

2nd Annual Agricultural Policy Conference Feb 2016

The second Annual Agricultural Policy Conference (AAPC) will take place in Dar es Salaam at Serena Hotel from February 26 – 28, 2016. The 2015 conference has been delayed to February 2016 to allow for the national election and transition for the new government in Tanzania. The second AAPC coincides with the launch by the Government of Tanzania of the second phase of Agricultural Sector Development Program (ASDP II). The theme for the 2nd AAPC is "Agricultural Sector Transformation for Food Security, Jobs Creation and Poverty Reduction". The theme is selected to reflect priorities of ASDP II, a 10 year program to bring Tanzania to its 2025 Development Vision of achieving the middle income country status. AAPC is promoting dialogue on priority policy issues for reforms in order to unleash the potential of the agricultural sector in contributing to national effort in food and nutrition policy, jobs creation and poverty reduction. AAPC has a sub-theme for featured session and exhibition on "Technology and Innovation in Agriculture". Having the right policies and adoption of technology and innovation could be a catalyst for agricultural sector transformation in Tanzania.

AAPC is organized collaboratively between the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries and the Policy Analysis Group (PAG). PAG is an informal and voluntary group whose members are agricultural policy projects and initiatives, academia and local policy think tanks. PAG with about 15 members was established in 2013 for the purpose of providing a platform for sharing information on policy research and activities so as to enhance coordination, collaboration and synergy. PAG also aims at ensuring consistency in policy messaging. PAG supports the effort of the GoT and other development practitioners in bringing agriculture transformation in Tanzania.

The AAPC will bring together researchers, policy-makers, advocacy groups and development practitioners from Tanzania and elsewhere with interest in Tanzania's agriculture and rural development to discuss and make a strategic contribution to the implementation of Tanzania's development vision and the identification of concrete actions necessary on food security, jobs creation and poverty reduction in the context of the ASDP II agenda. The Conference will provide an opportunity to assess progress in implementation of policy reforms under the CAADP framework of the New Alliance on Food Security and Nutrition. In addition, the conference will discuss successes, lessons learned and identify remaining gaps, challenges and emerging issues in agricultural policies.

The 2nd AAPC papers will be along the 6 thematic areas (as outlined in the New Alliance policy matrix), namely:

- i) Agricultural policy (for issues cutting across the sector)
- ii) Agriculture input policy
- iii) Agriculture markets and trade policy
- iv) Enabling policy for private sector investment
- v) Land tenure policy
- vi) Access to capital and financing

The AAPC will bring together about 150 researchers, policy-makers, advocacy groups and development practitioners from Tanzania and elsewhere with interest in Tanzania's agriculture and rural development to discuss and make a strategic contribution to the implementation of Tanzania's development vision and the identification of concrete actions necessary on food security, jobs creation and poverty reduction in the context of the ASDP II agenda. The Conference will provide an opportunity to assess progress in implementation of policy reforms under the CAADP framework of the New Alliance on Food Security and

Nutrition. In addition, the conference will discuss successes, lessons learned and identify remaining gaps, challenges and emerging issues in agricultural policies.