



Department for Agriculture,
Environment and Water Resources
Regional Agricultural Policy
(ECOWAP)



Progress - Peace - Prosperity



NEPAD
Comprehensive Africa Agriculture
Development Program
(CAADP)

THE GAMBIA

Review of Ongoing Agricultural Development Efforts

Agriculture is the dominant sector in the Gambian economy, employing about 70% of the total work force and contributing, on average, 33% of GDP. It produces about 50% of the national food supplies with only about 60% of the country's total arable land resources currently being utilized. The sector generates approximately 40% foreign exchange earnings and provides two-thirds of total household

income. About 91% of the extremely poor and 72% of the poor in The Gambia are involved in the agricultural sector.

Out of a total arable area in The Gambia of 558,000 ha, an average of 200,000 ha are cultivated annually with field crops. Subsistence crops are composed of cereals such as millet, sorghum, maize and rice. Crop production has been fluctuating over the years, with the level of

performance varying amongst crops. The most significant and consistent increase has been registered for coarse grains with early millet constituting the largest increase for a single crop. In contrast, swamp rice production has declined during recent years. The main cash products are groundnuts, cotton, horticulture, livestock and fisheries. Horticultural production contributes about 4.2% to the GDP.

Horticultural production has been gaining momentum especially in the Western part of the country (WD and NBD) where climatic conditions are favourable. Although the full potential of the industry has yet to be realized, production has been increasing due principally to increased communal village vegetable gardens cultivated and managed by women. The livestock sub-sector, comprising cattle, small ruminants, different species of poultry, pigs and equines, contributes 6% to GDP. This sector constitutes important sources of food, income and farm input. Per capita meat consumption is estimated at 8 kg per annum, hence large volumes of meat, eggs and milk are imported annually to meet consumption requirements. Due to the low input management systems and poor husbandry practices, productivity and output have been generally low. The fisheries sub-sector, which has been steadily growing over the past years, presently contributes 8% to GDP. Fisheries constitute an important natural resource and provider of cheap protein for a significant proportion of the population. It is estimated that the Maximum Sustainable Yield from the Gambia's continental shelf and estuarine area is 80,000 mt per year, whilst current catches are put at 30,000–40,000 mt, although data indicate that high valued demersal species are under threat from exploitation. High post-harvest losses, lack of credit, low skill levels and lack of infrastructure for landing constitute key constraints encountered in the sub-sector.

Despite the important role of the agriculture sector in the economy, its performance and share in most key socio-economic indicators has stagnated or even declined in the past decade. Output per hectare from the crop sub-sector has declined over the years with increases in output mainly due to expansion of area under cultivation. The poor performance of agriculture is due to a seemingly unbreakable cycle of erratic inadequate input supplies, inappropriate technology, low output and productivity growth, low incomes and an acute inability to generate savings for investment. However, significant potential exist to increase crop yields from their current levels: coarse grain yields can be increased to over 2,000 kg/ha, rice yields to 6,000 kg/ha, and groundnut yields to over 2,000 kg/ha with the adoption of best practices and improved access to adequate production inputs and credit.

Per capita income in the Gambia is US\$310. The number of people living on US\$1 a day was 61% in 2003 with a poverty gap of 25.9% and poverty severity of 14%. Poverty is higher in rural areas with 68% compared to urban areas where 40% of the population is considered to be poor. The geographical distribution of poverty is uneven, with poverty being highest in the rural groundnut areas. The latest national nutrition survey (2005) by the National Nutrition Agency, rated acute malnutrition at 7% and stunting at 17.8%; micronutrient deficiencies are

a severe problem especially amongst children. Domestic food production only caters for 50% of consumption requirements; with the rest filled by imports particularly of rice. Current rice annual imports exceed US\$40 million.

LONG-TERM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES & AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORKS

Agriculture in Vision 2020

The Vision 2020, which was formally launched in May 2006, seeks to transform The Gambia into a dynamic middle income country, socially, economically and scientifically over a 25-year period. The vision set out some objectives for agriculture and natural resources (ANR). These are to: i) increase ANR output of both domestic and exports produce in order to ensure food security and generate earnings of foreign exchange to finance other aspects of the development process; ii) create employment and generate income for the majority of the rural population who are largely dependent on ANR; iii) diversify the ANR base to facilitate the production of a wider range of food and export produce in order to reduce the fluctuations and uncertainties associated with rural household incomes and export earnings; iv) reduce disparities between rural-urban incomes as well as between men and women, curb rural-urban drift and accelerate the pace of development in the rural sector; and v) provide effective linkages between ANR and other sectors of the economy such that developments in the non-agricultural sectors, particularly manufacturing and tourism, are founded on a firm and diversified ANR base capable of progressively releasing both labour and financial capital to other sectors of the economy; and create a sustainable and balanced mix between rain-fed and irrigated agriculture, thus ensuring an optimal use of natural resources, of surface and ground water, animal, aquaculture and crop production as well as between chemical and organic inputs and the use of agricultural by-products.

Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)

The Gambia's second Poverty Reduction and Strategy Paper (PRSP II) which covers an implementation period of 5 years (2007–2011), outlines the overall policy framework for Growth and Poverty Reduction. The PRSP II which builds on long-term development objectives for attaining the MDGs and Vision 2020 is the main framework that defines the overall government development planning and budget process for achieving meaningful

progress, prosperity, sustainable development, and poverty reduction. The policy articulated five pillars that will serve as the major focus within the five-year period. One of them proposes to enhance the capacity and output of productive sectors: agriculture, fisheries, industry, trade and tourism, with emphasis on productive capacities of the poor and vulnerable populations. The PRSP projects the agricultural sector to be the prime sector for investments to raise income, improve food security and reduce poverty and, therefore, meet the Vision 2020 objectives and the MDG. Among the key proposed interventions in the agricultural sector are: training in polyvalence extension services; provision of training on seed production, selection of breeding stock, animal feed formulation, composting, soil and water conservation practices and other improved cultural practices; seed multiplication and distribution particularly rice, melon, maize, sesame, sunflower, etc; production of small ruminants, rabbits, poultry, grasscutters, etc; linkage of agricultural producers to health, trade, tourism and other industries (e.g. construction of market stalls and slaughter houses); and provision of agrochemicals, drugs and vaccines.

Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy (ANRP)

The Gambia Agricultural and Natural Resources Policy covers the 2006–2015 period. It has a short-term vision of a strengthened sector supported with at least 10% of national budgetary allocations (excluding debt servicing), attaining sustainable increased levels of self-sufficiency in food production, by at least 25% of present levels, as well as increased incomes of smallholders, and increased food security at household level. The major areas of focus of the policy in the short term are information outreach; water supplies; soil fertility and land use management; access to essential inputs/resources; research and extension structures and services; promotion and adoption of value chain approaches; creation of markets, expanding the growth of existing ones, enhancing inter-relationships between the agriculture sector and high value markets; establishment of a critical mass of skilled service providers and users of knowledge; strengthening selected institutions; strengthening of CBOs, farmers groups and organizations and their apex bodies; strengthening selected inputs/outputs market enterprises and livestock sub-sector. Targets include sustainable increase of rice by at least 25% of present levels of production; sustainable increased production of artisanal fisheries with over 90% of the catch/production process by indigenous small holders mechanized in the next 5–10 years and reduction of unregulated exploitation of fish in territorial waters of the

country by at least 50%; and a well developed forest land area covering at least 30%.

The Gambia National Agricultural Investment Program

In 2005, ECOWAS agreed on an Action Plan (2005–2010) to implement both the CAADP and ECOWAP. ECOWAS was then mandated to implement the Action Plan, and consequently, the Regional Agricultural Investment Program (RAIP). A key step toward the formulation of the RAIP is the preparation of National Agricultural Investment Programs (NAIPs) of ECOWAS member states. Towards this end, the Government of The Gambia embarked on preparing a NAIP, with its two CAADP implementing ministries, the Department of State for Agriculture (DOSA), and the Department of State for Trade, Industry, and Employment (DOSTIE), spearheading the process. The GNAIP also provides the country's agricultural investment program in the six areas identified in the RAIP: (i) development of agricultural chains and market promotion; (ii) improvement of water management; (iii) prevention and management of food crises and other natural disasters; (iv) improved management of the other shared resources; (v) sustainable farm development; (vi) institutional capacity building for the implementation of the RAIP. The program is thus deeply rooted both in the national, regional, and international development frameworks and agenda.

INVESTMENT PROGRAMMES UNDER THE PRS/ANRP

Improvement of water management

Boosting Rice Production in The Gambia: The overall objective of the sub-program is to ensure food security and rice self-sufficiency in the country by cultivating 25,000 ha through the employment of appropriate, sustainable and environmentally friendly water management techniques and cultivation practices.

Improved management of other shared resources

The sub-program consists of three components, namely, range management and organization of transhumance, support to shared forest resource management, and support to fisheries resource management.

Management of Rangelands, and Organization of

Transhumance: Range management and organization of transhumance seeks to ensure availability of forage, preservation and conservation rangeland bio-diversity, conservation of soil fertility, and continuous regeneration of vegetation.

Support to Shared Forest Resource Management: The objectives of the support to shared forest resource management are: (i) development of forest land covering at least 30% of the total area of the country, (ii) ensuring that at least 25% of the land under forest cover is managed for environmental conservation and participatory socio-economic development; (iii) preservation, protection, and conservation of the remaining flora and fauna in the country; (iv) promotion of eco-tourism to help diversify the economy; (v) enhancing forest regeneration for the production of timber, fuel wood, and food; (vi) control of desertification; (vii) provision of breeding and spawning ground for fish; (viii) community management and ownership of forests for enhancement food security, poverty reduction, wood energy production, and environmental conservation; (ix) by 2015, the level of protection and availability of Gambian wildlife and their habitat would have risen at least by 75% of the present levels; (x) measurable contribution to the achievement of the MDGs and the Vision 2020 objective of the country.

Support to Fisheries Resource Management: The objectives of the fisheries sector are: (i) increased sustainable production of artisanal fisheries for food security, income, and trade; (ii) a well-developed aquaculture industry capable of producing competitively sustainable supplies of fish for high-value domestic and foreign markets (iii) use of fish as a means improving the nutritional standards of the population; (iv) increased employment opportunities and net foreign exchange earnings; (v) enhancement of increased participation of Gambian entrepreneurs, particularly the youth, in the fisheries sector; (vi) improvement of institutional capacity and strengthening of the legal framework for the management of the fisheries sector; (vii) strengthening of the regional and international collaboration with regard to the sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources.

Development of agricultural chains and market promotion

This program has three components, namely: the development of food processing chains, strengthening of regional operator support services, and the promotion of intra-regional and extra-regional trade.

Food Crop Production and Productivity Enhancement:

to make food available, accessible and moving towards achieving MDGI by 2015.

Development of Food Processing Chains: The development of food processing chain will cover the following areas: (i) food crop chains (rice, groundnuts, maize, millet, sorghum and findo); (ii) horticulture (fruits [e.g. mangoes], vegetables [e.g. wonjo], roots and tubers); (iii) agro-forestry food products (Kaba [*Saba Senegalensis*], Dahar [*Tamarindus Indica*], and baobab [*Adansonia Digitata*], Tallo, Tamba seeds, bush tea, etc.); (iv) short cycle livestock chains (poultry, small ruminants, and dairy products); (v) fisheries products; (vi) export crops (mangoes, groundnuts, sesame, cashew nuts, and horticultural crops).

Strengthening National Operator Support Services:

The objective of this component is to place adequate technical and financial services at the disposal of farmers/producers and other operators of the agricultural chains. The expected result would be an increase in the available food stock in the national market and an increase in incomes derive from agricultural exports. The proposed sub-components will include: (i) developing financial services in line with operators' needs; (ii) development of market information systems (MIS) (iii) capitalizing on available technologies and conditions for their utilization by farmers/producers and the agri-food companies and agro-industries; (iv) implementing a research program on rational utilization of biotechnologies in the agricultural sector.

