



2010 CAADP AFRICA FORUM FOR FARMER ORGANISATIONS

Climate Change: Impact and Coping Strategies of Smallholder Farmers in Africa

4 to 8 October 2010, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

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Climate Change: Impact and Coping Strategies of Smallholder Farmers

The upcoming 2010 Forum represents a fresh start in a new direction but building up on what has become a well-established process of exchange on African agriculture. From this year onwards, the Forum will take place under the leadership of African Farmer Organisations to help it grow into an even more effective tool, by and for smallholders. Since its earliest beginnings in 1997, the forum has aimed to support agriculture, but it has travelled a long way to finding its present home under NEPAD's wing and in the hands of Farmer Organisations.

1 Background

The Africa Forum began its journey in 1997 as a one-off event to inform African decision makers of the shift in development aid from project to sector programme support. During this meeting (then in Lusaka) it became evident that the Forum in fact addressed a different need: Although getting state-of-the-art information on donor-practices was considered useful, participants were more appreciative of the fact that the Forum gave them an opportunity to exchange experiences across countries. Thus, popular demand led to a second Forum and then to an annual event.

In the ten years after that, the Forum grew into an effective and action-oriented platform for 'peer exchange' having moved beyond a focus on aid to a focus on country-driven agricultural development. However, by 2007 it appeared that the Forum had reached a limit: Country Teams were established and Country Action Plans were prepared but upon return to their country, participants found it difficult to translate these plans into action, in part because these lacked a clear mandate and their Action Plans were insufficiently linked to the on-going agricultural development agenda in their country.

In the meantime, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) was established in 2001, as an AU initiative to accelerate growth and eradicate poverty across the continent. While much of this growth will be agriculture-led, NEPAD launched the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). An important component is the CAADP country process (e.g. Country Round Tables, Country Compacts), which contributed to fostering enabling environments for agricultural growth at country level. But actual progress on the ground is slower than expected and an up-scaling of agricultural successes proved more difficult than anticipated. It was for this reason that the synergies between CAADP, as a policy framework, and the Africa Forum, as an outreach platform were explored. This led first to the joint NEPAD-GTZ 12th Africa Forum in Addis Ababa (2008) and subsequently to the fully NEPAD owned 2009 CAADP Africa Forum in Nairobi (2009).

Farmer Organisations participated in the 2009 Forum and in the course of the forum, it became evident that if CAADP is to succeed in stimulating agriculture growth, then Farmer Organisations have to play a more prominent role in all CAADP processes. It was decided therefore that the CAADP-Africa Forum should become a Farmer Organisation instrument whereby FOs decide on theme, content and format. This would enable FOs to bring together expertise and exchange views on issues that they and their members find important. As the forum resides under NEPAD, its findings would find a quick entry into NEPAD/CAADP channels of policy and implementation. This Forum by and for FOs should be about agriculture at a practical level and should be different from the CAADP Partnership Platform. The latter is about the implementation of CAADP processes whereas the African Forum should be about the content of such processes, about agriculture as such.

2 Farmer Organisations in charge of the CAADP Africa Forum

On 4 and 5 February 2010, during a NEPAD hosted meeting in Johannesburg, Regional Farmer Organisations hammered out two issues (i) How to ensure added value of the Africa Forum amongst all other events that deal with African agriculture; and (ii) What does FO leadership of the Africa forum mean? A summary of findings under each of these is as follows:

Added Value of CAADP Africa Forum

Giving non-state actors the opportunity to influence CAADP (country) processes	The CAADP process so far focussed more on government as the key driver with the CAADP focal person being selected from within the Ministry of Agriculture. Through this forum the state and non-state involvement in CAADP should become better balanced.
Exchange on agricultural best practices and successes	This forum should not be about processes of CAADP implementation (there is the CAADP Partnership Platform for that). Instead it should be about the nitty-gritty of agriculture in practice: In that way it will put flesh on the bones of the CAADP framework and will help in using that framework be the intended vehicle for upscaling agricultural success.
Give a voice to farmers	The forum should shorten the link between farmers on the ground and institutions like NEPAD/CAADP head offices, CAADP Pillar Institutions and Regional Economic Communities. It should give these CAADP lead institutions an opportunity to listen to farmers' interests and constraints and to tailor their programmes to better meet farmers needs.
Peer learning among multiple stakeholders	The forum should make sure that it continuous to invite the public sector as well as the private sector. Past forum experience has shown that in particular <i>government-private sector</i> interaction has proved valuable in creating the required enabling environment for agriculture in countries.

