

Strengthening Capacities for Evidence-based Policy Planning and Implementation in Africa: *IFPRI's Support to CAADP in 2016–2017*



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 African Union Commission (AUC), the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), and leading regional economic communities (RECs).

The African Growth and Development Policy (AGRODEP) Modeling Consortium was established in 2010 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. 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.

This report highlights achievements made in 2016 and the first half of 2017 by IFPRI and its partners in support of the CAADP implementation agenda through ReSAKSS and the AGRODEP Modeling Consortium.

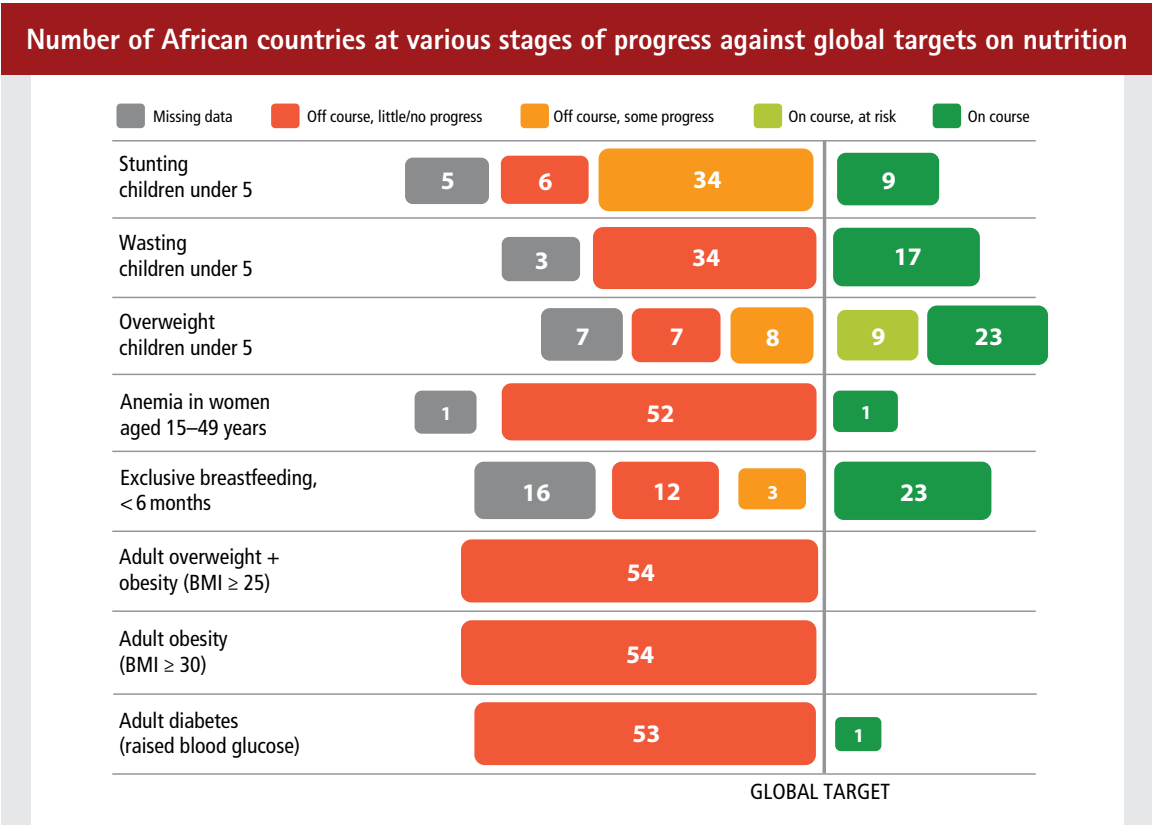
INFORMING CAADP REVIEW AND DIALOGUE PROCESSES THROUGH RESAKSS

ReSAKSS continues to help inform and guide the CAADP implementation agenda through its flagship *Annual Trends and Outlook Reports* (ATORs), tracking of CAADP indicators, web-based knowledge products, and strengthening capacities for mutual accountability.

