BEYOND A MIDDLE INCOME AFRICA

● ADDIS ABABA ● ETHIOPIA ●
ReSAKSS
ANNUAL CONFERENCE
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Transforming African Economies for Sustained Growth with Rising Employment and Incomes

RESAKSS Side Event: Providing Timely Data and Analysis to Improve Food Security in Africa

1 September 2015

Role of Food Security Portal for Africa South of the Sahara

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The 2007-2008 world food crisis fostered increased concern with price volatility for agricultural commodities and the role that policies play in this volatility. To address the shortage of easily accessible high-quality data, the SDC and EC-funded World Food Crisis Project developed the Food Security Portal (FSP). The purpose of the FSP is to pool together timely, relevant, detailed, and high-quality country-level information in a systematic and structured way to further progress toward greater food and nutrition security and increased resilience to future shocks and crises. The specific objective of the FSP, South of the Sahara (FSP-SSA), supported by the EC, is to strengthen capacity for improved timely food security information, policy research and analysis in the region.

There are many lessons that have been learned since 2010 regarding the development of a Food Security Portal. There are also a number of other efforts underway to collect timely data for the region that offer opportunities for collaboration and mutual learning. These efforts include of the work of ReSAKSS to foster capacity development in country-level Ministries that assist with monitoring and evaluation under the CAADP commitment, the work supported by EC and AfDB through Knoema to collect weekly price data, and the proposed NEPAD Knowledge Management Platform.

Objective

This side event aims to bring together these groups engaged in data collection and analysis to share experiences and find common grounds and synergies between both programs, identify gaps, and discuss ways to better integrate and promote the use of the data and knowledge at the country and regional level.

Organization

The session will open with an introduction to the panel followed by a 15 minute presentation of the FSP-SSA. A follow-up presentation of 10 minutes will be given by a member of the ReSAKSS community currently placed within a Ministry regarding their mechanisms for moving forward for data collection under CAADP. This will be followed by a 10 minute presentation by Knoema to present the work as currently done under the Africa Information Highway, and 10 minutes for NEPAD to present their plans on the Knowledge Management Platform. The larger panel (SAKSS, NEPAD, FSP, Knoema, EEA, IAPRI) will be given 5 minutes each for comments regarding challenges and ways forward and then the session will conclude with a 15 minute open discussion.