



New Alliance
FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION



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THE ENTEBE ACCORD

JOINT STATEMENT OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION, THE CAADP NSA COALITION AND PARTNERS ON MUTUAL ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIP IN ENSURING RESPONSIBLE AND RESPONSIVE PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT IN AFRICAN AGRICULTURE

OCTOBER 14TH, 2016

Introduction

The New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in Africa (NAFSN) was launched in May 2012 by the G8 (now G7). Its aim has been to attract responsible private investment in agriculture, to complement public investment, by creating the conditions (through well targeted reforms) that will allow countries to improve agricultural productivity and develop their agro-food sector. Since the adoption of NAFSN in 2012 by the G8, its implementation has been trailed by concerns among some stakeholders, particularly civil society. These concerns include allegations of its negative effects on the livelihoods of small-scale farmers and other food producers, and doubts as to the extent to which it addresses contemporary concerns like the effects of climate change, gender inclusion and nutrition security. In specific terms, Civil Society actors have repeatedly challenged the NAFSN, its institutional set-up as well as the processes through which its implementation is managed, calling for its reformation in order to address the concerns of poor and vulnerable smallholders in

The AUC and NEPAD Agency being committed to ensuring responsible and responsive private sector investment in Africa have pushed the alignment of various initiatives for private sector investment in Africa operating on the continent to the CAADP framework for the promotion of agricultural transformation. To that end, the AUC has established a New Alliance Coordination Unit in its Department for Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA), while the NEPAD agency currently hosts Grow Africa Secretariat. The AUC and the NEPAD Agency have also continued to consult with and work closely with various stakeholders, including Non-State Actors to advance responsible private sector investment in Africa.

Recognising that need to work with Non-State Actors, therefore, the AUC- and the CAADP Non-State Actors Coalition (CNC) jointly convened the *Non-State Actors Consultative Meeting on the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition* on 14th October 2016 at Entebbe Uganda. The meeting's objectives were aimed at developing a common understanding between the AUC and Non-State Actors on issues around the NAFSN as well as to collectively forge a strong partnership towards ensuring responsible private sector investment to complement (and not replace), public investment in African agriculture.

Arising from the meeting, the AUC and the CNC have agreed to the following principles and commitments:



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Partnership Principles:

Making Investments Inclusive and catalytic: Private Sector investments in African agriculture must be inclusive of the interests of smallholders along the value chain. Private sector investment must also be catalytic in the development of the capacities for domestic private sector entities to drive African agriculture. With an understanding that the smallholders' community constitutes the larger bloc of investors in African Agriculture (time, resources and commitment towards development of the sector), initiatives and programmes should involve and include them going forward.

Adding value/Mileage into African Economies: Investments promoted under these initiatives must contribute to territorial market expansion, technology development, agro-industries and agro-processing and reducing food import bills, while capturing foreign markets for African products,

Women, youth and the marginal poor: Investments must also provide opportunities for women, youth and the marginal poor along the entire agricultural value chain to ensure inclusive wealth creation, decent work and improvement of food security and nutrition. Interventions and initiatives should recognise the unique and peculiar needs of each group and involve them in decision processes affecting the sector.

The role of government: African governments must lead in facilitating well-targeted investments on infrastructure and in the development of appropriate regulations to facilitate an enabling environment for local private sector to invest in agriculture in line with all relevant frameworks that support the goals and objectives of CAADP. Government must integrate all such relevant frameworks in to their NAIPS, for example, the framework on the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance and Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests (VGGTs. This includes ensuring that investments facilitate benefits to smallholders along the value chain

Transparency: Country Cooperation Agreements (CCAs) and related investment instruments must be transparent and accessible to all stakeholders, including target communities for investments, civil society and smallholders. All stakeholders must be allowed to monitor the process of developing CCAs and implementation of Letters of Intent by private sector companies. As we enter the second phase of CAADP, efforts should be made to align all CCAs to the CAADP Compacts and National Agriculture Investment Plan (NAIP) implementation so as to avoid duplication and competition in delivering results in member States. Annual review and validation workshops at country level – must ensure the participation of smallholders, and should show clear mechanisms to integrate their views effectively.

Alignment to CAADP: The Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Program (CAADP), being the guiding framework for agricultural development on the African continent must be at the forefront of defining the frame within which private sector investment is undertaken. In particular, the



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NAFSN planning, implementation, reporting and monitoring processes should be integrated in the country CAADP implementation processes

Commitment to coordination, synergies and partnership:

Monitoring of results: Monitoring and reporting must be significantly broadened to capture data on the impact of investment on smallholders and their livelihoods. Focus should shift from quantity of investment to also, highlighting qualitative data that describes the transformative effects of interventions under the CCAs. Moving forward, there is a need for AUC and NEPAD Agency to lead in providing more disaggregated data on how food security and nutrition, or income for smallholders and women in particular, have been improved.

Environmental dimension: The New Alliance through initiatives of the AUC and NEPAD Agency should promote agro-ecological practices and innovations and integrate the environmental dimension in its approach. This should integrate a mix of traditional knowledge, adapted to the local context, while building long term sustainable food systems.

Regular Coordination: The AUC and the CNC to coordinate actions through regular and timely communication, consultations and information sharing on plans and progress in implementing Country Cooperation Agreements/ Frameworks through AUC, NEPAD and their partners.

Joint Action in planning and Implementation: In line with the multi-stakeholder and multi-disciplinary nature of CAADP implementation, the AUC and the CNC commits to work together through joint programs and activities, leveraging on technical and financial resources towards ensuring responsible private sector investment in African agriculture, catalysing investment by smallholders.