FO leadership of the CAADP Africa Forum: What does it mean?

- FOs should have a say in defining the composition and leadership of country teams. In this they need to work with the more experienced drivers (CAADP focal points/Africa Forum focal points) with a view to build their capacity to lead country teams eventually;
- National FOs should identify which issues affect their farmers and to which actors and institutions their members need exposure, preferably through a participatory process. These findings should be brought to the regional level to ensure that the forum's programme takes these issues on board;
- National FOs should review and assess the current role of farmers in the CAADP processes in their country and make recommendations to regional level regards strengthening this role. These recommendations should then be compiled and discussed at the forum itself;
- FOs should have 'content leadership': (i) FOs to identify theme, sub-themes, topics, issues and contributions and (ii) have a voice in deciding on structure and format of the forum;
- Regional FOs should identify and ensure that these are represented at the forum;
- FOs should have clear visibility and profile throughout: (i) FOs to be co-inviting participants together with NEPAD and (ii) Farmer leader to speak at the opening ceremony.

For FO leadership and the forum itself to be successful, a number of frame conditions were agreed upon during the NEPAD-FO meeting of 4-5 February. These are:

Frame conditions to ensure a successful forum under FO leadership

- The forum must be carried by the 5 regional FOs - it must be built from the ground up with mini-forums or workshops laying the foundation and building consensus;
- There is insufficient knowledge about CAADP at country, even regional level: A communication strategy should be developed by Regional FOs to serve members and farmers in general;
- The forum should continue to reside under AU/NEPAD and invitations to speakers and participants should continue to come from AU/NEPAD to ensure sufficient political weight - but invitations should be co-signed by all 5 Regional FOs;
- The forum should be supported financially: by external partners but also by NEPAD/CAADP itself so as not to solely depend on external resources and have clear African ownership;
- With regard to forum organisation it is important to build on the experience from 1997 to date;
- FOs will need guidance and support for a transition period of several years to be able to really drive this process.

3 Objectives of the 2010 CAADP Africa Forum

The overall purpose of the CAADP Africa Forum is:

Sharing and learning on progress among farmers and experts from different agricultural sub-sectors to foster the up scaling of best practices across Africa as an input into country driven development of the agricultural and rural sector

As such the CAADP Africa Forum will build a bridge between the specialist knowledge offered by the CAADP Pillar Lead Institutions¹, Regional Economic Communities and other knowledge centres and the realities as experienced by farmers on the ground in African countries.

Countries are represented to the Africa Forum by a team of people from different stakeholder categories (Farmer Organizations, Government, Local Government, NGO, CBO, academics, traditional leaders, development partners). With FOs leading and driving the forum, national FO representatives and CAADP focal persons should jointly coordinate country teams.

For the upcoming 2010 CAADP-Africa Forum, specific objectives are:

1. To exchange information on best practices by farmers adapting to climate change and mitigating its impacts;
2. To disseminate information and exchange experience on how to access and use international climate change financing mechanisms (such as the Clean Development Mechanism or CDM);
3. To help Country Teams and Farmer Organisations use the CAADP framework as a vehicle in supporting the adaptation to climate change among small farmers;
4. To advance countries' agricultural agendas in support of mitigating the effects of climate change

¹ The CAADP framework is divided over four key areas in the form of pillar programmes, each of which is spearheaded by a Pillar Lead Institution.

4 Forum participants

The majority of participants at the forum will come from one of following categories: (i) AU and NEPAD Secretariat (ii) Regional Farmer Organisations (iii) CAADP Pillar Lead Institutions (iv) Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and (v) Country Teams.

Country Teams will be established by the countries themselves and based on their assessment of:

- Who best represents the interests of smallholder farmers in the country; and
- Who are critical drivers in setting or influencing the country's agricultural agenda.

In as much as possible, Country Teams should include a balanced mix of public and private (or non-state) sector, people at national and at sub-national levels, men and women. Where development partners support agriculture in the country, these may also be represented. Teams should be jointly coordinated by a representative of the national FO and, in CAADP countries, the CAADP focal person in the Ministry of Agriculture. Teams may be from 5 to 10 people strong.