Promotion of Domestic, Intra-regional and Extra-regional trade:

Constraints on intra regional trade need to be addressed by fully implementing ECOWAS protocol on trade and free movement of goods and persons within the region, adoption of a single currency, minimizing, if not eliminating, non-essential check points, improve transportation links among member states etc. To promote extra-regional trade challenges related to Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures (SPS) and technical barriers to trade (TBT) faced by Gambian exporters to the EU market need to be addressed. In addition investment, by the private sector, in the packaging industries is to be encouraged.

Prevention and management of food crises and other natural disasters

This program consists of three interrelated components: (i) promotion of early warning system (ii) development of crisis management system (iii) support to post-crisis land rehabilitation.

Promotion of the Early Warning System: The objective is to set up functional early warning systems in the ECOWAS member states to quickly detect the risk of food crisis and adopt mitigating measures at the most appropriate time. At the regional level, a coordination framework will be developed for the circulation of information at the ECOWAS level. The component consists of three sub-components: (i) strengthening of the early warning system; (ii) emergency preparedness; (iii) development of disaster prevention and control programmes.

Development of crisis management system: the objective of this component is to reduce the negative impacts of disaster and situations leading to food crises by mobilizing adequate resources to help prevent and cope with food crises or natural disasters as well as reach the groups affected at the most appropriate time. The sub-programme aims at providing social protection of vulnerable groups, policy measures that will increase food production and economic gains, infrastructure development to support production activities, and the development of a mechanism that enhances effective networking and coordination between producers and buyers.

Post-conflict land rehabilitation: The objective of this component is to draw up a programme that will support or complement the effort of the Gambia Red Cross Society to reduce or prevent any incidence of landmines and ensure that the western region of the Gambia is free of landmines so that it can be reopened for economic activities.

Sustainable farm development

The objectives of this program are: (i) creating transparent democratic and self-manageable community based organizations by inclusion of the poor and women; (ii) building the capacities of community based farmers groups and organizations to plan, implement and monitor the program on their own; (iii) developing self-confidence among farmers in improving the quality of their farms improvement action.

Integrated Soil Fertility Management for Increased Farm Productivity:

The major activities under this component are: i) multiple-tree pure stand and farm boundary planting; ii) crop residue and compost management; iii) *Acacia albida* (*Faidherbia*), parkland technology for soil fertility improvement in sole and cereal/legume rotation systems; iv) native tree and shrub biomass management for soil fertility improvement; v) integrated watershed management; vi) liming and use of phosphogypsum; vii) judicious use of inorganic fertilizers; viii) soil conservation practices.

Capacity-building of Farmer Support Services and Farmer Organizations:

The objectives of the capacity building strategy should be: (i) creating transparent democratic and self-manageable community based organizations by inclusion of the most vulnerable, especially women and the poor; (ii) building the capacities of community based Farmers groups and organizations to plan, implement and monitor the program on their own; (iii) developing self-confidence among farmers in improving the quality of their farms improvement action.

Table I – Cost of PRS/ANRP Programmes

SUB-PROGRAM	BUDGET (USD)
1. Improvement of Water Management	63,044,000
2. Improved Management of Other Shared Resources	15,633,600
3. Development of Agricultural Chains and Market Promotion	106,130,000
4. Prevention and Management of Food Crisis and Other Natural Disasters	40,458,000
5. Sustainable Farm Management	22,230,000
6. Institutional Capacity-building for Program Implementation	14,275,835
TOTAL	261,771,435

Institutional capacity-building for program implementation

The institutional capacity building for the implementation of the RAIP seeks to create an enabling environment to facilitate the successful design and implementation of NAIP. The systems and mechanisms to be set up under this program are the following:

Steering and Coordination Mechanism: The primary objective of this mechanism is to ensure a successful implementation of the NAIP. To achieve this objective, two complementary institutions would be created and operationalized: Programme Steering Committee (PSC) and Programme Support and Management Unit (PSMU). There is need for coordination among the various components of the program. In addition to putting in place a PSC and PSMU, a task force comprising the various relevant stakeholders will be created to ensure coordination.

Financing Mechanism: The objective is to ensure that resources are made available for the successful implementation of the NAIP. Thus efforts would be made to identify and tap both internal and external sources of funding.

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) System: The M&E system to be designed should be reflective, user-friendly, and should consist of three components: (i) Statistics information (SI); (ii) information system (INS); and (iii) Geographical Information System (GIS).

AGRICULTURAL FUNDING AND PUBLIC SECTOR INSTITUTIONS

Public Agricultural Sector Funding

The shares of budget allocations for the Department of State for Agriculture (DOSA) have been substantially smaller than the other two priority sectors, education and health. In recent years, DOSA received on average 2.7% of the total budget allocations for recurrent expenditures, compared to 11.0% for Education and 9.4% for Health. However, the Gambian government plans to increase funding to all the sectors especially agriculture to meet the overall growth target of 8–10% and achieve the MDG targets. It plans to explore possibilities of increasing budget resources to PRSP programmes and improve efficiency in the utilization of resources mobilized for poverty reduction. The overall funding requirement for the period 2007 to 2011 for agriculture is US\$10,000,000; fisheries and

marine resources total US\$357,848, while forestry is US\$1,261,380.

Private Sector Agricultural Funding

Credit to the agriculture sector is heavily dependent on commercial banks, which provide approximately two-thirds of the total credit to the sector. However, commercial banks mostly limit their exposure to large, short-term loans for groundnut trading. Microfinance Institutions (MFIs) provide the remaining third of the formal credit to the rural sector. Most of their clients are the rural poor, and 70% of the clients are women as most of the funds, exceeding 90%, are lent to small enterprises. Approximately only 30% of the rural population receives credit, and it is estimated that the rural credit supply would have to increase by up to 60% to cover unmet demand. The Government, with the collaboration of its development partners, is encouraging MFIs to develop special financial products and promote and finance the production of the most profitable agricultural products using identified appropriate technologies.

Public Sector Institutions

Department of State for Agriculture (DOSA): The department's aims are four fold: (i) increase Gambia's agricultural output; (ii) meet the food requirements of the population; (iii) provide gainful employment and income for the agricultural labour force; and (iv) generate foreign exchange through value-added agriculture-related activities. DOSA has some technical departments which include Department for Agricultural Services (DAS), Department for Livestock Services (DLS) and Department of Planning (DOP). DAS is the largest single line department providing extension and support services to the farming community. The Department of Agricultural Services consists of seven units namely: the Agricultural Communications Unit (ACU), the Soil and Water Management Unit (SWMU), the Food and Nutrition Unit (FNU), the Agricultural Pest Management Unit (APMU), the Agricultural Input Office (AIO), the Agricultural Mechanization Unit (AMU) and the Horticulture Unit. The DLS assists producers improve livestock production and productivity through the provision of technical advice, control of diseases, veterinary public health services and training. The DLS also regulates the import and export of live animals and products of animal origin by issuing veterinary certificates and livestock movement permits, and performs meat inspection services at the abattoirs. DOP undertakes regular farm surveys, performs monitoring and evaluation of major projects in the sector, engages in sub-regional networking, and advises on

policy formulation. The department's major activity each year is to conduct the National Agricultural Sample Survey, which provides areas and production details for all major field crops and a history of local retail prices. Collection of regular price and yield data for horticultural crops has now become part of their programme.

National Agricultural Development Agency (NADA):

The National Agricultural Development Agency is responsible for promoting and coordinating the development of agriculture in The Gambia. NADA has the mandate for the development of the agricultural sector to be based on DOSA's agricultural policy and regulatory framework. It was formed in 2007 to bring together various services under the Department of State for Agriculture: agricultural services (crop production and marketing, soil and water management and conservation, extension services, mechanization, etc.); livestock services (production, health, marketing, etc); planning (of agricultural development services); and cooperatives (organization and coordination).

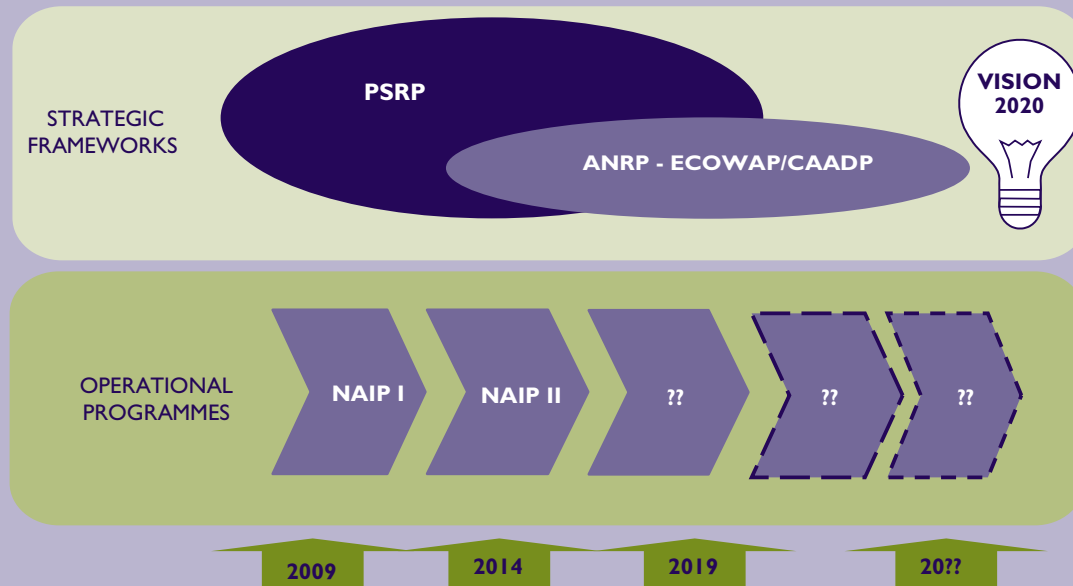
National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI):

NARI is the country's primary agricultural research and development institute with a mandate to conduct applied/adaptive research on all crops, including horticultural crops, livestock, forestry, fisheries and natural resources. It is currently supporting the participatory Learning and Action Research (PLAR) approach for rice improvement in the Gambia. Through years of research and extension, NARI has a developed understanding and resources to support plant material improvements in rural communities in the .With assistance from FAO, NARI has formulated a Research Master Plan with components for medium and long-term funding, which also addresses the manpower and logistics requirements of the institute.

VISION 2020 PRSP, ANRP AND CAADP

The goal of the Common ECOWAS Agricultural Policy (ECOWAP) and the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) is to serve as a framework for intervention in agricultural policies and development strategies in West Africa and in Africa, respectively. These frameworks are also intended to be integral parts of national efforts to promote agriculture sector growth and overall economic development in ECOWAS countries. The overriding goal of ECOWAP/CAADP is to help African countries increase their economic growth through agriculture-based development. The Gambia PRSP pillars are developed along the CAADP and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The targets of the ANRP are also structured to meet and surpass CAADP targets. The objectives of Vision 2020 were formulated in the strategic sense and were measured against the background of the present situation, and strategies were designed to attain the national goals of economic empowerment and poverty reduction. For example, the objective of the Vision to increase ANR output of both domestic and exports produce in order to ensure food security and generate earnings of foreign exchange to finance other aspects of the development process is in line with the goals of ECOWAP/CAADP. Also, sustainable increase of crop output by at least 25% of present levels, of availability and access to staple food commodities by all; and sustainable management of natural resources (marine, lands and soils, water, forests), coupled with a significantly reduced reliance on rain-fed farming as well as land degradation, which are part of the objectives of ANRP, is equally in line with the objectives of CAADP of increasing food supply and reducing hunger.

Figure I – Relationship between PSRP, CAADP, and NAIP



Definitions and Descriptions

Vision 2020: A long-term, national-level strategic framework that is indicative in nature.

