

# Strengthening Capacities for Evidence-based Policy Planning and Implementation in Africa: *IFPRI's Support to CAADP in 2015–2016*



# Introduction

Since 2006, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) has provided policy research and capacity-strengthening support to guide the planning and implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). Endorsed in 2003 by African heads of state and government, CAADP is a continentwide framework for accelerating growth and progress toward poverty reduction and food and nutrition security through an agriculture-led growth strategy.

As part of IFPRI's support to CAADP, the Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS) was established in 2006 to provide policy-relevant analysis, data, and tools necessary to support the formulation and implementation of evidence-based agricultural-sector policies and strategies, as well as to facilitate CAADP policy dialogue, peer review, benchmarking, and mutual learning processes. ReSAKSS is facilitated by IFPRI in partnership with Africa-based CGIAR centers, the African Union Commission (AUC), the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), and leading regional economic communities.

The African Growth and Development Policy (AGRODEP) Modeling Consortium was established in 2011 by IFPRI in partnership with African subregional research organizations to create a critical mass of Africa-based experts who can take a leading role in addressing strategic development issues faced by the continent, including analytical needs of the CAADP implementation agenda. Led by IFPRI, the AGRODEP Modeling Consortium facilitates the use of economic modeling tools, promotes access to data sources, provides training and research grants, and supports collaboration between African and international researchers.

This report highlights achievements made in 2015 and the first half of 2016 by IFPRI and its partners in support of the CAADP implementation agenda through ReSAKSS and the AGRODEP Modeling Consortium.