The Africa-wide ATOR serves as the official CAADP monitoring and evaluation (M&E) report and the 2015 ATOR was published on the theme “Achieving a Nutrition Revolution for Africa: The Road to Healthier Diets and Optimal Nutrition.” The report examines the importance of nutrition in achieving international, continental, and national economic growth and development goals and

addresses how the agricultural sector can ensure that food systems deliver more nutritious and nutrient-dense foods.

According to the report, Africa is making progress in reducing malnutrition as reflected by reductions in undernourishment, stunting, underweight, and wasting, although the rates of these malnutrition indicators remain high. Nonetheless, governments will need to simultaneously address the triple burden of malnutrition (undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, and overweight and obesity)—micronutrient deficiencies are still stubbornly high while the continent is experiencing increases in overweight and obesity and related noncommunicable diseases. The 2015 ATOR highlights the need to increase investments and budget allocations for nutrition-sensitive food-system



Source: Haddad, L., et al. 2016. “Africa’s Progress toward Meeting Current Nutrition Targets.” In *Achieving a Nutrition Revolution for Africa: The Road to Healthier Diets and Optimal Nutrition—ReSAKSS Annual Trends and Outlook Report 2015*, ed. N. Covic and S. L. Hendriks. Washington, DC: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), 12–21.

reform programs as current commitments do not match the need. The report calls for comprehensive M&E systems, complete with key nutrition indicators and contextualized evidence, to evaluate the impact of comprehensive investment plans on nutrition and attainment of the international, continental, and national commitments for growth, development, and nutrition. It shows that efforts to mainstream nutrition in agriculture under CAADP can help to accelerate progress, but this will need to be done in tandem with other relevant sectors because of the multisectoral nature of nutrition. The report also highlights the importance of strengthening human and institutional capacities for mainstreaming nutrition and coordinating policies and programs across sectors more efficiently in order to fully unleash the potential of a nutrition revolution for the continent.

As in previous ATORs, the report assesses progress toward CAADP goals and the 2014 Malabo Declaration commitments using the CAADP Results Framework. Overall, the analysis of CAADP indicators shows that countries that have been in the CAADP process the longest and those that have gone through most of the levels of the CAADP process have experienced more favorable outcomes in terms of agricultural production and productivity

and incomes, thus highlighting the positive impact of CAADP. However, further impact analysis found the impact of CAADP on nutrition to be negative, as the prevalence of undernourishment increased, reflecting the weak emphasis on nutrition early in the CAADP process.

The 2015 ATOR was presented at the 2016 ReSAKSS Annual Conference, hosted by AUC, from October 18–20 in Accra, Ghana, on the same theme as the report. Dr. Lawrence Haddad, Executive Director of the Global Alliance for Nutrition, delivered the keynote address in which he emphasized the importance of political will supported by SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound) commitments for accountability to help end malnutrition. The conference brought together over 130 participants to discuss findings of the ATOR and to review progress in supporting CAADP implementation, including evaluating progress in establishing country Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (SAKSS) platforms and their local analytical networks and strengthening mutual accountability through agriculture joint sector review (JSR) assessments. Delegates also reviewed progress in preparing for the first Malabo/CAADP Biennial Review in January 2018 and in mobilizing analytical



ReSAKSS Annual Conference, October 18–20, 2016, Accra, Ghana



tools and experts to support the development of second-generation national agriculture investment plans (NAIPs). A total of eight side event sessions, including a closed session led by AUC and NPCA, organized by partner organizations were held before the official conference opening. Conference participants included policy makers, experts, researchers, advocacy groups, farmers' organizations, the private sector, development partners, and other key CAADP stakeholders.

In early 2017, ReSAKSS launched production of the Africa-wide 2016 ATOR on "A Thriving Agricultural Sector in a Changing Climate: Meeting Malabo Declaration Goals through Climate-Smart Agriculture." Given the growing intensity and frequency of climate change effects, the 2016 ATOR takes an in-depth look at the role of climate-smart agriculture (CSA) in helping to meet Malabo Declaration goals and particularly the goal of enhancing resilience of livelihoods and production systems to climate variability and shocks. The 2016 ATOR takes stock of current knowledge of the effects of climate change, reviews existing evidence of effectiveness of various CSA strategies, and provides examples of CSA-based practices and technologies for developing evidence-based policies. Contributors to the report are leading scholars and practitioners on CSA and Africa from centers of expertise such as the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), IFPRI, and the United Nations Environment Programme.

