### **Skills Development in Agriculture**

Caroline is a final year ATVET student at the Dairy Training Institute (DTI) in Kenya. She has always believed that young women should be given the same opportunities as young men, including the opportunity to handle animals. Traditionally, the handling of larger animals, like cattle, is left to the men. However, Caroline believes it is important to know what to do when the men in the family are not around. Through her training, she was able to enhance her skills in this regard. She was able to work along agricultural value chains and identify the right career path for her.

### **Climate Change Adaptation in Agriculture**

By bringing together environmental and agricultural representatives in regular professional meetings, the Climate intervention fosters dialogue and exchange between the different negotiators involved in international climate talks.

In preparation for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP22) in Morocco, representatives of African ministries of agriculture were able to re-emphasise the importance of the sector as part of the climate change agenda. These pan-African exchanges strengthen essential cooperation between ministries of agriculture and environment.

As a result, countries are able to develop a strong and united African position at international climate negotiations to obtain maximum opportunities and benefits for the continent.

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