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SUPPORT FOR BOOSTING INTRA-AFRICAN TRADE IN AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES AND SERVICES TO ADVANCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA (AfCFTA)

January 2022

SDGs:



Countries:

Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, South Africa, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

Project Code:

TCP/RAF/3708

FAO Contribution:

USD 350 000

Duration:

1 May 2019 – 31 December 2021

Contact Info:

FAO Representation in the FAO Regional Office for Africa
FAO-RAF@fao.org

Implementing Partners

The African Union Commission (AUC) Department for Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA), Trade Policy Training Centre in Africa (TRAPCA).

Beneficiaries

African Union Members, COMESA, ECOWAS, private sector agribusiness apex bodies, e.g. Pan African Agribusiness Apex Chamber (PAAAC), Africa Agricultural Trade Policy Practitioners Network (ATPPN), policy-makers, public officials and mid- to senior-level representatives of private sector and civil society organizations.

Country Programming Framework (CPF) Outputs

RI1: Africa's commitment to end hunger by 2025 – promoting intra-African trade in agrifood.

RI2: Sustainable production intensification and value chain development.

RI3: Building resilience in Africa's drylands – enhancing information systems and access to market data through the African Trade Observatory.

Pillar 5 of the African Union's Malabo Declaration: Contribute to tripling intra-African trade for agricultural commodities and services.

Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP): Enhance trade policies and institutional conditions at national and regional levels.

Ghana (CPF 2018–2022) – contributes to building resilience of livelihoods.

Kenya (CPF 2018–2022) – contributes to strengthening enabling policy and investment environment for food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture; strengthening inclusive value chains; and increasing resilience of food and livelihood systems.

South Africa (CPF 2014–2016) – contributes to improving food and nutrition security and safety.

BACKGROUND

African Heads of State and Government, through the 2014 Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods (Malabo Declaration), have made a clear commitment on Boosting Intra-African Trade (BIAT) in agricultural commodities and services. This commitment includes harnessing market and trade opportunities locally, regionally and internationally by creating and enhancing policies, institutional conditions and support systems and tripling intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services by 2025. The 2017 Inaugural Biennial Review Report of the African Union Commission on the Implementation of the Malabo Declaration found that only three of the 29 Members reporting on the commitment to BIAT in agricultural commodities and services were on track to meet the commitment by 2025. Meeting this commitment on time requires building capacity to address policy, technical and investment constraints and minimize domestic food price volatility.

Despite the impressive gross domestic product (GDP) growth rates experienced on the continent in recent years, Africa has remained a marginal player in both domestic and world trade. The share of intra-African merchandise exports in 2017 was around 19.6 percent of total exports (by value). The relatively low performance of intra-African trade in agricultural commodities is of particular concern. In the face of abundant unexploited suitable resources for agriculture, the continent depends on extra-African sources for more than 80 percent of imports of food and agricultural products. As a result, Africa faces a food and agricultural import bill growing at a yearly average of 3.6 percent, reaching USD 72.7 billion in 2017.

To take advantage of fast-growing intra-African market opportunities, African agriculture must undergo a structural transformation that entails shifting from highly diversified and subsistence-oriented production systems towards more market-oriented ones. This requires both a bold shift in policy and substantial investment to overcome the severe under-capitalization, as well as low productivity and competitiveness of the sector.

In order to tackle the constraints on national and regional food marketing and trade, there is a need to face up to two broad categories of challenges. The first set of challenges concerns prioritizing and filling the deficit in hard and soft market and trade infrastructure. The second set of challenges requires tackling the policy and institutional deficiencies to strengthen intra-regional and inter-regional market integration and trade facilitation.



Moreover, there is the challenge of linking the agriculture, industrialization and trade policy and investment planning processes. Upgrading intra-African food and agricultural trade out of informality is another major challenge on the way forward. The project focuses on addressing challenges related to building capacity of regional institutions and senior government officials to address policy, technical and investment constraints associated with boosting intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services.

IMPACT

The capacity of regional institutions and senior government officials to address policy, technical and investment constraints associated with boosting intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services is strengthened. It is expected that Members reporting on the commitment to BIAT in agricultural commodities and services, will be on track to meet the commitment by 2025. In addition, major donors and financial institutions associated with the project and operating in the region are capacitated to incorporate trade-related strategies and activities within their programme frameworks in a systematic manner. It is expected that this will contribute to an increased ability at country level to develop projects and programmes targeting trade facilitation.

ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS

Project activities were conducted directly in three project countries (Ghana, Kenya and South Africa) and indirectly in other countries. The AU Members and regional organizations and institutions capacities were strengthened in policy dialogue, knowledge products and the design and implementation of national and regional agricultural trade policies, strategies and programmes. The continental Framework for Boosting Intra-African Trade for Agricultural Commodities and Services was endorsed and accepted in October 2019 by the AU Specialised Technical Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment (STC, ARDWE). The framework is one of the AU's most significant tools in supporting implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) in the agriculture and food sector. Countries and regional bodies participated in developing an action plan and setting timelines and responsibilities to implement the framework. Seven pillars (trade policy, trade facilitation, productive capacity, trade-related logistics and infrastructure, trade finance, factor market integration (labour) and cross-cutting issues such as trade and market information systems) were agreed on for action.

At the regional level, the project developed a concept note for dissemination activities for the ECOWAS.

Through a letter of agreement (LoA) with the Trade Policy Training Centre in Africa (TRAPCA), a service provider based in the United Republic of Tanzania, the project was successful in strengthening the Africa Agricultural Trade Policy Practitioners Network (ATPPN) on agricultural markets and trade. The ATPPN is a network of agricultural trade practitioners and experts from across the continent and with TRAPCA support, 24 new members were added, covering 23 countries. Capacity was also built with the drafting and dissemination of policy briefs, newsletters, annual reports and organizing online discussion forums and dialogue events on key topics.

Institutional arrangements for agricultural trade and agribusiness apex bodies to respond to opportunities provided by the AfCFTA were strengthened with Private Enterprise Federation (PEF) support. The Pan African Agribusiness Apex Chamber (PAAAC) secretariat has been established and is functional. The Legal Framework for the PAAAC was developed. A fully operational and functional PAAAC secretariat was established with capacity building and training of staff in trade and market information systems and the development of a web site, a continental online platform and publicity and advocacy materials.

The Biennial Review (BR) process involved capacity building and training in three countries with AKADEMIYA2063 support. Besides in-person and virtual interaction between trainers and trainees/beneficiaries, the project also provided tools, templates, familiarization and use of FAO databases, knowledge products and other global public goods. In the final report, recommendations included the importance of institutionalizing and sustaining the multisectoral trade data clusters set up and/or strengthened by the project in each country to ensure resources are available for the production of Biennial Review (BR) reports in 2021 and beyond.

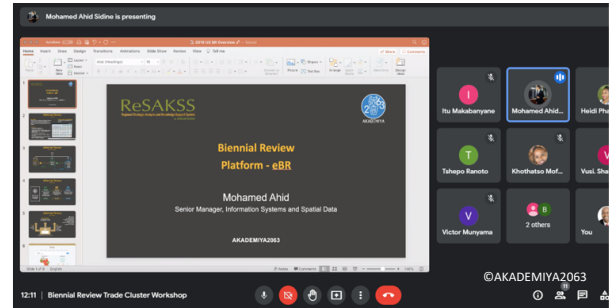
In addition to the publication of the framework, a number of policy briefs were prepared and knowledge products were produced and are being reviewed for publication. The project facilitated collaboration and dialogue on trade policy issues to advance the agricultural trade agenda in the AfCFTA process. Engagement and dialogue on trade policy issues on the agricultural agenda is ongoing and has been addressed in several project-related activities and collaborations with partners, including joint activities, webinars, project plans and assessments.

IMPLEMENTATION OF WORK PLAN AND BUDGET

Prior to COVID-19, the activities proceeded as outlined in the project work plan. The budget catered for the 2020 travel plan for project support, the hiring of consultants and operational expenses. A feasibility study on a proposed African agricultural trade portal was initially programmed to take place under Output 3. However, a preliminary analysis was conducted and the initial findings showed that this initiative was already being carried out by the African Trade Observatory (ATO) with the support of several development partners and would therefore duplicate work. As a result, this activity was removed from the project and the funds were reprogrammed to support other activities.

