



## **Building Capacity to Mainstream Nutrition in National Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plans in Africa**

### **CAADP Agriculture Nutrition Capacity Development Initiative**

#### *Southern Africa Workshop*

About 870 million people are estimated to have been undernourished (in terms of dietary energy supply) in the period 2010-2012<sup>1</sup>. Nearly 200 million children and one in three women worldwide are malnourished. In Africa, the number of underweight children has almost doubled since 1980 and is forecast to be 25% higher in 2015 than in 1990. Many countries on track to meet MDG1 income poverty targets have made little or no progress in reducing underweight prevalence. However, improving nutrition is achievable and evidence-based interventions exist. Successful country-led program models that address the underlying determinants of undernutrition (poverty, agriculture, policy environment, health care, HIV and AIDS and gender equity) have been designed and implemented. Importantly, achieving significant reductions in malnutrition requires a more prominent role for nutrition in the policy making processes, which then must translate into effective policies and programs that address challenges at the household, community, and national level. This requires a multi-sectoral effort in which each sector takes action to 1) mainstream nutrition within current programmes and 2) improve collaboration efforts between sectors and institutions.

The momentum for scaling-up nutrition multi-stakeholder action is growing as demonstrated by the increasing number of partners, donors and countries joining the *Scaling-Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement* (35 countries, 23 from Africa) and the United Nations Secretary-General launching the Zero Hunger Challenge (ZHC)<sup>2</sup>. The recognized roles and responsibilities of the agriculture sector in addressing nutrition are gaining momentum and are highlighted by the international community, strongly recommending to place higher priority on nutrition-sensitive, food-based approaches for improving diets and raising levels of nutrition (FAO International Symposium on Food and Nutrition Security 2010) and “leveraging” (IFPRI International Conference 2011), “reshaping” (Fan and Pandya-Lorch 2012), or “realizing” (IFAD 2011) the opportunities offered by agriculture, in the broad sense of the term, to enhance nutrition and health.

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, which lays out a plan of action for achieving MDG1 in Africa through agriculture-led growth. CAADP is therefore an opportunity for agriculture to engage in the “nutrition momentum” and join forces with other sectors in the fight against malnutrition. While many CAADP National Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plans (NAFSIPs) include nutritional goals, most are lacking the concrete actions needed to facilitate nutrition security through improved agricultural practices. NEPAD has therefore launched an initiative to strengthen capacity for addressing nutrition

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<sup>1</sup> The State of Food Insecurity in the World, 2012

<sup>2</sup> The SUN Movement is a coalition composed of more than 100 entities from national governments, UN agencies, development agencies, and civil society organizations among many. It calls for intensifying collective efforts to devise and implement nutrition interventions to accelerate progress toward achieving MDG1. The Zero Hunger Challenge is an initiative launched by the UN Secretary-General that invites all countries to work together towards a future where every individual has adequate nutrition and where all food systems are resilient.

through the formulation and implementation of NAFSIPs. Regional workshops are at the heart of this strategy, bringing together country teams composed of professionals from agriculture, health, finance, nutrition units from various Ministries, private sector, and civil society, to develop roadmaps for maximizing the nutritional impact of agriculture investment plans. The first of these workshops was held in Dakar, Senegal (Nov 2011) and brought together 17 West African Countries, and the follow-up is still underway. The East and Central Africa workshop brought together 18 East and Central African Countries and has just been held in Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania (Feb 2013). The third one is planned for Southern Africa and will take place in Gaborone, Botswana in September 2013. These workshops provided an opportunity for about 400 participants to increase their understanding of agriculture's role in improving nutrition, intensify dialogue and mutual understanding of each sectors' role in improving nutrition, and agree on practical steps for nutrition actions on the ground. The workshop increased country-level momentum and heightened the profile of agriculture as a key partner in nutrition.

### **Overall goal of the capacity development initiative**

The overall goal of the regional workshops for incorporating nutrition into investment plans and follow-up process is to ensure nutrition interventions are planned, budgeted and implemented as part of the NAFSIPs. The workshops are part of a wider capacity-development process designed to assist countries in enhancing the nutritional impact of the NAFSIPs, building on existing capacity-development initiatives at the country and regional levels. These efforts will contribute to capacity development for technical and programme design, management, and monitoring and evaluation of CAADP Pillar 3 programmes.

### **Workshop specific objectives, agenda and results**

The **workshop specific objectives** include:

- 1) Increase participant's understanding of good practices and solutions for better integrating nutrition objectives, concerns and considerations in the CAADP framework and processes at regional and country level (formulation of CAADP compact and investment plans, resource mobilization, implementation, monitoring & evaluation)
- 2) Increase participant's understanding of how to use existing tools and technical resources taken from the global and country-level contexts for integrating nutrition and agriculture
- 3) Strengthen country-level and regional networks of development professionals and experts contributing to the achievement of CAADP and food and nutrition security goals
- 4) Increase participant's understanding of how policy and governance/institutional/management issues need to align for improved food and nutrition security programming, particularly with regards to improving multi-sectoral coordination and developing public-private partnerships

The workshop will cover the **following themes**: situation analysis, design, monitoring and evaluation, coordination, capacity development, and costing/funding issues, all to be analyzed with a nutrition lens and on the basis of *guiding principles* for integrating agriculture and nutrition. Particular attention will be given to the design theme by sharing examples of key interventions that have demonstrated results and lessons learned from the field for linking agriculture and nutrition (e.g. changing consumer behaviour; promoting nutrition sensitive value chains and food safety aspects including aflatoxin; diversifying local production; supporting livelihoods, including through social protection; integrating urban issues, etc...). In addition special attention will be given to HIV and AIDS considering the high prevalence and the impact that it has on household food and nutrition security in the Southern Africa region.

