



NEPAD Agricultural Unit

CAADP

April – June 2007

Quarterly Report

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1. Introduction

This report presents progress and achievements in the period April to June 2007 on key action areas undertaken by the NEPAD Secretariat within its mandate to stimulate, coordinate and monitor implementation of the CAADP agenda at both regional and country level. NEPAD Secretariat's interventions also compliment the RECs in their functions to provide the regional support to country initiatives on NEPAD/CAADP implementation. The report speaks to the CAADP work plan, as embodied in the NEPAD action plan and implementation strategies especially with regard to:

- i) supporting country-led initiatives to identify and align technical and investment intervention in areas/aspects expected to provide optimal returns in terms of set productivity, livelihoods and environmental resilience targets
- ii) facilitating peer learning and review including support to strategic thinking and analysis. This also directly supports the entrenchment of the values of transparency, accountability and shared commitment to the growth agenda
- iii) facilitating greater in-country alignment and harmonization of development efforts and support to country mutual engagement in the regional development agenda
- iv) streamlining and support institutional and technical capacity building at both country and regional level including policy orientation supportive of sustainable implementation capacities of the continent's development agenda

With growing NEPAD emphasis on implementation and impact with regard to the set development targets, special focus in the review period has been given to streamlining and strengthening implementation and institutional capacities in NEPAD, the RECs and other regional networks to build and strengthen an Africa institutional leadership in driving and sustaining the CAADP development agenda. Other key focus areas during the period under review were on:

- i) support to align and enhance the country CAADP implementation roundtable processes that have started in a number of countries with facilitation support from the RECs
- ii) setting the groundwork to align and enhance CAADP buy in by development partners and rally their technical and financial support to CAADP implementation especially and primarily at the three implementation levels, namely the country level, the RECs as well as the AU/NEPAD levels. The Global Donors Platform on Rural Development and many development partner and donor countries are increasingly aligning their agriculture and rural development support through the CAADP framework.

The quarterly report is focused on work plans and activities under Pillars 1, 2 and 3 including Forestry and Aquaculture. The Pillar 1 agenda is largely pursued through the TerrAfrica SLM framework.

The Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) provides detailed reporting on Pillar 4. FARA is assigned to lead the implementation of CAADP Pillar 4 based on the Framework for African Agricultural Productivity (FAAP).

1 Production and Productivity agenda

1.1 Extending the Area under Sustainable Land Management and Water Reliable Control Systems

1.1.1 NEPAD Sustainable Land Management framework

The TerrAfrica SLM partnership, continued to provide support in the definition and development of the SLM investment framework. The following is specifically noted during the period under review:

- i) *The Strategic Investment Program (SIP)* proposal, a key component of the SLM thrust linked to the Country SLM Investment Framework, was finally tabled at the June 2007 Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Council in Washington, USA. The Council endorsed the proposal and this secured the US \$150 million GEF grant support to SLM in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). The amount has already catalysed close to \$1 billion commitment in leverage funds. The SIP funds include \$5million for NEPAD capacity building for which a Project Identification Form (PIF) is already being prepared.

Country access to the SIP funds: The development of the SIP also included the streamlining to make the process by which countries access GEF SIP resources easier and faster. Among the changes that have come with the SIP related to simplifying and speeding up accessing of the SIP funds include:

- Country investment programmes for scaling up SLM practices, which are development by countries and submitted to the GEF will not need to go individually to the GEF council. The GEF Secretariat will be able to decide on financing
 - It is now a requirement that country processes to develop SLM investment programmes should take no more than 20 months from the time its initiated to when the proposal is submitted to the GEF
 - Countries will still work with and access the funds through UN agencies and a few other development partners (UNDP, UNEP, GM and UNCCD, IFAD, AfDB and WB)
 - The development partners, now organized into a common platform – the TerrAfrica partnership, will also provide logistical and technical support to countries in the development of country SLM investment programmes. There will normally be more than one development partner activity in a country, around the TerrAfrica partnership platform, there is an arrangement that one of the development partners takes leadership in country engagements on the TerrAfrica SLM agenda (also reflecting the CAADP Pillar 1 agenda).
 - Countries will get guidelines in the development of SLM investment programmes from the Country SLM Investment Framework which apart from supporting methodological issues, also provides tools to help in alignment towards TerrAfrica and NEPAD values and principles, including issues of coalition building and partnership and ensuring alignment to the development targets like the 6% annual agriculture productivity target and the MDGs.
- ii) *Direct support to RECs on streamlining and capacity building for SLM implementation:* NEPAD continued to support the COMESA facilitated initiatives on country led CAADP implementation. Support provided to the country players included general alignment and harmonization around the NEPAD CAADP framework including the set principles and targets. More specifically, the SLM unit continued to directly provide backstopping support and facilitation on development of sustainable land and water management investment frameworks. The issues included development of national platforms and

stakeholder coalitions around which the development of SLM investment programmes is pursued. During the period under review, focus was on Malawi, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Uganda and Zambia.