One of the key elements needed for the success of the CAADP process and the achievement of its goals at the country level is the continuous generation of data and evidence to guide the design and implementation of various programs and interventions in the agricultural sector. SAKSS platforms are meant to help meet country-specific analytical and capacity needs while working in close collaboration with the regional-level knowledge platforms (ReSAKSS). Given the need to customize efforts to create and support capacities needed to satisfactorily operate SAKSS platforms, a first step has been to carry out capacity needs assessments (CNAs) to examine each country's existing institutional and human technical capacities. To date, CNAs have been finalized in 19 countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Zimbabwe received seed funding to establish a SAKSS, and conduct a CNA study, from the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA). CNA reports for Swaziland and Zimbabwe were finalized and validated during the last half of 2016. The CNA for Côte d'Ivoire was validated at the end of 2016. The CNA for Burundi was delayed by the unstable political situation in the country.

By the end of 2016, the total number of operational SAKSS platforms reached 13: Benin, Burkina Faso, DRC, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mali,



Mozambique, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Togo, and Uganda. Established SAKSS platforms are already producing country ATORs in DRC, Ghana, and Rwanda. ReSAKSS nodes have provided technical support to help produce country ATORs in countries where SAKSS platforms have been established (Mozambique, Senegal, and Togo) and in countries where they have not yet been established (Botswana, Malawi, South Africa, Swaziland, and Zambia). The nodes are currently working to fully operationalize the platforms and set up their governance structures and analytical networks to help link the supply of knowledge and analysis to policy makers and other development practitioners through review and dialogue mechanisms.

ReSAKSS has been developing country eAtlases, a core tool of the SAKSS platforms, for mapping highly disaggregated data on agricultural, socioeconomic, and biophysical indicators into a centralized and highly interactive system. The eAtlases can help policy analysts and policy makers access and use data at subnational levels to guide agricultural policy and investment decisions.

To date, ReSAKSS, in collaboration with the country SAKSS platforms, has developed 21 eAtlases

for all existing and upcoming SAKSS platforms. The eAtlases include server infrastructure that supports routine pre-processing of data. A custom user-interface was developed to allow country SAKSS teams to take over day-to-day management of their country eAtlas, including collection, mapping, and validation of data before it is uploaded to the eAtlas website. In the second half of 2016 and the first half of 2017, ReSAKSS held national workshops in 14 countries to review and validate the underlying data and provide hands-on training to country SAKSS teams in the use of the eAtlas tool.

ReSAKSS has led efforts to promote comprehensive, inclusive, and regular agriculture JSRs. The assessments evaluate agricultural review processes to lay the groundwork for the planning, coordination, and execution of stronger JSRs. During 2016, ReSAKSS finalized the Niger JSR assessment. This brought the number of completed JSR assessments that were initiated in 2015 to 10 out of 11. These countries are Benin, DRC, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Mali, Niger, Swaziland, Togo, Uganda, and Zambia. The assessment has been delayed in Burundi due to the country's unstable political situation. With funding from COMESA and technical backstopping support

from ReSAKSS, Zimbabwe conducted its JSR assessment in 2016 and finalized its assessment report in November 2016. During 2016 and the first half of 2017, ReSAKSS continued to provide technical support to strengthen JSRs in the majority of the countries that initiated assessments in 2015 as well as in the seven pilot countries that went through JSR assessments in 2014.

ReSAKSS continued to assist the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) with strengthening of its mutual accountability processes following a JSR assessment launched in 2015. The assessment, which will serve as a model for other regions, was formally reviewed and validated during an ECOWAS workshop held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, from May 31 to June 1, 2016, and the final report in French was completed and submitted to ECOWAS in October 2016.

Outcomes of the JSR assessments have provided important input into country JSR processes, reporting under the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition (New Alliance), and preparations for the first-ever CAADP Biennial Review in January 2018.