PRSP (Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper): A medium term, multi-sector, comprehensive framework, guided by the Vision 2020, with a current time horizon to 2011.

CAADP (Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program): A long-term agricultural sector specific framework, embedded in but reaching beyond the current PRSP.

ANRP (Agricultural and Natural resources Policy): A document outlining the constraints, objectives and strategic for achieving desired results in agricultural and natural resources in the Gambia.

Programmatic Relationships

- **CAADP** programmatically translates the Vision 2020 by giving it a substantive content for the agricultural sector.
- **CAADP** provides sector-specific guidance for the definition of the agricultural sector component of current and subsequent PRSP programs.
- **CAADP** sets the strategic framework that guides the implementation of the current and future NAIP or similar subsector investment programs.

Based on the modeling conducted by ReSAKSS-West Africa in collaboration with experts from the Gambia and financial and technical assistance from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the African Union Commission (AUC), the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA).

REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA

Ministry of Agriculture; Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs; Ministry of Trade, Industry and Employment; Ministry of Forestry and Environment; and Ministry of Fisheries and Waters Resources.

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ECOWAS COMMISSION



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THE GAMBIA

Agricultural Growth, Poverty Reduction, and Food Security: Past Performance and Prospective Outcomes

The *Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)* aims to add value to the efforts of individual countries, where necessary, to ensure that its growth and poverty objectives are achieved. Doing so requires reviewing *past, current, and emerging efforts against these objectives. This includes:*

- Examining the recent growth performance of the agricultural sector, as well as future growth and poverty outcomes based on observed trends.
- Determining how such outcomes compare with the targets established for the sector under the CAADP agenda and how they compare with the Millennium Development Goal to halve the proportion of people living on less than a dollar a day (MDGI).
- Measuring the prospects of meeting these targets and analyzing the implications for future sector growth and poverty-reduction targets.

IS THE GAMBIA ON TRACK TO MEET CAADP'S GROWTH AND POVERTY TARGETS?

The following analysis puts figures to five scenarios for agricultural development: i) a continuation of the Gambia's current agricultural growth path, ii) achieving the 6% agricultural growth target set by the CAADP initiative through accelerated agricultural production, iii) meeting the government's target GDP growth rate specified in the PRSP of 6.3%, (iv) achieving the MDG goal of halving poverty by 2015, or (v) alternatively by 2025.

Recent Performance and Current Trends Compared to CAADP Targets

Macroeconomic performance in the Gambia has been strong in the recent past, as exemplified by a robust GDP growth rate of 6.5% in 2006, 7% in 2007 and 5.9% in 2008. With a population growth of 2.8% in 2007, the average GDP per capita growth rate was about 3.7%. The agricultural sector, where most of the poor are engaged, has been performing at about half the rate of GDP in recent years, although crop production rebounded in 2008 due to comparatively good rainfalls. The relatively slower growth of production and productivity levels means that the agricultural sector has not been able to address the food needs of the Gambian population. The average agricultural growth rate was 3.6% between 2001 and 2007;

with a population growth of 2.8%, average agricultural GDP growth was only 0.8% per year.

Future overall growth and poverty trends for the sector under the status quo are projected to 2015 and 2025 based on the following historical sub-sector specific growth rates: 3.1% for crops, 3.0% for livestock, 1.9% for forestry, 10.4% for fishing and 6.8% for the non-agricultural sector. The resulting poverty rates are estimated based on an elasticity of poverty with respect to per capita income growth of 0.4 for the 2007–2014 period and 0.5–0.6 from 2015 to 2025. The expectation is that the elasticity will improve from its 2007 size (0.4) to 0.6, which is the Africa average, by 2020; from 2020 to 2025, an elasticity of 0.6 is assumed.

Based on the above assumptions, future growth performance is projected to stabilize at around 6.1% for the overall economy and 3.7% for the agricultural sector, with an average per capita income growth of about 3% (Figure 1a).

Although positive, the growth rate for agriculture is significantly less than the 6% targeted under CAADP. The projected performance is also less than required to achieve the first Millennium Development Goal (MDG1) of cutting the national poverty rate of the 1990s by half by 2015. According to the projections in Figure 2a, national poverty rates will decline by less than 10% with rates declining in the different districts by between 1 and 13%. Given that the population will grow by about 3% annually, the absolute number of poor people at the national level would increase by about 100 000 under current trends as shown in Figure 3a.

Figure 1a – Annual growth rate under different scenarios 2007–2015 (%)



CAN EMERGING GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES ACHIEVE CAADP'S GROWTH AND POVERTY TARGETS?

Overview of the Government's Strategic Objectives for the Agricultural Sector

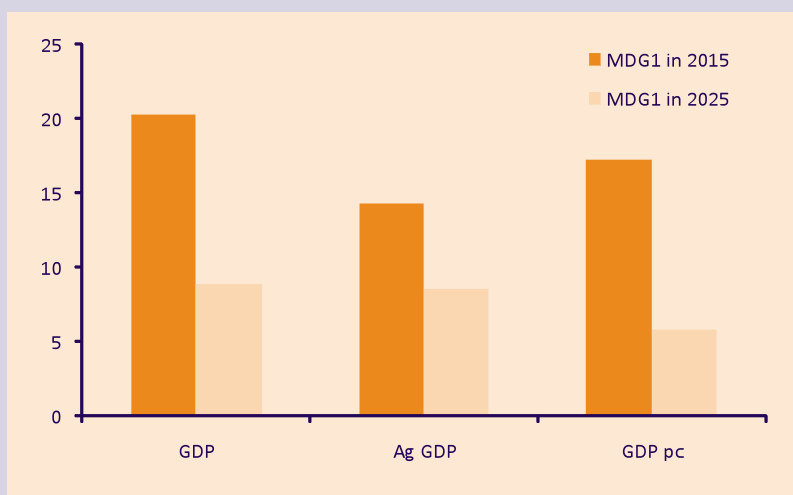
The Government of the Gambia's agricultural sector targets are outlined in three key strategic documents: the Vision 2020, the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper and the Strategy for Poverty Alleviation (PRSP/SPAII), as well as the Agriculture and Natural Resource Policy (ANRP). The PRSP aims for a 6.3% growth of overall GDP. The ANRP has been elaborated to provide a framework for taking Gambian agriculture into the next century. The ANRP aims for a robust, market oriented, commercialized sector that is directly aligned with the macro-economic framework of the country and contributes to the attainment of a shared, inclusive and sustainable poverty reduction and economic growth in the Gambia. The ANRP has four strategic objectives to be attained by 2015, which are: (i) improved and sustainable measurable levels of food and nutrition security in the country in general and vulnerable populations in particular; (ii) a commercialized ANRP

sector, ensuring measurable competitive, efficient, and sustainable food and agricultural value chains, and linkages to markets, (iii) strengthened institutions (public and private) in the sector to provide needed services, create a strong and enabling environment, and reduce vulnerability with respect to food and nutrition security; and (iv) sustainable and effective management of the natural resource base of the sector. In addition, long-run objectives have been set in terms of output targets for a number of crops such as rice.

Projected Growth and Poverty Outcomes under Government Strategies

The projection results in Figure 1a indicate that achieving the targets outlined in current government strategies would not allow the country to meet the CAADP target of an overall sector growth of 6% by 2015. Overall GDP would grow by 6.1% whereas agricultural growth would only be 3.8%. Per capita growth would be 3.1%, leading to a decline in the 1990s poverty rates of 10% at the national level, ranging from 14% in Banjul to 1% in Kuntaur. These achievements in poverty reduction are significantly less than the MDG goal of halving poverty by 2015 (Figure 2a). As shown in Figure 3a, the absolute number of poor people at the national level would increase by about 94 000.

Figure 1b – Annual growth rate under different scenarios 2007–2015 (%)



ACHIEVING THE MDG POVERTY OBJECTIVE REQUIRES GROWTH BEYOND CURRENT GOVERNMENT AND CAADP TARGETS

Achieving the MDG objective of reducing poverty by 50% in 2015 would require cutting the national poverty rate to about 28% from its 1990s rate of 56%. In the Gambia, poverty levels have not changed significantly between 1990 and 2007, which means that in reality a 50% reduction in poverty levels would have to take place in the next eight years to reach MDGI in 2015. Such a reduction necessitates a higher agricultural growth rate than achievable under current targets established by PRSP or for that matter under CAADP growth targets. In other words, the Gambia could well achieve the CAADP target of a 6% agricultural sector growth rate and still fail to realize the MDG poverty reduction objective.

Growth Outcomes Required to Achieve MDGI objectives in the Gambia in 2015 or in 2025

The projected growth rates required to cut poverty rates by 50% by 2015 are presented in Figure 1b. They imply an agricultural sector growth rate of 14.4% leading

to an overall GDP growth rate of 20.3% and per capita GDP growth of 17.3%. If these growth rates were attained, the MDG poverty-reduction objective would be achieved at the national level but not in all districts (Figure 2b). Under this scenario, the absolute number of poor people would decrease by about 330 000 at the national level (Figure 3b). The above growth rates are very high, particularly when compared to the past performance of the agricultural sector and the Gambian economy. Therefore, another scenario, which would halve the 1990s poverty rate by the year 2025, has been considered. As shown in Figure 1b, this scenario requires an agricultural growth rate of 8.6%, leading to a growth rate of GDP per capita of 5.9%. Under this scenario the number of poor would decrease by 160 000 and most districts would achieve or be very close to achieving the poverty MDG.

The results presented here indicate that: (i) a continuation of current growth trends in the Gambia would not achieve the CAADP growth target or lead to a significant reduction in poverty rates by 2015; (ii) emerging government strategies under the PRSP would not allow the Gambia to reach the CAADP nor the MDGI objective in 2015; (iii) meeting the latter objective in 2015 and 2025 would require GDP to grow by 20.3% and 8.9%, respectively through combined growth in the agricultural and the non-agricultural sectors; (iv) such accelerated growth sustained until 2025 would bring most local governments very close to achieving the poverty MDG.

Figure 2a – Projected changes in poverty rates under different scenarios 1990–2015 (%)

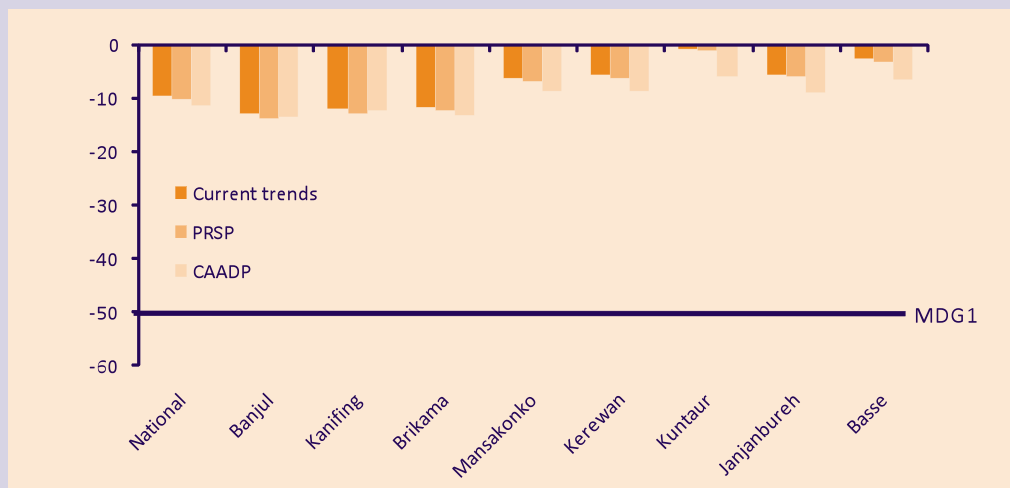


Figure 2b – Projected changes in poverty rates under different scenarios 1990–2015 (%)

