

The National Agricultural Investments Plan

METASIP - GHANA

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The process of elaboration and implementation

- Ghana's national Agricultural Investment Plan is called the Medium Term Agricultural Sector Investment Plan (METASIP), 2011-2015 which has been developed using a largely participatory process and based on FASDEP II objectives with a target of agricultural sector GDP growth of at least 6% annually and government expenditure allocation of at least 10% of the national budget within the plan period.

The process of elaboration and implementation cont.

- These targets are in conformity with agricultural performance targets of the Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda (GSGDA), the EOWAP of ECOWAS and the CAADP of NEPAD and are expected to contribute significantly to the achievement of the MDGs of the United Nations.

The process of elaboration and implementation cont.

- The process has been on concerted consultations and through the coordination, cooperation and commitment of all sector stakeholders: Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Private Sector, including Farmers, Processors, Traders, NGOs, Traditional Rulers and Civil Society, Researchers, Development Partners, among others.

The process of elaboration and implementation cont.

- It is envisaged that the plan will be implemented through existing structures in the MDAs and other stakeholder organizations and that the Policy Coordinating and Monitoring Unit of the Office of the President and the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) will play a key oversight roles during implementation.

The process of elaboration and implementation cont.

- Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA) is the lead role in coordinating partnerships at all levels and in the monitoring and evaluation of the plan.

Content of the METASIP

- A situation analysis was undertaken which made it possible to identify various priority development issues. These development issues have been categorized into six key programs with components which correspond to FASDEP II strategic objectives and further broken down into components which are basically development themes.

Content of the METASIP cont.

The six themes are:

1. Food Security and Emergency Preparedness
2. Increased Growth in Incomes
3. Increased Competitiveness and Enhanced Integration into Domestic and International Markets
4. Sustainable Management of Land and Environment
5. Science and Technology Applied in Food and Agriculture
6. Improved Institutional Coordination

Content of the METASIP cont.

- Food Security and Emergency Preparedness
 - Productivity Improvement
 - Support to improved nutrition
 - Diversification of livelihood options
 - Food storage and distribution
 - Early warning systems and emergency preparedness
 - Irrigation and water management
 - Mechanization services

Content of the METASIP cont.

- Increased Growth in Incomes
 - Promotion of cash crop, livestock and fish production for income
 - Development of new products
 - Development of pilot value chains
 - Intensification of FBO and out-grower concept
 - Development of rural infrastructure
 - Support for Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture

Content of the METASIP cont.

- Increased Competitiveness and Enhanced Integration into Domestic and International Markets
 - Marketing of Ghanaian produce in Domestic and international Markets
 - Increasing Marketed output
 - Grading and standardization

Content of the METASIP cont.

- Sustainable Management of Land and Environment
 - Awareness creation and use of SLM Technologies by Men and Women Farmers: Policies and Regulations
 - Institutional Capacity
 - Technology Dissemination and Adoption
 - Policy and Investment
 - Incentive System

Content of the METASIP cont.

- Science and Technology Applied in Food and Agriculture
 - Update of Technology along the value chain and Application of Biotechnology in Agriculture
 - Research Funding and Management of Agriculture Research Information

Content of the METASIP cont.

- Improved Institutional Coordination
 - Institutional Strengthening and Intra-Ministerial Coordination
 - Inter-Ministerial Coordination
 - Partnership with Private Sector and Civil Society Organization
 - Coordination with Development Partners

Content of the METASIP cont.

- All six programs and their components are inter-related.
- The Food Security and Increased growth in incomes programs promote selected commodities.
- The programs for access to markets, science and technology, environmental sustainability and institutional capacity, support value chain issues for the promotion of the commodities.

Participation of FOs

- Based on the national decentralization policy, MOFA will facilitate coordination of partnerships at the national, regional and district levels in a framework of regular dialogue, planning and reviews.

Participation of FOs cont.

- Four (4) levels of implementation governance are proposed at the national level to ensure the smooth implementation of the METASIP. These are:
 - Steering Committee
 - Policy Dialogue Fora
 - A National Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System(SAKSS)
 - A Secretariat

Participation of FOs cont.

- Lessons drawn from the experience is that normally no funds are made available to go to the grassroots level to share information acquired but rather shared amongst those with email addresses.

Main needs of FOs

- Development of questionnaire and a baseline survey
- Development of Manual
- Capacity Building Workshop
- Education and awareness creation
- Policy dialogue meetings
- Policy Briefs
- Monitoring

Successes of the METASIP

- The METASIP is very young just a little above a year and therefore much has not been done except for meetings of the various committees and sub-committees to study the document in depth and to see the line of action if funds are made available.

