

Assessing progress in seed sector development in relation to the CAADP Results Framework

ALQ - How can the African Union Commission's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) and its Africa Seed and Biotechnology Programme (ASBP) initiatives contribute to the development of a vibrant and pluralistic seed sector in Africa?

This question examines the extent to which improved integration of seed sector development in the CAADP agenda and alignment with the National Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plans (NAFSIPs) will contribute to more coordinated and strategic interventions at national level. It also assumes that this can contribute to improving farmers' access to quality seed – a key priority for the ASBP.

Bearing in mind the *CAADP Implementation Plan, Results Framework and Programme of Work* and in light of the ASBP Framework and the ISSD Principles, our sub-question is:

What high-level indicators can be developed, validated and applied to measure the performance of the seed sector at country level and contribute to the implementation of the CAADP Results Framework?

Towards Seed Sector Performance Indicators

In considering the range of indicators that might be appropriate for actualising the CAADP Malabo agenda, the ISSD Africa team has drawn insights from a high-level workshop at the 10th CAADP Partnership Platform Meeting (CAADP @ 10) in Durban, South Africa.

This considered possible targets established by that meeting for use as basis for setting the indicators that can be used for tracking seed sector development, including:

1. All countries have institutional and regulatory framework related to seed and planting materials by 2020 (short to medium-term).
2. Fifty percent of National seed systems capacities strengthened through the integration of the formal and informal seed sectors to protect the interests of smallholder seed producers and farmers, both men and women, by 2020 and the rest by 2025 (long term).
3. Sixty percent of National seed policies and regional seed harmonization processes developed and implemented across Africa by 2020 and the rest by 2025 (long term).

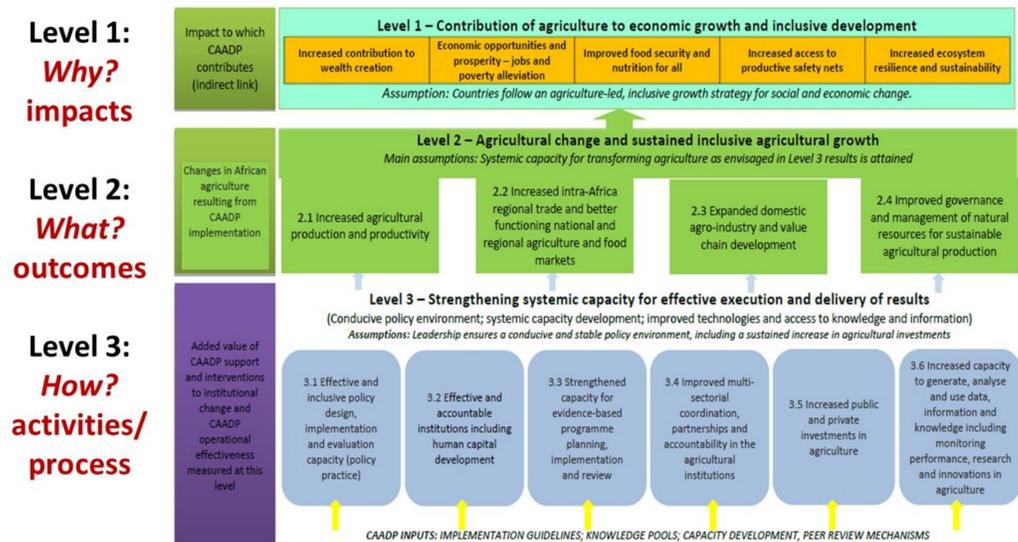
In the recently developed CAADP Programme of Work towards Malabo Declaration (2015), two important 'Strategic Action Areas' (SAA) of relevance to the seed sector and the CAADP Results Framework which emerged are as follows:

1. Strengthening data and statistics for evidence-based planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation and review process.
2. Strengthening capacity to collect data.

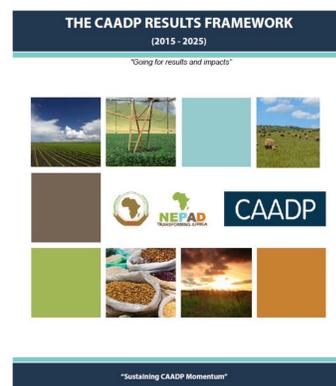
It was also recommended that addressing these two SAAs call for the following key activities:

1. Develop the core set of minimum indicators; the reporting format; the Guidelines; and the Technical Note for tracking implementation of the Malabo Declaration.
2. Engage member states and relevant partners to discuss and refine the temporary reporting tools and organize necessary trainings on the use of the tools.

Three Levels of the CAADP Results Framework



Level 3 is specifically designed to technical institutions that are responsible for supporting CAADP actions at country and regional levels



'Expert Consultation Workshop & Review Meeting to Develop High-Level Indicators for Tracking Seed Sector Performance in Africa' – hosted by AfricaSeeds, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire (Oct 2016)

Objective

Facilitate a constructive dialogue between leading research and development organisations who are developing new indicators for tracking seed sector performance with key African decision makers who are responsible for coordinating and implementing the CAADP Malabo agenda at national and regional levels. The aim is to share lessons, identify a common programme of work and create opportunities for aligning these activities more closely.

Linking initiatives

The workshop will bring together those initiatives developing new indicators for tracking seed sector performance with key African decision makers who are responsible for coordinating and implementing the *CAADP Results Framework and Implementation Plan and Roadmap*.

