

NNN
NIZA's NePAD NEWSLETTER
August 2005

NEPAD NEWS

- ACBF provides US \$2 million to strengthen NEPAD Secretariat
- NePAD welcomes G8 support for Africa's agricultural programme

PARTNER ACTIVITIES & PUBLICATIONS

- Bocongo: NePAD and Civil Society Participation in the APRM
- CPP: Civil Society Guide

OTHER ACTIVITIES & PUBLICATIONS

- Workshop on NePAD by South African Embassy

NEPAD AGENDA

NIZA AGENDA

RELEVANT WEBSITES

NEPAD NEWS

ACBF provides US \$2 million to strengthen NEPAD Secretariat

Harare, 15 July 2005 (ACBF) - The African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF), a development institution that funds capacity building in sub-Saharan Africa, signed a Grant Agreement with NePAD Secretariat that will provide US\$2 million to strengthen the institutional capacity of the Secretariat.



Dr. Soumana Sako, ACBF Executive Secretary signed on behalf of ACBF, while Professor Wiseman Nkhulu, Chairman of the Steering Committee and Chief Executive Officer of NEPAD Secretariat, signed on behalf of the Secretariat. In his remarks, Dr. Sako underscored the Foundation's commitment to the realization of NePAD's vision for Africa and noted that ACBF's support is meant to be catalytic and should contribute

to laying the ground for an effective intervention aimed at strengthening the efficiency and effectiveness of the NePAD Secretariat. He added that this would help to ensure the

realization of NePAD 's programs that have been identified for implementation at the national and regional levels.

The ACBF grant will facilitate the implementation over a three-year period of an institutional development project that is geared towards strengthening the capacity of the NePAD Secretariat. This will include the formulation of a strategic plan that will help guide the NePAD process as well as the Secretariat's coordination role in the effective implementation of NePAD 's priority programs at the national and regional levels.

NePAD 's sectoral programs that have been listed for implementation include: water and sanitation, transport, energy, information and communication technologies, agriculture, health, education and training, science and technology, and environment. Dr. Sako disclosed that the Foundation had also launched a capacity needs assessment survey of Africa's regional economic communities (RECs) on behalf of the African Union Commission and NePAD Secretariat. He added that this study would help to highlight key areas of capacity needs of the RECs on which a capacity-building program would be developed for the strengthening of the RECs. "Indeed, this exercise is vital, if the RECs are to be adequately capacitated to perform their roles as the principal implementing agencies of the NePAD initiative" said Dr. Sako.

In his response, Professor Wiseman lauded ACBF's support and noted that the Foundation's two-level support would help to enhance the capacity of both the NePAD Secretariat and that of the RECs, which would in turn bolster the effective implementation of NePAD 's programs at the country and regional levels.

The signing of the agreement is a follow-up to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed on 14 January 2004 in Harare, between the ACBF and NePAD Secretariat, which provides a framework for ACBF and NePAD to enhance their cooperation in implementing NePAD capacity-building programs and projects that are consistent with the Foundation's mandate.

Specifically, the MoU outlined the role that ACBF would play in supporting the NePAD Secretariat in the development of NePAD 's capacity-building programs and projects. In addition, as part of the process leading to the conclusion of the grant agreement, the ACBF extended a seed grant to the NePAD Secretariat for an organisational review and to strengthen its performance.

The ACBF grant is intended to be catalytic and will facilitate the implementation over a three-year period of an institutional support project through NePAD 's governance and management framework. The institutional strengthening support will involve reinforcement of the operations of the Secretariat and provision of the requisite resources to carry out its functions.

Overall this should result in, among others:

- An enhanced management structure at the Secretariat that will raise efficiency level in the management of resources
- The production of administrative, financial, human resource policy, and operations manuals to guide systems, processes and procedures at the Secretariat;
- The recruitment of highly experienced professional staff to support core functions required for the implementation of the Secretariat's Strategic Plan;
- Enhanced capacity in program management for effective implementation of targeted clusters of NePAD programs; and

- Enhanced operational capacity for effective collaboration with Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in the implementation of NePAD programs. The Foundation is already leading a major effort aimed at assessing the human and institutional needs of the RECs.



ACBF, established on February 1991 and based in Harare (Zimbabwe), supports capacity building efforts in sub-Saharan Africa. Its core competence areas are economic policy analysis and management; financial management and accountability; strengthening and monitoring of national statistics; public administration and management; strengthening of the policy analysis capacity of national parliaments, and professionalization of the voices of the private sector and civil society.

NePAD welcomes G8 support for Africa's agricultural programme

Johannesburg, July 11th 2005 – NePAD 's agriculture advisor, Prof. Richard Mkandawire, has welcomed the support of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) by the G8 meeting in Gleneagles, Scotland.