At the request of AUC's Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture, ReSAKSS helped to implement the 2015–2016 annual reviews for the New Alliance as part of its support to mutual accountability processes. ReSAKSS did so by collecting data on government commitments and helping to draft country-level reports for all 10 New Alliance countries as well as producing the overall continental synthesis report. The purpose of the annual review is to bring together an inclusive group of government, the private sector (domestic and international), development partners, and civil society stakeholders to transparently review, share, and discuss progress and challenges against all 10 country New Alliance Cooperation Framework Agreements. The country reports were validated at meetings attended by state and non-state actors and fed into the continental report. Since Framework Agreements came to an end in 2016, no reviews are planned for 2017.

Operationalizing the Malabo Declaration and the CAADP Results Framework will require countries and RECs to align their NAIPs with the new goals and targets of the Declaration and indicators in the framework. In support of AUC and NPCA, in 2016,



IFPRI and ReSAKSS began supporting the preparation of next-generation NAIPs by (1) developing a NAIP Toolbox that outlines metrics, analytical tools, methodologies, and core programmatic components to guide the design of NAIPs; (2) establishing a NAIP Expert Group to provide technical support to countries as they elaborate their NAIPs; and (3) setting up a NAIP Task Force to provide training, backstopping, and quality control to the expert group. The task force includes international experts from IFPRI, Africa Lead, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the University of Pretoria, and West and Central Africa Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF/WE CARD). The task force provided a series of technical clinics in fall of 2016 and winter of 2017 to prepare the experts to use the tools and methodologies in developing second-generation NAIPs. By the end of June 2017, about 150 local experts from 20 countries had been trained on various analytical tools and methodologies that they are now using in providing analytical support to countries as they formulate NAIPs aligned with the Malabo Declaration thematic areas, goals, and targets. The support leads to the production of three main outputs: (1) Malabo Status Assessment and Profile that evaluates the current situation in

a country; (2) Malabo Goals and Milestones Report that analyzes requirements for achieving Malabo targets; and (3) Program Component Report that identifies the required policies and program elements to achieve Malabo targets. By August, 2017, Malabo Status Assessments had been completed for 13 countries while Malabo Goals and Milestone Reports had been completed for nine countries.

In preparation for the first CAADP Biennial Review (BR), ReSAKSS staff participated in the BR training-of-trainers held at the end of 2016. Subsequently, during the first half of 2017, ReSAKSS led six regional BR training workshops on the BR Technical Guidelines and the Country Reporting Template for participants from 52 countries, represented by an average of three participants from each country. During the training workshops, country participants produced country-level BR roadmaps aligned with the AUC roadmap. Following the training workshops, ReSAKSS has been providing technical support to countries in data collection, analysis, and reporting and has helped to facilitate the training of potential country BR facilitators. By the end of July 2017, countries were at varying stages of implementing their roadmaps: 26 countries had draft BR reports ready, 15 had validated reports, and 8 had submitted their reports to RECs.



ReSAKSS Annual Conference, October 18-20, 2016, Accra, Ghana

ReSAKSS Website



WWW.RESAKSS.ORG

In 2016 and early 2017, ReSAKSS organized 15 methodology and technical training workshops for 265 participants from the East and Central Africa, West Africa, and Southern Africa regions. Twenty-one percent of the participants were female. Participants in these workshops included staff from ministries of agriculture, country CAADP teams, national statistics offices, universities, civil society, and the private sector. They received training on various NAIP appraisal tools and methodologies, how to access and use the agriculture eAtlases, application and use of Geographic Information System (GIS), agricultural policy analysis, and M&E techniques.

A key activity has been enhancing content for the ReSAKSS website (www.resakss.org) and extending its reach as the main platform for review and monitoring of progress under CAADP. Over the last year, the ReSAKSS website was redesigned to improve its appearance and functionality and better meet the data and analytical needs of CAADP and its stakeholders. The redesigned ReSAKSS website, launched in March 2017, allows users to customize comparisons of indicators and countries and displays the results in a variety of formats, including maps and bar and line charts, all of which are available for immediate download. The new ReSAKSS

website also allows users to visually track progress of African countries and regions toward the various CAADP targets. During 2016 and the first half of 2017, the website attracted a total of 12,228 users and saw about 3,200 total downloads of ReSAKSS publications.