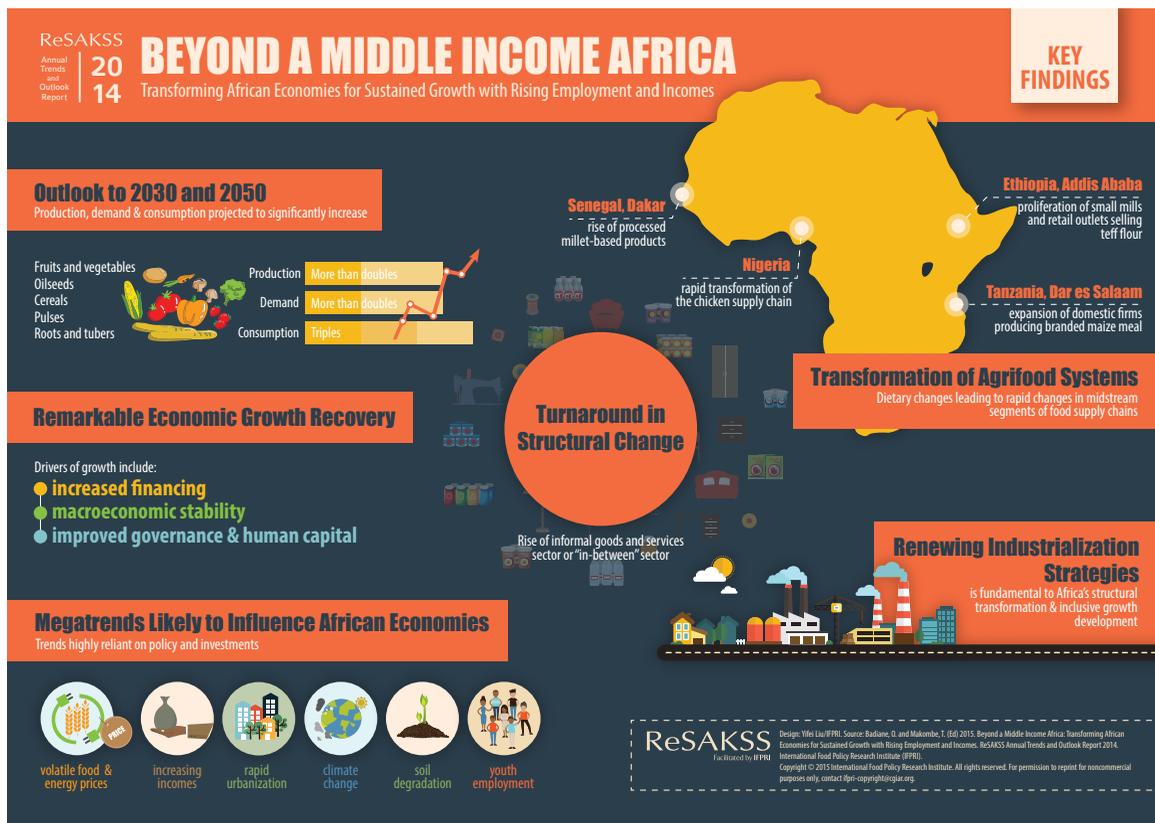
# INFORMING CAADP REVIEW AND DIALOGUE PROCESSES THROUGH RESAKSS

ReSAKSS continues to help inform and guide the CAADP implementation agenda through its flagship *Annual Trends and Outlook Reports* (ATORs), tracking of CAADP indicators, web-based knowledge products, and strengthened agriculture Joint Sector Reviews (JSRs).

The Africa-wide 2014 ATOR, which serves as the official CAADP monitoring and evaluation (M&E) report, was produced and published under the title *Beyond a Middle Income Africa: Transforming African Economies for Sustained Growth with Rising Employment and Incomes*. Long-term projections presented in the report show that, between now and 2050, Africa will see more sustained growth in gross domestic product (GDP) per capita and most countries will achieve middle income status by 2050. The ATOR identifies major trends with potentially significant impact on Africa's future progress, including: rising

volatility of food and energy prices; rapid urbanization and the associated rise of a growing middle class; a large and increasing young population entering the labor force; greater climate variability; and a gradually increasing share of medium-scale farms. According to the report, higher per capita incomes, the growing middle class, rising urban demand for food, and changing consumer preferences have led to dietary changes and a rapid transformation of the post-farm gate segments of local food supply chains, led mainly by rural and urban small and medium agribusiness enterprises. The key drivers of Africa's recent growth recovery were found to include greater macroeconomic stability, improved sector policies, increases in financing, improvements in human resources, and better governance, in particular improvements in rule of law and control of corruption.

The 2014 ATOR also shows that structural transformation of African economies has improved, in line with the stronger economic growth performance



of the last decade and a half, and is now contributing positively to overall labor productivity. According to the report, much of the labor exiting agriculture is entering a rapidly growing informal goods and services sector, contributing to a large and growing pool of low productivity labor. It makes a case for future growth strategies to pay more attention to promoting modernization as well as enterprise growth and creation in the informal sector. Finally, the report assesses trends and progress on several indicators across the three levels of the CAADP Results Framework. It shows that although Africa as a whole failed to meet the CAADP 6 percent growth and 10 percent budget targets for the agriculture sector, agricultural growth has remained relatively strong, growing at close to 3 percent during 2008–2014, while public agriculture expenditures grew at an annual average rate of 2.3 percent in 2008–2014.

The 2014 ATOR was presented at the 2015 ReSAKSS Annual Conference, hosted by AUC, from September 1–3 at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The conference, which had the same theme as the 2014 ATOR, brought together over 200 delegates to discuss findings of the ATOR, review progress in implementing the CAADP agenda, and evaluate progress in establishing country Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (SAKSS) platforms and agriculture JSRs. Delegates also discussed how to effectively prepare for the Malabo biennial review in January 2018 as well as the required technical support

from networks such as ReSAKSS. Discussions also took place in plenary and parallel sessions during the main conference and in 11 side-event sessions, most of which were organized by partner organizations, before the official conference opening. The conference generated a lot of interest across various major traditional media and social media outlets including Bloomberg, All Africa, Rural21, the Ethiopian Broadcasting Cooperation, and the Ethiopian News Agency.

