



24 October 2000

Economic Commission for Africa

Food Security and Sustainable Development
Division (FSSDD)

PROGRAMME OF WORK

2002 - 2003

Subprogramme 2: Enhancing Food Security and Sustainable Development

I. Introduction

The overall goal of the subprogramme is to assist member States to promote food security and achieve sustainable development in Africa. To this end, emphasis will continue to be placed on the design of institutional arrangements and national and subregional policies and programmes that ensure positive synergies between population, environment, agriculture and an efficient utilization of science and technology.

The Food Security and Sustainable Development Division will implement the activities under this subprogramme. The activities will aim at:

1. Enhancing the capacity of policy analysts and decision makers in managing the nexus of population, agriculture and environment and implications for sustainable food security through raising awareness and building analytical capacity in integrating nexus issues in planning and decision making process.
2. Assisting member States in building their scientific and technological capabilities to ensure sustainable development and food security with emphasis on the nexus issues.
3. Facilitating the adoption and implementation of appropriate measures at national, subregional and regional levels to promote socially acceptable, economically viable and environmentally sustainable development while pursuing the goal of achieving food security.

II. Core Activities

In 1996, in adopting the ECA's Strategic Directions document, member states recognized that ECA has a leading role to play in raising awareness and guiding decision-making on nexus issues. The document put emphasis on collaboration between ECA and other partners in development (civil society organizations, business communities) to complement the efforts of governments. It also put emphasis on developing capacity at national and regional levels in analyzing policy issues related to the nexus and the utilization of African capacity.

Over the biennium 2002 to 2003, concentration will be on integrating population, environmental, scientific and technological, agricultural concerns into national and regional development planning and poverty reduction frameworks and policies.

Specifically, the interventions of ECA will concentrate on:

1. Measuring periodically the progress made in achieving food security and sustainable development through a better management of the nexus issues. A report on the State of Food Security and Sustainable Development will be prepared in partnership.
2. Continuing raising awareness on the nexus issues through the use of the Population-Environment-Development-Agriculture Advocacy Model (PEDA Advocacy Model);
3. Broadening the PEDA Framework conceived to support the analysis of nexus issues in an economy-wide context. The PEDA models will help in particular member states to analyze and understand the consequences and policy options available for addressing nexus issues and specific issues in one or more aspects of the nexus in the pursuit of the goal of sustainable food security.

The PEDA Framework will comprise several components:

- a. A database developed under the leadership of DISD and in partnership with SRDC and potential users of the database. The database is conceived to be income generating to cover part of the cost for its development and maintenance;
- b. A standard modeling framework that can handle the nexus issues in a comprehensive manner including both the negative and positive views of the nexus issues, and
- c. Software for manipulating the data and implementing the standard model.

The PEDA Framework will be supported by:

- a. A global network of researchers with a common interest in managing nexus issues, and
- b. An Advisory Board providing leadership and technical support.
4. Further developing ECA Science and Technology Network (ESNET) within the framework of the Africa Knowledge Network Forum (AKNF). S&T will focus on addressing the nexus issues and implications for sustainable food security. ESNET will help in narrowing the knowledge gap, tapping into the global and dynamic pool and reservoir of knowledge development, and enhancing the ability to share and acquire knowledge for food security and sustainable development in Africa.
5. Following-up on major regional and international Conferences in partnership with other UN Organizations with particular emphasis on nexus issues. Leading within the UN Coordination Systems cross-cutting activities related to the nexus issues.
6. Partnering with other UN Organizations, major African integration institutions, IGOs, civil society organizations and business communities to enhance food security and sustainable development in Africa.

III. Outputs

A. Servicing of Intergovernmental and Expert Bodies

1. Substantive Servicing of Meetings

- i) Third Meeting of the Committee on Sustainable Development.
- ii) Third meeting of the Committee on Natural Resources and Science and Technology.

2. Parliamentary Documentation

- i) The State of Food Security and Sustainable Development in Africa: Progress Made in Addressing the Nexus Issues (one in 2002 and one in 2003).
- ii) Progress Reports on Raising Awareness and Building Analytical Capacity to Address Nexus Issues in Africa (one in 2002 and one in 2003).
- iii) Reports on emerging issues in S&T for Food Security and Sustainable Development.
- iv) Progress Reports on the Follow-up of Major Regional and International Conferences: Focusing on Cross-cutting Activities and Synergies in Addressing Nexus Issues (one in 2002 and one in 2003).

3. Other Services Provided

a. Ad hoc Expert Groups Established by a Legislative Mandate

- i) Fifth meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the implementation of the DND/ICPD-PA. (2003).

b. Other Ad hoc Expert Groups

- i) Advisory Board on Population, Agriculture and Environment (one in 2002 and one 2003).
- ii) Advisory Board on Science and Technology (one in 2002 and one in 2003).
- iii) Third Meeting of the Working Group for the Follow-up to the DND/ICPD (2002).

