

NEPAD Agriculture Unit Quarterly report (April - June 2008)

Introduction

The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) continues to support the African continent through its contribution to the poverty and food security Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). In this second quarter (April – June 2008), the NEPAD Secretariat took the lead in coordinating and implementing efforts aimed at putting in place mechanisms to respond to the rising food prices and the related food insecurity, which threaten to erode the economic and developmental gains of the past decade.

Key highlights for the quarter include the noticeable progress made with regard to developing short to long term plans for food security initiatives. NEPAD continued also, throughout the quarter, to provide support to countries and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) with facilitation of the CAADP Round Table processes.

This report provides a review of the main activities of the NEPAD Agriculture Unit during the second quarter of this year. The report does this by highlighting the work of the programme within the framework of the five strategic areas around which CAADP is structured. These include:

- Partnership and coalition-building to link resources with agriculture investment programmes;
- Promoting the quality of CAADP implementation at regional and national levels;
- Facilitating and coordinating monitoring and evaluation of CAADP implementation;
- Managing communication and information in support of CAADP implementation and partnership; and

- Harnessing key thinking on emerging agriculture-related issues to articulate African perspectives and contribute to the evolution of the CAADP agenda.

It is against these key strategies that the report then goes on to highlight key events, activities and processes that have helped to focus the Agriculture Unit's work in supporting the above five priorities during the period under review. It is in this regard that the report pays particular attention to the question of the rising food prices and the responses to this - including financial allocations. In addition, the report also highlights the importance and relevance of the upcoming High Level Meeting that is meant to review CAADP. This event and the related progress of CAADP in this year have led us to suggest that '2008 is the year of CAADP'.

1. Partnership and coalition-building to link resources with agriculture investment programmes

1.1 NEPAD / AU responses to the high food prices

The urgent need to respond to the crisis in Africa prompted the African Union through NEPAD and its development partners, to organise within the context of CAADP a 'Food and Nutrition Security Workshop to Accelerate Investments in Response to High Food Prices and Resulting Food Insecurity'.

The workshop resulted in strongly-voiced commitments by governments and development partners to act immediately to address the adverse impacts of high food prices on the most vulnerable in Africa. Workshop participants produced in outline, preliminary concepts

for short-and medium-term priority interventions in each country in response to the high food prices and food insecurity amounting to some US\$2.93 billion, and a process for immediate follow up support for the countries concerned.



Prices of grains such as rice have more than doubled
Source: The New Vision, 2008.

Since the conclusion of the workshop, participating countries with the support of NEPAD/AU and development partners have been actively pursuing the process of finalising short and longer term interventions for immediate implementation. A NEPAD/AU led taskforce is providing continental level coordination between governments, key African institutions and development partners.

To date, programming missions have been undertaken to Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Cote d'Ivoire, and Sierra Leone. A mission for Madagascar is currently in the field. Detailed planning for missions is underway for Gambia, Angola, Senegal, Niger, Cameroon, Benin, Lesotho, Zambia, Malawi and Mali.

1.1.1 Resource mobilization in the context of the high food prices

Resource mobilisation efforts have been moved in parallel to country level programming with the major development partners. Details of the resources that have been mobilized from development partners to support both short and long term interventions include:

International Financial Institutions

- **AfDB:** about US\$127 million could immediately be reallocated in 16 countries for the purchase of inputs with a possibility of expanding this to US\$250 million. **AfDB** also reported that 11 short term emergency grants of US\$5.5 million for accelerated disbursement had been approved
- The **World Bank** announced US\$1.2 billion as immediate financial assistance for countries worst hit by the high food price crisis. The programme could expand to as much as US\$6 billion, to boost agricultural production and safety nets. Africa will be a major beneficiary. A US\$200 million grant package for high priority countries was also announced, with Liberia and Djibouti already targeted to receive US\$10 million and US\$5 million respectively.

See the listing below on the World Bank's recommended amounts to various countries.

