

DRAFT PROJECT

**REGIONAL PROGRAMME FOR FOOD SECURITY
(RPFS)**

IN MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE

**COMMON MARKET FOR EASTERN AND SOUTHERN
AFRICA
(COMESA)**

**Burundi, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt,
Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia,
Rwanda, Seychelles, Swaziland, Sudan, Uganda, Zambia and
Zimbabwe**

**Prepared with the collaboration of the Food and Agriculture
Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**

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COMMON MARKET FOR EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA (COMESA)

REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL TRADE PROMOTION AND FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMME

Donor:	European Union
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Project Summary:

Over the years, COMESA, established as one of six regional economic groupings constituting the building blocks of the AEC, has achieved considerable success in fostering economic integration and co-operation among its member states. Recently it launched a Free Trade Area. However, despite its progress and the considerable potential that exists for enhanced intra-COMESA exchanges of goods and services, agricultural trade among the member states remains insignificant. Numerous factors are militating against sustainable growth of agricultural trade among COMESA member states. These include low technical expertise, poor infrastructure, non-supportive policy environment and the resultant wide-spread poverty, as 69.5% of the population in the sub-region are living below the poverty line. This programme, therefore, aims at addressing the most critical constraints for regional agricultural trade promotion and economic co-operation keeping in perspective the attainment of sustainable regional, national and household food security. In particular the project aims at (a) Removing technical, policy and legislation constraints related to sanitary and phytosanitary issues; (b) Improving food safety and quality control systems, (c) Facilitating the harmonisation of member states' macroeconomic, trade and agricultural policies, (d) Developing institutional and technical capacities for agricultural trade facilitation and market integration among COMESA member states and beyond, (e) Developing mechanisms and programmes to facilitate adjustments to new market conditions and opportunities for food products and agricultural commodities, and (f) Developing a comprehensive agricultural development strategy to enhance agricultural production and productivity. An important contribution of the Programme will also be improving the institutional capacity of the COMESA Secretariat and its member states in the area of agriculture and trade policy analysis in general, and in particular those underpinning the WTO Agreement on Agriculture.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AEC	African Economic Community
ATS	Advisory Technical Service
CAP	Common Agricultural Policy
CET	Common External Tariff
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CTA	Chief Technical Advisor
CTN	Common Tariff Nomenclature
EU	European Union
FANR	Food Agriculture and Natural Resources Sector (SADC)
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FTA	Free Trade Area
HACCP	Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IPPC	International Plan Protection Convention
IPPSD	Investment Promotion and Private Sector Development Division
ITC	International Trade Centre
MIS	Market Information System
NAFTA	North American Free Trade Agreement
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OAU	Organization of African Unity
PC	Project Coordinator
PPER	Programme Performance Evaluation Report
PTA	Preferential Trade Agreement
RPFS	Regional Programme for Food Security
RTA	Regional Trade Agreement
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SAFP	Policy Assistance Unit (FAO)
SPFS	Special Programme for Food Security
SPS	Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures
STS	Support for Technical Services
TBT	Technical Barriers to Trade
TCA	Policy Assistance Division (FAO)
TCP	Technical Cooperation Programme (FAO)
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
WTO	World Trade Organization

REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL TRADE PROMOTION AND FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMME

A. GENERAL BACKGROUND

A.1 The Context

1. In recent years, efforts to promote regional integration in Africa have been increasingly underpinned by what is called "new regionalism". This new approach to regionalism stresses the potential gains from reduced administrative and transaction costs and other barriers to trade rather than static gains from trade through trade diversion or import-substitution. The expected benefit from new regionalism show up in increased inter-firm competition and a reduction of production costs and monopoly rents. There is a renewed optimism that this new approach may have greater chances of success than in the past. The EU, through the Cotonou Agreement is giving these initiatives great support. The New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) also follows the same line of action. It is expected that the increased intra-regional trade that will result from regional integration will have beneficial effects on food security. Furthermore, it will engender rapid economic growth and employment generation, through diversification in agricultural production and appropriate allocation of resources, according to the existing comparative advantage.

2. COMESA is part of the Pan-African vision of economic integration. Following adoption by African leaders of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos in 1980, the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) formulated the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community (AEC). The OAU Heads of State and Government signed it in Abuja in 1991 and it entered into force in May 1994. The AEC is to be established in six stages over a span of thirty-four years, leading to full economic integration in 2025. COMESA is one of six regional economic groupings constituting the building blocks of the AEC. COMESA's vision is thus closely tied to this continental perspective. However, it represents a diversity of countries and overlaps with other Regional Trade Agreements (RTA).

3. The total population of the COMESA¹ countries was estimated in 1998 at 380 million. It has been growing at an average rate of 2.5 % per annum. Population is mostly rural and subsists primarily on agriculture. It is characterised by the prevalence of poverty. The 'youth' (ages 18 to 39) comprise more than 50% of the total population, but the average age of the rural population tends to be higher than that of urban population, due to rural-urban migration. The region is characterised by a high level of HIV/AIDS infection, which impacts considerably on agricultural labour, farming patterns and land use, as well as technology transfer and knowledge systems. The labour market however shows a substantial reservoir of both skilled and unskilled

¹ Membership of COMESA in 2002 includes: Burundi, Comoros, D.R. Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, Swaziland, Sudan, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe: Figures presented also account for Angola and Tanzania who have withdrawn their membership from COMESA after 1998.

labour while the region is rich in untapped natural resources. The total surface area, estimated at more than 12.89 million km². Sixty per cent of the area is well endowed with rivers and lakes, which could jointly be exploited for water transport, hydroelectric power, irrigation, and fisheries.

4. Yet the region's economic performance has been sluggish in recent years, with little sign of dramatic change as the 21st Century commenced. The COMESA grouping includes fifteen of the twenty-three least developing countries in Africa. Nearly all human development indicators show either a stagnation or, in some cases, a decline. Projections for year 2000 by the United Nations and the World Bank indicated that half the population of Africa would be living below the poverty line, i.e. on less than US\$ 1 per day. The projections for the COMESA sub-region had even been worse: 69.5 % of the people, or 240 million out of a total population of 345 million, living on less than US\$1.00 per day in 1996. According to the Human Development Report for 1998 published by the United Nations Development Programme, 14 out of 20 COMESA member States fell in the low income category, 4 in the medium income category, and only 2 in the high income category. While the COMESA region thus boasts favourable endowments in resources and labour, and a potentially large market, the development cycle of investment, employment, growth, trade and market expenditures is still weak. Output growth over the last few decades was remarkably disproportionate to the endowments. The situation is further aggravated by the HIV/AIDS pandemic facing the region.

5. The objective of COMESA is to remove the structural and institutional weaknesses in member States by pooling their resources together in order to sustain their development efforts either individually or collectively. In this respect COMESA's agenda has been to deepen and broaden the integration process among member States through:

Adoption of more comprehensive trade liberation measures such as the complete elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade and elimination of customs duties;

- Free movement of capital, labour, goods and the right of establishment, through removal of controls and promotion of standardised technical specifications and quality control
- Standardising taxation rates (including value added tax and excise duties), and conditions regarding industrial co-operation, particularly on company laws, intellectual property rights and investment laws;
- Adoption of a Common External Tariff (CET); and
- Promotion of the adoption of a single currency and the establishment of a Monetary Union.

6. COMESA, and its predecessor the PTA, made significant achievements in the area of trade, customs, transport, development finance and technical co-operation. Impressive progress has also been made in the productive sectors of industry and agriculture. Trade facilitation and trade liberalisation measures are bearing fruit. Intra-COMESA trade has grown from US\$1,624 million in 1991 to an estimated US\$ 4.2 billion in 1998, and studies demonstrate there is potential for it to grow further. The COMESA member countries vary greatly in population, growth potential and level of economic development. The population size ranges from over 60 million in Egypt and Ethiopia to about 500,000 in the Comoros. There is a stark difference in natural

resources endowments and climate, level of technological development and human resource base among COMESA member countries, which could provide a fertile ground for increased regional trade and cooperation. The challenge is to exploit this potential further.

7. COMESA has established a number of institutions such as the PTA Trade and Development Bank, the COMESA ClearingHouse, the COMESA Re-insurance Company and the COMESA Leather and Leather Products Institute in order to increase investment, facilitate payments and enhance trade among member states. In the telecommunications sector, special emphasis has been placed on network development to enable direct telecommunication links through a more reliable infrastructure in order to avoid third country transit systems, which has proved to be very costly. In October 2000, COMESA declared its long awaited Free Trade Area.

8. The above achievements notwithstanding, increased intra-COMESA trade and improved food security in the sub-region will not be attained unless the bottlenecks related to increased agricultural production for market facilitation and economic integration are adequately addressed. These are (a) inadequate technical capacity, policies and legislation related to sanitary and phytosanitary issues; (b) lack of harmonisation of member states' macroeconomic, trade and agricultural policies to ensure transparency and provide level playing ground for private sector and government institutions involved in agricultural trade activities, (c) inadequate institutional, technical and policy measures for trade facilitation and market integration among COMESA member states and beyond, and (d) lack of institutional capacity within the COMESA Secretariat and its member states in the area of agriculture and trade policy analysis, and the issues underpinning the WTO Agreement on Agriculture.

A.2 Host Institution's Strategy

9. COMESA is an all-embracing development organisation that promotes co-operation in all economic and social Sectors among its member states. However, due to resources constraints, the first COMESA Authority of Heads of State and Government, at its meeting held in Lilongwe, Malawi in 1994, adopted the following five priorities to be the basis of COMESA's focus for the next five to ten years:

- Significant and sustained increases in productivity in industry, manufacturing, processing and agro-industries to provide competitive goods as the basis for cross-border trade and to create more wealth, more jobs and more incomes for the people of the region;
- Increase agricultural production, with special emphasis on the joint development of lake and river basins so as to reduce dependence on rain-fed agriculture and new programmes on food security at the provincial or district levels, national and regional levels;
- Development of transport and communications infrastructures and services with special emphasis on linking the rural areas with the rest of the economy in each country as well as linking the member States;

- New programmes for trade promotion, trade expansion and trade facilitation especially geared to the private sector, so as to enable the business community to take maximum advantage of the Common Market; and
- Development of comprehensive, reliable and up to date information data bases covering all sectors of the economy including industry, energy, environment, agriculture, transport, communications, investment and finance, trade, health and human resources to form the basis for sound investment decisions and macro-economic policy formulation and programming.

10. One of COMESA's strategic objectives is attaining sustainable regional, national and household food security. In this regard, the organisation strives to complement and reinforce the activities of the other two sub-regional bodies i.e. IGAD and SADC and avoid duplication of efforts. In 1994 COMESA organised a workshop in Kampala to discuss the findings and recommendations of a report, prepared with technical assistance from FAO, on its role in the development and implementation of regional food security strategies and programmes. The workshop in which representatives of IGAD and SADC participated, agreed to assign COMESA the implementation and a lead role in, *inter alia*, the following areas:

- Control of plant and animal diseases and pests;
- Pest and disease monitoring;
- Food security information dissemination;
- Collection, analysis and dissemination of food market information;
- Policies and joint position on food aid;
- Food quality and safety standards; and
- Promotion of exchange of experiences in research, extension, special action programmes, food trade, marketing and food reserve management.

11. In the short term COMESA is concentrating its efforts on trade promotion and regional integration. This will be achieved through policy and programme initiatives aimed at removing tariff and non-tariff barriers. Furthermore in 1990 PTA/ COMESA launched a Monetary Harmonisation Programme. This was to be implemented in four stages. The first stage (1992-1996) was expected to achieve liberalisation of trade and foreign exchange market, and macro economic stability by adopting prudent fiscal and monetary policies. Stage 2 (1997-2000) was expected to achieve limited currency convertibility and the formation of an informal exchange rate union where member states' currencies are fully convertible with each other and all restrictions on current transactions are removed. In stage 3 (2000-2020), exchange rates are to fluctuate within a given margin while Central Banks remain independent but monetary policy are coordinated by a common monetary institution. In the last stage (2020 onwards), one common currency will be used, issued by a common monetary authority. Progress however has been slow and the target for monetary union is now shifted to 2025.

12. COMESA has made notable progress in the establishment of a Common tariff nomenclature (CTN) and a Common External Tariff (CET), on harmonising customs procedures and legislation, adopting the WTO customs valuation code and on the administrative aspects of a customs union. COMESA has also rules of origin in operation which apply to all tariff lines and which are based on either wholly produced, value added or change in tariff heading criteria. Control on the issuance of certificates of origin and validation procedures is in operation.

A.3 Institutional Structure

13. COMESA consists of four technical divisions in addition to the Administration and Finance Division. The four technical divisions are (a) Investment Promotion and Private Sector Development Division (IPPSD), (b) Infrastructure Development, (c) Monetary and Trade Division and (d) Legal Affairs. They are headed by directors. In addition COMESA has two units: the Women in Business Unit, which provides advisory support to women in business opportunities, and the Technical Assistance Co-ordination Unit. The division directors and unit coordinators report to the Secretary General and his assistant. There is a weekly management meeting of division directors, unit coordinators and the Secretary General and his assistant. The meeting provides a forum for discussing inter-divisional issues and coordination of activities.