5 Duration and structure of the forum

The 2010 CAADP Africa Forum is a five-day event. One full day is set aside for field trips in the host country, which is Burkina Faso this year. It is bi-lingual: English and French and is facilitated by two bilingual moderators. Total number of participants to the forum should not exceed 200 people.

During the first day, Country Teams will be given the opportunity to present themselves, the stage of the CAADP process in their country and recent progress in the agricultural agenda, where possible against targets set by the country team at the last forum. Output of the forum is in the form of Country Action Plans that are linked to on-going or planned agriculture/CAADP processes in the country. These action plans will be presented on day 5. To what extent these action plans have found their way into implementation will be then be reported on during the next 2011 CAADP Africa Forum.

Because implementation of forum findings is a longer process that may support in its own right, participants to the NEPAD/FO meeting of February proposed that the CAADP Africa Forum be held bi-annually, alternated every second year with regional forums or workshops during which progress is presented and discussed at regional level. But this still needs to be decided:

- Should the CAADP Africa Forum be alternated every second year with forums at regional level?
- What would be the role of the 'CAADP Regional Forums be'? Examples include: To consolidate and support the process of implementing lessons learnt at the forum; to collect proposals for the forum theme and topics for the next CAADP Africa Forum; to identify country and regional cases for the next CAADP Africa Forum; and to coach the Country Teams;
- If Africa-wide and regional-level workshops are alternated, they would have to work hand-in-hand: Country Action Plans made at the Africa Forum are inputs into regional meetings and outputs of these regional meetings (identified issues, proposed themes, potential case studies) are inputs to the Africa-wide meeting the following year. What would this mean in terms of additional responsibilities of the current organising structure (see section 8)?

Because five days is long, it was proposed to make the field trip day optional and at the end of the forum. However, having field trips optional does not guarantee organisers sufficient participation to justify the huge effort that organising the trips takes. The following may need to be discussed:

- Should field trips be only half a day? Earlier in the programme (to serve as 'ice-breaker')?
- Can field trips be closer linked to presentations? One presentation for each field trip

6 Programme content

During the 4-5 February meeting between NEPAD and FOs a number of potential themes were identified. These included: Climate change and agriculture; women entrepreneurs in agriculture; smallholder farmers' access to markets and innovation in African agriculture. A proposal describing each of these themes was discussed at the FO meeting in Tunis on 21 February where the theme of climate change and its effect on agriculture and smallholder farmers was selected.

The detailed forum content will be tailored to what FOs identify as information needs among farmers in their countries but overall theme and sub-themes as accepted by the FO meeting in Tunis are:

Climate Change and Impacts on Smallholder Farmers in Africa

All over Africa, examples can be found of farmers who have adapted to increasingly unreliable rainfall, rising temperatures, receding water resources or recurrent floods. Some of these examples are based on farmer-initiative; others are part of larger programmes or strategies. By pulling these (dispersed) initiatives together into a structural framework of response strategies, the forum aims to facilitate peer exchange. Potential sub-themes are:

Adaptation and mitigation in Agriculture: The resilience of present food-systems in Africa has to be assured. Within the framework of the international climate policy and its associated mechanisms it is imperative to identify how the rural poor in Africa could more effectively access the growing carbon market in order to mobilise the financial resources and capacity necessary for reducing their vulnerability in future. Issues of risk management, food security and food sovereignty will also be addressed;

Land-based response strategies: The mitigation potential in agriculture and forestry sectors is significant. Initiatives include reduced deforestation and reforestation; agro-forestry for food; recovery of biogas and waste; soil management; degraded land restoration; zero tillage. These activities combine an adaptation to climate change but also a potential to contribute to, and into, global carbon markets;

Water conservation measures: Rainwater harvesting; Micro-surface and groundwater treatment; Underground screens preventing groundwater loss; Reducing surface runoff; Flood control; Terraces; Irrigation;

Alternative energy: Activities promoting energy from renewable biomass are eligible for funding under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM). In addition, African agriculture can rise to the growing global demand for biofuel (e.g. from rapeseed) making it imperative that policy frameworks balance the use of land for bio-fuel and food crop production;

Promoting sound and sustainable natural resource management: Securing smallholder access to land and water; Dealing with risks and opportunities of large-scale (foreign and domestic) investment in land ('land grabbing'); Soil protection; Water conservation.

