Agriculture and Aid for Trade: Opportunities for aligning policies and programmes

A look at how to strengthen development impact through improved policy coherence and complementarity

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Strengthening ARD and AfT policy coherence and complementarity

- **Strengthening the means of implementation:**
  - Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development in the UN Agenda 2030
  - Trade
  - The challenge: to break out of institutional and policy silos to realise the benefits of synergetic actions and to effectively address unavoidable trade-offs across the SDGs

- **Improving coherence and complementarity for transformation:**
  - UN Agenda 2030 presents a long-term transformation agenda aiming at sustainable development
  - SDGs 1, 2, 8, 9, and 12 are most likely to be impacted by greater coherence and complementarity between ARD and AfT policies and programmes
  - These provide a perspective on rural and agricultural sector transformation both ARD and AfT may relate to.
Looking for common ground

4 areas, or ‘chantiers’, where both ARD and AfT seek to achieve development impact:

1. Policy, financial and institutional innovation
2. Productive capacity building, value chain organization and articulation
3. Infrastructure development
4. Sustainable and inclusive use of available (natural and human) resources
Figure 1: Identifying gaps and overlaps between ARD and A4T policies and programmes

AGENDA 2030/SDG’S
Ex. SDGs 1, 2, 8, 9 & 12
i.e. Agro-Food and Nutrition Security, Rural Development & (Agro) Industrialization

Pushing the frontiers of ARD and A4T towards alignment & collaboration....?
Some examples of opportunities for strengthening ARD-AfT alignment

- Empowering the multi-stakeholder process: practical steps to improve multi-stakeholder alignment, create synergies and address trade-offs

- National level initiatives linking ARD and AfT for impact
  - Supporting inclusive market systems – Alliances for Action (ITC)
  - Landscape/territorial approaches – Rural Territorial Development (RIMISP), Landscape Programme (IDH)

- Regional level initiatives linking ARD and AfT for impact
  - FAO Aid for Trade Africa
  - Regional Agricultural Investment Plan (COMESA)
  - Multi Partner Programme Support Mechanism (FAO, EIF, ECDPM)

- Linking ARD and AfT for impact at the global level
  - Strengthening Agro-Food and Nutrition Systems’ approaches
  - Missing Middle Initiative (GAFSP)
Recommendations (1): Towards evidence-based dialogue and learning from practice

- We suggest the main aim of the Donor Platform’s Inclusive Agribusiness & Trade work stream should be on learning from ongoing initiatives to improve coherence and complementarity in practice:
  - to invite members implementing these more comprehensive and/or more integrated approaches to ARD and/or AfT to share their experience;
  - to discuss the challenges they face;
  - to investigate what seems to work for development impact and what doesn’t, and to ensure the lessons they learned are documented and shared widely.
Recommendations (2): empower your programmes

- Develop a joint ARD-AfT agenda and plan of action
- Continue to develop more comprehensive, integrated approaches to ARD and AfT
- Include ARD-AfT multi-stakeholder dialogues, policy coherence and complementarity assessments and coordinated action at the center of your approaches
- Ensure active multi-stakeholder identification of possible gaps in coherence and complementarity in the implementation of ARD and AfT programmes
- Develop a checklist or score card for assessing policy coherence and complementarity of ARD and Trade contributions to rural transformation
- Establish ARD as the nursery for sustainable and inclusive rural transformation, sustainable agricultural intensification and industrialization, competitiveness and (future) international trade.
THANK YOU!

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