To ensure and strengthen the NEPAD – COMESA alignment and coherence in providing support to country led CAADP implementation processes, COMESA and NEPAD have agreed on key issues to guide the collaboration. This is contained in the 2007 NEPAD-COMESA Aide memoire, which is expected to be finalized and disseminated early in the next quarter.

iii) Direct support to country initiatives and processes on development of the SLM Investment Programmes

The SLM Unit in the NEPAD Secretariat continued to link and support countries in developing the SLM agenda and identification of investment priorities on SLM. The main NEPAD input has been on ensuring that the country SLM processes (i) are aligned and come within the CAADP implementation framework, essentially reflecting the CAADP Pillar 1 agenda, and (ii) embrace and consolidates multi-stakeholder platforms in building shared and collective vision and ownership of the SLM programmes including a collective commitment to implementation.

NEPAD has in this regard provided specific inputs in number of countries including Ethiopia, Malawi, Uganda, Rwanda, South Africa and Lesotho. A joint Aide Memoire between the Development Partners in TerrAfrica including NEPAD, on one hand, and the Government of Ethiopia, on the other, has been developed and endorsed by all parties. This Aide memoire also details a road map with clear responsibilities and action points for NEPAD in supporting the SLM process in Ethiopia. NEPAD SLM has also developed a joint Aide memoire with Government of Malawi detailing areas and modalities for jointly rallying NEPAD and COMESA support to the ADP process in Malawi. The Malawi-NEPAD Aide memoire is expected to be ready for general circulation in early July 2007.

The country support initiatives recognize advancements being made by a number of countries (Ethiopia, Malawi, Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana and Uganda) on the Country SLM Investment framework (CSIF) in moving towards accessing the GEF SIP resources. All these countries have now inclusive national platforms or committees spearheading the development of the SLM investment programmes. It is important to acknowledge that part of NEPAD's interest in this is the development and strengthening of national technical and institutional capacities for dealing with the identification, planning and implementation of SLM investment programmes. This element recognizes need for multi-sectoral and inter-ministerial collaboration. In all the countries, the national committees or platforms already involve at least the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Environment. NEPAD-TerrAfrica has or will provided some funding support to the operations of the national SLM committees/platforms in a number of countries – including Ethiopia, Malawi, Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya and Uganda.

NEPAD also plans, in the July-Sept Quarter, to intensify support and facilitation to Lesotho, South Africa and Mozambique. NEPAD SLM also plans an engagement with ECOWAS scheduled for early July 2007 and aimed at speeding up the SLM implementation in ECOWAS member states.

iv) Progress on AUC-NEPAD alignment on SLWM:

NEPAD continued engagement with the African Union Commission on defining modalities to exploit synergies and complementarities on SLM and in general on the CAADP Pillar 1

agenda. Building on past dialogue in this regard, a meeting was held on the 24th May at the AUC involving the AUC team led by the Agriculture and Rural Development Commissioner, H.E. Rosebud Kurwijila, a NEPAD SLM team led by NEPAD Agriculture Advisor, and the World Bank represented by Christophe Crepin. At the meeting, the Commissioner applauded the work under the NEPAD-TerrAfrica partnership in defining and mainstreaming the SLM agenda as an integral element in the agriculture and environment development thrust. The Commissioner particularly commended progress in the grounded country level processes on development of SLM investment framework. The meeting also agreed on some immediate roles and responsibilities that the AUC could take up in enhancing the SLM agenda within the CAADP and African development initiatives. The following issues were specifically identified as aspects the AUC could take a leadership role:

- reporting on the SLM agenda to the political framework and on the other hand lobbying and advocacy to align political will and commitment behind the SLM agenda
- organising and supporting information flow and dialogue to the various Ministerial councils, especially Ministers of Agriculture, Water and Environment.