In early 2016, ReSAKSS launched production of the Africa-wide 2015 ATOR on *Achieving a Nutrition Revolution for Africa: The Road to Healthier Diets and Optimal Nutrition*. The report examines the importance of nutrition in achieving international, continental, and national economic growth and development goals. It takes an in-depth look at the challenges and opportunities of linking agriculture and food systems to nutrition and makes recommendations on how various nutrition initiatives can be better leveraged for more rapid progress on nutrition. As in previous ATORs, the report assesses progress toward CAADP goals and the 2014 Malabo Declaration commitments using the CAADP Results Framework. Leading scholars and practitioners on nutrition and Africa contributed to the report and come from continental and global organizations and centers of expertise such as IFPRI, Cornell University, Johns Hopkins University, University of Ghana, University of Pretoria, HarvestPlus, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, NEPAD, and AUC.



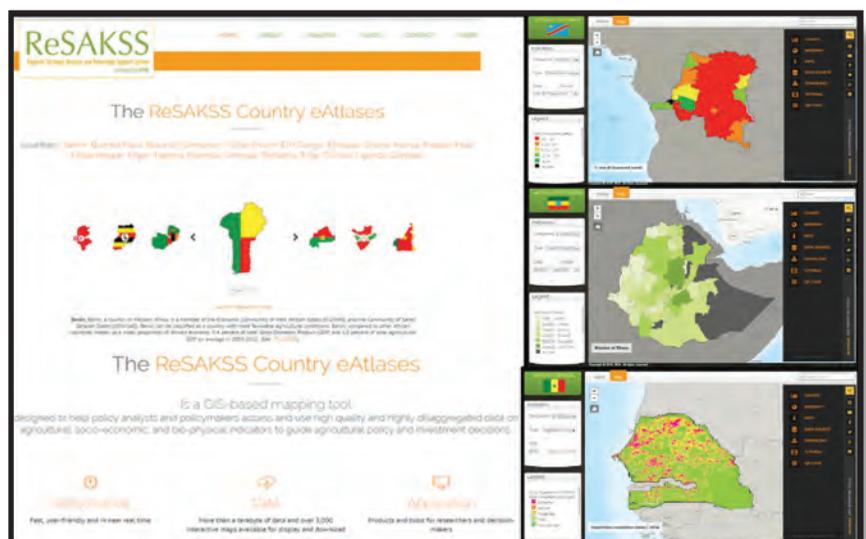
ReSAKSS Annual Conference, September 1–3, 2015, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



One of the key elements needed for the success of the CAADP process and the achievement of its goals at the country level is the continuous generation of data and evidence to guide the design and implementation of various programs and interventions in the agricultural sector. SAKSS platforms are meant to help meet country-specific analytical and capacity needs while working in close collaboration with the regional-level knowledge platforms (ReSAKSS). Over the last year, ReSAKSS launched five new platforms in Benin, Burkina Faso, Kenya, Mali, and Senegal, bringing the total number of operational SAKSS platforms to 13, including the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Ghana, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, Togo, and Uganda. ReSAKSS nodes worked closely with the SAKSS to fully operationalize the platforms and set up their governance structures and analytical networks to help link the supply of knowledge and analysis to policy makers and other development practitioners through review and dialogue mechanisms.

Starting in early 2015, ReSAKSS has been working to equip all SAKSS platforms

with a country eAtlas, a mapping tool to help policy makers and analysts access and utilize disaggregated, high-quality data on agricultural, socioeconomic, and biophysical indicators. The eAtlas tool allows SAKSS platforms to collect, analyze, store, and disseminate data broadly. It can also be used for prioritization and M&E of agricultural policies, interventions, and investment programs. To date, ReSAKSS, in collaboration with the country SAKSS platforms, has developed 21 eAtlases for all existing and upcoming SAKSS platforms. Between July and October 2016, ReSAKSS held national workshops in 11 countries that brought together various SAKSS stakeholders to review and validate the data and transfer the eAtlas tool to national teams.





