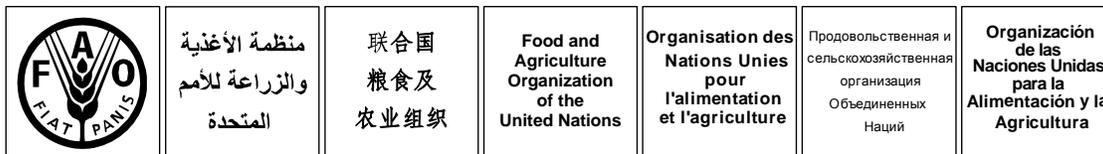


March 2012



FAO Regional Conference for Africa

TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION

Brazzaville, Congo 23-27 April 2012

REPORT ON FAO ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION 2010-2011

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This document provides an overview of major activities undertaken by FAO for the benefit of the African region during the 2010-2011 biennium, including activities in response to the recommendations of the 26th FAO Regional Conference for Africa (ARC).

2. The Regional Conference is invited to review and comment on the implementation of recommendations from its 26th Session and the results achieved under the 2010-11 Programme of Work and Budget.

II. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR AFRICA

3. The following is a brief summary of the main actions taken so far by the Organization on the recommendations made by the 26th Africa Regional Conference:

Matters arising from the World Summit on Food Security and the 36th Session of FAO Conference – Implementation of the Immediate Plan of Action (IPA) – Towards a New Vision for the Decentralized Offices Network

4. The Conference endorsed the vision, as well as the proposals on structure and functioning, expressed the view that the criteria on country coverage provided in the IPA were theoretically good but not practical, particularly in the case of Africa, and made several specific recommendations. In this regard, the Secretariat has prepared a document to support discussion at the 27th ARC on decentralization issues.

Reform of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)

5. The Conference supported the proposal for the creation of a regional ad hoc steering group in support of the CFS reform to be led by the standing Chair of the Regional Conference for Africa, who would work in collaboration with voluntary Members; and expressed concern on the need to improve coordination among national, sub-regional and regional groups and recommended that the steering group addresses this issue. In this regard, the Report of the Chairman of the 26th ARC will present the activities undertaken and the outcomes achieved.

Implementation of the Programme of Work and Budget 2010-11 and Areas of Priority Actions for the African Region in the following Biennium

6. The conference recommended that FAO supports member countries to prepare appropriate investment plans; and ensures that sufficient data be available to monitor the results by the end of 2013.

7. FAO established a team of experts that provided capacity building to member countries who requested this service in the development of their National Investment Plans. On the parallel, an Investment Assessment Project has been developed in response to the request and aims at quantifying the additional investment and expenditure needs in different agricultural sub-sectors required to eliminate hunger by 2025. In addition to stimulating countries to assess their investment need in a more systematic way, FAO hopes that the figures will provide a broad framework for the prioritization of investment activities to and within agriculture. Since the inception of the project, assessments have been completed in 19 countries¹ and on-going in 7 countries². The process is continuing and it is envisaged to reach all countries by end of 2013.

Establishment of One Global Shared Services Centre

8. The Conference recommended that a proper in-depth evaluation of the proposal of a global Shared Service Centre (SSC), including for sustainability, be carried out for an eventual endorsement by the Finance Committee and Council, for inclusion in the next Programme of Work and Budget. An in-depth review was carried out and reported to the FAO governing bodies during the biennium. The 37th FAO Conference decided to maintain for the time being the status quo for the Shared Services Centre of two hubs in Santiago and Bangkok with the Centre in Budapest.

9. The scope of the review included a review of administrative services in general, the impact of major IPA projects such as International Public Sector Accounting Standards and also a review of the administrative operations in the regional offices in Cairo and Accra. In response, the Regional Office for Africa has undertaken a significant shift in the focus of its administrative set-up, from a primarily administrative transactional support to a proactive client-focused service management and delivery promoting, using innovative processes to support a results-based and performance culture.

FAO Support to the Accelerated implementation of CAADP

¹ Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Central Afr. Rep., Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Lesotho Malawi, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Togo, United Rep. of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

² Angola, Congo, Dem. Rep. of Congo, Liberia, Madagascar, Rwanda, Sierra Leone

10. The Conference recommended that FAO continues and intensifies its support to the African Union Commission, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Planning and Implementation Agency, and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), and made several specific recommendations.

11. In this regard, FAO provided technical assistance to RECs, the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), the African Union and several countries on various aspects of the CAADP implementation process. By the end of 2011, 29 countries and one REC (ECOWAS) had successfully completed their CAADP Compacts, 22 of them with direct assistance from FAO. In addition, twenty-six countries have benefited or are presently receiving support from the FAO in the formulation of their CAADP investment plans. In this regard, FAO experts were assisted in revising roundtable/Compact documentation, supporting the organization of roundtables and business meetings, assisting in the development and reviewing of National Agricultural Investment Plans and food security programmes, as well as providing post-Compact support and capacity development). FAO continues to provide extensive financial and technical assistance to projects conceived and implemented under the CAADP framework at country, regional and international levels. FAO has worked closely with 22 countries, including six of the GAFSP awardees in the development of their country investment plans and subsequent applications for GAFSP funding. Of the six awardees (Ethiopia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Niger, Togo: for a total amount of USD 270 million) Ethiopia and Sierra Leone, continue to receive FAO technical support. In November 2011, the German-financed CAADP Capacity Development Project for Investment and Policy (CCDPIP) was approved for a total amount of USD 2.3 million, which will strengthen capacities in investment planning and management in five countries in Africa in collaboration with national and regional institutions and resource persons.