Issues still in need for discussion are:

- **Overall forum title:** A proposal from NEPAD after the FO Tunis Meeting was to change the title to *Climate Change: Impact and Coping Strategies of Smallholder Farmers*. Regional FOs should still reach a consensus on whether they agree to this title;
- **List of sub-themes:** Prior to collecting case studies it is important to at least have a framework of sub-themes. FOs need to decide which sub-themes are still missing / need to be changed.

7 Preparing for the forum

Because of the new set-up with FOs in the lead, a preparatory phase is needed consisting of:

1. National FOs to conduct a participatory process in their country in order to:
 - Raise awareness on the CAADP process, the CAADP Africa Forum and how both could be used as a vehicle and an instrument respectively to get farmers voices heard at national, regional and even pan-African levels;
 - Identify the critical issues and needs related to the forum theme that farmers in the country have. Important is to make sure that also marginal groups, i.e. women farmers, youths, vulnerable or resource poor farmers etc, are heard;
 - Assess which actors or institutions farmers in the country would most need to be exposed to, so as to ensure that, in as much as possible, these can be invited to the forum;
 - Identify potential contributions from the country to be shared at the forum.
2. Regional FOs to bring together their members (National FOs and others)
 - Raise awareness on the CAADP process and the CAADP Africa Forum;
 - Identify the critical issues from FOs and farmers in the region;
 - Assess which actors or institutions FOs and farmers in the region need to be exposed to;
 - Identify potential contributions from the region to be shared at the forum.

Issues still in need for discussion are:

- In what order should national and regional processes take place? The findings of national processes need to feed into the regional workshop, but national levels may not have enough information at present to effectively conduct national processes. Or should regional representatives take part in national processes?
- How are processes organised, moderated? Is there a realistic time-line possible?
- What should be the duration, content of such national and regional processes/workshops? Who should take part?
- What supporting material do FOs need to conduct such processes? For examples: Guidelines on Establishing a Country Team; Criteria for Selecting Country Contributions; Guidelines for Country Presentations; any other...?

8 Organising the forum

This being in fact already the 14th forum that is organised (albeit now under different leadership) there is of course a lot of experience to fall back on. Some of this has been captured in the Arica Forum Road Map, which is an excel file that is updated each year and that sets out the steps towards organising the forum itself and that covers the following areas:

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| - Funding | - Conference venue | - Translation |
| - Invitations | - Conference package | - Media and Public |
| - Hotel | (bag, handouts) | Relations |
| - accommodation | - Registration desk | - Cocktail and Social |
| - Transport | - Programme | Event |
| - Visa requirements | - Moderation | - Field Trip |

Organisation of the CAADP Africa Forum used to be by four interdependent teams. At the NEPAD/FO meeting of 4-5 February it was decided to add a fifth team. Thus, the organising structure of the upcoming 2010 CAADP Africa Forum is as follows:



Oversight committee: This is entrusted with overseeing progress towards the achievement of the wider vision of the Forum as a result of tasks accomplished by the other teams. In this function, the oversight team also serves as a central point of contact for actions and decisions that lie beyond the routine mandates of the other teams. Finally, the oversight team follows up the timely dispatch of invitation letters to all potential participants including resource persons.

Content team: The main task of this team is to sharpen the preliminary thematic focus areas of the Forum: Providing operational definition of key concepts, identifying and elaborating on sub-themes, identifying lead speakers and other presenters, preparing background documents, and developing programme schedule.

Local organizing team: This team is established in the country where the forum is held. Some of the main tasks centre on organizing meeting venue, booking hotels and plane tickets, getting bi-lingual translation of documents (English-French) done well before the meeting date, availing professional interpretation services during the event, ensuring adequate coverage of the event in national media and related public relation outlets, organizing refreshments, lunch and social dinners.

Moderation team: Working in close consultation with the content and local organizing teams, the moderation team ensures that the meeting organization and the programme schedule deliver on the expected objectives of the forum. The team advises on appropriateness of the meeting venue and format of forum programme. During the forum, the team introduces speakers, summarise the main issues and keeps proceedings on time.

Communication Team: This team takes care of the public relations affairs prior, during and after the forum. It liaises with the communication officers of the different main players (FOs, AU/NEPAD, CAADP, RECs and others). Prior to the forum it is responsible for information on the forum website. During the forum it ensures accurate and adequate coverage of the event by liaising with the local and international media and press. After the forum it is responsible for updating the participant list, putting presentations and background information on the forum website and for publishing and disseminating the forum proceedings.