The Commissioner commended and urged continued contacts with CILSS as one of the SLM knowledge centres (Centre of excellence).

v) *The SLM framework and SLM Lead Institution:*

SLM Vision and SLM Framework validation: The assignment technically backstopped by FAO in developing the SLM framework concluded the initial draft of the SLM country support tools, which include tools that countries would use in problem identification and analysis, defining and assessing returns of SLM investment options and in monitoring and evaluation. Also developed under this initiative is the SLM vision paper.

The two documents will now be subjected to a validation process involving technical peer reviewing and also buy-in by the various technical, policy /political and civic authorities /institutions.

NEPAD has developed and shared with various key players a concept note, which includes a detailed work plan, for the validation process. The process will be coordinated by a small team comprising NEPAD, two REC representation and 2-3 specialists from SLM institutions. The small team will be constituted in early July and that will mark the start of the validation process whose main components are expected to last about three months.

SLM Lead Institution: During the review period, NEPAD continued consultations on issue of SLM lead institution/s, i.e. institution/s to take up the technical drive for Pillar 1. CILSS in West Africa and a Natural Resources Development College – University of Zambia consortium in Southern Africa in liaison with COMESA have expressed interest. NEPAD expects to follow up and concretize some operational arrangements in the July – Sept quarter.

vi) *Climate change – Africa Group*

NEPAD in liaison with a number of institutions including the AUC, COMESA and WWF have initiated an African working group on climate change. The core aim in this initiative is to strengthen, consolidated an African led “voice” in global discussions and programmes on support to the mitigation or adaptation the impacts of climate change.

The initiative is expected to contribute to harmonization and ensure coherence and African critical mass on issues about climate change in Africa and its effects on development. The Group is expected to help in leveraging resources into initiatives and programmes addressing climate change adaptation and mitigation issues at community level.

1.1.2 NEPAD Water and Irrigation Program

NEPAD SLM has, in liaison with various stakeholders developed a work programme to operationalise the World Bank Development Grant Facility (DGF) support to NEPAD on development of a knowledge sharing and capacity building program, formulation of action plans for RECs and four pilot countries, and strengthening of the regional monitoring and evaluation framework for investments in agricultural water.

The WATER Work Programme includes support to efforts to define and strengthen the “water” elements in the SLM framework developed along the SLM TerrAfrica process. The Work Programme is expected to be operational as from early July 2007.

2 The CAADP Agricultural Markets Development Program

2.1 Progress on CAADP Pillar 2 Framework

The Agriculture Unit has designated one of its staff as the official contact point on all activities linked to the implementation of CAADP Pillar 2. She will work with the Experts Reference Group being established by the General Coordinator of the Conference of Ministers of Agriculture of West and Central Africa the institution that has been charged with facilitating the implementation of CAADP Pillar 2.

2.1.1 Follow-up support on implementation of the Abuja Declaration on Fertilizers

2.1.1.1 Monitoring and Evaluation of Progress in the Implementation of the Abuja Declaration on Fertilizers

A monitoring and evaluation tool was developed by NEPAD with technical assistance from IFDC, and reviewed by the AfDB and AUC. The instrument was sent to all the countries and RECs in May 2007 for their input. This will be used as a basis for compilation of the second progress report, which will be sent to the AUC by August 31st, 2007.

AUC will explore the possibility of tabling the second and third progress reports for presentation and discussion at the AU/FAO Conference of African Ministers of Agriculture, which is slotted for March 2008.

3.1.1.2 Establishment of the Africa Fertilizer Financing Mechanism (AFFM)

The African Development Bank drafted a framework document for the establishment of the AFFM and a legal instrument that will translate the framework into the actual trust fund. A consultative meeting for the AfDB partners was held in Tunis, on May 2nd, 2007 to: 1) Review

the documents; 2) Discuss their feasibility from an operational point of view; 3) Provide input to finalize the draft documents and agree on next steps.

Initial pledges and indications of support for the AFFM are as follows: Nigeria pledged \$10 million at the Africa Fertilizer Summit in June 2006 and renewed its pledge in May 2007; IFAD has pledged US\$ 200,000; IFDC has pledged technical assistance, information sharing and conducting of relevant studies. Both the Gates Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation have indicated the possibility of support up to US\$ 10 million and \$15 million respectively, subject to certain conditions being met and assurances received.

