From the CEO’s Desk

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to this first issue of the FANRPAN Quarterly Newsletter. This will serve as an update on what is happening within the network and in the member countries. I encourage you to submit articles on happenings in your countries. The idea is to keep the Network informed of important policy issues and ongoing activities.

As a network, we are an integral part of the global discussion agenda on food security and we hope that through this update we can share country experiences and engage in a continuous meaningful dialogue as we develop solutions to ensure that Africa is a food secure continent free from hunger and poverty.

I hope you enjoy this first issue of the quarterly Newsletter. As always, I look forward to your feedback.

Lindiwe Majele Sibanda (PhD)
Chief Executive Officer & Head of Mission

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FANRPAN Annual Planning and Training Workshop for Regional Secretariat

FANRPAN held an annual planning and training workshop for the Regional Secretariat team at the Leriba Hotel in Centurion, South Africa, from 3 to 8 February 2013. The purpose of the workshop was to reflect on FANRPAN’s performance in 2012 and plan activities for 2013.

The major outcomes from this workshop were the analysis of the FANRPAN programme under the following themes: Capacity Building, Policy Analysis, Advocacy, Communication, Knowledge Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E), Human Resources and Finance; the development of the matrix of the planned activities and envisaged outcomes of existing projects; a definition of the nature of the Network and a need to document ‘the FANRPAN way of doing business’ in order to capture the innovative ways and the wealth of experience within the network.

FANRPAN Annual Training for Node Coordinators

FANRPAN held an Annual Training Workshop for Node Coordinators at the Lesotho Sun Hotel in Maseru, Lesotho from 24 to 28 February 2013. The Workshop was attended by 14 of the 16 FANRPAN Node Coordinators and the FANRPAN Regional Secretariat. The purpose of the workshop was to reflect on FANRPAN’s performance in 2012, align the Network’s vision and goals, and plan its activities for 2013.

The team reviewed the FANRPAN strategy – looking at where the Network has come from and where it is heading. Node Coordinators were also trained on using research evidence for policy advocacy. The draft FANRPAN Policy Advocacy Training Manual designed to guide non-state actors on identifying opportunities to influence and add value to policy processes such as CAADP and national development and agriculture programmes was presented. The workshop endorsed Climate Smart Agriculture as the theme for the 2013 FANRPAN Regional Multi-stakeholder Food Security Policy Dialogue to be held in Lesotho in September. (http://www.fanrpan.org/documents/d01535/)

FANRPAN Governance Issues

The FANRPAN Board of Governors held its first meeting of 2013 on the 25th of March in Pretoria. The Board meeting focussed on the strategy and vision for the Network in preparation for the development of the FANRPAN short and long term strategy documents. The Human Resources Committee of the Board held a closed session to review the remuneration policies. The meeting was attended by the following Board Members and observers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>H.E. Sindiso Ngwenya</th>
<th>COMESA representative (Board Chairman)</th>
<th>Observer: USAID</th>
<th>Mr William Benjamin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr Keoagile Molapong</td>
<td>SADC representative</td>
<td>Observer: CCARDESA Board Chair</td>
<td>Dr Enos Shumba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Andile Hawes</td>
<td>Host Government</td>
<td>Observer: Technical Adviser - HaSSP Elder</td>
<td>Dr Sam Mundia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Angel Khumalo</td>
<td>Host Government</td>
<td>Observer: Technical Adviser</td>
<td>Mr Mike Connolly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Ajay Vashee</td>
<td>Farmers – SACAU representative</td>
<td>Observer: Technical Adviser</td>
<td>Dr Hans Binswanger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Lynette Chen</td>
<td>Private Sector</td>
<td>Observer: Technical Adviser</td>
<td>Dr Hans Binswanger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Cecilia Khupe</td>
<td>Donor Representative – outgoing</td>
<td>Observer: Technical Adviser</td>
<td>Dr Hans Binswanger</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FANRPAN in the 2012 Global Go to Think Tanks Rankings

FANRPAN has for the second successive year been voted as one of the leading think tanks in sub-Saharan Africa in the 2012 Global Go To Think Tanks Survey. This accolade is a credit to the network’s dedicated staff, implementing partners, development partners and members who support and make invaluable intellectual and financial contribution to FANRPAN’s mission. http://www.gototankthink.com

The Network has been ranked in the following categories:
- Top 150 Think Tanks – Worldwide (US and Non-US): 56th out of 150
- Top 50 Think Tank in Sub-Saharan Africa: 22nd out of 50
- Top 50 Social Policy Think Tanks: 32nd out of 50
- Best Advocacy Campaign (18th in the list): 22nd out of 75
- Best Policy Study/Report Produced by a Think Tank 2011-2012: 18th out of 60

Institutional Capacity Assessment of FANRPAN Nodes

The Regional Secretariat will be assessing the institutional capacity of five node hosting institutions (Angola, Madagascar, Mauritius, Zambia and Zimbabwe) in 2013 using the Partner Institutional Viability Assessment (PIVA) tool.