A detailed list of members and responsibilities by team is as follows:

Oversight Team		
AUC/ NEPAD	Maria Wanzala (co-lead)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coordination function - Overseeing progress towards the achievement of the wider vision of the Forum - Central point of contact for actions and decisions - Follow up the timely dispatch of invitation letters by the NEPAD Secretariat to all potential participants - Total number of participants: categories and numbers per category - Logistical support to the oversight team: invitations and correspondence, contact with various teams, participants, etc. - Overall budget
Farmers' Organisation	Anglo- and Francophone FO representatives (co-lead)	
ECOWAS	Rui Silva / Yama Mbodj	
GTZ	Reimund Hoffman / Sonja Palm	
Global Donor Platform	Yihene Zewdie	
Ministry of Agriculture Burkina Faso	Boniface Bationo	
Content Team		
Consultant	Desiree Dietvorst (co-lead)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sharpen the thematic focus areas - Provide operational definition of key concepts - Identification and elaboration of sub-themes - Identification of lead speakers and other paper presenters - Preparation of background documents for country teams - Preparation of background documents for forum participants (Reader, etc.) - Elaboration of programme schedule - Forum Flyer - Elaboration of procedure, including a timeline, for accepting and organising paper presentations. - Communication with country teams - Number of participants per country team and resource persons - Forum proceedings
NEPAD/CAADP	Ousmane Djibo (co-lead)	
FOs (all regions with one Francophone lead + one Anglophone lead)	Benito Eliasi, SACAU (Anglophone lead) Mainza Mugoya, EAFF	
Pillar Institution	To be designated depending on final theme	
Ministry of Livestock Burkina Faso	Charles Ouedraogo	
Local Organizing Team		
Ministry of Agriculture Burkina Faso	Minister - Abdoulaye Combari (co-lead)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize the meeting venue, booking hotels - Getting bi-lingual translation of documents (English-French) done well before the meeting - Ensure conference secretariat - Availing professional interpretation services during the event - Ensuring adequate coverage of the event in national media and related public relation outlets in liaison with communication team - Liaise with all the relevant stakeholders at national level - Ensure transportation for throughout the
Ministry of Agriculture Burkina Faso	Boniface Bationo (co-lead)	
GTZ	Andrea Wilhelmi	
Confederation Paysanne du Faso	Moumouni Ouedraogo	
European Union	Amos Tinkani	

According to Burkina Faso decree there will be several commissions at local level		<p>conference (airport pick-up and drop-off, etc.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize field trip - Organize refreshments, lunch and social dinners. - Ensure health, safety and security of participants - Liaise with all teams
Moderation Team		
STRATEGIES!	Kah Walla (lead)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that the meeting organization and the programme schedule deliver on the expected objectives of the Forum - venue (including on seating arrangements) - Advice on length of the working day, format of group discussions, and number and composition of working groups - Determine the methodology of the Forum: advise on appropriateness of the meeting As a ‘Masters of Ceremony’, introduce speakers and the main tenets of their speeches/presentations - Summarise the main issues, and endeavour to keep the participants interested in the subject matter of the discussions - Work closely with the content team - Put in place a continuous evaluation mechanism throughout the conference - Devise methodology to make best use of peer-exchange platform
Consultant	To be decided upon by Oversight Team	
Group Facilitators	<p>To be selected from prior Forum participants and Country Teams and to hold a preparatory session before the Africa Forum.</p> <p>Clear guidelines to be established for group work.</p>	
Communication and Public Relations Team		
NEPAD/CAADP	Andrew K.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Liaison with all the communication officers of the different actors (NEPAD, FOs, RECs, etc.) - Media relations - Publication of success stories - Ensuring adequate coverage of the event in national media and related public relation outlets in liaison with local organizing team
5 Regional FOs	Stella Kamuyu, EAFF	
Consultant	For publications, etc.	
Ministry of Agriculture	Commission in charge of Communication	
Confederation Paysanne du Faso	Communication Officer	
INWENT	Unami Mpofu	

Printed in red are the names that need to be identified as soon as possible. These are:

- Oversight Committee: Co-lead Anglophone FO and co-lead Francophone FO;
- Content Team: Reps from ROPPA, PROPAC and UMAGRI and from those the Francophone lead;
- Moderation Team: second bilingual moderator;
- Communication Team: Rep from Ministry of Agriculture and rep from national FO, Burkina Faso