14. The technical co-ordination of inter-COMESA activities is done through the Technical Committees composed of representatives of the member states designated for purpose. The committees meet as often as necessary for the proper discharge of their functions and determine their own Rules and Procedures. They are the Committees on:

- (a) Administrative and Budgetary Matters,
- (b) Agriculture,
- (c) Trade and Customs,
- (d) Legal Affairs
- (e) Transport and Communications
- (f) Comprehensive Information Systems;
- (g) Energy;
- (h) Industry,
- (i) Labour, Human Resources and Social and Cultural Affairs;
- (j) Natural Resources and Environment;
- (k) Tourism and Wildlife; and
- (l) Finance and Monetary Affairs.

15. According to the Treaty for the establishment of COMESA, the Council may establish such additional Committees as may be necessary for the attainment of objectives of the Treaty. In this context there may be a need to establish a Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Issues to deal with the ever-increasing importance of the subject for increased intra-COMESA and international trade on agricultural products.

16. COMESA has also a Court of Justice to ensure that member states adhere to law in the interpretation and application of the Treaty. It has the jurisdiction to adjudicate upon all matters that may be referred to it pursuant to the Treaty.

17. The Technical Committees meet annually and they report to their respective council of ministers, who in turn report to the Governing body of COMESA who are the heads of state and government.

18. The Regional Agricultural Trade Promotion and Food Security Programme will fall under the IPPSD division. The division has five regular staff, including the director and two project staff. The division has also two vacant positions, but a budgetary constraint is delaying their recruitment. The staffing situation in the other divisions is similar to that in IPPSD. The meeting of the Committee on Agriculture will provide the forum for discussing key programme outputs, which require formal agreement of member states before they are endorsed.

A.4 Prior and Ongoing Assistance

19. In 1992 FAO approved a Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) project to assist COMESA in formulating a regional food security programme. This project identified a number of priority intervention areas for enhancing the food supply situation in member countries. They still remain valid. However, they have not been systematically addressed for lack of financial resources. FAO also provided technical support to COMESA in the area of fish quality control through a project entitled Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) and funded under the Common Fund for Commodities. This support lasted three years starting in 1997.

20. COMESA is also receiving assistance from the European Union under the Standards, Quality, Metrology and Testing project, which became operational in 1999. The project was initially approved for three years and further extension is being envisaged. The focus of the project is on food quality and safety control. COMESA also received financial and technical assistance from United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to organise a training course on sanitary and phytosanitary issues. This training was organised in 2001 and officers from plant protection and veterinary services attended it from almost all the COMESA member states.

21. In the area of market facilitation, the International Trade Centre (ITC) provided support to COMESA through a project which run from 1986 to 1999, and helped COMESA to collect information from the member states on tradable commodities, both agricultural and non-agricultural. The most valuable output of this project was a directory of tradable commodities by countries, which was made available to all member states. It is now time to update this directory.

22. In January 2002, FAO approved a TCP project with the objective of: assisting COMESA in reviewing the member states agricultural policies and strategies and assess their implications for the promotion of regional trade and co-operation; improving the COMESA Agricultural Strategy; and assessing the capacity of the COMESA Secretariat and member countries to address the policies militating against safe and smooth regional trade and co-operation. This project has a duration of nine months.

23. COMESA has a draft regional agricultural strategy, which was presented and discussed during the meeting of the COMESA Committee on Agriculture in June 2000. The meeting recommended that this document should be revised to focus on those areas that are better addressed at regional rather than at national level. There is a provision in the above-mentioned TCP project to improve this strategy, but this will certainly require further refinement and periodic updating in the future. Furthermore,

once the strategy is finalised, there will be a need to formulate an action plan/programme for its operationalisation.

B. PROGRAMME RATIONALE/JUSTIFICATION

B.1 Problems to be addressed

24. Agricultural trade among COMESA member states remains limited. In 1998, the value of intra-COMESA trade was estimated at US\$4.2 billion, which compares to an estimated US\$58.8 billion of trade between COMESA states and the rest of the world. Even when accounting for informal cross-border trade occurring between COMESA states, intra-grouping trade remains low and far below potential, and compared to what is observed in other regions², although it has started to evolve favourably in recent years. The constraints that are most often mentioned to explain low levels of intra-regional agricultural trade are:

- Ineffective phytosanitary and zoosanitary systems which are unable to ensure the control of transboundary crop and livestock pests and diseases;
- Lack of harmonisation and implementation of quality standards for food and agricultural commodities;
- Weak harmonisation of macro-economic and sectoral policies, including reluctance on behalf of some countries to open up borders and reducing or removing import tariffs to participate fully in the regional grouping;
- Insufficient information available to operators on investment and market opportunities and conditions;
- Limited ability of national agricultural sectors to respond rapidly to new market conditions and opportunities;
- Lack of a coherent and sound regional agricultural development strategy able to increase supply of agricultural commodities; and
- Existence of numerous trade barriers and poor infrastructure which increase trading and transport costs.

25. In addition, many experts doubt that increased trade will automatically result in improved food security, particularly at household level, an objective that has high priority in COMESA. The constraint here is that less favoured and food insecure groups often only participate in the market in a limited way and have a low capacity to take benefit from market opportunities created by expanded trade flows.

26. Many of the problems listed above are best solved at the national level, through national programmes identified, formulated and led by local authorities and stakeholders. There are however specific constraints for which a regional approach is required and most appropriate in order to find suitable solutions. The envisaged programme aims at addressing this category of issues, insofar as they fall within the domain where COMESA has a lead role and to the extent that they contribute to the COMESA objectives described earlier (see paragraphs 4 and 9).

Lack of effective phytosanitary and zoosanitary systems

27. Lack of effective phytosanitary and zoosanitary systems are constraints to intra-regional (and international) trade as they prevent a fluid flow of animal and crop products. Trading partners (both regional and international) are not confident enough

² In 1993, intra-regional trade as share of total foreign trade represented 69.9% in Western Europe, 49.7% in Asia, 19.4% in Latin America and 8.4% in Africa.

to let products come into their territory when they fear that there may be high risks of importing pests and diseases in the process. This constraint is even more acute in the case of trade of living organisms (animals, plant and seeds) and can have considerable implications on the implementation of diversification programmes. Imported pests and diseases, such as for example the larger grain borer, imported from Central America, have destroyed vast amounts of agricultural outputs in the region. Periodic outbreaks of foot and mouth disease and other livestock diseases such as Contagious Bovine Pleuro-Pneumonia (CBPP) and Rift Valley Fever, have seriously affected livestock off-take rates. This situation has led to the imposition by some countries of periodic bans on imports of grains and livestock and livestock products. This has had considerable implications for agricultural producers in exporting countries and trading partners in importing countries. Despite being members of WTO, most of the COMESA states have not been able yet to implement the SPS agreement.

28. The weakness of phytosanitary and zoosanitary systems is due to five main reasons:

- Phytosanitary and zoosanitary legislation and regulations are outdated and not in conformity with the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and the World Animal Health Organization (OIE) or the rules specified in the SPS and TBT agreements signed by countries in the framework of the World Trade Organisation (WTO);
- Phytosanitary and zoosanitary procedures are insufficiently specified and respected;
- Experts working in national institutions responsible for managing phytosanitary and zoosanitary systems are not conversant with modern procedures of phytosanitary and zoosanitary control (border and field inspection procedures; identification and diagnosis of pests and diseases; pest risk analysis and surveillance; epidemiology; quarantine procedures) or do not have the required equipment and facilities to perform their tasks effectively;
- Absence of information on phytosanitary and zoosanitary matters and poor networking capabilities to facilitate exchange of existing information;
- Absence of required regional mechanisms for cooperating and coordinating national systems.

29. From this brief diagnosis, it appears that to address this constraint, the programme will have to: increase the capacity of COMESA states to update their legislation and regulations; help to work out procedures and cross-border control strategies; increase capacity of national institutions; support the development of regional referral laboratories; facilitate early warning networking, exchange of information and cooperation within COMESA. This approach will have the advantage to serve the development of both intra-regional and international trade by helping COMESA states to achieve phytosanitary and zoosanitary systems which conform to international standards. This will also require raising the awareness of decision-makers on this issue.

Lack of harmonisation and implementation of quality standards for food and agricultural commodities

30. This constraint hampers the development of trade by increasing the risk of food consignments being rejected by importing countries for non conformity with

national or international food standards and regulations. This can result in outright impossibility to trade and in reduced export earnings with negative consequences on development programmes and food security. The increasing importance of this issue is driven mostly by the related WTO Agreements on Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures which set the rules for international trade in food and agricultural products. These agreements themselves are also the result of an increasing consciousness of the need to ensure consumer protection.

31. The problem is the result of four main factors:

- Lack of mutual recognition of food control procedures and certification systems, including accreditation of laboratories by COMESA member states;
- Lack of updated and harmonised laws, regulations and standards governing food safety and quality;
- Lack of awareness of food hygiene principles and quality assurance systems by operators in the food chain (food producers, handlers, processors and traders);
- Poor administration and management of regulatory food control procedures, including compliance and monitoring activities;
- Lack of technical skills in risk analysis, food imports and exports certification and food quality and safety analysis.

32. This situation requires the programme to provide support to COMESA member states in adopting and implementing standards based on the *Codex Alimentarius*. This will facilitate reaching agreement on harmonisation of standards for selected priority products in the Sub-region while also easing access of COMESA products to world markets. This will require: improving national capacities for drafting or improving existing food laws (including standards) and developing food control systems based on risk-based procedures; training of trainers (further training to be pursued in the framework of national programmes); strengthening of existing network and information systems on food quality and safety; and establishment of fully recognised referral food and fisheries laboratories in the region.

Weak harmonisation of policies

33. The establishment of the COMESA Free Trade Area (FTA) on the 31st October, 2000 has been an important step towards creating a conducive policy environment creating a level playing field for regional trade development. By early 2002, the FTA has been endorsed by 10 member states, and an eleventh member has developed the required legal texts and will join in 2004. However, even once all tariffs among COMESA countries have been removed - the principle of this removal has already been agreed -, phytosanitary and zoosanitary systems harmonised and common food standards implemented, countries may still try and gain some competitive advantage through specific domestic policies, and thus trigger protective measures from their trading partners. These advantages could arise from:

- Macro-economic policies, in particular the level of the exchange rate and taxation policy;
- Sector policies such as the payment of subsidies on agricultural inputs, agricultural outputs and on the provision of agricultural services, or special assistance to specific target groups.

34. Besides, there are several issues that could best be handled through common regional mechanisms or through co-operative mechanisms for which the institutional framework has not yet been sufficiently developed. Some of these areas have already been explicitly identified, where COMESA has been given a lead role, such as: research and extension; market information; food aid policy; strategic food reserves; and food security for refugees.

35. COMESA member states have already taken the commitment to develop a Common Agricultural Policy in 2000 and the Secretariat has requested technical support for this purpose. The development of such a common policy will require: a review of existing policies (the on-going review carried out under FAO/TCP assistance will need to be updated periodically); negotiating and agreeing on the domain and content of the common policy, the phasing of its implementation, the institutional framework for its implementation and monitoring; strengthening capacities of member states and of the Secretariat in policy analysis, formulation and implementation.

Inadequate information systems on investment and market opportunities and conditions

36. Given COMESA's ultimate objective of economic integration, as a sub-region, and in the framework of establishing African Union, facilitating mobility of capital and commodities from one member state to another is an area that requires particular attention. For these movements to take place, private sector and private trading agencies need information on the supply, demand and pricing situation on a country by country basis, including the cost of freight and insurance to enable them make an informed decision as to what to import from where and what to export where. They also need information on investment opportunities as well as on prevailing investment policies.

37. This calls for the development and maintenance of a comprehensive market information system (MIS) within the COMESA Secretariat accessible to all interested parties through the Internet and other means of information dissemination such as Trade Points. In this respect the first and crucial activity is to undertake studies in all member states on the supply, demand and price situation for the major traded commodities. This information should then be reviewed and verified before it is inserted in the COMESA market information database. The MIS should also include information on other important parameters such as tariff and non-tariff barriers by country and by commodity. Such information should be collected on a regular basis.

38. The establishment of an MIS requires capacity building both within the COMESA Secretariat itself and in each member state. The information that is centrally stored in COMESA must be generated by or in consultation with Bureaux of Statistics in each member state or other national institutions involved in the production and dissemination of trade-related statistics. However, most of the national institutions are weak and COMESA's technical capacity and logistic facilities need to be improved considerably. Similarly, there is a need for improving the technical skills of member states in the analysis, formulation and implementation of agricultural diversification policies and programmes to expand the basket of exportable commodities.

Limited ability of national agricultural sectors to respond rapidly to new market conditions and opportunities, particularly in the case of less favoured and food insecure groups

39. While it is generally accepted that economic integration and the consequent development of trade flows is favourable to growth and national food security, it also requires countries to adjust. Producers of imported goods will face increasing competition from producers of other countries and will have to improve their productivity or to diversify production. Producers will also have to adjust the quality of their output up to the level of the newly agreed standards if they want to continue to take part in the market and if their food security situation is not to deteriorate. Such adjustments require investment and access to technical and financial services (research, extension, and credit) which are often not sufficiently available.

40. During the period of adjustment, some countries may also face serious financial problems resulting from changes and fluctuations of import outlays and export earnings.

41. In addition, it is likely that less favoured and food insecure groups would fail to benefit from the integration process. In COMESA states, most of the food insecure live in rural areas and earn their livelihoods from agriculture. They are mostly subsistence farmers, living on small farms, who produce only occasionally for the market. The small size and the unreliability of the surplus they may sell to the market – when it exists - is not very attractive for traders who prefer to deal mostly with larger and more dependable producers. Besides, the very subsistence nature of these farms and the difficulty they have from benefiting from agricultural services (extension, credit, inputs, etc.) - particularly when they are headed by women - make it difficult for them to respond to any additional demand that may occur on the market because of increased trade flows. Lastly, the low level of organisation of producers puts them in an unfavourable position on the market, when they can access it.