Climate change implications for food security and natural resources management in Africa

12. The Conference recommended that FAO:

- collaborates with national Governments in developing institutional capacity building programmes and creating awareness including integration of indigenous knowledge to assist rural communities understand and cope with climate change and as it relates to food security;
- provides access to available facilities such as carbon credit;
- reviews the possibility of providing technical support in capacity building in simplifying issues and technical support to apply effective technologies such as conservation agriculture (CA) and use of germplasm that is locally adapted, as well as considerations of gender issues;
- facilitates the convening of a Ministerial meeting to discuss the impact of climate change, adaptation and mitigation

13. In this regard, FAO continues to include the importance of considering climate change implications throughout its programmes. For instance during capacity building activities on aquaculture and fisheries, the implications of climate change on fisheries are included in the discussions at the subregional and regional levels. Further, a Regional Strategy on Climate Change mitigation and adaptation is being finalized by RAF. A first version of the subregional Climate Change Strategy has also been developed by the subregional office for Eastern Africa. In Southern Africa, several activities have strengthened the adoption of CA, to contribute to sustainable land management and as a climate change adaptation measure. FAO and the European Commission recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding for a project on "Climate Smart Agriculture: capturing the synergies among mitigation, adaptation and food security", which will support Malawi and Zambia in strengthening country capacity to scale-up adoption of climate smart agricultural

practices. Also, a meeting of African Ministers of Agriculture on Climate-Smart Agriculture, Africa: A Call to Action was organized in Johannesburg in September 2011.

Other Matters

14. The Conference also recommended that FAO initiates a dialogue with other UN partners on facilitating more effective country-level assistance on attaining food security to address concerns on the coordination of interventions by UN Bodies at the national and regional level. In this regard, FAO continues to collaborate with United Nations entities at the regional and country level, to facilitate programs and projects as well developing capacity among member states and the collaboration with the Rome-Based Agencies has been strengthened. FAO, for instance, continued to facilitate an IFAD field presence in Madagascar, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania and Zambia, where an IFAD Country Officer is based in the respective FAO Office.

15. The Conference agreed to honour the Director-General of FAO, Dr. Jacques Diouf, and recommended the submission of a proposal to the FAO Council on setting up a food security award in his name at the FAO. In this regard, the 37th FAO Conference held in Rome from 25 June to 2 July 2011, decided that a “Jacques Diouf Award for Food Security” be established.

16. The Conference also recommended that the Chairperson, Honourable Alfonso Pedro Canga, kindly solicits the assistance of the President of the Republic of Angola, His Excellency José Eduardo Dos Santos, to submit a request to his peers, during the next African Union Summit, to set up a Jacques Diouf Prize for food security at the African Union. In this regard, during the 17th African Union Summit held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, from 30 June to 1 July 2011, the Africa Union Assembly approved to create a “Jacques DIOUF Prize”.

17. Further details on actions taken in response to the recommendations of the 26th ARC, along with other activities benefiting the region are reported in the following sections by FAO strategic and functional objectives.

III. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN 2010-2011

18. This section provides an overview of major activities undertaken by FAO and results achieved in the Africa region during the 2010-2011 biennium by Strategic/Functional Objective. Based on the achievements and lessons learned, the PWB 2012-2013 has been formulated to give more focus on the Regional Priorities, taking stock of the lessons learned to better implement the Programme of Work in the Region for a higher level of results in the next Biennia.

A. Brief overview on issues of 2010-2011 biennium

19. The 2010-11 Biennium was a landmark period for FAO in the region, heralding in a new decentralized era characterized by greater leadership and responsibility of the Regional Office for Africa to deliver a coherent and integrated set of products and services that respond to member countries' priorities and produce tangible impact.

20. One of the foremost shift occurred in Organization during the first quarter of 2010 was the effective implementation of one of the major IPA project resulting in the transfer from relevant Headquarters Divisions to Regional Offices of major functions and responsibilities related the management of TCP and the FAOR Network to ROs.

