



AGRF 2016 – PRE - EVENT REPORT

Day 3 - Wednesday, September 7

9:30am- 12:30pm

Symposium 2: Strengthening Commitments to Mutual Accountability for Results and Impact Toward the CAADP – Malabo Declaration and SDGs

SESSION BRIEF

Context: In the 2014 Malabo Declaration on accelerated agricultural growth and transformation for shared prosperity and improved livelihoods, commitment to mutual accountability to actions and results was one of the seven commitments adopted by African Heads of State and Government. The leaders committed to a systematic regular review process (using the CAADP results framework) of the progress made in implementing the provisions of the declaration. The leaders resolved to conduct a biennial agricultural review process that involves tracking, monitoring and reporting on the progress in implementing the declaration. The first report of the biennial review will be presented at the AU Summit of Heads of State and Government in January 2018. The biennial review report will present progress made by the countries and regional economic communities towards meeting the Malabo goals and targets. The preparation of the country and regional reports will involve various players: governments, private sectors, non-state actors, technical partners and donors.

In line with the AGRF Seizing the Moment clarion call, this session aimed to help define “The Moment” to be “Seized” by articulating the progress that has been made in the last decade of CAADP implementation and the prospects at hand. The session also sought to articulate the commitments made by African stakeholders and how they shall be tracked and reported through the biennial review process and the agricultural performance scorecard.

Session Objectives:

The session aimed at achieving the following objectives:

- Provide understanding of why African leaders made the commitment on mutual accountability to actions and results;
- Present what AUC and NPCA, with the support of partners, have done to prepare for the biennial review reporting at regional and country level; and,
- Seek the view of various stakeholders (government, private sector, non-state actors, donors, technical partners) on roles in advancing mutual accountability and readiness for the biennial review.

Key Issues/ Questions:

- Why did African leaders make the commitment on mutual accountability to actions and results?
- What have the AUC and NPCA, with the support of partners, done to prepare for the biennial review reporting at regional and country level-? and,



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- What are the views of various stakeholders (government, private sector, non-state actors, donors, technical partners) on their roles in advancing mutual accountability and readiness for the biennial review?

Outcome Desired:

Renewed commitment from governments, and particularly Africa’s partners, to pursue attainment of the Malabo Commitments and to track and report on progress made by all stakeholders at country levels.

Organizers: African Union Commission, NEPAD Agency and the Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS)

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Name	Picture	Discussion
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SESSION 1

<p>Dr. Kanayo Nwanze, President, IFAD</p> <p>Role: Moderator 1</p>		<p>Dr. Nwanze opened the session by pointing out that from his vantage point as head of the International Fund for Agricultural Development he was encouraged by the developments that have taken place over the past decade and the challenge now is in translating the results more tangibly into sustainable transformation of the agricultural sector on the African continent.</p> <p>He then noted that he was also pleased to present to the delegates a highly motivated panel, consisting of personalities that are very knowledgeable and passionate about the agricultural sector on the continent.</p>
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<p>Dr. Ousmane Badiane, Africa Director, IFPRI</p> <p>Role: Setting the Stage 1</p>		<p>Dr. Badiane opened the session by pointing out the fact that in order to seize the momentum, stakeholders must know and understand the role of investments, policies and mutual accountability. It involves the three steps of: 1) picturing the momentum, 2) assessing why and how to seize the moment, and 3) the actually seizing the momentum (Malabo, NAIPs 2.0, and MA)</p> <p>Picturing the Momentum</p> <p>Africa changed completely from negative decline to unprecedented recovery between 1990 and 2000 – the Annual Agricultural Expenditure grew by 86% and the Agricultural Gross Domestic Product went up by 63%. The momentum is evident as during the same period, the share of population below the poverty line dropped to - 36% and the level of malnutrition declined by between 20-43%. Several countries are growing and maintaining the momentum.</p> <p>The other transformation is the commercialization of agriculture. Actors in the value chain are inclined to process their agricultural produce before selling it. Today – we have ready to cook meals.</p> <p>There is also evidence that in the countries that embraced CAADP agricultural productivity and GDP per capita have grown faster and the malnutrition rate has declined faster than in countries that did not.</p> <p>Why Seize the Momentum</p> <p>1975-1985 is considered the lost decade. At the current pace of growth it will take decades to make up for the lost ground.</p> <p>According to the Maputo declaration, we are supposed to be spending 10% on agriculture expenditure – countries are moving in that direction but very few have arrived at even 7%. Yet, as agriculture becomes more commercially</p>
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		<p>viable and Africa possesses 25% of the earth’s available arable land there is a demand factor that is unprecedented. Coupled with a growing middle class and population on the continent, there are also growing markets for food – nationally, and regionally, not even considering the growing demand that is also existent internationally. So agriculture in Africa today not only can help achieve food security – it is a key potential driver of wealth creation and economic development.</p> <p>How to Seize the Momentum</p> <p>An increase in agricultural public expenditure can help accelerate growth, as can policy commitment, policy consistency, and policy coherence and continuity. Increased spending and transparent and inclusively developed policy can help the continent reduce poverty and improve nutrition and health.</p> <p>Seizing the Momentum- Malabo, NAIPS 2.0 and MA</p> <p>The planned Robust Joint Sector Review Processes are aimed at improving mutual accountability. Having concrete investment and expenditure plans that shape national spending and sound policy plans will enable nations to truly seize the moment and contribute to the economic growth of their agriculture sectors . . .and through the sectors growth, their nations.</p> <p>In order to seize the moment we need to have a well-conceived, inclusively developed, investment and expenditure plan and a sound policy that creates a strong enabling environment and these attributes can shapes the way we spend.</p>
Panelists		