Next Steps: On July 11, 2007, the AfDB sent the final draft of the framework document to NEPAD. The draft will be presented to Senior Management for their consideration and subsequent approval by the Board of Directors. A formal Stakeholders' and Partners' Pledging Conference will be organized for October 2007 and the Mechanism is expected to be effective by January 2008.

3.1.1.3 Mobilization of technical and financial resources for countries and RECs for the implementation of the Abuja Declaration

i. Importer Credit Guarantee

A process has been put in motion to assist Uganda National Agro-Dealers' Association (UNADA) to establish a credit guarantee fund to enable some of its wholesalers to procure fertilizer directly from Kenya and distribute it regionally.

The Rockefeller Foundation has indicated that it will provide the credit guarantee fund and Standard Chartered Bank has expressed interest in providing credit to the wholesalers.

A proposal is close to being finalized for submission to development partners. If this initiative is successful, it can be replicated in other countries. This initiative is in support of the implementation of Summit Resolution number 7, which calls for the establishment of national financing facilities to support importers and distributors of fertilizers and other agricultural inputs.

3.1.1.4 Regional Procurement of fertilisers

An interim committee convened by COMESA to establish a centre for the regional procurement and distribution of fertilisers met inaugural on May 10th, 2007 at the COMESA Secretariat. It comprised of representatives from COMESA and NEPAD. Representatives of the United Nations Association and Profert, a private fertilizer company from South Africa, also attended the meeting as observers. This initiative is in support of Summit resolution number 8 (regional procurement of fertilisers).

The interim committee discussed the modalities for regional procurement and agreed that the initiative and modalities should be presented to regional stakeholders, particularly the private sector, at a meeting to be convened by COMESA. Accordingly, COMESA is in the process of organizing a regional fertilizer stakeholders meeting aimed at establishing a regional fertilizer procurement unit. The dates have yet to be determined.

3.1.1.5 Agronomic Information System

A private development company in South Africa, Manstrat has developed an agricultural information system (Manstrat Expert System or MES) that will utilize information and communications technology (ICT) to improve services to small-scale and commercial farmers. Manstrat has approached NEPAD for assistance with sourcing the required technical and financial resources to implement this initiative. The project has been endorsed by the Department of Agriculture in South Africa.

The MES aims to link local and international experts to a central information system that will provide problem-solving capability and agricultural information to farmers, extension officers, agro-processors, and traders. The information can be accessed by internet, fax, mobile phone, email or radio. The MES will provide information on crop production, animal husbandry, agricultural management, finance and trade. The project will begin on a regional basis but will eventually expand to cover the whole of Africa.

NEPAD is providing technical assistance to Manstrat to develop a bankable proposal and identify suitable donors for submission of the proposal. This initiative is in support of the implementation of Summit resolution number 10.

3.2 The NEPAD Fish Program

3.2.1 HIV/AIDS in fishing communities

NEPAD and the WorldFish Centre have developed a collaborative program to enhance the contributions of fish and fisheries to economic and human development in Africa. In particular, the Program will build a strategic response to HIV/AIDS in the fisheries sector that will generate benefits for vulnerable groups in wider society. The program will cover the following countries: Mozambique, Malawi, Zambia, DRC, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Nigeria, Niger, Ghana, Benin, Togo and Cameroon. Initial funding of approximately US\$4.2 million has been secured from the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) but more support is being sought from other partners.

3.2.2 The NEPAD FISH-Department of Agriculture in South Africa Collaboration

An MOU had been finalized between the Department of Agriculture (DoA) in South Africa and the WorldFish Centre as part of the NEPAD FISH initiative. The MOU aims to assist DoA to develop and implement programmes in aquaculture in support of national and regional fisheries and aquaculture development as outlined in the South African Aquaculture policy and NEPAD Fish for All Action Plan.

A special programme has also been developed to target the Democratic Republic of Congo, using rural fish farming as a strategy for **post-conflict reconstruction**. Another Aquaculture Technical Assistance programme will be prepared for RSA to submit to China.

3.2.3 Other WorldFish Centre Programmes

The WorldFish Centre is opening an office in the DRC as part of its effort to support NEPAD FISH in the ECCAS region. A joint CAADP-WorldFish Mission to ECCAS will be fully supported by the WorldFish Centre.