Following the onset of COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020, adaptation of the framework at the national and regional levels became less of a priority and it was indicated that the countries and the regional economic communities (RECs) wished to focus more on projects around selected commodities/value chains. The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and associated travel restrictions led to the development of a catch-up plan and additional reprogramming of the project to expedite delivery. This entailed the use of service providers through LoAs to undertake key tasks. The expected end-date (NTE) for the project was extended for an additional ten months from February to December 2021. The extension provided additional time for the procurement of service providers and the implementation of outstanding activities which made it possible to complete the project within the new timeline.

Delays and the change of priorities beyond the control of the project, including delays in the launch of the guidelines on regional agricultural value chains by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the new priorities of AUC which focused on fast tracking activities around key commodities/value chains and the delays in procurement, contributed to modification of the project scope. Activities related to value chains were not carried out as this work was due to coincide with the launch of the agricultural regional value chain guidelines by UNECA, which is yet to take place.



FOLLOW-UP FOR GOVERNMENT ATTENTION

Dissemination activities for ECOWAS were planned to take place in the latter half of 2021. A concept note was prepared but ECOWAS has yet to set a date for kick-off activities, including a webinar to introduce the framework and orient ECOWAS Members. Follow-up action is needed to plan activities including dissemination and support for implementation of the AfCFTA in the agricultural sector. A similar intervention will be needed to engage the COMESA.

In late 2019, Botswana, Gabon, Eswatini, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe indicated interest in formulating new national agricultural investment plans (NAIPs), but with the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic, no follow-up has ensued. The same applies to the engagement of AUC DREA on the subject. Follow-up action is needed on mainstreaming activities to ensure that NAIPs and regional agricultural investment plans (RAIPs) are aligned with the recommendations of the framework and the seven pillars.

Where national and regional frameworks are still needed by countries and RECs, they could be developed and aligned with the Framework on Boosting Intra-African Trade in Agricultural Commodities and Services. This will also allow future capacity building needs to be ascertained. AUC will be responsible for leading the policy and technical discussions.

Follow-up activities also include expanding membership and capacity building of new chapters of the PAAAC and implementation of the multi-year work plan.

Follow-up action will be necessary to sustain and strengthen the BR task teams in each country as outlined in the project report. This includes sustaining the trade data clusters and developing a strategy for generating data on the value and quantum of agricultural trade in services and the contribution to intra-African trade, food security and nutrition. This was a key missing gap that was identified during project implementation, which will require follow-up by AUC and member countries.

SUSTAINABILITY

1. Capacity development

Capacity development focused on the enabling environment, organizational and individual capacity (AU Members and regional organizations and institutions) to sustain change. A range of capacities were improved, including the ability to use knowledge and technical support in strategic areas to contribute to evidenced-based policy decisions and the targeting of specific challenges related to agribusiness and agricultural trade development, such as finance and standard compliance. Technical capacities related to responsible trade and agricultural investment were also strengthened, as were the functions needed to sustain change, such as the capacity to create partnerships, to lead advocacy activities, to have inclusive policy processes and to ensure that all stakeholders are empowered to participate in the processes related to responsible agricultural trade and investment.

2. Gender equality

Gender issues were incorporated in the wide range of initiatives, including awareness-raising, learning activities and dialogue events. The project beneficiaries included both male and female policymakers, public officials and mid- to senior-level representatives of the private sector and civil society organizations.



3. Environmental sustainability

Environmental sustainability is at the heart of nutrition-sensitive agricultural value chains and the CAADP results framework. Strong coordination and sharing of experiences amongst trade and local value chain actors and consumer associations will afford the exchange of knowledge and increase the uptake of locally relevant and environmentally sustainable practices.

4. Human Rights-based Approach (HRBA) – in particular Right to Food and Decent Work

Results achieved through this project – strengthened capacity in policy dialogue, knowledge products and the design and implementation of national and regional agricultural trade policies, strategies and programmes – will contribute to ensuring the Right to Food, through improved intra-African trade.

5. Technological sustainability

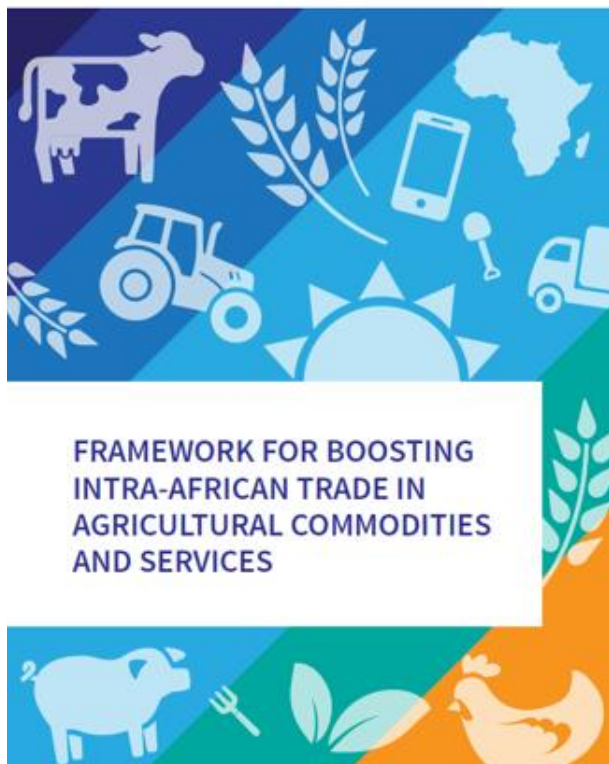
The project has provided an analytical tool for the development of agricultural trade policies based on the seven pillars of the framework to boost trade in the agriculture and food sector. Additionally, the project has made available BR processes and tools to countries to undertake work independently to prepare future BR reports (BR indicators, guidelines and reporting template, standards and protocols for data compilation and management, data documentation, trade data sharing, the electronic Biennial Review (eBR) and the monitoring and evaluation system that links to the Malabo goals).

6. Economic sustainability

Due to the momentum created by project activities, e.g. the framework and policy dialogue with the contribution of high profile stakeholders (Secretary General of the AfCFTA Secretariat, AU Commissioner for the Department of Agriculture Rural Development Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment and the RAF ADG), additional funds were allocated by FAO to support gender and trade-related activities in Africa to be implemented by FAO and the International Trade Center (ITC) through a United Nations-to-United Nations agreement.

DOCUMENTS AND OUTREACH PRODUCTS

- ❑ **Pan African Agri-Business Apex Chamber.** 2020. Legal framework for the pan-African agribusiness apex body. Accra (internal use). 16 pp.
- ❑ **Pan African Agri-Business Apex Chamber.** 2020. Capacity building and induction training materials. Accra (internal use). 71 pp.
- ❑ **FAO.** 2020. The African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement and agricultural development: challenges and prospects. FSN Forum in Africa. 6 pp.
- ❑ **FAO and AUC.** 2021. Framework for boosting intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services. Addis Ababa. 80 pp.
- ❑ **AKADEMIYA2063.** 2021. Inception report for Ghana and Kenya (internal use). 9 pp.
- ❑ **AKADEMIYA2063.** 2021. Country Biennial Review trade data assessment reports for Kenya and Ghana including data clusters (internal use). 65 pp.
- ❑ **AKADEMIYA2063.** 2021. Training materials in English and French (covering Ghana and Kenya for internal use). 324 pp.



- ❑ **AKADEMIYA2063.** 2021. Policy brief on leveraging digitalization, ICT and e-commerce tools and platforms to support intra-African trade in agriculture, trade facilitation and dissemination of trade-related information. (Draft under review). 16 pp.
- ❑ **AKADEMIYA2063.** 2021, Policy Brief on formal and informal cross-border trade in agricultural commodities and services in Africa. (Draft under review). 10 pp.
- ❑ **AKADEMIYA2063.** 2021. Policy Brief on agricultural trade based on the first and second Biennial Reviews. (Draft under review). 11 pp.
- ❑ **AKADEMIYA2063.** 2021. Report documenting technical support and trade data on Ghana and Kenya (internal use). 21 pp.
- ❑ **AKADEMIYA2063.** 2021. Inception report for South Africa (internal use). 13 pp.
- ❑ **AKADEMIYA2063.** 2021. Country Biennial Review trade data assessment report for South Africa including the data cluster (internal use). 36 pp.
- ❑ **AKADEMIYA2063.** 2021. Training materials in English covering South Africa (internal use). 72 pp.
- ❑ **AKADEMIYA2063.** 2021. Report documenting technical support and trade data on South Africa (internal use). 22 pp.
- ❑ **FAO.** 2021. Publication launch on 15 April: framework for boosting intra-African trade (BIAT) in agricultural commodities and services. (Prepared jointly with the FAORAF communications team). 4 pp.
- ❑ **Trapca.** 2021. What does the AfCFTA Mean to existing African RTAs? A case for trade in agriculture. 53 pp.
- ❑ **Trapca.** 2020. Synthesis report on the first online discussion forum hosted by ATPPN. 2 – 6 June 2020. 4 pp.
- ❑ **Trapca.** 2020. AfCFTA phase 2 negotiations on intellectual property – should geographical indications disciplines matter? 10 pp.
- ❑ **Trapca.** 2020. Synthesis report on the second online discussion forum hosted by ATPPN. 7 September - 16 October 2020. 7 pp.
- ❑ **Trapca.** 2020. Implementation of the WTO trade facilitation agreement: a case study on Uganda. 10 pp.
- ❑ **Trapca.** 2020. Africa Agricultural Trade Policy Practitioners Network (ATPPN) forum: regional dialogue report. 42 pp.

ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS - LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Expected Impact	Increased employment and incomes for actors in selected value chains		
Outcome	Intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services is enhanced through improved policy and institutional capacities and systems for trade		
	Indicator	Number of countries with improved enabling environment (policies and institutional frameworks) for boosting intra-African trade (BIAT) in agricultural commodities and services.	
	Baseline	3	
	End Target	9	
	Comments and follow-up action to be taken	Project activities were conducted directly in three project countries (Ghana, Kenya and South Africa) and indirectly in other countries. A flagship FAO-AUC publication Framework for Boosting Intra-African Trade in Agricultural Commodities and Services was launched in early 2021 following a wide-ranging consultative process with AU member countries, RECs, the private sector, civil society, development partners and internally within FAO. A regional policy dialogue with the participation of the Secretary General of the AfCFTA Secretariat, AU Commissioner for the Department of Agriculture Rural Development Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment and other high-level participants was organized. Follow-up action will include dissemination activities of the framework and other related activities (mainstreaming, projects, capacity building, studies, plans, trade strategies, etc.) to support implementation of the AfCFTA.	
Output 1	Improved policy frameworks at continental, regional and national levels		
	Indicators	Target	Achieved
Baseline	Number of policy frameworks developed at continental, regional and national levels.	6	Partially
Comments	0		
	The project supported the AUC to develop the continental Framework for Boosting Intra-African Trade for Agricultural Commodities and Services. The framework was launched in April 2021 as part of a high-level policy dialogue and dissemination; advocacy activities followed. The activities included mainstreaming the recommendations of the framework at regional and country levels in FAO policies, plans and projects at the FAO level and in activities at the continental, regional and country levels to ensure member countries and key agricultural value chain actors benefit from trade opportunities created by the African single market. Follow-up action beyond the project will include dissemination and mainstreaming activities of the framework and other related activities as noted above to support implementation of the AfCFTA.		
Activity 1.1	Finalization of the Continental Framework for BIAT		
	Achieved	Yes	
	Comments	The Framework for Boosting Intra-African Trade for Agricultural Commodities and Services was endorsed and accepted by the AU STC, ARDWE in October 2019 and was launched in April 2021.	
Activity 1.2	Domestication of the Continental Framework		
	Achieved	Partially	
	Comments	Countries and regional bodies participated in developing the framework's action plan, including setting timelines and responsibilities for implementation activities and agreeing to the seven pillars (trade policy, trade facilitation, productive capacity, trade-related logistics and infrastructure, trade finance, factor market integration (labour) and cross-cutting issues, including trade and market information systems) and adaptation of the framework at country and regional levels. Following the onset of COVID-19 in early 2020, the RECs wished to focus more on projects around selected commodities/value chains. Lockdowns and travel restrictions made it impossible to travel. However, if national and regional frameworks are still needed by countries and RECs, they could be developed during FAO's 2022-2023 biennium.	
Activity 1.3	Regional agricultural trade policies/strategies		
	Achieved	Partially	
	Comments	Dissemination activities for ECOWAS were planned to take place in the latter half of 2021. A concept note was prepared. ECOWAS has not set a date for kick-off activities, including a webinar to introduce the framework and orient ECOWAS Members. Follow-up action is needed to plan activities including dissemination and support for implementation of the AfCFTA in the agricultural sector. A similar intervention will be needed to engage COMESA.	

