

THE WEST AFRICAN FOOD SECURITY NETWORK (WAFSN) REGIONAL ADVOCACY AND CAMPAIGNS WORKSHOP

Theme: Promoting Climate Resilient Sustainable Agriculture (CRSA) As an
Alternative towards Achieving Food Security and the Right to Food

Workshop- Report

30th Nov, 2016 to 2nd Dec, 2016



DAY 1:

THE WEST AFRICAN FOOD SECURITY NETWORK (WAFSN)

Regional Advocacy and Campaigns Workshop

Theme: Promoting Climate Resilient Sustainable Agriculture (CRSA) as an Alternative towards Achieving Food Security and the Right to Food

Date: Wednesday, 30th November, 2016 – Friday, 2nd December, 2016

ATTENDANTS

1. Daniel Oberko – Coordinator, FoodSPAN
2. Kinglsey Ofei-Nkansah – Chairman, FoodSPAN
3. Duti Conrad Biilrh – Advocacy and M&E Officer, TradeAID Integrated
4. Paschal A. Kaba – Senior Programme Officer, CEDA
5. Richard Beccles – Programme Officer, GAWU
6. Samuel Entee – Programme Officer, ISEES
7. Samuel Owusu-Takyi – Director, K.I.T.A. Ghana
8. Mavis Bocechie Abebrese – WAD Coordinator, Catholic Archdiocese
9. Mumumi Abdul-Karim – Programme Officer, Abibimman Foundation
10. Zakaria A. Rashid – Director, UrbaNet
11. Kenneth Nana Amoateng – Director, Abibiman, FoodSPAN
12. Nicholas Smith – Deputy Director, CEWEFIA
13. Philip Amoah – Programme Manager, ECASARD
14. Anthony Mawuena – Chairperson, FBO
15. Zakaria Sambakhe – Head of Programmes, ActionAid Senegal/IFSN
16. Stephen Caleb Opuni – Programme Manager, ActionAid Ghana
17. Vivian Acheampong – Head of Human Resource and Organisational Development, ActionAid Ghana
18. Salifu Justice Addel – Service Personnel, Greater Accra/Volta Region Team, ActionAid Ghana
19. Deborah Smallie Lomotey – Communications Officer, ActionAid Ghana.
20. Edward Asewe, CIAD

SESSION ONE

The first day of the workshop begun with Daniel Oberko, Coordinator of FoodSPAN and facilitator for the workshop welcoming participants and proceeding to give a brief introduction about FoodSPAN and introduce the Guests of Honour of the day, Kingsley Ofei-Nkansah, Chairman of FoodSPAN, Zakaria Sambarkhe, Head of Programmes at ActionAid Senegal and the Regional Director of the International Food Security Network (IFSN), and Vivian Acheampong, Head of Human Resource and Organisational Development of ActionAid Ghana, who was representing the Country Director of ActionAid Ghana.

WELCOME ADDRESS BY CHAIR OF FOODSPAN: Kingsley Ofei-Nkansah

Mr Ofei-Nkansah talked about the work of FoodSPAN, stressing on the work of CSOs and the West African Food Security Network, and underlining the right to food as a fundamental right guiding the principles of the network. He discussed the complexities and multi-disciplinary face of CRSA far beyond dealing with a particular variable in the climate setting such as rainfall, drought, etc. He therefore urged members of the network and participants, as the workshop begins, to appreciate the fact of the complexities of climate change and how it compounds the right to food challenge and goal so participants can appreciate the fact that although they may be working on these different multi-disciplinary factors or issues of climate change, there was a need to come together to make an effective impact on climate change. He stressed the need to consolidate efforts and come together to address issues of climate change on agriculture.

ADDRESS FROM REPRESENTATIVE FROM ACTIONAID GHANA: *Vivian Acheampong*

Mrs Acheampong delved into issues of climate change confronting the world, and emphasised on the increase in development discussions around Climate Resilient Sustainable Agriculture discourse and climate change leading to increased awareness on the effects of climate change across the world. She highlighted some of the work of ActionAid such as; emergency and recovery service provisions during natural disasters, and discussed findings from a recent ActionAid study, "***Hotter Planet***" that estimates that more than 400 million people have been affected by the 2015-2016 El Nino drought crisis and 2016 recording the highest level of carbon dioxide emissions, making this year the highest in history. She stressed the need to advocate with people living in poverty, women and children who are at the brunt end of the climate change crisis and its devastating effects on smallholder women farmers, making them most endemic to poverty as well as cultural practices that prevent women from owning lands even though they constitute 70% of food producers in Ghana. She urged participants, who are part of the network and have rich knowledge and experience on CRSA, to come together during the 3-day workshop and generate case studies and plans that help the advocacy and

efforts of CRSA in West Africa and the region. Mrs Acheampong concluded that the end result of the workshop is to link workable policy solutions to good innovations in practice.

ADDRESS FROM REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR WEST AFRICAN FOOD SECURITY NETWORK (WAFSN): *Zakaria Sambakhe*

Mr Sambakhe talked about the consequences of flooding and droughts as well as policies that were not in favour of smallholder women farmers or the promotion of family agriculture putting more pressure on CSOs and the Network to think about ways of sustaining agriculture. He stressed that it was no longer possible to use non-CRSA means for agriculture for the betterment of all and urged that CRSA should be entrenched in the Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA), specifically on women's rights and more directly how climate change affects the rights of women; especially vulnerable women at the community level. He urged that the workshop should provide more ideas and solutions to women's rights at the community level as well as mitigation of climate change.

