

CAYC Participated in the 9th CAADP Partnership Platform and FARA's AFAPP-PAKS Meetings, 25-28 March 2013, Ethiopia, Addis Ababa

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1. General information

- a) Name: Obert Mathivha
- b) Sex: Male
- c) Nationality: South African
- d) Country of residence: South Africa
- e) Institutional affiliation: Commercial Agricultural Youth Chamber – CAYC (Southern Africa)
- f) Position in your organization: Managing Director
- g) Type of organization: e.g. farmers' organization, etc – CAYC is a AgriYouth Focused NGO registered as non-profit organisation under section 21 of South Africa's Company Act. I also attended in my capacity as YPARD Country Representative for South Africa. YPARD is a FAO-FARA supported global non-profit youth networking organisation that strives to profile and highlights agriyouth engagements, success stories and opportunities through ICT tools.

2. Background View – What motivated CAYC to participate in the CAADP PP meeting

The Commercial AgriYouth Chamber strives for “a food secured, healthy and productive nation and continent whose youth are well-organized and their interests protected across the entire agricultural value chain as positive agents of sustainable change and local economic development”. To us this remains a greatest motivator to engage at such as highest level.

The CAYC also got motivated to seek your help after we firstly participated in the 8th CAADP PP meeting in Nairobi which was made possible by CTA through FANRPAN Youth Programme. Our collective contribution led to the 8th CAADP PP Meeting elevating the youth and women issues high in the CAADP Processes in terms of prioritization, planning (mainstreaming), and implementation. From then, we knew that CAADP can be used as a catalyst to achieve our dreams as we believe it brings about huge opportunities for youth target market through increased public investments and inevitably incentives for agriyouth innovative generation to help modernize and commercialize small-scale farmers. As CAYC, we see ourselves as a key stakeholder having a special role to help make CAADP a success in Africa, and therefore our continuous engagement in these platforms is seen within that light. As you know, the 9th

CAADP PP aimed to provide an opportunity for various stakeholders, youth-focused organisations included, to review the outcomes of the “sustaining CAADP momentum” as agreed in the previous meeting and we strongly felt that there is a need to review what has been done to implement 8th CAADP planning prioritization point 54 dealing with youth & women on the Communiqué issued immediately after last year event. We planned to find way to review and further lobby for support to begin to implement and defend the gain of mainstreaming youth in CAADP Processes at continental, regional and national levels as per NEPAD/AUC Recommendation.

3. 9th CAADP PP Meeting Report

The African Union Commission (AUC) and the NEPAD Agency convened the 9th Comprehensive African Agriculture Development (CAADP) Partnership Platform (PP) from March 25 to 26 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. To learn more about CAADP please refer here <http://www.nepad-caadp.net/about-caadp.php>

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.

About 200 delegates who included policy makers and representatives of governments, multilateral bodies, civil society groups, development partners and farmers’ organisations from Africa and outside the Continent attended the meeting.

CAYC was represented at the meeting by its Managing Director, Obert Mathivha, who is also a YPARD South Africa Representative. This was made possible with the combined assistance from African Union Commission, the **Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation ACP-EU (CTA)** and the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA). CAYC would have loved to secure sponsor for participation of its young agripreneurs to showcase success stories but due to budgetary limitations we couldn’t.

The meeting was officially opened by Ethiopian State Minister for Agriculture, Prof. Tekaligh Mammo who called upon Africa’s agriculture Ministers to step up leadership in CAADP. African Union Commission (AUC) Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, Her Excellency Rhoda Peace Tumusiime, speaking on behalf of the AUC Chairperson, Mrs. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, expressed confidence that agriculture was set to be at the centre of Africa’s development agenda. HE Tumusiime informed delegates that at the July 2012 Summit, African Heads of State and Government endorsed a decision to mark 2014 as a Year of Agriculture and Food Security and commemoration of 10 years of CAADP.

One of the key highlights was the launch by ONE of a valuable yardstick called, [A Growing Opportunity: Measuring Investments in African Agriculture](#) that reviews the past decade and finds some notable successes in terms of mustering money and political commitment, and the impact of agricultural development.