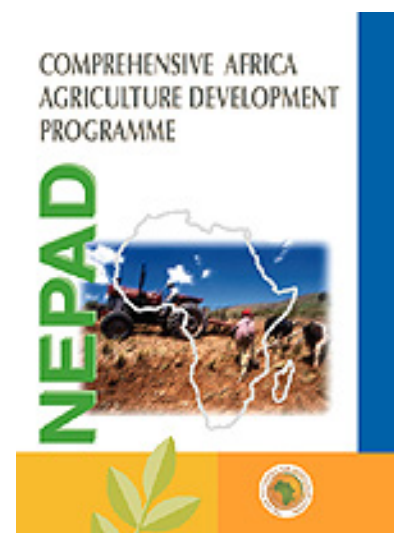
"The support for a comprehensive set of actions to raise agricultural productivity, strengthen urban-rural linkages and empower the poor, based on national initiatives, is to be applauded," he said. "Also encouraging was the will of developed countries to relook at the issue of agricultural subsidies. Although no date was set to remove these, it will be to the benefit of the African agricultural trade if this would be sooner rather than later"

"However, agricultural trading between African partners should, in the meantime be vigorously pursued to ensure the development of business acumen. This will undoubtedly pave the way to doing business with the rest of the world," says Professor Makandawire.

At the G8 meeting African leaders called on development partners to support African governments in building the capacities of Regional Economic Communities, the AU Commission and the NePAD Secretariat to effectively coordinate and facilitate the implementation process of the CAADP at continental, regional and national levels.

The African leaders said while they seek the assistance of the development community, they fully recognise that until Africa is in a position to create its own wealth to invest in social, economic and environmental needs, Africa will not be equal partners in the global community.

"We believe that agriculture holds the key to our home-grown wealth and we, therefore, are firmly committed to the successful implementation of CAADP. We know that, in addition to the need for financing agriculture, complementary policies which support agricultural growth are also necessary."



Research shows at least \$3 billion to \$5 billion a year is needed for agriculture between now and 2008. This figure should rise to \$17 billion a year if Africa is to reduce poverty and hunger by 2015.

The commitment by African leaders in 2003 to raise budget allocations for agriculture to 10 percent over five years is bearing fruit with Mozambique, Tanzania, Ghana, Mali, Rwanda, Uganda and Zambia already increasing their agriculture budgets considerably.

The NePAD Secretariat with the AU Commission is developing a tracking system to monitor this commitment, which will indicate to national governments and development partners the level of resources and its impact on agriculture.

The African leaders called on the development community to provide technical and financial assistance to support regional economic communities to implement the CAADP and to set up governance and coordination mechanisms for the implementation process and to establish monitoring, evaluation and peer review systems. They also called for assistance to raise the level of agricultural productivity through increased funding.

"To truly break the cycle of food insecurity, it is imperative to raise the level of productivity in the agriculture sector. CAADP is the tool to do so. We believe that wealth creation in Africa will emanate from investments in agriculture," the leaders said.

Downloads:

- [CAADP](#) (full document)
- [summary](#) of CAADP

PARTNER ACTIVITIES & PUBLICATIONS

Gaborone, June 2nd 2005

Bocongo: Workshop on "NePAD and Civil Society Participation in the APRM"

The Botswana Council of Non-Governmental Organisations (BOGONGO) organised a workshop on NePAD and Civil Society Participation in the APRM. The aim of this workshop was to provide civil society organizations and other interested parties with general information on the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NePAD) and the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) to help facilitate active and meaningful participation in its processes.



BOCONGO is the national umbrella body for non-governmental organisations in Botswana. Its mission is to assist in establishing an enabling environment for the NGO/CBO sector to become a recognized partner in the development process in Botswana. On the international level BOCONGO wants to provide a platform for networking, advocacy, lobbying and capacity building for local NGOs and mobilizing of resources for the self sustainability of the NGO sector.

Enabling civil society to participate within the NePAD framework is one of the objectives of BOCONGO; "NePAD is a relatively recent initiative for the rejuvenation of development on the African continent, arguably still more familiar to Western and African leaders than civil

society. Though there appear to be mixed feelings about what has been attained to date, we believe the process of further conceptualizing NePAD and realizing its vision in practice must be an ongoing one"

BOCONGO's workshop addressed these issues from the perspective of the needs and challenges facing civil society, with an emphasis on those aspects which relate to economic governance and socio economic development.