PIVA is a user-friendly management tool that can precisely and comprehensively identify changes and progress in the organizational development and capacity of the nodes. FANRPAN has applied the PIVA tool on at the Regional Secretariat and national nodes since 2005 to assess their capacities and areas requiring institutional strengthening, and measuring improvements in organizational capacity over time.

The African Union Commission (AUC) and the NEPAD Agency held the 9th Comprehensive African Agriculture Development (CAADP) Partnership Platform (PP) from 25 to 26 March 2013 to evaluate progress and achievements made in implementing CAADP. The PP is an annual high-level partnership platform that brought together key stakeholders such as African governments, policy makers, civil society organisations and farmers’ organisations to assess progress made in implementing the CAADP goals. About 200 delegates from Africa and beyond attended the meeting at the AUC’s headquarters in Addis Ababa. The AU Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, HE Rhoda Peace Tumisiime challenged stakeholders to better coordinate their efforts to strengthen resilience of African agriculture, as this will determine the success of CAADP over the next decade. Improving market access, attracting investment and exploiting the youth dividend is key to this.

FANRPAN sponsored 5 delegates: 3 youths (Lesotho, Zambia and Zimbabwe) and 2 women farmer (Malawi) advocates to participate. FANRPAN was represented by the CAADP Programme Manager Ian Mashingaidze and Women and Youth Programme Manager Sithembile Mwamakamba.

Resources for policy making

FAO has set up EASYPol, a multilingual repository of freely downloadable resources for policy making in agriculture, rural development and food security. These resources focus on policy findings, methodological tools and capacity development. There is a forum that provides a platform for people interested in policy making to exchange their views to identify emerging policy issues, discuss new development concepts, test analytical tools and identify best practices. See www.fao.org/easypol for details.
FANRPAN Project Highlights

Project Title: Harmonized Seed Security Project (HaSSP)
- Duration: 01 January 2010 – 31 December 2013
- Thematic Thrust: Food Systems
- Donor: SDC

Project Title: Limpopo Basin Development Challenge (LBDC): Coordination and Change Project
- Duration: 36 months (October 2010 – September 2013)
- Thematic Thrust: Natural Resources and Environment
- Donor: Challenge Program for Water and Food of the CGIAR

Regional Practical Seed Inspector Training workshop

The HaSSP Regional Seed Inspector training workshop was held from 6-7 February 2013 in Zimbabwe. The objective of the workshop was to practically train the participants to conduct seed sampling and field inspections and to standardise the procedures thereof in various countries. The two female and twelve male participants at the workshop were from Malawi, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Each country was represented by senior seed inspectors from the government and Seed Trade Association (private sector).

HaSSP end of project review

In preparation for the end of phase review, the HaSSP Programme Manager – Dr. Bellah Mpofu conducted monitoring visits in all the four countries as follows:
- Swaziland- 26 February – 01 March 2013
- Malawi – 18 – 21 March 2013
- Zambia – 24 -29 March 2013
- Zimbabwe – 11- 15 March 2013

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) contracted Kamayoq Ltd, Uk to conduct the HaSSP end of phase review and the consultants are Mr Patrick Mulvancy and Mr Rodger Mpande. The time frame for the evaluation is scheduled from April to May 2013. The evaluation will assess the entire phase of the programme from January 2010 to December 2013.

For more information visit: http://www.fanrpan.org/themes/eachproject/?project=6

Limpopo Basin Development Challenge (LBDC)

Less than 24 months after inception, the LBDC is showing results of current research and outcomes from Challenge Program on Water and Food (CPWF) contributions to on-going work to improve productivity in rain-fed systems in the basin. The LBDC has confirmed that intervening in complex systems requires cross-sectorial and cross-scale engagement and understanding—rarely realized in short term initiatives. Engagement platforms—from local level Innovation Platforms to high level Regional Policy Dialogues—ensure that LBDC recognizes and amplifies the voices of small holder farmers, traditional authorities, catchment councils, private sector, ministries and other key decision makers. FANRPAN, leading the Coordination and Change project, helps ensure that LBDC work and activities are relevant to the basin context and contribute to on-going conversations about options and opportunities for investment.