42. The problems listed can certainly mostly be addressed by national programmes. Experiences should be exchanged and lessons learned from national special programmes for food security. There is however also a regional dimension to possible solutions to these issues. For example, COMESA envisages to establish a Trade Fund for compensating losers in the integration process, from the proceeds of the Common External Tariff (after the implementation of the Customs Union planned for 2004) and from donor contributions. The initial concept was to use this fund to finance infrastructure development in member states, and possibly for Balance of Payment support. It could also be argued that a proportion should be used to promote food security. Other compensatory mechanisms and support to adjustment of agricultural sectors to the changing environment could benefit from assistance envisaged under the Marrakech Decision. All these initiatives would have to be closely coordinated with on going national Poverty Reduction Programmes.

Lack of a coherent and sound regional agricultural development strategy

43. In the context of fulfilling the priority mandate of increasing agricultural production in member states assigned to it by the first meeting of the COMESA Authority of Heads of State and Government, COMESA had prepared a draft Agriculture Development Strategy. The draft document was presented in the meeting of the Committee on Agriculture in 2000, and it was recommended that the document be reviewed substantially to focus on activities of regional dimension which could benefit from economies of scale if implemented at a sub-regional level.

44. The assistance to be provided under this programme is therefore aimed at updating/revising the strategy to provide clearer indications of the strategic interventions that are better addressed under the auspices of COMESA. The revised Strategy will also be instrumental in implementing the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and should indicate the institutional framework for its implementation as well as an analysis of its feasibility. The assistance will provide resources for the organisation of a workshop to provide a forum for discussing the Strategy.

B.2 Expected outcome of the technical assistance provided.

45. Six major outcomes are expected from the technical assistance provided.

Improved phytosanitary and zoosanitary systems developed

46. The envisaged technical assistance will result in more effective phytosanitary and zoosanitary systems through:

- Increased capacity of COMESA states to update legislation and regulations, bringing them up to international standards (IPPC and SPS/TBT agreements);
- Increased capacity of national institutions in managing modern phytosanitary and zoosanitary systems using modern procedures and equipment;
- Establishment of regional referral laboratories (two each for phytosanitary and zoosanitary analysis);
- Improved information on phytosanitary and zoosanitary matters based on active regional networks;
- Effective regional coordination and cooperation mechanisms in the framework of COMESA.

Harmonised and improved quality standards for food and agricultural commodities

47. This programme will result in harmonised and improved quality standards for food and agricultural commodities through:

- Increased capacity of COMESA states to updated and harmonise laws and regulations (including standards) related to food safety and quality, based on *Codex Alimentarius* standards, guidelines and recommendations;
- Trainers able to train others in food quality assurance systems and in administration and management of food control programmes, including food safety risk analysis, food compositional and contaminants analysis, food inspection and import and export certification;
- Improved information on food quality and safety based on an active regional network;
- Establishment of regional referral laboratories: one for major food constituents (food additives, micro-nutrients) and contaminants (pesticide residues, heavy metals, mycotoxins, natural toxins, etc...) and one for fisheries products analysis and control.

Common Agricultural Policy developed

48. Technical assistance provided under the programme will result in the development of a Common Agricultural Policy for COMESA (including phasing of its implementation and institutional framework for implementation and monitoring) approved by the COMESA governing bodies and endorsed by member states, and in an increased capacity of member states and of the COMESA Secretariat in food and agricultural policy analysis, formulation and implementation.

Effective Market Information System developed, and mechanism and capacity for its maintenance and dissemination established

49. By the end of the programme, the technical assistance provided will have resulted in the establishment of a comprehensive market information system for enhanced and sustainable agricultural trade development within COMESA member states and beyond. The database will include information on the supply, demand and price situation for the major tradable agricultural products in all the member states; market opportunities for exportable commodities produced in COMESA member states, that can be imported by developed countries under preferential and non-reciprocal trade agreements; tariff and non-tariff barriers in all member states; and investment policies and opportunities in each member state. The COMESA web-site will include a market and investment information system and member countries will be assisted to establish or upgrade their own web-site on the same.

50. To ensure the development and adequate maintenance of the information system, the staff of the COMESA Secretariat will be equipped with technical skills and enhanced computer facilities. Furthermore, COMESA's intra-member states trade monitoring will be strengthened and the capacities of member countries will be enhanced in the area of early warning, market and price policy analysis, demand and supply projections as well as in the development of market information system and reporting.

51. The technical assistance will also improve the technical capacity of member states through the implementation of a training programme for government officials in the analysis and formulation of agricultural diversification policies and strategies. To sustain and deepen member states' technical capacity, a network among institutions involved in agricultural marketing policy formulation and monitoring of agricultural trade will be established. Furthermore, the assistance will result in the development of a programme to promote key export crops in member states with the view to diversifying and expanding the basket of agricultural export commodities in member states. This will be supported by the establishment of Trade Points in member states.

Mechanisms and programmes to facilitate the adjustment of the agricultural sector of member states to new market conditions and opportunities

52. Technical assistance provided by the programme will formulate compensatory mechanisms to facilitate adjustment of the agricultural sectors of COMESA states and increase food security based on the envisaged Trade Fund and the utilisation of the facilities available under the Marrakech Decision. These mechanisms will guide the implementation, at national level, of programmes to support diversification of production, quality improvement of production of smallholders and increased participation of food insecure smallholders in the market. Experiences will also be exchanged and lessons drawn from the national special programmes for food security.

A comprehensive and technically feasible COMESA Agricultural Strategy developed

53. Another important outcome of the technical assistance will be the updating and elaboration of the existing regional agriculture development strategy, considering the mandate and objectives of COMESA as well as the areas that are better addressed

at sub-regional level than at national level. The assistance will help to formulate this programme through a consultative process with active participation of member states and to have it endorsed during a workshop that will be organised for representatives of member states or during the annual meeting of the COMESA Committee on Agriculture.

B.3 Target Beneficiaries

54. The direct and immediate beneficiary is the COMESA Secretariat who will be strengthened in terms of human resources and logistic facilities to implement its mandate of promoting regional economic integration and trade facilitation among its member states. The secondary beneficiaries are national government institutions who will have their capacities strengthened in the analysis, formulation and implementation of agricultural and trade policies with the view to enhancing national economic growth and food security. Furthermore, national institutions will be also strengthened, through training, in the establishment of market information systems, sanitary and phytosanitary measures and food quality standards, participation in multilateral trade negotiations in the framework of WTO, collection and dissemination of market information and trade statistics.

55. The ultimate and main beneficiaries, however, will be the population in the sub-region, particularly the vulnerable and food insecure groups and those who depend on agriculture for their basic livelihoods. These groups include commercial and smallholder producers, private trade traders and agro-processors, and consumers. Certainly there will be gainers and losers with increased regional integration. The programme envisages the design and approval of stabilisation and compensation schemes to mitigate the adverse effects of trade liberalisation and facilitate the adaptation of potential losers to the new economic environment. Enhanced intra-COMESA and international trade, and the removal of bottlenecks for factor mobility across the borders of member states are also expected to result in increased food and agriculture production and productivity, employment opportunities and improved stability of production which are all essential ingredients of an improved national and household food security.

B.4 Programme Strategy

56. The programme will be coordinated by the Investment Promotion and Private Sector Development Division of COMESA with support of international experts. It will strive to ensure full involvement of the member states in addressing the various issues the programme intends to deal with. In this respect the programme will ensure that the Heads of concerned national institutions are fully involved in the review and development of internally accepted legislation, guidelines and practices related to sanitary and phytosanitary measures and food quality standards. The programme will also support active member state and stakeholder participation in the development of the Common Agricultural Policy as well as in the updating and elaboration of the Regional Agriculture Development Strategy in order to ensure that national priorities and concerns are fully addressed.

57. The programme will encourage the participation of the private sector and representatives of farmers associations in the development of market information and means for its dissemination. National Bureaux of Statistics or other institutions involved in the production of market information will be strengthened to play a pivotal role in the maintenance and updating of the COMESA-based market information system.

58. The programme recognises the lack of capacity in most member states on issues related to market facilitation, market integration, WTO agreements on agriculture and multilateral negotiation on agricultural trade, and agricultural policy analysis and formulation. In this regard, the programme will make adequate provision towards strengthening member state capacities. In the same vein, the programme's strategic intervention will be to enhance the capacity of COMESA in terms of facilities and technical skills with the view to strengthening its position as a lead agency in trade promotion and market integration among its member states.

59. A number of the activities under this programme will have to be supported by similar initiatives at the national level. In the cases where there are no ongoing national market facilitation and market integration projects, the programme will provide guidance, if need be, in the formulation of such projects for donor funding taking into account their synergy with the assistance provided under this programme. The programme will also establish a close liaison with SADC and IGAD to avoid duplication of efforts and maximise resources. For example, the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Sector (FANR) of SADC is carrying out a review of SPS legislation in its member states with the same objective as the activity that will be implemented under this programme. The management of this programme will, therefore, be expected to take note of this initiative and aim at complementing and supplementing it rather than duplicating the SADC efforts.

60. As part of the programme's endeavour towards improving the capacities of COMESA and its member states, networking among people and institutions involved in the development of policies, legislation and standards related to food, sanitary and phytosanitary, market information and promotion of export crops will be strengthened. In this respect the programme will budget seed money for their operationalisation.

61. The programme will also avoid to excessively burden the COMESA Secretariat with operational functions. It will therefore to the extent possible adhere to existing procedures and coordinating mechanisms. This is to ensure smooth transition to continental integration in the framework of the OAU-promoted African Union.

62. It is recognised that, although the assistance would go a long way in addressing the constraints to enhanced trade and economic integration among COMESA member states, further assistance will be required beyond the initial phase of three years. An extension of at least two years will be required to bring to conclusion some of the programme activities and to consolidate programme achievements. Consideration of programme extension, however, should be based on the results of a Mid-term evaluation of the programme that should take place not later than one year prior to its end.

B.5 Institutional Framework

63. The programme will be executed by COMESA with the technical support from a competent International Technical Organization, such as FAO - in view of its past assistance to COMESA. Administratively the Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) will report to the Director of the Investment Promotion and Private Sector Development Division (IPPSD), who will also be his official counterpart. Provision will also be made for COMESA to recruit an agricultural expert to be the Programme Coordinator (PC). The CTA and the PC will represent the core programme management team and will report to the Division Director. The CTA will also work in close consultation with IPPSD staff members and maintain a close working relationship with the other technical divisions in COMESA.

64. The programme will establish linkages with the relevant institutions and government bodies in the member states. The COMESA Country Desk Officers will be the official contact persons for all activities of the programme. He/she will facilitate the identification and recruitment of national consultants, and monitor their work. He/she will also ensure programme linkages with other institutions involved in sanitary and phytosanitary activities, food quality and safety control and standards, production and dissemination of market and trade information, and agriculture policy and strategy formulation and implementation. The Desk Officer will also assist in facilitating the implementation of programme activities that will be implemented at country level.

65. The programme management team will monitor the development of projects and activities in the domains of the programme that are being implemented at national and regional level. In particular the Team will establish close linkage with the SADC-FANR and with IGAD to ensure that there will be a synergy between programme activities and those implemented by these two regional bodies. This is to avoid duplication of efforts and maximise efficiency of resources used.

B.6 Coordination Arrangements with Other Projects

66. As discussed under B.5, the programme management team will co-ordinate programme implementation with the activities of other projects supporting COMESA in the technical domains of the programme. The mechanism for such co-ordination will essentially be the weekly meeting of the Investment Promotion and Private Sector Development Division (IPPSD), the home base for the programme. The CTA, the PC and, when required, the other team members, will attend the Divisional meeting to ensure that issues of co-ordination with other projects that fall under other COMESA divisions are discussed and acted upon by the management of the Division. The programme team will also establish a forum for regular exchange of information with the management of the Standard, Quality, Metrology and Testing project to ensure the activities of these two programmes are mutually supportive. In addition there will be a regular exchange of information with the SADC-FANR and with IGAD to ensure that there will be synergies between the activities of this programme and those falling under their mandate.

B.7 Sustainability of Programme Activities

67. Sustainability of programme activities will be ensured by the following means:

- Giving high emphasis, in the programme, to capacity building, including training of trainers;
- Ensuring participation of COMESA staff as counterparts;
- Creating or reinforcing formal and informal networks linking various categories of specialists working in COMESA member states in the technical areas covered by the programme;
- Facilitating agreements between COMESA member states on key policies that will be translated in lasting laws and regulations in the domains of work of the programme.

In addition the programme will ensure that the referral laboratories strengthened by the programme will operate on a cost recovery basis.

B.8 Reason for assistance

Weak technical and financial capacity of COMESA

68. This regional programme is expected to be instrumental in improving the technical capacity, policy environment and logistic facilities of COMESA to realise the objectives of its Free Trade Area. From the outset COMESA was established to promote economic integration of the region through, inter alia, market facilitation and regional co-operation. However, its efforts in this direction have been constrained by limited capacity in terms of expertise and financial resources, and could not adequately address the constraints impeding the flow of goods, services and factors of production across the borders of its member states. This has contributed to the prevailing precarious food security situation in the sub-region and COMESA views technical assistance of an international organisation such as FAO as paramount to address its capacity limitation.