Drawing on the NePAD policy documents, a range of commentaries and relevant survey data, BOCONGO initially provided a summary of key aspects of the NePAD vision and the APRM since these remain insufficiently clear to many individuals, organizations and legislatures potentially affected by them or interested in engaging with them.

Guest speakers of the workshop were: Dr. Bernard Kouassi, executive Director of the APRM Secretariat; Dr. Collie Monkge, coordinator Vision 2016; Dr. Marc Meinardus, Resident Representative FES; Dr. Zibani Maundeni, Democracy Research Project UB; Hon. Ketlhomilwe Moletsane, councilor; Mr. Modise HD Maphanyane, MISA Botswana. These speakers were invited to join a panel discussion, moderated by the executive Secretary of BOCONGO, Mr. Baboloki Tlale. An important message of the panel discussion is that civil society organizations should play an active participatory role which the NePAD and APRM policy documents articulate, rather than adopting a 'wait and see' approach.

Read the [full report of the workshop](#), including a report of the panel discussion, a list of participants, background information on NePAD and APRM, information on partners and pictures of the workshop.

Civil Society Guide

Deliberative Policy, Civil Society and Africa's Continental Mechanisms and Programmes.

The Centre for Public Participation (CPP) developed a strategy paper on the opportunities and challenges for Africa's civil society actors in using deliberative policy strategies to influence the regional and continental governance and peace and security architectures.

[CPP](#) is an independent, non-partisan organisation empowering civil society to engage actively with accessible and accountable structures and processes of governance. The CPP's programme purpose is to strengthen public participation in governance and advance the achievement of civil, political and socio-economic rights and poverty alleviation.



Its objectives are to:

- Increase participation by civil society in government processes
- Empower civil society to hold government responsible for the delivery of accountable and accessible governance
- Provide information, training, research and advocacy support to strengthen community advocacy initiatives
- Advocate for effective government mechanisms to facilitate public participation
Promote democratic governance and the delivery of effective, quality services by government

Following these objectives CCP developed the Civil Society Guide to enable civil society to influence the regional and continental governance and peace and security architectures.

The main point in the guide is that civil society organisations should effectively develop engagement strategies for influencing Africa's inter-state institutions and programmes, ranging from the African Union, to NePAD, to SADC. Not to engage would lead to an elitist integration of programmes and structures by state- and government driven agendas.

Engagement should seek to make these initiatives people-centred. Civil society, therefore, has to make the case for engagement. The cost of non-engagement is to leave Africa's inter-state bodies as mere extensions of governmental interest. Not to engage is to leave these institutions untransformed and undemocratized. We cannot wait for the good-will of governments to make these institutions peoples-centred. Such transformation can only come through critical and independent engagement.

Globalisation, coupled with the growing importance of regional inter-governmental bodies and regional integration processes to address poverty, underdevelopment and marginalisation, necessitate that civil society actors develop new strategies to engage governments and interstate bodies, and foster regional integration processes.

Regional integration processes in southern Africa and beyond, such as the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the Southern African Customs Union (SACU), the Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA), the African Union, and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NePAD), have all come about largely through state-driven processes; there has been very little civil society input into their making.

An important means of engagement should be through deliberative policy strategies. Deliberative policy strategies should appreciate that civil society actors will have to grab opportunities and seize the mandates to participate and play oversight and representative roles in governance and decision-making. CSO's should use deliberative policy to drive for new paradigms in governance and policy-making in the region. Civil society will do well to remember that public participation in public policy decision-making is not a favour granted by governments to citizens; it is a right, and governments have a duty to affect it. The new paradigm calls for accessibility, openness and representation. It calls for a move away from policy and governance processes dominated by governmental, NGO elites and the organised.

Downloads:

- [Civil Society Guide](#)
- [Annexes Civil Society Guide](#)

OTHER ACTIVITIES & PUBLICATIONS

The Hague, June 6th 2005

Workshop on NePAD by South African Embassy

The embassy of the Republic of South Africa in the Hague (The Netherlands) organised, in cooperation with the Institute of Social Studies, an informative workshop on NePAD. Besides delegates of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the workshop was attended by several civil society organisations and students.

The workshop served as a tool to inform interested people on NePAD and the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM). As the Institute of Social Studies (link) co-organised this day, many students from the African Diaspora were present. NiZA was one of the civil society organisations who took part at the workshop.



In her opening speech the Ambassador of South Africa Priscilla Jana noted that NePAD is not primarily an implementation agency, but a facilitator, catalyst and negotiator. She stressed that what Africa needs are more than philanthropic gestures. It needs to find and offer partnerships with government, private sector and civil society.



At the workshop itself speeches were given by Professor Wiseman Nkuhlu (Chief executive of NePAD secretariat), Mr. D. Malcomson (Director; NePAD; Dept of Foreign Affairs , South Africa) and Mrs Agnes van Ardenne (Minister for Development Cooperation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands).

