

STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2020
OF THE
YOUTH NETWORK ON THE COMPREHENSIVE AFRICA AGRICULTURAL
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
(CAADP YOUTH NETWORK)



Secretariat

CAADP Youth Network

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Motto: African Youth taking action in a Food Secured Africa!

Introduction

STRATEGIC PLAN OF THE YOUTH NETWORK ON THE COMPREHENSIVE AFRICA AGRICULTURAL
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With global population is expected to reach 9.1 billion by 2050, global food production will need to grow by 70% in order and to feed that number of people. Africa's population is projected to reach 2 billion people by then. In order to avoid mass hunger and food insecurity, farm productivity must accelerate at a faster rate than the global average. Food insecurity is considered a global concern as anchored in goal 1; Ending poverty in all its forms and goal 2: Ending hunger to achieve food security and improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture, of the post 2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 2030). African countries have the youngest population in the world and the largest share of the world's available arable land. Agriculture plays a vital role in Africa's economic growth and social improvement. It has the highest percentage of the workforce population, about 65%, and contributes to about 30% of GDP in most African Countries (Africa Agriculture Status Report, 2015). For now and the foreseeable future, agriculture is and will remain the primary employment growth sector for most developing countries. Agriculture is a big employer both on and off the farm and is likely to grow with continued transformation of food systems and growth in domestic demand for food.

The Youth Division of the Africa Union Commission indicated that about 65% of the total population of Africa is below the age of 35 and 10 million youth enter the labour market annually. Youth unemployment rate remains low in Africa. Sub-Saharan Africa's youth unemployment rate was slow at 11.8% in 2012 and is projected to drop to 11.7% (Africa Agriculture Status Report, 2015). With the current youth bulge and restiveness, dollar fluctuations, global decline in oil and fall in market shares index, there is an urgent need to promote agriculture as a culture, career, fun activity and a viable business. Rural and semi-urban SMEs especially those led by or focused on young small scale farmers need to be encouraged at all levels across the African region. Agriculture need to be incentivized in such a way that both urban and rural, educated and uneducated, rich and poor youth can participate and benefit in the coming transformation especially in line with the STISA-2024, Africa Rise Campaign, Africa Agenda 2063, CAADP and 2014 Malabo Declaration on Agriculture.

Consequently, the CAADP Youth Network was formed at the Youth Side Event organized by African Youth initiative on Climate Change (AYICC) with support from Young Professionals for Agricultural Development (YPARD) during the CAADP Partnership Platform held by the African Union Commission and NEPAD on April 12, 2016 in Accra – Ghana, principally as an African regional consortium of youth organizations and networks working on agriculture and sustainable livelihoods across Africa and to

mainstream African Youth into the CAADP and 2014 Malabo Implementation and Monitoring Processes especially the Joint Sector Review, NAIPs and RAIP.

Our Vision

A continent with a strong youth voice and capacity to transform Africa's agricultural sector for comprehensively improved food security, sustainable development and shared prosperity.

Our Mission

To inclusively develop capacity of African youth on CAADP and 2014 Malabo Declaration and build actionable partnerships for effective youth leadership in the CAADP implementation, mutual accountability, RAIP/NAIPs and Joint Sector review processes of the African Union Commission, NEPAD and partners.

Our Goal

Create 1 million jobs for youth in the Agriculture value chain by 2025; and usher in 1000 Agripreneurs by 2020.

Our Core Objectives

1. To provide a platform for young people in Africa to engage in dialogue, experience sharing, lobby, advocacy, representation and participation in agriculture development, sustainable development and livelihoods improvement especially in consolidation and fulfillment of the CAADP and 2014 Malabo Declaration
2. To provide a platform for linkages and collaboration between African youths and youths across other continents, and create opportunities for youth participation in policies formulation, planning and programming on agriculture, Agribusiness, climate smart agriculture that comprehensively reflective of youth priorities and livelihoods across Africa.
3. To advocate for land as gift and access to key resources (inputs, technology, finance, knowhow, security, mentoring and market) for African youth in Agriculture

Our Broad Objectives

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1. Promote permanent and dynamic dialogue among the youth, government, CSOs, development partners and UN agencies with regard to agriculture and sustainable livelihoods in the region;
2. Seek to build solidarity among African youth for the purpose of enhancing their role in policies, plans, programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation processes;
3. Support the capacity building, development and integration of youth in all aspects of agriculture in the region;
4. Strengthen cooperation among the youth by providing them with an opportunity to promote youth voices in the context of agriculture and representations at regional and international programmes on agriculture and related areas;
5. Promote the domestication and implementation of the Youth Engagement Toolkit on CAADP and 2014 Malabo Declaration at national, sub regional, regional and international levels.
6. Define entry points for the youth to intervene in the context of addressing challenges of food insecurity;
7. Deploy print and electronic media and information and communications technology (ICT) to promote CAADP Youth Network's membership engagement processes.
8. Promote and replicate the Youth Farm (YFarm) Project and other best practice projects documented in the Youth Eco-Smart Projects Book across Africa
9. Play a role in promoting agricultural education, research, policy and public engagement in Africa

Our strategic priorities in achieving these objectives:

- Policy Advocacy on Land access and tenure format for African youth
- Capacity Building on Climate Smart Agriculture and Agribusiness
- Facilitating new jobs in the agriculture sector

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- Networking and partnerships on agriculture revolution
- Communication and Education
- Public Engagement, social media, concerts and festivals
- Research, Advocacy and Action Learning

Core Values

- Professionalism
- Innovation
- Equity and fairness
- Qualitative Youth Representation and Influence
- Gender equity

Governance and Institutional Structure:

1. General Assembly
2. Executive Council
3. Advisory Board
4. Secretariat
5. Ad-hoc Working Committees

Thematic Focus Areas from 2018 – 2020

1. Institutionalizing the CAADP Youth Network as the umbrella network and focal network for youth engagement in agriculture across Africa
2. Integrating youth in implementing and monitoring the CAADP and Malabo, RAIP/NAIPs and JSR processes at national and regional levels
3. Documentation of youth best practices on agriculture, Climate Smart Agriculture and Agribusiness
4. Policy Advocacy and Public Engagement on Role of youth in Africa's Agricultural Transformation

5. Capacity Building of youth on Community-based Adaptation to Climate Change, Climate Smart Agriculture (Composting, Rural Silos Management, Water Harvesting, micro gardening), and Agribusiness development and management

This strategic plan provides a guiding framework for all youth-led actions and interventions and is articulated at a macro level intentionally so that national chapters and member organizations of the network can use it to undertake specific activities at the country level that will lead to the same overall goal and outcomes. The strategy will be implemented at the national and regional level with the support and guidance of the Secretariat and Executive Council.

4: The Operational Plan

1. Institutionalizing the CAADP Youth Network as the umbrella body and focal network for youth engagement in agriculture across Africa

Strategic Aim	Activity	Timeframe	Estimated cost
1.1. Provide an institutional framework and platform for youth engagement in agriculture across Africa especially within programmes of the African Union Commission, NEPAD and partners	a. Office equipments, Furnishing, Printing of communication materials and Formal letters and communications with AUC, NEPAD, RECs and national Governments on CAADP Strategic Plan	August-December 2018	\$7,000 USD
	b. CAADP Youth Network Regional Conference on Agribusiness and Value Chain development/Formal Launch of the CAADP Youth Network in Senegal.	January 2018	\$150,000.00 USD
	c. Development and presentation of a youth outcome and position document for onward presentation at AU summit of Heads of States and Governments.		

2. Integrating youth in implementing and monitoring the CAADP and Malabo, RAIP/NAIPs and JSR processes at national and regional levels

Strategic Aim	Activity	Timeframe	Estimated cost
2.1. Advocate for youth inclusion in implementing CAADP and Malabo, RAIP/NAIPs and JSR processes at national and	a. Translate, Print and disseminate copies of the Strategic Plan and Youth Training and engagement Toolkit	January – March 2019	\$12,000 USD

Strategic Aim	Activity	Timeframe	Estimated cost
regional levels	b. Advocacy Visits and meetings with national Governmental institutions by CAADP Executive Council to establish country chapters of the network	2018 - 2020	\$121,000
	c. Advocate and support the active participation of CAADP Youth members and leaders at national meetings and activities on the CAADP implementation and monitoring		\$95,000.00 USD

3. Documentation of youth best practices on Climate Smart Agriculture and Agribusiness

Strategic Aim	Activity	Timeframe	Estimated cost
3.1. identify, promote and share good practices from youth-led community-based projects on CSA, Agribusiness	a. identify and document lessons learnt from projects	2019-2020	USD 9,000.00
	b. Facilitate access and encourage effective monitoring and evaluation, and documentation processes of best practice for easy replication in other regions or countries of the continent of youth on climate smart agriculture, value chain/addition and agribusiness		\$5,500.00 USD
3.2. Develop and strengthen the Network's	a. Develop online, print and electronic media platforms for the network		

4. Policy Advocacy and Public Engagement on Role of youth in African Rising towards Africa’s Agricultural Transformation

Strategic Aim	Activity	Timeframe	Estimated cost
4.1. Support national chapters and member organizations to engage and influence policy processes on youth access to land, inputs, technology, mentoring and markets	a. Encourage youth participation in policy advocacy and engagements at national and regional levels b. Fundraise and provide small grants for implementing youth-led agricultural and advocacy projects on access to land/resources and engagement in agriculture c. Organize stakeholders dialogue on youth inclusion in agriculture policy formulation and planning	2018 - 2019	\$965,000.00 USD

5. Capacity Building of youth on Community-based Adaptation to Climate Change, Climate Smart Agriculture (Composting, Rural Silos Management, Water Harvesting, micro gardening), and Agribusiness development and management

Strategic Aim	Activity	Timeframe	Estimated cost
5.1. build capacity of youth on agribusiness, CSA, Value chain development and addition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Organize national and regional capacity building bootcamps and implement projects on Community-based Climate Smart Agriculture (Composting, Rural Silos Management, Water Harvesting, micro gardening, Soil Management, Intensive production, Processing and packaging of agriculture produce), and Agribusiness development and management. b. Capacity building on pre and post harvest loss management. c. Capacity building on market accessing and managing d. Crossbreeding of agriculture ideas and practices e. Organizing a regional agriculture product show to show case innovative breakthroughs from youths in agriculture d. Establish community-based agribusiness incubators and climate smart agriculture resource centres in 5 countries selected from the RECs 	2019 - 2020	\$900,000 USD

5. Sustainability Strategy

A resource mobilization strategy will be developed during the implementation period of the strategic plan and CAADP Youth Network will partner with development agencies and other youth networks to sustain post project activities and market the resource mobilization strategy. National chapters will be encouraged to replicate the achievements and integrate them into their strategic plans / program activities

6. Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation will be an ongoing process throughout the life circle of the strategic plan. Evaluation and monitoring would be done continuously to ensure the proper implementation of the strategic plan. There will be a yearly review of strategic plan coupled with project reports. Internal monitoring and evaluation would be conducted to measure project impact. An effective supervision system will be adopted to systematically monitor and ensure compliance with the standards, and thereby propose corrective action when shortfalls are identified.

7. Reporting

An effective reporting mechanism is adopted to collect and document annual activities, projects, challenges and prospects of the CAADP Youth Network for onward presentation to the AUC, funding partners and donor agencies.