

New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition

What is the New Alliance?

Launched in 2012, the *New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition* is a joint initiative between African leaders, the private sector and development partners to accelerate responsible investment in African agriculture and lift 50 million people out of poverty by 2022. The *New Alliance* aims to catalyse responsible private sector investment in *Country Investment Plans* and thereby support the *Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)* as the guiding framework for agricultural transformation in Africa.

How does it work?

Under the *New Alliance*, African governments, their development partners, the African and global private sector, and civil society and farmer organisations agree a set of concrete actions and commitments, including policy reforms, multi-year funding commitments, and responsible investments, aimed at establishing an enabling environment for investment and accelerating agriculture-sector growth. These commitments are captured in *New Alliance Cooperation Frameworks* for each country. The implementation of *Cooperation Frameworks* is supported by a package of 'enabling actions' aimed at mobilising capital, improving access to new technology, managing risk, focusing on smallholder farmers.

Parties involved in the creation of *Cooperation Frameworks* are held mutually accountable for their commitments and participate in an annual review process, as part of the planned, annual *CAADP* review of progress against *Country Investment Plans*. A publicly available *New Alliance Progress Report* is published once a year.

Who's involved?

To date, nine countries have agreed *New Alliance Cooperation Frameworks*: Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria and Tanzania. Senegal is expected to complete a new *Cooperation Framework* and join the *New Alliance* in late 2013.

The *New Alliance* engages a wide range of companies, from the very small to the very large. The majority of investment proposals registered under the *New Alliance* are from African-based firms. Many investment proposals are received from Small-to-Medium Enterprises, though larger global food and agribusiness companies also have an important role to play.

A number of countries have registered donor commitments within *Cooperation Frameworks*, including: Belgium (Flanders), Canada, European Commission, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Norway, Russia, UK and US.

Who's in charge?

Strategic oversight of the *New Alliance* is provided by a *Leadership Council* – an informal leadership body comprising representatives from African governments, their development partners, the African and global private sector, and civil society and farmer organisations. The *Leadership Council* meets bi-annually, and is convened by three Co-Chairs. In 2013, these are: Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, Chairperson African Union Commission, (AUC); Josette Sheeran, Vice President, World Economic Forum (WEF); and Justine Greening, SoS for International Development, UK.

How do we know that investments are 'responsible'?

The *New Alliance* is dedicated to promoting responsible investment and supporting African farmers and smallholders. All parties making commitments in *New Alliance Cooperation Frameworks* are bound to take account of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of Food Security adopted by the Committee on World Food Security in May 2012, as well as the principles of responsible agricultural investment (rai), which are currently under consultation.

What benefit is this to African smallholders?

The *New Alliance* aims to create new jobs and market opportunities for small and large farms in African agriculture. Many small-scale family farms already produce a surplus for local and regional markets and the *New Alliance* aims to enable many more small-scale farmers to access markets and improve their incomes from farming. *New Alliance Cooperation Frameworks* are developed in consultation with farmer organisations to ensure policy reforms and investments respond to the specific needs and opportunities of small-scale farmers.