The ARC-SA led project on small water infrastructure has synthesized and analysed what is known about successes and failures of these systems—as a foundation for developing rehabilitation guidelines.
The team has inventoried and classified small water infrastructure in the basin in order to assess the magnitude of the problem and help prioritize solutions for improving sustainable access to water for the rural poor. The ICRISAT-led project on farming systems has undertaken participatory modelling with farmers to explore various crop/livestock production and investment options to increase food security and reduce risk. In addition to economic returns, each option is being assessed for water use efficiency, especially critical to food security in dry-land areas. The SEI-led project on targeting and scaling out has identified and incorporated policy targets for each of the basin countries into their models and gotten critical stakeholder input in to design and interface. This model now incorporates technologies and data from all LBDC projects, ensuring integration between projects and assessment of relevant technologies. The Waternet-led team assessing institutional and governance aspects of water within the basin has contributed evidence and insights into the wide range of strategies and approaches available for ensuring equitable access to an increasingly scarce resource.

Within six months, the LBDC will have compiled findings into a road map which lays out the current state of play, and assesses options and opportunities for future engagement and investment. These findings will inform investment decisions around rehabilitation of small water infrastructure, opportunities for diversification in crop/livestock systems for food security in dry areas, and suitability of agricultural water management interventions in the basin, the SADC region and beyond.

For more information visit: http://www.fanrpan.org/projects/lbdc/

### Development of Flagship Project Proposals

FANRPAN has developed and submitted the following proposals for funding:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Amount (period)</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Household Vulnerability to Disasters: An Application of the Household Vulnerability Index (HVI)</td>
<td>IDRC regional office</td>
<td>Canadian $72 100 (2013-2014)</td>
<td>Approved (with further clarification requested)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Research to Policy and Practice: Strengthening the Evidence Base for Climate Smart Agriculture Policies in East and Southern Africa</td>
<td>COMESA</td>
<td>USD$1 500 000 (2013-2014)</td>
<td>Approved (and budget breakdown and due diligence documents provided)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Capacity of State and Non State Actors for enhanced uptake of Climate Smart Agriculture Research Evidence</td>
<td>DFID</td>
<td>USD$3 800 000 (2013-2016)</td>
<td>Concept note approved; to develop a full proposal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Farmers need to capitalize on functional irrigation schemes such as this one by optimizing linkages to markets and predicting local supply and demand.

Gweru Irrigation Scheme Picture taken by: Andre van Rooyen
1) Country Case Studies on Youth and Agriculture Policies

FANRPAN with support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Southern Africa office is implementing the project “Advocating for a Holistic Youth and Gender Agriculture Policy Framework in Southern Africa” under the USAID Southern Africa, Feed the Future (FTF) Multi-Year Strategy. Under this project FANRPAN is conducting case studies in Angola, Lesotho, Mozambique and Zambia on current and emerging youth policies and initiatives with a special focus on links to agriculture. Young consultants have been identified with the help of node coordinators from the respective countries to review available policy documents and interview key leaders and representatives of youth organisations to identify available space and opportunities for developing national ‘youth and agriculture policies’ within national agricultural policies, and make appropriate policy recommendations.

National Youth Policy Dialogues
- South Africa National Youth Policy Dialogue: The South Africa node hosting institution, National Agricultural Marketing Council (NAMC), convened a Youth in Agriculture Policy Dialogue on the 7th of March 2013 in Pretoria. The purpose of the national dialogue was to disseminate findings of a case study conducted by FANRPAN in partnership with the South Africa Commercial Agriculture Youth Chamber (CAYC) on current and emerging Youth Policies and Initiatives with a Special Focus on Links to Agriculture. (http://www.fanrpan.org/documents/d01515/).
- Swaziland National Climate Change and Youth Agricultural National Dialogue: The Swaziland node hosting institution, Coordinating Assembly of NGO’s (CANGO), convened a combined Climate Change and Youth in Agricultural Policy Dialogue on the 13th of March 2013. The national policy dialogue attended by 50 representatives of youth organisations; government officials; farmers’ organisations and civil society was officially opened by the Minister of Sports, Youth and Culture Hon. Hlobisile Ndlovu. (http://www.fanrpan.org/documents/d01518/).

2) Evidence-based Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) Inception Workshop

The Mozambique Node hosting institution, Eduardo Mondlane University, hosted the Evidence-based Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) Inception Workshop on the 19th March 2013. The meeting was attended by 11 participants representing Government Institutions, Academia, Farmers Organizations, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) representative and FANRPAN Regional Secretariat representatives at the meeting.

