



# CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

## BACKGROUND

The Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS) supports the successful implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) by providing policy-relevant data; facilitating dialogue among stakeholders; monitoring progress in reviewing goals; and strengthening mutual accountability processes at continental, regional, and national levels. It is facilitated by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), in partnership with the African Union Commission (AUC), the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), and leading regional economic communities (RECs). At the regional level, ReSAKSS is supported by three Africa-based CGIAR centers: the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) in Kenya, the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) in South Africa, and the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) in Nigeria.

As the main platform for monitoring CAADP implementation, ReSAKSS tracks progress of core CAADP indicators through an interactive website and a flagship Annual Trends and Outlook Report (ATOR), the official CAADP monitoring and evaluation (M&E) report. In addition, ReSAKSS provides technical support for the establishment of country level Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support Systems (SAKSS) in order to create the required capacities to meet data and knowledge needs of CAADP at the national level. To date, 13 country SAKSS platforms have been established. As part of strengthening mutual accountability processes at the country and regional levels ReSAKSS, in collaboration with country stakeholders, AUC, NPCA, and other development partners, has been facilitating the adoption of agriculture joint sector reviews (JSRs) that are regular, inclusive, comprehensive, and technically robust. Over the last 4 years, assessments of JSR efforts have been conducted in about 30 countries and one REC—the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)—to evaluate the institutional and policy landscape and the quality of current agricultural review processes and to develop action plans for improving or establishing best-practice JSRs. More recently, ReSAKSS has been supporting the development and implementation of next-generation national agriculture and food security investment plans (NAFSIPs) and providing technical support to the CAADP Biennial Review (BR) process.

## OBJECTIVES

IFPRI, in partnership with AUC, is convening the 2017 ReSAKSS Annual Conference to promote review and dialogue on the CAADP implementation agenda among policymakers, development partners, researchers, advocacy groups, farmers' organizations, the private sector, and other key stakeholders from within and outside Africa. The conference will take place at the Radisson Blu Hotel in Maputo, Mozambique on 25-27 October, 2017. The conference theme is "A Thriving Agricultural Sector in A Changing Climate: Meeting Malabo Declaration Goals through Climate-Smart Agriculture."

More specifically, the conference seeks to:





1. Discuss important issues raised and related recommendations of the 2016 ATOR. The report examines the contribution of Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) to meeting Malabo Declaration goals by taking stock of the current knowledge of the effects of climate change, reviewing existing evidence of the effectiveness of various CSA strategies, and sharing examples of CSA-based practices and tools for developing and implementing evidence-based policies and programs.
2. Review progress in promoting mutual accountability through agriculture JSRs and progress in preparing for the first CAADP BR in January 2018.
3. Assess progress in supporting the formulation of 2<sup>nd</sup> generation NAFSIPs and ensuring their compliance with Malabo themes and goals.
4. Evaluate progress and challenges in operationalizing effective governance structures and analytical networks for country SAKSS platforms to support CAADP data and analytical needs at the country level.
5. Review progress on the CAADP implementation process and toward achieving key CAADP goals and targets.

Each year, ReSAKSS produces an Africawide ATOR which presents analysis on a feature topic of strategic importance to the CAADP implementation agenda. Given the growing intensity and frequency of climate change effects, in its latest ATOR, ReSAKSS takes an in-depth look at the role of climate-smart agriculture (CSA) in helping to meet Malabo Declaration goals. Climate change is a significant and growing threat to food security already affecting vulnerable populations in many parts of Africa and is expected to affect more people, more areas, and more farmers in the future. The projected impact on production of most food crops across the African continent under climate change is mostly negative, and together with increasing global demand, will likely drive up food prices.

In order to make good on Malabo commitments and particularly the goal to enhance resilience of livelihoods and production systems to climate variability, rapid action is required. Such action will need to draw from new tools and techniques to increase agricultural production and incomes by adapting and building resilience to climate change, commonly referred to as CSA. CSA is comprised of agricultural systems that contribute to: i) sustainable and equitable increases in agricultural productivity and incomes, ii) greater resilience of food systems and farming livelihoods, and iii) reduction and/or removal of greenhouse gas emissions associated with agriculture.

The 2016 ATOR takes stock of the current understanding of CSA and evaluates the conditions for implementation. Specifically, the ATOR explores the following key areas: i) current knowledge of the effects of climate change; ii) existing evidence of effectiveness of CSA practices; and iii) examples of CSA-based practices and tools for developing and implementing evidence-based policies and programs. As in previous ATORs, the 2016 Report also assesses progress toward achieving CAADP goals and the Malabo Declaration commitments using the 2015-2025 CAADP Results Framework.

## EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Expected outcomes of the conference are:

1. Shared understanding of:





- a. Effects of climate change and effectiveness of various CSA strategies, and CSA-based practices and tools for designing and implementing evidence-based policies and programs in Africa in the context of achieving Malabo goals.
  - b. Actions needed to further advance the implementation of the CAADP agenda and ensure the achievement of its goals and objectives.
2. Shared lessons and experiences on:
- a. Preparation and required next steps in completing the ongoing CAADP BR Process as well as critical success factors in promoting more comprehensive, inclusive, and robust JSR and BR modalities.
  - b. The formulation of 2<sup>nd</sup> generation national agriculture and food security investment plans (NAFSIPs) and their compliance with Malabo themes and goals.
  - c. The operation of country SAKSS platforms, to mobilize local centers of expertise to support technical analyses, review, and dialogue processes in support of CAADP implementation.

## STRUCTURE OF THE CONFERENCE

**Day 1, October 25:** The morning will consist of side events taking place in parallel sessions. The side events will provide space for ReSAKSS partners and other stakeholders to share their research and other work as it relates to supporting evidence-based policy planning and implementation under the CAADP agenda. Topics for side events will also relate to the conference theme on climate-smart agriculture. The conference will be officially opened in the afternoon of Day 1, which will feature a high-level keynote address and high-level panel discussion on the conference theme.

**Day 2, October 26:** The day will focus on presentation and discussion of the different chapters of the 2016 ATOR.

**Day 3, October 27:** The day will continue with presentations and discussions of the 2016 ATOR and then turn to ReSAKSS core activities of supporting evidence and outcome based policy planning and implementation under CAADP. It will include presentations and discussions of progress on and required actions for advancing the CAADP BR Process, formulation of NAFSIPs, and operationalizing country SAKSS governance structures and analytical networks.