3.2.4 Technical Support in Aquaculture

A collaborative programme on Technical Support in Aquaculture between Egypt and the sub-Saharan Africa was initiated by NEPAD FISH and supported by the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Government of Egypt has approved the dispatch of a fish breeding expert to the Department of Fisheries in Malawi. It is hoped that more countries in Sub-Saharan Africa will benefit from this facility offered by the Government of Egypt under the Egyptian Fund for Technical Cooperation with Africa.

4. NEPAD Food Security and Nutrition Program

4.1 Abuja Food Security Summit Follow up:

4.1.1 Pillar 3: Framework for African Food Security:

In May 2007 the NEPAD Agriculture Unit convened an Expert Reference Group (ERG) working meeting was held to develop a concept note for the Framework for African Food Security (FAFS). The purpose of FAFS is to guide and assist stakeholders in Africa to simultaneously meet the objectives of Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Pillar III - **Increasing food supply, reducing hunger, and improving responses to food emergency crises** - and the African growth agenda by prioritizing and guiding policy, strategy and activity development and analysis that focuses on increasing food supply, reducing hunger and malnutrition and improving responses to food emergencies.

Under the overall leadership of AU and NEPAD, the African Centre for Food Security (ACFS) at the University of KwaZulu Natal and the *Comite Permanent Inter Etats de Lutte Contre la Secheresse au Sahel* (CILSS) are facilitating FAFS. The draft FAFS document is currently receiving comments from stakeholders.

4.1.2 Africa Ten Year Strategy (ATYS) for the reduction of Vitamin and Mineral Deficiencies:

Emerging from the Abuja Food Security Summit, were a Ministers' resolution and a Heads of States' Declaration that implored a coordinated and harmonized implementation of the ATYS together with other key strategic instruments/documents of the AU-NEPAD. The declaration read thus **"Initiate the implementation of the African Regional Nutrition Strategy, the NEPAD African Nutrition Initiative and the NEPAD 10-year Strategy for combating Vitamin and Mineral Deficiency by 2008 with a focus on long-term household food security and ending child hunger and under-nutrition"**.

Following a challenging and successful process of developing the policy document Africa Ten Strategy (ATYS) for the reduction of Vitamin and Deficiencies in 2006 and into early 2007, the reference group for Africa met on May 23 to follow up on key developments and chart the way

forward for implementation. This consultation was attended by the core working group as identified in 2006 i.e. AU-NEPAD, DBSA, GAIN, MI, UNICEF, HKI, WFP, USAID and AED. In addition, representatives from the private sector were also invited.

The outcome of this was in part to agree on ways to strengthen, at REC and national level, the implementation of food fortification projects, supplementation as well as food-based approaches to reduce vitamin and mineral deficiencies. As the ATYS document is being fleshed out, activities are already ongoing in several countries.

4.2 Global Horticulture Initiative for food security, nutrition and health

A group of 38 participants from public, private, NGOs, and civic and international organizations, mostly representing Africa, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) nations gathered on 21-22 June to explore ways to promote horticulture for improved health and nutrition, and to finalize a position paper for the 'Awareness raising conference on horticulture for development' held in Brussels on 25 June 2007. NEPAD made a presentation during the Brussels EU event. Part of the objective of this one day event was to advocate and start a dialogue around fund raising for horticulture for Africa.

GlobalHort envisages very specific activities and outcomes that will contribute to improve incomes and life quality of smallholder producers: improve diet and health of farm families and farming communities through reliable production and consumption of fruits and vegetables. In collaboration with GlobalHort, NEPAD is seeking to initiate projects in selected countries by 2008.

4.3 Home Grown School Feeding Programme (HGSFP):

A meeting of the Post-Abuja Summit Food Security International Technical Committee in May 2007 identified the following steps for implementation of the Abuja Summit resolutions: preparation of a Concept Note on HGSF; commitment and political buy-in on HGSF by Governments, donors and other partners; preparation of comprehensive country strategies on HGSF; and: Governments to allocate own budgetary resources to implement on-going school feeding programmes and the HGSF initiative.

Additionally, in 2007, WFP and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation have agreed on a first set of actions to promote HGSF in African countries, which include an initial analytical exercise on HGSF and the preparation of 5 or 6 country proposals for implementation of HGSF projects.

