

CAADP Agriculture Nutrition Capacity Development Initiative

2011 - 2013

Objectives, Process and key outcomes

In Africa, efforts to strengthen the contribution of the agriculture sector in reducing poverty are laid out in the CAADP Framework for African Food Security. While many CAADP National Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plans (NAFSIPs) include nutritional goals, most are lacking the concrete actions needed to ensure nutrition security. This gap is being addressed by NEPAD's initiative to strengthen capacity for addressing nutrition in the formulation and implementation of NAFSIPs. **Sub-regional workshops including preparation and follow-up at country level are at the heart of this strategy.** The first workshop was held in Dakar, Senegal (Nov 2011), bringing together 180 participants from 17 West African Countries; 200 participants from 19 East and Central African countries gathered in Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania in February 2013, and the last workshop took place in Gaborone, Botswana in September 2013, with over 200 participants from 14 countries.

Purpose and specific objectives of this capacity development initiative

The purpose of the workshops and follow-up process is to assist countries in mainstreaming nutrition in their CAADP process and investment plans (strengthening nutrition in existing NAFSIPs, and/or ensuring future investment plans address nutrition). **Workshop specific objectives include :** 1) Identify and integrate best practices and approaches for better integrating nutrition in the CAADP framework and its processes; 2) Increase understanding of available tools, resources, and program experiences for mainstreaming nutrition in agriculture; 3) Strengthen country-level and regional networks contributing to the achievement of CAADP and food and nutrition security goals; 4) Increase understanding of how policy and governance issues need to align for improved food and nutrition security programming.

Participants and key stakeholders

Each workshop brought together **country teams** composed of 6 to 10 professionals from agriculture, health, education, finance, private sector, and civil society as well as representatives from Regional Economic Communities (RECs), CAADP Development Partners, Donors, UN and Non-Governmental Organizations, among others.

Workshop methodology (see diagram below)

- The methodology was designed in order to **maximize stakeholder engagement and impact at country level**, build ownership of nutrition amongst agriculture stakeholders and facilitate inter-sectoral dialogue.
- Carefully selected multi-sectoral Country Teams benefited from an **intensive preparation prior to the workshop**. They discussed their major food and nutrition security challenges and key nutrition related policies and programmes, and synthesized this into a **Nutrition Country Paper**.
- During the workshop, participants received guidance and shared knowledge on integrating agriculture and nutrition and agreed on **recommendations and sets of action** for mainstreaming nutrition in their CAADP Process and Agriculture investment plans summarized in a **country roadmap**.

Guiding Principles for Integrating Nutrition and Agriculture

1. Have a nutrition objective(s) and measure progress toward the objective(s) through M&E of relevant indicators, and track and mitigate potential harms.
2. Base goals and activities in the context and causes of malnutrition at the local level.
3. Target the vulnerable and improve equity through participation, access to resources and decent employment.
4. Empower women.
5. Increase production and reduce post-harvest losses of nutrient-rich foods, and facilitate production diversification.
6. Incorporate nutrition promotion and education around food and food systems that builds on existing local knowledge, attitudes and practices.
7. Improve processing to retain nutritional value, shelf-life, food safety, and to make healthy foods convenient to prepare.
8. Expand markets and market access for vulnerable groups particularly for nutrient-rich foods.
9. Collaborate with other sectors (health, environment, social protection, labor, water and sanitation, education, energy).
10. Maintain or improve the natural resource base (water, soil, air, climate, biodiversity).



Initial outcomes and issues for follow-up

- Participants shared experiences and reached common understanding of how nutrition can be integrated in agriculture strategies, including institutional and financial implications.
- The workshop offered a platform for strengthening policy and programming dialogue between participants working in different sectors and organisations.
- A broad range of tools, approaches and examples of successful interventions for effectively integrating agriculture and nutrition at country level were shared and discussed by country teams.
- Country teams identified specific recommendations on how nutrition can be integrated into their CAADP Investment Plans and processes. Their country roadmaps will be subject to further in-country consultation and be used as a reference for follow up at both country and regional levels.
- Countries are committed to implementing follow up actions but will require support from NEPAD, RECs and development partners. Linking recommended activities with current funding opportunities, existing development programmes and on-going policy process will be instrumental for an effective implementation of recommendations at country level.

Website, including complete workshop documentation and country outputs :

<http://www.fao.org/food/fns/workshops/caadp-nutrition/en/>

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