Priority Area for EU funding

69. The regional programme also reflects the EU Commission's position on the role of new regionalism in food security as expressed in its concept paper on food security prepared in 2000. The paper states: "Many of the critical elements of poverty reduction strategies and the promotion of food security have regional dimensions, including, among others:

- Macro-economic reforms and the promotion of sustainable growth;
- Reducing barriers to trade, as a way of promoting integration of countries into the wider economy;
- Assuring the availability of secure food supplies, and managing shocks through increased regional trade;
- Strengthening good governance through the promotion of political integration at the regional level;
- Improved management of shared regional natural resources;

- Capturing economies of scale by creating regional capacity for research and human resource development.”

70. Thus, the EU puts emphasis on the key links between new regionalism and food security operating through (a) macro-economic policy reforms promotion of political co-operation in the region, (b) trade and market integration, and (c) regional co-operation through joint institutions in areas where there are clear spillovers or economies of scale. These are all activities, which the programme is set to implement.

71. The scope, orientation and content of the programme document is also in line with the Eastern and Southern Africa, Indian Ocean Region and European Community Regional Strategy Paper and Regional Indicative Programme, particularly with the policy measures to enhance regional integration proposed in the latter.

C. OVERALL OBJECTIVE (Development Objective)

72. The overall objective of the assistance is improved and sustainable food security and nutrition status of the population of the COMESA member states.

C.1 Programme Purpose

73. Increased agricultural trade and food security in COMESA member states through market integration, capacity development, institutional strengthening, consumer protection and design of special measures to avoid exclusion of weaker groups from the benefits of increased trade.

D. PROGRAMME RESULTS AND ACTIVITIES

74. **Result 1:** Improved sanitary and phytosanitary systems in COMESA member states.

Activities:

- 1.1. Review of phytosanitary and zoonosanitary legislation and regulations in member states in order to analyse differences among countries and deviation from international norms, with the view to their harmonisation and improvement on the basis of international standards established by the IPPC, OIE, and the SPS/TBT Agreements. This activity involves:
 - Visits to selected countries by the phytosanitary, zoonosanitary and legal specialists (international consultants) to review national legislation and regulations;
 - Organisation of two workshops for 20 national experts. Each will come to the workshop with their national legislation and regulations to discuss them;
 - Preparation by the consultants of reports based on the discussions held during the workshops and their assessment from the country visits, with recommendations for improvement. They will also build on results of a similar review being conducted within SADC member states;
 - Negotiations on phytosanitary and zoonosanitary matters conducted in the framework of the appropriate COMESA bodies, using the reports of the consultants as inputs.
- 1.2. Preparation of guidelines and of a timetable for the harmonisation and improvement of national laws and regulations in member states based on the results of 1.1.
- 1.3. Updating of the quarantine pest and disease list for each country to guide regulatory actions to achieve an acceptable level of protection for each country on the basis of the discussions held in 1.1.
- 1.4. Support to four selected existing laboratories in COMESA member states to enhance their facilities for plant and animal disease/pest surveillance and exclusion through provision of training, equipment and other facilities in order

to serve as regional referral laboratory centres (two for phytosanitary and zoosanitary analysis each). This will require:

- Visits of the international consultants to 5 countries each in order to identify the potential laboratories to be supported, and to determine their needs;
- Procurement of equipment and supplies to upgrade the selected laboratories;
- One mission by the consultants to each of the laboratories to train the staff in the use of the new equipment provided.

1.5. Identification of training needs by national consultants and organisation and implementation of training activities for 80 specialists (two phytosanitary and two zoosanitary specialists from each COMESA state) in the management of modern phytosanitary and zoosanitary systems based on the use of modern procedures and equipment. Training will cover important issues such as identification and diagnosis of plant disease and pest, border and field inspection procedures, epidemiology and quarantine procedures, surveillance and risk analysis and management and reporting (2 weeks);

1.6. Review of existing networks and information systems on phytosanitary and zoosanitary issues and strengthening and/or establishment where they don't exist, networks of national institutions responsible for the management and coordination of zoosanitary and phytosanitary systems to improve exchange of experiences and early warning information³.

75. **Result 2:** Increased and safe food and agricultural trade among COMESA member states and beyond.

Activities

2.1. Review of member states' legislation and regulations (including standards) pertaining to food quality and safety in order to analyse differences among countries and deviation from international norms, with a view to proposing improvements to ensure that the safety and quality of locally produced food meet internationally-accepted *Codex Alimentarius*-based levels. This activity involves:

- Visits to selected countries by the food quality and safety expert and the legal specialist (international consultants) to review national legislation and regulations;
- Organisation of one workshop for 20 national experts. Each will come to the workshop with their national legislation and regulations to discuss them;
- Preparation by the consultants of reports based on the discussions held during the workshop and their assessment from the country visits, with recommendations for improvement;

³ This will involve organising two meetings of national institutions responsible for zoosanitary and phytosanitary issues under the aegis of the COMESA Secretariat to discuss cooperation, coordination and information activities in member states and support to electronic networking.

- Negotiations on food quality and safety matters conducted in the framework of the appropriate COMESA bodies, using the reports of the consultants as inputs.
- 2.2. Preparation of guidelines and of a timetable for the harmonisation and improvement of national laws and regulations in member states based on the results of 2.1..
 - 2.3. Identification of training needs (by national consultants) and organisation and implementation of training activities for 40 national trainers (from the National Bureaux of Standards) and regional staff on: (a) food inspection, (b) food analysis techniques including methods of sampling and analysis for pesticide residues, heavy metals and other chemical food contaminants, (c) quality assurance procedures and techniques, (d) general principles of good hygienic practice and good manufacturing practice, (e) import and export certification, and (f) food regulations, standards and trade agreements (3 weeks).
 - 2.4. Support to selected existing laboratories in COMESA member states to enhance their facilities for food and fisheries products analysis and control through provision of training, equipment and other facilities in order to serve as regional referral laboratory centres (one for food analysis and control, and one for fisheries products analysis and control). This laboratory will be entrusted with (a) supporting national food control laboratories in terms of expertise; (b) provide an accreditation system for national food control laboratories and (c) conducting and coordinating risk assessment activities in the region. This will require:
 - Visits of the international consultant to 5 countries in order to identify the potential laboratories to be supported, and to determine their needs;
 - Procurement of equipment and supplies to upgrade the selected laboratories;
 - One mission by the consultants to each of the laboratories to train the staff in the use of the new equipment provided.
 - 2.5. Strengthening of networking and information activities on food standards and food control among National Bureaux of Standards and national laboratories⁴.

76. **Result 3:** A Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) for COMESA developed, approved by the COMESA governing bodies and endorsed by member states in order to serve as an instrument for agricultural development and food security through increased agricultural trade among member states.

Activities:

- 3.1 Updating and supplementing of the agricultural and trade policy studies and reviews carried out under FAO/TCP assistance in some of the countries and undertaking of similar activities in those member states where the activity was

⁴ This will involve organising two meetings of national institutions responsible for food quality and safety issues under the aegis of the COMESA Secretariat to discuss cooperation, coordination and information activities in member states.

not carried out or not properly done. These reviews will help to pre-identify possible domain of the envisaged CAP.

- 3.2 Organisation and implementation of a series of 20 national and one regional sensitisation workshops, with involvement of international expertise who have direct experience with CAP in regional groupings in Africa and elsewhere, on the nature and implications of a CAP for national economic growth and food security;
- 3.3 Studies on various domains of the CAP in order to develop CAP proposals (including phasing of its implementation and the institutional framework for implementation and monitoring);
- 3.4 Twenty national workshops⁵ and one regional workshop (80 persons for two days) in order to finalise CAP proposals (including phasing of its implementation and the institutional framework needed for implementation and monitoring) for discussion within COMESA governing bodies.
- 3.5 Training in agricultural policy analysis on issues pertinent to the development and implementation of the COMESA CAP for Secretariat staff, government officials and representative of private sector, parastatals, community based and civic organisations (40 persons for two weeks). Areas that could be covered include for example: policies in support to the agricultural sector; taxation policies; policies for the provision of agricultural services, food aid policies, seed policy, or food security policies in support to specific target groups (e.g. vulnerable groups, women-headed farms, etc.).
- 3.6 Training of Government officials and representative of private sector, parastatals, community based and civic organisations in support to on-going multilateral trade negotiations taking place in the framework of WTO (80 persons for two days);
- 3.7 Support to the drafting of a Common Agricultural Policy document and related legislation for approval by COMESA governing bodies and endorsement by member states;
- 3.8 Design of a monitoring and evaluation system for the implementation of CAP along with clear definition of the institutional framework for its operation;
- 3.9 Review and strengthening of existing food and agricultural policy networks. These networks will be called to cooperate in the organisation of workshops and training programmes implemented by the programme⁶.

⁵ Organised by Member states with participation of stakeholders on the concept, the process, the institutional framework and the draft of the CAP.

⁶ Network meetings will take place on the occasion of project activities, particularly those organised in the context of the development of the CAP.

77. **Result 4:** Programmes and schemes for facilitating increased and sustainable intra-COMESA and international trade established, developed and operationalised.

Activities:

- 4.1 Establishment of a comprehensive market information system for enhanced and sustainable agricultural trade development within COMESA member states and beyond. This will entail the following sub-activities:
- (i) Studies and analyses on the supply and demand situations of the major tradable agricultural products in all the member states in order to identify potential for intra-COMESA trade;
 - (ii) Designing of a mechanism and of guidelines for periodic collection of data from member states and updating the information system;
 - (iii) Studies on market opportunities for exportable commodities produced in COMESA member states, that can be imported by developed countries under preferential and non-reciprocal trade agreements;
 - (iv) Identification and analysis of remaining tariff and non-tariff barriers impeding trade among COMESA member states, and designing policy options to remove them for consideration by the COMESA governing body;
 - (v) Reviewing of investment policies and opportunities in member states in the agricultural sector with the view to enhancing intra-COMESA factor mobility (capital and labour) for investments on food and agriculture production;
 - (vi) Designing and implementation of the market information system including web site;
 - (vii) Training course for COMESA Secretariat staff and national focal points in the development and maintenance of a comprehensive market information system (22 persons for 4 days).
- 4.2 Development and implementation of two training programmes:
- Training on early warning (20 persons for 5 days); and
 - Training on market and price analysis and demand and supply projections (20 persons for 5 days).
- 4.3 Strengthening of COMESA's capacity to monitor agricultural trade among member states and the obstacles to the implementation of the FTA for agricultural commodities. This activity will have the following activities:
- (i) Strengthening of the Secretariat's agricultural trade monitoring function with the required facilities and definition of its linkages with trade statistics providers in member states;
 - (ii) Training of staff responsible for agricultural trade monitoring and their counterparts at country level in the collection, processing and analysis of trade statistics (22 persons for 5 days); and
 - (iii) Development of a reporting format and integration into the MIS.
- 4.4 Organisation and implementation of a training programme for government officials involved in the analysis and formulation of agricultural diversification policies and strategies (20 persons for 5 days).

- 4.5 Support to the design of programmes and projects to develop key export sub-sectors in COMESA member states.
- 4.6 Review/strengthening and/or establishment where they don't exist of networks of institutions involved in agricultural market information and monitoring of agricultural trade⁷.
78. **Result 5:** Mechanisms and programmes to facilitate the adjustment of the agricultural sector of member states to new market conditions and opportunities while ensuring enhanced food security developed.

Activities:

- 5.1 Studies in the COMESA member states to review and analyse the potential and real impacts on agriculture and food security of trade liberalisation policies introduced in the context of the COMESA FTA declaration and WTO agreement on agriculture. Special emphasis in these studies will be given to the constraints faced by food insecure groups or vulnerable groups and to the design of possible solutions. Issues to be covered will likely include HIV/AIDS, access to markets, resources and agricultural services (particularly for women-headed farms).
- 5.2 Exchange of experiences and drawing of lessons from the national special programmes for food security through the organisation of a regional workshop (40 persons for 2 days).
- 5.3 Assistance to member states in designing transitory measures and programmes that can help to mitigate adverse effects of trade liberalisation on the food security of the vulnerable smallholder groups and addressing the constraints faced by these groups in adjusting to a changing environment. These measures and programmes will be compatible with WTO and COMESA approved policy instruments.
- 5.4 Assistance to member states in designing compensatory measures and stabilisation schemes to address macroeconomic consequences resulting from changes and fluctuations of import outlay and export earnings and funding of programmes in favour of food security designed under 5.3. This activity will include the following sub-activities:
- (i) Review of existing financial arrangements and technical assistance potentially available under the *Marrakech Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least Developed and Net Food-Importing Developing Countries*.
 - (ii) Assistance to work out criteria for the allocation of resources from the COMESA Trade Fund to finance specific food security programmes in member states and follow-up with the Secretariat for its approval;
 - (iii) Provision of technical assistance to member states, upon request, on the integration of programmes in support to smallholders affected by changes in trade policy into their Poverty Reduction Programmes; and

⁷ Network meetings will take place on the occasion of project activities, particularly those organised in the context of the development of the market information system.

- (iv) Organisation of a workshop to strengthen the capacity of member states in designing food security programmes and to discuss modalities of the funding of food security programmes by the COMESA Trade Fund as well as the design and operationalisation of stabilisation schemes (40 persons for 5 days).

79. **Result 6:** A revised and comprehensive COMESA Agricultural development strategy to operationalise the Common Agricultural Policy formulated.