Preparations for a regional workshop on HGSF, which will be convened in Accra, Ghana during the first week of October 2007, are well under way. The main purpose is to review progress made so far in the different countries regarding planning and implementation of HGSF. The meeting will be also a good opportunity to present, discuss and endorse the NEPAD Document Framework of Action for HGSF and the African School Feeding Network.

5. Agricultural Research, Technology Dissemination and Adoption

5.1 The NEPAD-FARA Collaboration

FARA has been designated as the lead African Institution that will facilitate implementation of CAADP Pillar 4 under the Framework for Africa Agriculture Productivity (FAAP). FARA convened the Africa Agricultural Science Week and its Fourth General Assembly at the Sandton Convention Centre in Johannesburg, South Africa from 10-16 June 2007.

The General Assembly was attended by approximately 670 delegates from African Ministries of Agriculture, agricultural research and development organizations, universities, advanced research institutions and CGIAR Centres, NGOS, farmers' organizations, the private sector/agric-business, development partners, and the media. The South African Minister of Agriculture and Land Affairs, the Hon. Lulyu Xingwana, was an active participant in the event, accompanied by ten African Ministers of Agriculture or their representatives.

The NEPAD Agriculture CAADP team actively participated in both the FARA General Assembly and Agricultural week. Unit staff provided the necessary technical backstopping before and during the two key events.

6. Cross-cutting Issues

6.1 CAADP Implementation

6.1.1 Country CAADP Implementation Processes

Following a series of consultations between the NEPAD Secretariat and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and development partners, the second quarter has seen a deepening of CAADP ownership and support by RECs as well as increased commitment by a group of development partners to provide assistance to strengthen the capacities of RECs and support of CAADP country implementation processes

Following the successful signing of the Rwanda CAADP Compact by the Ministers of Agriculture and Finance on behalf of the government of Rwanda, the World Bank on behalf of development partners working in Rwanda, the AU Commissioner for Agriculture, the Assistant Secretary General of COMESA, and representatives of the private sector and civil society organizations, the Rwanda experience has provided a blueprint on how the CAADP agenda and process can be rolled out in a way that adds value to national efforts. Building on Rwanda's success, COMESA is currently working with governments, development partners, other local stakeholders in Uganda, Zambia, Kenya and Malawi to facilitate CAADP implementation for these countries.

COMESA has now hired a CAADP team of five persons, including a coordinator for the Round Table process and a communications manager,

ECOWAS has also identified a number of regional and local experts to lead the technical work in support the country CAADP implementation processes. Work on the CAADP processes is due to commence in Benin, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Togo.

6.1.2 Communication of CAADP and related information

The Agriculture Unit in liaison with the NEPAD Communications have approached development partners for financial and technical support to engage a dedicated CAADP communications expert. This include financing a CAADP Communication expert who will be responsible for the collation and reporting on all CAADP related activities including the maintenance of a CAADP web page which will serve as a one-stop shop for all critical information on the CAADP agenda. Plans are also already in motion to establish a CAADP webpage (within the NEPAD website) for information support and dialogue facility on CAADP implementation issues at all levels. The webpage will also provide easy links to various country and regional CAADP information and knowledge spots.

NEPAD is also intensifying its other communication channels to ensure that stakeholders and players and the public are better and up-to-date informed on NEPAD, CAADP and indeed implementation progress at various level.

6.2 Regional Collaboration for Development

6.2.1 Collaboration with the GECAFS* and FANRPAN†

NEPAD has moved strongly on the collaboration with the Global Environmental Change and Food Security in Southern Africa (GECAFS) and the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN) around the agenda to enhance technical and information support (including scientific backstopping) in the planning, implementation and evaluation of sustainable land and water management practices including linkages to continental and global themes and initiatives on sustainable natural resource management and climate change.

NEPAD participated in the launching of the Phase 1 (i.e. first one-and-half year component of a five year project) aimed at responding to identified needs for an integrated research endeavour *to determine strategies to cope with the impacts of global environmental change on southern African food systems and to assess the environmental and socioeconomic consequences of adaptive responses aimed at improving long-term food security*. This initiative recognizes and will building upon ongoing national and regional GEC and food security research and is expected to deliver policy-relevant information on better management of the interactions between GEC and the food systems that underpin food security.