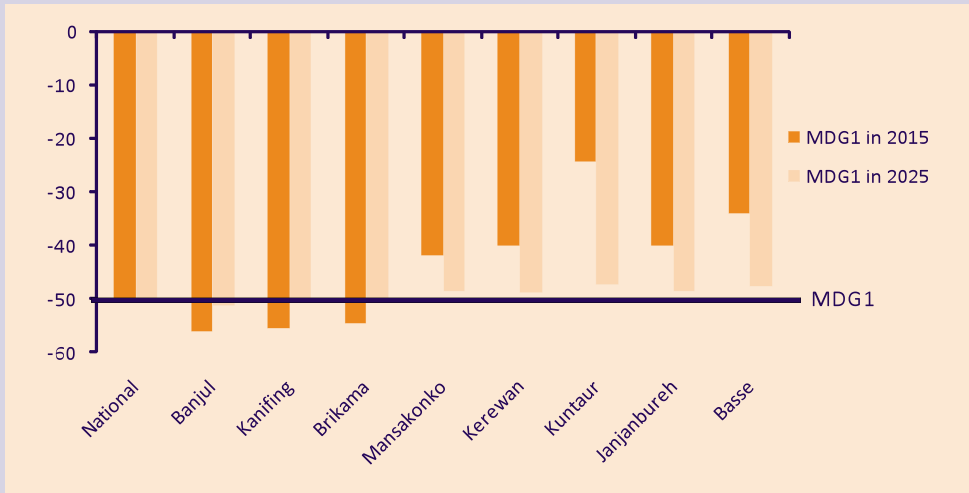


Figure 3a – Projected change in absolute number of poor under different scenarios 2007–2015

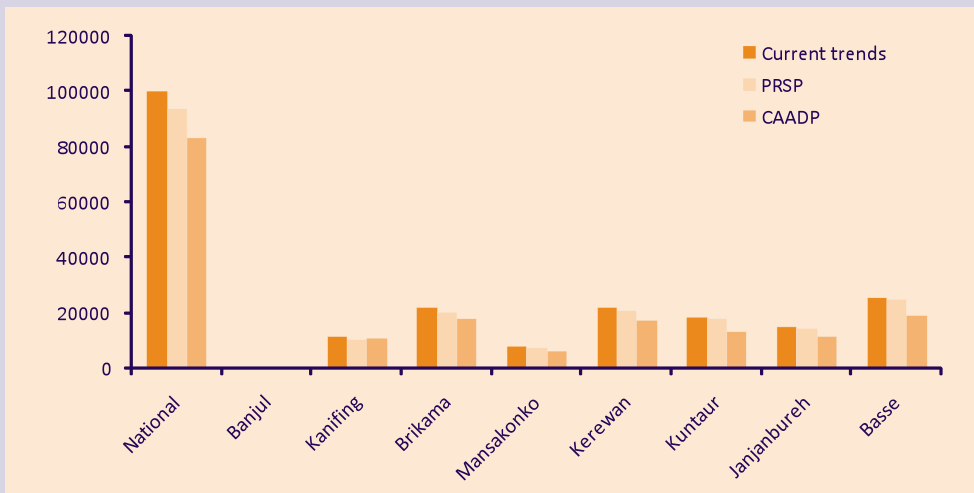
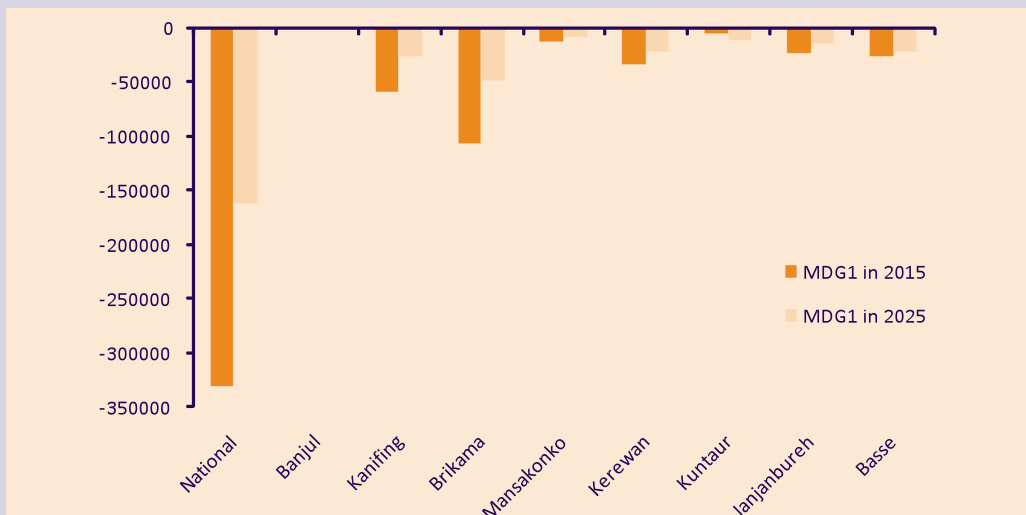


Figure 3b – Projected change in absolute number of poor under different scenarios 2007–2015



Based on the modeling conducted by ReSAKSS-West Africa in collaboration with experts from the Gambia and financial and technical assistance from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the African Union Commission (AUC), the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA).

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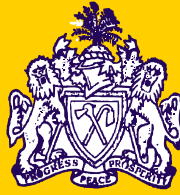
Task Force Members: Ministry of Agriculture (Bakary Trawally, Permanent Secretary; Abdourahman Jobe, Deputy Permanent Secretary; Bakary Sonko, Deputy Director); *Ministry of Trade, Industry and Employment* (Mod Secka, Permanent Secretary; Lamin Dampha, Director; Ada Gaye, Deputy Permanent Secretary; Fatim M. Njie, Deputy Permanent Secretary); *National Research Institute (NARI)* (Babou Jobe, Director General); *Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs* (Tamsir Cham, Director); *National Planning Commission* (Abdou Touray, Director General) *and the Gambia Horticulture Enterprise* (Momodou Ceesay, Managing Director).

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Strategic Options and Sources for Agricultural Growth, Poverty Reduction, and Food Security

Implementing the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) as the centrepiece of a poverty-reduction strategy implies that agriculture and its individual subsectors must play a primary role as leading sources of pro-poor growth at the national and rural levels.

The Gambia and other African countries are not just seeking to accelerate growth but also to maximize and broaden the impact of such growth on poverty reduction. Successful implementation of the CAADP agenda therefore should be guided by a good understanding of the impact of sectorwide growth and growth within individual agricultural subsectors on income and poverty

levels at the national and, in particular, at the rural level. In the present case, a better understanding of the potential implications of The Gambia's strategies under the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) would allow the Gambian government to emphasize the options that are more likely to maximize the impact of growth on poverty reduction.

AGRICULTURAL SECTOR GROWTH AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO ECONOMIC GROWTH

If the CAADP strategy were to be successfully implemented to achieve the 6% target growth and were to be complemented by strategies to induce a comparable rate of growth in the non-agricultural sector, the contribution from growth in agriculture to poverty reduction would be higher than that from growth in the non-agricultural sector. For every 1% decline in poverty – at national and rural levels – about 67% and 72%, respectively, would be attributable to growth in the agricultural sector (see Figure 1).

While accelerated growth in agriculture as a whole may be the most promising poverty-reduction strategy currently available to the Gambia, such a strategy needs to recognize that not all subsectors contribute to agricultural growth and poverty reduction in the same way. The size of the contribution of individual subsectors is determined by their initial shares in income and employment and their potential for incremental growth. In Figure 2, the axis on the left and the bars show the projected contributions to agricultural GDP growth resulting from an additional 1% annual rate of growth in individual subsectors. The line and the axis on the right show the corresponding contributions to the reduction in the rate of poverty. The cereals and livestock subsectors exhibit the highest levels of contribution to agricultural incomes. An additional 1% per

year sustained until 2015 in either subsector would generate an incremental income of around US\$6.9 million and US\$6.3 million, respectively. The corresponding decline in the overall rate of poverty would be 10.3% for both subsectors. Such an effort achieved for the whole agricultural sector would create an incremental income of US\$20.8 million. The corresponding decline in the overall rate of poverty would be 11.1%.

EFFICIENCY OF DIFFERENT GROWTH STRATEGIES IN ACHIEVING POVERTY REDUCTION OBJECTIVES

The long-term contributions (to 2015) of alternative growth strategies to poverty reduction are plotted in Figure 3. Each line depicts the decline in poverty that would be achieved if the Gambia were to focus on particular sources of growth. The top (current trends) line indicates the decline in the poverty rate under the continuation of current trends across all subsectors, which would result in a modest reduction from 56.2% in 2007 to 50.4% in 2015. The second line from the bottom shows poverty reduction with a strategy that creates 6% growth across agricultural sub-sectors. The poverty rate would fall to 44.6%, i.e. an additional 5.8 percentage points less than under current trends. The lines in between denote the outcomes of alternative isolated strategies that would

Figure 1 – Contribution of agricultural sector growth to poverty reduction at the national level and in rural areas (%)

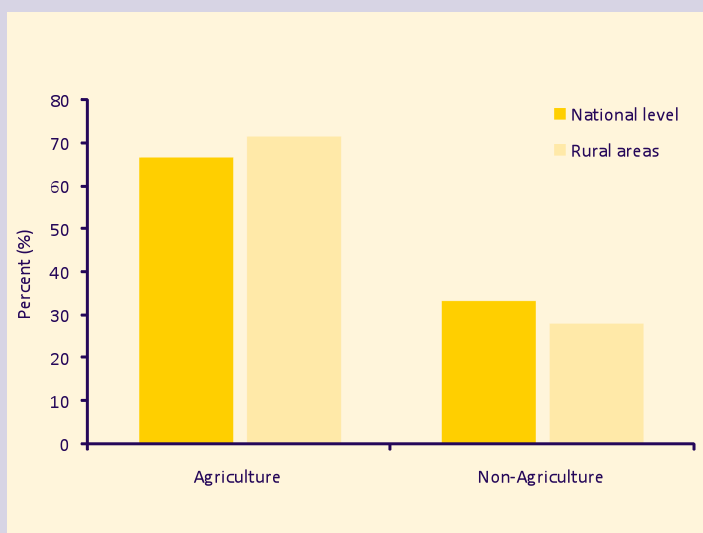
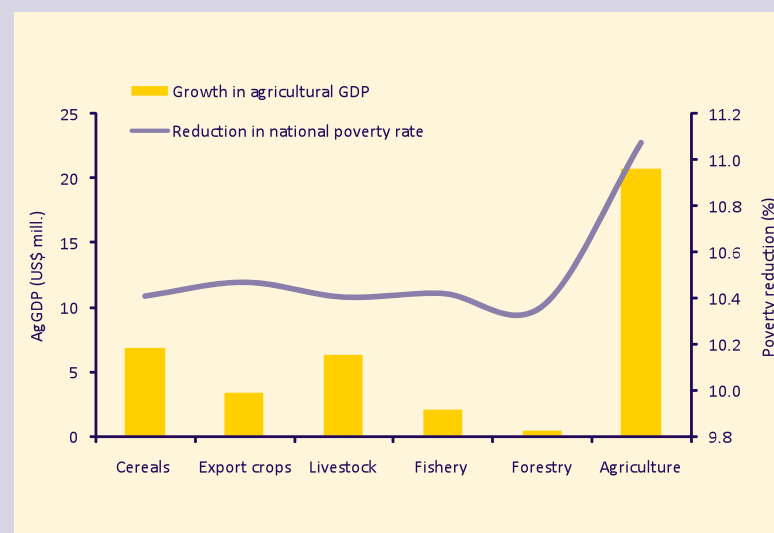


Figure 2 – Subsector contribution to agricultural GDP growth (US\$) and poverty reduction (%)



focus exclusively on single subsectors: cereals, export crops, and livestock. The projected outcomes indicate that a more comprehensive, sectorwide strategy in terms of reducing overall poverty levels would to some extent be more effective than crop-specific strategies.