Activities

- 6.1 Review of the second version of the COMESA Agricultural development Strategy prepared under FAO/TCP support based on the original Strategy prepared by COMESA Secretariat.
- 6.2 Identification of strategic interventions that are better addressed at a sub-regional level (COMESA) to address supply and market constraints, and assessment of their technical, financial and economic feasibility.
- 6.3 Preparation of a Revised Strategy that ensures the smooth implementation of the elements in the CAP detailing out the priority areas of interventions; the financial resources required and how they could be mobilised.
- 6.4 Organisation and implementation of a workshop to discuss the Agricultural Strategy (80 persons for 2 days) and subsequent updating/finalisation to take into account the recommendations of the workshop and approval by the Committee on Agriculture.

E. INPUTS

E.1 Inputs to be provided by COMESA (Ca. US\$520,000)

80. COMESA will provide office facilities for the programme staff and its consultants, as well as meeting facilities. This will imply the provision of office space for five international programme experts, including the COMESA Programme Coordinator, one Administrative Assistant and two secretaries. In addition COMESA will make available at least two rooms for international consultants. The equivalent annual cost of such an office space is estimated at US\$21,600. The cost of a meeting premise is estimated at US\$ 2000/year. Furthermore, COMESA will assume the cost of utilities and other facilities, e.g. water, electricity, office cleaning, security, etc. The estimated cost of such services is US\$15,000/year.

81. Staff counterparts will include the Director of Investment Promotion and Private Sector Development Division who will be available to provide administrative support and policy guidance. Other COMESA staff will also be available to provide support to the smooth implementation of the programme and to ensure its ownership by the Secretariat. This is estimated to amount to US\$ 100,000/year over the duration of the programme.

82. COMESA member states will provide support towards ensuring the successful implementation of the programme. This will include assigning focal persons, in addition to the designated COMESA desk officer, to coordinate country-level programme activities. Countries will designate focal points in the Bureaux of Statistics and institutions involved in the collection of market information. Countries will also second staff to participate in various capacity building activities of the programme, on full pay. The estimated total man/days is 6000, which could be translated in monetary terms to US\$60,000 assuming government pay is US\$10/day.

83. Member states will be required to organise, with advisory support from the programme, stakeholder consultations on the Common Agriculture Policy and Agricultural Strategy. This is expected to cost around US\$50,000, a cost that will be distributed between staff salary and organisational cost.

E.2 Inputs to be provided by the European Commission

International Staff

Chief Technical Advisor/Senior Agricultural and Trade Policy Analyst (36 man-months)

84. The programme will provide the services of an international Senior Agricultural and Trade Policy Analyst who will perform the function of a Chief Technical Advisor for its entire duration. The Chief Technical Advisor will work very closely with the COMESA Programme Coordinator and under the Director of IPPSD. He/She will coordinate the work of the programme and will be the technical spokesperson for the programme.

85. The CTA will coordinate the inputs of the various international staff and will be responsible for ensuring that programme activities are implemented and its results and purpose attained. In this respect he/she will maintain close links with other projects within and outside COMESA with the view to enhancing the delivery of programme services. In terms of technical input, the CTA will be directly involved in policy analysis and training work in particular those related to the development of the CAP, updating of the Agricultural Development Strategy and Agricultural diversification.

Senior Marketing and Market Information Expert (36 man-months)

86. The international Marketing and Market Information Expert, who will be working under the supervision of the CTA, will be responsible for all programme activities under the component of development of a comprehensive market information system and related training activities. He/She will establish a very close link with market and trade information producing institutions in individual member states and provide technical support to the focal persons designated by member states for the purpose of MIS.

Agricultural Economist/Training Expert (36 man-months)

87. The programme will make provision for the recruitment of an international Training Expert for 36 months. The expert will organise all training courses, workshop, seminars and consultation meetings in close liaison with the CTA, the Marketing Expert and consultants. He/She will be involved in the development of training materials in his/area of competence and in the provision of direct input during the training sessions.

Programme Coordinator – COMESA (36 man-months)

88. The Programme Coordinator is the interlocutor of the programme vis-à-vis the COMESA Secretariat. Ideally this position should have been financed by COMESA, but due to budgetary constraints of the Secretariat, the programme is making the provision for the position. Together with the CTA they will officially represent the programme. In addition the PC will be responsible for mobilising COMESA resources in support of the programme including maintaining close links with other relevant divisions.

Administrative Officer (36 man-months)

89. The Programme Administrative Officer will be responsible for managing the financial and material resources of the programme. He/She will be responsible for the procurement of expendable and non-expendable equipment following the guidelines of the supporting international organisation. Although the CTA is the officially designated programme imprest holder, the financial management and supervision of the general service staff of the programme fall under the jurisdiction of the Administrative Officer. He/She will however execute these tasks under the supervision and guidance of the CTA.

General Service - Admin Support (180 man-months)

90. The programme will make provision for the services an Administrative Assistant who will assist the Administrative Officer in managing programme

resources during the entire duration of the programme. The programme also makes provision for two secretaries and two drivers.

International Consultants (72.5 man-months)

91. Given the complexity of the programme, there will be a provision for the services of specialised international consultants to ensure quality of the support provided. This will be distributed as 25.5, 29 and 18 working months during the first, second and third year of the programme respectively. The domain of expertise provided is wide ranging and it is believed that it will effectively complement the technical expertise of the programme staff. The main areas for which international consultants will be recruited include phytosanitary, zoosanitary, food safety and quality control, market information, food security and early warning, legal aspects, investment policy analysis, agricultural policy analysis, agricultural statistics and WTO negotiations. Care was taken to ensure that they don't duplicate the expertise already available within the programme or COMESA staff.

National Consultants (186 man-months)

92. Provision is made for 186 months of national consultants distributed as 125, 31 and 30 working months between the first, second and third year of the programme respectively. The rationale for using national consultants is twofold. It aims at ensuring capacity building in, and participation of, member states in the development of trade facilitation and regional integration policies, strategies and programmes. Accordingly these consultants will be involved in activities such as training needs assessment in the domain of the programme, updating/preparing of country policy review, analysis of market and investment opportunities, development of national schemes to assist smallholders to take advantage of opportunities arising from trade liberalisation and to mitigate their adverse effects etc. The work of the national consultants will be coordinated by the programme team who will clear their reports.

Sub-Contract

93. The programme will sub-contract the development of market information system and the related Internet Web-Site. Provision is also made for their maintenance and updating during the second and third years of the programme. The total provision under this budget line is US\$30,000 distributed as US\$20,000 for the first year and US\$5,000 each for the second and third year.

Travel

94. The total provision under this budget line is US\$664,100 to cover the travel cost of programme staff, international consultants and support services by the supporting international organisation. The five programme staff, including the COMESA Programme Coordinator, and some of their supporting staff, are envisaged to be on travel status for 283 days/year amounting to a total of US\$184,850. The purpose of the travel will include participation in workshops and training activities organised at national and regional level, provision of direct advisory support and participation in specific studies.

95. The international consultants supporting the programme will spend a total of 1,973 days in mission, distributed as 619, 815 and 539 days during the successive years of the programme. The total budgetary envelope for this purpose is US\$ 421,550. The lion-share of the budget is allocated for visit to member countries to review national policies and legislation that need to be harmonised and to participate in the programme's training activities.

96. Given the complexity of this programme and scope of expertise required for its effective and efficient implementation, considerable Advisory Technical Services and Supervisory Technical Services from the supporting international organisation will be required. Provision of US\$57,700 is made to cover staff travel under support services. This is divided as 32,630 and 25,070 between ATS and STS respectively.

Training

97. Building capacities in member states through the development of a comprehensive training programme and its implementation through in-service training, workshop and seminars is one of the most important objectives of the programme. It should also be noted that the strategy of the programme is to ensure adequate consultation on all issues that would ultimately require ownership and approval of member states. Accordingly the programme envisages organising 5,764 man/days of training for 824 persons from member states. The cost of this programme is estimated at US\$1,359,920 distributed as US\$501,020, US\$502,800 and US\$ 356,100 between the first, second and third year respectively. The areas covered are wide ranging, but the main topics covered are sanitary and phytosanitary, food quality and safety control, agricultural policy analysis, early warning and market information.

Expendable Equipment

98. This budget section does not cover expendable materials related to the training programme as this is already covered under the training budget. The provision in this section, which is US\$115,000 distributed as US\$50,000, US\$50,000 and US\$15,000 between the first, second and third year is intended to cover supplies and materials for running the office of the programme.

Non Expendable Equipment

99. The total budget under this budget line is US\$1,930,200 and will be acquired between the first year, US\$1,490,200 and the second year; US\$440,000. The provision will cover the purchase of 5 vehicles – 3 saloon cars, one 4X4 and one mini-bus – 49 desk top computers - 9 for the programme office and the rest to be distributed to member states, 43 printers and accessories – 3 for the programme office and the rest for member states, 2 lap-top computers, 2 photocopying machines and other office equipment. In addition the programme will strengthen 6 national laboratories to serve as referral laboratories. The total budgetary envelope for these laboratories is US\$ 1,640,000. The programme also makes a provision for basic furniture at a total cost of US\$14,000.

General Operating Expenses

100. The provision of US\$ 160,000 (approximately 2% of total cost) made under this budget line will cover operating expenses such as fuel and maintenance of programme vehicles, maintenance of office equipment, telephone and communication costs, and other miscellaneous expenses. The amount is distributed as US\$50,000 each during the first two years and US\$60,000 during the third year.

Support Cost

101. As mentioned earlier (paragraph 98), the supporting international organisation will provide Advisory Technical Services (ATS) and Supervisory Technical Services (STS) for a total of 31.25 work-months. This will be divided as follows: 15 months on the first year, 9.5 months on the second year, and 6.75 months during third year, for a total cost of US\$453,750. The provision for ATS is US\$138,750 and that for STS is US\$315,000. In terms of time distribution it is 9.25 months for ATS and 22 months for STS.

Support Cost Budget

102. This budget line covers indirect costs incurred by the supporting international organisation for the administration and operation of the programme such as recruitment of staff and consultants, procurement of equipment, organisation of travel of participants to training activities and financial management and reporting. These costs have been in part reduced compared to normal practice, as the programme will benefit from the services of one administrator and one administrative assistant directly recruited by the programme. The total indirect administrative and operational support cost has therefore been budgeted at US\$629,038 divided between the three years as US\$301,282, US\$197,653 and US\$130,102 respectively, or approximately 8% of the total programme budget.

F. RISKS

103. The main risks, which may impede the effective implementation of this programme and the achievement of its objectives, are the following:

Political Instability in the Region

104. The COMESA sub-region is one of the most politically unstable regions in the world. Many of the countries are currently involved in civil wars or in conflicts with their neighbours. These include the “just-ended” war between Eritrea and Ethiopia, the war in the Democratic Republic of Congo which involves six of the 19 COMESA member states, the civil wars in Sudan, Uganda, and, to a lesser extent, in Ethiopia which have been running for a number of years with relative ebbs and flows, creating lack of political stability in the whole region. This situation, not only undermines co-operation in the sub-region, but also affects seriously the flow of goods and services across the borders. Ultimately, COMESA’s dream of regional integration, towards which this programme is designed to contribute, and the creation of the African Union, is at risk.

Insufficient participation of member states in the policy formulation process

105. The programme design envisages active participation in the harmonisation of member states legislation and policies related to sanitary and phytosanitary, food safety and quality control, agricultural trade and investment promotion and ultimately in the formulation of Common Agricultural Policy and Strategy for the sub-region. This requires unflinching commitment and active participation of all member states to ensure ownership, approval and implementation of the common policies and programmes.

Nomination of right people to serve as focal points for the programme

106. As part of the consideration for sustainability and the achievements of the programme results, the programme design requires member states to designate relevant and competent people to serve as focal points for the development and maintenance of market and trade information system. The COMESA information database will be linked to the national information systems, as failure to do that will undermine programme achievements in this respect.

Nomination of the right participants for training workshops and meetings

107. The programme aims at strengthening member states' capacities through the organisation and implementation of training programmes. This assumes that Governments nominate people with the required profile and that would require the training to enhance their effectiveness in their day-to-day work. Otherwise, the objective of the training activity will be defeated. Furthermore, given the high staff turnover experienced in most of the member states, priority in selection of participants should be given to those who will most likely remain in their current position. In addition, member states may have to improve staff incentive packages to minimise or avoid the current trend of losing staff to the private sector and NGOs.

Lack of related programmes at national level

108. The scope of this programme is to address those issues that are best handled at a sub-regional level. While the implementation of the activities under this programme will go a long way in removing a number of obstacles to regional trade promotion and co-operation, the impact will be higher if they are complemented by similar initiatives at national level. For example, the establishment of Market and Trade Information System in COMESA will only be successful if regular flow of the required information for its development and maintenance from national institutions is ensured. Other activities that will need to be implemented at national level include development of national and local markets through improved commodity market structures and strengthened skills of local entrepreneurs.

Willingness of member states in the utilisation of the regional referral laboratories

109. The underpinning assumption for the provision of the referral laboratories is that member states will agree on where to locate them and on how they will be

utilised. The laboratories are expected to charge economic prices for their services and member states are expected to agree on their operation modalities. Otherwise, the programme will be blamed for assisting only selected countries and may not be viewed, as one owned by all of the member countries.

Weak capacity within the COMESA Secretariat

110. COMESA's capacity is expected to be adequately strengthened to provide the required counterpart support and leadership. To this effect the programme will be financing the position of the COMESA Programme Co-ordinator. However, COMESA is expected to be of great support in the co-ordination and advocacy work of the programme, and in this respect its internal capacity is a source of concern.