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<p>Dr. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, CEO, NEPAD Agency</p>		<p>Dr. Mayaki commented that the Malabo Declaration provided a new horizon with commitments from the various Heads of State.</p> <p>However, he cautioned that there is need for critical governance reforms from government because agricultural policy must be more closely linked to government policies. It is unfortunate that governments often work in isolation (rather than share or borrow good practice with their neighbors) and government ministries also tend to work in silos.</p> <p>While he noted that Dr. Badiane highlighted the fact that Africa has six of the fastest growing economies, he found it cause for concern that seven of the poorest economies in the world are also in Africa. It would help if nations had an agricultural lens of development.</p> <p>He continued that in his view, leadership is not about the presidents making speeches – development is achieved when the leadership is hands on. There is need for instruments that enable them to be hands on. Leaders can then build systems and institutions that enhance accountability. The indicators will reflect the movement by individual countries.</p> <p>He closed with the charge that countries must align their priorities in an effort to follow through on their commitment to the Malabo declaration.</p>
<p>Hon. Willy Bett, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, Kenya</p>		<p>In responding to a query from Dr. Nwanze about “what actions are being taken at the country level to ensure delivery on commitments”, the Honorable Willy Bett, Cabinet Secretary (Minister) of agriculture in Kenya noted that the commitments made by our leadership should be able to transform agriculture.</p> <p>Mutual accountability within the country is important. In Kenya an inclusive corporate team has been put together – with members from academia/ research institutions, government and the private sector. The team was</p>



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		<p>orientated on the report framework. Kenya is aware that it needs to report on progress in 2018.</p> <p>He also stated that he felt that institutions that are expected to implement should have their capacities assessed.</p> <p>As a country he concluded, “we (Kenya) are on course and committed to Malabo!”</p>
<p>HE. Rhoda Peace Tumusiime, Commissioner, Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union Commission</p>		<p>Ms. Tumusiime was posed the following question by Dr. Nwanze in his capacity as the Session Moderator: On African leaders and accountability. What is the AU doing to follow up on commitments?</p> <p>In her response she explained that in “Seizing the Moment”, the Malabo commitments are a landmark for all of us on the continent. The Heads of State value the importance of agriculture – as a means of leading Africa out of poverty. . . and toward economic growth and development.</p> <p>Delivery on the Malabo Declaration has to happen at the country level. The partnerships need to be local but the continental synergies have to be in place. Countries have agricultural investment plans but they also need to develop appropriate tools to monitor progress.</p> <p>The AU has developed guidelines to orient governments to develop and put accountability tools in place. There are result frameworks to encourage member states to remain on track. The country level score card is one such tool to follow up on delivery.</p>



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<p>Beth Dunford, Assistant Administrator, USAID</p>		<p>Ms. Beth Dunford who spoke next discussed the US Agency for International Development’s (USAID’s) role in ensuring accountability.</p> <p>She noted that the African countries where USAID is working are all moving to ensure delivery of the Malabo commitments. Donor commitments have to follow country agenda and commitments. The US government recognizes the progress registered so far because of leadership. Moving forward, she believes that African leaders can:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure transparent policy agenda; 2. Promote investments that have potential for maximum impact; 3. Promote targeted domestic spending; 4. Insist on consistent Implementation of the commitments; <p>Question from Moderator- what are your views on development partners aligning to country plans considering that domestic spending outstrips donor funding?</p> <p>Response - At the core, governments must develop and share clear investment plans so that donors can possibly align to them.</p>
<p>Q & A</p>		
	<p>Do you think at the national and AU level you have the data you need and do you know the data that you need?</p>	<p>Gathering data is a continuing process. We lack the awareness that we need the data. Trying to create high quality data that can be used for decision making is a huge task – it is a neglected budget item which needs to be taken seriously.</p> <p>On accountability – it is important to have baseline data. At the country level (e.g Kenya) there is a mechanism of collecting data. However, those who must work with the data may need to be oriented to the new data sets that are required.</p>
	<p>Seeing that less than 50% of countries are spending less</p>	<p>Span of actors is huge – creating span of accountability – can influence the 10%.</p>