SETTING THE OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP:

Stephen Caleb Opuni, Programme Manager of ActionAid Ghana, enlisted the objectives of the 3-day workshop;

1. To deepen the understanding of members on what CRSA is and reinforce the advocacy and campaign on CRSA as the alternative that guarantees food security by sharing best practices and working models in practice within the West African region.
2. Explore and develop opportunities within the national, regional and continental spaces for advocacy and policy work on CRSA specifically - FAO, AU, and the ECOWAS etc.
3. Develop national and regional plans of action post-International Food Security Network III (IFSN-III)
4. Develop a joint position paper.

He mentioned that the focus of the workshop is based on women, who constitute majority of food crop producers, and added that policies, programmes and any intervention that seeks to ensure food security and right to food must be solely focused on smallholder women farmers. He also added that although only representatives from Senegal were at the workshop, the Gambia team was expected to join the workshop the following day, with colleagues of the network in East and Southern Africa joining via skype to make discussions rich, informed and effective to influence policies at the regional, national and international level.

He concluded that the consolidation of efforts and recommendations as well as diverse and distinct input from members will make it possible to push government to implement policies that address the needs of smallholder women farmers using Climate Resilient Sustainable Agriculture practices.

To help consolidate shared understanding, individual organisations who form participants of the campaign workshop shared their expectation for the workshop:

Their expectations include:

1. A highlight of the Dodowa Declaration, progress and gaps identified in regards to the Declaration that informed the agenda of the on-going workshop and key recommendations following ActionAid's Mountain Kilimanjaro initiative.
2. Opportunity to strengthen solidarity among CSOs at the workshop and in the West African sub-region in promoting CRSA.
3. Gain knowledge that will be vital in carrying actions of advocacy, sharing of their organisation's success stories on CRSA and combatting climate change as well as being part of a team that comes out with an action-oriented plan that will influence policy and decision-making
4. An opportunity to have partners in a platform known as Slow Food Organisation, an initiative that seeks to bring back measures and tools that were previously used but have now been relegated to sustain food security.
5. Involvement of training institutions on CRSA discussions that has mainly focused on farmer-based organisations, CSOs, etc. and have an idea of what role agricultural entrepreneurs will play in CRSA and how CRSA will affect their work as well as a knowledge of the action plans of members of the workshop to build stronger partnerships for both fundraising and project implementation.
6. Obtain knowledge on helping smallholder women farmers to add value to their produce, and preservations of crops to ensure women farmers make profit.

TEA BREAK

SESSION TWO:

KEY CONCEPTS, PILLARS AND PRINCIPLES: *Stephen Caleb Opuni*

The facilitator begun the second session by acknowledging the changes that have to occur to the agenda due to the non-presence of the Gambia team as well as the presence of only one member from Senegal.

He also differentiated between Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) and Climate Resilient Sustainable Agriculture (CRSA), explaining that whereas CSA looks at increasing productivity and neglects issues of family farming and learning from community farmers themselves, CRSA focuses on smallholder farmers.

Mr Opuni then proceeded to provide some insight on Climate Resilient Sustainable Agriculture, adding that CRSA is two things

1. Agro-ecology: Farming practices that builds on natural ecological systems that we have and;
2. HRBA: A Human Rights-Based Approach that focuses on women.

CRSA is an initiative put together by ActionAid through years of working with farmers, scientists and research bodies, as well as collection of field data and work that builds up on agro-ecology and looks at it through the lens of HRBA.

ActionAid's Approaches to CRSA

1. Conducting participatory appraisals to identify local potentials and challenges.
2. Identifying, documenting, testing and disseminating local knowledge/alternative practices and encouraging local innovation.
3. Promoting sustainability through appropriate agricultural research and extension services based on technologies that reduce dependence on external inputs and agro-chemicals, help adapt to climate change, and build on and reinforce local knowledge

Pillars of CSRA

As indicated by the image below, there are 7 pillars that constitute CRSA:

1. Gender Equality and Women's Rights
2. Soil Conservation
3. Sustainable Water Management
4. Agro-biodiversity Preservation
5. Livelihood Diversification
6. Processing and Market Access
7. Supporting Farmers' Organisations

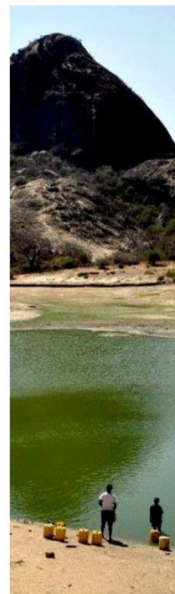
Gender Equity and Women's Rights



Soil Conservation



Sustainable Water Management



Agro-biodiversity Preservation



Livelihood Diversification



Processing and Market Access



Supporting Farmers' Organisations



However, Mr Opuni added that the pillars are not stand alones but are processes and programmes for influencing national strategies and policies on agriculture.

The Regional Director for the West African Food Security Network (WAFSN), Mr Sambakhe, also offered further insight on CRSA, adding that looking at the policy aspect is important to CRSA because it would defeat the purpose if decision-makers are not following what communities want. Example is the implementation of Pillar 1 by empowering women on their rights so they can effectively engage with decision-makers and influence policy formulation, it can also mean how we can push women to take up space at the decision-making level and thus influence policies and thus push CRSA on the international and global level. Adding that all the pillars are a process and in the long-term will have benefits.

He also stressed on the linkage between research institutions and the indigenous farmers' knowledge to ensure they complement instead of repel each other, adding that the fulfilment and success of all of the pillars are central and dependent on the role of women.

Q&A SESSION

1. How do we increase market access and processing factories availability for smallholder women farmers?

2. Timeline of pillars to improve feedback and were the CRSA goals set before or after the SDGs and how do they tie in with the SDGs?