As part of its role in supporting review, benchmarking, and mutual accountability processes, ReSAKSS has led efforts to promote comprehensive, inclusive, and regular agriculture JSRs. In early 2015, ReSAKSS launched and completed JSR assessments in 11 countries to assess agricultural review processes and to lay the groundwork for the planning, coordination, and execution of stronger JSRs. The countries are: Benin, Burundi, DRC, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Mali, Niger, Swaziland, Togo, Uganda, and Zambia. ReSAKSS also continued to provide technical support to strengthen JSRs in 7 countries which went through JSR assessments in 2014: Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, Mozambique, Senegal, and Tanzania. JSR assessment reports have been completed in the majority of the countries where ReSAKSS initiated assessments in 2015, including: Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Kenya, Swaziland, Togo, Uganda, and Zambia.

In view of the positive response and growing impact of the JSR assessment work, AUC identified 12 additional countries at the beginning of the year to implement JSR assessment exercises in 2016. Thus, during the year, ReSAKSS, in collaboration with AUC, NPCA, Africa Lead, and the CAADP Non-State Actors Coalition, launched work to conduct JSR assessments in the new countries: Cape Verde, Republic of the

Congo, Djibouti, Guinea, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Mauritius, Namibia, Nigeria, Seychelles, and Zimbabwe.

Countries are using both the outcomes of the JSR assessments as well as work under the ATORs to support policy review and dialogue processes. For instance, in Tanzania, the SAKSS, called the Platform for Agricultural Policy Analysis and Coordination (PAPAC), developed terms of reference to enhance the agriculture sector review and public expenditure review, building on the recommendations of the JSR assessment report produced by ReSAKSS in 2014. In 2016, Malawi called upon ReSAKSS to help integrate lessons from the past assessment into the current JSR process. And Senegal used the outcomes of its assessment to design and implement a new JSR process.

In 2015, the ReSAKSS assisted the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in launching the first-ever regional JSR, which will serve as model for other regional economic communities. A draft JSR assessment report for ECOWAS was prepared and reviewed during an ECOWAS retreat held in October 2015 in Lomé, Togo. A meeting to formally review and validate the final assessment report took place at an ECOWAS workshop in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, from May 31 to June 1, 2016.

At the request of AUC-DREA, ReSAKSS helped



*ReSAKSS Annual Conference, September 1-3, 2015, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*

to implement the 2014–2015 annual reviews for the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition as part of its support to mutual accountability processes. ReSAKSS did so by collecting data on government commitments and helping to draft country-level reports for all 10 New Alliance countries as well as producing the overall continental synthesis report. The purpose of the annual review is to bring together an inclusive group of government, private sector (domestic and international), development partners, and civil society stakeholders to transparently review, share, and discuss progress and challenges related to all 10 country New Alliance Cooperation Framework Agreements. The country reports were validated at meetings attended by state and non-state actors and fed into the continental report, which was reviewed and endorsed by the African Union's Specialized Technical Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment in October 2015. Recently, AUC established a unit to oversee the implementation and reporting of commitments

under the New Alliance. In collaboration with the new unit at AUC, in early 2016, ReSAKSS launched reviews and the preparation of the 10 country- and continent-level reports for the 2015–2016 New Alliance report.

In 2015, ReSAKSS organized 17 methodology and technical training workshops for 364 participants from East and Central Africa, West Africa, and Southern Africa. Twenty-three percent of the participants were female. Participants in these workshops included staff from ministries of agriculture, country CAADP teams, national statistics offices, customs authorities, universities, civil society, and the private sector. They received training on various tools and methodologies dealing with JSR assessment methodology, how to access and use the country eAtlases, agricultural policy analysis, and M&E techniques.