3) HaSSP Field-day

The Malawi Node (CISANET) and the Association of Smallholder Seed Multiplication Action Group (ASSMAG) convened a field day under the auspices of the HaSSP project on the 19th of March 2013 in Lumbadzi. Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, Honourable Ulemu Chilapondwa was the guest of honour. About 80 participants including representatives from the Private Sector, NGOs, farmer, faith based organizations, community based organizations, the media as well the Public Sector attended the field day.

4) Angola FANRPAN National Node Workshop

On the 21st of March 2013 the FANRPAN Angola Node convened its first national policy dialogue on the Angola National Food Security strategy. The dialogue was held at the University of Jose Eduardo dos Santos in Huambo, Angola. Over 200 delegates attended, including the Deputy Rector, Dean of the University as well as representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Food Security, and the Governor of Huambo Province, who officially opened the meeting. (http://www.fanrpan.org/documents/d01538/).
Regional and Global Policy Engagement Highlights

- 4th of March 2013: Evaluation of FAO Regional and Sub-Regional Offices for Africa. To assess the change in capacity of its decentralized offices in Africa providing services to member states. FANRPAN was invited to share perspectives on FAO’s role and presence and effectiveness in southern Africa.

- 11-12 March, 2013: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) convened a consultation workshop in Pretoria on coordination of policy networks and initiatives in Africa. The workshop was attended by representatives of 11 institutions and/or networks across Africa as well two donor agencies. The workshop focused on facilitating participating policy actors to identify, through bilateral exchanges and meetings, specific areas where they can better coordinate and collaborate in optimizing their contributions to the policy development and implementation landscape.

- 13–15 March 2013: FANRPAN participated in the COMESA Regional Capacity Building Training Workshop for selected regional institutions on gender mainstreaming into agriculture and climate change in Livingstone Zambia. The workshop was officially opened by the Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Gender and Child Development in Zambia.

- 19-22 March, 2013: FANRPAN attended the 2013 Climate Smart Agriculture Global Science Conference held at the University of California (US Davis). The conference was attended by over 350 scientists and policymakers from 35 countries and it brought three key issues: farm and food systems; landscape and regional issues; and the integrative and transformative institutional and policy aspects that will bridge across scales to link science and practice to ensure food security, poverty alleviation and multiple ecosystem services (http://climatesmart.ucdavis.edu/videos.html).

- 25 - 26 March 2013: FANRPAN attended the African Union Commission (AUC) and the NEPAD Agency 9th Comprehensive African Agriculture Development (CAADP) Partnership Platform (PP) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The 9th CAADP PP was held in a landmark year for both the AU, which is celebrating 50 years of its existence, and CAADP commemorating 10 years since it was endorsed in 2003. The theme for the 9th CAADP PP was ‘Sustaining the CAADP Momentum - from Decisions and Commitments to Implementation for Results for Impact’, and the objective of the meeting was to evaluate progress and achievements made in implementing CAADP.
**FANRPAN Node Coordinators**

- **Angola:** Universidade José Eduardo dos Santos  
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- **Namibia:**  
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- **Uganda:** Makerere University  
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  ugandanode@fanrpan.org

- **Zambia:** Agricultural Consultative Forum (ACF)  
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  zambianode@fanrpan.org

- **Zimbabwe:** Agricultural Research Council (ARC)  
  Isaiah Mharapara  
  zimbabwenode@fanrpan.org

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**Upcoming Engagements**

### HaSSP Field day
- 24 May, Zaka, Zimbabwe

### National Youth in Agriculture Policy Dialogue
- 26 April, Zimbabwe
- 15 May, Tanzania

### 5th FANRPAN Annual Partners Meeting
- Date: 30 May 2013
- Venue: St George Hotel, Pretoria South Africa

### Partner Institution Viability Assessment (PIVA)
- **Angola:** May
- **Madagascar:** July
- **Mauritius:** 17-19 July
- **Zambia:** 29 April—1 May
- **Zimbabwe:** 12-14 August

### LBDC
- **Reflection:** 17th June 2013
- **Tentative Science Roll Out:** July 2013
- **FARA Science Week:** 15-20 July 2013

### CAADP-related engagements:
- **Joint Review of the COMESA Regional CAADP Framework,** 30 April - 1 May 2013, Lusaka, Zambia
- **Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU) Annual Conference,** 13 to 14 May 2013, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
- **National CAADP Dialogue for Tanzania supported by Africa Lead,** 20 - 22 May 2013, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

### FANRPAN High-level Food Security Policy Dialogue
- **Date:** 2—6 September 2013
- **Venue:** Maseru, Lesotho

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