OPTIMIZING THE ROLE AND CONTRIBUTION OF NON-STATE ACTORS TO MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY FOR INCREASED INCOME FROM AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY

Organized by: CAADP COALITION OF NSA (CNC)

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Abstract
For non-state actors in particular, the thematic focus of the 2015 ReSAKSS conference generates two levels of implication surrounding their ability to impact positively and enhance the CAADP process. First, given that the ReSAKSS is the main platform for review and the monitoring of implementation of the entire CAADP process, the theme speaks to the need for NSA to be more active in the generation of usable data and analysis to guide the process of CAADP implementation. Second, given the multi-stakeholder framework of the ReSAKSS, it challenges NSA to build more synergies among themselves, be more proactive, engaging and impactful in the CAADP process in general. In short, the theme of the conference calls on NSA to be highly engaging and impactful in the CAADP process going forward so that its potential for rising employment and income is realised. This conference is therefore a key moment at which NSA can create awareness about the value and impact of their activities in the CAADP process as well as deepen their engagement coefficient in the CAADP process generally. Moreover, the conference presents a unique opportunity to animate the partnership between the CNC and IFPRI towards facilitating the optimal involvement of NSA in the CAADP mutual accountability processes, which was recently consummated through a MoU. More specifically, the conference
clearly offers an opportunity for the CNC to support and enhance the efforts of IFPRI and the AUC in organizing the conference. For the CNC, which is the apex NSA coordination institution for the CAADP process, on the other hand, the conference presents a unique opportunity to engage with critical stakeholders, reach-out to more agricultural NSAs and contribute to deeper realizations of mutual accountability in the CAADP process. Hence, the CNC will implement initiatives around the conference, aimed at both facilitating the voice and visibility for NSA as well as enriching the outcomes of the 2015 ReSAKSS Conference in general.

GOAL OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

In line with the foregoing, the CNC aims to facilitate optimal representation of NSA CAADP experiences and perspectives on the deliberations as well as the outcomes of the 2015 ReSAKSS Conference. As the strength of CAADP mutual accountability mechanisms are essential for maximizing the impact of the CAADP programmes on national growth and employment, this session will focus on examining how the quality of MA processes so far post Malabo are being implemented. This will include through the isolation of specific partnerships and modes of engagement, promotion of specific narratives and conversations as well as showcasing of practical results and outcomes of NSA involvement in the CAADP mutual accountability processes. Hence, the CNC engagement around the ReSAKSS Conference will revolve around the following objectives and corresponding activities:

1. Proper articulation of the concrete value and gains as well as the commitment of the participation of NSA in the CAADP mutual accountability processes

Activity:
A brainstorming session will be convened on the eve of the conference (31st August 2015) on NSA and in the CAADP mutual accountability process: NSA Value Addition in increasing agricultural productivity and incomes. This session will bring together a select group of critical NSA stakeholders in the CAADP mutual accountability processes to systematically tease out the saliencies of NSA value addition in the CAADP process and how this impacts on agricultural productivity and incomes. Specifically, the CNC brainstorming session will also review main issues addressed by the ReSAKSS Conference and brainstorm on strategies to seek policy makers support in maximizing NSA participation in the Mutual Accountability processes especially the JSRs. Additionally, select NSA from countries that have done mutual accountability and JSR wills share their lessons to help the rest of NSAs to improve their engagement in planning their JSR engagements in the countries (e.g. Tanzania, etc.). The sessions of the meeting will be built around the theme and major sub-themes of the ReSAKSS Conference. For each of the session, a speaker will be identified, while a moderator/facilitator will guide the meeting and a rapporteur who will
be charged to take notes of the major points during the session such that it will feed in to the final statement/ declaration to be issued at the end of the session. There will be a hands on session (2 hours) on JRS for the members to improve the capacity of NSA on MA/JSR to help countries whose JSR is planned this year 2015.

**OUTPUTS/OUTCOMES**

a) common understanding on the value addition role of NSA in CAADP MA/JSR
b) lessons and best practices for quality and impactful NSA engagement. Preparation for panel discussion in the main conference and key messages to compelling communicate by all NSA representatives attending the conference (common script)
c) skills development on MA/JSR
d) Strategy and work plan on NSA participation in JSR planned for the next 12 months.

2. **Engagement of critical stakeholders at the conference on the role of NSA in the CAADP mutual accountability vis-à-vis other stakeholders in the process**

Activity:
A side event will be organized on the first day of the conference focused on the theme “Optimizing the Role and Contribution of Non-State Actors to Mutual Accountability for increased income from agricultural productivity”. This session will include an information/ updates session on currently running CNC programmes aimed at enhancing the role of NSA in the mutual accountability process of CAADP as well as a panel discussion that will engage a wide array of stakeholders, including NSA, in a tailored discussion on how best to optimize the involvement of NSA in the CAADP mutual accountability process.

**OUTPUT/ OUTCOME**

The following Outputs /outcomes are envisaged from the engagement process at the ReSAKSS conference:
- Clear perspectives and common understanding on how NSA participation in the mutual accountability process will help to increasing agricultural productivity in Africa
- Clear understanding on effective modes of NSA engagement that are impacting CAADP/Malabo implementation through JSRs for policy makers attention
- CNC statement on the value addition role of NSA in the mutual accountability process