The bottom line in Figure 3 illustrates the added contribution of further stimulating growth in the non-agricultural sector. This line indicates that a strategy that would create a growth of 6% in the agricultural sector and accelerated growth in the non-agricultural sector would reduce poverty by an additional 9.6 percentage points compared to current trends. It may be difficult to actually achieve the high rates of agricultural and nonagricultural sector growth that would be required to meet the MDGI objective in 2015, estimated at 14.4% and 21.9%, respectively (see Brochure 2: *Agricultural growth, poverty reduction, and food security: Past performance and prospective outcomes*). However, the above results suggest that the Gambia can make significant progress towards that goal by 2025 – by ensuring successful and sustained implementation of the CAADP agenda, coupled with an effective strategy to stimulate growth in the non-agricultural sector.

An analysis of the alternative growth sources and poverty-reduction outcomes yields the following lessons with respect to efforts to successfully design and implement strategies to meet the CAADP growth target and achieve the poverty MDG in The Gambia:

1. Agriculture will remain an important source of growth and poverty reduction in the Gambia during the next 10 years.

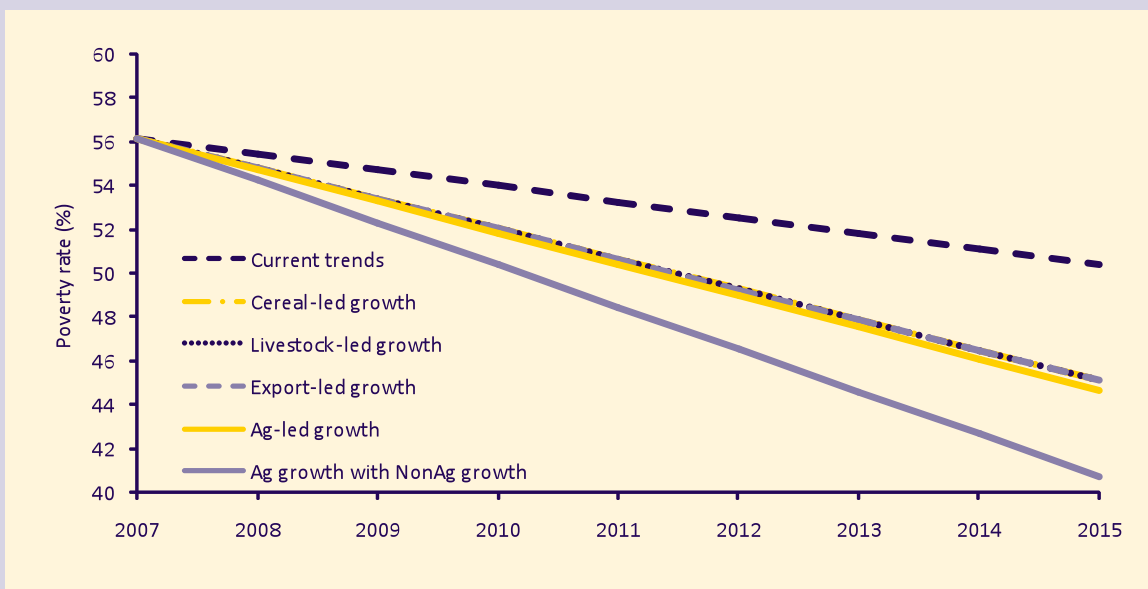
2. Continuation of current trends would reduce poverty by 5.8 percentage points by 2015 compared to its 2007 level of 56.2% and would not allow the Gambia to halve national poverty by 2015.
3. Isolated strategies targeting any of the major subsectors separately would only marginally lower the poverty rate compared to current trends.
4. If a strategy were to be implemented that would combine accelerated agricultural growth with accelerated growth in the non-agricultural sector, the poverty rate could be reduced to 40.7% by 2015, and the Gambia would reach MDGI by 2025.

POTENTIAL EQUITY EFFECTS RELATED TO GOVERNMENT GROWTH TARGETS

Impact of Sub-sectoral Growth on the Reduction and Distribution of Poverty Among Districts

Planned strategies under CAADP are projected to generate strong growth across the different subsectors. The distribution of growth and its impact on poverty is shown, however to vary significantly among districts. Agricultural growth under the CAADP scenario is not necessarily pro-poor at the district level. Poverty reduction is proportional across districts so that poverty

Figure 3 – Poverty outcome by 2015 of alternative growth strategies (%)



rates remain high in districts like Kuntaur, Kerewan and Janjanbureh (Figure 4).

Possible Equity Effects and How to Address them under Current CAADP Targets

Implementation of CAADP should take potential equity effects into consideration. The purpose here is not necessarily to achieve equal outcomes but rather to raise the overall level of income gain and poverty reduction by maximizing the gains among households in districts at the lower end of the spectrum. This can be done by emphasizing in the design and implementation of programs those subsectors that contribute more immediately and to a greater extent to income growth and poverty reduction among households in districts like Kuntaur, Kerewan and Janjanbureh that would otherwise lag further behind in terms of poverty reduction. The benefits from agricultural growth may vary among households in the different regions due to the following factors:

1. The importance of individual sectors as a source of income and employment for different household groups;
2. The scope for incremental growth in individual subsectors, given technological, market, and other conditions affecting demand and supply; and

3. The initial distribution of growth among individual agricultural subsectors, and the fact that growth in some subsectors affects growth in others through adjustments in demand, supply, and price conditions.

Figure 5 demonstrates the strong contribution of the non-agricultural sector to poverty reduction in most of the districts, which highlights the importance of complementing current CAADP subsector targets with strategies to stimulate growth in that sector. In Kuntaur, the poorest district, the largest source of poverty reduction would come from agriculture, particularly crop production.

The implementation of the CAADP agenda needs to reflect these dynamics in order to ensure that the income and poverty-reduction benefits of future agricultural growth are widely shared and its potential equity effects are neutralized. If the design and implementation of future programs under the CAADP agenda are carried out such that they take into consideration the subsectoral and geographic distribution of vulnerable households, it should be possible to balance out the income and poverty-reduction benefits of these programmes. To accelerate growth in Kuntaur, greater attention should be given to activities that benefit a majority of farmers, such as cereal production. This is especially important for poorer, smaller-scale farmers.

Figure 4 – Projected poverty rates across districts under CAADP, 2007–2015 (%)

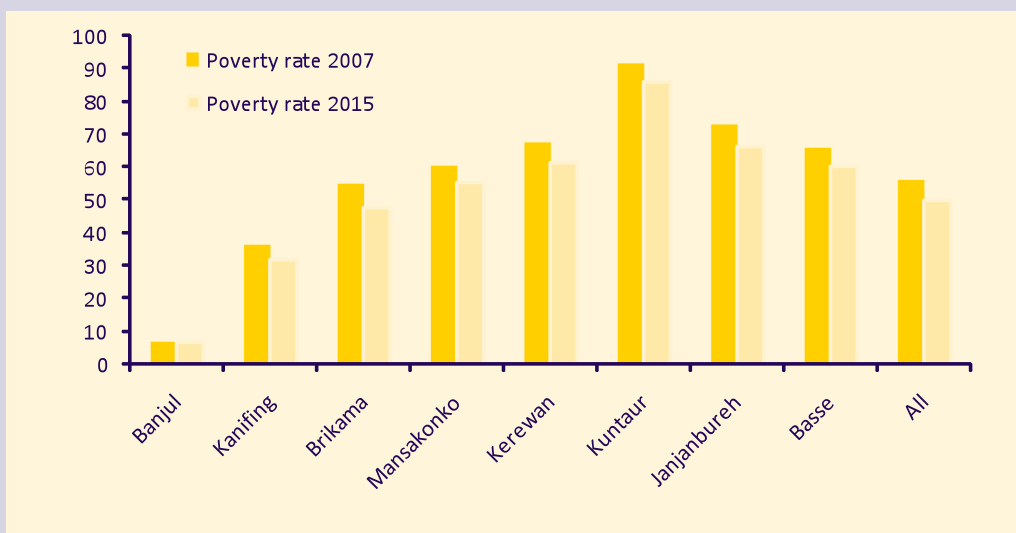
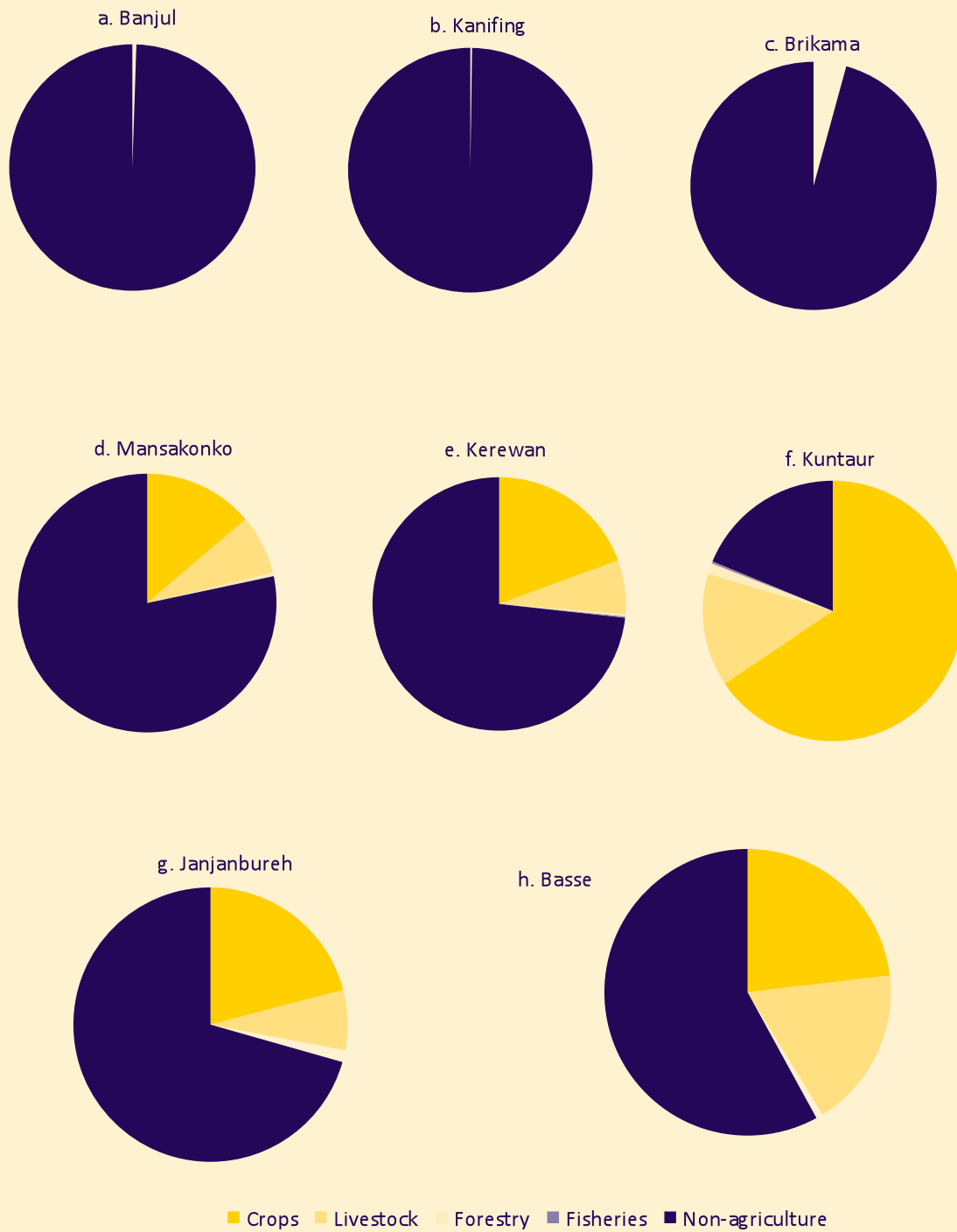


Figure 5 – Projected contributions of individual subsectors to income growth and poverty reduction across districts (%)



The following lessons can be drawn regarding the design and implementation of programs to stimulate growth and reduce poverty under the CAADP agenda:

1. Agriculture remains a key source of growth and a major contributor to poverty reduction nationally as well as across districts.
2. The realization of the CAADP agenda is projected to stimulate growth across agricultural subsectors and across districts.
3. Poverty rates will remain high further exacerbating divergence between districts.
4. The cereal subsector is the major source of future growth and poverty reduction among the poorest households in Kuntaur.
5. Consequently, the implementation of the CAADP agenda needs to emphasize this subsector in the districts with a high concentration of the poorest households so as to better balance out and broaden the impact of growth and poverty reduction.
6. The nonagricultural sector can potentially play a critical complementary role, including in the case of the poorest households.

