

VOLUME 4 ISSUE NO. 5

DIALOGUE

NOVEMBER 2004



2004

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS



CTA funded publication November-December 2004

ABOUT FANRPAN

FANRPAN is an autonomous stakeholder-driven policy research, analysis and implementation network, that was established in 1997 and formally registered as a regional network in year 2001. FANRPAN is represented in 11 SADC countries (Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Lesotho, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Swaziland and Mauritius) and works through an inter-sectoral platform designated as a country node, which has five to eight elected members comprising representatives from government, private sector, farming unions, policy research institutions and non-governmental organizations. The main objectives of FANRPAN are to promote appropriate agricultural policies in order to reduce poverty, increase food security and promote sustainable agricultural development in the SADC region. Its mission is to provide a forum to co-ordinate, influence and facilitate policy research, analysis and dialogue at the national, regional and global levels in order to develop the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources sector. This is done through networking, capacity building and generation of information for the benefit of all stakeholders in the SADC region.

FOOD
AGRICULTURE &
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RESOURCES
POLICY
ANALYSIS
NETWORK

2004 PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS





LIST OF ACRONYMS

ASARECA:	Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa
AU:	African Union
BIOEROC:	Biotechnology-Ecology Research and Outreach Consortium
COMESA:	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CTA:	Centre for Technical Cooperation
ECAPAPA:	Eastern And Central Africa Program For Agricultural Policy Analysis
EU:	The European Union
FAO:	Food and Agricultural Organisation
FANRPAN:	Food Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network
GMOs:	Genetically Modified Organisms
IFPRI:	International Food Policy Research Institute
ICRISAT:	International Crop Research Institute for the Semi Arid Tropics
IITA:	International Institute of Tropical Agriculture
IWMI:	International Water Management Institute
MOU:	Memorandum Of Understanding
MSU:	Michigan State University
NEPAD:	The New Partnership for Africa Development
PBS:	Program for Biosafety Systems
SA-SAKSS:	Southern African Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System
SACAU:	Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions
SADC:	Southern African Development Community
USAID/RCSA:	United States Agency for International Development/Regional Centre for Southern Africa

CEO'S STATEMENT

The year 2004 has been challenging but productive for FANRPAN. Between January and December, the network hosted seven policy research projects, convened 14 national and regional policy dialogues and produced and circulated 18 reports through both print and electronic media. For all these positive achievements, we are most grateful to our donors and technical partners namely the CTA, Rockefeller Foundation, USAID RCSA, IITA, the EU, SADC Health, The French Government, FAO, SACAU, Michigan State University and IFPRI.

Despite notable successes on policy research, which is mainly undertaken by the country nodes, the FANRPAN network continued to be haunted by lack of core funds to finance the regional secretariat and meet overhead costs. This has, since inception of the network, led to a high staff turnover, failure to establish a permanent institutional base for the network, and inability to engage with the SADC secretariat and Ministers on a continuous basis. Over the past four years, FANRPAN has only had core support in the form of short term, one year planning grants. During the planning years (2001-2; & 2002-3), FANRPAN has developed a five year strategy plan and an institutional capacity strengthening proposal. These documents are currently being widely circulated to prospective funding partners.

As a result of the departure of the SADC Hub from Harare to Gaborone, FANRPAN was unable to meet the operational costs of offices and thanks to the Zimbabwe FANRPAN node that is currently temporarily providing office space to the regional secretariat. Please note the resultant change in the telephone numbers of the network. On a more positive note, the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) has offered to host the regional secretariat at their Pretoria offices and plans are at an advanced stage to relocate from Harare.

During year 2004, FANRPAN bade farewell to Dr Tobias Takavarasha (Chief Executive Officer), Ms Catherine Rutivi (Program Officer) and Ms Grace Mushoperi (Finance Officer). Their contributions to the network are acknowledged and most appreciated. At the request of the FANRPAN Board, I took up the position of CEO in August 2004.

The financial audit for 2003-4 was undertaken successfully and immediately followed by a technical audit which allowed the office to develop a performance management system. The most challenging task has been efforts to source funds to support the regional secretariat and conduct in-country policy dialogues. Negotiations on the modalities of support are on-going with potential donors.