21. Noteworthy the role played by the Regional Office throughout the Biennium 2010-2011, closely assisting the Country Offices towards a more effective field programme delivery and a more

efficient management of their Offices. The major objective of the Regional Office for Africa in the Biennium 2010-2011 was to closely support the County Offices enhancing the capacity of their Staff through regular ad-hoc designed trainings. Four (4) group trainings to strengthen operational capacity have been organized in 2010-11 for Programme Assistants and Programme Clerks; One (1) Programme Development & Resource Mobilization Pilot Training has been organized in July 2011 for Assistant FAOR Programme; Three (3) Sub-regional hub-trainings to strengthen administrative and budget management capacity have been organized in Oct-Dec 2011 for Assistant FAOR Administration and Administrative Assistants/Clerks. This task has resulted in an improved operational capacity towards a better delivery at field level, and further training will be arranged.

22. The total TCP allocation for the Biennium 2010/2011 was USD 35 000 000, revised up to USD 38 529 855 in July 2011. At the end of 2011, 129 TCP projects have been approved as follows: 49 TCP Facility projects and 80 regular TCP projects for a total amount of USD 38,114,508, i.e. almost 100% of the regional TCP allocation.

23. The Regional Office for Africa launched, in February 2011, the Africa Results Task Force Initiative. By executing coordinated and integrated activities implemented by multidisciplinary teams across the Organization, it aims at effectively establishing a results-based culture in the Africa Region, not only within FAO, but also with FAO Partners (i.e. Regional Institutions and Governments) by 2014. The ultimate goal is to "see" the impact of FAO's work by giving a human face to results, and better responding to Member countries' needs. It also aims to create enabling economic environments aimed at maximizing productivity to increase significantly the contribution of agriculture to national economies in the Africa Region.

24. To provide an overall assessment of the work done in 2010-2011 and to identify the way forward for the following Biennium, the Regional Office for Africa has organized in Accra from 14-18 November 2011 the 4th Regional Management Team Meeting at the presence of FAO major Partners (AU/NPCA, AfDB, FARA, AGRA, etc). The Meeting has demonstrated the substantial progress the Regional Office for Africa has accomplished.

25. Between 2010 and 2011 cohesiveness among staff has been promoted, by fostering sharing and increased communication, motivating staff in working in a more multi-disciplinary and results oriented manner, ultimately delivering more effective support to Member Countries.

26. Lastly, it is noteworthy to highlight that, during the Biennium 2010-2011, under the **South-South Cooperation (SSC) framework**, several experts and technicians were fielded to various African countries in support to food security initiatives³.

27. South-South Cooperation will be pursued, strengthened and strongly promoted in 2012-2013 and in the following Biennium with the aim to take full advantage of shared knowledge and best practices across boundaries, between countries and among the Regions exploring new arrangements involving African experts and technicians.

³ (i) China and Mali (17 Chinese experts and technicians), Malawi (18), Sierra Leone (19) and Nigeria (26); arrangements finalized for fielding experts to Liberia, Senegal, Uganda, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Zambia; 2 training courses in aquaculture and rice technology conducted in China for 54 experts and technicians from 9 countries (Eritrea, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Uganda and Zambia); (ii) Vietnam and Namibia (5) and Chad (10); negotiations are underway for sending 12 experts to Congo; (iii) Cuba and Cape Verde: second phase formulated with 13 Cuban experts and technicians to be fielded in early 2012 (funded by Cape Verde); (iv) Algeria and Togo (funded by Oman): 7 Algerian experts and technicians to be fielded in 2012; (v) Morocco and Guinea (2 experts to be fielded) and Niger (3 technicians to be fielded); (vi) Bangladesh and Gambia (1 rice expert), ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations under the Japanese trust fund), capacity building in African countries through 3 regional training workshops (1 in West Africa and 2 in East Africa) and 3 national workshops (Ghana, Madagascar and Tanzania) on rice and aquaculture (with trainers/experts from the ASEAN).

B. Summary of FAO 2010-2011 activities implemented in the Region per Strategic Objectives (SOs) and Functional Objectives (FOs)

28. The Strategic Objectives for the biennium have been planned and conducted in close collaboration with FAO Headquarters and the decentralized offices, with substantial time devoted to joint monitoring of progress. The major areas of intervention and results achieved in the Africa Region during the 2010-2011 biennium, in the context of the Organization's Strategic and Functional Objectives, are highlighted in the following pages.

Strategic Objective A - Sustainable intensification of crop production

29. A Conservation Agriculture (CA) strategy was developed in line with the "Save and Grow" principles⁴, focusing on a common understanding of how to scale-up CA.

30. Implementation of Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) has resulted in substantial reduction in pesticide use while increasing yields in rice, cotton and vegetable cropping systems. A total of 500 new trainers and 55,000 farmers in seven countries in Southern Africa received training in GAPs and basic marketing skills through Farmer Field Schools.

31. The RECs and the African Union, through a support provided in the capacity development component, improved their capacity in reviewing procedures for emergencies and development of pest and pesticide management frameworks based on the crop protection situational analysis developed on the CAADP Framework.

32. Better preparedness and risk management for desert locusts has been achieved mainly in western and north-western Africa.

