

African Union: Continental support for agricultural transformation in Africa

Country-level implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) through the African Union Commission and the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency is strengthened.

The challenge

Agriculture provides a livelihood for almost two-thirds of Africa's population and contributes about 32% to the continent's gross domestic product (GDP). Against this backdrop, African leaders acknowledged the need for increased investments in and productivity of the agricultural sector. In 2003, the African Union (AU) launched the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) as the continent's policy framework for agricultural transformation.

However, supporting CAADP implementation on country level exceeds current human and financial resources of the organisations in charge. Further, the growth potential of private sector investments in agriculture has not been fully realised.

Our approach

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 CAADP process.

In 2014, the CAADP initiative was reviewed by all African leaders and reaffirmed in the so-called Malabo Declaration. AU member countries agreed on the development and implementation of CAADP-compliant National Agricultural Investment Plans (NAIPs). These are country-specific strategies to increase investment and productivity in agriculture.

Our area of work focuses on increasing capacities of NPCA and of AUC's Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture



Project name	Policy advice for strengthening CAADP implementation
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Implementing organisation	NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) and GIZ
Project region	Africa (based in South Africa)
Lead executing agency	African Union Commission (AUC)
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Financial volume	4.000.000 EUR

(DREA) to advise AU member countries in the development of these CAADP-compliant NAIPs.

This includes providing technical expertise for country support missions by AUC-DREA and NPCA to facilitate the development of NAIPs. By implementing organisational changes, providing coaching and seconding staff, the project strengthens AUC-DREA and NPCA's human resources and technical capacities. The development and dissemination of knowledge products on CAADP, e.g. the *CAADP Implementation Guidelines*, makes existing knowledge accessible. Supporting the establishment of national Investment Facilitation Platforms (IFPs) enhances dialogue between the private and public sector. To improve inclusivity, all activities aim at strengthening the position of women and youth in Africa's agricultural sector.



Photo (left): 13th CAADP Partnership Platform 2017
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Photo (right): Tea, Rwanda
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Photo (right): Rwanda, Northern Province © GIZ / Britta Radike

Results in figures ...

The project's approach to the CAADP process on continental, regional and national level has generated, among others, the following results:

- Since 2003, forty-three of the fifty AU member countries involved in the CAADP process have signed a CAADP Compact and committed themselves to implement CAADP. Thirty-nine of these countries have thus started implementing National Agricultural Investment Plans (NAIPs).
- As of August 2017, eight NAIP **country support missions** by AUC-DREA and NPCA to Malawi, Kenya, Nigeria, Uganda, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Ghana and Tanzania were supported with technical expertise. 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, i.e. a comprehensive continental *Agribusiness Strategy*.
- In the context of implementing the *Agribusiness Strategy* and to foster private sector involvement in the CAADP process, national **Investment Facilitation Platforms** (IFPs) were established in Senegal, Uganda and Zambia. Two more IFPs are planned in Cameroon and Ghana.
- The *AU Malabo Business Plan* provides a support concept guiding the continental support of CAADP processes on country level. By specifying the **mandates and tasks** of AUC-DREA, NPCA and Regional Economic Communities (RECs), the document contributes to a more efficient steering of the process.

... and in stories

Having been the first country to sign the CAADP Compact in 2007, Rwanda has emerged as a CAADP success story.

Growth and Poverty Reduction

During its first CAADP implementation phase from 2008 to 2013, Rwanda experienced one of the fastest periods of growth and socioeconomic progress in its history. Agriculture contributed to a 12% reduction in poverty. In rural areas, poverty fell by over 13% to 48.7%. This also contributed to a reduction of inequalities between rural and urban areas. Another consequence was the significant decline in the percentage of households affected by hunger from 35% to 21%. Simultaneously, there was a spike in modern agriculture, now being used on 20% of arable land.

Best Practices

By building up a distribution network, Rwanda managed to provide improved access to agricultural inputs like seeds and fertiliser. Increased irrigation of drought-affected areas and the extension of cultivable land by terracing hillsides raised agricultural productivity.

Policy and Cooperation

The implementation of CAADP in Rwanda has contributed to the development of more focused, incentive-oriented agricultural policies. Enhanced cooperation within East Africa and among donors played a significant role towards the efficiency of CAADP implementation.

After a successful initial phase, Rwanda re-emphasised its commitment to CAADP in 2014, when it revised its NAIP and agreed on further ambitious targets.

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