The year 2005 promises to be yet another productive year. The network will host five policy research projects, funded by various donors and implemented in at least nine SADC countries. The calendar of events lined up for year 2005 is presented on pages 11 and 12.

The 2005 annual FANRPAN Policy Dialogue promises to be a different experience. We have moved away from the traditional dialogue on a specified theme. Instead, we will have a "Grand Show Case" of all FANRPAN policy research and recommendations made in the past four years. The 2005 FANRPAN POLICY COLLOQUIUM will take place in Pretoria during the period 4 to 8 October. At least 100 key stakeholders who include, government, and private sector representatives, farmers, policy analysts, donors, SADC secretariat, NEPAD secretariat and AU representatives will all gather to dialogue on what it takes to *create "a conducive policy and legal framework for a food secure SADC region."* Please diarise the event and look out for further announcements on the FANRPAN website and upcoming newsletters. We rely on all our stakeholders' support in making the annual colloquium a success.

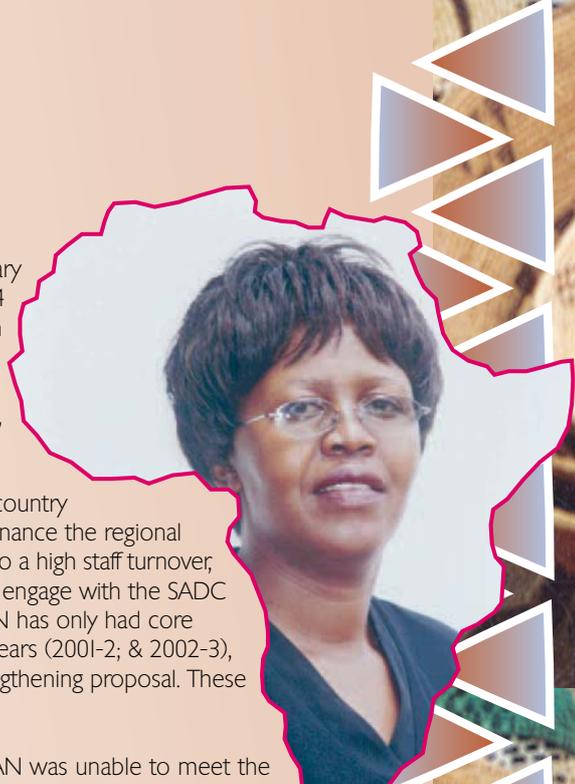
In this publication we share with you highlights of the policy studies undertaken in 2004. We also present a calendar of events for 2005.

I would like to thank the CTA who have, since year 200, provided unwavering support to FANRPAN's Annual Policy Dialogues, the bi-monthly newsletter, annual stakeholders directory and various publications including the 2004 programme highlights. We thank Mr José Fonseca of CTA who has gone beyond his call of duty to ensure that FANRPAN stays alive. We are most grateful to the Chairman of FANRPAN Prof H. K. R. Amani, Board members and Node coordinators, who have volunteered their time to assist in managing the network.

The thrust for 2005 is not only to deliver quality policy research results but also strengthen the capacity and institutional arrangements of the network at both the national and regional levels. This requires commitment and contributions of various forms from all stakeholders.

Thank You.

Dr Lindiwe Majele Sibanda
Chief Executive Officer.