* Global Environmental Change and Food Systems” (GECAFS: www.gecafs.org) is an international, interdisciplinary research project focussed on understanding the links between Global Environmental Change and food security. GECAFS was launched in 2001 as a Joint Project of the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP), the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change (IHDP) and the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP). In addition to setting a comprehensive, interdisciplinary GEC research agenda on the links between environment and food security, GECAFS established, from the outset, formal research partnerships with the CGIAR, FAO and WMO.

† The “Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network” (FANRPAN) is a southern African regional organisation. FANRPAN’s mission is “To co-ordinate, influence and facilitate policy research, analysis and dialogue at the national, regional and global levels in order to develop the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources sector through networking, capacity building and generation of information for the benefit of all stakeholders in the SADC region”.

6.2.2 Collaboration with African Union Commission on the Fertilizer Agenda

The AMDP and AU's Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA) held a two-day working session from 21-23 May 2007 to discuss progress to date and next steps for the African Fertilizer Program.

The key follow-up actions agreed upon were: a) To begin and sustain a campaign of communication with countries, RECs, the AfDB, FAO and donors in support of the African Fertilizer Program and the establishment and operationalisation of the AFFM; b) Establish a pool of experts from key institutions to provide technical assistance to countries and RECs to develop bankable proposals for submission to AfDB; c) Request that the FAO provide technical assistance as required to countries and RECs to fill out the fertilizer questionnaires; d) Engage the African Centre for Fertilizer Development (ACFD) to participate in the African Fertilizer Program. The idea is for the ACFD to develop a niche area where it can make its contribution; e) Given that India and China account for approximately 50% of world fertilizer consumption, the AU will approach them to request that they contribute to the AFFM; f) Advocate with donors and governments to contribute to the AFFM. This will entail mobilizing in-kind contributions from countries and matching contributions from donors; g) undertake joint missions to the RECs to discuss progress in the implementation of the Abuja Declaration and agree on the role for the RECs. These mission will commence September, 2007; g) Liaise with AfDB to organize the follow-up Pledging Conference, which is targeted for October 2007; g) Go on a joint mission to the AfDB to collectively agree on a the Way Forward.

6.2.3 NEPAD FISH Collaboration and partnerships

i. NEPAD FISH and FARA collaboration

A report (*Regional Stakeholder Consultation: Research coordinating in support of the AU/NEPAD Action Plan for the Development of African Fisheries and Aquaculture*) was published during by FARA during the 4th FARA General Assembly (10-16 June 2007). The report is a guide to Sub-regional Organizations (SROs) on how they can incorporate aquaculture and fisheries research into their agricultural research programmes. During the 4th FARA General Assembly, all ASARECA and CORAF endorsed incorporation of fisheries and aquaculture in their Strategic Plans. SADC-FANR expressed the wish for support in incorporating aquaculture and fisheries in the SAC-MAPP, and a meeting was agreed for September 2007. Development of programmes in support of this will start with ASARECA, as soon as they recruit a Programme Director responsible for fisheries in September.

ii. The NEPADFISH-COMESA Collaboration

The MOU signed between WorldFish and COMESA aims at assisting COMESA member states with programme development and implementation on fisheries and aquaculture. During the meeting of the Council of Ministers of Agriculture in Khartoum in March, the WorldFish presented a programme on "Improving fisheries and aquaculture in the COMESA region: Achieving sustainable growth through the CAADP", which was approved by the Council. Based on this programme a number of areas have been agreed as priority and they include regional cross-border fish trade and aquaculture. The EU and African Development Bank have been approached to consider funding these programmes to the tune of €3 million.

COMESA and WorldFish Centre are jointly preparing for a study tour of commercial fish farmers to Egypt. The farmers will be drawn from Zambia, Uganda, Kenya and Malawi. It is hoped that this type of activity could be core to the NEPAD-Egypt-WFC Aquaculture Technical

Assistant Programme, which has been prepared for Egypt to submit for funding to the Government of China.

iii. The NEPADFISH-SADC Collaboration

Jointly with the WorldFish Centre, two concept notes have been developed on fisheries and aquaculture. These “SADC concept notes” will be revisited during the meeting in September with the new SADC Natural Resources Adviser to agree on practical steps for resource mobilization.

iv. The NEPADFISH-NEPAD Science & Technology Collaboration

On-going collaboration between NEPAD FISH and NEPAD Science and Technology (S&T) is focusing on supporting the S&T Nodes in Southern, East and Central, North and West Africa, to incorporate issues of fisheries and aquaculture science. In support of the Southern Node, a joint meeting will be held in Mozambique from 25 to 26 July to assist Mozambique’ Ministries of S&T and Fisheries to develop programmes in fisheries and aquaculture.