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	<p>than 10% of their annual budgets on agriculture, what needs to happen?</p>	<p>NEPAD has been integrated with the AU as the technical arm of AU. Several countries have actually doubled their investments. While we are not there, there is positive trend in all the countries which should be acknowledged.</p>
	<p>Countries should have offices to domesticate the commitments towards accountability.</p>	<p>Should not ignore that there is evidence that those who adopted the CAADP program and adhered to it earlier are doing better economically today.</p>
	<p>Even now there are African countries that are performing better than others. Is the AU creating a platform where those that are not doing well can learn from others?</p>	<p>The Africa Union notes that indeed there is an emerging “Demonstration Effect” as those that are out there implementing on their commitments share their experiences and other (particularly regional neighbors) are listening. As well platforms such as the Ministerial Specialized Technical Committees (there is one for agriculture ministers) and at the Head of State level the African Peer Review Mechanism still exists. Thus there are a number of Platforms for experience sharing – there are meetings that take place every year.</p>

Summary

Moderator: Data is important for accountability. Many of our countries are starting at 1% on investment in agriculture but there has been progress since the Maputo declaration. Definitely, while we should note that progress has been made in the past decade, it is not time to pat ourselves on the back, as while many Africans have moved into the middle class, the total number of the poor has also increased. There is something that we are not doing right.

SESSION 2

<p>Dr. Godfrey Bahiigwa, Head, IFPRI East & Southern Africa and ReSAKSS Coordinator, Africa</p> <p>Role: Moderator 2</p>		<p>In opening the second session of this symposium, Dr. Bahiigwa pointed out that there are three main agenda components related to actualizing the Malabo Declaration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Translating the Malabo declaration into national investment plans;
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		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Creating realistic implementation plans for accountability. The AU is in the final stages of developing a score card – a simplified tool to monitor progress; 3. Lastly – the importance of leadership from the continental level to the individual countries
<p>Mr. Jeff Raikes, Founder and Co- Chair, Raikes Foundation</p> <p>Role: Setting the Stage 2</p>		<p>Mr. Raikes added to the discussion of the morning by sharing that in his view accountability is very important and the use of a tool like a performance scorecard cannot be over emphasized.</p> <p>Political will is key, and with a scorecard, nations can step back and review previous instruments and why they were not able to deliver result.</p> <p>However, it is key for developers of a scorecard to note that developing indicators is very complex – and getting the countries to agree on them not easy. The end result though is a tool that can truly compel action and the delivery of the commitments made by leaders – as without these, action is often missing.</p> <p>Mr. Raikes then went on to share his experience with the ALMA Scorecard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lessons from the ALMA Scorecard (www.alma2030.org) <p>The challenge for policy makers and leaders is that transformation is tough - the plans are there but execution is difficult and at times the will to take difficult but necessary decisions can be missing. The African Leaders Malaria Alliance Scorecard is a monitoring and accountability system aimed at helping leaders develop the best policies and implement them with the goal of containing malaria. It tracks results, identifies bottlenecks and facilitates appropriate action. Through its use, national lessons are identified and shared for effective implementation.</p>