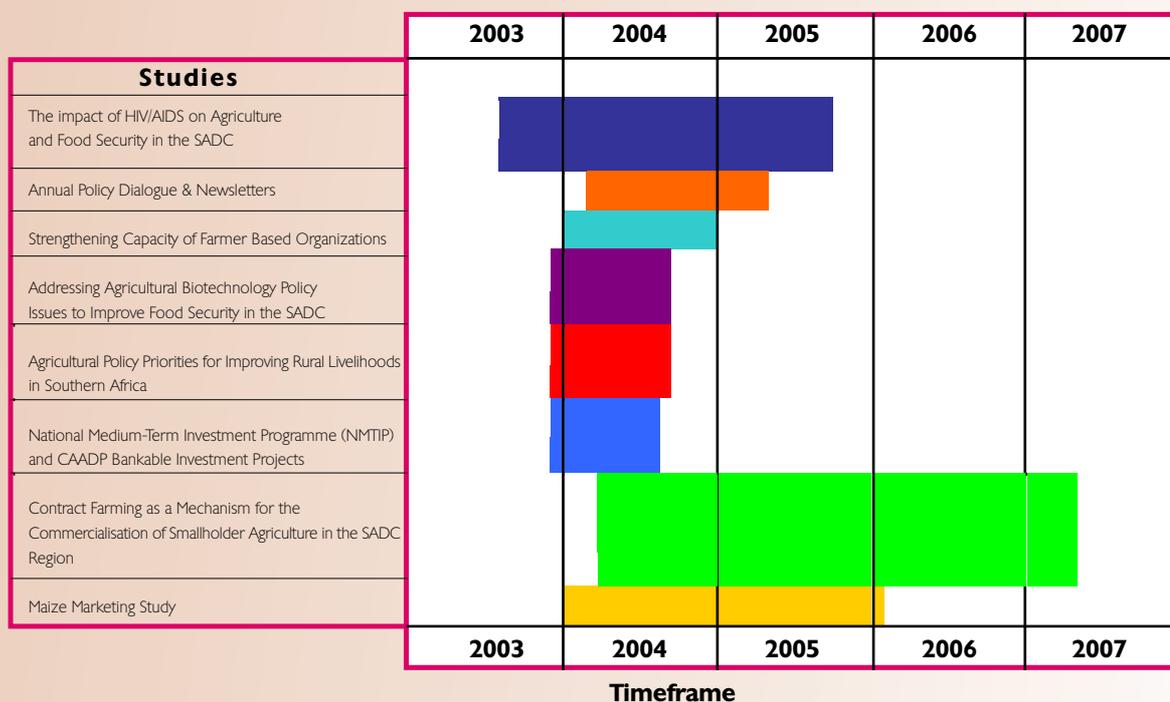


PROJECT PORTFOLIO

In 2004, FANRPAN implemented the following projects:

1. The Impact of HIV/AIDS on Agriculture and Food Security in the SADC, funded by the European Union
2. Rural Livelihoods Project in Southern Africa-Policy Module, funded by USAID/RCSA through IITA
3. Strengthening Policy Analysis and Representation Capacity of Farmer-Based Organisations in the SADC Region, funded by the Centre for Technical Cooperation.
4. Addressing Agricultural Biotechnology Policy Issues to Improve Food Security in the SADC, funded by the US Grains Council;
5. Maize Marketing Study in Collaboration with Michigan State University; funded by the Rockefeller Foundation.
6. Contract Farming as a Mechanism for the Commercialisation of Smallholder Agriculture in the SADC Region, funded by the French Government; and
7. The Centre for Technical Cooperation (CTA) project supporting publications and regional annual policy dialogue.

Figure 1 Summarizes the project portfolio of FANRPAN for 2004 -2007



I. The Impact of HIV and AIDS on Agriculture and Food Security in the SADC Region

The study on the Impact of HIV and AIDS on Agriculture and Food Security is part of a five-year European Union (EU)-funded project on Regional Support for an Expanded Multi-Sectoral Response to HIV and AIDS in the SADC Region, aimed at strengthening the response to the epidemic. The study, to run for two years, started in September 2003. It is aimed at determining the impact of HIV and AIDS on food security and recommend mitigation and coping strategies for adoption and implementation by Ministries of Agriculture in the region. Seven SADC countries are participating, that is, Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The study is based on a household livelihood analysis model. The model assessed the impact of HIV and AIDS on human capital (labour, knowledge and experience for agricultural production), household asset composition (land ownership and utilisation; productive assets such as ploughs, cultivators, hoes and other farming implements).

Although the study is incomplete, the results of the first year are quite revealing. For example, results from Botswana, Swaziland and Zimbabwe show that:

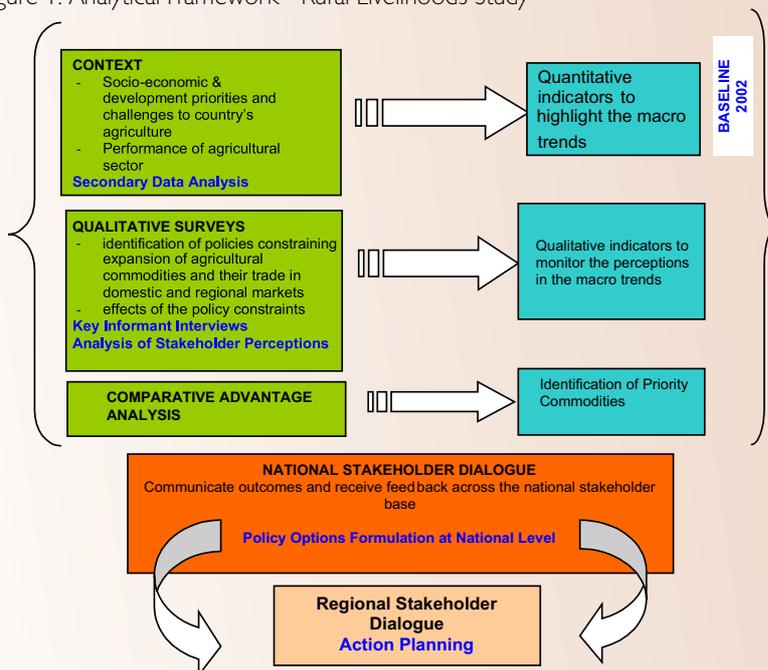
- Many people moved to the village from areas of economic activity such as towns, lands and cattle posts once illness set in, transferring the burden of care for the ill to the village.
- There was a reduction in livestock holdings and crop production per household. The main reasons cited for reduction in production were lack of labour, illness in household and lack of draught power.
- There was a decline in arable dry land among households with members suffering from HIV-related illness.
- The working hours of surviving household members, especially women and children, increased after the death of one of the family members.
- The number of livestock sold during illness in the household was generally higher than before and after illness.

Future project activities will focus on publication of a regional synthesis report, policy papers and policy and media briefs.

2. Rural Livelihoods Project in Southern Africa-Policy Module

FANRPAN signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) in December 2003 to implement the policy module of the "Improving rural livelihoods in Southern Africa Project" over a period of nine months. FANRPAN policy nodes in Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Malawi conducted the policy studies. The project ended in October 2004. The objective of the study was to come up with recommendations that would assist in designing agricultural policy strategies that could contribute to unlocking constraints to rural economy diversification in the agricultural sectors of the study countries. The analytical framework as presented in Figure 1 was designed to guide the study process by capturing the influential factors in both quantitative and qualitative parameters.

Figure 1: Analytical Framework - Rural Livelihoods Study





The results show that there is heterogeneity in the potentials for development of the study countries. The study identified the following constraints to rural economy diversification:

- Poor market conditions (infrastructure and institutions);
- Limited demand from within domestic markets;
- Complex and multi-sectoral policy related constraints to domestic and regional trade and rural economy diversification;
- Low commitment of national governments;
- Many of the constraints to trade in SADC markets lie outside the direct influence of national stakeholders concerned with trade.

Therefore, addressing the underlying constraints at the regional level is key to ensuring sustained livelihoods improvement. Whilst there are shared regional constraints, each country faces its own unique problems, the solutions to which are determined by various factors. It is clear that political commitment at all levels is a pre-requisite to success. This means that a combination of national and SADC level strategies are needed, which must be harmonized in order to realize the gains from intra-regional and inter-regional trade.

Priority food security crops for the SADC region were identified as maize, cassava and rice. Cotton, tobacco and cashew were identified as priority industrial/export crops.

Stakeholders recommended the following strategies:

- Expansion and diversification of priority agricultural commodities
 - promote research and technology transfer
 - extend market and export development
 - allow free flow of commodities within and across national borders within agreed frameworks.
- Trade in domestic markets
 - improve commitment of national governments
 - provide proper physical and soft marketing infrastructure
 - advocate for strong farmer groups/organizations/associations
 - enact regulations that address inefficiencies in the market
 - promote irrigation development and irrigation infrastructure building.
- How to address regional level constraints to trade
 - coordinate market information services on a regional wide basis
 - harmonise standards and grades, and phytosanitary measures
 - rationalize tariff and non-tariff barriers
 - establish regional commodity exchange and payment systems
 - reduce bureaucracy and administrative procedures for the import and export of commodities at country borders.
- Advocacy strategies suggested for successful policy making and implementation
 - involvement of high level officials in research and policy agendas to generate early strong buy-in
 - policy briefs distribution and personal follow-up by well placed advocates
 - dissemination of information to educate and empower farmers, buyers, processors, transporters and other stakeholders
 - utilization of media, training and extension activities
 - targeted policy dialogues with stakeholders
 - frequent feedback processes.

