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 MDG1 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 water
5. Science and technology applied in food and agriculture development
6. Enhanced institutional coordination

PROGRAMME 4 - SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LAND AND WATER

Outcomes and objectives

This programme integrates the Agricultural Land Management Strategy into the sector plan and addresses barriers of various dimensions, including policy, legal/regulatory, institutional, incentive, and knowledge/information for the adoption and up-scaling of sustainable land management practices.

Activities

The activities are organized under one component to implement the SLM strategy.
COMPONENT

4.1. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SLM STRATEGY

Targets:
(i) Policies and regulations to support SLM at all levels reviewed and strengthened by 2010.
(ii) Institutional capacity at all levels within the food and agriculture sector built to support the promotion of SLM.
(iii) Technology dissemination and adoption for scaling-up of SLM commences at the beginning of 2009.
(iv) Technical capacity at all levels built to support promotion and dissemination of SLM technologies by 2012.
(v) SLM knowledge to support policy and investment decision making generated and adequately managed by 2012.
(vi) An effective, efficient and motivating incentive system for SLM established by 2010.

PROGRAMME 5 - SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY APPLIED IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT

Outcomes and Objectives
To support the vision for a modernised food and agriculture sector. Priority areas will be supported by improved technologies and client linkage systems will be enhanced to ensure demand driven research and utilisation of results.

Activities
The activities are organized under one component on science and technology.

COMPONENT

5.1. ENHANCED APPLICATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BY ALL ECONOMIC AGENTS.

Targets:
(i) Adoption of improved technologies by men and women farmers increased by 25%.
(ii) Agricultural research funding increased to at least 10% of agriculture sector budgetary allocation by 2010 (It is established as a trigger by 2009)
(iii) Bio-safety bill passed by end of 2009
(iv) A MOFA Unit to coordinate research output of the agricultural sector is well resourced and made functional by 2010.
(v) A sustainable funding mechanism for RELCs established and operational by June 2009.

Table 1- Summary cost for Programme 4 (2009–2015): Sustainable management of land and water (millions GHc)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
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<td>5.2</td>
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<td>2.3</td>
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Table 2- Summary cost for Programme 5 (2009-2015): Science and technology applied in food and agriculture (millions GHc)

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<th>Year 7</th>
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