As of January 2013, the report notes, 24 countries had signed CAADP compacts and held their business meetings and launched “solid, costed and technically reviewed” plans to accelerate agricultural development. Another six countries had committed to start the process and develop plans. The report assessed 19 of those plans: Eight of those 19 countries are on track to meet the first Millennium Development Goal of halving extreme poverty by 2015. At least 13 have had 6% annual growth in the agriculture sector. Leading the way has been Ethiopia; by 2011, the government was spending 19.7% of the total budget on agriculture, almost double the Maputo commitment. The result is average annual growth of 24.2% in the agricultural sector in the 2008-2011 period, which, in turn, has accelerated poverty reduction, particularly in the rural areas.

Furthermore, the AUC and NEPAD Agency launched a Journalists Network, to promote agricultural development in Africa. The Network, which was launched on the eve of the 9th Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development (CAADP) Partnership Platform (PP) aims to equip African journalists with a better understanding of CAADP, and the broader issues and debates related to agricultural development on the Continent.

Reaffirmation for Greater Youth and Women Involvement in the CAADP Process

The 9th CAADP PP saw a greater than before call for the involvement of youth in the CAADP process. Addressing the role of women and youth Her Excellency Rhoda Peace Tumusiime indicated that increased planning and investment should be dedicated towards mainstreaming youth and women within CAADP processes at continental, regional and national levels. The CAYC took pleasure of highlighting the following areas that the AUC and CAADP have previously identified as areas requiring increased CAADP investment regarding youth development:

Furthermore, the New Partnership for Africa Development Coordinating Agency (NPCA), Action Aid and other Non-State Actors organised the Rural Women Assembly (RWA) on the side-lines of the CAADP PP. The purpose of the assembly was to bring together rural women farmers from across the continent during the PP to discuss issues that affect their livelihood, food security and rights. The assembly gave women farmers an opportunity to engage with key CAADP leaders and to identify strategies to building and strengthen alliances between rural African women press for the global changes needed to protect and promote the rights of smallholder women producers in Africa.

- emerging trends and issues, the meeting urged AUC and NPCA to devise mechanisms of embracing the following themes: climate change, women and youth, decent work, remunerative employment, rural-urban migration, food price volatility and instability, education and training, land governance, biotechnology, large scale agricultural land acquisition; and bio fuels.
- further recommendations - meshing traditional knowledge with scientific research to address climate change mitigation and adaptation concerns;
- championing women and youth participation in agriculture /agribusiness through, among others, launching a **robust campaign** targeting the youth about huge untapped opportunities across agricultural value chains and what it could mean to do agriculture;
- ensuring a much stronger involvement of Ministries of Education and Training in agriculture; and

- advocating for implementation of the AU Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa

For more information on the 9TH CAADP PP visit <http://www.nepad.org/foodsecurity/caad-partnership-platform>

4. FARA AFAPP-PAKS WORKSHOP REPORT

With the assistance of combined assistance of FARA, the CAYC was invited to attend AFAPP-PAKS Workshop just immediately after the conclusion of 9th CAADP PP meeting. With the conceptualization of the Policy Analysis and Knowledge Systems (PAKS) during the 4th Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Partnership Platform (PP) in March 2009, in Pretoria, and the establishment of AFAAP in May, 2012, an AFAPP-PAKS Workshop was organized at the African Union Commission (AUC) New Headquarter Building , Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on the 27 - 28 March, 2013. The AFAPP-PAKS Workshop focused on the policy and policy-making processes in the CAADP Country Processes. The CAYC was represented by its Managing Director, Obert Mathivha who was requested to present on the youth and women perspectives. Please refer to CAYC presentation here [http://www.fara-africa.org/media/uploads/File/afapp2013/cayc_afapp-paks_worshop_presentation - fara 2013.pdf](http://www.fara-africa.org/media/uploads/File/afapp2013/cayc_afapp-paks_worshop_presentation_-_fara_2013.pdf)