B. Other Substantive Activities

1. Recurrent Publications

- i) Africa's Population and Development Bulletin (one in 2002 and one in 2003)
- ii) Newsletter on ESNET (one in 2002 and one in 2003).

2. Non-recurrent Publications

- i) The State of the Demographic Transition in Africa: A Progress Report.
- ii) The State of Environment in Africa: Constraints to the implementation of environmental conventions including desertification, climate changes and biological diversity.
- iii) The State of the Agricultural Transition for Sustainable Food Security: A Comprehensive Framework in Support of High Productivity Agriculture in Africa.
- iv) Globalization and National Systems of Innovation in Africa: Some Critical Issues and Policy Options.

3. Electronic, Audio, and Video Issuances

- i) Emerging Issues Affecting Food Security and Sustainable Development in Africa: Summaries of Electronic Discussions (one volume in 2002 and one volume in 2003).

4. Booklets, Pamphlets, Fact Sheets, Wall Charts, Information Kits

- i) Posters on the World Environment Day (one in 2002 and one in 2003)

5. Special Events

6. Technical Materials for Outside Users (databases, software, etc)

- i) PEDDA databases: Update
- ii) PEDDA Software: Update
- iii) Distance-learning Module on the PEDDA Advocacy Model: Progress Report.
- iv) Technical Manuals and Distance-learning Modules for Tools Developed to Analyze the Nexus Issues and Implications for Food Security: Progress Report.
- v) Website on the Nexus Issues: Progress Report.
- vi) Website on ECA Science and Technology Network (ESNET): Progress Report.
- vii) Website on POPIN: Progress Report

C. International Cooperation and Interagency Coordination and Liaison

1. Participation in Activities of the National, Regional, Interregional and Global Intergovernmental Organizations

- i) Cooperation and liaison with member states, relevant national, sub-regional, regional intergovernmental organizations in the areas of food security and sustainable development through ECA's Subregional Development Centers.

- ii) Partnering with the African Development Bank and the Organization of African Unity in the areas of food security and sustainable development through the Joint ECA/ADB/OAU Secretariat.
- iii) Partnering with ECA-sponsored institutions in the areas of food security and sustainable development.

2. Participation in Activities of Non-governmental Organizations (seminars, symposia, other meetings)

- i) Cooperation with Non-governmental Organizations through ECA's Subregional Development Centers in the areas of food security and sustainable development.

3. Participation in Activities of Funds, Programmes and Agencies of the United Nations systems (meetings, joint missions and other undertakings)

- i) Joint undertakings with other United Nations Agencies, Funds and Programmes to better assist member states and regional institutions on issues related to the nexus of population, agriculture and environment and in the areas of food security, sustainable development and science and technology including IFDC, FAO, IFAD, UNEP, UNCHS, AMCEN, WMO, UNDP, IBRD, UNCSTD, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNU-INRA.

4. Participation in the Activities of ACC and its Subsidiary Machinery

E. Technical Cooperation

1. Advisory Services at the Request of the Government (number of missions)

- i) Advisory services at the request of the government through the ECA's Subregional Development Centers in the areas of food security and sustainable development.

2. Group Training (seminars, workshops, symposia) (number of events and number of officials to be trained)

- i) Group training at subregional and national levels organized in partnership with the ECA's Subregional Development Centers on the use of the PEDDA Advocacy Model.
- ii) Group training at subregional and national levels organized in partnership with the ECA's Subregional Development Centers on the use of analytical tools on nexus issues including natural resources accounting and implications for sustainable food security.

3. Fellowships

- i) Post-doctoral fellows to develop further PEDAs Framework, PEDAs models, the databases and undertake applications of the PEDAs models.
- ii) Sponsoring of thesis using PEDAs models.

4. Field Projects (subregional and regional)

IV. The Expected Accomplishments

For each of the outputs, the expected accomplishments are presented in the attached table. It is expected that the implementation of the outputs would result in:

- i) Improved capacity of member States to formulate and implement policies on the nexus issues;
- ii) Enhanced capacity to apply science and technology to achieve food security and sustainable development;
- iii) Increased benefit derived by Africa from the follow-up activities of the major Regional and International Conferences and the interventions of the UN Organizations in the areas of food security and sustainable development, and
- iv) Improved food security situation in Africa.

V. Indicators of Achievement

Indicators of achievements are presented for each output. They include the number of countries that have adopted the PEDAs Framework and specific policies and measures and the application of science and technology in addressing the nexus issues as a result of ECA assistance.

VI. Dissemination

The outputs will be disseminated through reports, technical materials, the Internet, e-mail, statutory, and high-level meetings, and workshops. They will be further disseminated through the outreach of ECA (SRDCs).