33. Under Emergency Plant Pest frameworks, five countries assessed their preparedness to manage wheat rusts. Cassava disease surveillance and control was strengthened in East and Central Africa. Regional workshops on emergency plant pest prevention and management (including noxious weeds) were held, covering 35 countries culminating in the development of a strategic plan, and strategies for management of invasive plant species. The response capacity was developed and strengthened in emergency pest outbreaks for 51 plant protection officers in four countries of Mano River Union Organization to minimize emergency pests damages.

34. Pesticide risk reduction achieved in countries through lifecycle approach to pesticide management as a result of: i) strengthened capacities for Integrated Pest Management; ii) implementation of the FAO Code of Conduct on Pesticides; iii) reviews of regionally harmonized system of pesticide legislation and registration and iv) In addition 14 countries participated in four workshops on the management of obsolete pesticides.

35. Advocacy work led to additional countries ratifying: 1) the International Plant Protection Convention, along with capacity development enabling countries to more effectively participate in the implementation of the International Phytosanitary Standards 2) the Rotterdam Convention with implementation of the Convention supported by National Action Plans.

36. Additional countries ratified the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. Eleven countries were sensitized on the role and importance of seed policies in conservation. An harmonized regulatory framework for seeds was finalized for the member countries

⁴ The main Principles are: maintaining healthy soil to enhance crop nutrition; cultivating a wider range of species and varieties in associations, rotations and sequences; using well adapted, high-yielding varieties and good quality seeds; integrated management of insect pests, diseases and weeds; efficient water management.

of the Central African Economic and Monetary Community. Technical assistance was provided to six countries reviewing seed laws, and two countries developing policies and strengthening seed services.

Strategic Objective B - Increased Sustainable Livestock Production

37. Technical assistance was provided for reviewing livestock sectors and value-chains in East, Central and West Africa and policy development on cross-border transhumance and pastoral resource. Capacity building and technical support were provided for dairy, meat or poultry value chains for seven East African countries, two in West Africa, and three in Southern Africa on crops-livestock integrated farming. Biosecurity was also reviewed for poultry and pig sectors in four West African countries.

38. Capacity development support was provided, focused on diseases surveillance, laboratory competency and compliance, food safety and public health, risk analysis and management of priority diseases and in addition trade from the Horn of Africa, animal health certification models for pastoral areas (Somali Ecosystem), and surveillance of anti-microbial resistance risks along meat value chains.

39. Technical support was provided towards declaring the eradication of rinderpest and the sequestration or destruction of rinderpest virus. An FMD elimination roadmap has been implemented in southern Africa through 2020, using the FAO and World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) Progressive Control Pathway. Support was provided in rabies awareness, Rabies Days. FAO provided sponsorship to the 30th World Veterinary Congress in October 2011.

40. Country fact sheets and policy briefs were provided to Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries. The Livestock Data Innovation Project informed on the livestock-poverty-livelihood nexus, investments and sector policies in Niger, Uganda and Tanzania. The Livestock Policy Initiative led by the FAO Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) included capacity development on policies, multi-stakeholder forums, sharing of information nodes and the establishment of a livestock unit in IGAD.

41. Institutional strengthening and capacity development for the implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources led to a Subregional Focal Point for West and Central Africa in June 2011 and the “Libreville Declaration”. Technical advice and capacity development were provided to several countries in the SADC region on management of animal genetic resources and recording, the training of national correspondents and connection with the Domestic Animal Diversity Network (DAD NET) West and Central Africa and DAD NET Global. Five countries have reported a review of their regulation.

42. Emergency support was provided to populations in Niger and Burkina Faso with feed, livestock and veterinary drugs. FAO fielded Crisis Management Centre-Animal Health missions in Mozambique, Uganda, and Tanzania after the outbreaks. The Central Emergency Response Fund and other project funding were used for technical support and supplies against Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) in Kenya.

43. FAO, mainly through Emergency Centres for Trans-boundary Animal Diseases (TADs), has supported disease control through inter-sectoral collaborations and partnerships. Countries and RECs have been assisted on African Swine Fever in Central Africa, Cape Verde, Chad, Rift Valley Fever, Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR), and on livestock information for Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Zambia, Swaziland, on prioritizing of TADs, strategies and plan of action in West Africa.

44. Prospects are built around supporting vulnerable producers for improved productivity, more efficient value chains, investments through CAADP, sustainable natural resources use and reduced impact of animal diseases and zoonoses.

Strategic Objective C - Sustainable management and use of fisheries and aquaculture resources

45. Support was provided to increase the capacity, to improve skills of fisheries and aquaculture institutions, focusing on assisting Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs) to work in a harmonized way whilst promoting sustainable resource management. These included the Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic, the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission and their respective Scientific Sub-Committees, and the Committee for the Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture of Africa and its ad hoc working group on Aquaculture Networking the Aquaculture Network for Africa (ANAF).

46. The Ecosystem Approaches to Fisheries and Aquaculture (EAF/EAA) were promoted to enhance sustainable production. EAF/EAA methodologies were introduced through fishery bodies, RECs, and field operations including support for the implementation of the strategic action plan on sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources and food security.

