



ECOWAS COMMISSION
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Concept Note

ECOWAS fifth Biennial Review Data Cleaning and Gap Management Meeting with ECOWAS Member States and Regional Experts,

June 23–27, 2025

HYBRID, Lagos

Nigeria

June 2025



1. Background and context

The Malabo Declaration, adopted in June 2014, remains a cornerstone of CAADP, structured around seven key commitments: (i) Recommitment to CAADP principles and values; (ii) Enhancing investment finance in agriculture; (iii) Ending hunger by 2025; (iv) Halving poverty through agriculture by 2025; (v) Boosting intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services; (vi) Enhancing resilience to climate variability; and (vii) Strengthening mutual accountability for actions and results. Building on the Malabo Declaration's commitment to mutual accountability and agricultural transformation, the African Union Commission (AUC) successfully completed the 4th CAADP Biennial Review (BR) process in early 2024, with the endorsement of the 4th BR Report during the 37th Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government in February 2024. Dialogues were held across AU regions to discuss the findings, policy implications, and potential improvements for the BR process. To better prepare for the next BR cycle, AUC developed a Roadmap for the 5th BR cycle. From June to September 2024, efforts focused on a Critical Analysis of the 4th BR cycle, examining challenges in coordination, data quality, new indicators, and updates to reporting tools, including the e-BR platform. The outcomes of this critical analysis were presented at a workshop in Casablanca, Morocco, on 4–5 October 2024. Building on the findings from Critical Analysis, the 4th BR data collection and reporting tools were revised, updated, and finalized with support from the BR Task Force Team. These updated BR reporting tools are now ready for dissemination to RECs and Member States through the continental training of trainers of regional experts. The training will provide experts with a better understanding of the revised BR tools, including the e-BR platform, to enhance data collection and reporting for the 5th BR Cycle. At the ECOWAS level, a dedicated web platform has also been developed to seamlessly interoperate with the eBR platform, thereby streamlining data submission and easing the burden on member states' engagement.

A continental Training of Trainers (ToT) was conducted in March 2025, with the continental roadmap stipulating that regional training for national experts should follow. The regional training aims to equip experts from Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to support the Biennial Review (BR) mechanism and train Member State teams in data collection, ensuring that high-quality data remains a top priority.

Given that the list of indicators mirrors that of the previous BR cycle, the ECOWAS regional team has adjusted its approach. Instead of organizing a traditional regional training, it will convene national and regional experts for a focused workshop. This workshop, scheduled for June 23-27, 2025, in Lagos, Nigeria, will serve as a crucial prelude to the final data validation and submission process. Its primary objectives are to ensure proper data cleaning, find solutions to previously documented data provision gaps, and ultimately guarantee high data completeness and quality.

2. Purpose, objectives and expected deliverables of the Workshop

This workshop constitutes a vital step in finalizing a critical report. Serving as a hybrid platform for all Technical Experts, it will thoroughly review the Fifth Biennial Review (BR) data issue and availability by member states. The primary objectives are to meticulously examine available data, identify existing challenges and potential data provision gaps, and ensure satisfactory adherence to technical guidelines. Furthermore, the meeting will facilitate deliberations on the data to offer suggestions for improving its overall quality, address specific data quality issues, and pinpoint comprehensive solutions for all identified data gaps within ECOWAS member states.

Objectives:



- Analyze the Fifth BR data provision and gaps submitted by member states.
- Examine available data and identify existing challenges and potential data provision gaps.
- Ensure the data's satisfactory adherence to technical guidelines.
- Facilitate deliberations aimed at offering suggestions for improving overall data quality.
- Pinpoint comprehensive solutions for all identified data gaps within ECOWAS member states.
- Achieve and confirm proper interoperability between ECOWAP MEALS and eBR.

Expected Deliverables:

- Detailed documentation of existing data challenges and identified potential data provision gaps.
- Data compliance report ensuring satisfactory adherence to technical guidelines.
- Set of recommendations for improving overall data quality, derived from facilitated deliberations.
- Action plan outlining comprehensive solutions for all identified data gaps within ECOWAS member states.
- Verified interoperability established between the ECOWAP MEALS and eBR platforms.

Language of the workshop:

English and French: All sessions will be conducted in English and French with simultaneous interpretation in the second language.

3. Reference Documents for the Workshop

- Data gap analysis template fill by MS
- 2025 BR Country Template Word version
- ECOWAS BR Guidebook
- Technical Guidelines
- Critical Analysis document

4. Target participants and Logistics

In line with the scope of the exercise, the regional validation workshop is targeting 51 physical participants with several online participants.

However, to enable the ECOWAS team and experts to fully concentrate. To this effect additional support staff such as hostesses, Secretaries among others will also join the meeting. It shall be a five-day workshop, from 23 to 27 June 2025 in Lagos, Nigeria.

institutions	Number of physical participants
1. Regional and continental experts include ECOWAS staff 2. Raphael Babatunde 3. Wale Olayide 4. Aminou Arouna 5. Souleimane Adekambi 6. Isata Kamanda 7. Irene Mitchodigni 8. Babacar Ceesay 9. Cheick Ahmed Tidiane Ndoeye 10. Bello Segun 11. Abdul Afeez Ayorinde	21



12. Segun Phillips Olupinla 13. Djiga Thiao 14. Oluwafemi Gbenga Bamidele 15. Seydou Kabore 16. Frank Okey Smart 17. Deborah Akinola 18. Cedrick Houndekpondji 19. Gabriel Otung 20. Emmanuel Ahouansinkpo 21. Fatmata Seiwoh	
Members States (2 per country) 1. Benin 2. Cabo verde 3. Côte D'Ivoire 4. Gambia 5. Ghana 6. Guinea 7. Guinea Bissau 8. Liberia 9. Nigeria 10. Senegal 11. Sierra Leone 12. Togo	24
Support team 1. Hostesses - 2 2. Interpreters - 4	6
Total	51

5. Location and Meeting Dates

This hybrid meeting will be held from 23 to 27 June 2025 in Lagos, Nigeria.

Physical meeting venue will be shared later

For online participants, zoom link is provided here:

<https://araa-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/BQtKdYcXRHCY6ExLFZnRlq>

(MEMBER STATES PLEASE SHARE MEETING LINK WITH YOUR DATA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS)

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