- Global Food Crisis Response Program: Recommended Amounts
 - Liberia \$10 million
 - Togo \$7 million
 - Niger \$7 million
 - Guinea Bissau \$5 million
 - Sierra Leone \$7 million
 - Central African Republic \$7 million
 - Benin \$9 million
 - Burundi \$10 million
 - Guinea \$10 million
 - Madagascar \$10 million
 - Mauritania \$9 million
 - Rwanda \$10 million
 - Somalia \$7 million
 - Mozambique \$10 million
 - Southern Sudan \$5 million

Multilateral Agencies

- The **FAO** has committed technical expertise and \$17 million in emergency assistance to the most affected countries.

- The **WFP** is scaling up programmes across Africa, focused on 10 priority countries:
 - Burkina Faso - \$6.9 million in critical food assistance
 - Mozambique - \$7 million to social safety net programmes
 - Senegal - \$15 million to school feeding programmes
 - Burundi - \$11.5 million to school feeding and water and land management
 - Central African Republic - \$12.3 million to provide food safety nets
 - Sierra Leone - \$9 million to school feeding and mother and child nutrition
 - Liberia - \$25 million to school feeding programmes and safety nets
 - Ethiopia - \$193 million in urgent support and safety net programmes
 - Kenya - \$85 million
 - Somalia - \$163 million

Bilateral Commitments

The bilateral development partners represented at the workshop (**USA, United Kingdom, Norway, Japan and France**) also voiced their strong commitment to providing immediate and long-term assistance in response to the high food prices crisis. The immediate response has been the release of US\$200 million in humanitarian assistance that will meet part of the unanticipated food needs of Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, Somalia, Mauritania, Uganda, and Sudan. Part of these resources will contribute to the global WFP appeal for an additional US\$750 million to respond to the crisis.

1.2 Development of a CAADP Multi-Donor Trust Fund

The **World Bank** also announced a new Trust Fund of US\$50 million to be launched in October 2008 with an expected initial contribution of US\$ 50 million being committed over a 4-year period. The fund is to be accessed for short term actions by countries in which there are no on-going programmes that could be restructured, such as Liberia and Togo. During the period under review, negotiations to refine especially the governance and implementation and evaluation

mechanisms for the CAADP Multi-Donor Trust Fund continued.

The Fund is created specifically to finance the implementation of CAADP, with support going to RECs, Pillar institutions, NEPAD Secretariat, AUC and countries. The overall objective is to strengthen capacities in these institutions for effective and sustainable support to the implementation of country CAADP round tables, related policy and institutional transformation, including monitoring and evaluation/peer review of investment programmes.

The Fund establishes a flexible yet sympathetic, efficient and reliable mechanism. It will help:

- Harmonise priorities
- Allow economies of scale
- Increase the efficiency and effectiveness of financial resources
- Target specific gaps in financing, capacity and technology
- Facilitate partnerships and coalition building among African institutions, partners and donors
- Complement existing resources mobilised around CAADP pillars and other thematic priorities.

The Fund will be governed by a small oversight committee comprised of representatives from NEPAD, AU and the World Bank, along with two rotating donor partners and two rotating African institutional partners. The oversight committee reports to the CAADP Partnership Platform. As the Secretariat of the CAADP Partnership Platform, the NEPAD Secretariat will be responsible for preparing joint work programmes for review and endorsement by the oversight committee. The NEPAD Secretariat will be supported in its responsibilities by a fund administrator at the World Bank.

1.3 NEPAD agricultural water development and irrigation partnership

The focus during this quarter was on the regional knowledge sharing and capacity building workshops for senior African policy makers in West Africa and Southern Africa. The workshop for West Africa was



held in Bamako, Mali from 10-11 June 2008. The training focused on enhancing the policy makers' access to relevant information and data for informed decision-making and mainstreaming policy support. It also focused on highlighting and strengthening appreciation of the linkages and complementarities between 'Agricultural Water related' initiatives and SLM within the context of CAADP. Findings from this workshop as well as the forthcoming one in Southern Africa will be used to produce toolkits for decision making on 'Agricultural Water' development strategies.

Southern African Regional Office. The proposal will be considered for funding in the 2009 financial year. Discussions have also been underway with COMESA to explore development of a Fisheries Strategy for COMESA that will strengthen the role of fisheries in CAADP.

The NEPADFish-CTA collaboration

The Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) has agreed to support implementation of the NEPAD Fisheries Action Plan, through acceleration of adoption of fisheries and aquaculture technologies through policy reforms at three levels namely:

- (i) government policy making;
- (ii) research and technology development and ;
- (iii) integration of education centres (universities) into the innovation system.

Following this agreement, training was subsequently held for policy makers, government and university research scientists to equip them with the necessary methodologies for identifying gaps in the fisheries and aquaculture innovation systems. The aim here is to improve the adoption of innovation systems. The training was hosted by the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) at the University of Malawi. One of the outcomes from this training was an agreement to establish a Fisheries Network for Southern Africa. CTA will consider funding this network for an initial 2 years and use it as pilot for its counterpart in West Africa.

NEPAD-AfDB collaboration

NEPAD participated in a workshop organised by the African Development Bank (AfDB) to review its fisheries portfolio. The two agreed on a number of strategies to strengthen the collaboration between the AfDB and NEPAD with regard to fisheries. These include:

- (i) the need for the Bank to increase its efforts to contribute to the implementation of national fisheries and aquaculture programmes as defined under CAADP;
- (ii) the need for the NEPAD Secretariat to strengthen its role in sharing information and experiences in the fisheries sector, support



Irrigation systems are to be rolled-out in four pilot countries
Source: NEPAD-CAADP

During the period under review, support was also provided to the four pilot countries of Mali, Niger, Uganda and Zambia and RECs in the formulation of 'Agricultural Water Action Plans' within the CAADP implementation context for scaling up of investment programmes on agriculture water and irrigation practices.

1.4 NEPADFish

Focus during the period under review, was on providing support to RECS that have fisheries programmes. Support was rendered to SADC on the implementation of the SADC protocol on Fisheries. Agreement on this programme has already been reached with the USAID

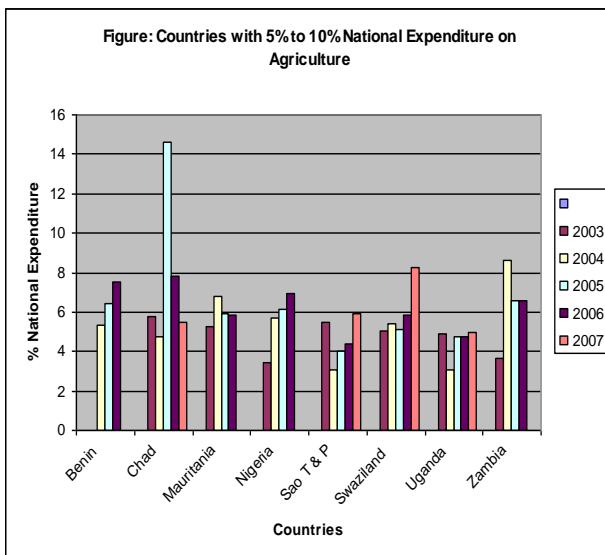
with monitoring of projects, as well as support the Bank in establishing strategic partnerships in programme development to ensure projects meet national developmental goals and;

- (iii) the need to strengthen the measures under the Action Plan of NEPAD, in partnership with the Bank, paying particular attention to the management of shared fisheries resources and the fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing. The Bank will therefore explore funding possibilities for regional programmes.

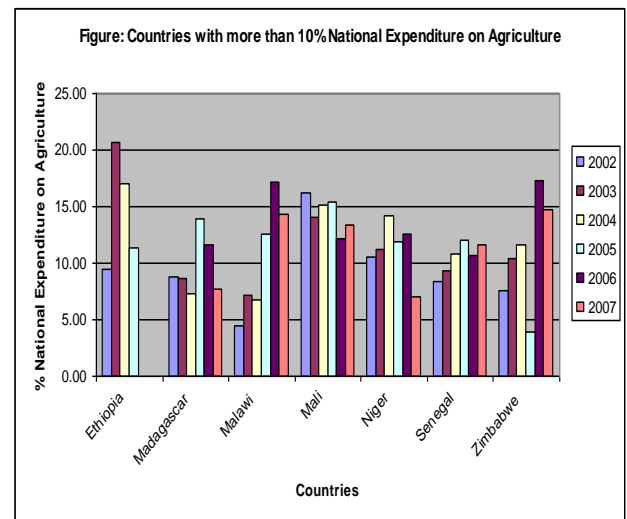
2. Promoting CAADP principles in CAADP implementation processes and resulting investment programmes

2.1 AU/NEPAD efforts to encourage African countries to increase agriculture expenditure are paying off

Many CAADP stakeholders believe that inadequate investment in agriculture development is one of the major constraints to attainment of the 6% annual sector growth and reduction of food insecurity and poverty.