It is expected that **country teams will come prepared** having reviewed their CAADP Compacts and NAFSIPs and any national strategies or other country-specific nutrition documents they may have related to nutrition. Country teams will work through a pre-workshop assignment to be captured in the Nutrition Country Papers that compile information on the countries' food and nutrition situation, a description of the institutional and policy framework in sectors relevant to nutrition, and perceived challenges and capacity gaps for better linking agriculture and nutrition.

The workshop will offer a platform to meet the above mentioned specific objectives. More particularly, **key deliverables at country level** will include:

- **Nutrition Country Papers** summarizing nutrition relevant information on the food, agriculture, health and socio-economic situation in each country drawing from and feeding into the Nutrition Country Papers being drafted by countries as part of the preparations for the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2)
- **Country Roadmaps**, elaborated following *guiding principles, questions and tips* and benefiting from knowledge gained and lessons learned, which defines how nutrition should be mainstreamed in agriculture investment plans and describing the actions to be taken to ensure recommendations are integrated in the plans and implemented. These Country Roadmaps will be subject to further in-country consultation after the workshop and will be used as a reference for follow-up at both country and regional levels (AU/NEPAD and Regional Economic Communities [RECs]).

The Steering Committee described below is committed to **ensuring recommendations made during the workshop are acted upon**. Efforts will be made to help countries mobilise the additional technical and financial resources needed to implement their Country Roadmap (e.g. regional trainings and design workshops; e-learning courses; country technical assistance projects). Particular emphasis will be given to coordinating available technical assistance and resources to optimise their effectiveness. Results from this initiative will contribute to the conversation on nutrition-sensitive agriculture and food systems (see [www.fao.org/ICN2](http://www.fao.org/ICN2)).

### Proposed Participants

The proposed target audience will be those individuals from agriculture and other nutrition-related sectors (e.g. health, education, finance, planning), representing government, civil society, the private sector, and development partners. Each country shall be represented by **6 to 10 participants**, including:

- CAADP Country Focal Point
- Ministry of Agriculture<sup>3</sup> representatives responsible for planning, nutrition and/or ICN2 Focal Point
- Ministry of Health representatives responsible for nutrition, gender, HIV/Aids and/or ICN2 Focal Point
- Ministry of Education representative
- National Planning Commission senior representative
- Ministry of Finance senior representative (responsible for agriculture, food and nutrition security)
- Representatives of multi-sectoral coordination committee on food and nutrition security
- Representative of National HIV/Aids Council or equivalent
- Civil Society representative(s) from organizations working on agriculture, food security or nutrition
- Private sector Representative(s) (including farmer organisations)
- Academia representative working on agriculture, nutrition, food security related issues

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<sup>3</sup> Agriculture, Animal Resources/Livestock, Fishery, Forestry

Participants will be **identified through consultations with appropriate local stakeholders at country level**. In addition to country representatives, the workshop will be attended by professionals from the RECs, UN organisations, NGOs, Donor Organisations and Academia working at regional and global levels. The CAADP focal point will identify a volunteer able to dedicate time as “**country workshop support person**” and assist her/him and the country team with in-country preparations, group work during the workshop, and follow-up after the workshop.

### Workshop organization

The workshop preparation process is led by a **Steering Committee** and supported by a core organizing team in charge of coordinating all aspects of the workshop preparation, namely: planning; communication; fund-raising; technical content, methodology and logistics. The Steering Committee is chaired by NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency (NPCA) and composed of representatives from RECs, UN organisations including the REACH partnership, donor organisations, SUN Movement, NGOs, and Universities.

#### *Date and location*

📍 **Southern Africa CAADP Nutrition Workshop - September 9th-13th , Gaborone, Botswana**

#### List of countries, Southern Africa Workshop

Country	COMESA	ECSA	EAC	SADC	IGAD	ECCAS	CAADP Milestones <sup>4</sup>	SUN <sup>5</sup>	REACH <sup>6</sup>
1. Angola				✓		✓	Drafting Compact		
2. Botswana		✓		✓			Drafting Compact		
3. Comoros	✓						Drafting Compact		
4. Lesotho		✓		✓			Drafting Compact		
5. Madagascar	✓			✓			Process launched	✓	
6. Malawi	✓	✓		✓			GAFSP Received	✓	
7. Mauritius	✓	✓		✓			Process launched		
8. Mozambique		✓		✓			GAFSP Received	✓	✓
9. Namibia		✓		✓			Process to be launched	✓	
10. Seychelles	✓	✓		✓			IP design ongoing		
11. South Africa		✓		✓			Drafting Compact		
12. Swaziland	✓	✓		✓			IP design ongoing		
13. Zambia	✓	✓		✓			IP design ongoing	✓	
14. Zimbabwe	✓	✓		✓			Drafting Compact	✓	

Countries covered during West Africa Workshop (Dakar, Nov 2011): Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chad, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, The Gambia, Togo

Countries covered during East and Central Africa Workshop (Dar-Es-Salaam, Feb 2013): Burundi, Cameroon, Central Africa Republic, Congo DRC, Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Kenya, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, South Sudan, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda

Remaining African countries: Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia

<sup>4</sup>Entails of four milestones, (1) Compact design and signature, (2) Development of Investment Plan, (3) Technical review of Investment Plan (4) Business meeting

<sup>5</sup>The SUN Movement is a coalition composed of more than 100 entities from national governments, UN agencies, development agencies, and civil society organizations among many. It calls for intensifying collective efforts to devise and implement nutrition interventions to accelerate progress toward achieving MDG1

<sup>6</sup>The Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger (REACH) Initiative promotes a holistic approach to tackling undernutrition in the context of MDG1, with a view to helping governments plan, prioritise and manage inter-sectoral nutrition activities among multiple stakeholders.