The workshop unites specialists who are developing different, but related indicators and frameworks for assessing seed sector performance in Africa and elsewhere with other key experts and senior policy makers who are responsible for operationalising the *Implementation Strategy and Road Map to Achieve the 2025 Vision on CAADP*.

ISSD Africa believes there is considerable scope to improve the linkages between these seed sector indices (e.g. TASIE; ASI; World Bank EBA; etc.) to ensure that they better align with and support the implementation of the *CAADP Results Framework 2015-2025 – 'Going for Results and Impacts'*; designed to track progress on the Malabo commitments, but which does not include specific indicators on seed sector performance.

After the Abidjan workshop, we are planning to work with the indicators groups, the African Union Commission, NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, and colleagues in the Regional Economic Commissions and selected member states to develop, test and apply a refined set of indicators for tracking seed sector performance.

This will not only allow the countries to monitor performance at the national level, but also enable the AUC, NEPAD and the RECs, working in association with AfricaSeeds and the indicators groups, to track broader regional trends and changes over time.

Rationale

To consider the monitoring & evaluation requirements of national & regional CAADP Results Framework and to recommend a set of high-level indicators by which policy makers, program leaders and other stakeholders can effectively monitor, evaluate and enhance seed sector progress and performance at national and regional levels.

Opportunity will be taken to address emerging issues and areas of concern emanating from the overarching set of seed sector performance indicators in order to achieve a more holistic picture as well as strengthen the use and effectiveness of the indicators. It is expected that the Expert Consultation will lead to the preparation of a set of guidelines and a brochure on practical and usable seed sector performance indicators which can be used by M&E teams and national seed programme managers to track, assess and improve seed sector performance.

Furthermore, the Expert Consultation should also lead to the organising of training sessions for seed specialists and government decision makers on the application and adaptation of the indicators framework at national level in support of the CAADP Malabo agenda.

Tentative High Level Indicators

Relating to the three targets established at the 'CAADP @ 10' meeting in Durban, the set of high level indicators were proposed by ISSD Africa colleagues which will be presented and refined at the Abidjan workshop:

Target 1: All countries have institutional and regulatory frameworks related to seed by 2020.

Some proposed high level indicators:

- . Published official documents
- . Number of seed laboratories
- . Number and types of seed legislation protocols
- . Number and status of trained quality assurance personnel
- . Status of national seed councils
- . Status variety release committee

Target 2: 50% of national seed systems capacities strengthened through the integration of the formal and informal seed sectors to protect the interest of smallholder seed producers and farmers, both men and women, by 2020 and the rest by 2025 (long term).

Some proposed high level indicators:

Smallholder seed producers

- . Extent of smallholder seed producers procuring varieties from the formal sector
- . Extent of mainstreaming of informal sector seed into approved marketing channels
- . Level of expertise of smallholder seed producers
- . Accredited smallholder seed producers

Farmers, both men and women

- . Diversity of varieties accessible to farmers
- . Volume of quality seeds accessible to farmers
- . Increase in farm productivity
- . Increase in farmers' income
- . Number of minor and orphan crops incorporated in seed production

By 2020

- . % of above target achieved by 2020

The rest by 2025

- . % additional achieved by 2025

Target 3: 60% of national seed policies and regional seed harmonization processes developed and implemented across Africa by 2020 and the rest by 2025 (long term).

Some proposed high level indicators:

Seed policies

- . Number of countries with seed policies
- . Number of countries with seed issues incorporated into national development plans
- . Number of countries with national seed plans

Harmonization

- . Number of RECs with harmonisation process completed
- . Number of varietal regulatory and trade protocols established
- . Number of seed laboratory networks
- . Volume of sub-regional seed trade recorded
- . Number of externally sourced varieties incorporated into national variety portfolio

By 2020

- . % of above target achieved by 2020

The rest by 2025

- . % additional achieved by 2025

The proposed Expert Consultation and the related processes will support the *CAADP Implementation Strategy and Roadmap* and complement the *CAADP Results Framework* by developing a set of high-level indicators for tracking seed sector performance which can be incorporated into National Seed Sector Strategies.

Next steps

Expected outputs:

A comprehensive set of indicators to be used for tracking and measuring seed sector development as part of National and Regional CAADP Results Frameworks, developed.

Processes and means by which to incorporate seed sector targets and indicators in national agriculture and food security investment plans in line with CAADP Results Frameworks, developed and recommended.

High-level awareness of the importance of seed sector goals, targets and indicators established.

Uniformity and commonality of approaches in the use of key performance indicators enhanced.

With thanks to our partners

Coordinating Team:

- . Kouame Miezán – Executive Director, AfricaSeeds
- . Josiah Wobil (ISSD Focal Point) – Consultant, AfricaSeeds
- . John Thompson – Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Development Studies / Coordinator, Future Agricultures Consortium

Key Technical Partners:

- . Walter Simon de Boef - Senior Program Officer, Agricultural Development, Global Development, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- . Ousmane Djibo – Agricultural Policy and Food Security Project Manager, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
- . Jean Philippe Lodugnon Harding - Private Sector Development Specialist, World Bank, Global Indicators Group, Development Economics
- . Marja Thijssen - Senior Advisor Plant Genetic Resources and Seed Systems and Coordinator, ISSD Africa Program, CDI / Wageningen UR

Key Seed Indicators Partner Organisations:

- . Access to Seeds Index (ASI)
- . Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) Seeds Dashboard Group
- . Bioversity International
- . The African Seed Access Index (TASIE)
- . World Bank Enabling the Business of Agriculture (EBA)

Key Regional Partner Organisations:

- . African Union Commission (AUC)
- . Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)
- . NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency

