



## CARE-FANRPAN PRESS RELEASE

### 2018 Africa Agriculture Status Report: Catalyzing Government Capacity to Drive Agricultural Transformation

On the 5th of September 2018, the Honorable Prime Minister of Rwanda, officially launched the Africa Agriculture Status Report 2018, which was commissioned by the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa. The 2018 Africa Agriculture Status Report seeks to address the key issue of how to enhance policy implementation. It acknowledges that Africa is not deficient of good policies and programmes. Of major concern is non-implementation of existing policies. Africa needs to establish the components and sequences of action that must be taken to achieve the objectives of the policies and programmes. This is against a background of African governments shouldering criticism for failing to implement policies, programmes and undertaking investments required for agricultural transformation.

The report hails the bold steps made by African Union Member States, in developing and endorsing a 2003 Common Agricultural Development Programme, further concretizing focus on measurable results through the 2014 Malabo Declaration Commitments, and introducing a peer review mechanism that has strengthened mutual accountability for agricultural transformation efforts. Having acknowledged the progress that came with measuring, and noting that more than half the countries in Africa are not on track towards meeting their commitments to the Malabo Declaration, the report advances the view that agricultural transformation requires input not only from the Ministries of Agriculture, but a multi-sectoral collaboration of a wide range of government ministries and related institutions throughout the economy.

Commenting on the launch of the Africa Agriculture Status Report 2018, the CEO of FANRPAN, Mr. Munhamo Chisvo said, "This report, will no doubt equip African governments and their development partners with a user-friendly handbook to tackle head-on the challenges encountered in policy delivery. Coming on the back of the Inaugural Biennial Review Report, released in January 2018, the report is a valuable contribution to the development and sustenance of a culture of leading by measuring results (LMR). It will go a long way in cementing stakeholder focus on the need to keep a keen eye on progress towards transforming the backbone of our continent's development - Agriculture".

A perpetuation of the 'measuring' culture is critical to transforming African agriculture. Africa cannot remain the world's most food and nutrition insecure continent, with low levels of agricultural productivity, low rural incomes, high rates of malnutrition and a worsening food trade balance.

The Advocacy and Partnerships Coordinator, Mr. Vitumbiko Chinoko from CARE International weighed in, pointing to the need for coordinated approaches. "We need the right mix of interventions to deliver considerable economic opportunities and addressing fundamental development milestones, like improving nutrition. Despite the unprecedented decade of impressive growth across the continent, much more remains to be done to sustain the gains and truly drive the agricultural transformation needed for Africa's development and ensure a better life for all"

Only a vibrant agricultural sector will clearly guarantee food and nutrition security, and economic prosperity for all Africans.

### **About CARE**

Care International is a confederation of 14 member and 4 affiliate organizations working together to end poverty. In Africa CARE is working in 27 countries implementing poverty fighting development and humanitarian aid projects. In 2016 Care International reached out to 80 million people directly and 256 million indirectly. Care International focus is women and girls because we cannot overcome poverty until all people have equal rights and opportunities. Website: [www.care.org](http://www.care.org)

### **About FANRPAN**

The Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN) is a pan-African network that provides independent evidence to inform policy processes at national and regional levels. FANRPAN's membership includes food, agriculture and natural resources (FANR) related government departments, parliamentarians, research and farmer organizations, private sector, civil society organizations and the media. Website: [www.fanrpan.org](http://www.fanrpan.org)

### **For more information contact:**

**Vitumbiko Chinoko**, CARE Southern Africa, Advocacy and Partnerships Coordinator E-mail: [vitumbiko.chinoko@care.org](mailto:vitumbiko.chinoko@care.org) Mobile: +265996893692

**Lufingo Mwamakamba**, FANRPAN, Policy and Partnerships Manager, E-mail: [LMwamakamba@fanrpan.org](mailto:LMwamakamba@fanrpan.org) Mobile: +27 76 169 8554