G. PROGRAMME REPORTING, REVIEWS AND EVALUATION

G.1 Reports

Inception Report

111. A multidisciplinary inception mission will be fielded shortly after the programme staff assumes duty. The objective of the inception mission will be to prepare a detailed work plan and refine the programme implementation strategy. The mission will prepare a comprehensive report, which will be cleared by the technical divisions of the supporting international organisation concerned and the COMESA Secretariat.

Progress Reports

112. Six-Monthly Progress Reports will be prepared by the CTA of the programme using the standard format. These reports will contain:

- Actual implementation of activities compared to that scheduled in the work plan;
- Identification of problems and constraints (technical, human, financial, etc.) met during implementation;
- Recommendations for corrective measures;
- Detailed work plan for the following reporting period.

The Progress Reports will be submitted by the CTA to the supporting international organisation comments and finalisation before submission to COMESA and the donor.

Technical Reports

113. Technical Reports will be submitted by the CTA to the supporting international organisation for comments and finalisation before submission to COMESA and the donor. In addition all professional staff of the programme and international consultants will be submitting end-of-assignment reports.

Terminal Report

114. Towards the end of the programme and not later than six months before the end of the programme, the CTA in collaboration with members of his team will prepare and send to the supporting international organisation a draft Terminal Report for technical clearance, finalisation and submission to both COMESA and the donor agency at least 4 months in advance, for consideration at the terminal tripartite review meeting. The report will assess, in a concise manner, the extent to which the scheduled activities of the programme have been carried out, its results achieved, and progress made towards the attainment of its purpose and related development objective. It will also present recommendations for any future follow-up action arising out of the programme.

G.2 Reviews

115. Programme progress will be reviewed jointly by representatives of COMESA, the donor and the supporting international organisation, normally once a year, but at least once during the life of the programme through a Mid-term Review. A terminal tripartite review meeting should also be included to examine programme achievements and decide on eventual follow-up activities. The organisation, terms of reference and exact timing and place of the review will be decided in consultation between the supporting international organisation, the COMESA Secretariat and the donor.

116. A Programme Performance Evaluation Report (PPER), prepared by the COMESA Programme Coordinator and the CTA, will be submitted in each tripartite review meeting and additional PPERs may be requested as necessary during programme implementation. The terminal tripartite review meeting will carry its discussions on the basis of the programme terminal report. Annual technical reviews may be undertaken if deemed necessary.

G.3 Evaluation

117. Evaluation is an in-depth and comprehensive examination, on site, of all key aspects of the programme (its rationale, objectives and design, implementation achievements, outputs and effects/impact) with a view to assisting and improving the programme design and implementation. In order to provide an objective assessment, evaluation missions are organised as independent teams and as tripartite exercises involving the recipient organisation, the donor and the supporting international organisation. These features distinguish evaluation from other forms of supervisory or review exercises. The programme will be jointly evaluated by representatives of the supporting international organisation, COMESA and representatives of the donor prior to its completion. The terms of reference, exact timing and place of the evaluation will be decided through consultation among the three concerned parties. Any party may call for evaluation at any stage of the programme if deemed necessary.

H. BUDGET

118. Budget estimates for the Donor contribution to the cost of the project are given in the following table.

**REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL TRADE PROMOTION AND FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMME
BUDGET**

Code	Description	2003			2004			2005			Grand Total	
		W/M	Unit Cost	Total	W/M	Unit Cost	Total	W/M	Unit Cost	Total	W/M	US\$
5300	Salaries Professional	60	0	648,000	60	54,000	648,000	60	54,000	648,000	180	1,944,000
	Senior Agricultural and Trade Policy Analyst - CTA (D1)	12	15,000	180,000	12	15,000	180,000	12	15,000	180,000	36	540,000
	Senior Marketing and Market Information Expert (P5)	12	13,000	156,000	12	13,000	156,000	12	13,000	156,000	36	468,000
	Agricultural Economist/Training Expert (P4)	12	11,000	132,000	12	11,000	132,000	12	11,000	132,000	36	396,000
	Administrative Officer (P3)	12	10,000	120,000	12	10,000	120,000	12	10,000	120,000	36	360,000
	COMESA Programme Coordinator	12	5,000	60,000	12	5,000	60,000	12	5,000	60,000	36	180,000
5500	Salaries Gen. Service Budget - Admin. Support	60	0	18,000	60	0	18,000	60	0	18,000	180	54,000
	Administrative Assistant	12	500	6,000	12	500	6,000	12	500	6,000	36	18,000
	Secretaries	24	300	7,200	24	300	7,200	24	300	7,200	72	21,600
	Drivers	24	200	4,800	24	200	4,800	24	200	4,800	72	14,400
5570	Consultants	25.5		270,000	29		290,000	18		180,000	72.5	740,000
	Animal Health and Veterinary Expert	6.5	10,000	65,000	0	10,000	0	0	10,000	0	6.5	65,000
	International Legal Experts	3.5	10,000	35,000	0	10,000	0	0	10,000	0	3.5	35,000
	Plant Pathologist and Phytosanitary Expert	6.5	10,000	65,000	0	10,000	0	0	10,000	0	6.5	65,000
	Food Quality and Safety Experts	2	10,000	20,000	4	10,000	40,000	0	10,000	0	6	60,000
	Fisheries Quality Control Expert	0	10,000	0	1	10,000	10,000	0	10,000	0	1	10,000
	Agricultural Policy Expert (CAP)	0	10,000	0	2.5	10,000	25,000	2	10,000	20,000	4.5	45,000
	CAP Policy Analysts	0	10,000	0	3	10,000	30,000	3	10,000	30,000	6	60,000
	Agricultural Economist - Training in Policy Analysis	0	10,000	0	1	10,000	10,000	0	10,000	0	1	10,000
	Training Experts on WTO	0	10,000	0	0	10,000	0	1	10,000	10,000	1	10,000
	Market Information System Analyst	2.5	10,000	25,000	1	10,000	10,000	1	10,000	10,000	4.5	45,000
	Early Warning Training Expert	0.5	10,000	5,000	0	10,000	0	0	10,000	0	0.5	5,000
	Market Analysis Training Expert	0	10,000	0	0.5	10,000	5,000	0	10,000	0	0.5	5,000
	Agricultural Statistician	1	10,000	10,000	0.5	10,000	5,000	0.5	10,000	5,000	2	20,000
	Agricultural Economist	0	10,000	0	0	10,000	0	4.5	10,000	45,000	4.5	45,000
	Food Security Programme Expert	0	10,000	0	4.5	10,000	45,000	3	10,000	30,000	7.5	75,000

Programme Budget cont.

Code	Description	2003			2004			2005			Grand Total	
		W/M	Unit Cost	Total	W/M	Unit Cost	Total	W/M	Unit Cost	Total	W/M	US\$
	International Consultants Cont.											
	Investment Policy Analyst	0	10,000	0	2	10,000	20,000	0	10,000	0	2	20,000
	Evaluation Consultants	0	0	0	6	10,000	60,000	0	0	0	6	60,000
	Unspecified International Experts	3	10,000	45,000	3	10,000	30,000	3	10,000	30,000	9	105,000
	National Consultants	125		250,000	31		62,000	30		60,000	186	372,000
	Training Needs Assessment Phytosanitary	5	2,000	10,000							5	10,000
	Training Needs Assessment Zoosanitary	5	2,000	10,000							5	10,000
	Training Needs Assessment Food Quality and Safety	5	2,000	10,000							5	10,000
	Updating of Policy Reviews	15	2,000	30,000							15	30,000
	Country Policy Reviews	5	2,000	10,000							5	10,000
	Agricultural Economist – Training in Policy Analysis	0			1	2,000	2,000				1	2,000
	National Consultants on Market Analysis and Investment Opportunities	60	2,000	120,000							60	120,000
	National Consultants – Marketing Experts	20	2,000	40,000							20	40,000
	National Experts - Trade Liberalisation and Mitigation/safeguard options	0	0	0	20	2,000	40,000	20	2,000	40,000	40	80,000
	Unspecified National Consultants	10	2,000	20,000	10	2,000	20,000	10	2,000	20,000	30	60,000
	Sub-Contract			20,000			5,000			5,000		30,000
	Design, implementation and maintenance of the MIS and Web-Site .			20,000			5,000			5,000		30,000
5900	Travel			231,310			252,360			180,430		664,100
	Project Experts			62,630			61,110			61,110		184,850
	International Experts			144,290			172,410			104,850		421,550
	ATS			19,630			9,620			3,380		32,630
	STS			4,760			9,220			11,090		25,070
5920	Training			501,020			502,800			356,100		1,359,920
6000	Expendable Equipment			50,000			50,000			15,000		115,000

Programme Budget cont.

Code	Description	2003			2004			2005			Grand Total	
		W/M	Unit Cost	Total	W/M	Unit Cost	Total	W/M	Unit Cost	Total	W/M	US\$
6100	Non-Expendable Equipment			890,200			220,000					1,110,200
	Vehicles:			105,000								105,000
	4X4 - Station Wagon	1	35,000	35,000								35,000
	Sedan	3	15,000	45,000								45,000
	Mini-bus - 20 Seater	1	25,000	25,000								25,000
	Computers & printers and fax			148,200								148,200
	Desktop Computers	49	2,000	98,000								98,000
	Printers and accessories	43	1,000	43,000								43,000
	Laptop computers	2	3,500	7,000								7,000
	Fax Machine	1	200	200								200
	Scanners	2	250	500								500
	Photocopying machines			23,000								23,000
	Heavy duty photocopying machine	1	20,000	20,000								20,000
	Light duty photocopying machine	1	3,000	3,000								3,000
	Desks/chairs/cabinet, etc.	7	2,000	14,000								14,000
	Laboratory facilities			1,200,000	2		440,000					1,640,000
	Zoosanitary	2	300,000	600,000								600,000
	Phytosanitary	2	300,000	600,000								300,000
	Food Quality and Safety Control				1	240,000	240,000					240,000
	Fish Quality Control				1	200,000	200,000					200,000
6300	General Operating Expenses			50,000			50,000			60,000		160,000
6150	Support Costs	15		217,500	9.5		142,500	6.75		93,750	31.25	453,750
	Advisory Technical Services	5		75,000	3		45,000	1.25		18,750	9.25	138,750
	Supervisory Technical Services	10		142,500	6.5		97,500	5.5		75,000	22	315,000
6130	Support Cost Budget (8 %)			301,282			197,653			130,102		629,038
	Special Factor 4 %/annum			162,692			106,733			70,255		339,680
	GRAND TOTAL			4,230,005			2,775,045			1,826,638		8,831,688

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF PROGRAMME STAFF

Chief Technical Advisor/Senior Agricultural and Trade Policy Analyst (D-1, 36 months)

Under the overall supervision of the supporting international organisation and the Director, Investment Promotion and Private Sector Development Division (IPPSD) of COMESA, and the direct technical guidance of the concerned technical divisions of the supporting international organisation, the Senior Agricultural and Trade Policy Analyst will perform the function of Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) of the programme. He/She will work in close collaboration with the COMESA Programme Coordinator and coordinate and supervise technically the inputs of the various international and national staff and consultants of the programme. He/She will also act as technical spokesperson for the programme. As CTA, he/she will be responsible for ensuring the smooth implementation of programme activities and the achievement of programme results.

More specifically, the Senior Agricultural and Trade Policy Analyst and CTA will:

1. Participate in the inception mission of the programme;
2. Prepare six-monthly work plans for the programme, including terms of reference of consultants to be recruited by the programme (in collaboration with programme staff and concerned technical divisions of the supporting international organisation);
3. Identify and/or clear and brief programme consultants;
4. Supervise, provide technical guidance and clear the reports of the consultants recruited under the components under his/her direct responsibility;
5. Play a lead advisory role in the development of the COMESA Common Agricultural Policy and participate in or lead national and regional workshops;
6. Play a lead advisory role in the development of mechanisms and programmes of compensation and stabilisation and of facilitation of the adjustment of the agricultural sector in member states to new market conditions and opportunities, and increase household food security, and in the provision of direct advice to COMESA member countries;
7. Review and strengthen existing food and agricultural policy networks and negotiate with them eventual cooperative agreements for the organisation of the policy workshops and training programmes implemented by the programme;
8. Contribute to training activities organised in the field of agricultural and trade policy (including on agricultural diversification policies and programmes);
9. Play a lead advisory role in the development of the COMESA Agricultural Strategy;
10. Liaise with concerned units of the supporting international organisation;
11. Maintain close links with partner institutions in COMESA member countries involved in the programme and with concerned country representatives of the supporting international organisation;
12. Maintain close links with other agricultural projects within the sub-region and with other regional groupings;
13. Liaise with donors and other partners as required;
14. Be responsible for the programme Imprest Account;
15. Prepare programme progress and terminal reports.

Required qualification and experience

Advanced degree in agricultural economics/economics/trade or related fields; at least 15 years of experience in providing advice to developing countries in agricultural and trade policies; outstanding management capacity and experience with managing complex technical assistance programmes, preferably in Africa. The incumbent should be fluent in English and have a fair understanding of French. Experience in training is desirable.

Duty station: Lusaka, Zambia, with extensive travel in COMESA member countries.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Senior Marketing and Market Information Expert (P-5, 36 months)

Under the overall technical supervision of the Chief Technical Advisor, the COMESA Coordinator and the direct technical guidance of concerned technical divisions of the supporting international organisation, the Senior Marketing and Market Information Expert will lead the trade facilitation component of the programme, more particularly for the development of a comprehensive market information system and related training activities.