*Country eAtlas Training and Validation Workshop, July 21-22, 2016, Kigali, Rwanda*

## ReSAKSS Website

In support of AUC and NPCA efforts to support the appraisal and preparation of the next generation of national agriculture and food security investment plans (NAIPs), IFPRI and ReSAKSS organized two technical meetings in November 2015 and February 2016 to discuss plans and methodologies for helping African countries with the appraisal and preparation of NAIPs. The meetings brought together local and international experts to identify a common set of analytical tools, metrics, and approaches that can be used not only to inform the development of future NAIPs, but also to help in their appraisal once they are being implemented. Following the February meeting, ReSAKSS and IFPRI prepared a technical Toolbox that will be used by local and regional experts to provide the necessary analytical support to an initial group of eight countries for the appraisal and design of investment plans. The Toolbox is already helping to (1) define metrics to measure all core Malabo targets; (2) provide tools to assess country status and prepare country profiles with respect to various targets; (3) identify methodologies to clarify goals and milestones for the new NAIPs; and (4) assemble best practices and core programmatic components to guide the design of investment plans. Following the development of the Toolbox, ReSAKSS and IFPRI set up a task force to provide training, backstopping, and quality



[WWW.RESAKSS.ORG](http://WWW.RESAKSS.ORG)

assurance to local and regional experts, as well as to participate in the analytical work in the initial group of countries.

A key activity has been to update content for the ReSAKSS website and extend its reach as the main platform for review and monitoring of progress under CAADP. Between 2015 and the first half of 2016, the website attracted a total of 49,352 unique visitors and saw over 2,000 total downloads of ReSAKSS publications. Social media in the form of ReSAKSS Twitter, SlideShare, and Facebook platforms were introduced in 2012 and have helped to publicize ReSAKSS activities, events, and information about African agricultural development. SlideShare has been used to publicize



*Country eAtlas Training and Validation Workshop, August 15–16, 2016, Lilongwe, Malawi*

and disseminate ReSAKSS presentations to key stakeholders while Twitter and Facebook are used to interact with ReSAKSS partners and publicize ReSAKSS activities and publications. Currently, ReSAKSS has 2,464 followers on Twitter and 953 likes on Facebook, and had 62,243 SlideShare views over the last year.

## STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES FOR ECONOMIC MODELING THROUGH AGRODEP

Over the last year and half, the AGRODEP Modeling Consortium saw significant growth in its membership, models and data libraries, training activities, grants and awards, and publications. After the sixth round of membership extension in the first quarter of 2015, AGRODEP added 43 new members, bringing total membership to 183. The members represent 27 African countries and 30 percent of members are female. A qualifying member must be based in Africa and have obtained a PhD within the last 15 years, currently be pursuing a PhD, or have a master's degree combined with notable technical skills and experience. The second set of criteria is based on the applicant's research experience and publications record. Efforts to ensure geographical and gender diversity are considered once the technical threshold has been satisfied. Following selection, members are given free access to cutting-edge economic research tools, data, mentoring, and training, as well as opportunities to apply for competitive research grants. The number of AGRODEP affiliate members grew to 23; affiliate members are accepted on a rolling basis. Launched in late 2013, the

affiliate membership allows AGRODEP members who relocate out of Africa to continue to benefit from the Consortium's professional opportunities. Qualified African researchers who live and work outside of Africa as well as African and non-African researchers who work at international organization or CGIAR center in Africa are also eligible for affiliate membership. Affiliate members are granted full access to the AGRODEP Model and data libraries and can apply to attend AGRODEP training courses, but are ineligible for AGRODEP funding. "Friends of AGRODEP" is a designation given to individuals and institutions that have provided support and contributed to AGRODEP's activities; they currently stand at 60.



AGRODEP continued to administer various grant programs that include grants for Innovative Research, Gaps in Research, Research Valorization, and Seed Funds. The research papers from the three Gaps in Research grants awarded in 2015 under the theme "Using Trade for Development" are now published in the AGRODEP Working Papers series. Similarly, the three Innovative Research grants awarded in early 2015 under the theme "Linking Country Policies to Agricultural Development Outcomes" are all nearing completion. No new calls for these two types of year-long competitive grants were announced in 2015, given the transition to the next phase of the AGRODEP project.