In many cases it was not the issue of absence of policies but how policies are coordinated. What happens in practice is different from what is stated in policy documents. Relying on the principles of comparative advantage alone to direct production in the region is not enough. This must be complemented by a greater integration within SADC member countries. Since agricultural policies can only be effectively implemented at country level, a strong national commitment is required from all the stakeholders for both nationally and regionally designed policies so as to ensure positive changes in the livelihoods of rural households of Southern Africa.

3. Strengthening Policy Analysis and Representation Capacity of Farmer-Based Organisations in the SADC Region

The objective of this project was to strengthen the capacity of farmer-based organisations in policy analysis and advocacy in order to enhance their role in policy priority setting and communication for decision making in rural development. This would contribute to household food security through increased agricultural production and improved availability of staple foodstuffs.

This project originated from the agricultural recovery, food security and trade policy dialogue hosted by FANRPAN in Gaborone, Botswana, in March 2003. One of the major recommendations was the need to strengthen farmer-based organisations, that is, commodity associations, smallholder farming organisations and agribusiness. This was based on empirical evidence of positive synergies between improved market competitiveness and a demand-driven agenda centred on the needs of smallholder farmers, articulated by strengthened farmer-based organisations. The project was supported by the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Co-operation (CTA) and lasted for 12 months from December 2003.

FANRPAN worked with the Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU) in Pretoria, South Africa, in strengthening farmer-based organisations in the SACAU member countries in information and communication management for policy purposes. SACAU is made up of eight national farmer unions from Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The project supported the following activities:

- A workshop on policy advocacy and representation capacity of farmer organisations in the SADC region held in July 2004 in Namibia
- Development of an information and communication strategy for SACAU. The strategy identified key objectives and actionable strategies to be implemented over a three-year period. The five broad objectives are building a shared vision across the SACAU network, promote role of farmer organisations, build partnerships, strengthen market intelligence and promote public awareness among stakeholders.
- Policy papers on:
 - Current status of farmer organisations in the region. This paper identified the need for strengthening governance and leadership skills, membership mobilisation, policy analysis skills and capacity, sustainable resource mobilisation and information communication technologies support for farmer organisations
 - Policy advocacy among farmer unions
- Policy brief.

4. Addressing Agricultural Biotechnology Policy Issues to Improve Food Security in the SADC (December 2003 to August 2004)

Through this study, FANRPAN commissioned country papers on agricultural biotechnology policy issues from eleven (11) SADC countries. The country papers were then used in producing a regional synthesis paper. This study is part of the wider debate on the role of biotechnology in agriculture, the subject of genetically modified organism food and biosafety.

The regional paper addressed the issues of harmonisation of biotechnology policies within the SADC, adoption of biotechnology by African farmers, identification of current policies that hinder the ability of African farmers to adopt and utilise biotechnology and policy barriers to deliverance of food aid containing GMOs and recommended solutions.



The application of agricultural biotechnology in the SADC is limited. South Africa has a strategy and effective legislation on biotechnology and has been active in research and development for over 30 years, with 14 years experience in field trials of genetically modified plants. The rest of the SADC countries have limited experience and few have operational biotechnology policies, legislation or regulations. This makes harmonization of policies in this area difficult as the countries are at various stages of development of policy, research and development capacity.

SADC countries have no harmonized regional position on biotechnology and biosafety and in particular on the handling of GMOs. To develop a common position and harmonized legislation on biosafety, the SADC Council of Ministers has directed all Member States to enact national legislation by 2004, taking into account the Cartagena Biosafety Protocol and the Draft AU Biosafety Model Legislation. To date, only South Africa and Zimbabwe have implemented legislation on GMOs, while Malawi and Mauritius have just passed legislation on GMOs. Zimbabwe has initiated field trials of GM maize, but has not commercialised any crops as yet.

