Seven-Point Agenda: Agricultural Goals and Programs

The seven-point agenda focuses on critical infrastructure, the Niger Delta, food security, human capital development, land tenure changes and home ownership, national security and intelligence and wealth creation.

The agenda defines the framework for policy implementation to transform Nigeria by accelerating economic growth and reforms within the country to make a concrete and visible difference to the Nigerian people. The aim of the agenda is to make Nigeria one of the 20 largest economies in the world by the year 2020. One critical area of focus of the seven-point agenda is food security which underscores agricultural development and sustainable investment. As articulated in the seven-point agenda, the overall agricultural sector goal is to attain national food security by ensuring sustainable access, availability, and affordability of quality food to all Nigerians and positioning Nigeria as a net food exporter.

Seven-Point Agenda: Agriculture and Food Security

The drive to achieve the food security and national development objectives as espoused in the seven-point agenda of the President makes the strengthening of agricultural production, processing, storage, and marketing as well as research and development imperative. In light of this, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources developed the five-point agenda for agriculture and national development as an implementation road map in the short and medium term towards the attainment of the objectives of the National Food Security Programme (NFSP). The strategies for the implementation of the five-point agenda are well articulated in the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources 2010–2012 Medium Term Sector Strategy (MTSS, 2009). The strategic objective of the five-point agenda is to achieve the targets defined in the larger planning framework of the seven-point agenda, NEEDS 2, CAADP, MDGs, and Vision 2020. The five-point agenda focuses on the following key programs:

1. Developing Agricultural Policy and Regulatory System (DAPRS)
2. Agricultural Commodity Exchange Market (ACCOMEX)
3. Raising Agricultural Income with Sustainable Environment (RAISE)
4. Maximizing Agricultural Revenue in Key Enterprises (MARKETS)
5. Water, Aquaculture and Environmental Resource Management
Objectives of DAPRS

DAPRS aims at ensuring sound agricultural policies and regulatory frameworks. Its objectives are to review and reform key agricultural policies and frameworks and to communicate the new or revised policies and frameworks. The focus on policies will be to (a) build human capacity; (b) facilitate the supply of inputs (fertilizer, agro-chemicals, machinery, seeds, etc.); and (c) promote production in the field.

Cost: N3,595,830,230.00, including substantial private sector costs.

Subprograms

The details of the subprograms to be implemented under DAPRS and all activities that will be carried out are highlighted below.

1. Strengthening of Regulatory Framework with Policy Instruments

Target: To develop land reform policies through land mapping and certification to ensure ownership.

Activities
- Strategic review of agricultural policy (to enhance advocacy and develop proactive legislation required to support commercialization of agriculture).
- Development of a sound policy for financing agriculture (credit and grant support and other suitable mechanisms to enhance market competitiveness).
- Strengthening of the national soil laboratories.

Cost: N1,458,000

2. Collation of Information for Monitoring and Evaluation Programme

Targets
- Establishment of standards for adequate monitoring and evaluation.
- Enhancement of the elements of the human capacity development index in data collection.

Activities
Strong monitoring and evaluation mechanism to track and document achievements and other lessons learned from the implementation of the agenda.

Cost: N260,206,230 per geological zone

3. Educating the Stakeholders and the General Public about the new Agricultural Policy

Targets
- Development of efficient ICT infrastructures for agricultural information dissemination.
- Strengthening of informal groups in rural communities.

Activities
Robust communication strategies for an effective stakeholder engagement and public awareness and branding of the programme.

Cost: N20,000,000 per state