The main objective of the Workshop was to provide a platform for policymakers in the Ministries of Agriculture and other agriculture-related Ministries and policy analysts to identify strategies for mainstreaming policy in the CAADP country process. In addition to gaining a better understanding of policy, policy processes and how these relate to the CAADP process, the Workshop specifically identified issues of strategic importance in mainstreaming evidence-informed policy issues into CAADP policy reform and processes, as well as organizational and institutional structures and processes. For more information and presentations made please refer here where you would also find a nice group photo: <http://www.fara-africa.org/our-programmes/advocacy/afapp-workshop-2013/>

5. Lessons learned from the CAADP PP & AFAPP-PAKS Workshop sessions:

- Increased understanding of CAADP Processes and country experiences;
- That CAADP and its strategic partners such as FARA continue to present opportunities for youth and that more focus to mainstreaming youth support within CAADP planning and implementation processes is gaining improved ground;
- Engaging and getting exposed to potential partners and work they are doing in involving youth in the agricultural sector;
- Gain a better understanding of the CAADP process and the contribution of ARD in the process
- Gain a better understanding of policy, policy process and how these relate to the CAADP process

- Identify issues of strategic importance in mainstreaming evidence-informed policy issues into CAADP policy reform and processes, as well as organizational and institutional structures and processes.

6. Benefits arising from my participation at the meetings

- One on one engagements with potential partners like UNDP, FARA, SADC Secretariat, CAADP, AUC, and so on would not have been possible had it not been for your generous yet strategic sponsorship
- CAYC brand has grown through increased recognition
- My personal experience and knowledge on CAADP implementation processes across various countries which feed into CAYC Management Bank has increased;
- Increased prospects for business opportunities for CAYC, which is good news for me, our Advisory Board, staff, and respective families which depends solely on non-profit sector for livelihood,
- So many countries are interested in the technical work we do, particularly on linking small-scale farmers to the markets as they face huge unemployment, social-economic ills, ageing farmer population and require innovation for high productivity, diversification and industrialization to feed growing population;
- Countries like Ethiopia, Nigeria, Benin, Cameroon has showed great interest in the results of CTA-FANRPAN country youth studies of which I had a privilege to be involved,
- I'm currently working on four (4) proposals that are directly linked to me having attended 9TH CAADP PP Meeting

7. Specific Activities that CAYC is considering implementing based on lessons learned

- AgriYouth Campaign – through CAYC Lobby and Advocacy Unit, we are advanced in finishing up Africa-Wide AgriYouth Campaign 2030 aligned to point 54 of 8th CAAD PP Communiqué with clear and measurable OBJECTIVES, GOALS, deliverables, timeframes, M&E & budgetary estimates – we have engaged CAADP & African Union Commission with the view of sensitizing them that by next year, it would be two years of such a recommendation existing without implementation. In this regard we hope to explore our newly found partnerships with FARA and YPARD to see how we can quickly partner in filling that gap.
- Capacity Building through Business Development Services – Through Enterprise/Institutional Viability Assessment Test & ICT4Agro-Marketing – we would be approaching relevant potential partners to help us identify agriyouth organisations and enterprises with the view of training and mentoring them on identified gaps across their development stages. Focus will be in both crop and livestock farming with particular focus on agro-processing i.e. product development. Training on Social Media Tools present a huge opportunity as more and more youth are exposed to ICT tools like mobile phones, computers, internet and this should be put in good use through training and mentorship.
- Research and Innovation – Through the experience acquired from CTA-FANRPAN Country Studies in six countries, we have identified a need for similar studies in other countries through expressed interests of senior country

representatives at 9th CAADP PP meeting and will be seeking partnerships to roll these out.

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8. Specific Areas of possible collaboration with FARA and YPARD

- CAYC Capacity Building to implement its medium term strategy which focuses on Leadership and Entrepreneurship, Research and Innovation, and Lobby and Advocacy
- AgriYouth, ICT, Small-holder farmers and the value chains
- AgriYouth Lobby and Advocacy i.e. Functional Campaign with Programmes showcasing young agripreneurs success stories,

9TH CAADP Partnership Platform Meeting Group Photo

