

Increased competitiveness and enhanced integration into domestic and international markets

FASDEP II: Agriculture sector goals

The Food and Agriculture Sector Development Policy (FASDEP II) embodies the Government of Ghana's vision for the agriculture sector. This itself is derived from the national vision in the GPRS II, and the follow-up National Long Term Development Plan, NEPAD's CAADP and the MDG I on halving poverty by 2015. FASDEP II objectives are to improve food security, increase income, improve market access and ensure that investments in the sector will be scientifically based and environmentally sustainable regarding the allocation of at least 10% of annual government expenditure to the agricultural sector, targeting the poor appropriately and working towards gender equity.

The vision for the agriculture sector as defined by the above strategic documents and specified in the FASDEP II is "a modernised agriculture culminating in a structurally transformed economy and evident in food security, employment opportunities and reduced poverty". Agricultural GDP growth is targeted at, at least 6% per annum to support the national growth output. The sector policy orientation is guided by the following: value chain concept; focus on selected commodities for food security; emergency preparedness; diversification of income generation and stability; enhanced productivity; mechanisation to remove drudgery irrigation to remove over reliance on rainfall; meeting the challenge of quality standards; transforming smallholders; promoting public-private partnerships; inclusivity whereby all operators (youth, vulnerable, women and men) are reached with services; enhanced coordination and harmonisation.

Agriculture sector plan 2009–2015

FASDEP II outlines six objective areas to address the goals for the sector and the Agriculture Sector Plan has been developed to implement the policy. The objectives of the policy therefore form the basis of programmes and activities in the sector plan which serves as the operational framework of investment programmes for the period 2009 to 2015. The first two programmes are on food security and growth in incomes and directly support commodity growth and development interventions. Three other programme areas on market access, environmental sustainability and science and technology support the commodity interventions. A final programme on institutional coordination supports the framework for all interventions. The specific policy objectives/plan programmes are the following:

1. Food security and emergency preparedness
2. Improved growth in incomes and reduced income variability directly promoting commodity development
- 3. Increased competitiveness and enhanced integration into domestic and international markets**
4. Sustainable management of land and environment
5. Science and technology applied in food and agriculture development
6. Enhanced institutional coordination

Outcomes and objectives

This program aims to enhance the capacity of semi-commercial and commercial smallholders to produce for the international and expanding domestic markets, including agro-industry.

The current escalation in food market prices presents an opportunity for a higher level of commercialisation especially by smallholders. This programme complements interventions to be pursued under rural infrastructure, food storage and distribution, and mechanisation elaborated under the food security and emergency preparedness programme. Market access is private sector-led and government will provide infrastructure and services of a public goods nature.

Activities

Activities are organized under one component.

COMPONENT

MARKETING OF GHANAIAN PRODUCE IN DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MARKETS

Targets:

- (i) Marketed output of non-export smallholder commodities increased by 50% by 2015.
- (ii) Export of non-traditional agricultural export commodities by men and women smallholders increased by 50% by 2015.
- (iii) Grading and standardization systems made functional by 2012

Table I - Summary Cost for Programme 3 (2009–2015): Increased competitiveness and enhanced integration into domestic and international markets (million GHc)

Component	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7
Increase marketed output of non-export smallholder commodities by 50%	22.1	31.0	21.5	23.1	26.4	8.5	7.8
Sub Total Program (GHc)	22.1	31.0	21.5	23.1	26.4	8.5	7.8
Sub Total Program (US\$)	15.2	21.4	14.8	16.0	18.2	5.9	5.4
Sub Total Program (Euro)	11.1	31.2	10.7	11.6	13.2	4.2	3.9