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

Outcomes and Objectives

To promote enhanced partnership and harmonisation of efforts in order to achieve maximum results in growth and development of the sector.

Activities

The activities are organised under four components:

(i) Strengthen intra-ministerial coordination
(ii) Inter-ministerial coordination
(iii) Partnership with private sector and civil society organisations
(iv) Coordination with development partners (donors).
COMPONENTS

1. STRENGTHEN INTRA-MINISTERIAL COORDINATION

Targets:
(i) A communications strategy within MOFA is developed and implemented by 2009
(ii) A framework for communication between national, regional and district levels is developed and made functional by 2010
(iii) All cost centres within MOFA are adequately resourced and capacities for electronic financial data capture and reporting and asset management are built by 2009
(iv) Capacity of the HRDM Directorate in personnel management is strengthened.
(v) The human, material, logistics, and skills resource capacity of all directorates of MOFA are built by 2010.

2. INTER-MINISTERIAL COORDINATION

Targets: A joint platform for collaboration between MOFA and other MDAs established by the end of 2009.

3. PARTNERSHIP WITH PRIVATE SECTOR AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

Target: A platform for private sector and civil society engagement with MOFA established by the end of 2009.

4. COORDINATION WITH DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS (DONORS)

Target: MOFA-DPs coordination and collaboration strengthened and DPs and MDAs fund a common agriculture strategy.

5. STRENGTHEN AGRICULTURAL STATISTICAL BASE

Target: Strengthen the agricultural statistical base to support the monitoring and evaluation of government policies and programmes related to the agricultural sector.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
<th>Year 6</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
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<td>23.3</td>
<td>14.5</td>
<td>17.2</td>
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<td>5. Strengthen agricultural statistical base</td>
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<td>17.1</td>
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<td>9.9</td>
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Table 1- Summary cost for Programme 6 (2009–2015): Enhanced institutional coordination (million GHc)