Activity 1.4	National agricultural trade policies/strategies		
	Achieved	No	
	Comments	Restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic limited face-to-face meetings with relevant individuals. Follow-up action is needed to engage countries and plan activities including dissemination and support for implementation of the AfCFTA.	
Activity 1.5	Support to RAIPs/NAIPs		
	Achieved	No	
	Comments	Since 2019 the FAO Regional Office for Africa has not been engaged in formulating new NAIPs. In late 2019, Botswana, Gabon, Eswatini, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe indicated interest but with the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic, no further information has been received for follow-up. The same applies to the engagement of AUC DREA on the subject. Follow-up action is needed on mainstreaming activities to ensure that RAIPs and NAIPs are aligned with the framework and the seven action areas.	
Output 2	Strengthened institutional mechanisms for trade		
	Indicators	Target	Achieved
	Number of structured stakeholder engagement platforms for agricultural trade.	8	Partially
Baseline	0		
Comments	The output includes the establishment of the ATPPN, a technical network on agricultural trade and markets with the complementary support of TRAPCA; and (ii) strengthening of institutional arrangements for agricultural trade and agribusiness apex bodies to respond to opportunities provided by the AfCFTA with services provided by the PEF based in Ghana. Activities related to value chains were not carried out as this work was due to coincide with the launch of the agricultural regional value chain guidelines by UNECA, which is yet to take place.		
Activity 2.1	Operationalization of CAADP technical network on agricultural trade and markets		
	Achieved	Partially	
	Comments	<p>The ATPPN has been strengthened and is now a platform on which potentially to anchor the CAADP technical network.</p> <p>TRAPCA helped strengthen the capacity of the ATPPN on agricultural markets and trade comprised of agricultural trade practitioners and experts and added new countries to the network. The network added 24 new members increasing the membership to 53 members (37 male, 16 female) covering 23 countries. The new members came from South Africa, Namibia, Nigeria, Ghana and Liberia. TRAPCA strengthened the capacity of ATPPN by incorporating new network members and the core themes of the network; organized two online discussion forums through a web-platform and prepared two synthesis reports summarizing the discussions; prepared two thematic reports which included substantive inputs from participants; prepared and disseminated policy briefs, newsletters, annual reports and other knowledge products through the regional network's established web-platform; and organized one dialogue event and prepared a workshop report. Topics covered included AfCFTA Phase 2 negotiations on intellectual property and geographical indications; implementation of the WTO trade facilitation agreement with a case study on Uganda; and the challenges and prospects of the AfCFTA agreement and agricultural development.</p>	
Activity 2.2	REC stakeholder meetings on value chains		
	Achieved	No	
	Comments	No meetings related to value chains were held because this work was to be conducted jointly with UNECA, coinciding with the launch of the agricultural regional value chain guidelines by UNECA, which is yet to take place.	
Activity 2.3	National stakeholder meetings on value chains		
	Achieved	No	
	Comments	See comment above; activity 2.2.	
Activity 2.4	Strengthening of Agribusiness Apex Bodies		
	Achieved	Yes	
	Comments	The institutional arrangements for agricultural trade and agribusiness apex bodies to respond to opportunities provided by the AfCFTA were strengthened with the support of PEF. The Legal Framework for the PAAAC was developed. A fully operational and functional PAAAC secretariat was established. Capacity of staff was strengthened in trade and market information systems and a web site, including a continental online platform developed along with publicity and advocacy materials. Follow-up activities include expanding membership and capacity building of new chapters and implementation of the multi-year work plan.	