47. Policies and standards facilitating the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) were improved by assisting countries in its implementation, as well as conducting an evaluation of the implementation of CCRF. Concurrently, initiatives were undertaken with sub-regional and regional institutions to combat illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing. FAO also assisted with implementing the Action Plan of the Conference of African Ministers of Fisheries and Aquaculture (CAMFA), with CAMFA priorities, as instruments of AU, being incorporated into the RAF work plan. In parallel and in close collaboration with the NEPAD Agency, FAO secured support for the implementation of the Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa (SFAA) with activities to begin in 2012.

48. Another primary result related to increased production of fish and fish products from the sustainable expansion and intensification of aquaculture. The central product of this set of activities involved the promotion and use of the Special Programme for Aquaculture Development in Africa (SPADA) as the overarching approach to conducting aquaculture initiatives in Africa, with ten model countries adopting elements of SPADA methodologies. A related initiative focused on the “Tilapia Volta” (TIVO) project which aimed at developing and distributing improved tilapia seeds to farmers in the six countries sharing the Volta River Basin whilst identifying and applying appropriate practices to conserve bio-diversity and maintain bio-safety and bio-security.

49. FAOs actions in the fisheries sector continued to be closely aligned with CAADP, whenever possible contributing to the processes of elaborating the Compacts at country level, as well as engaging at sub-regional and regional levels through activities such as ANAF, EAF/EAA, SFAA and SPADA. FAOs activities have also incorporated addressing the implications of climate change.

Strategic Objective D - Improved quality and safety of food at all stages of the food chain

50. Capacity and Institutional support was provided to Cameroon, Cape Verde, Guinea, Angola, Ivory Coast and Tanzania enabling them to review and/or revise their policies and strategies for safe food supply while strengthening institutional frameworks for coordination of food safety management along the food chain.

51. Capacity and Institutional support was provided to Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo, delivering them training on risk analysis. In addition, complementary capacity building activities on the design of risk-based national food control programmes were held in Angola and Côte d’Ivoire. Mali has taken concrete steps to incorporate risk based approaches into its food control programmes.

52. Food inspection systems were reviewed and strengthened in Cameroon and Cape Verde. Substantial work was carried out on imported food inspection in Angola, Guinea and Côte d’Ivoire.

53. FAO assisted in improving the organization of codex-related activities, including a workshop on better coordination and harmonization for East African Community (EAC) member countries. In preparation of the Regional FAO/World Health Organization Coordinating Committee for Africa meeting, a workshop was organized to raise member countries’ awareness on the need of adopting and adapting Codex standards into the national food safety regulations.

54. Technical assistance was provided to Benin, Cameroon, Guinea, Tanzania and Uganda to develop programmes for improved food safety and quality management along the food chain, including specific quality schemes. A food safety module for farmer field schools was produced and used in a regional training in West Africa within the Integrated Production and Pest Management programme. A joint Standards and Trade Development Facility/FAO/ Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit project has been drafted and is currently being implemented with the University of Cape Coast, Ghana, to upgrade the curricula on food safety and quality standards.

55. Ongoing technical support is provided to EAC to finalize their strategic plan protocol. Capacity has been built in Kenya and Uganda for a better understanding of the biosecurity issues in the poultry value chain. In addition, a study and stakeholders workshop on the aflatoxin contamination in the maize value chain was organized in Kenya. In Ghana, FAO and the Ghana Standards Board organized a community-level workshop on mycotoxins prevention and control with the distribution of improved post-harvest drying facilities.

56. A study, which assesses the possibility of creating formal linkages between street food vendors and public/private institutions, was carried out in 4 Western Africa countries and findings are now available for dissemination and use in projects development.

Strategic Objective E - Sustainable management of forests and trees

57. The 17th Session of the African Forestry and Wildlife Commission was duly organized in Brazzaville/Congo with the attendance of thirty-one participants. The recommendations from the meeting were submitted to the 26th Session of the ARC and FAO Committee on Forestry in 2010.

58. Technical assistance, through a TCP project, for the implementation of the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel (GGWSSI) in five countries was provided. By the end of 2011, the draft strategy and plan of implementation for the five countries were ready. The TCP project will conclude in June 2012 with the development of national resource mobilization strategies project proposals. Furthermore, the European Commission and a co-financing partner the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification financially supported the African Union in the implementation of the GGWSSI in eight additional countries.

59. The FAO-hosted National Forest Programme Facility has provided almost 200 small grants to civil society (70 percent) and government organizations (30 percent) in 30 African countries. FAO also produced and disseminated information on Non Wood Forest Products resource to contribute to sustainable forest management in Africa.

60. FAO has published and released its Global Forest Resources Assessment 2010 report, which contains assessment of the forest resource situation in Africa. Furthermore, in 2011 a State of the World's Forest report was released providing an in-depth analysis of the physical, social and economic aspects of forestry in Africa.

61. FAO developed a draft Regional Strategy on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation in 2011, which will be further refined and made available to members in the near future. A first version of a subregional Climate Change Strategy has also been developed for Eastern Africa. Both aim at improving the regional capacity to respond to climate challenges.

