Established in 2006, the Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS) provides policy-relevant analysis, data, and tools necessary to support the formulation and implementation of evidence-based agricultural sector policies and strategies in Africa.

The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) facilitates the overall work of ReSAKSS in partnership with the African Union Commission, the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), leading regional economic communities, and Africa-based CGIAR centers.

By documenting and disseminating lessons learned from research, policies, impact assessments, and on-the-ground experiences, ReSAKSS supports the creation of better growth and poverty reduction strategies.

Our Work

Key ReSAKSS activities include the following:

**STRATEGIC ANALYSIS**

ReSAKSS fills critical knowledge gaps, helping African countries to assess their progress toward the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) goals of allocating 10 percent of the national budget to agriculture and achieving a 6 percent annual agricultural growth rate, as well as the first Millennium Development Goal (MDG) of halving poverty and hunger by 2015.

Together with local and international actors, ReSAKSS helps countries to evaluate policy and investment options for driving growth and reducing poverty and hunger.

In 2010, ReSAKSS developed the official monitoring and evaluation framework to track CAADP implementation progress and outcomes. The Annual Trends and Outlook Reports (ATORs), a major output of the framework, are available at the Africawide, subregional, and country lev-
els. Since 2011, the Africawide ATOR has featured a topic of strategic importance to the CAADP agenda. For example, in 2012, the report took an in-depth look at trends in public agricultural expenditures and how countries have fared against the CAADP 10 percent target.

The Africawide ATOR serves as the official CAADP monitoring and evaluation report that is presented at the annual CAADP Partnership Platform meeting, a high-level forum that brings together policymakers, researchers, farmers’ groups, the private sector, civil society, and donors to deliberate on progress in CAADP implementation.

**KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION**

By serving as a knowledge platform and resource storehouse, ReSAKSS supports policy planning and analysis, as well as dialogue on CAADP and, more broadly, Africa’s agricultural and rural development.

The ReSAKSS website tracks over 30 core agricultural indicators including the CAADP and first MDG targets. The website features a mapping tool, datasets, ReSAKSS publications, and resources on the CAADP implementation process. In addition, ReSAKSS uses various social media platforms and regularly distributes a newsletter on African agricultural development.

ReSAKSS’ work has been cited in several high-level reports, including the G8 Camp David Accountability Report, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations’ 2012 State of Food and Agriculture, and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa-Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development 2012 Mutual Review of Development Effectiveness in Africa.

**CAPACITY STRENGTHENING**

With an eye to building institutional and technical capacity, ReSAKSS shares best practice for data collection and analysis; collaborates on strategic analysis with in-country partners; and organizes trainings, workshops, and conferences.

At the country level, ReSAKSS works with the CAADP teams to set up or strengthen their own country Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support Systems (country SAKSS) rooted in the existing local capacities and infrastructure. The country SAKSS is a critical instrument for supporting the review of and dialogue on CAADP implementation at the country level.

In 2012, ReSAKSS initiated the creation of country SAKSS platforms by launching capacity needs assessments in 15 countries, with plans to expand into additional countries. The assessments evaluate the human and institutional capacity necessary to improve the quality of a country’s agricultural policy planning and implementation.

In 2013, ReSAKSS initiated work in five countries to strengthen their capacity to undertake evidence-based and inclusive agriculture joint sector reviews, as a means of supporting mutual accountability. More countries will be covered in subsequent years.

**Our Structure**

ReSAKSS is a multi-country network, represented by four primary nodes: one at the continental or Afri
cawide level (ReSAKSS-AW) and three at the subregional level: East and Central Africa (ReSAKSS-ECA), Southern Africa (ReSAKSS-SA), and West Africa (ReSAKSS-WA). The subregional nodes are hosted by the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) in Kenya, Interna-
ReSAKSS Toolbox

ReSAKSS provides tools for a wide audience:

- **ReSAKSS Annual Trends and Outlook Reports (ATORs)**
- **ReSAKSS Working Papers and Issue Notes**: Publications based on analyses of key issues affecting Africa’s agricultural and rural development, such as food price volatility, trade and resilience, agricultural investments, and approaches to agricultural input delivery.
- **ReSAKSS website**: A wellspring of high-quality knowledge products that track progress, document success, and share lessons learned about agricultural and rural development policies and programs in Africa. It provides easy access to data, tools, analysis, news, knowledge products, and links to resources on CAADP implementation and other African agriculture and rural development strategies.
- **ReSAKSS Mapping Tool**: Includes more than 30 agricultural development indicators at the country, subregional, and continental levels presented in maps, charts, and downloadable datasets.
- **Country and Regional Profiles**: Benchmarks progress toward CAADP targets and CAADP implementation at the country level; toward MDG hunger and poverty reduction targets; in capacity strengthening activities; and in setting up of country SAKSS.

IFPRI coordinates the ReSAKSS Africawide work under a governance structure that is chaired by the African Union Commission and NPCA. Meanwhile, each node is governed by a steering committee consisting of representatives from major CAADP stakeholder groups and chaired by the respective regional economic community. The steering committees provide oversight and ensure that the ReSAKSS agenda remains rooted in agricultural development priorities, CAADP, and regional strategies.

ReSAKSS stakeholders and partners include government agencies, policymakers—both international and domestic—policy analysts, donors, research institutes and researchers, the academic community, civil society, farmers’ groups, and the private sector.
Goals & Principles of CAADP

After years of declining investment in rural development and low agricultural productivity, in 2003 African heads of state and governments ratified CAADP, which is designed to help African countries eliminate hunger, reduce poverty, and achieve economic growth through agriculture-led development.

CAADP’s core principles and goals are to

- achieve a 6 percent annual agricultural sector growth rate at the national level;
- allocate 10 percent of the national budget to the agricultural sector;
- exploit regional cooperation to boost growth;
- promote inclusive and evidence-based policy planning and implementation; and
- foster partnerships at all levels of society as well as policy dialogue, review, and accountability to improve the program’s efficiency.

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