



African Union

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Agriculture and Social Protection: Priority Regional Policy Frameworks

Strengthening Coherence Between Agriculture and Social Protection: Consultative Workshop

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Outline

- I. The case for linking SP and Agriculture
- II. CAADP [2003]
- III. Framework for Africa's Food Security FAFS 2009
- IV. SPIREWORK [2011]
- V. High-Level Declaration for Ending Hunger in Africa by 2025 [2013]
- VI. Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agri. Growth & Transformation
- VII. Conclusion



The Case for SP and Agriculture

- Rampant poverty and food and nutrition insecurity vs. huge agriculture potential for economic growth
- Inadequate investment in agriculture despite comparative advantage in natural resources
- Capital deprivation, low incomes and low policy formulation and implementation



The Case for SP and Agriculture

- **Hunger has dire costs and must be eradicated**
- **The social burden could outweigh recent economic gains**
- **Agriculture with its wide ranging value chain stands to benefit SP and benefit from SP.**
- **Many opportunities to be harvested e.g. young population**
- **Youth and women entry points**
- **The poor largely rural-based and subsist on agric; thus heightening the need for SP-agriculture interventions**



POLICY FRAMEWORKS ENTRENCHING SOCIAL PROTECTION



CAADP 2003

- *“revitalize the agricultural sector...through special policies..., with emphasis on human development...”*
- *“engage...with women and youth...aimed at promoting their active participation in all aspects of agricultural and food production”.*
- *“develop policies and strategies to fight hunger and poverty in Africa”*
- **Vulnerable populations, esp. women and youth, through SP heightened.**
- **Draw parallels from recent emerging Asian economies which gained massively from SP and agriculture**



Framework for Africa Food Security 2009

- **Two objectives anchor SP: 1. Improving risk management and 2. Increased economic opportunities for the vulnerable**
- **Three Principles stress SP:**
 - The right to food
 - Focus on the chronically hungry and undernourished
 - Strengthening the livelihood and resilience of the vulnerable
- **Recommends specific options directly linking social protection to agriculture (next slide)**



FAFS Recommended Direct Options for Enhancing Resilience through Agriculture

Objective 1: Improving risk management

Immediate-term: Unconditional transfers of food, cash and others

Medium-term: in-kind food and cash transfers

Long-term: broad-based SP systems; food security platforms

Objective 2: Increased economic opportunities

Immediate-term: input subsidies; food-for-work; access to credit; conditional cash transfers, etc.

Medium-term: business skills; promote savings and credit schemes

Long-term: flexible employment policies and legislative protection; savings and credit schemes; basic education and health



Social Protection Plan for the Informal Economy and Rural Workers (SPIREWORLD)

- Conceived in recognition of the significant contribution of the informal economy and Agriculture to GDP, job creation, etc.
- 2004 Plan of Action on Employment Promotion and Poverty Alleviation: “Improve and strengthen existing SP schemes”
- AU Social Policy Framework: “Develop an extension of social security and social protection to cover the informal workers as well as their families”
- Agriculture presents the greatest potential for realising SPIREWORLD’s objectives: Mix of social security (contributory) and social assistance (non contributory) schemes/systems
- Mainstreaming SPIREWORLD into CAADP along CAADP planning, implementation, M&E and funding mechanisms (Nairobi, October 2013)



High Level Declaration for Ending Hunger in Africa

Resolved to end hunger in Africa by 2025 and made 5 pertinent statements:

- ✓ *Recognize the successes of hunger eradication programmes in various parts of the world and the **crucial role of social protection***
- ✓ *Complement measures for increased food and **agricultural productivity with social protection***
- ✓ *Comit targeted budget lines within national budgets for **social protection***
- ✓ *Increase support and remove obstacles for **youth, women** as well as **smallholders***
- ✓ *Guarantee the right of access to land and water resources*



Malabo 2014

Declaration on Ag. Transformation

- “Concerned that a significant proportion of our population still remains vulnerable to the challenges of economic marginalization, hunger and malnutrition...”
- “Reaffirming our resolve towards ensuring through deliberate and targeted support, that all segments of our populations, particularly women, the youth and other disadvantaged sectors of our societies, must participate and directly benefit from the growth and transformation opportunities.
- “Commit to ...doubling current agric productivity levels ...through...provision of ‘smart’ protection to smallholder agriculture”
- “to integrate measures for increased agric productivity with social protection initiatives focusing on vulnerable social groups through committing targeted budget lines within our national budgets”



Recommended Strategic Actions by the Malabo 2014 – P.4

- Strengthening strategic food and cash reserves to respond to food shortages occasioned by periodic prolonged droughts or other disasters/emergencies;
- Strengthening early warning systems to facilitate advanced and proactive responses to disasters and emergencies with food and nutrition security implications;
- Targeting priority geographic areas and community groups for interventions;
- Encouraging and facilitating increased consumption of locally produced food items, including the promotion of innovative school feeding programs that use food items sourced from the local farming community.



SUMMARY: The Policy Frameworks and Specific SP Intervention Areas

Framework	Specific Actions for Achievement of SP Objectives
CAADP 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Emphasis on human development (esp. women and youth) for “revitalising” the ag sector- Recognizes the Asian experience of using social protection in the agriculture sector
FAFS 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Has specific objectives related to SP- Outlines practical options for appropriate SP-related strategies
SPIREWORK 200	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Strongly recommends social security/assistance schemes to informal and rural workers who are largely in farming- Recognising that agriculture presents “greatest potential for meeting SPIREWORK Objectives- Specific implementation approach established through the development of the Document on mainstreaming SPIREWORK into the CAADP



SUMMARY: The Policy Frameworks and Specific SP Intervention Areas (Cont...)

Framework	Specific Actions for Achievement of SP Objectives
High Level Declaration for Ending Hunger in Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Categorically recommends targeted budgetary allocations for SP- Underscores targeting of smallholders with emphasis on women and youth
Malabo Declaration 2014	<p>Explicitly specifies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- “targeting” of communities with SP interventions- Practical options with ag-sp interplay (e.g. home-grown school feeding)- SP for increased productivity



2014 Year of
AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY

Conclusion

- **The case for SP in agriculture is well grounded in AU agriculture , economic and social development policy**
- **Strong partnership is required to promote formulation and implementation of SP policy**
- **High need to immediately integrate SP into the CAADP NAFSIPs, including SPIREWORK**



Thank You