62. In collaboration with the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation, a human-wildlife conflict mitigation toolkit was developed and made available to members. FAO also facilitated experience sharing on the subject amongst SADC member countries.

63. Guidelines for the institutionalization and implementation of community based forest management in Sub Saharan Africa (SSA) were provided to strengthen the capacities of member countries in implementing sustainable forest management through the involvement of local communities.

64. The 'Guidelines for Sustainable Forest Management Practices in Dry Lands of sub-Saharan Africa' was published and printed in English and French. It was disseminated to the members in 2011.

65. FAO and IPPC developed a Guide to the implementation of phytosanitary standards in forestry, which seeks promote forest health practices.

Strategic Objective F - Sustainable management of land, water and genetic resources and improved responses to global environmental challenges affecting food and agriculture

66. FAO facilitated capacity building activities and provided technical support to Angola, Mozambique, Sao Tomé, South Africa, Sudan and South Sudan to promote improved policy decision making, strengthening of institutional frameworks, evaluation and mapping, planning and information systems on land use. The support also covered assessment of land degradation, sustainable land management, climate change and insecurity of tenure. Other initiatives included the subregional project on the Kagera River basin covering Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda; the Somali Water, Land and Water Information Management Programme; the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems focusing on three selected heritage sites in Kenya and Tanzania; the FDH-Integrated Natural Resources Management programme which includes the basins of the Gambia, Senegal; and Niger Rivers, and the Global Fires Information Management System.

67. In Southern Africa, several activities have strengthened the adoption of CA, to contribute to sustainable land management and as a climate change adaptation measure. Similar to the TerrAfrica Partnership on Land, the Agriculture Water Partnership for Africa aimed at mobilizing investments in agriculture water management was revived in 2011 and will host its Secretariat at FAO Subregional Office for Eastern Africa in Addis Ababa in 2012.

68. FAO and partner institutions conducted the Research4Life partnership initiative and organized national and regional capacity development activities on using and accessing scientific and technical literature on agriculture and sustainable natural resources management, available on the Access to Global Online Resources in Agriculture portal. As a result, more than 100 research scientists and library/information professionals were trained. FAO also assisted Zambia to establish the Zambia Agricultural Research for Development Information Network.

69. A Memorandum of Understanding for a project on “Climate Smart Agriculture: capturing the synergies among mitigation, adaptation and food security”, was signed in December 2011 between FAO and the European Commission to support Malawi and Zambia in strengthening country capacity to scale-up adoption of climate smart agricultural practices.

Strategic Objective G - Enabling environment for markets to improve livelihoods

70. Capacity building support was provided in East Africa to enhance their marketing, trade and negotiation skills and trainings on analytical and information tools for trade policy development were delivered. Related capacity building activities included creation of the Zanzibar Agricultural Marketing Policy in Tanzania/Zanzibar; development of analytical tools for trade negotiations and trade policy development in Kenya and Sierra Leone; and a series of workshops conducted in collaboration with the Eastern Africa Grains Council and partner institutions to strengthen public-private sector dialogue on the use and impact of trade and related policy interventions in the regional grains market.

71. As a follow-up to High-level conference held in Nigeria in March 2010, the African Agribusiness and Agro-Industries Initiative (3ADI), a programme framework for agribusiness and agro-industries development in Africa, is being piloted at national level in 11 countries in Central, East, Southern and West Africa.

72. In Ethiopia, agribusiness investment has been catalyzed through the promotion of agro-industrial parks, while in Uganda, agribusiness mini-estates have been established in pilot areas to increase agricultural commercialization.

73. An appraisal was carried out in collaboration with ECA on the policy, institutional and developmental context of agribusiness public-private partnerships (PPP) in Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania,

Ghana and Nigeria. A total of 25 PPPs were appraised and five country reports produced. These have formed the basis of the public-private partnership thematic paper prepared for the 27th Africa Regional Conference.

74. Trainings on priority agribusiness themes such as logistics, production planning, contract negotiation, value addition and agricultural policy advocacy were provided to farmer organizations through collaboration with the regional farmer federations for the development of inclusive business models.

75. In Ghana and Sierra Leone, farmer organizations were assisted to develop a high quality sorghum supply chain to substitute imported sorghum in their respective national beverage industries. As a result, several beverage manufacturers in Africa have adopted a strategy to source at least 60 percent of raw materials locally. In 2010, this project was awarded the 2010 World Business and Development Award by the International Chamber of Commerce.

76. In Malawi and Tanzania, FAO implemented a programme to promote and better integrate decent rural employment into national agriculture and rural development strategies, policies and programmes, focusing on gender equality, youth employment and reduction of child labour in agriculture.

Strategic Objective H: Improved food security and better nutrition

77. FAO support was instrumental in helping member countries to accelerate the CAADP formulation process throughout the biennium as already mentioned at page 3.