Social media in the form of ReSAKSS Twitter, SlideShare, and Facebook platforms were introduced in 2012 and have helped to publicize ReSAKSS activities, events, and information about African agricultural development. SlideShare has been used to publicize and disseminate ReSAKSS presentations to key stakeholders while Twitter and Facebook are used to interact with ReSAKSS partners and publicize ReSAKSS activities and publications. Currently, ReSAKSS has 2,634 followers on Twitter and 1,054 likes on Facebook, and had 33,366 SlideShare views over the last year.

STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES FOR ECONOMIC MODELING THROUGH AGRODEP

Over the last year and half, with limited funding for its typical capacity-building activities, the AGRODEP Modeling Consortium focused on several training courses and on publishing research output from its competitive grant activities. The most recent round of membership extension in 2015 brought total AGRODEP membership to 183. The members represent 27 African countries and 30 percent of members are female. A qualifying member must be based in Africa and have obtained a PhD within the last 15 years, currently be pursuing a PhD, or have a master's degree combined with notable technical skills and experience. A second set of criteria is based on the applicant's research experience and publications record. Efforts to ensure geographical and gender diversity are

CAPACITY BUILDING

AGRODEP MEMBERS



RESEARCH GRANTS AND AWARDS

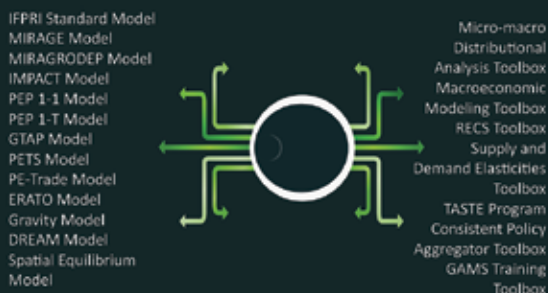


TRAINING and NETWORKING in 2016



TECHNICAL RESOURCES

MODELS and TOOLBOXES



DATASETS



PUBLICATIONS SERIES



considered once the technical threshold has been satisfied. 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. The number of AGRODEP affiliate members, who are accepted on a rolling basis, grew to 25. Launched in late 2013, affiliate membership allows AGRODEP members who relocate out of Africa to continue to benefit from the Consortium's professional opportunities. Qualified African researchers who live and work outside of Africa as well as African and non-African researchers who work at an international or CGIAR center in Africa are also eligible for affiliate membership. Affiliate members are granted full access to the AGRODEP Model and Data Libraries and can apply to attend AGRODEP training courses, but are ineligible for AGRODEP funding. "Friends of AGRODEP" is a designation given to individuals and institutions that have provided support and contributed to AGRODEP's activities. They currently stand at 60.

In previous years, AGRODEP administered various competitive grants including grants for Innovative Research, Gaps in Research, Research Valorization, and Seed Funds. More than 40 competitive research grants have been awarded by AGRODEP since it launched its Grants Program in 2011. No new calls for competitive grants were announced in 2015, given the completion of the first phase of the AGRODEP project. However, 18 papers from previous years' research grants have been completed and published in the AGRODEP Working Paper series since January 2016. Launched in 2012, the Working Paper series is a bilingual (English and French) online



AGRODEP Training Course: Losses Along Food Value Chains, October 2016, Accra, Ghana

publication that aims to enhance the visibility of AGRODEP members and contribute to the policy dialogue on African growth and development. To date, a total of 39 working papers have been published.

AGRODEP continues to support two sub-networks of members with trainings and workshops. The AGRODEP Impact Evaluation Network (AIEN), established in 2012, aims to disseminate information regarding impact evaluation projects in Africa, facilitate information and resource sharing among local, regional, and international researchers, and increase the number of African experts involved in impact evaluation in the region. Launched in 2015, the AGRODEP Value Chain Analysis Network disseminates information and training on the latest tools and methodologies for value chain analysis and evaluation. Members have the opportunity to collaborate and share knowledge with other value chain researchers, both regionally and globally.

Training courses provide AGRODEP members with access to a set of high-quality tools for addressing the research needs of countries and regions. Members' feedback on each course has been strongly positive, showing that the courses are meeting AGRODEP's goal of supporting

participating scientists, upgrading the skills of Consortium members, and promoting technical and methodological innovations to ensure that the Consortium remains a world-class entity. AGRODEP has delivered 33 training courses on data analysis and economic models and tools to 348 participants since the training program was launched in 2012.

