Advancing Mutual Accountability Through Agriculture Joint Sector Reviews

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What is Mutual Accountability?

- Mutual accountability is a process by which two or more parties hold one another accountable for the commitments they have voluntarily made to one another.

- Mutual accountability (MA) is a core principle of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP).

- A mutual accountability framework (MAF) for CAADP was developed by NCPA in 2011 to guide mutual accountability processes at continental, regional and country levels.
Principles of Mutual Accountability

- A shared vision or agenda among the cooperating parties

- Common objectives and strategies aimed at achieving the vision

- Jointly agreed performance indicators based on mutually agreed performance criteria

- Genuine dialogue and debate process based on consent, common values and trust
Elements of an Effective Mutual Accountability Process

- Evidence-based: need technical credibility to minimize biases
- Ownership: all concerned stakeholders need to be involved from the start
- Inclusive debate: open and transparent discussions
- Behavior change – towards better performance outcomes based on evidence, ownership and debate
What is a Joint Sector Review (JSR)?

- A joint sector review (JSR) is one way of operationalizing the mutual accountability framework at country level.

- The JSR process creates a platform to:
  - assess the performance and results of the agriculture sector
  - assist governments to assess effectiveness of sector policies and strategies
  - assess how well state and non-state actors have implemented pledges and commitments (laid out in CAADP compacts, NAIPs, and other agreements)
  - guide decisions to continue with or make adjustments in implementation of NAIP or agreement
Principles of a Joint Sector Review

- National ownership and leadership
- Relevance to NAIP or cooperation agreement
- Inclusive participation
- Commitment to results by all participants
- Impartiality and evidence-based
- Enhance national planning
- Sensitivity to gender
- Learning experience
Purpose and benefits of the Joint Sector Review

- The primary purpose of a JSR is to determine and evaluate observed results of sector performance and their comparison with the intended results or targets in NAIP or agreement.

- Therefore, the JSR:
  - allows diverse stakeholders to get insights into and influence overall policies and priorities of the sector;
  - serves as a management and policy support tool for inclusive stakeholder planning, programming, budget preparation and execution, monitoring and evaluation, and overall development of the sector.

- Existing country JSRs need strengthening in terms of design, stakeholder inclusion, data analysis, dialogue and improved quality of implementation.
What to monitor? five main areas

- Development results e.g. income growth, poverty and hunger reduction, food and nutrition security, etc.

- Overall agricultural sector growth targets, with specific subsector and commodity targets

- Required financial and non-financial resources to effectively implement the cooperation agreement

- Policies, programs, institutions, and implementation processes

- Linkages (pathways to achieve the development results), enabling environment, and assumptions
Content, scope, data and methods of a JSR

- Content of JSR and scope depends on cooperation agreement
- Cooperation agreements (CAADP compact, NAIP, GAFSP agreements, New Alliance cooperation, framework, etc.)
- Five main areas to review:
  - development results
  - agricultural sector performance
  - financial and non-financial resources
  - policies, programs, institutions, and implementation processes
  - linkages, enabling environment, and assumptions
- Need detailed data on different variables, measured at different levels and over many years
- Multiple methods guided by mutually-agreed actions, targets and milestones; and analysis of SWOTs
Outputs required for the JSR

- Public Expenditure Review—government commitments, expenditures and alignment
- Donor Expenditure Review—commitments, disbursements, and alignment
- Civil Society Scorecard—commitments and alignment
- Private Sector Scorecard—commitments and investments
- Policy Implementation Report—state and non-state actors
- Agriculture Sector Performance Review
- Impact Scorecard—progress and impact on poverty and hunger reduction, food and nutrition security
Building Blocks of a Joint Sector Review

- Set up a JSR steering committee chaired by Ministry of Agriculture
- Establish JSR secretariat
- Develop terms of reference for the JSR
- Mobilize resources (human and financial)
- Constitute review team
- Undertake technical studies
- Organize review and dialogue
- Draw implementation and follow-up plan for the recommendations from the JSR
Technical Support Available to Countries

- IFPRI and ReSAKSS have assigned staff to each of the initial JSR countries: Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mozambique and Tanzania

- AUC and NPCA contact governments to agree on JSR launch dates

- AUC, NPCA, IFPRI and ReSAKSS have agreed to field joint missions to countries to in order to provide coordinated support

- Cross-country learning opportunities exist from countries with experience in JSRs, e.g. Rwanda
Recently Revamped ReSAKSS Website

www.resakss.org