For this, the Senior Marketing and Market Information Expert will:

1. Participate in the inception mission of the programme;
2. Assist in the preparation of six-monthly work plans for the programme, including terms of reference of consultants to be recruited by the programme, particularly for the trade facilitation component (in collaboration with other programme staff and concerned technical divisions of the supporting international organisation);
3. Assist in identifying and/or clearing, briefing the consultants recruited by the programme under the trade facilitation component;
4. Supervise, provide technical guidance and clear consultants' reports;
5. Play a lead advisory and technical assistance role in the establishment of a comprehensive market information system for COMESA member states. This task will entail:
 - Reviewing studies and analyses on the supply and demand situations of the major tradable agricultural products in all the member states in order to identify potential for intra-COMESA trade, and preparing a synthesis of the main information and results gathered;
 - Designing a mechanism and guidelines for periodic collection of data from member states and for updating the information system;
 - Reviewing studies conducted by the programme on market opportunities for exportable commodities produced in COMESA states;
 - Reviewing studies conducted by the programme on remaining tariff and non-tariff barriers impeding trade among COMESA member states, and assisting in designing policy options to remove them;
 - Preparing a synthesis of reviews on investment policies and opportunities in member states in the agricultural sector conducted by the programme;
 - Designing the market information system and its web site;
 - Leading training of COMESA Secretariat staff and national focal points in the development and maintenance of a comprehensive market information system and contribute to various other related training activities;
6. Advise COMESA in the field of monitoring of agricultural trade among member states and lead related training activities;
7. Review/strengthen and/or establish where they don't exist networks of institutions involved in agricultural market information and monitoring of agricultural trade;
8. Maintain close links with market and trade information-producing institutions in COMESA member states and provide technical support to the national MIS focal persons;
9. Maintain close links with other related projects within the sub-region;
10. Liaise with donors and other partners as required;
11. Prepare progress reports and a terminal report on his/her assignment.

Required qualification and experience

Advanced degree in agricultural economics/economics/trade or related fields; at least 10 years of experience in providing advice to developing countries in market and trade information systems or related domains. Experience with technical assistance and capacity building activities in developing countries, preferably in Africa. The incumbent should be fluent in English and have a fair understanding of French. Experience in training is desirable.

Duty station: Lusaka, Zambia, with extensive travel in COMESA member countries.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Agricultural Economist/Training Expert (P-4, 36 months)

Under the overall technical supervision of the Chief Technical Advisor, the COMESA Coordinator and the direct technical guidance of the supporting international organisation, the Agricultural Economist/Training Expert will assist in the organisation of programme training activities and contribute as a trainer to policy-related workshops implemented in the framework of the programme.

More specifically, the Agricultural Economist/Training Expert will:

1. Participate in the inception mission of the programme;
2. Assist in the preparation of six-monthly work plans for the programme, including terms of reference of consultants to be recruited by the programme, particularly those involved in training activities (in collaboration with other programme staff and concerned technical divisions of the supporting international organisation);
3. Brief consultants contributing to training workshops organised by the programme;
4. Coordinate all programme training activities: identification of venues; invitation and selection of participants; preparation of training content and schedule (in collaboration with other programme personnel and the technical divisions concerned in the supporting international organisation); training logistics (materials, equipment and other facilities), linking with cooperating organisations and negotiation of contractual arrangements, if needed, and finalisation of training reports;
5. Assist in the finalisation and publication of training materials produced by the programme;
6. Act as trainer/resource person and prepare training materials for the following training activities:
 - National and regional sensitisation workshops on the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP);
 - Training in agricultural policy analysis;
 - Training on multilateral trade negotiations taking place in the framework of WTO;
 - Training in market analysis;
 - Training on the analysis and formulation of agricultural diversification policies and strategies;
 - Workshop on experiences and lessons from the national special programmes for food security;
 - Training on food security programmes and stabilisation schemes;
7. Assist in reviewing and strengthening existing food and agricultural policy networks and negotiating with them eventual cooperative agreements for the organisation of policy workshops and training programmes implemented by the programme;
8. Maintain close links with other related projects within the sub-region;
9. Liaise with donors and other partners as required;
10. Prepare a terminal report on his/her assignment.

Required qualification and experience

Advanced degree in agricultural economics/economics/trade or related fields; at least 7 years of experience in capacity building in food and agricultural policy analysis. Experience with organising capacity building activities in developing countries, preferably in Africa. The incumbent should be fluent in English and have a fair understanding of French.

Duty station: Lusaka, Zambia, with extensive travel in COMESA member countries.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Administrative Officer (P-3, 36 months)

Under the direct supervision of the Chief Technical Advisor and technical guidance of the supporting international organisation, Administrative Officer will be responsible for managing the financial and material resources of the project according to procedures of the supporting international organisation.

More specifically, the Administrative Officer will:

- Be responsible for financial management and project accounts, although the CTA will be the officially designated imprest holder;
- Be responsible for procurement of expendable and non-expendable equipment, and for maintaining the project inventory;
- Ensure appropriate control of use of project equipment;
- Take necessary action for the maintenance and repair of project equipment;
- Initiate all administrative action for travel and recruitment of consultants and prepare contracts following the rules of the supporting international organisation;
- Supervise project general support staff.

Required qualification and experience

Degree in administration, financial management or related fields; at least 5 years of experience in financial and administrative management of complex projects or large offices in developing countries, preferably in Africa. Excellent knowledge of the supporting international organisation and its administrative and financial procedures.

Duty station: Lusaka with extensive travel in COMESA member countries.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Programme Coordinator – COMESA (36 months)

Under the overall supervision of the Director, Investment Promotion and Private Sector Development Division (IPPSD) of COMESA, the Programme Coordinator, COMESA, will assist the Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) of the programme in coordinating programme activities and will be responsible for ensuring the integration of programme activities within broader COMESA programmes.

More specifically, the Programme Coordinator, COMESA will:

1. Participate in the inception mission of the programme;
2. Assist in the preparation of six-monthly work plans for the programme, and ensure that they are well coordinated with other COMESA activities;
3. Ensure the timely mobilisation of COMESA resources required for programme operations;
4. Ensure adequate linkages with the COMESA Secretariat for technical and administrative matters;
5. Represent the programme, together with the CTA;
6. Contribute technically to programme activities;
7. Participate in networking activities in all domains of the programme;
8. Assist the CTA in daily programme management tasks;
9. Liaise with donors and other partners as required;
10. Assist in the preparation of programme progress and terminal reports.

Required qualification and experience

Advanced degree in agriculture, agricultural economics or related fields; at least 15 years of experience in providing advice to developing countries in agricultural and trade policies; excellent knowledge of COMESA and the region. Fluent in English. Understanding of French desirable.

Duty station: Lusaka, Zambia.

ANNEX 1: INDICATIVE PROGRAMME WORK PLAN

Activity	2003				2004				2005			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Inception mission												
1.1												
1.2												
1.3												
1.4												
1.5												
1.6												
2.1												
2.2												
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4.4												
4.5												
5.1												
5.2												
5.3												
5.4												
6.1												
6.2												
6.3												
6.4												
Programme evaluation												

ANNEX 2: PROGRAMME LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Progr. Hierarchy	Narrative Description	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources of verification	Assumptions
Overall Objective	Improved and sustainable food security and nutrition status of the population in COMESA member states	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % growth in agricultural production • % of households below poverty line • % of population living on food aid; • Anthropometric indicators, e.g. % of stunted, underweight wasted children; • % growth in income per capita; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National income and household surveys; • Agricultural production surveys • Early warning and crop forecasting activities; • National nutrition surveys • National Bureaux of Statistics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political stability in the region; • Governments and Development partners in the regions strive to address supply constraints through investment and policy interventions; • Minimum natural disasters – floods and droughts
Purpose	Increased agricultural trade and food security in COMESA member states through market integration, capacity development, institutional strengthening, consumer protection and design of special measures to avoid exclusion of weaker groups from the benefits of increased trade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % growth (volume and value) in intra-COMESA food and agricultural trade; • % Growth of member states' trade with the outside world; • Difference in domestic consumer and producer prices as a measure of market integration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data compiled by COMESA from National Bureaux of Statistics in member states; • Studies commissioned by COMESA on price differences in member states; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased trade benefits all member states • Remaining COMESA member states ratify the zero tariff declared under FTA; • Adequate compensation mechanism put in place to support countries loosing as a result of FTA

Programme Hierarchy	Narrative Description	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources of verification	Assumptions
Programme Results (Outputs)	(1) Improved sanitary and phytosanitary systems in COMESA member states	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidelines and timetable for the harmonisation and improvement of national laws and regulations prepared ; • Updated quarantine pest and disease list for each country. • Two regional referral laboratories established each for phytosanitary and zoosanitary analysis; • 80 specialists of people trained in the management of modern phytosanitary and zoosanitary systems; • Improved information systems and networks on phytosanitary and zoosanitary issues; • Improved coordination and cooperation mechanisms under the aegis of the COMESA Secretariat. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidelines and timetable; • Workshop organised to discuss updated laws and regulations; • Updated quarantine pest and disease lists; • Four regional referral laboratories; • Workshop reports, with list of participants and evaluation; • Reports and bulletins on phytosanitary and zoosanitary situation; • Reports of COMESA meetings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiations are taking place in the framework of COMESA bodies; • Revised zoosanitary and phytosanitary legislation and regulations approved and implemented by a majority of the member states; • Quarantine lists and procedures implemented; • Role of referral laboratories recognised by COMESA member states; • The capacity building and development in the modern management of phytosanitary and zoosanitary systems augmented by complementary initiatives at country level; • Specialists trained return to their working place and apply the skills they have learned.

Programme Hierarchy	Narrative Description	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources of verification	Assumptions
	(2) Increased and safe food and agricultural trade among COMESA member states and beyond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidelines and timetable for the harmonisation and improvement of national food laws and regulations prepared ; • Two regional referral laboratories established: one for food analysis and control, and one for fisheries products analysis and control; • 40 national specialists trained as trainers in food quality and safety analysis and procedures; • Improved information systems and networks on food standards and food control among National Bureaux of Standards; • Improved capacity of COMESA Secretariat to provide managerial and administrative support to national food control services and programmes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidelines and timetable; • Two regional referral laboratories; • Training of trainers reports, with list of participants and evaluation; • Network reports and bulletins; • Improvement in office facilities and human resources – No. of people recruited in COMESA under the programme. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised food safety and standard legislation approved and implemented by majority of the member states; • Role of referral laboratories recognised by COMESA member states; • Trainers are used by national capacity building programmes to train other national specialists; • National programmes improve the equipment of national laboratories; • Governments in COMESA member states improve the working condition of their nationals to minimise the commonly observed high staff turnover.

Programme Hierarchy	Narrative Description	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources of verification	Assumptions
	<p>(3) A Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) for COMESA developed, approved by the COMESA governing bodies and endorsed by member states in order to serve as an instrument for agricultural development and food security through increased agricultural trade among member states.</p> <p>(4) Programmes and Schemes for facilitating increased and sustainable intra-COMESA and international trade established developed and operationalised</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Common Agriculture Policy developed and agreed upon by COMESA governing body • Comprehensive marketing information system (MIS) established and maintained with very close links with MIS at national levels; • A report on market opportunities for exportable commodities from COMESA economic block to other markets under preferential trade agreement; • No. of people trained as a measure of capacity development within COMESA member states in market/price analysis, demand projection and formulation of programmes and strategies for commodity development for export; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A proceeding/report indicating the decision reached by experts from member countries that met to discuss and make recommendation on the draft CAP; • COMESA conference report announcing the approval of the CAP • Visit to COMESA Secretariat in Lusaka and production of period Trade bulletins; • Studies and reports on market opportunities produced and disseminated to member states. • Workshop reports and programme general progress reports; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution of all or most of the conflicts that exist between COMESA member states; • Capacity within member states and at COMESA Secretariat improved to monitor and ongoing evaluate the impacts and effects of the CAP and design mitigating measures. • Availability of capacity in COMESA member countries to maintain and update market information system as a source for the COMESA MIS, • The prevailing market opportunities in the EU and other developed countries for export commodities under a preferential arrangement continue. • People trained under the programme return to their positions in their respective countries and apply the skills they have acquired from the

Programme Hierarchy	Narrative Description	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources of verification	Assumptions
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A programme/projects for the development of key export commodities in member states • Facilities and human resources provided to COMESA to strengthen its trade monitoring function • A functional network of COMESA institutions producing market information established and operational 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme/ project document prepared and progress reports • COMESA Web-Site • Programme progress report 	<p>training programme on establishing and maintaining market information system;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are opportunities in the sub-region to develop key export commodities beyond the traditional ones. • COMESA has a structure for trade monitoring and will continue to play this role.

Programme Hierarchy	Narrative Description	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources of verification	Assumptions
	<p>(5) Mechanisms and programmes to facilitate the adjustment of the agricultural sector of member states to new market conditions and opportunities, and ensure enhanced food security developed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An analytical report on the potential and real impacts of trade liberalisation policies introduced in the context of the COMESA FTA declaration and WTO agreement on agriculture prepared, • A workshop organised with the view to drawing lessons from the national special programmes for food security; • Transitory measures that are feasible and compatible with WTO and COMESA FTA designed and approved by COMESA; • A Compensatory measures and stabilisation schemes developed and approved by member countries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of the COMESA Secretariat and Programme progress reports. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donors and international financial institutions provide financial support to implement the transitory and stabilisation schemes developed.
	<p>(6) A revised and comprehensive COMESA Agricultural development strategy to operationalise the Common Agricultural Policy formulated.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A revised and comprehensive Agricultural Development Strategy for COMESA countries developed and endorse in the meeting of the Committee on Agriculture; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop reports, programme progress reports and report of the COMESA Secretariat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member recognise the importance of regional agricultural development and projects • Donors support the Strategy.