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		<p>The Scorecard is useful for accountability and action.</p> <p>The Scorecard is also critical for “PALA”:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritization • Alignment • Learning – look and learn progress • Accountability <p>In developing the Agricultural Transformation Scorecard, the guiding principles are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buy-in from African Leaders • Optimization for data availability • Design actionable indicators • Simple for easy communication <p>The ALMA is working to eliminate malaria by 2030 using a Scorecard that has seven key indicators. It has the support of African Heads of State. It provides for the M&E, helps to identify and share lessons. It allows for country comparison.</p> <p>The ALMA Scorecard took six-months to develop. If Africa is to seize the moment, it needs to have a robust framework and concise scorecard that it can use. This will enable Africa to seize the moment.</p>
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<p>Mr. Jeff Hill, Director of Policy, USAID Bureau for Food Security</p>		<p>Mr. Jeff Hill of USAID was asked to share his views on the “donor role in ensuring delivery of the Malabo Declaration Commitments”.</p> <p>Mr. Hill noted that there has been limited donor involvement thus far because it is important that the process is country led and owned. Countries need to have a definite national agricultural investment plan and see it as their opportunity to be aligned to their development.</p>
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		<p>The countries are mainly responsible as the development partners can only step in to support implementation – when requested. Donor guidelines exist at country level. Largely there is a strong dialogue going on. There is a strong interest in being able to support countries at a continent level. USAID is interested in knowing what the national priorities are and if the countries are delivering on their commitments? Every country is expected to share what it is doing using the high level indicators. The donor is then in a position to talk about the contributions in a specific way.</p> <p>He concluded by noting that there remains a need for improving instruments that clarify commitments and have the ability to show transparency in spending.</p>
<p>Mr. Kop’ep Dabugat, Coordinator, CAADP Non-State Actors Coalition</p>		<p>Mr. Dabugat was asked to contribute to the conversation and bring in “the perspective of Non-State Actors and to offer his views on their role in the delivery of the Malabo Commitments”.</p> <p>Most of the time Non State Actors (NSA) were left behind in the planning stages, NSAs typically just tag along. In terms of practical engagement, NSAs do try to work closely with governments to align their activities to the government processes.</p> <p>NSAs are also keen to ensure that the tools reflect what is happening on the ground. The actors try to hold the governments accountable in this regard.</p> <p>Each NSA is unique with and within the community there are varying levels of commitment. NSAs can’t replace the role of government but they can raise the voice of the citizen and provide links with society so that the public can feel that they are part of the process. NSAs are always looking for opportunities to engage with the government to contribute to the processes.</p>
<p>Mr. Emmanuel Ijewere, Executive</p>		<p>Absent, but Tony below offered to contribute on his behalf.</p>



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<p>Director, Nigeria Agribusiness Group and CEO, Best Foods</p>		
<p>Dr. Tony Bello, Director General Nigeria Agribusiness Group</p>		<p>On behalf of his colleague, Mr. Ijewere, Dr. Tony Bello shared his views on the role of the Private Sector in enhancing accountability</p> <p>From his vantage point, the private sector’s engagement with government was as a partner in the implementation of the economic agenda of the country – as co-investor, joint resource and technical capacity mobilizer, and lead creator of employment opportunities. Thus, the private sector endeavors to engage at the highest levels of government – to share ideas, and to contribute in meetings with donor coordination groups.</p>
<p>Q & A</p>		
	<p>What are donor organizations doing to build the capacity of NSAs to engage within these processes?</p>	<p>Development partners appreciate the importance of accountability. In trying to engage with NSAs – USAID has supported capacity building. A review in 19 countries identified the actors and thereafter relevant training for NSAs were developed to help them to engage in the post-Malabo processes.</p>
	<p>What is the role of the private sector in contributing to delivering on the Malabo declaration; after all, it is a big stakeholder.</p>	<p>There is a new alliance at AU to promote private sector engagement. It is adding value to a mutual accountability space. They are able to track government and private sector investment.</p> <p>Often, the local private sector does not cooperate, there is resistance to collaboration. There is no implementation.</p>
	<p>Government commitments are clear, they can be tracked and reported on – What about the private sector? How do we hold the private sector accountable?</p>	<p>Several agribusinesses came together to support government commitments and have a goal of finding better ways to fund agribusiness, and a more structured way to regulate markets – to optimize performance.</p>
	<p>Civil Society – can they have a code of conduct to support the Malabo declaration?</p>	<p>NSAs acknowledge USAID’s support at country and regional level. In several instances, NSAs have been involved in sectoral meets and country level platforms to</p>



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		<p>facilitate programs. NSAs have also mapped actors graphically – who is doing what and where. There exists an Information platform – for sharing and analysis</p> <p>Part of the process is to come up with a comprehensive plan of action. Organizing NSAs, also committing to consistent engagement. NSAs are known for noise making at the moment – trying to push for constructive engagement.</p>
<p>Summary</p> <p>We applaud the efforts that have been put in – at AU and country level. It is pretty convincing that Africa has led the way. No other countries globally have been able to exhibit this type of commitment to collective accountability. The experimentation has been important. However, it is just a scratch on the surface – mutual accountability – how are you encouraging this?</p> <p>As we unpack this and explore further exactly how it needs to be unpacked, the tools need to be tailored to address specific contexts. Scorecards are not perfect and we do need to discourage proliferation of score cards. The scorecard is an umbrella – the key thing is actionability.</p>		