



Concept Note

**Validation workshop
Of ECOWAS BR protocol and NAIP good practices handbook by
Regional and National Experts**

October 2022



1. Background and Rationale

In 2003, African Heads of State and Government launched the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) to halt the deteriorating food and nutrition security conditions on the continent. In 2005, the ECOWAS region launched ECOWAP/CAADP, the ECOWAS regional agricultural policy designed in line with CAADP. By 2010, ECOWAP/CAADP had successfully guided the development of a new generation of National Agricultural Investment Plans (NAIPs) in West Africa, among other achievements.

In 2014, African Heads of State and Government met in Malabo and reviewed the progress made in the implementation of CAADP. In order to accelerate its implementation, 7 new commitments were made, incorporating some previous targets such as the Maputo Declaration of 10% and 6% growth in the agricultural sector. One of the innovations of the 2014 declaration was the biennial monitoring and review of progress on the 7 commitments made. The first of the biennial review process cycle was in 2017, while the second of the cycle was in 2019. The third of the cycle was in 2021 and each year, the continental report was approved by the Assembly of African Heads of State and Government.

The operationalization of the ECOWAS/CAADP agricultural policy is based on the implementation of two categories of complementary plans (or programs), namely the National Agricultural Investment Plans (NAIP) and the Regional Agricultural Investment Plan (RAIP). The biennial review is initiated at the regional level to review the agricultural sector and see the level of completion.

Since the beginning, several efforts have been made within the CAADP process at the continental, regional and national levels. Over the years, great improvements have been recorded. Furthermore, since 2017, when the biennial review process was launched, many efforts have been made to enable the 15 West African countries have steady progress or even on track. In the third biennial report in 2021, West Africa was ranked the best performing region because of its well-controlled processes even when none of the countries are on track.

This shows that ECOWAS continues to have good governance mechanisms for ECOWAP and its instruments. However, these have not been well documented as best practices. A mission was initiated by ECOWAS and funded by AGRA to develop an ECOWAS manual on best practices for the management of the NAIPs and a BR protocol guide.

These documents should :

- Serve as a reference document for all stakeholders in the region.
- Serve as a reference document for new actors who will join the process at any time
- Present the progress and efforts made by ECOWAS and its partners.



- Ensure that all countries in the region follow a standard approach to facilitate comparability, consistency and unity.

The consultancy has been completed and draft of the two documents are ready.

To this effect, a validation workshop is planned to be held first with the regional experts to bring a technical touch to the draft report and then a validation with the member states.

This workshop will be organized through co-financing by ECOWAS and AGRA as part of improving the implementation of CAADP at the continental level.

The objective of this workshop is to technically review the different documents by the regional technical experts; followed by validation of the same document by the member states and regional experts.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes of the workshop

The objective of the workshop is to validate the ECOWAS BR Protocol and the ECOWAS NAIPs Good Practice handbook.

Objectives:

- ❖ Review of the BR protocol developed by the consultants
- ❖ Review of the NAIPFNS good practice guide developed by the consultants
- ❖ Validation of the different documents

Expected Deliverables:

1. BR protocol validated
2. Validated NAIP Good Practice Guide
3. Report of the technical and regional validation workshop

3. Reference documents for the workshop

- Draft BR protocol
- Draft good practice guide for NAIPs
- BR Report
- NAIP 1st and 2nd Generation



4. Methodology

The methodology that will be adopted during this workshop will be participatory, with the following breakdown:

- ❖ Read the different documents
- ❖ Make observations and comments based on the documents produced by the consultants
- ❖ Discussion of adjustments, directions to be given in order to bring substantial elements for the improvement of the documents
- ❖ Propose next steps
- ❖ Accept the two documents are guide for the region henceforth

5. Participants targets and logistics

The workshop is **divided into** two levels:

- That of the regional technical review which brings experts at the regional level
- The one of validation with the Member States which gathers the stakeholders involved in the two processes
- AGRA support staff (administration and finance) will be invited to both workshops.

During this workshop, French and English will be the official languages of communication.

6. Date and place of the workshop

The physical meeting will be held from **October 3 to 7, 2022 in Abuja, at Reiz Continental Hotel in Nigeria.**



7. Timeline of the workshop

Technical Validation Workshop with regional experts October 3-5, 2022		
Day 1 – 03rd	Activities	Responsible
9:00- 9:30 am	Welcome Remarks Presentation of the objective and agenda of the workshop	DARD
9:30-10:15 am	Detailed presentation draft BR protocol and general discussions	Consultants
10:15-11:00 am	Detailed presentation of the draft NAIP good practice guide and general discussions	Consultants
11:00 - 11:30 am	Coffee break	
11:30-13:00 pm.	Comments and General Discussion	Consultants
13:00 - 14:00pm	Lunch break	
14:00-16:30	Group work on the BR protocol	Participants (as a group)
16:30-17:00	Presentation of group work I	Group chair/repertoire
17:00-17:15	Coffee break and end of day 1	
Day 2 – 04th	Activities	Responsible
9:00-11:00 am	Presentation of feedback from group work for inclusion into the draft BR protocol	Consultants
11:00:11:30 am	Coffee break	
11:30- 13:00 pm	Group work on the NAIP good practice draft	Participants (as a group)
13:00-14:00 pm	Lunch break	
14:00-15:00 pm	Group work on the NAIP good practice draft continues	Participants (as a group)
15:00-15:45 pm	Presentation of group work	Group chair/repertoire
15:45-16:45 pm	Consolidation of group summaries for action	Consultants
16:45 -17:30	Presentation of feedback from group work for inclusion into the draft NAIP good practices guide	Consultant
17:30-17:45	Coffee break close of day	



Day 3 - 05th	ACTIVITIES	Responsible
9:00-11:00 am	Consolidation of agreed information to improve the documents	Consultants/ECO WAS
11:00-11:30 am	Coffee break	
11:30-13:00 pm	Consolidation with the consultants to take into account the comments of agreed information to improve the documents	Consultants/ECO WAS
13:00-14:00 pm	Lunch break	
14:00-15:00 pm	Presentation revised version of documents	Consultants
15:00-15:30 pm	Wrap up/closing	ECOWAS
15:30-17:30 pm	Coffee break	
15:30-17:00 pm	Translation/editorial on translation of revised documents	ECOWAS
Validation Workshop with Member States 6-7 October 2022		
Day 4 – 06th	Activities	Responsible
8:45-9:30 am	Welcome Remarks Presentation of the objective and agenda of the workshop	ECOWAS
9:30-10:15 am	Detailed presentation draft revised BR protocol and general discussions	Consultants
10:15-11:00 am	Detailed presentation of the revised draft NAIP good practice guide and general discussions	Consultants
11:00-11:30 am	Coffee break	
11:30-13:00 pm	Comments and General Discussion	Consultants
13:00-14:00 pm	Lunch break	
14:00-17:00 pm	Group work on the two documents	Participants (as a group)
17:00-17:15 pm	Coffee break and end of day 1	
Day 5 – 07th	Activities	Responsible
9:00-11:00 am	Group work on the two documents continue	Participants (as a group)
11:00-11:30 am	Coffee break	
11:30am-12:30 pm	Presentation of group work	Group chair/repertoire
12:30-13:30 pm	LUNCH	



13:30-15:00 pm	Incorporation of feedback from group work into documents	Consultants
15:00-16:00 pm	Presentation of final documents	Consultants
16:00-16:30 pm	Next steps	ECOWAS
16:30-17:00 pm	Coffee break and end of workshop	

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