The paper recommends the following actions:

- Immediate Actions
 - Information programmes to make policy and decision-makers as well as the general public understand biotechnology and biosafety issues
 - Establishing mechanisms to deal with GMOs in the context of food aid
 - Developing appropriate legislation in SADC countries that will allow the development of an enabling environment for biotechnology development.
 - Harmonizing seed distribution systems
 - Promoting inter SADC trade to take advantage of the technology.
- Medium Term Action
 - Strengthen capacity in research
 - Policy implementation
 - Infrastructure development.
- Long Term Recommendations
 - Create an enabling policy environment for biotechnology and its products to play a role in the region's sustainable economic development.
 - SADC countries to produce their own biotechnology products that address local problems such as drought and poor nutrition
 - Self sufficiency in food production.

Harmonization of SADC policies is essential for the region to deal with biotechnology effectively, to provide opportunities to farmers, encourage investment and to move forward as a trading bloc.

5. Maize Marketing Study in Collaboration with Michigan State University

This study will be running for two years, starting January 2004. It is being implemented in four countries, namely, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa and Zambia. The objective of the study is for policy makers to implement more effective food policies leading to improved household food security in the Southern African region. This would be achieved through:

- improved policy actions by national governments in the SADC region to improve the functioning of grain markets for small-scale farm households and urban consumers, particularly the poor;



- adoption of regionally coordinated strategies to promote regional maize trade for the benefit of small-scale farmers and consumers in the SADC region; and
- capacity building through mentored support of FANRPAN network economists by Michigan State University (MSU) and graduate training of at least two Southern African students (one from South Africa, one from Mozambique) through collaborative research and outreach activities between MSU and FANRPAN.

The study has so far supported the following activities:

- A regional consultative and planning meeting in South Africa in January 2004
- In-country project planning by stakeholders
- Review of literature and publication of project working documents
- Data collection and analysis on maize market participants, time series prices and household income and expenditure.

Data collection is now complete, while analysis and write-up are underway. Planned activities in 2005 include the following:

- A regional consultative workshop in June, 2005 in Pretoria to discuss initial findings across each country, problems encountered, mid-course adjustments, and future outreach strategy.
- Develop and implement outreach plans for national-level counterparts in the Ministries of Agriculture to discuss project findings in national-level policy fora between June and August, 2005.

6. Contract Farming as a Mechanism for the Commercialisation of Smallholder Agriculture in the SADC Region

This is a study to come up with action plans that can be used to expand the use of contract farming in the SADC region. These plans should be the outcome of research and dialogue aimed at finding ways to enhance access to markets, finance, inputs and technical know-how by smallholder farmers in the SADC region and cross-boarder investments by agro-based companies. The study is being undertaken in phases over a three-year period, starting December 2004, by teams selected from country nodes in South Africa, Malawi and Zambia, with input from collaborating institutions. A start-up planning workshop was held in South Africa in November 2004 to draw up the terms of reference for the various country teams and the regional coordinator. The focus is on commodities such as groundnuts, sorghum, cotton, paprika, sugar, poultry and horticulture, among others.





The following activities will be supported by the study in the first phase up to June 2005:

- Conduct a survey on the status of contract farming in each participating country
- Define the vision for the role and potential of contract farming as a vehicle to commercialise small-scale (emerging) farmers, including the necessary policy environment for success, suitable commodities, contractual issues and capacity building needs of the various players
- Develop action plans to expand contract farming in each participating country, including identification of key players and their needs.

The second phase (July - December) will focus on implementation of action plans.

The study outputs will provide stakeholders with information on demonstrated benefits and constraints of contract farming and recommend policy regulations, institutional improvements and implementation processes for contract farming in the participating countries and the region.

7. The Centre for Technical Cooperation (CTA) Project Supporting Publications and Colloquium

CTA's support to FANRPAN's Communication and Networking activities is on an annual basis, since 2001. The support is for publications, policy dialogue and networking. Through this support, FANRPAN accomplished the following during year 2004:

- Organised a Stakeholder Regional Conference/High Level Dialogue for SADC Senior Agricultural Policy Advisors in Mauritius in March 2004. The meeting was attended by 40 participants comprising permanent secretaries in charge of food, agriculture and natural resources, senior policy advisors, and representatives of farmer organisations, agribusiness and the private sector, technical partner institutions and funding partners. Regional participants came from the eleven (11) FANRPAN member countries. The proceedings of this conference were published and can be downloaded from our website. The objective of this dialogue was to enable policy advisors to reach consensus on the priority issues that need to be addressed to speed up agricultural recovery. These recommendations are to be forwarded to SADC Ministers of Agriculture.