Based on the modeling conducted by ReSAKSS-West Africa in collaboration with experts from the Gambia and financial and technical assistance from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the African Union Commission (AUC), the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA).

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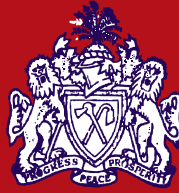
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Long-Term Funding for Agricultural Growth, Poverty Reduction, and Food Security

The amount of funding required for meeting both growth and poverty reduction targets as detailed in Brochure 2 (Agricultural Growth, Poverty Reduction, and Food Security: Past Performance and Prospective Outcomes) is estimated based on historical relationships between the level of public agricultural funding and agricultural GDP.

Estimates of this relationship suggest that a 1% increase in agricultural spending raises the sector's growth rate by 0.145% which is lower than the average value of 0.366% across Africa. The long-term projections discussed below

are therefore carried out using both the estimated elasticity for the Gambia and the average elasticity of 0.366 for Africa to simulate a more optimistic spending efficiency scenario.

LONG-TERM FUNDING REQUIREMENTS TO MEET THE MIC AND CAADP TARGETS IN THE GAMBIA

Table 1 presents the trend of economic growth and government budget allocations in the Gambia for the last three years while Table 2 presents the projections of long-term funding needs for agricultural sector. The results focus on two scenarios: one based on the weak relationship between agricultural spending and agricultural growth (a low elasticity scenario) and a second assuming the same level of responsiveness of agricultural growth to public spending as observed on average among African countries (a high elasticity scenario).

Successful implementation of the government PRSP agenda will require agricultural spending growth rates of 26.2% under a low elasticity scenario, and 10.4% under a high elasticity scenario. Implementation of the CAADP agenda in Gambia will require annual growth rates in agricultural spending of between 41.4% and 16.4%, depending on the level of responsiveness of agricultural growth to agricultural spending. It is still much lower than agricultural spending growth rate required to achieve MDGI by 2015: 99.3% under a low elasticity scenario and 39.3% under a high elasticity scenario. Achieving MDGI by 2025 will require agricultural funding average growth rate of

59.3% under low elasticity scenario and 23.5% if budget efficiency reaches the African average of 0.366.

Implementation of PRSP will require increasing the share of agricultural spending in overall spending from 5.0% over the 2005–2007 period to 16.1% by 2015 under a low elasticity scenario, but almost unchanged (6.0%) under a high elasticity scenario (Table 2). With respect to CAADP, the agriculture share will increase to 31.4% under a low elasticity scenario but only to 8.8% under a high elasticity scenario in 2015. Under the low elasticity scenario, achieving MDGI by 2015 will require that 52.8% of total budget be allocated to agriculture compared to 6.0% under high elasticity scenario by 2015. With the MDGI by 2025 scenario, the share of agricultural spending is expected to reach 46.9% and 10.3% before and after respectively under low elasticity and high elasticity scenarios in 2015. In 2025, these shares will be respectively 94.8 and 15.8 if the responsiveness of agricultural growth to agricultural funding does not change.

Figure 1a and 1b present the trend in agricultural spending for PRSP, CAADP, MDGI in 2015 and MDGI in 2025 under current agricultural growth responsiveness to agricultural expenditures (low elasticity scenario). The annual amount required to implement PRSP is projected to grow from US\$17.4 million in 2009 to US\$76.7 million in 2015. To achieve the CAADP target, agricultural budget is projected to grow from US\$21.2 million in 2009 to US\$169.1 million in 2015. For MDGI by 2015, agricultural funding is expected to grow from US\$42.1 million in 2009 to US\$2,638.6 million in 2015 and from US\$26.9 million

Table 1: Economic growth and government budget allocations

	2005	2006	2007	Growth rate (%)
GDP (Million Dalasis, constant prices 1976/77)				
Agriculture	191.4	193.4	197.3	1.5
Non-agriculture	719.1	776.7	833.9	7.7
Total GDP	910.5	970.1	1,031.2	6.4
Spending (Million Dalasis, constant prices 1976/77)				
Agriculture	14.1	12.5	13.1	-3.2
Non-agriculture	259.6	274.3	221.1	-6.9
Total Spending	273.6	286.7	234.2	-6.8
Ratios (%)				
Agricultural spending/Total spending	5.1	4.4	5.6	6.6
Agricultural spending/Ag GDP	7.3	6.5	6.6	-4.7
Total spending/GDP	30.0	29.6	22.7	-12.4

Sources: IMF Country Report No. 04/142, May 2004 and IMF Country Report No. 08/325, October 2008 and Gambia Bureau of Statistics.

Table 2: Estimated resource allocation to the agricultural sector

	CAADP		PRSP		MDGI-2015		MDGI-2025	
	Low ¹ elasticity (0.145)	High ² elasticity (0.366)	Low elasticity (0.145)	High elasticity (0.366)	Low elasticity (0.145)	High elasticity (0.366)	Low elasticity (0.145)	High elasticity (0.366)
Growth rate (%)								
Ag GDP	6.0		3.8		14.4		8.6	
Non-AgGDP	6.8		7.1		21.9		9.0	
GDP	6.6		6.3		20.4		8.9	
Ag Spending	41.4	16.4	26.2	10.4	99.3	39.3	59.3	23.5
Total Spending								
2010	16.4	13.6	15.2	13.7	50.4	42.7	22.9	18.1
2015	20.9	13.6	16.1	13.7	68.0	42.7	34.1	18.2
2025							56.4	18.5
Ag Spending/Total Spending (%)								
2010	13.2	7.8	10.0	6.8	17.5	6.8	16.3	8.3
2015	31.4	8.8	16.6	6.0	52.8	6.0	46.9	10.3
2025							94.8	15.8
Ag Spending/Ag GDP (%)								
2010	15.7	8.8	12.3	8.1	26.1	8.9	17.8	8.3
2015	66.4	14.0	34.8	11.2	257.4	14.7	92.5	12.1
2025							2498.3	25.5
Total Spending/GDP (%)								
2010	28.5	26.9	27.4	26.4	32.7	28.9	30.4	27.7
2015	47.3	35.6	38.1	33.8	45.7	22.9	55.8	33.1
2025							778.3	67.9

1 The actual elasticity for The Gambia

2 The average elasticity for Africa

in 2009 to US\$46,294.1 million in 2025 to achieve MDG I by 2025.

It is obvious that the growth rates (99.3% under low elasticity scenario and 39.3% under high elasticity scenario) required for MDG-I by 2015 are not feasible, it is unlikely that the Gambian government can afford such high agricultural budget growth rates.

INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL RESOURCE MOBILIZATION FOR PRSP, CAADP, MDG I BY 2015 AND MDG I BY 2025

Figures 2 to 5 present the sources of financing required to meet the funding levels shown in Figure 1. Estimated amounts of internal and external funding sources are based on the assumption that internal sources will cover only 28.8% of the overall agricultural budget. The annual external funding required to implement PRSP is projected to grow from US\$12.4 million in 2009 to US\$54.6 million in 2015. To achieve the CAADP target, agricultural budget from external source is projected to grow from US\$15.1 million in 2009 to US\$120.5 million in 2015. For MDG I, agricultural funding is expected to grow from US\$30.0 million in 2009 to US\$1,879.2 million in

2015, and from US\$19.2 million in 2009 to US\$32,970.6 million in 2025.

As suggested above, spending presented in Figure 1–5 have been estimated based on the agricultural growth elasticity with respect to expenditures for Gambia (0.145) which is low compared to the African average of 0.366. This elasticity represents the degree of responsiveness of agricultural sector to government strategy. However, if the Gambian government undertakes key sectoral reforms in order to improve the quality of agricultural spending and therefore reach at least the African average, the nominal level of agricultural funding should be reduced. For example, implementation of a well functioning evidence based monitoring and evaluation system should significantly increase the impact of agricultural spending on agricultural growth and therefore reduce the level of required agricultural funding to achieve targeted agricultural growth rate.

The difference between low and high elasticity scenarios reported in Table 3 illustrates expected gains in terms of reduction in agricultural funding as a result of improved agricultural development strategies at least at the level of African average. Hence, in 2015, funding requirement is expected to fall from US\$169.1 million to US\$35.7 million for CAADP, from US\$76.7 million to US\$24.6 million for PRSP, from US\$2638.6 million to US\$150.6 million for MDG I by 2015, and from US\$46,294.1 million to US\$473.1 million for MDG I – by 2025. These decreases in required funding range from 68% for PRSP to 99% for MDG I – by 2025 respectively in 2015 and 2025.

Figure 1a: Required agricultural funding under PRSP and CAADP in million USD

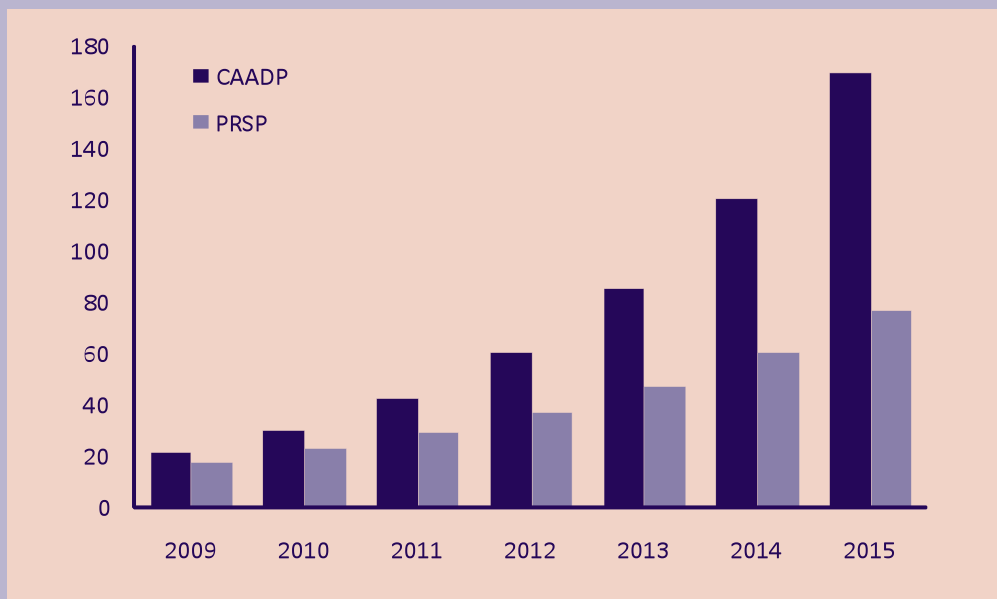


Table 3 Evolution of public expenditure in the agricultural sector under the high and low elasticity scenarios