Meanwhile, AGRODEP has continued to accept applications for its Research Valorization grant series on a rolling basis. This grant provides financial assistance for AGRODEP members to present their work at international conferences and to pay for publication submission fees in leading professional journals. The grants are approved by the AGRODEP management team on a case-by-case basis. Eight AGRODEP members received funding and presented their work in international conferences, including the PEGNet 2015 conference held in Berlin, Germany; the 2015 INFORMS conference held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; the American Evaluation Association Conference held in Chicago, Illinois; and the Southern Economics Association conference held in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The last category of grants are the competitive Seed Fund grants, for which applications are selected by course instructors after each course is completed. Up to two grants can be awarded for each course. Between October 2015 and the end of March 2016, one Seed Fund grant was awarded after the Applied Microeconometrics training course.

AGRODEP's Excellence in Publications Award is designed to create an incentive for AGRODEP members to continue producing high-quality academic research and to publish in top-ranked journals. To qualify, the individual should have been a member of AGRODEP for at least one year; have been active within AGRODEP within the last year; have published the submitted paper in 2015; and have published the submitted paper during their tenure as an AGRODEP member. Members receive a tiered award amount based on the journal ranking. Over the last year, three members received awards for their publications in A-ranked journals and two members for their publications in C-ranked journals.

The AGRODEP Working Paper series has continued to expand; 23 new discussion papers were published in 2015 (11) and the first half of 2016 (12). The Working Paper series is a bilingual (English and French) online publication that aims to enhance the visibility of AGRODEP members and contribute to the policy dialogue on African growth and development. To date, a total of 33 working papers have been published.



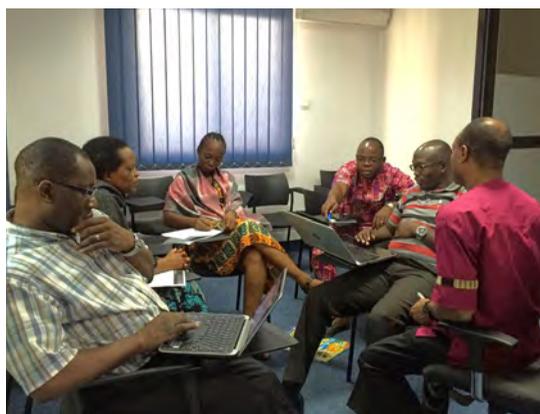
*AGRODEP Training Course: Applied Microeconometrics, December 7-10, 2015, Dakar, Senegal*



*AGRODEP Impact Evaluation Workshop, March 7-8, 2016, Washington, DC*

The AGRODEP Modeling Consortium held nine training courses in 2015 and one in the first half of 2016 for its members. Training courses provide AGRODEP members with access to a set of high-quality tools that they can use to address research needs of countries and regions. Members' feedback on each course has been strongly positive, showing that the courses are meeting AGRODEP's goal of supporting participating scientists, upgrading the skills of Consortium members, and promoting technical and methodological innovations to ensure that the Consortium remains a world-class entity. Training included courses on Evaluation of Public Policies, Applied Microeconometrics, Applied Panel Data Econometrics, and Augmented Gravity Models. A total of 109 participants received training in 2015 and the first half of 2016.

AGRODEP continues to support two sub-networks of members with trainings and workshops. Launched in 2012, the AGRODEP Impact Evaluation Network (AIEN) aims to disseminate information regarding impact evaluation projects in Africa, facilitate information- and resource-sharing among local, regional, and international researchers, and increase the number of African experts involved in impact evaluation in the region. Members of AIEN and other impact evaluation practitioners participated in a workshop held in March 2016 in Washington, DC. The AIEN members presented their papers and proposals and received valuable feedback from their colleagues. Similarly, members of the AGRODEP Value Chain Analysis Network participated in a training on Tools for Value Chains held in March 2016 in Dakar, Senegal. The training featured research tools such as the Women's Empowerment



*AGRODEP Training Course: Tools for Value Chain Analysis, March 29-April 1, 2016, Dakar, Senegal*

# AGRODEP Website

in Agriculture Index and the Participatory Market Chain Approach. Launched in 2015, this network's members receive training on the latest tools and methodologies for value-chain analysis and evaluation and have the opportunity to collaborate and share knowledge with other value-chain researchers, both regionally and globally.