78. FAO partnered with RECs and partners to host four consultations on volatile prices and a high-level policy learning programmes for decision-makers to explore emerging issues, challenges and future policy options. Peer-learning workshops were also organized to share national experiences on the design, implementation and management of fertilizer subsidy programmes. FAO continued to support the formulation of National Programmes for Food Security, promoting integration with CAADP National Agricultural Investment Programmes and conducted mid-term reviews.

79. In West Africa, a “Water Control for Food Security” project was implemented in five countries and in seven countries, the Commercialisation of Agriculture Programme focused on smallholder value addition activities. FAO also provided technical experts for South-South Cooperation programmes supported by China following requests from numerous countries.

80. FAO initiated preparations for the International Conference on Nutrition 21 years later (ICN+21). It also collaborated with NEPAD and member countries to strengthen incorporation of nutrition in CAADP investment plans. FAO and partner institutions also provided advocacy and assistance in the implementation of Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger, Scaling Up nutrition initiatives, and nutrition education needs assessments. FAO also co-published a food composition book in West Africa and conducted food safety workshops.

81. FAO achieved the following results in support of national agriculture statistics system: increased users’ access to agricultural data and information through FAOSTAT and development of Countrystat; support in formulating and implementing agricultural census, survey projects and capacity building activities; the effective organization of the 22nd African Commission on Agricultural Statistics (AFCAS) session in Ethiopia involving 27 countries and 14 international and regional organizations; and the development of a Global Strategy and Action Plan to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics.

82. FAO supported capacity development in information management and knowledge exchange including the use of social media and knowledge exchange, the development and targeted dissemination of diverse e-learning modules to government ministries and distilling good practices in agricultural production and food security. FAO and the World Food Programme’s Crop and Food Security Assessment Missions continue to monitor national and global market and trade developments through its web portal.

83. FAO collaborated with a variety of key stakeholders including regional entities to monitor food security situations, improve the quality of price information, strengthen early warning, and initiated regional analysis of growth trends and opportunities in the agri-food systems in West Africa. For national partners, FAO provided technical assistance to develop methods and processes for monitoring and analyzing food and agricultural policies, including policy impact analyses. FAO also partnered with global agencies and regional bodies to improve methods and effective application of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification to improve the timeliness, reliability and accessibility of national and regional food security.

Strategic Objective I - Improved preparedness for, and effective response to, food and agricultural threats and emergencies

84. In Southern Africa, crops using CA options showed yield increases of up to 400 percent in smallholder farming systems. In Sierra Leone, the EUFF project equipped 138 Agricultural Business Centres with threshers, hullers, cutters for rice, power tillers, cassava graters and fertilizers. Cash-for-Work initiatives in Somalia and Kenya supported the rehabilitation of irrigation/water canals, soil and water conservation structures.

85. FAO supported the development of agricultural input shop networks in West Africa, farmers' use of electronic voucher systems to purchase inputs in Zambia, the production of quality seeds in Burkina Faso and DRC, and capacity development of farmer organizations. In Eastern and Central Africa, FAO partnered with national and international research and development organizations to fight the Cassava Mosaic and Cassava Brown Streak Disease. Other programmes strengthened the resilience of farmers and pastoralists in Malawi and Mozambique, Uganda, Kenya and Ethiopia. FAO also participated in the establishment of Junior Farmer Field and Life Schools and building the capacity of master trainers.

86. FAO's work in Eastern Africa was essential for protecting the region's livestock export markets, and minimizing conflict and increased access to milk, meat and blood products by vulnerable populations. It led the promotion of Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards and conducted related activities that benefitted 125,000 households in Somalia, 200 Community Animal Health Workers and 10,000 agro-pastoralists in Sudan. A radio-based training programme for small-scale dairy producers reached 1.2 million listeners which resulted in significant reductions in milk spoilage and increases in yields and farmers' incomes.

87. Management Strategic Programme for Southern Africa to facilitate coordination and coherence of work with regional bodies, national and regional committees, and to serve as a platform for monitoring achievements, as well as supporting advocacy and fundraising efforts.

88. In Central Africa and the Horn of Africa, IFAD and FAO co-chaired the Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG) which in 2011, played an instrumental role in mobilizing and advocating for early and appropriate response to the crisis. The FSNWG and leadership of Food Security Clusters was crucial in FAO's work throughout the region in food security assessments and improved coordination. FAO also provided lifesaving information and analysis on food insecurity and malnutrition in Somalia.

Strategic Objective K - Gender equity in access to resources, goods, services and decision-making in the rural areas

89. The 2010-2011 FAO State of the Food and Agriculture (SOFA) publication focused on gender and was entitled "Women in Agriculture: Closing the Gender Gap". The publication was officially launched in Africa in conjunction with the 22nd AFCAS session. The issues raised during the SOFA launch high level panel discussion resulted in the incorporation of four gender-related

recommendations⁵ into the overall AFCAS session's final recommendations, which will serve as the action items of the Commission for the next two years.