Professor Wiseman Nkuhlu explained the NePAD initiative in general. He stated that although NePAD is only running for 4 years, many achievements have been made. Besides creating a foundation for a genuine partnership with the highly industrialised countries, changing the negative perceptions about Africa is another attainment. Professor Nkuhlu: "Through participation in many international fora and show-casing the good developments in the continent, we are noticing a change in how Africa is perceived."

He continues that "...NePAD has not only changed the content of the African development agenda and energized action in Africa but has also transformed the nature of the dialogue with the highly industrialized countries. The NEPAD message has also reached the countries of the South and Africans in the Diaspora. China, India, Brazil and the Arab countries in particular are being mobilized to partner Africa in this very ambitious project. Africans in the Diaspora are responding in diverse ways ranging from offers of expertise, lobbying of their governments and mobilization of private sector investors."



Professor Nkuhlu stresses that NePAD is still facing many challenges. NePAD has to strengthen and sustain progressive leadership; building the capacity of African institutions (national Governments, Regional Economic communities and the African Union); speeding up integration of NEPAD indicative plans in national development programmes and/or Poverty Reduction Strategies (PRSPs); speeding up of the implementation of the APRM and last but not least, converting promises of highly industrialized countries into concrete actions.

Dutch Minister for Development Cooperation Mrs. Van Ardenne fully agreed with Professor Nkuhlu that NePAD has made many achievements in a rather short time. She is convinced that The Netherlands, the UN and the European Union will continue the cooperation with NePAD, and assist in further development. She stresses that the African Peer Review

Mechanism could be crucial in improving governance. Improving governance is one thing , but monitoring the performance of donors should also be part of the same coin. Therefore, the minister is enthusiastic with the suggested idea of NePAD to set up an External Peer Review Mechanism to assist Africa in holding its partners accountable for the commitments made in international agreements in pursuit of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG's).

Downloads:

- Speech [Professor Wiseman Nkuhlu](#) on NePAD
- Speech [Mrs. Van Ardenne](#) on NePAD
- Speech [Mr. Malcomson](#) on APRM (including a list of participants of APRM)

NEPAD AGENDA

- **August 11-12, Cape Town (SA): Africa stakeholders awareness conference on Export Growth Opportunities in Africa**
For the first time on the continent, Africa's successful businesses will be promoted along the lines of best practice, social investment and case study discussions. This is in line with the NEPAD objectives, promoting trade and investment in Africa as a way forward to reach the Millennium Goals. For more information, please contact Ms. S. Mmapula Morake at salamina@africagrowth.com
- **September 26-27, Oxford (UK): Crop projection and plant sciences meeting, DFID.** To explore capacity strengthening for Africa's Centers of Excellence in Agriculture. Part of ongoing consultations with DFID.
- **October 17-21, Cape Town (SA): Agriculture successes for Africa's future: a NEPAD dialogue with parliamentarians**
African Parliament co-hosted with NEPAD. To share with Parliamentarians continent wide agriculture success.
- **October 24-25, Cape Town (SA): Retreat on CAADP implementation with REC's and cooperating partners**
- **November 22-26, Kampala (Uganda): Conference on "Expanding agribusiness links with smallholder farmers in Africa" (contract farming)**
To examine effective ways of linking smallholder production to markets and to critically examine the potential of contract farming to contribute to increased agricultural production, income and food security, and strategize/plan on actionable ways forward.

NIZA AGENDA

- **October 3-5, Johannesburg (SA): NiZA NePAD Partner Meeting**
The NiZA partner meeting will be held in Johannesburg in the first week of October 2005. The most important goals of the meeting will be to share information on NePAD issues and the APRM and hopefully developing sound lobby strategies.

RELEVANT WEBSITES

- [AfricaFiles](#)
AfricaFiles is a network of volunteers relaying African perspectives and alternative analyses for viable human development in the interest of justice and human rights.
- [AllAfrica](#)
A very extensive website on Africa, split up in three: Sustainable Africa; Peace Africa and Biztech. The latter website contains information on NePAD, useful links, NePAD headlines, etc.
- [Southern Africa Regional Poverty Network](#)
The purpose of SARPN is to provide a facility for raising the level and quality of public debate on poverty across the Southern African Development Community (SADC). This site contains a lot of information on SADC countries, regional themes, NePAD, news flashes, etc..
- [NePAD](#)
Official site of NePAD, with documents, latest news, press releases, events, etc.. You also find here NEPAD Dialogue, a free weekly e-mail newsletter of the NePAD Secretariat