The following publications were produced with assistance from CTA.

- Two policy papers on:
 - Potential of Contract Farming as a Mechanism for the Commercialisation of Smallholder Agriculture
 - Impact of HIV/AIDS on Agriculture and Food Security
- Five issues of the FANRPAN bi-monthly newsletter for the period May to November 2004. The four-page newsletter was produced in electronic and print forms. The newsletter covered news, views, features and other information exchange items on agricultural policies in the SADC region.
- Updated, printed and distributed the FANRPAN 2004 stakeholder directory. The directory is updated annually and contains contact details of stakeholders. This is an important tool to facilitate interaction and networking.

NEW PROJECTS FOR YEAR 2005

I. Addressing the Impact of Biosafety Systems and Regulatory Policies on Food Security and Agriculture

This study will be implemented in South Africa, Mauritius and Malawi. It will link into the ASARECA-COMESA-PBS activity on Analysis of Biosafety Policy in Eastern and Southern Africa. The project is part of a long-term USAID supported agenda aimed at assisting the SADC countries to come up with a regional biosafety approach and feasible policy options for addressing the challenges and opportunities posed by GMOs on trade and food security.

The objective of the project is to document a balanced review of the technical information needed to inform SADC's regional biosafety policy choices responsibly.

This will be achieved through the following specific objectives:

- Undertaking stakeholder analysis in the SADC countries highlighting opportunities, challenges, views and positions related to their engagements in trade, GMOs and food security;
- Estimating impacts of GMO crops on farm income in the SADC region;
- Analyzing commercial risks that SADC countries are likely to face in the destination export markets both regionally and internationally if permission to plant GMO crops was granted.
- Estimating impact of precautionary GMO principles on access to emergency food aid and food security in the SADC region; and
- Identifying a range of regional biosafety policy options for decision-making on issues of GMOs and trade in SADC countries.

The project will be jointly implemented by FANRPAN, Biotechnology-Ecology Research and Outreach Consortium (BIOEROC) of Malawi, Mauritius Sugar Industry Research Institute of Mauritius, AFRICA-BIO of South Africa and the Program for Biosafety Systems (PBS).

2. Strategies for Strengthening Farmer Organisations in the SADC Region

During the 2003 -2004 period, CTA supported SACAU through FANRPAN by funding the development of a communication strategy with the specific objective of improving SACAU's capabilities to generate, disseminate and use policy related information. Thus CTA's technical assistance project, through FANRPAN, supported farming unions and commodity associations in information and communication management for policy purposes.

As a follow-up to the FANRPAN - SACAU - CTA Workshop on Strengthening policy analysis and representation capacity of farmer based organisations in the SADC region, held in July 2004 in Windhoek, Namibia, the current contract will seek to engage SACAU and FANRPAN partnership in ensuring that they increase membership of participating countries as well as to reinforce its interventions as a regional umbrella body. Currently Namibia, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Malawi are involved with SACAU. The proposed membership drive will focus on the following countries: Lesotho, Botswana, Tanzania and Mauritius. SACAU has had initial interactions with these countries and feels that members of the national farmer organisations could benefit from facilitated engagement. Farmers in these countries are already working with FANRPAN and hence this association will create a conduit for working jointly with SACAU.

3. The Southern African Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (SAKSS)

A Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (SAKSS) in Southern Africa is being developed in the context of the Initiative for Ending Hunger in Africa (IEHA). The SA-SAKSS is being established to assist countries and donors to assess progress in meeting the Millennium Challenge Goal of reducing hunger and poverty by 50% by the year 2015. More specifically, this initiative is aimed to promote broader analysis of the impacts of agricultural development programs on the alleviation of poverty in southern Africa; and to build capacity in the region for carrying out such analyses through creation of a "community of practice" among participating researchers, policy makers and development managers.

