



GROUPE DE LA BANQUE AFRICAINE
DE DÉVELOPPEMENT
AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP



agriculture, land reform
& rural development

Department:
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Strengthening Innovation and Technology Delivery for African Agricultural Transformation: Charting the Course of Dakar II

The Durban Round Table

CONCEPT NOTE- HIGH-LEVEL SESSION



May 2023



GRUPE DE LA BANQUE AFRICAINE
DE DÉVELOPPEMENT
AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP



agriculture, land reform
& rural development

Department:
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Context

The last few years have emerged as critical years for the recovery and transformation of Africa's Food Systems. The continent's food systems are in disarray and have been profoundly disrupted by the ongoing negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, extreme weather events, emerging pests and diseases, food price inflation, and the fallout from regional conflicts as well as the Russia-Ukraine war. These shocks and vulnerabilities have been felt acutely across Africa where food insecurity and malnutrition have been persistent problems for decades. Recent estimates show that 281.6 million people on the continent, representing over one-fifth of the population, faced hunger in 2020, which is 46.3 million more than what was estimated in 2019. Progress towards achieving the global nutrition targets by 2030 remains unacceptably slow in Africa. Population growth and economic transformation are increasing pressure on the agricultural ecosystem and climate change continues to exacerbate these challenges.

To achieve a true transformation of food systems in Africa, there is a growing recognition that Africans need to think about its food systems differently considering the true values and full costs involved in growing, distributing, and consuming food. This is vital not only for the food security of hundreds of millions of Africans but also for African economies and sustainable development on the continent.

Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation (TAAT)

The African Development Bank (AfDB) took a bold step in confronting this challenge by implementing the Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation (TAAT) project, which seeks to help the continent fulfil its enormous potential in the sector by deploying and delivering high-impact technologies to boost output. An integral component of the Bank's Feed Africa Strategy 2016–2025, TAAT brings together CGIAR Centers, FARA and its SROs and NARES to build a technology delivery infrastructure to address the challenges of Africa food systems through the application of improved technologies.

As the Capacity Development and Technology Outreach (CDTO) Enabler Compact, FARA leveraged its Innovation Platform (IP) approach in the implementation of TAAT I, reaching over 3 million beneficiaries through the packaging of 69 technologies, publication of 43 videos, production of 9 press releases, publication of 21 articles on webpages on capacity development, gender, youth, agribusiness, knowledge management, and outreach, broadcast 12 radio and six television programs and distribution of 701 leaflets & advocacy materials (www.Library.faraafrica.org).

Africa Emergency Food Production Facility (AEFP) and Dakar II

Building on this, the CDTO and all the various country compacts are currently advancing in the implementation of TSFII and TAATII, in alignment with the Dakar II conference as well as the Africa Emergency Food Production Facility (AEFP) of AfDB. Current efforts in the implementation of TAAT focus on the removal of policy bottlenecks related to programmes, dissemination input delivery, mainstreaming Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) in country programmes, dissemination



GRUPE DE LA BANQUE AFRICAINE
DE DEVELOPPEMENT
AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP



agriculture, land reform
& rural development

Department:
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



of proven climate-smart agricultural production technologies to enhance agricultural productivity, supporting the development of certified seeds of climate resilient varieties of maize, rice, wheat, cassava, sorghum/millet, orange flesh sweet potato, high-iron beans and supporting and linking agripreneurs (women and youth) to TAAT technology delivery.

The Durban RoundTable (DRT)

As part of the actionable outcome of Dakar II Summit to ensure the delivery of its outputs i) country Food and Agriculture Delivery Compacts, ii) Presidential Councils for Food and Agriculture Delivery Compacts and iii) Financing frameworks for delivering Country Food and Agriculture Delivery Compacts to achieve zero hunger, FARA is organizing the Durban Round Table (DRT). The DRT comprises eminent Africans who are well placed to provide insights on how research and innovation can provide the needed support to the development and implementation of the respective country food and agricultural delivery compacts. The roundtable will further discuss modalities to ensure sustainable domestic financing for African agricultural research and innovation that will unlock the required domestic investments in agriculture and, in agriculture research and innovation. It will further discuss how to strengthen the capacities of the agriculture research and innovation institutions, notably FARA, the Sub regional agricultural research organizations (ASARECA, CCARDESA, CORAF/WECARD) and the African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (AFAAS) to provide the needed support to the implementation of the country compacts which have been drafted from the Dakar II summit.

Scope

The DRT is projected to practically consider Africa's approach to investing in STI by considering the following specific questions:

1. How will Research and Innovation provide the needed support to country food and agricultural delivery compacts?
2. How will the capacities of FARA, AFAAS and the regional agricultural research organizations (ASARECA, CCARDESA, CORAF/WECARD) be strengthened to provide the needed support to the countries' food and agricultural delivery compacts?
3. How do we ensure that the various country's compacts deliver the desired outcomes at a large scale (productivity growth, markets, competitiveness, wealth and job creation, ecological resilience)?
4. What commitments do participants of the RoundTable make towards increasing investments in agriculture research and innovation and what guidance do they give to the FARA General Assembly?
5. How can the private sector be motivated to partner and provide the needed support to increase investment in agricultural research and innovation across the continent?



GRUPE DE LA BANQUE AFRICAINE
DE DEVELOPPEMENT
AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP



agriculture, land reform
& rural development

Department:
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Approach

The RoundTable will be a closed facilitated meeting with Dr Akinwumi Adesina as the Convener and Chief Guest of Honor. The DRT will be facilitated by Vuyo Mvoko/Bongiwe Njobe . The outcome of this RoundTable is a communique on **the strategic engagement of the Science fraternity and the Private Sector in the Dakar II Agenda.**

Expected Output

The main output of the Roundtable is a communique action plan which seeks to commit governments of Africa to increase domestic investment in agriculture research and innovation to support Dakar II country food and agriculture delivery compacts.

Desired Outcome

The major outcome from the Durban Round Table Discussion will be a communique titled **“The Durban call to action for Research and Innovation to support country food and agricultural delivery compacts”**: This should provide:

1. A framework for Research and Innovation to provide the needed support to country food and agricultural delivery compacts.
2. Strategies to capacitate FARA, AFAAS and the regional agricultural research organizations (ASARECA, CCARDESA, CORAF/WECARD) to provide the needed support to the countries’ food and agricultural delivery compacts.
3. Strategic options to ensure that the various country’s compacts deliver the desired outcomes at a large scale (productivity growth, markets, competitiveness, wealth and job creation, ecological resilience).
4. Commitments towards increasing investments in agriculture research and innovation and guidance to the FARA General Assembly.
5. Policies to motivate the private sector to partner and support investment in agricultural research and innovation across the continent.

Targeted Beneficiaries

Stakeholders in African agricultural research and innovation. The ultimate beneficiaries are the end-users of these innovations.

Draft Program

Welcome Remarks – Vuyo Mvoko/Bongiwe Nojobe —5 Min



GRUPE DE LA BANQUE AFRICAINE
DE DEVELOPPEMENT
AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP



agriculture, land reform
& rural development

Department:
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Strengthening Innovation and Technology Delivery Within The Context Of Dakar 2 – Lessons From The TAAT Ecosystem (Dr Yemi Akinbami)—10 Min

Facilitated Discussion --- 1 Hour

Call To Action – Dr Akinwumi Adesina President, Afdb --- 10 Minutes

Concluding Remarks And Signing Of Call To Action Of The Drt – Chair – 15 Minutes