The AGRODEP Modeling Consortium held one workshop and three training courses in 2016. The Impact Evaluation workshop held in Washington, DC, in May 2016 was attended by 10 members of the AGRODEP Impact Evaluation Network (AIEN), as well as impact evaluation practitioners



Multi-Country, Multi-Sector General Equilibrium Analysis: MIRAGRODEP-AEZ, December 2016, Dakar, Senegal

AGRODEP Website

from IFPRI and other Washington-based organizations. The AIEN members presented their papers, received feedback from their colleagues, and had access to potential mentorship and collaboration opportunities. The training courses were on Tools for Value Chain Analysis (held in Dakar, Senegal, March 2016), Losses Along Food Value Chains held in (Accra, Ghana, October 2016), and Multi-Country, Multi-Sector General Equilibrium Analysis: MIRAGRODEP-AEZ (Dakar, Senegal, December 2016). Thirty-five participants received training in the three courses.

AGRODEP has continued to maintain its modeling and data platforms. It now has 22 simulation and econometric models and 306 datasets, including social accounting matrixes, household surveys, national agricultural surveys, and trade statistics. Twelve of the models and toolboxes and the SAMs for 10 countries were developed by AGRODEP. To date, the consortium has published 14 AGRODEP Technical Notes that guide users on the use of various models and other analytical tools. Since the series was launched in 2014, 7 AGRODEP Data Reports, which provide documentation about AGRODEP data sets, have been published.

AGRODEP's expertise is increasingly recognized by other donors, global research entities, and African stakeholders. For example, in early 2017, AGRODEP was called upon by three major donors to assess the performance of the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition. As part of the German initiative One World, No Hunger, AGRODEP is working with IFPRI in evaluating promising agricultural technologies using economic modeling and GIS tools. The economic modeling capacity of AGRODEP members was strengthened through training on the MIRAGRODEP-AEZ model to analyze potential agricultural innovations. In 2016 and 2017,



AGRODEP members participated in technical clinics on methodologies and tools for the appraisal and design of next-generation NAIPs. The members are among 150 experts that will provide analytical support to countries as they formulate NAIPs that are aligned with Malabo Declaration goals and targets.

The AGRODEP website, which was launched in October 2011, is continually populated with new resources, news, and information for AGRODEP members and stakeholders. Between January 1, 2016, and June 30, 2017, the portal drew a total of 32,503 visits, with 45 percent coming from Africa. AGRODEP's presence in social media also continues to attract an increasing number of followers who are interested in learning more about AGRODEP and keeping up to date with its activities. AGRODEP is also present in popular social media outlets including LinkedIn (223 members), Facebook (1,277 likes), and Twitter (1,324 followers). AGRODEP presentations and videos shared on the AGRODEP YouTube channel had 35,360 views between January 2016 and June 2017.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

For the remainder of 2017, ReSAKSS will update the 30-plus CAADP indicators it tracks in line with the CAADP Results Framework and publish the Africa-wide 2016 ATOR themed “A Thriving Agricultural Sector in a Changing Climate: Meeting Malabo Declaration Goals through Climate-Smart Agriculture.” The report will be launched during the ReSAKSS 2017 Annual Conference to be held in Maputo, Mozambique, from October 25–27. ReSAKSS will initiate work on the 2017 ATOR, which will focus on social protection.

ReSAKSS will continue to strengthen SAKSS platforms in the 13 countries where they have been established and consolidate their governance structures and local analytical networks as well as initiate work to establish and operate 11 new country SAKSS platforms in Burundi, Congo, Côte

d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Guinea, Malawi, Mali, Niger, Seychelles, Swaziland, and Zambia.

In support of mutual accountability, ReSAKSS will continue to provide technical support to countries as they prepare and finalize their CAADP BR reports. In particular, ReSAKSS will intensify follow-up efforts in countries to help ensure that BR deadlines for completing and submitting BR reports and data to RECs and the AUC are met. ReSAKSS will also initiate JSR assessments in 9 new countries, namely Guinea, Lesotho, Liberia, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Niger, Nigeria, Seychelles, and Sierra Leone, and help strengthen JSR processes in the 18 countries that went through JSR assessments in 2014 and 2015.

