MAKING CAADP WORK: A comparative analysis of participatory and evidence-based policy processes in Ghana, Senegal and Uganda

A Side Event – ReSAKSS Conference, Addis Ababa, 1 September 2015

Abstract

A group of African and international research partners\(^1\) undertook research in Ghana, Senegal and Uganda to improve our understanding of how participatory and evidence-based agricultural policy processes in Africa can affect policy change and impact using a combination of qualitative and quantitative approaches. A synthesis of research findings highlights the unique policy options needed in each country for promoting pro-poor growth (PPG), but even more importantly, the degree of their political feasibility given each country’s own underlying political processes. More specifically, for each of the three countries key sectors and key policies promoting PPG could be identified applying a computable general political economy equilibrium model (CGPE). The CGPE approach combines economic and political economy modeling in order to allow for the characterization of key political processes, including weighing in the beliefs of key stakeholder organizations and important voter groups that ultimately determine policy choices observed in each country. The CGPE is therefore a tool that can be used for political diagnosis, i.e. a comprehensive evaluation of existing policies, as well as for identifying an adequate political therapy, i.e. the formulation of effective PPG-policies which are politically feasible. An innovative feature of the CGPE model, developed by the University of Kiel, is its integration with a user-friendly interface in order to directly elicit stakeholder input. The stakeholder input is collected in the form of expert knowledge and policy beliefs which are combined with empirical data in assessing a country’s policy options for sustainable growth and poverty reduction.

Objective

- To share results of a synthesis of three country case studies to improve our understanding of participatory and evidence-based agricultural policy processes in Africa, especially as it relates to CAADP implementation.
- To seek feedback and encourage dialogue among participants on the usefulness of the research findings for promoting improved participatory and evidence-based agricultural policy processes in the future.

---

\(^1\) The partners included: the Institute of Statistical Social and Economic Research (ISSER), University of Ghana; the African Institute for Strategic Resource Services and Development (AFRISA), Makerere University; the Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles (ISRA), Senegal; the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI); the University of Hohenheim, Germany; and the University of Kiel, Germany.
Organizers
Dr. Christian Henning  
University of Kiel, Germany  
Email: chenning@ae.uni-kiel.de

Dr. Michael Johnson  
IFPRI, Washington DC, USA  
Email: m.johnson@cgiar.org

PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION

Introduction: Promoting Participatory and Evidence-based Agricultural Policy Processes in Africa [Michael Johnson, IFPRI]

I. POLICY-GROWTH-POVERTY LINKAGES

Beyond the Agriculture-Non-agriculture Nexus: Key sectors and key policies of an effective PPG-strategy in Ghana, Senegal and Uganda [Sam Benin, IFPRI]

II. ASSESSING PARTICIPATORY AND EVIDENCE-BASED POLITICAL PROCESSES

The role of research, stakeholders, donors and voters in determining governmental performance in Ghana, Senegal and Uganda [Christian Henning, University of Kiel]

III. DISCUSSION