ANSWERS

The facilitator stated that the questions inform one of the main purposes of the workshop, which is to share knowledge and brainstorm on workable solutions, however Question 1 was responded to by Zakaria Rashid, Director of UrbANet, who stated that close to 80% of processing is done by smallholder women farmers and advised that CSOs should engage in intensive policy advocacy and networking to ensuring that basic equipment that make it possible and easier for women to be able to enhance their activities in processing are provided and available, using the case study of Soybean in Northern Ghana. Mr Sambakhe also responded to Question 2, stating that monitoring of the pillars is not solely ActionAid's work but a joint movement around the world to promote good practices. Stressing the importance of the HRBA perspective which puts human beings at the centre of CRSA such as involving communities to do their own analysis, etc. in capacity building, letting communities run and head the process, finding their own problems; all strategies that are crucial in M&E. The link with the SDGs was based on an analysis that show that poverty is a clear indicator of injustice and inequality and hence if decision-makers have made commitments on the SDGs to eradicate poverty, stop hunger, fight against inequality etc., then CRSA is an alternative or solution to fulfilling the SDGs, giving us space to influence the development agenda or goals. He also added that access to markets is not simple, especially with government promoting mono-culture (where people have their own factories and make their own processes to sell their products outside the country), however, to promote access to markets for women, government must start at the community-level in local and weekly markets where we can build solidarity among women to develop their products. It's one thing to have a good condition of processing, and another to have a ready-market or customers ready to consume what you are producing. He emphasised on campaigning, sensitising and informing community members on this. Hence the importance of communication in access to market.

Anthony Mawuena of the FBO shared knowledge on farmers in Italy finding an alternative means of drying fruits that tasted like the real thing and advised that it is a practice we can learn to dry our own seeds at the women's level to be re-used to counteract the use of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs)

The facilitator stressed on the importance of suggestions and contributions but added that it needed to be re-visited during the suggestions and example sharing section of the workshop.

Mr Ofei-Nkansah concluded the segment by emphasising on the policy context, stating that many years ago, 30% of produced food went to waste, yet still in the past decade, the figure has not reduced, remaining the same at 30% showing a lack of improvement. He revealed that the real issue is that since his onset of campaigning for food security

(since the 1970s), no serious policies in Ghana have been formulated that move in our direction of advocacy, quite the opposite, with policies rather moving away from our desired directions. He raised concerns on the presence of various interest groups in the food and agricultural sector who work against our desired advocacy efforts to protect their own interests.

Mr Oberko added that the policies shifting away from the desired results of the Networks' advocacy is not by accident but is a deliberate effort due to the lack of funding by countries of their food policies, but an over-reliance on international donors and sponsors who are ultimately protecting their own interests- which in the long-run disadvantage smallholder farmers. Hence the need for a policy change free from outside and external influences. Adding that our advocacy work must ensure sovereignty in funding of Agro-Ecology policies with FoodSPAN and the West African Food Security Network and its membership setting a different pace that is strong and can ask the political questions and take actions.

The question of the involvement of organisations like MoFA in such discussions and workshops was raised, with participants calling for the involvement of appropriate government institution in such advocacy workshops

CRSA IN PRACTICE IN GHANA: *Zakaria A. Rashid*

Director of Urban Agricultural Network (UrbANet), Zakaria Rashid, provided a short pictorial presentation of experiences in the field from the Northern region of Ghana in their enrolment of CRSA interventions.

The presentation was divided into 5 key areas;

1. The situation in the region
2. Strategies adopted
3. Results and lessons
4. Conclusions and recommendations

The Situation

- Heavy rains that flood communities;
- Incidence of droughts that kill seeds and result in re-ploughing by farmers;
- Annual bush fires that destroy crops and soil fertility
- Crop failure due to lack of rains.

Strategies

- Disseminating and education on improved technologies of CRSA through use of demonstration/model farms.

- Gathering of evidence and recording success stories as basis of promoting policies at the local-level.
- Testing of seed variety on model farms that can withstand droughts, floods etc. Test and improve agro-ecological measures that help in soil conservation and water management (Pillar 2 and 3)
- Building farmers' capacity in making alternative fertilisers through trainings on shea butter slurring (an important base material for compost), use of human faecal matter, rice straw, municipal waste etc. to produce organic fertilisers.
- Provision of small ruminant farming
- Provision of female Extension Volunteers
- Construction of shea butter processing factories
- Building of energy-saving stoves consisting of mud, etc.

Results and Lessons

- Coal compost as an alternative to soil amendments by family farmers.
- Availability of data on coal compost.
- Increased knowledge at the local level and adaption of CRSA practices.
- Influence policies at the district-level through sponsorship of national awards, etc.
- Improved sanitation and choked drains.
- Reduced impacts of droughts and increased yields.

Recommendations

- Policy to promote organic fertiliser use.
- Policy to promote locally-made organic fertilisers.
- Build capacities of Agricultural Extension Officers/Agents (AEAs) on CRSA practices
- Continuous dissemination of CRSA knowledge and incorporate CRSA into National Farmers' Day celebrations

Q&A/Recommendations

1. Efforts to ensure adoption and sustainability of compost farming at the community-level. Also provided insight on subsidies of compost by government affecting the work of the Accra Compost and Recycling Plant (ACaRP) (Philip Amoah, ECASARD) due to delays in payment by government.

Answer: Partnerships between a waste procession company and ZOOMLION to deliver municipal waste and extracted human excrement. However the lack of salting of waste in Ghana is a major challenge for the company. Also the use of

tricycles as a means of conveying waste to their sites for processing with UrbANet conducting test-runs in two communities.

2. The issue of demystifying human excreta for the use of crop production. Suggested that more work needs to go into changing public attitude towards use of faeces as organic fertilisers and emphasised the importance of ecological sanitation.

Mr Rashid further added that construction of eco-sun toilets in the villages help extract urine from the faeces and when stored for three-weeks is an excellent source of base material for the composting process.

Conrad of TradeAID Integrated added to the discussion on demystifying use of human excreta in agriculture by suggesting an alternative of using urine as an insecticide on crops.

CRSA IN PRACTICE IN SENEGAL: *Zakaria Sambakhe*

The Regional Coordinator of WAFSN, Zakaria Sambakhe, begun his presentation by showing a video that highlighted the importance of sharing knowledge and best practices between countries. He included that bringing partners from different countries to learn from each other could be another process of CRSA.

He acknowledged the similarities of the practices across the countries, and attributed this to effective joint movements across the Networks.

In Senegal, according to Mr Sambakhe, they start by:

- Analysing vulnerabilities and needs of the women farmers, and guide the women to have plans to change their situations.
- Access to land or control over reproductive resources that is also tied to violence against women
- Challenging of cultural barriers

But added that following elements listed below can give women the rights they deserve and place them at the centre of CRSA interventions

- Access to lands
- Access to good quality seeds, means of productions, access to infrastructure etc. to enhance farming yields
- Development of practices such as use of soft pesticides produced by women themselves
- Water harvesting and water conservation systems especially in the Sahel districts and drought-induced areas.
- Community cereal/grain or seed banks to enhance control of farmers over their seeds through conservation

- Diversification of source of production or income to increase resilience during erratic weather or climate conditions to reduce negative effects on income
- National trade-fair that creates a conducive environment for sharing and learning; and also to build partnerships between entrepreneurs and farmers.
- Companies also sign contracts with farmers to sell their packaged and branded products thereby increasing access to markets for smallholder farmers and showcase different variety and use of their produce.
- The trade-fairs also enhance lobbying and generates feedback from customers, state institutions, farmers, and entrepreneurs who give recommendations to help ActionAid Senegal to improve their work.
- Efforts to have organic fertilisers and composts subsidised by government to promote their use.

Questions and answers were postponed to be later discussed at the allocated time.

LUNCH BREAK

SESSION THREE

INFLUENCING NATIONAL POLICIES

Workshop facilitator, Daniel Oberko, started the session by revealing that despite numerous agricultural policies, hunger has rather increased over the years and begun an intensive discussion that challenged participants to suggest ways that the Network can influence policy on the national and international scene.

Issues/Recommendations

1. **I:** Unseen hands that manipulate and controls government
R: The Networks' advocacy should start from the community-level or grassroots, working its way from the community-level and influencing community members who will in turn call on government and ultimately call for change.
2. **I:** Unwillingness of policy-makers to open up about their policies and what informs it as well as share and make information available.
R: CSOs members need to increase their accountability and transparency levels, as well as criteria that inform research work findings in an effort to gain respect and esteem from state institutions and in turn ensure exchange of ideas. Emphasised the need to go together as a team
3. **I:** Lack of information on funding provided to state institutions by external donors to enforce policies.
R: Make case to donors to make terms of funding and conditionalities to government available to CSOs especially during Joint Sector Review meetings and allow CSOs to give recommendations

4. **I:** Missing policies and gaps in submitted policies to from CSOs
R: Follow-up aggressively and enhance our watch-dogs roles to ensure state institutions do not emit sections of submitted policies
5. **I:** Lack of sensitisation on policies
R: Build critical mass of public awareness needed for advocacy and campaigns.
6. **I:** Numerous interests of players at the national-level with the sole goal of protecting those interests
R: CSOs must do the same and show themselves mighty and capable by creating and claiming during steering meetings. To mobilise this space, evidence and thoroughly researched facts must be gathered from the grassroots and presented to government to influence policy. This can be accomplished by connecting very well with grassroots organisations; enhance engagements and participation at the grassroots and connect them to government
7. **I:** Decreased or limited lobbying at the policy-level by CSOs.
R: Work with grassroots to gather aggregate evidence to be provided to FoodSPAN, who have a seat at the policy-table. Through these scientific evidence and research papers, we can increase lobbying power of organisations like FoodSPAN and influence policies.
8. Start with influencing and contributing to Medium-Term Development Plans (MTDPs) at the district level and in the long haul, will influence their Long-Term Development Plans (LTDPs). This can be done by increasing engagements and dialogues at the District Assembly level and ensure recommendations are incorporated into their MTDPs which will eventually feed into the LTDPs. Hence, Communiques should have clear action plans that can be incorporated into the Assembly's MTDP.
9. Scrutinise long-term results and initiate actions that will have those long-term effects.
10. Draft a six step process for influencing policies that are address the following:
 - i. Which policy/issue?
 - ii. Who is our target?
 - iii. Collect and mobilise evidence
 - iv. Know your numbers (those who are with you and those against you.
 - v. Know what channels to use (petitions, press conferences, broadcast, print, social media, etc.)
 - vi. Monitor your work/follow-up (enhance M&E)
11. CSOs have to be part of the preparations that inform the MTPs. As a participant at the preparation level, it would be easier to move to the implementing stage.

12. Before we go to the policy-makers, CSOs need to have effective advocacy skills and an in-depth knowledge of the policies. We also need to have the media on our side to garner mass support and following. Also engage with government and follow-up consistently till the policy is passed, amended or enforced.
13. CSOs role is not to replace government in the long-run, only for policies to do so. CSOs must therefore explore their spaces and be well-coordinated at every level. The information gathered can be provided to Network or Advocacy mouthpieces or members at the policy-level.
14. Monitoring is effective, especially at the local level and hence the need to mobilise MoFA and extension workers so they can see our work on the grounds.

CLOSING REMARKS

The Chair of FoodSPAN raised concerns of over ambition and the possibility of ending up doing nothing. He reiterated the importance, after all the experiences the Network has had, to know that certain things are easier to work on as compared to others.

Also, other things may not be very important to work on but are a must. He encouraged each organisation to work on one or two pillars, if they aren't already, as it will serve as a good reference point. Mr Ofei-Nkansah added that policy influencing and advocacy takes a long time and can take a toll on organisations and people pushing it, resulting in fatigue.

