



Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation (TAAT)



Transforming African Agriculture through proven technologies and partnerships

The Program **Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation (TAAT)** is funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB) to increase productivity in Africa through the deployment of technologies with proven and high performance. It originated from the need “to execute a bold plan to achieve rapid agricultural transformation across Africa through raising agricultural productivity” that was declared by participants in the Dakar High-Level Conference, October 2015. It led to the formulation of **Feed Africa: A Strategy for African Agricultural Transformation** by the AfDB in June 2016. TAAT is aligned with the objectives of the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Program (CAADP) of the African Union Commission’s NEPAD with the aim of:

- 1) *eliminating extreme poverty,*
- 2) *ending hunger and malnutrition,*
- 3) *turning Africa into a net food exporter, and*
- 4) *positioning Africa at the top of those value chains where it has a competitive advantage.*

The developmental objective of TAAT is the rapid expansion of access for smallholder farmers to high yielding technologies that improve their food production, assure food security, and raise rural incomes. This goal is achieved by delivering regional public goods for the rapid scaling up of technologies across similar agro-ecological zones. This result is achieved through three principal mechanisms; 1) creating an enabling environment for technology delivery to farmers and adoption, 2) facilitating effective delivery of these technologies to farmers through a structured Regional Technology Delivery Infrastructure and 3) raising agricultural production and productivity through the identification and deployment of strategic

interventions that include improved crop varieties and animal breeds, accompanying good management practices and vigorous outreach campaigns to farmers at the country level. Implicit within this strategy are the important roles of sound policies, empowering women and the youth, strengthening and innovating extension systems, and engaging with the private sector.

TAAT brings together research institutes (national and international), public extension services, private sector suppliers and buyers, farmers’ organizations and not-for-profit organizations involved in agricultural development. These institutions come with specific objectives within selected value chains and form Commodity Technology Delivery Compacts (referred to simply as “Compacts”) for technology delivery to millions of agricultural producers. In Year 1 of implementation, the TAAT program has nine Value Chain Compacts organized around rice, maize, cassava, wheat, sorghum and millet, orange-fleshed sweet potato, beans with high iron contents, small ruminants, poultry, and aquaculture. Six Enabler Compacts provide support services for soil fertility management, water management, capacity building and development, advocating a supportive seed technology policy, mobilizing the youth into agribusiness, and organizing a response to the fall army worm invasion.

The Program has set the ambitious target of reaching 40 million farmers in the next 5 years (see Table 1) and adding 120 million tons of additional foodstuffs to the African food basket (Table 2). TAAT has started implementation in 27 countries and four more are in the process of joining the program (Fig. 1).

The goal of TAAT is to radically transform African agriculture into a competitive sector by deploying productivity enhancing technologies and focusing on eight Priority Intervention Areas: *Self-sufficiency in Rice Production; Cassava Intensification; Food and Nutrition Security in the Sahel; Transforming African Savannas into Bread-baskets; Revitalizing Tree Plantations; Expanding Horticulture; Increasing Africa's Wheat Production; and Achieving Self-sufficiency in Inland Fish Production.*

Table 1. Numbers of farmers targeted by Commodity Technology Delivery Compacts

Compact		Compact Lead Institution(s)	Target Beneficiaries (farmers)
Commodity	Maize	AATF	4, 300,000
	Rice	AfricaRice	2, 260,000
	Wheat	ICARDA	850,000
	Sorghum/Millet	ICRISAT	2, 350,000
	Beans	CIAT	1, 220,000
	Cassava	IITA	3,380,000
	OFSP	CIP	1,250,000
	Small livestock	ILRI	1,650,000
	Aquaculture	WorldFish	1,150,000
Enablers	Policy Support	AATF/IITA/MMI	40,000,000
	Capacity Development	FARA	2,500,000
	Soil Fertility Management	IFDC	24,000
	Water Management	IWMI	650,000
	ENABLE-TAAT (Youth in agribusiness)	IYA-IITA	850,000
	Fall Army Worm Control	IITA	15,000,000

Table 2. Additional food production targeted to be reached by 2025

Commodity	2016 Average African productivity (Baseline) (metric tons/ha)	2016 Average productivity of lead producers (metric tons/ha)	2025 Average African productivity (metric tons/ha)	Additional food production (metric tons)
Maize	2	5	4	30 million
Lowland Rice	2	5.5	4	15 million
Wheat	1.5	3.5	3	25 million
Sorghum	1	2.5	2	10 million
Millet	1	2	2	5 million
Cassava	12	24	20	20 million
Small livestock (12 month live weight)	25 kg	60 kg	50 kg	10 million
Fish (12 month live weight)	3 kg	8 kg	5 kg	5 million

The TAAT Program recognizes that success in transforming agriculture to reach the CAADP's goals will come from interventions at a very large scale that require partnerships between research institutes, public institutions, farmers' support organizations and the private sector with the combined support of investors in agricultural development. The Program has therefore been designed as a Framework Program that allows other development partners (the World Bank, AGRA, BMGF, IFAD, EU, bilateral development assistance programs, etc.) to make use of it in their investments in agricultural programs to expand country coverage, build synergy around common, and expand the reach and impact of individual initiatives. African countries can rely on the TAAT Program as the source of technical assistance to support their agricultural transformation initiatives at the design stage and during implementation with proven and productivity-enhancing technologies.

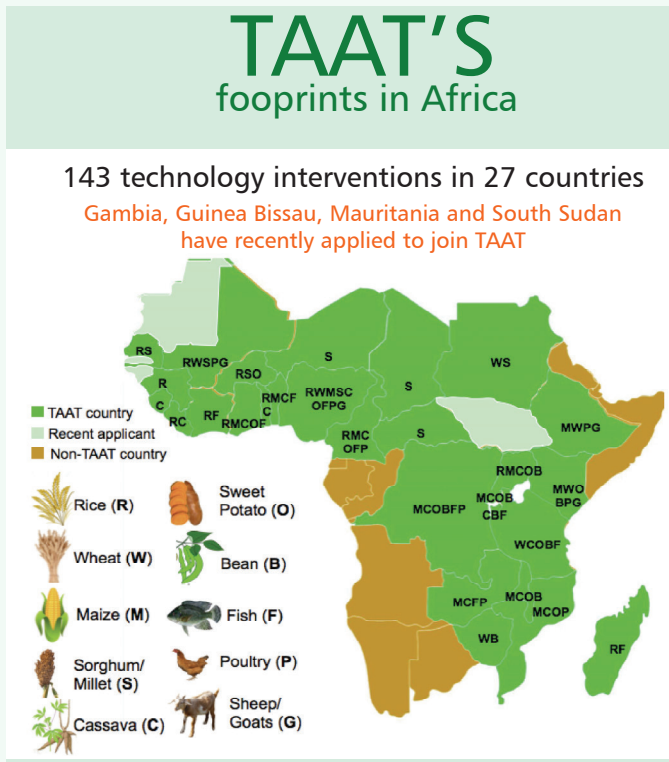


Figure 1. The footprint of TAAT in Africa

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