Examples of the work that will be carried out in this initiative include modelling of agricultural investment priorities, evaluation of sectoral development strategies, as well as the assessment of the impacts of agricultural development initiatives on poverty and hunger. The SA-SAKSS regional network that will be formed will implement some of these analyses, work with a community of partners to support related analyses, or publicize the results of others. FANRPAN is a collaborating partner in this initiative together with IWMI and ICRISAT.

NETWORKING

Service Provision

Through experience gained in organising various policy dialogue meetings, FANRPAN is able to and has assisted in organising regional meetings for its partners. In 2004, FANRPAN assisted with organising the following meetings:

- The Southern African Session of the African Policy Dialogue on Biotechnology, Meikles Hotel, Harare, Zimbabwe, 20-21 September 2004. This meeting was organised for the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).
- CTA Seminar 2004: Role of Information and Communication Tools in Food and Nutrition Security in ACP Countries, Maputo, Mozambique, 8-12 November 2004. Regional Office staff provided logistical support and dialogue facilitation services to the seminar attended by some 100 participants from ACP countries.

WAY FORWARD

FANRPAN enters into year 2005 with a strong policy research portfolio of four ongoing projects, two new projects and three potential new agreements. The very weak institutional arrangements for coordinating in-country and regional policy research and advocacy remain a challenge. The FANRPAN Board is intensifying efforts to seek funding for supporting the national and regional secretariats. The professional commitment of the network in the way it discharges its duties and in complying with contractual obligations needs to be maintained whilst the network positions itself to take advantage of the opportunities which present themselves, both now and in the future. This, in effect, will be a balancing act between stability and innovation.

Continued growth, both in the scope and quality of FANRPAN's activities, will depend critically on the relationship the regional secretariat cultivates and sustains with the country Nodes, SADC, NEPAD and global partners.

Thank you all for your commitment to the creation of a conducive policy environment for a food secure Southern Africa.

TABLE 1 - CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES, JANUARY - DECEMBER 2005

KEY ACTIVITIES	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1. Project Title: Southern African Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support Systems Collaborating Partners: -ICRISAT / IWMI / FANRPAN Funded by: USAID												
1.1 Programme Start Up / Common vision meeting - Pretoria 3 - 4 February 2005		█										
1.2 SADC- NEPAD - FANRPAN meeting on SA-SAKSS February		█										
1.3 Update Progress report on SAKSS Project										█		
2. Project Title: The Impact of HIV & AIDS on Agriculture and Food Security in the SADC Region Funded by: European Union/SADC Health Sector Coordinating Unit												
2.1 Botswana National Workshop		█										
2.2 Namibia National Workshop		█										
2.3 Regional Dissemination Workshop - Pretoria, South Africa 3-8 October										█		
2.4 International Conference on HIV & AIDS, Food & Nutrition Security Durban, South Africa				█								
2.5 Monitoring & Evaluation Visits			█	█		█	█	█				
3. Project Title: Contract Farming as a Mechanism for the Commercialisation of Smallholder Agriculture in the SADC Region Funded by: French Government												
3.1 National Workshops							█					
3.2 Regional Dissemination Conference 3 - 8 October, Pretoria									█			
4. Project Title: Maize Marketing Study Collaborating Partners: Michigan State University Funded by: The Rockefeller Foundation												
4.1 Stakeholder Consultative Meeting/Regional Workshop 21-22 June						█						





KEY ACTIVITIES	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
5. Project Title: Toward A Regional Approach To Biotechnology Policy In Southern Africa Collaborating Partners: Programme for Biosafety Systems and ECAPAPA Funded by: USAID												
5.1 Methodology and Common Vision Meeting 7 - 8 March 2005												
5.2 Regional Workshop												
6. Project Title: Promoting the Use of CSO Evidence in Policies for Food Security Collaborating Partners : ODI and SARPN												
Inaugural Project Workshop												
Donor Inter-governmental Meeting												
Regional Workshop												
7. Project Title: FANRRPN Regional Policy Colloquium "Policies for a Food Secure Southern Africa" Funded by: CIA 4-8 October												
8. Project Title: Strengthening Farmer Organizations in the SADC Region Collaborating Partner: SACAU Funded by : CIA												
8.1 Country Visits to Promote Membership in SACAU												
8.2 SACAU AGM												
8.3 Regional Workshop												

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