To underscore the commitment to increase investment in agriculture development, the 2003 AU Maputo Summit adopted a resolution to commit at least 10% of the annual national budget to agriculture and rural development by 2008.



Source: NEPAD-CAADP

The NEPAD Agriculture Unit is finalising the 2007 report on the progress member countries are making in complying with 2003 AU-Maputo decision. Preliminary findings indicate that seven countries have complied with 2003 AU-Maputo decision. In addition, 8 countries are allocating 5% to 10% of the national expenditure to agriculture development. Over the next few months, the AU and NEPAD will engage countries that are not making good progress to encourage them to take the necessary steps.

2.2 Promoting and implementing the CAADP pillars

2.2.1 Pillar 1 on TerrAfrica and Sustainable Land and Water Management (SLWM)

A key aspect in the progress of Pillar 1 has been the development of investment projects based on the US \$ 150 million mobilised within the NEPAD-TerrAfrica Partnership under the Global Environmental Facility (GEF)'s Strategic Investment Programme. As at June 2008, close to US \$ 900 million had also been realised in leveraged funds to the GEF US \$ 150 million.

To date, forty-eight (48) country projects in thirty (30) countries and five (6) regional projects are under consideration with project preparation funds expected to be available to all by end of October 2008. One of the regional projects in this regard is the US \$ 5 million Institutional and Capacity Development Project support for the NEPAD Secretariat, RECs and pillar Institutions to enhance their capacities on supporting the scaling up of SLWM.

In addition, during the period under review an implementation agreement between NEPAD and UNEP as lead support agency was signed and initial funding to commence with development of the full proposal has since been released to NEPAD. The Project will be pursued in line with plans to establish an SLWM M&E Service Desk at the NEPAD Secretariat.

2.2.2 The TerrAfrica SLWM and Country CAADP Round Tables

The NEPAD Secretariat continued in the review period to facilitate and support alignment and harmonisation of the SLWM work into the Country CAADP Round Table processes. This involved support to inter-sectoral dialogue between the SLWM group and the overall CAADP implementation teams. It has also involved informing and ensuring understanding of the links of the TerrAfrica SLWM work to the country CAADP Round Table processes and specifically to CAADP Pillar 1 work.

Major progress is underway in alignment and harmonisation of the SLWM work into the CAADP Round Table process in Uganda, Ghana, Ethiopia, Malawi, Kenya, Nigeria, Mali and Niger. In these countries, efforts to bring the SLWM work along the overall CAADP Round Table process has also brought about desired inter-sectoral and comprehensive thrust linking agriculture productivity and environmental resilience objectives.

2.2.3 Pillar 3 on increasing food supply and reducing hunger and Pillar 2 on increasing market access through improved infrastructure and trade related interventions

The Secretariat facilitated and coordinated the final technical review and validation processes for the CAADP Pillar 3 Framework (May 2008) on increasing food supply and reducing hunger and Pillar 2 Framework (June 2008) on increasing market access through improved infrastructure and trade-related interventions. The frameworks are ready for widespread distribution and will have to take the due process for political endorsement by the AU Heads of State and Government. The Secretariat also engaged with the UN-Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), African Development Bank (AfDB) and the African Union Commission (AUC) to provide input to the validation of the Land Policy and Administration vision paper (expected to be translated into a framework document once the validation exercise is complete). The Land Policy and Administration Framework is expected to complement the Pillar 1 framework and discussions are underway on practical modalities for realising the complementarities and synergies.

The SLWM framework document was also reviewed in the same with focus being directed towards strengthening the agriculture water elements. The SLWM framework document is now ready for the general validation process expected to run from July to October 2008.

During the review period, NEPAD concluded with Germany (GTZ and InWent) a support programme on capacity building for the CAADP country and regional teams. The programme is expected to be operational as from September 2008.