ReSAKSS, in collaboration with other technical partners, will continue to provide technical support for the development of new and second-generation NAIPs in 19 countries. Support from ReSAKSS will



include (1) participating in NAIP domestication events to launch the NAIP process and develop country roadmaps and in technical workshops to discuss planned analytical work; (2) deploying local experts to assist countries with technical analysis in support of NAIP formulation; and 3) supporting countries to incorporate the analytical results into their NAIPs.

During the remaining months of 2017, AGRODEP intends to build on the achievements and progress of the first five years of the Consortium and continue to consolidate its position as a provider of analytical and advisory services to a wider community of CAADP stakeholders. The Consortium's activities are being reorganized into the following components: (1) Policy Analysis and Advisory Services, (2) Technical Resources, and (3) Capacity Building and Outreach.

Under the Policy Analysis and Advisory Services (PAAS) component, AGRODEP aims to establish a cadre of African experts who can provide sound policy analysis and advisory services in response to the emerging and long-term needs of CAADP's growth and poverty reduction agenda. An initial set of AGRODEP members with more advanced skills will be identified based on their qualifications

and performance in AGRODEP activities to lead the PAAS activities. AGRODEP will develop the required infrastructure to support service provision by its pool of advanced members and dedicated mentors.

The Technical Resources component includes the maintenance and expansion of the AGRODEP Model and Data Libraries. AGRODEP will continue to add new resources to these libraries while also maintaining and updating existing models, tool-boxes, and datasets. Greater emphasis will be placed on developing and/or warehousing models, tools, and data resources to deal with the key areas of the expanded CAADP agenda as set out in the Malabo Declaration.

The Capacity Building and Outreach component builds on activities launched and established in the first phase of the project, including: membership, training courses, research grants and publication awards, working paper series, and outreach activities (website, newsletter, and quarterly bulletin). It will include a review of the current pool of members and membership policies with the aim of establishing a new membership structure that supports a cadre of more advanced members as well as regular members.

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RESAKSS AND AGRODEP MODELING CONSORTIUM PARTNERS AND GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES

Regional Strategic and Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS) is a knowledge-brokering, multi-country network represented by four platforms: one at the continental or Africa-wide 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, the International Water Management Institute in South Africa, and the 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. 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 communities: the Economic Community of West African States for ReSAKSS-WA, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa for ReSAKSS-ECA, and the Southern African Development Community 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, policy makers (both international and domestic), policy analysts, donors, research institutes and researchers, the academic community, civil society, farmers' groups, and the private sector.

The African Growth and Development Policy (AGRODEP) Modeling Consortium represents collaboration among IFPRI; the Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA); Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network; 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 and with knowledge of African countries and the major challenges 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 geographic subregions of Africa, and the three ReSAKSS platforms.

Other key AGRODEP institutional partners include the Global Trade Analysis Project in the United States, Centre for World Food Studies in the Netherlands, Université Catholique de Louvain in Belgium, Laval University in Canada, and the University of Pretoria in South Africa.

INTERNATIONAL FOOD POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

A member of the CGIAR Consortium | A world free of hunger and malnutrition

1201 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
Phone: +1-202-862-5600
Fax: +1-202-862-5606
Email: ifpri@cgiar.org
Skype: ifprihomeoffice

www.resakss.org

ReSAKSS–Africawide

P.O. Box 5689
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
T: + 251 (0) 11 617 2500
F: + 251 (0) 11 646 2927
Email: resakss-africa@cgiar.org

ReSAKSS–East and Central Africa

P.O. Box 30709
Nairobi, Kenya
T: + 254 (20) 422 3000
F: +254 (20) 422 3001
Email: resakss-africa@cgiar.org

ReSAKSS–Southern Africa

Private Bag X813
Silverton 0127
Pretoria, South Africa
T: + 27128459141
F: +27 (0)12 845 9110
Email: resakss-africa@cgiar.org

ReSAKSS–West Africa

Oyo Road, PMB 5320
Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria
T: + 234 (2) 241 2626
F: + 873761798636
Email: resakss-africa@cgiar.org

www.agrodep.org

AGRODEP

IFPRI–Dakar

Titre 3396, Lot #2
BP 24063 Dakar Almadies
Senegal
Tel: +221.33.869.9800
info-agrodep@agrodep.org