The Ministry of Agriculture in Spanish Region of Galicia has offered to support Mozambique with a project on “Fuel Efficient Fishing” as part of this collaboration. The people from Spain will join in the mission to Mozambique.

vi. The NEPADFISH-CTA Collaboration: Capacity building and fish trade

Two concept notes have been submitted to CTA on “Innovation, Technology Transfer and Capacity Strengthening for African Aquaculture” and “Strengthening intra-regional trade in fish and fish products in Africa”. The one on capacity building aims at supporting RUFORUM in its training programmes in fisheries and aquaculture, while the one on regional fish trade will support COMESA’s regional fish trade initiatives.

6.2.4 Second European Forum on Sustainable Rural Development

The NEPAD Agriculture Unit participated in the Second European Forum on Sustainable Rural Development, where representatives made three contributions in the various sessions of the conference that took place during the week of 18 June 2007 in Berlin, Germany. This Forum was the follow up to the first meeting held 5 years ago in Montpellier in 2002 and it brought together about 400 participants, including policy makers and practitioners from the European Commission and EU Member States’ governments and development agencies, parliamentarians from EU and African countries, as well as expert speakers from developing countries governments, civil society organizations, research institutes and international organizations. The following presentations were made: (i) Panel Discussion on ‘Sustainable rural development in Africa’; (ii) Regional integration in Africa and its implications for rural development; and (iii) Pan African Strategies: the case of Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP and EU Strategy for Advancing African Agriculture (AAA).

6.2.5 NEPAD-AWEPA Collaboration

As one of the major recommendations echoed from various consultations NEPAD had with parliamentarians in the recent months and years, the two organizations and FAO are in the process of developing and jointly implementing a capacity building programme for African Parliamentarians to enable them support CAADP implementation on the ground. A draft project proposal has been developed and is being reviewed internally for submission to the

Association of European Parliamentarians on Africa (AWEPA), which will help mobilize the required resources for its implementation.

6.2.6 NEPAD-BMZ Collaboration

The German cooperation through BMZ is working with the NEPAD Agriculture Unit to develop a capacity building programme for a few selected African countries that have undergone the NEPAD peer review process. Discussions are ongoing between NEPAD and BMZ, Ghana and Kenya are tentatively the first targeted countries to benefit from the envisaged initiative, which is intended to build on the broader NEPAD Capacity Development Strategy.

7. Conclusion

Having managed, in the first quarter to strengthen the commitment of the development partners to endorse and support CAADP at both the country and REC levels, as well as to deepen ownership of the agenda by the RECs. Progress in this last quarter has been mainly in trying to keep the momentum generated by the approval of the SIP and the CAADP implementation processes that have started in a number of countries through COMESA and ECOWAS facilitation.

The CAADP implementation processes at various level continue, however, to face numerous challenges and main ones reflected in the period under review include:

- i. Institutional and technical capacities at country level to carry out even clear and determined government commitment on the agriculture agenda. Many countries still face critical limitation in rallying institutional and technical capabilities along their declared plans on CAADP implementation and this is an area that development partner would be encouraged to consider in their support to country CAADP implementation
- ii. Inter-ministerial coordination and collaboration also came out as an outstanding challenge. This is partly due to the fragmented structural set-up of government departments and Ministries, which most often have not defined or provided very weak mechanisms for inter-ministerial collaboration.
- iii. Challenges on inter-ministerial collaboration also come out prominently in the desired linkages between the agriculture and environment agenda, which often come in different Ministries. In some countries that is further compounded by the further fragmentation into separate Ministries dealing with Water or National Resources.
- iv. There are also critical challenges and limitations in enhancing access to information and knowledge on the CAADP and its implementation. This highlights need for vigorous efforts to inform both stakeholders and players involved (or potentially) in CAADP implementation and the general public on both the values and principles, the tools and methodologies/approaches and indeed the vision and value in CAADP.

* Please Note: You can obtain further information on CAADP and its related activities at the NEPAD Secretariat: P.O. Box 1234 Halfway House, Midrand 1685, RSA, Attention: Prof. Richard Mkandawire Tel:+27 11 313 3338 Fax: +27113133450 Mkandawire@nepad.org