He provided some more insight on FoodSPAN's first objective of campaigning for the explicit inclusion of the right to food in the constitution, and its realisation in Ghana through engagements with the Constitutional Review Commission urged participants to work towards effective implementation and legislature to address the matter.

The Chair noted that although legislation development in Ghana has worked in favour of women, social and cultural impediments to their implementation have prevented the success of such legislature and redirected participants to push in the direction of women's equality and equity, as the process is underway and has gathered momentum from other organisations working in the same direction. He advised that participants advocate for:

1. Right to Food (As a general thing)
2. Women's Equality.

Related to Women's Equality is land. This is Pillar 2 of CRSA and raised awareness on how the current land tenure system actually does more harm to land. He advised that we concentrate on the landlessness of women as a big issue and highlight that the poorest people are peasant and smallholder farmers.

With bio-diversity, Mr Ofei-Nkansah elaborated on the biggest threat to Pillar 3, which is Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) or foods and applauded the efforts of CSOs in stopping its implementation but encouraged that participants never lose sight of their interests and remember that we are fighting for what is in our interests.

He enumerated that we link biodiversity's dependence on high external input agriculture (pesticides, weedicides etc.), and how GMOs means increasing dependence conditions to farm.

The market access angle, he acknowledged, that research in recent years has not revealed much. Detailing its difficulties for stakeholders who have some influence, how much more the smallholder farmer who does not pay for their labour.

He urged participants and members to study more to identify big gaps in our work. Adding that academia has a tendency of segregating the disciplines when in reality, they are not segregated, stating that in order for academia to be relevant and useful, it must guide us to understand from different standpoints, one of the values of a network.

Mr Ofei-Nkansah concluded that in the fight against climate change, we should not lose the fact that all the seven pillars of CRSA are intended to help with adaptation and mitigation. Adding that agriculture "*is not only a victim of climate change but also driver*" contributing greatly to carbon dioxide emissions. He asked respondents to remember that there are the practices and the policies, programmes and projects that apply to each pillar and to see what policy constraints there are with each pillar and see what each one can do. With good coordination, FoodSPAN will grow.

The facilitator summed up discussions of the day which included:

1. General principles/pillars or ideological stance of CRSA
2. Experience sharing from organisations in Ghana and Senegal
3. Worked on teasing out some of the recommendations regarding how we want to influence policy at the national-level.

DAY 2

ATTENDANTS

1. Mavis B. Abebrese – WAD Coordinator, Catholic Archdiocese of Kumasi
2. Mumumi Abdul-Karim – Programme Officer, Abibiman Foundation
3. Samuel Entee – Programme Officer, ISEES
4. Richard Beccles – Programme Officer, GAWU
5. Kenneth Nana Amoateng – Director, Abibiman, FoodSPAN
6. Duti Conrad Biilrh – Advocacy and M&E Officer, TradeAID Integrated
7. Deborah Smallie Lomotey – Communications Officer, ActionAid Ghana
8. Daniel Oberko – Coordinator, FoodSPAN
9. Philip Amoah – Programme Manager, ECASARD
10. Nicholas Smith – Deputy Director, CEWEFIA
11. Paschal A. Kaba – Senior Programme Officer, CEDA
12. Anthony Mawuena – Chairperson, FBO
13. Zakaria A. Rashid – Director, UrbANet
14. Zakaria Sambakhe – Head of Programmes, ActionAid Senegal/IFSN
15. Stephen C. Opuni – Programme Manager, ActionAid Ghana
16. Edward Asare – CIAD
17. Kingsley Ofei-Nkansah – Chairman, FoodSPAN
18. Salifu Justice Addel – Service Personnel, Greater Accra/Volta Region Team, ActionAid Ghana

SESSION ONE

The second day of the workshop begun with an introduction of the events planned for day by the facilitator, Stephen Caleb-Opuni. Details include

1. Recap/Introduction to the Day Agenda
2. Update on Progress so Far: CAADP/SDGs/CNC and opportunities of engagements
3. Learnings on what works: Negotiating Global Frameworks
4. Lessons from East Africa
5. Continental and Regional Opportunities for Advocacy on CRSA – Strategies and Plans
6. Action Planning: Country Group Work
7. Summary of Plans and Next Steps

The Facilitator informed participants of the cancelation of the *Lessons from East Africa* session due to the inability of the East Africa team to join the workshop and share their experiences. Following this, a presentation of what had transpired on the first day of the workshop was done by the Rapporteur.

LEARNINGS ON WHAT WORKS – NEGOTIATING GLOBAL FRAMEWORKS: *Mr Kingsley Ofei-Nkansah*

Mr Kingsley Ofei-Nkansah began the session with *Learnings on What Works – Negotiating Global Frameworks*. He first asked participants to explain what a framework is, defining it as an agreement between two or more parties where they have a capacity to take a decision and be sued or sued. The parties talk about issues of shared concerns that they differ on, hoping to arrive at a conclusion that benefits each member of the party. In the agricultural context, he explained that conflicting interest in agriculture has resulted in a major challenge of policy for every government, with farmers wanting higher returns on their produce and consumers wanting to spend less for more. A global framework means an agreement on certain things but not everything – with each parties taking the framework and implementing it into their context and their local circumstances. He also explained that how countries implement frameworks will depend on a number of things such as the location of their country: e.g. land-locked countries and coastal countries will differ on how they implement a framework.

In assisting participants to come out with a final report, Mr Ofei-Nkansah noted that interim agreements are not conclusive, and went further to highlight some major lessons for ensuring an efficient global framework;

Major Lessons of a Global Framework for CRSA

1. Setting the minimum standard.
2. Allowing the different settings to play out so everyone gains or benefits.

3. Allowing parties to sequence things they are doing in a manner that suits them. E.g. A wish list by different African countries.
4. Allowing different skills at different levels
5. Noting irrigation as a major issue or concern to be addressed in the final report.