90. FAO also participated in the development of country profiles on social and gender inequalities in rural areas, providing a clear and in-depth picture of the existing inequalities beginning in Ghana, Malawi, and Tanzania. The expected results from this process include raised awareness on the existing gender and social differences in the countries studied, and the availability of a practical tool to support the policy designing and strategies formulation to achieve food security and sustainable development.

91. At the subregional level, national actors were trained on socio-economic and gender analysis in Central and Southern Africa. with the aim of improving the inclusion of gender in the formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development projects.

92. During the next biennium, FAO will conduct an organization-wide gender restructuring, which includes fostering decentralization and increased communication of gender issues, hiring a gender team leader at the regional level, and instituting gender focal points at the regional and subregional levels, as well as promoting gender mainstreaming throughout FAO activities. FAO will also continue to develop and disseminate gender country profiles.

Strategic Objective L - Increased and more effective public and private investment in agriculture and rural development

93. capacity development support was provided at national and community level on investment project formulation and management. Three concept notes and four briefings were prepared for SSA countries on innovative financing mechanisms. In September 2010, FAO was admitted into the Leading Group on Innovative Financing.

94. Following the Horn of Africa drought crisis in early 2011, FAO provided support to the IGAD Secretariat to develop a regional Compact and kick-start investment planning processes. FAO has also been providing support to a joint investment programming initiative with the World Bank Group (WBG), United States Agency for International Development and other partners for long-term development of arid and semi-arid lands in the greater Horn of Africa.

95. FAO's work with WBG contributed to them being lead financier of 22 of the projects approved for Africa during the biennium. A substantial agricultural growth project was approved in Ethiopia, a project for the Ugandan Agricultural Technology and Agribusiness Advisory Services and an agricultural productivity project in Mali.

96. Thirteen projects plus an additional financing for an ongoing operations worth USD 566 million were approved for Africa to support projects on marketing infrastructure, value addition and rural finance in Tanzania, rural income through exports in Rwanda, support of value chain development in Burundi, and Senegal for agricultural development and rural entrepreneurship. FAO also continued to facilitate an IFAD field presence in Madagascar, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania and Zambia, where an IFAD Country Officer is based in the respective FAO Office.

⁵ AFCAS gender-related recommendations: **1.** Highly appreciated that FAO organized the Africa launch of the SOFA publication and high level panel discussion on Data Needs to Reduce the Gender Gap in Agricultural Development during the 22nd Session of AFCAS. **2.** stressed that member countries increase their efforts for political and economic empowerment of women, starting with improving women's access to education, including raising societal awareness on the need to reduce gender inequality, and promote the use of multi-dimensional/sector approaches to reduce the gender gap in agriculture. **3.** recommended that FAO provides the necessary training and training materials allowing for enhanced analysis of available gender related sex-disaggregated data, providing policymakers with the required gender information on the basis of which they can make relevant policy decisions; **4.** recommended that member countries ensure that gender relevant indicators are prepared at the start of all development initiatives, indicating data requirements – both quantitative and qualitative – to be satisfied by national data collection exercises.

97. Successful collaboration has also been carried out with other financiers including the African Development Bank (AfDB), Banque Ouest Africaine de Développement, and Islamic Development Bank.

98. Under the FAO-Global Environment Facility (GEF) three regional projects were initiated in 2010. FAO conducted projects in Botswana and Mozambique to assist them in developing improved Persistent Organic Pollutant pesticide management; conservation of biodiversity in mangrove ecosystems in Cameroon; adaptation to climate change in the agriculture sector in Mali; as well as a regional project for conservation of wildlife and sustainable management of bush meat, combat of land degradation, sustainable watershed management and management of shared large marine ecosystems using GEF grants. By the end of 2011, FAO was supporting country partners in the design of more than ten new FAO-GEF projects for Africa.

Functional Objective X - Effective Collaboration with member states and stakeholders

99. FAO's support to the Member Countries has been provided and strengthened, empowering the Country Offices' capacity for a better delivery of FAO Field Programme in the Africa Region. The overall planning and coordination of Regular programme resources allocated to the Region has improved showing a more strategic link between resources allocated and Regional Priorities.

100. In the area of capacity building and development, several training have been carried out as described at page 6.

101. A Regional Resources Mobilization Strategy was developed and approved for implementation as of 2012.

102. The FAO overall field programme in Africa achieved increased delivery during the biennium 2010-2011 compared to 2008-2009 biennium. The opening balance for the field programme in the region increased by 15 percent from 2010 to 2011.

Functional Objective Y – Efficient and effective administration

103. The Regional Office for Africa strengthened its effectiveness, streamlining its administrative workflows within the three Offices based in Accra and reducing substantially the time and the resulting workload related to the processing of all administrative transactions.

104. Information tools have been developed to help in the orientation of new colleagues and visiting officials to the Regional Office for Africa.

105. The working environment (Premises) and the connectivity systems have been substantially improved in the Regional Office enabling Staff to work in a more conducive and productive working set-up, facilitating team work and better linkages and relationship with Colleagues at HQ and all Decentralized Offices, towards a results based culture.