

New DPTT/DPCG organization and processes

The Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) continues to be the central framework for agricultural development in Africa. The Malabo-Declaration 2014 recommitted to the CAADP principles, defined a set of targets and goals – referred to as Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation goals 2015 – and highlighted the need for monitoring and results based implementation.

Within the partnership structure of CAADP, the until now called Development Partners Task Team (DPTT), formerly hosted by the Global Donor Platform for Rural Development, then consecutively chaired by CIDA Canada, EU Commission and since 2016 by BMZ Germany, is an important and relevant platform for Development Partners.

Taking into account new challenges arising from the 2014 Malabo Commitments and newly emerging partners within the CAADP process, DPTT amends its organisational structure and statutes. The amendments take into consideration the Non-charter paper from 25th November 2013, the recommendations from the “CAADP Partnership Architecture Review” and the outcomes of the kick-off meeting of the German Chairmanship in Bonn in February 2016. The guiding principles of DPTT support have been commonly agreed in the 2016 Donor Framework Document and the underlying Guidelines for Donor Support to CAADP Process at Country Level from 2009.

Objectives

CAADP DPCG aims to support the African partners in improving African agricultural development as defined by CAADP and the Malabo Declaration through coordinated implementation support by:

- Sharing information between members in order to improve coordination, coherence and promote shared approaches,
- Improving aid effectiveness in support of CAADP,
- Adopting common principles in CAADP implementation at all levels,
- Engaging in policy dialogue with AUC, NPCA and RECs in full respect of their defined roles and responsibilities.

Name

Considering the above mentioned objectives and to cope with requirements of a continued harmonized and efficient support to CAADP, the former DPTT will be renamed in Development Partners Coordination Group (DPCG).

Membership

The CAADP DPCG is an informal but structured group of Development Partners that provide direct technical and/or financial assistance to CAADP processes and core CAADP implementation institutions. All members shall be engaged in supporting the “Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation goals 2015” within the programmatic frame of CAADP and shall be committed to coordinating their support to CAADP.

To accommodate different approaches and different starting points of DPCG members, different subgroups within in the DPCG are possible:

- Members with financial and technical support to CAADP out of own resources (“Donors”).
- Members with technical support to CAADP, not out of own resources (“Cooperation Partners”).
- Members with advisory status who do not directly support CAADP but who contribute significantly to favourable conditions for CAADP implementation. These can be private entities, programmes, think tanks or networks) (“Advisory Partners”).

DPCG members can form sub-groups to address specific thematic areas. Depending on the topics to be discussed or to be decided on, subgroups can meet separately; nevertheless the topics of discussion and/or of decision should be made transparent to all DPCG members.

The participation of new members is encouraged as long as they subscribe to the principles laid down in the Donor Framework.

Governance

The DPCG is led by a rotational Chair. The Chair represents the DPCG in formal discussions, coordinates the work, communicates with CAADP institutions at different levels and is the entry point to the DPCG. The Chair is chosen for one year through the collegial selection of a volunteer institution. If there is no agreement, the DPCG will elect the Chair from amongst the volunteers and simple majority will win. A deputy chair, also renewed every year, supports the DPCG chair in his work and assumes the chairmanship once it has been vacated. If all members agree to it, the chairmanship can be extended to two years.

The Chair can decide to be supported in his functions by a Secretariat whose role is to ensure secretariat functions (mailings, information sharing and document management, meeting and teleconference organisation, reporting etc.). The role may also include strategic input and process facilitation to ensure effective and coordinated support of the CAADP agenda by development partners.

Communication

All DPCG members subscribe to an open communication and transparency within the group and between each other. Single or not formerly agreed actions should be avoided in order to strengthen the DPCG role and credibility vis-à-vis the African partners. Every member should foresee enough time and resources to start timely discussions on specific issues in order to achieve harmonized messages.

DPCG will serve as a platform to discuss controversial issues in a transparent manner between the members as well as with the African partners. DPCG will as much as possible use existing communication channels to bundle efforts, particularly by enhancing cooperation with the global Donor Platform for Rural Development.

Reporting

Consistent with the Donor Support and Coordination Framework (2016), and in keeping with our commitments to accountability, transparency and results, the DPCG undertakes to report on the status and outcome of formally agreed actions, as well as on the results tied to the key sections of this document (i.e. governance, communications, vertical linkages and joint programming). Such reporting will be issued, on an annual basis to the AUC and NPCA, as well as to the DPCG members and other interested partners.

Vertical linkages

DPCG is committed to enhance the vertical linkages with the continental, regional and national levels within the CAADP programmatic framework. Close cooperation should therefore be sought with Development Partners engaged at those levels, particularly with the Agricultural Sector Working Groups (ASWG) at country level. The establishment of regional ASWG will be encouraged. DPCG Partners are encouraged to strengthen vertical communication processes within their own agencies in order to deliver coherent outputs within the multi-level CAADP programme.

Joint programming

DPCG members should as much as possible arrange to allow common and/or harmonized activities within given programmes to achieve coherent support and to avoid overlapping and not aligned procedures for already overstretched partner institutions. This could be joint programme reviews, joint planning, joint financing (Trust Funds, Baskets) and/or joint implementation.

A pre-requisite for joint programming is timely information on future commitments. DPCG members agree to inform others as early as possible on their future planning in order to allow other Development Partners to possibly link and adapt.