3. Facilitating, coordinating monitoring and evaluation of CAADP implementation

3.1 Progress / monitoring in CAADP implementation

During the period under review, NEPAD jointly with the RECs engaged several countries in their attempts to support and strengthen high level political resolve and

commitment to the CAADP agenda. The countries directly engaged in this period include:

Ghana	Niger
Senegal	Kenya
Malawi	Ethiopia
Nigeria	Zambia

At the level of the RECs, besides ECOWAS and COMESA, the NEPAD Secretariat also engaged with the East African Community (EAC) during a June 2008 mission to the EAC Secretariat in Arusha, Tanzania. Basically, as at June 2008, all RECs are working at various levels towards the CAADP Round Table processes. It is expected that by December 2008, at least a dozen countries will have signed their CAADP Compacts. However, the most notable progress been achieved in COMESA and ECOWAS (See the related map).

3.2 Monitoring and evaluation

It is against this background that NEPAD is looking to carry out a review of CAADP's first five years. The review has got a two-fold purpose:

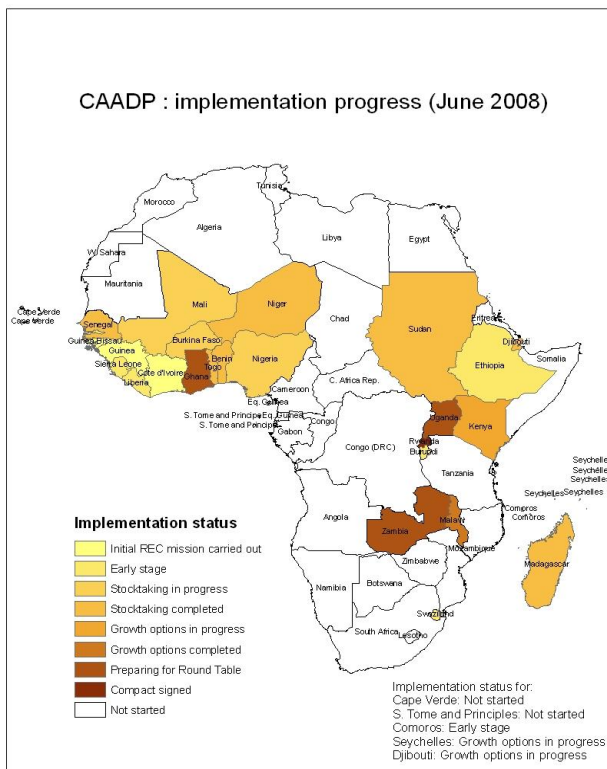
- An evaluation of the performance of CAADP as a network in achieving its goals, and
- A forward-looking review with a view to renewing the commitment of member states and development partners to continuing and accelerating the implementation of CAADP

A crucial part of the evaluation will be to assess the relationships between CAADP and its stakeholders. An assessment of CAADP's performance would also need to encompass both technical and political dimensions. CAADP's technical performance would entail examining:

- Its effectiveness in promoting agricultural development and growth in the continent;
- Its relevance to member states and to development partners.
- Its efficiency in performing its tasks, which in effect, means an evaluation of the Secretariat itself.

The political dimensions of CAADP's performance would focus on:

- Its effectiveness in terms of:
 - The extent to which member states, RECs and development partners have bought in to the CAADP process;



Source: IFPRI

In all the countries visited, the Secretariat engaged with key players and representatives as part of an attempt to register support for the CAADP process at the highest level in the countries. Among the key messages the Secretariat brought to the countries was the urgent need to accelerate CAADP implementation at the national / country level. The Secretariat and the RECs are keen to have more Compacts signed by the end of the year. Basic analytical work has been completed in Ghana, Zambia and Malawi and these countries are already preparing for country CAADP roundtables and the signing of the Compact. The Missions also noted that studies were fairly advanced in Kenya, Niger and Senegal.

- The extent, to which CAADP is Africa-owned, led and financed, which is its defining characteristic.

Here, focus would also be on its relevance to key political processes related to the African Union including the Libreville, Gabon meetings of AU Ministers for Agriculture to discuss CAADP implementation, the Abuja Extra Ordinary Summit on Food Security and the continental and international declarations in support of CAADP in general, and its accelerated implementation.