AGRODEP has continued to expand its modeling and data platforms. It now has 22 simulation and econometric models and 300 datasets, including social accounting matrixes (SAMs), household surveys, national agricultural surveys, and trade statistics. Twelve of the models and toolboxes and SAMs for 9 countries were developed by AGRODEP. Two models—the Partial Equilibrium Trade Simulation (PETS) Model and the AGRODEP Spatial Equilibrium Model—along with accompanying technical notes, were released since the beginning of 2015. Three toolboxes were also released, namely: Macroeconometric Modelling Toolbox, Consistent Policy Aggregator Toolbox, and the AGRODEP GAMS Training Toolbox. The latter



includes 10 video lessons with English text and English or French voiceovers and accompanying GAMS code examples. These are publicly available on both the AGRODEP YouTube channel and the AGRODEP website. To date, the consortium has published 14 AGRODEP Technical Notes that help guide users on the use of various models and other analytical tools. Launched in 2014, the AGRODEP Data Report series is intended to provide



documentation about AGRODEP data sets. Over the last year and a half, AGRODEP added two Data Reports on “2005 Social Accounting Matrix for Burkina Faso” and “2006 Social Accounting Matrix for Ivory Coast,” bringing the total number to seven.

The AGRODEP website, launched in October 2011, is continually populated with new resources, news, and information for AGRODEP members and stakeholders. Between January 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016, the portal drew a total of 45,909 visits, with 47 percent coming from Africa. AGRODEP’s presence in social media also continues to attract an increasing number of followers who are interested in learning more about AGRODEP and keeping up-to-date with its activities. AGRODEP is also present in popular social media outlets such as LinkedIn (180 members), Facebook (1,106 likes), and Twitter (1,249 followers). AGRODEP presentations and videos shared on the AGRODEP YouTube channel have had 28,195 views since January 2015.

## PLANNED ACTIVITIES

For the remainder of 2016, ReSAKSS will update the various indicators it tracks in line with the Malabo Declaration and publish the Africa-wide 2015 ATOR themed *Achieving a Nutrition Revolution for Africa: The Road to Healthier Diets and Optimal Nutrition*. It will also initiate work on the 2016 ATOR, which will focus on climate-smart agriculture, a key commitment area under the Malabo Declaration. The 2015 ATOR will be launched during the ReSAKSS 2016 Annual Conference to be held in Accra, Ghana from October 18–20. ReSAKSS will strengthen SAKSS platforms in the 13 countries where they have been established, including setting up and consolidating their governance structures and local analytical networks.

In support of mutual accountability, ReSAKSS will finalize JSR assessments in 12 countries, namely Cape Verde, Djibouti, Guinea, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Mauritius, Namibia, Nigeria, Republic of the Congo, Seychelles, and Zimbabwe. The 18 countries that have



already undergone JSR assessments in 2014 and 2015 will receive technical support to strengthen their JSRs. In addition, ReSAKSS will support the planning and implementation of biennial reviews, including the preparation of the continental M&E report that is aligned with the ReSAKSS Africa-wide ATOR.

ReSAKSS, in collaboration with other technical partners, will continue to provide support for the development of new and second-generation NAIPs. Given the number of countries to be supported and the need to mobilize local expertise as much as possible, the NAIP analytical work will be carried out primarily by local experts from leading networks in Africa, including AGRODEP, the Regional Network of Policy Research Institutes (ReNAPRI), and the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC), plus qualified consultants.