	CAADP		PRSP		MDGI-2015		MDGI-2025	
	Low elasticity (0.145)	High elasticity (0.366)	Low elasticity (0.145)	High elasticity (0.366)	Low elasticity (0.145)	High elasticity (0.366)	Low elasticity (0.145)	High elasticity (0.366)
2009	21.2	14.4	17.4	13.1	42.1	20.6	26.9	16.2
2010	29.9	16.7	22.3	14.5	83.9	28.7	42.8	20.0
2011	42.3	19.4	28.5	16.2	167.2	39.9	68.3	24.6
2012	59.8	22.6	36.5	18.0	333.3	55.7	108.7	30.4
2013	84.6	26.3	46.8	19.9	664.2	77.6	173.2	37.6
2014	119.6	30.7	59.9	22.2	1323.9	108.1	276.0	46.4
2015	169.1	35.7	76.7	24.6	2638.6	150.6	439.6	57.3
2016							700.4	70.8
2017							1,115.8	87.4
2018							1,777.5	108.0
2019							2,831.8	133.4
2020							4,511.3	164.7
2021							7,187.0	203.4
2022							11,449.7	251.2
2023							18,240.5	310.2
2024							29,059.1	383.1
2025							46,294.1	473.1

Figure 1b: Required agricultural funding under MDGI by 2015 and MDGI by 2025 in million USD

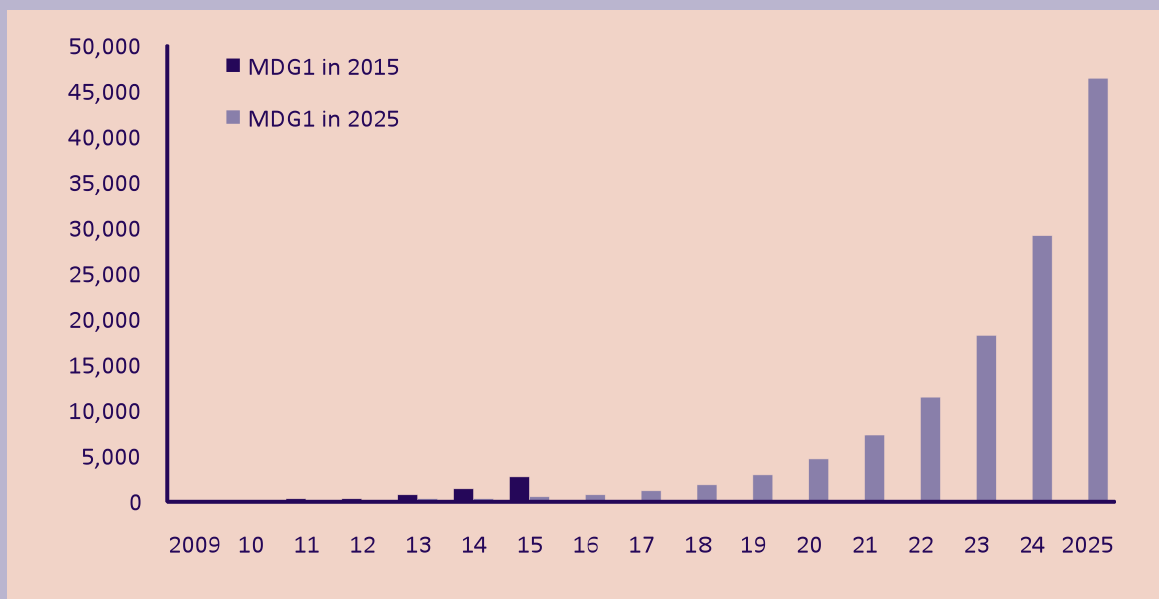


Figure 2: Required internal and external agricultural funding to implement PRSP in million USD

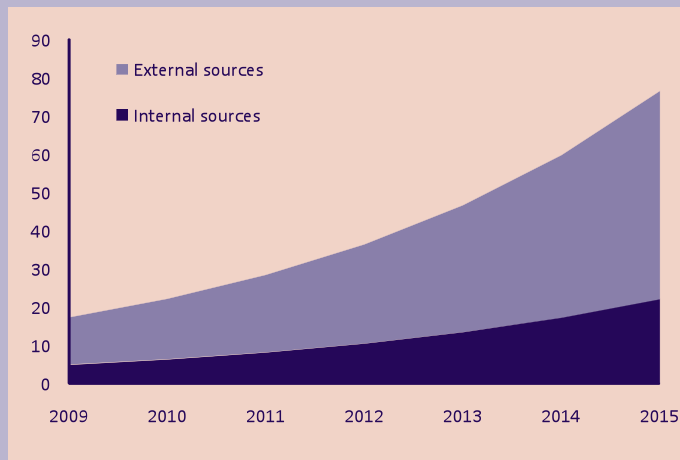


Figure 3: Required internal and external agricultural funding to achieve CAADP in million USD

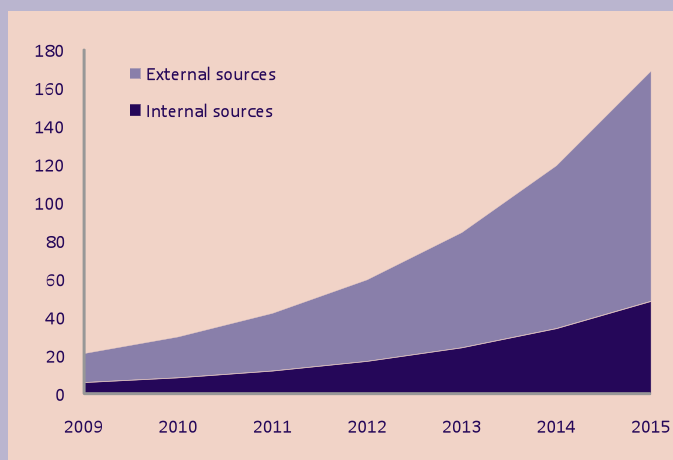


Figure 4: Required internal and external agricultural funding to achieve MDG1 by 2015 in million USD

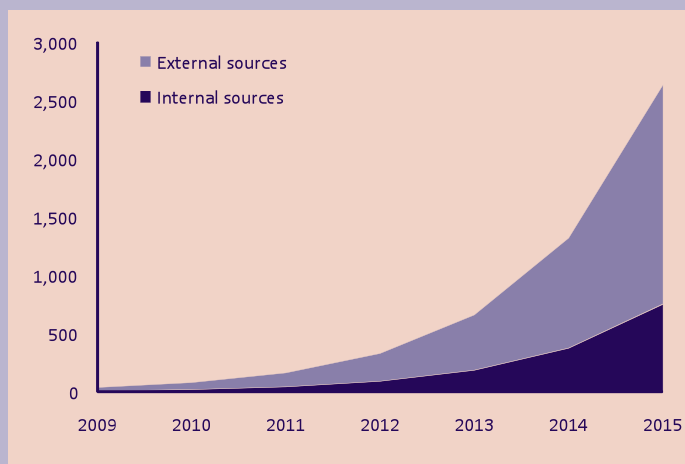
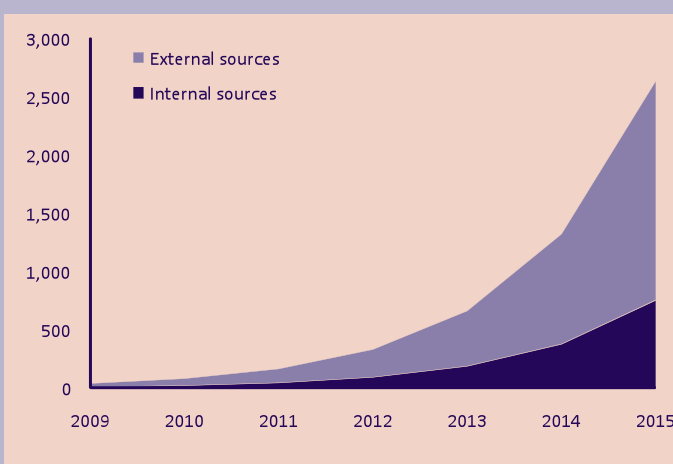


Figure 5: Required internal and external agricultural funding to achieve MDG-I by 2025 in million USD



Based on the modeling conducted by ReSAKSS-West Africa in collaboration with experts from the Gambia and financial and technical assistance from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the African Union Commission (AUC), the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA).

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THE GAMBIA

Strategic Analyses and Knowledge Support Systems to Inform and Guide the CAADP Implementation Process

The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) has made political and economic governance a cornerstone of its strategy, as illustrated by its adoption of and commitment to the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM). At the sectoral level, this philosophy translates into recognition of the need to improve policy and strategy planning and implementation. This in turn calls for tools to help generate the necessary knowledge to inform and guide sector policies and strategies in order to facilitate a successful implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP).

CAADP AS A STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

CAADP is a strategic framework to guide country development efforts and partnerships in the agricultural sector. Similar to the broader NEPAD agenda, it embodies the principles of peer review and dialogue, which, when adequately followed and applied, will stimulate and broaden the adoption of best practices, facilitate benchmarking and mutual learning and, ultimately, raise the quality and consistency of country policies and strategies in the agricultural sector. The following are some of the most important CAADP principles and targets:

- i) Designating agriculture-led growth as a main strategy to achieve the Millennium Development Goal of halving the proportion of people living on less than a dollar a day (MDG1);
- ii) Pursuing a 6% average annual sector growth rate at the national level;
- iii) Allocating 10% of national budgets to the agricultural sector;
- iv) Exploiting regional complementarities and cooperation to boost growth;
- v) Adopting the principles of policy efficiency, dialogue, review, and accountability, shared by all NEPAD programs;
- vi) Strengthening and expanding partnerships and alliances to include farmers, agribusiness, and civil society communities;
- vii) Assigning programme implementation to individual countries, coordination to designated Regional Economic Communities (RECs), and facilitation to the NEPAD Secretariat.

The successful application of these principles and the broad realisation of the targets require knowledge tools to encourage and support: (a) the move toward evidence-based and outcome-oriented programme design and implementation; (b) the practice of inclusive policy review and dialogue within and across countries; and (c) effective coordination and advocacy at the regional and continental levels.

REVIEW AND KNOWLEDGE PROCESSES FOR A SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF CAADP

Achieving the CAADP objective of broad-based agricultural sector growth across Africa cannot happen without greater efficiency and consistency in the planning and execution of sector policies and programmes, increased effectiveness in translating government expenditures into public goods and services, an adequate level of these expenditures to sustain an annual sector growth rate of 6%, and the expertise and mechanisms to regularly and transparently measure performance against targets and keep policies and programmes on track.

The review and dialogue processes under the CAADP agenda operate at three different levels:

1. **Mutual Review at the Continental Level:** There are two main mechanisms for review and dialogue at the continental level. The first is the African Partnership Forum (APF), which targets African leaders and their G8 partners and is supported by a technical secretariat at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). It is a forum for dialogue and review, at the highest level, with respect to programme performance and progress across the broad NEPAD agenda. The second mechanism, the CAADP Partnership Platform, focuses more specifically on the CAADP agenda. It brings together representatives of the leading RECs and other regional organisations dealing with agriculture, major bilateral and multilateral development agencies, and private-sector and farmers' organisations.
2. **Peer Review at the Regional Level:** The leading RECs facilitate dialogue on and review of the CAADP implementation agenda through two distinct processes. The first regroups country representatives at the level of permanent secretaries and directors of planning. It focuses primarily on a collective review of implementation performance in individual countries and mutual learning to spread and accelerate progress toward CAADP goals and targets. The second process allows the leadership of the RECs and representatives from the private sector, farmers' organisations, and development agencies to track program progress and performance at the regional level and align development assistance and country policies and strategies with the CAADP targets and principles.

3. Progress Review at the National Level: Country-level implementation requires an inclusive dialogue and review process to ensure that policies and programmes, including budgetary policies and development assistance, are aligned with CAADP principles and are on track to meet CAADP objectives. The choice of mechanisms to facilitate this process depends on individual countries' institutional and technical realities, but each country must carry out a transparent, broad, and inclusive dialogue that ensures the effective participation of the agribusiness sector and farmers' organisations. The identification of the appropriate mechanisms takes place during the country roundtable process.