In doing this review, a major event will be held between the 20th and 24th of October 2008, in Maputo, Mozambique. Besides focusing on the evaluation and monitoring of CAADP after five years, this CAADP High Level Meet is expected to bring together public and private sector leaders from Africa, development partners, civil society and commercial interest groups from around the world to recognise achievements and stimulate the expansion of public-private partnerships in support of the CAADP Agenda. The aim is to generate a more competitive and productive African agricultural sector for sustained African development.

4. Harnessing key thinking and experience on African agriculture issues

The NEPAD Agriculture Unit has in the period under review carried on with its focus on harnessing key thinking and experience on emerging global issues related to agriculture, and more pertinently, on how to articulate African perspectives and contribute to the evolution of the CAADP Agenda.

It is against this background that the Unit is currently engaged in various activities including participation in events that can enable us to more clearly articulate the CAADP stand-point on issues such as climate change and even bio-fuels. Some of these key up-coming events include:

- The ClimAdapt: innovative responses in sustainable agriculture - an Open-Space event for stakeholders in rural development -

5-7 November 2008, Bonn, Germany
<http://www.agrecol.de/climadapt/>

- Conference on Natural Resource Management, Climate Change and Economic Development in Africa
http://www.aercafrica.org/html/announcement_s2.asp?announcementid=90

The idea here is to engage in events and related initiatives that provide space to explore questions, ideas and potential solutions to these issues. Pertinently, this will then enable the Unit to develop a context relevant stand-point on how these emerging issues.

5. Managing communication and information in support of CAADP implementation and partnership

Following on from the recent revision of the CAADP branding and communication strategy, the NEPAD Agriculture Unit has continued to make gains in terms of deliveries against the objectives of its communications strategic plan. Key achievements in the period under review:

- Continued development of the CAADP communications strategy and related sub-units communications inputs
- Unit-wide branding and implementation thereof at conferences, exhibitions and meetings so as to enhance the Unit's and NEPAD's visual messaging profile locally and globally
- Commissioning of two documentaries to highlight the work, progress and challenges of implementing CAADP and the related Pillars
- Continued work on set-up of the NEPAD-CAADP websites
- Increased media presence. CAADP's presence in the media continued to expand robustly in the period under review, in both major regional and international media outlets. Of key relevance here is the consideration that CAADP is increasingly being cited on Internet websites that are oriented towards

issues of agriculture, trade and development. On the basis of the Google Alerts system the number of CAADP mentions in the media jumped up by 56 between the months of June and July

- Recruitment of a CAADP Communications Manager in Midrand, South Africa. Dr. Andrew Kanyegirire whose work explores regional African communications brings in relevant journalism and media experiences from across the African continent.

Over the course of the next quarter and indeed the year ahead, CAADP will attempt to become more visible particularly in terms of becoming the voice of African agriculture / agriculture in Africa and this will require the continued development and fine-tuning of core communications functions.

Conclusion:

'2008 is the year of CAADP'.

The last quarter has seen a lot of action geared towards responding to the rising food prices. NEPAD also continued to give support to the countries and RECs vis-à-vis the CAADP round table processes. As we look to the next quarter, the 2008 CAADP High Level Meet will also help us to get a better sense of how to position CAADP for optimum investments.

Evidently, CAADP is now acknowledged by African leaders, development practitioners and partners as a continent wide framework for the restoration of agricultural growth and food security in Africa. For the first time in the history of our agrarian debate, African leaders have endorsed a collective framework to tackle the issues of growth, poverty reduction and food and nutrition security in a comprehensive way. As a component of the broader NEPAD agenda, CAADP is African owned and led. It enjoys a broad consensus on objectives, targets, implementation processes and partnership principles. And it recognises the importance of establishing a clear framework to ensure consistency and coherence of efforts by all stakeholders, including international development

partners. Ending poverty and hunger will necessitate bold decisions from the highest levels of African governments. With CAADP we have the framework to make them.

As we move towards 2009, NEPAD will continue engaging with the countries on the key priority areas. Focus will also be on consolidation of support to the country efforts on the round tables as well as supporting those that are still coming on board.

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View the CAADP calendar at: <http://www.nepad-caadp.org> for the key events listing.

Visit our website at: <http://www.nepad.org>

Do you have any suggestions on how we can communicate better? Please contact us to let us know.