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Newsletter Vol.23

The CAADP-XP4 Programme: A timely injection



Dear AR4D colleagues,

Increasing the contribution of Agriculture to national and regional economic growth, wealth creation, food security and poverty alleviation, requires transforming the sector from subsistence to sustainably commercial state. In fulfilment of this development trajectory, the Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA) has re-focused its mandate as a higher level coordinator, convener, facilitator partnerships broker, and catalyst within

the sub-region to deliver specific high priority inclusive and sustainable agricultural transformation in the sub-region. The CAADP-XP4 Programme, financed by the European Union and managed by IFAD, couldn't have come at any better time than this. CAAAP-XP4 is providing ASARECA and indeed the Governments in Eastern and Central Africa a timely injection to build their capacities to contribute to Agricultural transformation. **This edition of our monthly updates is dedicated to familiarizing you with this important Programme**

Prof. Jean Jacques Mbonigaba Muhinda
Executive Secretary—ASARECA

Flagship Programme



The CAADP-XP4 Programme

Grant title: ASARECA-Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme CAADP ex-pillar IV Africa Regional and Sub-regional Organizations for Agricultural Research and Innovation Programme

Funded by: European Union (EU)

Fund manager : International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

Direct funding to ASARECA: Euros 5,375,000

Duration: 48 months (2019- 2023)

Countries of intervention: 12 ASARECA member states (Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Madagascar, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda).

Countries for specialized support: DR Congo, Eritrea, Madagascar, Republic of Congo, South Sudan, and Uganda.

Other implementing partners: FARA, AFAAS, CCARDESA, CORAF

The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP ex-pillar IV) Programme is a timely initiative of the European Union (EU) in collaboration with Lead African Agricultural Research for Development Institutions (AR4D) Pillar Institutions aimed at enabling Agricultural Research and Innovation, and Extension services to contribute effectively to food and nutrition security, economic development and climate mitigation in Africa.

The initiative is planned to be achieved by improving the capacity, effectiveness and positioning of the Regional and Sub regional Agriculture Research and Extension Pillar organizations and National Agriculture Research Systems (NARS), and by promoting collaboration and knowledge sharing among the organizations.



The Programme mirrors ASARECA's four thematic areas identified in the new ten-year ASARECA Strategy and Results Framework (A-SRF: 2019-2028) and first Medium-Term Operational Plan (MTOPI: 2019-2023). These outputs include:

1. Transformative Capacity Strengthening and Integration;
2. Agricultural Transformation Technologies and Innovations;
3. Enabling Policy Environment, Functional Markets and Transformative Institutions;
4. Knowledge and Information Management

Funding partners

The Programme is funded by the EU under the initiative "Development Smart Innovation through Research in Agriculture" (DeSIRA) to the tune of EUR 30 million over a four-year period (2019-2023), with a possibility of an extension. **ASARECA has been allocated EUR 5, 375 000.** DeSIRA is an EU initiative aimed at deploying science and innovation to achieve inclusive, sustainable and climate relevant transformation of agriculture and related food systems in partner countries across the globe.

The five African Pillar IV institutions targeted by the intervention are: The Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA), Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa (CCARDESA), West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF); and the continental apex institutions: The Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA), and the African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (AFAAS).





Specific objectives of CAADP-XP4

The specific objectives of the programme are to:

1. Strengthen the operational capacity of ASARECA and its sub- regional partner organizations.
2. Improve collaboration within and among the national, sub-regional and continental agriculture research and extension organizations.
3. Promote policy enhancement in agricultural research and innovation.
4. Create climate-relevant innovations.
5. Promote investments and market linkages; and
6. Enhance knowledge generation and dissemination in support of decision making, advocacy and innovation sharing.

What informs CAADP-XP4 programme?

Agriculture and food systems impact on all aspects of the SDGs, yet agri-food research and innovation systems are short of impacting significantly the livelihoods of resource-poor smallholder farmers around the world. This is due to two major order problems:

Inadequate public policies and poor government investments in partner countries: The public sector is not adequately prepared. The expectation is that the middle-income countries require the capacity to carry their share of responsibility for creating a favourable environment for innovation in agriculture and food systems, through appropriate and adequate policies and investments. The investments are expected to empower smallholder farmers, facilitate and encourage private sector investments, and appropriate follow up systems on the proper application of these policies and investments.

Inadequate capacities of public sector research and extension services: Prevailing technology-uptake approaches are mostly linear, under-resourced, under-capacitated and unable to overcome numerous capacity and partnership blockages for agri-food innovation to impact at scale. Focus on productivity alone neglects other dimensions of sustainable development such as climate action, progressing small-holder farmers along the value chains, responsible consumption and production, loss and waste reduction, rural women and youth agri-business opportunities and eliminating rural poverty.

Direct beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of this Action are:

The National Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (NAKIS), the private sector, farmer organizations, extension and advisory services, universities, and NGOs in ASARECA Member States (Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Madagascar, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda), as well as the Regional Economic Communities (RECs).

Indirect beneficiaries

The ultimate (indirect) beneficiaries of the transformation of the agricultural knowledge and innovation systems comprise resource poor and smallholder farmers, agro-processors, rural youth and women agri- and entrepreneurs, individual producers and producer organizations/groups, cooperatives, agricultural training centres and research institutions and pastoralists as well as the marginalized and vulnerable communities in ASARECA member countries.

Goal, objectives and expected out comes:

The programme goal is to contribute to the implementation of Agenda 2030. It will contribute to the progressive achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 2 (zero hunger) and to the action to combat climate change and its impacts (SDG13). It promotes progress towards ending poverty (SDG1), gender equality (SDG5), decent work and economic growth (SDG8), and responsible consumption and production (SDG12). The project will additionally contribute to Agenda 2063 and the Malabo Declaration of the African Union (AU).

CAADP-XP4 Outputs

Output 1: Strengthened capacity of ASARECA to perform its mandate and better work together with FARA, sister SROs, its regional and country level partners.

Output 2: Multi-stakeholder partnerships for innovation established and in operation through promotion, facilitation of formation and operationalization of multi stakeholder partnerships for innovation focusing on climate change.

Output 3: Strengthened national policies, regional institutional arrangements and market access through strengthening of capacities of regional and national organizations in climate-relevant policy analysis, formulation and advocacy.

Output 4: Enhanced knowledge management for advocacy and decision support and communication through development of a coordinated framework and infrastructure that makes available climate relevant STI to support NAKIS in learning and sharing opportunities.

Output 5: Effective planning, coordination, partnership, monitoring, and evaluation, learning, and reporting of Programme outputs.



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