



CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

BACKGROUND

Established in 2006 under the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), the Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS) supports efforts to promote evidence- and outcome-based policy planning and implementation. In particular, ReSAKSS provides data and related analytical and knowledge products to facilitate CAADP benchmarking, review, and mutual learning processes. The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) facilitates the work of ReSAKSS in partnership with the African Union Commission (AUC), the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), leading regional economic communities, and 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, 14 country SAKSS platforms have been established in Benin, Burkina Faso, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Mozambique, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, and Zimbabwe. 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 improved agriculture joint sector reviews (JSRs) that are regular, inclusive and comprehensive. Since 2014, ReSAKSS has conducted assessments of JSRs in 18 countries and one regional economic community (the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS) to evaluate both 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. It also supports mutual accountability by providing technical assistance to the CAADP Biennial Review process, which reviews country, regional, and continental progress toward meeting the 2014 Malabo Declaration commitments, as mandated by African heads of state and government. In addition, ReSAKSS has supported the development and implementation of next-generation national agriculture investment plans (NAIPs) that are Malabo compliant through the (1) development of a NAIP Toolbox that outlines metrics, analytical tools, methodologies, and core programmatic components to guide NAIP design; (2) establishment of a NAIP Experts Group to provide technical support to countries as they elaborate their NAIPs; and (3) creation of a NAIP Task Force to provide training, backstopping, and quality control to the local experts.

OBJECTIVES

IFPRI, in partnership with AUC, is convening the 2018 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 African Union headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 24-26 October 2018 under theme of “Boosting Growth to End Hunger by 2025: The Role of Social Protection.”

More specifically, the conference seeks to:

1. Discuss important issues raised and related recommendations of the 2017-2018 ATOR. The ATOR takes an in-depth look at social protection in Africa by examining: a) Africa’s experience with implementing social protection programs; b) knowledge gaps related to enhancing the role of social protection in consumption smoothing, inclusive agricultural growth and transformation, and building resilience of livelihoods; and c) policy implications for designing and rolling out national safety net programs in Africa.
2. Review progress in promoting mutual accountability through agriculture JSRs and strengthening the CAADP Biennial Review (BR) methodologies and indicators in preparation for the next BR in January 2020.
3. Assess progress in the formulation and implementation of 2nd generation NAIPs that are Malabo compliant.
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 Africa wide ATOR which presents analysis on a feature topic of strategic importance to the CAADP implementation agenda. The latest 2017-2018 ATOR focuses on social protection which comprises public and private initiatives that provide income or consumption transfers to the poor, protect the vulnerable against livelihood risks, and enhance the social status and rights of the marginalized with the overall objective of reducing the economic and social vulnerability of poor, vulnerable and marginalized groups. Social protection initiatives in Africa increasingly aim to institutionalize systems that guarantee assistance for the poor and protect the vulnerable against livelihood risks. Social protection policies play a critical role in realizing the human right to social security for all, reducing poverty and inequality, and supporting inclusive growth – by boosting human capital and productivity, supporting domestic demand and facilitating structural transformation of national economies. In the 2014 Malabo Declaration, Africa leaders committed to end hunger on the continent by 2025, in part, by integrating social protection with measures to increase agricultural productivity and committing resources to finance the integration. Moreover, the demand for social protection in Africa is likely to not only stay high but to also rise, especially due to accelerated growth, growing urbanization, and the growing frequency and magnitude of climate shocks.

The 2017-2018 ATOR examines social protection in Africa to address three main objectives. The report summarizes and synthesizes the available evidence on successful implementation of social protection programs in Africa. In addition, the report answers questions and fills in knowledge gaps related to maximization of the role of social protection in consumption smoothing, human capital enhancement, reduction in vulnerability and resilience as Africa embarks on the implementation of the Malabo Declaration commitments and Agenda 2063 of the African Union. The report also highlights policy





implications to guide the design and rolling-out of national safety net systems in Africa. As in previous ATORs, the 2017-2018 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. Africa's experience with social protection, lessons, gaps, and way forward for integrating social protection with efforts to increase agricultural productivity to end hunger on the continent 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. Strengthening CAADP BR methodologies and indicators ahead of the next BR in January 2020 as well as critical success factors in promoting more regular, comprehensive, inclusive, and robust JSR processes.
 - b. The formulation and implementation of 2nd generation Malabo compliant NAIPs.
 - 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 24: 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 social protection. 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 25: The day will focus on presentation and discussion of the different chapters of the 2017-2018 ATOR.

Day 3, October 26: The day will continue with presentations and discussions of the 2017-2018 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 strengthening the CAADP BR methodologies and indicators, formulation of NAIPs, and operationalizing country SAKSS governance structures and analytical networks.