The review and dialogue processes described above add real value to current and future development outcomes to the extent that they are well informed and are supported through accurate and intelligent data derived from rigorous analysis of: (i) the strategic and operational challenges of implementing the CAADP agenda at the regional and country levels; (ii) the adequacy of the conception and execution of the programmes and policy measures adopted to address these challenges; and (iii) the outcome of such programmes as well as their impact in terms of realising the growth, poverty, and food-security objectives of CAADP. This requires human capacities, technical infrastructure, analytical tools, and communications instruments to gather the relevant data and information and analyse it to generate credible, high-quality knowledge products, which can be stored and accessed as needed to inform and guide the debate associated with the review and dialogue processes.

The above capacities, tools, and instruments are needed both at the regional and country level and can be acquired by building upon and strengthening existing institutions and expert networks. In addition, these institutions and networks can be linked within and across countries at the regional level to create the necessary critical masses and exploit technical complementarities. To this end, three Regional Strategy Analysis and Knowledge Support Systems (ReSAKSS) have been established. The following sections describe the operation and key tasks of the ReSAKSS and provide an outline of the country-level knowledge system to be established to support the implementation of the CAADP agenda in the Gambia as defined through the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper II (PRSP) and the Agriculture and Natural Resource Policy (ANRP).

The Regional Strategy Analysis and Knowledge Support Systems (ReSAKSS)

As part of the CAADP implementation process, three of the leading RECs—the Common Market of Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and the Southern African Development Community (SADC)—have established the ReSAKSS in collaboration with the four Africa-based centres of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR): the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) in Ibadan, Nigeria; the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), in Nairobi, Kenya; the International Crop Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe; and the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), in Pretoria, South Africa.

The objective of the three ReSAKSS nodes, which have been established in Ibadan, Nairobi, and Pretoria and are being coordinated by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), is to facilitate access by the RECs and their member states to policy-relevant analyses of the highest quality in order to generate the necessary knowledge to improve policymaking, track progress, document success, and derive lessons that can feed into the review and learning processes associated with the implementation of the CAADP agenda. They operate under coordination and governance structures chaired by the RECs. Although facilitated by the CGIAR centers, the ReSAKSS are not research entities or projects within these centers. The main tasks of the ReSAKSS can be summarized as follows:

Knowledge Management: to mobilise existing networks and centres of expertise at the international, regional, and national levels to assemble the needed capacities and knowledge and provide first-rate analytical and advisory services to countries and RECs in the design, implementation, and evaluation of CAADP programs.

Building Country-Level Knowledge Management Capacity: to provide assistance to countries in the establishment of national knowledge system nodes, and to promote cooperation with respect to generating, disseminating, and accessing knowledge products to support CAADP implementation, particularly shared standards and protocols for the collection, storage, and exchange of data as well as cutting-edge methodologies for policy and strategy analysis.

Support to Review and Dialogue Processes: to work with the national nodes to provide relevant and timely information to guide mutual review at the continental level, peer review at the regional level, and progress review at the country level. The corresponding sup-

port forums are the African Partnership Forum and the CAADP Partnership Platform at the continental level, the REC-specific coordination and governance structures at the regional level, and the review and dialogue mechanisms to be established at the country level as part of the CAADP implementation process.

ReSAKSS also provides assistance to country nodes and helps foster collaboration and exchange among the various nodes in the region. In West Africa, the regional node (ReSAKSS WA) is hosted by IITA-Ibadan and operates under a coordination and governance structure chaired by ECOWAS which is implementing CAADP in its region in tandem with the Common Agricultural Policy of Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAP).

THE COUNTRY STRATEGY ANALYSIS AND KNOWLEDGE SUPPORT SYSTEM IN THE GAMBIA (THE GAMBIA-SAKSS)

The aim of the knowledge-management component of the CAADP agenda is to add value to the efforts of individual countries, where necessary, to ensure that they have an information and knowledge system that aids dialogue and evidence-based decision making. As a complement to and an extension of the ReSAKSS described above, The Gambia will establish a Country Strategy Analysis and Knowledge Support System (The Gambia-SAKSS) as a technical component of an inclusive review and dialogue mechanism to facilitate better policy design and implementation and thus ensure successful implementation of the ANRP.

The need for a Gambian SAKSS Node under the PRSP/ANRP agenda

At the national level, it is foreseen that ReSAKSS WA supports the establishment of a national node aimed at adding value to the process of design and implementation of agricultural strategies and programs. The national node will ensure the mobilization and coordination of knowledge generating and dissemination networks for the promotion of strategic analysis and global mechanism for review and dialogue in the context of CAADP implementation. This node will also play the role of a national focal team of ReSAKSS WA and promote information and experience exchange with the regional bodies and other countries in the region.

The Role of the The Gambia SAKSS

The ultimate goal of a national SAKSS node is to improve the quality of policy and strategy design and implementation through the facilitation of well-informed planning, review, and dialogue processes. When it is established and fully functional, its main functions will be to:

1. Generate, compile, and share analyses and data relevant to agricultural and rural development in line with the national objectives;
2. Perform strategic investment analyses for the agricultural sector, especially for the different subsectors, providing practical policy and investment options;
3. Undertake monitoring and evaluation of the Agriculture Sector Plan programmes to facilitate evidence-based planning and implementation;
4. Produce knowledge products for dissemination and outreach through a combination of real (stakeholder forums) and virtual (interactive multimedia services) mechanisms;
5. Contribute to fostering constructive, cross-sectoral policy debates on future agricultural and rural development alternatives;
6. Encourage dialogue and the exchange of data and knowledge among the different stakeholders at national, regional, and international levels;
7. Facilitate access to a growing analytical and visualisation toolkit using information and communication technologies (ICTs); and
8. Strengthen local capacity to conduct objective, timely, and relevant policy research and analysis through a variety of short- and long-term training processes.

The national SAKSS will build strongly upon existing resources and capacities at national, regional and international level in order to avoid duplication and ensure synergy. It will at least comprise:

- An analytical node bringing together national agricultural research institutes, universities, statistics offices, the technical arms of professional organisations, and other relevant research entities;
- A framework for review, dialogue and advocacy coordinated at high level (Permanent Secretary of Director) including all stakeholders: government institutions, professional associations, civil society, technical and financial partners, etc.

Operation and Governance of The Gambia SAKSS Node

Large technical committee:

- Ministry of Agriculture
- Central Project Coordination Unit of (MOA) – Secretariat
- Ministry of Trade Industry and Employment (MOTIE)
- Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs (MOFEA)
- Ministry of Local Government and Land (MOLGL)
- Ministry of Fisheries and Water Resources (MOFWR)
- Women’s Bureau
- The Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (TANGO)
- Department of Agriculture (DOA)
- National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI)
- Gambia Investment Promotion Free Zone Agency (GIPFZA)
- Farmers Platform
- Gambia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCCI)

Steering committee

- Department of Agriculture (DOA)
- National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI)
- Central Project Coordination Unit (CPCU)
- National Environment Agency (NEA)
- Department of Forestry
- Department of Water Resources
- Department of Parks and Wildlife
- Department of Fisheries
- Farmers Platform
- Action Aid The Gambia (AATG)
- Gambia Horticultural Enterprise (GHE)
- Gambia Groundnut Cooperation (GGC)

Technical secretariat

- Ministry of Agriculture

Chair of the Steering Committee

- Ministry of Agriculture

Host the technical committee

- Ministry of Agriculture

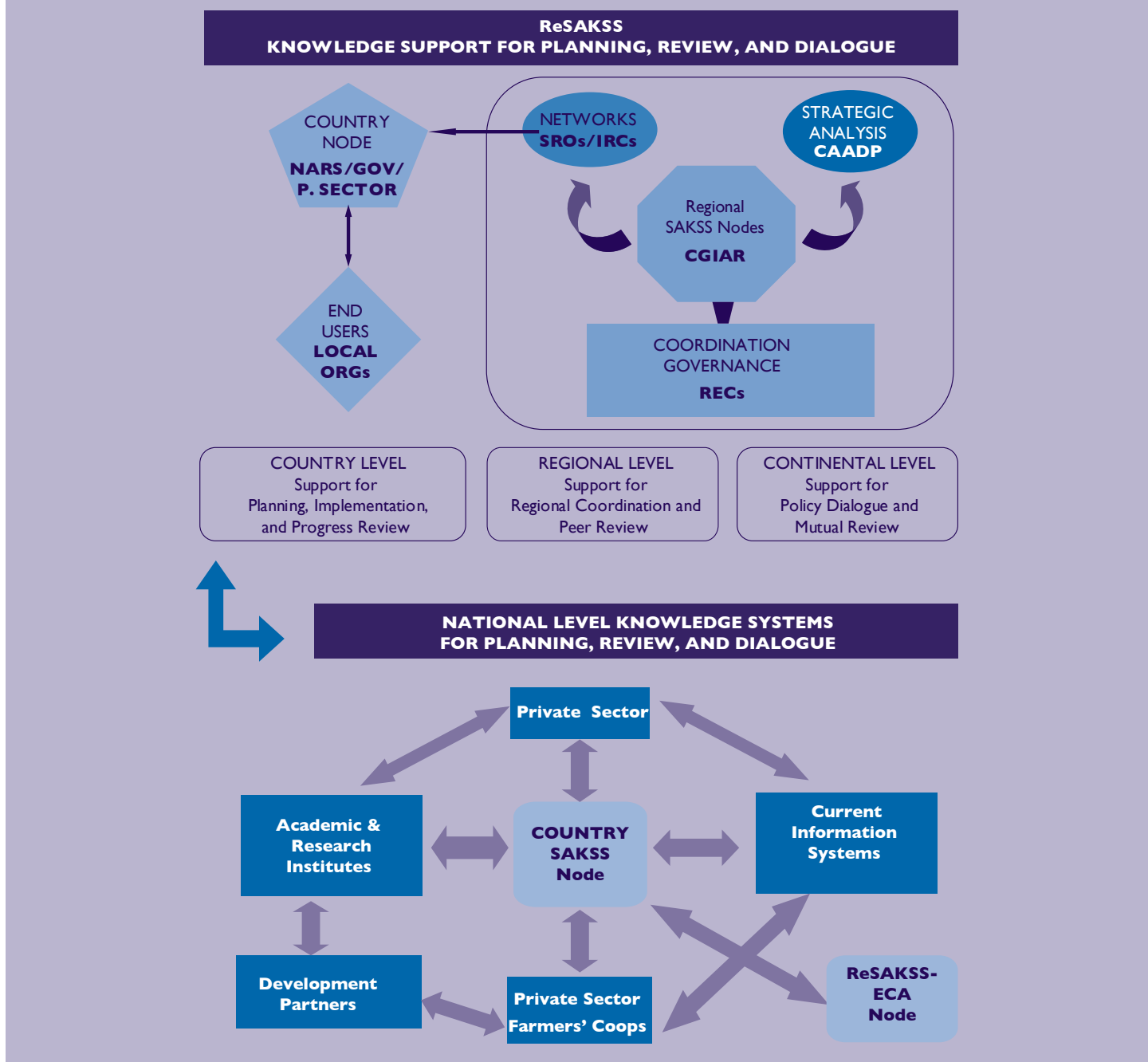
Chair the analytical node

- Ministry of Agriculture

Chair the framework for review, dialogue and plaidoyer

- Ministry of Agriculture.

Figure 1 – System for coordination, monitoring and evaluation of ECOWAP/CAADP at the national and regional level



Based on the modeling conducted by ReSAKSS-West Africa in collaboration with experts from the Gambia and financial and technical assistance from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the African Union Commission (AUC), the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA).

REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA

Ministry of Agriculture; Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs; Ministry of Trade, Industry and Employment; Ministry of Forestry and Environment; and Ministry of Fisheries and Waters Resources.

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