Output 3	Knowledge sharing, cooperation, and information exchange on agricultural trade to support AfCFTA implementation is improved		
	Indicators	Target	Achieved
	Number of knowledge products on agricultural trade.	3	Partially
Baseline	0		
Comments	<p>Publication of the framework and a number of policy briefs (being reviewed for publication) were prepared to improve dialogue and discussion on agricultural trade to support AfCFTA implementation. This output aimed to facilitate collaboration and dialogue on trade policy issues to advance the agricultural trade agenda. A planned feasibility study on a proposed African agricultural trade portal was already being carried out by the ATO with the support of several development partners and was removed from the work plan to avoid duplication. Despite this, there is the potential for collaboration with AUC/ATO in providing access to FAO's extensive database on trade, markets and commodities. On the engagement and dialogue on trade policy issues on the agricultural agenda, this is an ongoing matter and has been addressed in several project-related activities and collaborations with partners, including joint activities, webinars, project plans and assessments.</p>		
Activity 3.1	Feasibility study on Africa Agricultural Trade portal		
	Achieved	Yes	
	Comments	<p>Scoping work and a pre-feasibility study revealed that a similar new initiative of the AU, namely the ATO led by the ITC, was underway, mainly with the support of the European Commission. A full-scale detailed feasibility study was therefore cancelled. However, the possibility remains for FAO to contribute to the ATO, e.g. access to FAO data resources and knowledge products as necessary. Discussions on potential collaboration between ITC and FAO Rome were held before the start of this project on possible collaboration in this regard.</p>	
Activity 3.2	Advancing the agricultural trade agenda in the AfCFTA process		
	Achieved	Yes	
	Comments	<p>Advancing the agricultural trade agenda in the AfCFTA process is an ongoing matter and has been addressed in a number of project-related activities, including during the launch of the project in June 2019 in Addis Ababa; a workshop in Nairobi held to validate the continental framework in October 2019 ; and dissemination and trade mainstreaming activities (Sustainable, Resilient and Inclusive Food Systems Development Project FMM/GLO/131/MUL in four countries, ARC 31 and ARC 32, RAF gender activities, COVID-19 rapid assessments and response plans, webinars, project development, etc.) with partner organizations, (UNECA, AGRA, CAADP-PP, AfCFTA Secretariat, African Development Bank, Wageningen University and Research and the FSN Forum in Africa/Global Forum on Food Security and Nutrition). Several policy briefs and knowledge products were produced to improve dialogue and discussion on agricultural trade to support AfCFTA implementation (see documentation list above).</p>	

Output 4	Capacity for monitoring and reporting on trade performance improved at continental, regional and national levels		
	Indicators	Target	Achieved
	Number of tools and instruments developed for, and reports on, agricultural trade.	2
Baseline	0		
Comments	<p>The project developed four outputs each for Ghana, Kenya and South Africa to strengthen capacities for monitoring, analysis and reporting on trade indicators and improve performance at the continental, regional, and national levels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Establishment of an inclusive trade data cluster made up of local trade experts. – Assessment of past Biennial Review (BR) processes and reports to identify areas for improving the 2021 BR trade data monitoring and reporting. – Targeted short-term training of the trade data clusters and other key stakeholders, including training materials in English and French. – Technical support to countries during the collection, computation of indicators, reporting and validation of agricultural trade data for the third (2021) BR report. <p>Follow-up action will be necessary to sustain and strengthen the BR task teams in each country. This includes sustaining the trade data clusters and developing a strategy for generating data on the value and quantum of agricultural trade in services and the contribution to intra-African trade, food security and nutrition. This was a key missing gap identified during project implementation requiring follow-up by AUC and member countries.</p>		
Activity 4.1	Strengthening of capacity of BR task team to monitor trade performance		
	Achieved	Partially	
	Comments	Trade data clusters were established and strengthened in Ghana, Kenya and South Africa to support data collection, analysis, validation, monitoring and reporting on trade performance for the 2021 BR process. Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon and Madagascar were not covered due to an unanticipated increase in costs brought about COVID-19 and the need to expedite implementation and outsource the activity (to AKADEMIYA2063) to meet timelines.	
Activity 4.2	Strengthening of capacity of regional and national institutions to monitor trade performance		
	Achieved	Yes	
	Comments	Capacity development activities were conducted in Ghana, Kenya and South Africa.	
Activity 4.3	Strengthening of capacity of AUC/DREA to monitor trade performance		
	Achieved	Yes, partially	
	Comments	The AUC CAADP coordinator and staff participated in all project activities, strengthening capacity at AUC/DREA level.	

Partnerships and Outreach

For more information, please contact: Reporting@fao.org

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
00153 Rome, Italy