He also talked about how power influences framework with governments that are under the influence of private organisations pushing its frameworks to favour that sector. He therefore called on Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), in the natural settings, to recognise that their strengths and counter-ally with other CSOs as they come together, will ensure that there is a fair distribution of investments that benefits small scale farmers. Talking on power dynamics, he tasked CSOs to realise the power dynamics on the local and national levels, where at the local levels, chiefs wield power due to their control over land. He asked CSOs to ensure that we do not confine ourselves at working at just one level but the different levels of the country to ensure successful policy integration.

Following his presentation, participants engaged in a Q&A session with concerns being raised on the role of steering committees, effective framework agreements etc. Paschal raised an issue on how CSOs can ensure governments do not make agreements that are mere trade-offs during global discussions, with some other participants questioning the effectiveness of the role CSOs play. Mr Ofei-Nkansah also highlighted the selfishness and indifference of governments and their self-serving interests. He urged CSOs to send delegations and constantly remind governments of their mandate and thus ensure accountability. He also spoke about the need for members of the public to not remain nonchalant about the work of government and to hold them to accountability.

He shared his knowledge due to his involvement in international discussions, petitioning participants and CSOs to not take for granted the effects of CSOs participation at the decision-making level.

Continental and Regional Opportunities, Spaces and Challenges to the Advancement of the Right to Food and CRSA: *Zakaria Sambakhe*

The session continued with Zakaria Sambakhe, Regional Coordinator of the West African Food Span Network, urging CSOs to follow-up with governments by coming together and sending delegations to global platforms like the COP by being prepared to be involved on such global initiative and hold governments accountable. He called for CSOs to draw a roadmap that will guide them to connect with others and raise their voice together to ensure effective lobbying.

Mr Sambakhe then proceeded to make a presentation on, "*Continental and Regional Opportunities, Spaces and Challenges to the Advancement of the Right to Food*", beginning with an introduction on Africa's agenda for shared strategic framework.

Mr. Sambakhe defined the strategy as a, “shared strategic framework for inclusive growth and sustainable development and a global strategy to optimise the use of Africa’s resources for the benefit of all Africans” delving into Agenda 2063 and explaining that it works on six very key points;

1. 10 year development plans
2. Re-orient national plans and visions
3. Budgets development financing
4. Anchors all AU declarations on African development
5. Developed at the celebration of African Union 50 years celebration
6. Articulates Africa’s vision for the next 50 years

After the explanation of Agenda 2063, he also discussed the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), providing some rich insight on its operationalisation of the Malabo and the Maputo Declarations. He went further by providing some insight on other frameworks relevant to food right and security such as the Land Policy Initiative, the Forum for Agriculture Research in Africa (FARA), the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), African Forum for Agriculture Advisory Services (AFAAS), Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support Systems (ReSAKSS), New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition, Grow Africa, AGRA, the CAADP Non State Actors Coalition (CNC), and the many others.

A Q&A session followed his presentation, with concerns being raised about budget accountability and the need for governments and international organisations to open up and provide information on funds and budgets allocated to CRSA programmes so as to effectively monitor them.

TEA BREAK

SESSION TWO

Update on COP22: *Kenneth Nana Amoateng*

Kenneth Nana Amoateng of Abibiman FoodSPAN begun the next session by providing information about his recent participation in the 22nd session of the Conference of Parties (COP 22) held in Marrakech in Morocco from 7-18 November, 2016.

According to him, COP22’s African negotiators and CSOs were pushing for agriculture. He also disclosed that the US elections overshadowed the climate conference. He also talked about some major landmarks, such as the Paris Agreement coming into force. Morocco inaugurated the Morocco Investment Committee Fund and pledged \$500million to

assist in mitigation, the formation of a new climate renewable forum was also created, which Ghana was the first to sign. He added that CSOs were pushing for the end of the use of fossil fuels, and advocated the need to go for the use of renewables.

He stated that most countries pledged on Loss and Damage, with majority of the countries making sure the pledges were being enforced in their countries. He concluded by stating that monies pledged by developed countries were said to have been invested in developing countries, although most of the money and its end results were unaccounted for by developed countries who alleged they had invested it into fighting climate change.

He concluded by reiterating that CSOs need to engage in local initiatives and hold governments accountable for funding provided to them by international donors and countries.

Continuation: Visual Accountability and Continental and Regional Opportunities for Advocacy for CRSA:
Zakaria Sambakhe

Mr Sambakhe, following the COP22 update, continued the previously suspended presentation on regional opportunities for CRSA promotion by delving into the role of the Joint Sector Review (JSR), opportunities it presents for advocacy on CRSA, and the importance of mutual accountability in JSR.

According to Mr Sambakhe, JSR is one way of operationalising the Mutual Accountability Framework (MAF) at country levels in the enrolment of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) and listed the stages that the JSR processes creates such as:

- Assess the performance and results of the agriculture sector
- Assist governments to assess effectiveness of sector policies and strategies
- Assess how well state and non-state actors have implemented pledges and commitments (laid out in CAADP compacts, NAIPs, and other agreements)
- Guide decisions to continue with or make adjustments in implementation of NAIP or other agreements

He went further to discuss the principles of JSR, its purpose and benefits to CRSA, as well as what to monitor during JSRs. He also case studied how JSR has been used in Tanzania.

CAADP/SDGs/CNC and opportunities for engagements: *Alberta Guerra*

Following this, a 40-minutes long skype meeting was held with Alberta Guerra, ActionAid International/International Food Security Network (IFSN) Policy Advisor, who gave participants an update on the progress of CAADP, the SDGs, the CNC and other opportunities FoodSPAN can seize to enhance its engagements in the promotion of CRSA in agriculture.

