2015 ReSAKSS Annual Conference: “Beyond a Middle Income Africa: Ensuring Sustained Growth with Rising Employment and Incomes”

September 1-3, 2015 – Addis Ababa, Ethiopia


“Towards Strengthening Agriculture Public Expenditure Analysis for Improved Decisions and Learning”

Title: Towards Strengthening Agriculture Public Expenditure Analysis for Improved Decisions and Learning

Hosting Organizations: The World Bank and the African Union NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency

Abstract: African Governments have made considerable efforts to generate a strong evidence base on agriculture spending in the past years, aiming to improve spending accountability and development impacts. The Side-Event will showcase how agriculture public expenditure analyses have been used by countries and what impacts they have achieved; what the next generation of technical support at country level and regional learning mechanisms could look like; and how to strengthen the linkages between public expenditure analyses and the policy & budget cycles, including Joint Sector Reviews.

Audience: 30-40 participants on average from the main ReSAKSS Conference attendees. Participants from Ministries of Finance, Treasury and Planning as well as from the Ministries of Agriculture are encouraged to attend.

Chair: Mr. David Adama, Coordinator Public Financing for Agriculture, ActionAid International

Moderator: Dr. Eleni Gabre-Madhin, Ethiopia Commodity Exchange, Founder

Draft Agenda

1. “Taking a look at how Ag PERs are used by governments and what their impacts are” – Speaker, Dr. Stephen Mink, IFPRI (15 minutes)
   - Drawing from specific country examples, the speaker could address how Governments, Ministries and stakeholders have used their recent Ag PERs to influence, shape, define or change agriculture public expenditure, sector investment policies, planning and management processes, sector assessment, accountability and decision-making mechanisms overall? What are the next steps for Ag PER analyses for these countries and what do the challenges and opportunities for the future look like? If possible, a counterpart from the Ministry of Agriculture could be invited to present their experience around this topic.
2. “How to build capacity and foster learning on agriculture public expenditure analysis: A Network of Experts, a Community of Practice? – Speaker, Dr. Elliot Mghenyi, World Bank (15 minutes)
   - Based on the general objectives of continuing to build capacity and foster learning on agriculture public expenditure analysis across Africa, the speaker could present the initial idea of a Network of Experts and Community of Practice, covering what the objectives, services, focus, structure of these mechanisms would look like, drawing from existing models and examples and setting the stage for further brainstorming and preparation work around this initiative.

3. “How to link-up public expenditure analyses to country accountability mechanisms with agility and rigor? Speakers, Dr. Sam Benin, ReSAKSS and Dieter Orlowski, Consultant (15 minutes)
   - Following-on from the discussion on the impacts achieved by country Ag PERs, the speaker will focus on how countries can improve linkages between Ag PERs and accountability mechanisms, policy and budget cycles. How can countries achieve this with limited resources and fluctuating political agenda so that future analyses are rigorous and can be used to inform both short and long term decision-making. What range of products, exercises, and methodologies are being promoted across countries and supported by CAADP and ReSAKSS? This can include a discussion on the AgPER Lite approach and the Joint Sector Review results and agenda for 2015-2016.

4. Floor Discussion: Moderator TBC (40 minutes)

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