Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



Project Highlights

REGIONAL AFRICA

"Conservation agriculture coordination and advocacy in southern Africa"

Project code: OSRO/RAF/002/USA

Donor: United States of America

Contribution: USD 700 000

Implementation: 01/03/10 –31/03/11

Target areas: Angola, Madagascar, Malawi,

Mozambique, Namibia and South Africa

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Objective:

To improve decision-making processes for conservation agriculture (CA) by various stakeholders and at different levels of implementation in Angola, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia and South Africa.

Project partners:

Ministries of Agriculture; National Conservation Agriculture Task Forces (NCATFs); Conservation Agriculture Regional Working Group (CARWG); Food, Agriculture and National Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN); and other governmental and non-governmental organizations in the region.

Beneficiaries reached:

Farming communities in the participating countries; research and extension staff in government and other agencies; NCATFs; CARWG; FANRPAN; the Southern Africa Development Community; Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa; New Partnership for African Development; and various policy and decision-makers at the national and regional levels.

Activities implemented:

- Organized NCATF coordination and information sharing meetings in five of the project countries.
- Held an CARWG annual review and planning meeting, as well as a CARWG stakeholder consultation meeting.
- Conducted a market analysis on regional CA implements and tools to gain a better understanding of the CA equipment supply chain in the region.
- Supported a regional CARWG symposium to facilitate CA information sharing and identify key areas for CA research and development.
- Analysed relevant CA policies and developed recommendations to support CA expansion at various multi-stakeholder dialogues.
- Trained farmers and extension agents in CA practices, and set up demonstration plots and field visits to support project awareness and training activities.

Results:

- Strengthened NCATF and CARWG coordination capacities.
- Increased CA awareness and knowledge among key stakeholders in the region, including those involved in policy- and decision-making processes.
- Stimulated increased interest of CA among key stakeholders and farmers.
- Enabled stakeholders to improve CA policy environment and identify key action points for CA scale-up.

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