LUNCH BREAK

SESSION THREE

Action Planning: *Zakaria Sambakhe*

Daniel Oberko facilitated this session and introduced Zakaria Sambakhe who provided some more information on CRSA and the Right to Food and gave pointers on how CSOs can document their impacts, mobilise efforts and sustain their impacts to raise funds/money.

Working with Mr Oberko, Mr Sambakhe started the Action Planning session. The discussions were instructed to take into account the aim of the action plan; to influence regional and national policies. Participants were also informed that they will be divided into two groups to discuss and share information on two major things within the regional and national levels. The two groups were to discuss:

1. Action Plans
2. Risk Analysis/Assessment

Kick-starting the mission of the session, the 18 member team, excluding the two rapporteurs, were divided into the two groups.

Group 1: Action Plan

Their objective was to discuss and formulate action plans, opportunities and avenues that are available for CSOs to take advantage of.

Group 2: Risk Assessment

- a. What risks confronts CSOs in their policy and campaign work?
- b. What could be the impact of these risks?
- c. How can CSOs address these risks?
- d. Who will be responsible in addressing these risks?

The two teams were given 40 minutes to deliberate on these two core issues.

Attached below are the various submissions from the groups

Proposed Action Plans and Risk Assessments

Group 1: What opportunities and avenues are there to take advantage of?

Opportunities outside the Network

Countries	Opportunities for policy influence	Actions	Timeline	Responsible
GHANA	Our own network is an opportunity (strength)	Maintain and Increase number (membership for the purpose of advocacy) and fundraising, communication	2017 - 2018	Food SPAN & WAFSN
	METASIP	To have good representative (sharing feedbacks to the members) Share information with the members	2017 - 2018	Food SPAN & WAFSN
	JSR	Build CSO or platform member capacity on the policies Collect evidence database from the ground	2017 - 2018	Food SPAN & WAFSN

		Share your work with the secretariat		
	CAADP country team	To have good representative (sharing feedbacks to the members) Share information with the members	2017 - 2018	Food SPAN & WAFSN
	CNC/NSA	Enhance the engagement (create a WhatsApp platform)	2017 - 2018	Food SPAN & WAFSN
	ANNUAL BUDGET	Capacity building on budget analysis and tracking	2017 - 2018	Food SPAN & WAFSN
	RESAKSS/SAKSS	Access to relevant information Develop research proposal for funding	2017 - 2018	Food SPAN & WAFSN
	ECOWAP	Find out about CSO that have observer status especially on agriculture and environment	2017 - 2018	Food SPAN & WAFSN
	SDG	Capacity building on SDG • Identification of	2017 - 2018	Food SPAN & WAFSN

		<p>the priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement on the leader organization • Position paper 		
	UNFCCC		2017 - 2018	Food SPAN & WAFSN
	Parliament select committee on Agriculture		2017 - 2018	Food SPAN & WAFSN
Senegal				Food SPAN & WAFSN
				Food SPAN & WAFSN
				Food SPAN & WAFSN
				Food SPAN & WAFSN
				Food SPAN & WAFSN
				Food SPAN & WAFSN
				Food SPAN & WAFSN
Gambia				

Question 2: Risk Analysis

RISK	IMPACT	SOLUTION	RESPONSIBILITY
Change in Government	It will bring a stop to our advocacy plans	Lobby legislative body for a possible legislative instrument	FoodSPAN & WAFSN
Government's Posture/Political Will	Makes advocacy work on CRSA and others more difficult	Lobby for long term national plans backed by a legislative instrument	FoodSPAN & WAFSN
Frequent Change in Government Appointees	It will not bring consistency	Having a strong individual with good standing and network to advocate for changes in policy	FoodSPAN & WAFSN
Change in Government Attitude or Policy	It brings a halt to advocacy plans and actions	Have a professional/expert to push the agenda	FoodSPAN & WAFSN
Legitimacy/ Popular support for CSOs/Networks in policy advocacy	It will lead to a non-effectiveness of the network	Mobilize for popular support	FoodSPAN & WAFSN
Credibility of CSOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSO will not be taken serious 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved CSO accountability and transparency Sharing reports and other relevant 	FoodSPAN & WAFSN

		information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize AGMs/Membership meetings 	
Possible funding difficulty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Less Voice Difficult for CSOs to influence policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking for and building long term partnerships for support Joint fundraising 	FoodSPAN & WAFSN
Fatigue	Stall of CSO activism	Continuous sensitization of CSOs	FoodSPAN & WAFSN
Cultural Barriers	Difficulty in Disseminating information	Adapt the non-formal approach	FoodSPAN & WAFSN
Conflict	Less financial resources for investment in agriculture	CSOs involved in peace building efforts	FoodSPAN & WAFSN

STEERING COMMITTEE PROPOSED CHANGES: *Daniel Oberko*

Following these discussions, Daniel Oberko alerted participants of the FoodSPAN's Steering Committee's objective of changing its leadership.

According to him, FoodSPAN has been divided into three zones: Northern Zone, Southern Zone and Middle Zone, each with a corresponding leading organisation as mandated by the FoodSPAN Constitution.

Mr Oberko concluded by informing participants of the steering committee's decision to make some changes to its leadership on the last day of the workshop with FoodSPAN Coordinator, Daniel Oberko and FoodSPAN Chair, Mr Kingsley Ofei-Nkansah, noting that the absence of some organisations did not equate to their dismissal from the Secretariat.

This was duly accepted by members.