Results	Activities	Objective Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions
<p>Result 1 Improved sanitary and phytosanitary systems in COMESA member states.</p>	<p>(1.1) Review of phytosanitary and zoosanitary legislation and regulations in member states</p> <p>(1.2). Preparation of guidelines and of a timetable for the harmonisation and improvement of national laws and regulations in member states</p> <p>(1.3) Update the quarantine pest and disease list for each country to guide regulatory actions to achieve an acceptable level of protection for each country</p> <p>(1.4) Support to selected existing laboratories in COMESA member states in order to serve as regional referral laboratory centres (two for phytosanitary and zoosanitary analysis each).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National consultants completed their work as monitored by CTA & COMESA; • International Legal experts have visited selected COMESA member states and reviewed their legislation • A workshop is organised to discuss national laws and regulations, as well as guidelines and timetable. • Needs of existing laboratories are identified; • Needed equipment is procured; • Computer and other office facilities procured; • International experts and consultants recruited; • Terms of reference of international consultants envisage the organisation of specialised training on the use of new equipment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms of reference of national and international consultants; • National and international consultants reports; • Workshops programmes and reports; • COMESA Secretariat and CTA progress reports; • Programme progress reports. • Consultant's reports; • Programme accounts; • Reports of specialised training sessions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member countries have legislation and willing to have them reviewed with support from national and international consultants; • Member countries have sufficient human resources to participate in programme activities and nominate the right participants; • Member countries accept the choice of laboratories to be upgraded into referral laboratories; • The activity is expected to benefit from a similar work that was done under SADC. The assumption will be available for the programme.

Results	Activities	Objective Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions
Result 1 Cont.	<p>(1.5) Identification of training needs and organisation and implementation of training activities for 80 specialists) in the management of modern phytosanitary systems</p> <p>(1.6) Review and strengthen networks and information systems on phytosanitary and zoosanitary issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms of reference of consultants envisage identification of training needs; • Training programmes organised; • Training materials are developed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International consultants are recruited with relevant expertise; • Network meetings are organised; • Financial and material support is provided to network members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms of reference of consultants; • Consultants' reports • Training report; • Training materials. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CVs of recruited consultants; • Network meeting reports • Programme accounts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member countries have sufficient human resources to participate in programme activities and nominate the right participants; • National institutions are willing to participate in network.

Results	Activities	Objective Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions
<p>Result 2 Increased and safe food and agricultural trade among COMESA member states and beyond.</p>	<p>(2.1) Reviewing member states' legislation and procedures pertaining to food quality and safety controls.</p> <p>(2.2) Preparation of guidelines and of a timetable for the harmonisation and improvement of national laws and regulations in member states.</p> <p>(2.3) Identifying training needs and 40 national specialists trained as trainers in food quality and safety analysis and procedures.</p> <p>(2.4) Support to selected existing laboratories in COMESA member states in order to serve as regional referral laboratory centres (one for food analysis and control and one for fisheries product analysis and control).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National consultants completed their work as monitored by CTA & COMESA; • International Legal experts have visited selected COMESA member states and reviewed their legislation • A workshop is organised to discuss national laws and regulations, as well as guidelines and timetable. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms of reference of consultants envisage identification of training needs; • Training programmes organised; • Training materials are developed. • Needs of existing laboratories are identified; • Needed equipment is procured; • Computer and other office facilities procured; • International experts and consultants recruited; • Terms of reference of international consultants envisage the organisation of specialised training on the use of new equipment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms of reference of national and international consultants; • National and international consultants reports; • Workshops programmes and reports; • COMESA Secretariat and CTA progress reports; • Programme progress reports. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms of reference of consultants; • Consultants' reports • Training report; • Training materials. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultant's reports; • Programme accounts; • Reports of specialised training sessions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member countries have legislation and willing to have them reviewed with support from national and international consultants; • Member countries have sufficient human resources to participate in programme activities and nominate the right participants. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member countries have sufficient human resources to participate in programme activities and nominate the right participants; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member countries accept the choice of laboratories to be upgraded into referral laboratories.

Results	Activities	Objective Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions
Result 2 Cont	(2.5) Strengthening networking and information activities on food standards and food control among National Bureaux of Standards and national laboratories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International consultants are recruited with relevant expertise. • Network meetings are organised; • Financial and material support is provided to network members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CVs of recruited consultants; • Network meeting reports • Programme accounts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National institutions are willing to participate in network.
Result 3 A Common Agriculture Policy for COMESA developed and discussed at both National and regional level to serve as an instrument for market integration and trade facilitation among member states.	<p>(3.1) Updating and supplementing the agriculture and trade policy studies carried out under FAO/TCP assistance in some of the countries and undertake similar activities in those member states where the activity was not carried out or not properly done;</p> <p>(3.2) Organisation and implementation of series of national and regional sensitisation workshops and seminars on the nature and implications of a CAP for national economic growth and food security;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National and international consultants recruited; • No. of studies conducted. • No. of national and regional sensitisation workshops and seminars organised. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme progress report • COMESA and Programme reports. • Report on consultations. • Programme progress report. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The constraint that precluded some countries from participating in the review studies under TCP is resolved. • Review from other experiences available from FAO. • A mechanism is put in place to ensure effective consultative process, at regional and national level, for the approval of CAP

Results	Activities	Objective Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions
Result 3 Cont.	<p>(3.3) Conduct studies on various domains of CAP and develop CAP proposals.</p> <p>(3.4) 20 national and one regional workshops organised to finalise CAP proposals.</p> <p>(3.5) Training for 40 participants in agricultural policy analysis on issues pertinent to the development and implementation of the COMESA CAP for Secretariat staff, government officials and representative of private sector, parastatals, community based and civic organisations.</p> <p>(3.6) Training of Government officials and representative of private sector, parastatals, community based and civic organisations in support to on-going multilateral trade negotiations taking place in the framework of WTO.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAP Proposals • No of participants at national and regional workshop. • Training programmes organised; • Training materials are developed. • Training programmes organised; • Training materials are developed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress and COMESA reports Workshop reports • Terms of reference of consultants; • Consultants' reports • Training report; • Training materials. • Terms of reference of consultants; • Consultants' reports • Training report; • Training materials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member states capable and willing to organise national workshops. • International experts with good understanding and direct experience in one of the successful economic groupings (EU or NAFTA) identified and recruited; • Representative of private sector, parastatals, community based and civic organisations available and interested to participate. • Member countries have sufficient human resources to participate in programme activities and nominate the right participants.

Results	Activities	Objective Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions
Result 3 Cont.	<p>(3.7) Drafting of a Common Agricultural Policy document and related legislation.</p> <p>(3.8) Designing a monitoring and evaluation system for the implementation CAP along with clear definition of the institutional framework for its operation.</p> <p>(3.9) Review and strengthen existing food and agricultural policy networks. These networks will be called to cooperate in the organisation of workshops and training programmes implemented by the programme.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultants recruited • CAP document and related legislation produced. • Consultants recruited. • Guidelines for operationalisation of the system. • Consultant recruited to review existing networks • Network meetings are organised; • Financial and material support is provided to network members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme progress report; • COMESA meeting reports. • Programme progress report; • Consultants' reports. • Network meeting reports; • Contractual arrangements between programme and network; • Programme accounts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active participation of the COMESA Secretariat in the development and defining the institutional framework of its operationalisation. • Existing networks willing and able to cooperate with the programme.

Results	Activities	Objective Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions
<p>Result 4: Measures for facilitating increased and sustainable intra-COMESA and international trade established.</p>	<p>(4.1) Establishment of a comprehensive market information system for enhanced and sustainable agricultural trade development within COMESA member states and beyond.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Studies on the supply and demand situations of the major tradable agricultural products in all the member states; • A mechanism and guidelines for periodic collection of data. • Studies on market opportunities for exportable commodities produced in COMESA member states for export to developed countries under preferential and non-reciprocal trade agreements; • A report on tariff and non-tariff barriers impeding trade among COMESA member states; • A report on investment policies and opportunities in member countries in the agricultural sector with the view to enhancing intra-COMESA factor mobility (capital and labour) for investments on food and agriculture production; • A market information system including a web-site • No. of trainees trained in the development and maintenance of MIS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme progress Report and COMESA annual reports. • Workshop report. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National institutions participate actively and effectively in the development, maintenance and reporting of Market information system. • Member states are willing to share their market and trade data.

Results	Activities	Objective Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions
Result 4 Cont.	(4.2) Development and implementation of training programme on early warning, and on market and price analysis, demand and supply projections and development of market information system and reporting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training programme, materials and case studies developed; • No. of trainees in each of the two training programme; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report(s) of training workshop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political stability for smooth and effective implementation of national level training activities.
	(4.3) Strengthening of COMESA's capacity in monitoring trade between member countries and the obstacles to the implementation of the FTA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilities and human resources provided to the Secretariat; • No. of Secretariat staff trained in the collection, processing and analysis of trade statistics; • A reporting format on TM produced • A journal/journals of trade statistics issued. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme progress report • Tripartite evaluation report; • Programme progress report • Feed back from member states 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active participation and collaboration of national institutions involved in the collection and dissemination of trade statistics is guaranteed.
	(4.4) Organisation and implementation of a training in the analysis and formulation of agricultural diversification policies and strategies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training programme developed • Training materials assembled and developed • Consultants recruited. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop reports • Programme progress report • Tripartite and Mid-term evaluation reports 	
	(4.5) Designing programmes and projects to develop key export sub-sectors in COMESA member states.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. of commodity export promotion programmes and project developed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The documents themselves and programme progress report 	

Results	Activities	Objective Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions
Result 4. Cont.	(4.6) Strengthen/establish networks of institutions in MIS and monitoring of agricultural trade.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of network meetings organised and persons attended. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programme progress reports 	
Result 5 Mechanisms and programmes to facilitate the adjustment of the agricultural sector of member states to new market conditions and opportunities while ensuring enhanced food security.	<p>(5.1) Undertaking studies to review and analyse the potential and real impacts of trade liberalisation policies introduced in the context of the COMESA FTA declaration and WTO agreement on agriculture.</p> <p>(5.2) Exchanging experiences and drawing of lessons from the national special programmes for food security through the organisation of regional workshops.</p> <p>(5.3) Assisting member states in designing transitory measures and programmes to mitigate adverse effects of trade liberalisation and addressing the constraints faced by vulnerable groups in adjusting to a changing environment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of case studies produced with the expected scope, orientation and depth. Workshop organised, No. of people attended and No. of countries represented. A report reviewing exiting financing arrangements, stabilisation schemes and assistance under the Marrakech Decision; A report reviewing proposed policies and verifying their WTO compatibility. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The case studies and programme progress report. Workshop and programme progress report. The various technical reports, programme progress report and the Secretariat's report. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Availability of competent national consultants who would could provide the required synthetic analysis of the situation. Pertinent lessons could be drawn from SPFS projects for the development of programmes to mitigate the effects of trade liberalisation. Countries request support from the programme in designing transitory measure.

Results	Activities	Objective Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions
Result 5. Cont.	(5. 4) Designing compensatory measures and stabilisation schemes to address macroeconomic consequences resulting from changes and fluctuations of import outlay and export earnings and funding of programmes in favour of food security designed under 5.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. of advisory missions to member states and No. of trainees; • A report reviewing existing financial arrangements available under the <i>Marrakech Decision</i>; • Guidelines for the allocation of resources from the COMESA Trade Fund to finance specific food security programmes in member states; and • No. of participants in the workshop on the design of food security programmes and the modalities of their funding under the COMESA Trade Fund, and design and operationalisation of stabilisation schemes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The report on existing financial arrangements; • The guidelines for the allocation of resources from the COMESA Trade Fund. • Programme progress report and CTA/Training Expert's mission reports. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member countries request Technical assistance in the development of food security programme and their integration in national Poverty Reduction Programmes.
Result 6: A revised and comprehensive COMESA Agricultural development strategy to operationalise the Common Agricultural Policy formulated.	(6.1) Review of the second version of the COMESA Agricultural development Strategy prepared under FAO/TCP support based on the original Strategy prepared by COMESA Secretariat;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experts mobilised and schedule for the review firmed up by programme management team; • Comments on existing COMESA draft Agricultural Development Strategy received from FAO and other concerned parties. 	Programme progress report	

Results	Activities	Objective Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions
Result 6 Cont.	<p>(6.2) Identification of strategic interventions better addressed at COMESA level.</p> <p>(6.3) Preparation of a Revised Strategy that ensures the smooth implementation of the elements in the CAP detailing out the priority areas of interventions; the financial resource required and how it could be mobilised,</p> <p>(6.4) Organisation and implementation of a workshop to discuss the Agricultural Strategy and subsequent updating/finalisation to take into account the recommendations of the workshop.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working documents prepared on the identification of priority regional programmes for inclusion in the revised Strategy. • A revised and more comprehensive document; • No. of participants. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme Progress report • Programme progress report; • The meeting of the committee on agriculture. • Workshop report 	