During the remaining months of 2016, AGRODEP intends to build on the achievements and progress of the first five years of the Consortium and consolidate its position as a provider of analytical and advisory services to a wider community of CAADP stakeholders. The projects and activities will be reorganized into the following components: (1) Policy Analysis and Advisory Services, (2) Technical Resources, and (3) Capacity Building and Outreach.

Under the Policy Analysis and Advisory Services (PAAS) component, AGRODEP aims to establish a cadre of African experts who can provide sound

policy analysis and advisory services in response to the emerging and long-term needs of CAADP's growth and poverty reduction agenda. An initial set of AGRODEP members with more advanced skills will be identified based on their qualifications and performance in AGRODEP activities to lead the PAAS activities. AGRODEP will develop the required infrastructure to support service provision by its advanced pool of members and dedicated mentors.

The Technical Resources component will combine the existing AGRODEP Model and Data Libraries. AGRODEP will continue to add new resources to these libraries while also maintaining and updating existing models, toolboxes, and datasets. Greater emphasis will be placed on developing and/or warehousing models, tools, and data resources to deal with the key areas of the expanded CAADP agenda as set out in the Malabo Declaration.

The Capacity Building and Outreach component will build on the activities that were launched and established in the first phase of the project, including: membership, training courses, research grants and publication awards, working paper series, and outreach activities (website, newsletter, and quarterly bulletin). This will include a review of the current pool of members and membership policies, with the aim of establishing a new membership structure to support a cadre of more advanced members and regular members.

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## **REGIONAL STRATEGIC ANALYSIS AND KNOWLEDGE SUPPORT SYSTEM (RESAKSS) AND AFRICAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY (AGRODEP) MODELING CONSORTIUM: PARTNERS AND GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES**

ReSAKSS is a knowledge-brokering platform operating through four main teams: one at the continental or Africa-wide 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 in Kenya, International Water Management Institute in South Africa, and International Institute of Tropical Agriculture in Nigeria, respectively.

The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) coordinates the ReSAKSS-AW work under a governance structure that is chaired by the African Union Commission and the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency. Each node is governed by a steering committee consisting of representatives from major Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) stakeholder groups and chaired by the respective regional economic communities. The regional economic communities are the Economic Community of West African States for ReSAKSS-WA, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa for ReSAKSS-ECA, and the Southern African Development Community for ReSAKSS-SA. 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, policy makers (both international and domestic), policy analysts, donors, research institutes and researchers, the academic community, civil society, farmers' groups, and the private sector.

The AGRODEP Modeling Consortium represents collaboration among IFPRI; the Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA); the Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network; the West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF/WECARD); and leading academic institutions in and outside Africa.

The Modeling Consortium is managed by IFPRI and governed through a steering committee, scientific advisory board, and network advisory committee. The steering committee guides AGRODEP on key matters of policy, operational issues, and resource mobilization; ensures that the initiative remains focused on its objectives and mission and is run effectively; and recommends strategies and actions to increase the effectiveness and impact of AGRODEP. The 20 members of the steering committee include representatives from regional and international organizations, academic institutions and universities, international aid agencies, and other leading policy and development organizations. The scientific advisory board ensures that AGRODEP is at the forefront of technical innovation and is meeting the technical needs of its members. The scientific advisory board consists of individual members who are experts from the economic research and policy community with an outstanding international reputation and with knowledge of African countries and the major challenges they face. The network advisory committee advises on content and delivery of AGRODEP networking activities, including collaborative research, capacity building, and outreach activities of the consortium. Members of the network advisory committee include representatives of CORAF/WECARD, ASARECA, African universities and research networks from the main geographical subregions of Africa, and the three ReSAKSS platforms.

Other key AGRODEP institutional partners include the Global Trade Analysis Project in the United States, Centre for World Food Studies in the Netherlands, Université Catholique de Louvain in Belgium, Laval University in Canada, and the University of Pretoria in South Africa.

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