SELECTION OF WORKING PAPER TEAM: *Daniel Oberko*

Participants selected four members who will comprise of the Position Paper team. They are listed below:

1. Zakaria Sambakhe – Head of Programmes, ActionAid Senegal/IFSN
2. Daniel Oberko – Coordinator, FoodSPAN
3. Samuel Owusu-Takyi – Director, K.I.T.A. Ghana
4. Deborah Smallie Lomotey – Communications Officer, ActionAid Ghana

The workshop was brought to a close and members of the Position Paper team meet to begin drafting together a position paper for the correction and approval of members before the end of the workshop.

DAY 3

ATTENDANTS

1. Daniel Oberko – Coordinator, FoodSPAN
2. Kingsley Ofei-Nkansah – Chairman, FoodSPAN
3. Duti Conrad Biilarh – Advocacy and M&E Officer, TradeAID Integrated
4. Paschal A. Kaba – Senior Programme Officer, CEDA
5. Richard Beccles – Programme Officer, GAWU
6. Samuel Entee – Programme Officer, ISEES
7. Samuel Owusu-Takyi – Director, K.I.T.A. Ghana
8. Mavis Bocechie Abebrese – WAD Coordinator, Catholic Archdiocese
9. Mumumi Abdul-Karim – Programme Officer, Abibiman Foundation
10. Zakaria A. Rashid – Director, UrbANet
11. Kenneth Nana Amoateng – Director, Abibiman, FoodSPAN
12. Nicholas Smith – Deputy Director, CEWEFIA
13. Philip Amoah – Programme Manager, ECASARD
14. Anthony Mawuena – Chairperson, FBO
15. Zakaria Sambakhe – Head of Programmes, ActionAid Senegal/IFSN
16. Stephen Caleb Opuni – Programme Manager, ActionAid Ghana
17. Vivian Acheampong – Head of Human Resource and Organisational Development, ActionAid Ghana
18. Salifu Justice Addel – Service Personnel, Greater Accra/Volta Region Team, ActionAid Ghana
19. Deborah Smallie Lomotey – Communications Officer, ActionAid Ghana.
20. Edward Asewe – CIAD

SESSION ONE

The final day of the workshop begun with members of the Position Paper team holding a brief meeting to discuss the position paper amongst themselves. Following suggested amendments and corrections, the team was left to finish the paper and present it for final approval.

Update on Progress so Far (CAADP/SDGs/CNC): *Buba Khan*

Buba Khan, ActionAid International's Right to Food Coordinator, with assistance from Zakaria Sambakhe, Regional Coordinator of the West African Food Span Network, continued the session with a skype call.

After the Skype meeting, the Position Paper was corrected and re-introduced to members and further changes made.

Respondents suggested recommendations be made to governments, CSOs and smallholder farmers and grassroots organisations on how they can be involved in influencing policies to ensure CRSA usage.

Setting the Agenda – Post IFSN-111: *Stephen Caleb Opuni*

Mr Opuni begun this session and participants brought their various ideas of sustaining FoodSPAN after the end of its funding year.

Some of the suggestions included:

1. Showing the results of FoodSPAN and CRSA interventions to increase awareness and attract funding
2. Effectively linking up the four networks: Ghana, Senegal, Gambia and Burkina Faso to enhance information sharing by using electronic platforms such as WhatsApp, websites, e-mails, etc. They recommended the sharing of newsletters, workshop reports, etc across the countries.
3. Moving as a national network with the objective of getting funding from government
4. Strengthening informational flow from regional coordinators to national coordinators that tapers down to members of the networks and vice versa.
5. Enhancing country Secretariats.

Mr Ofei-Nkansah called on members to first have clarity on who members are, and institutionalise information exchange. He also called on the network to collate information gathered in a manner that makes it useable and relevant to the different contexts. He emphasised the role of the Coordinator as an information sharer and cautioned the network and its members to be careful and not burden members with too much information.

TEA BREAK

SESSION TWO

Joint Action, WAFSN: *Zakaria Sambakhe*

The Coordinator for WAFSN listed the suggested joint actions that WAFSN members can enrol to ensure policy is being influenced towards CRSA. They include:

1. Institutionalisation of information
2. Create virtual exchange platforms such as WhatsApp, e-mails,
3. Meetings between the 4 networks to draw up activities to advance efforts of the network.
4. Build capacity as a lobby, advocacy and policy work group.
5. Document best practices
6. Joint application, proposal for funding.

CONCLUDING STATEMENTS: *Stephen Caleb Opuni, Zakari Sambakhe, Kingsley Ofei-Nkansah*

In the stead of the Country Director of ActionAid Ghana, Sumaila Abdul-Rahman, Stephen Caleb Opuni reiterated AAG's mission to working with people living in poverty and AAG's commitment to the use of Climate Resilient Sustainable Agriculture as enshrined in Mission 1 of our Country Strategy Paper V (CSP V) for the period of 2015-2019.

He pledged AAG's commitment to contributing its efforts to strengthening the efforts of FoodSPAN in Ghana and across West Africa and the world. He also thanked participants for their involvements and contributions.

WAFSN Coordinator also acknowledged the efforts of participants, and thanked the AAG team for hosting the workshop on CRSA. He discussed the need to revitalise the network in Burkina Faso and to strengthen its regional secretariat, a weakness which has led to the relocation of the networks regional office to Gambia. He called on participants to be involved and have a clear direction in other to take hold of opportunities. He also called for effective mobilisation to tackle climate change and promote CRSA.

With this said, Chairperson of the Network, Mr Kingsley Ofei-Nkansah, brought the workshop to a successful finish by calling on the network to expand its work to other countries in Africa, especially Nigeria where he highlighted the possibilities an expansion of FoodSPAN in the country will bring to the network. He motivated members to keep the network going and urged individuals to internalise everything that has happened and been shared at the workshop and asked participants to continue to build on them. Calling them to be mindless of the status of Agriculture and CRSA in West Africa, and hence firm up and expand the growth of the WAFSN.