CARD History

Despite slowdowns in 1992, 2009, and 2016, Africa’s economy has been steadily expanding since the 1990s. Increase in household income, coupled with population growth and rapid urbanization, has caused shifts in the level and pattern of food consumption. Amongst staple crops, rice consumption showed a significant increase of approximately 37% during the period 1999-2007, comparatively higher than increases for other crops such as maize (20%), sorghum (21%) and cassava (32%). Whilst production is also on the rise, it has not been able to keep on par with the soaring consumption. Subsequently, this gap has been covered by imports, mainly from Asia, causing substantial strain on the foreign reserves of African countries.

In light of this situation, the Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD), and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) proposed a joint initiative for African rice sector development as a means to promote Green Revolution in Africa. Subsequently, the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD) was established in 2008 at the 4th Tokyo International Conference for African Development (TICAD IV) as a consultative group comprising bilateral and multilateral donors as well as African and international institutions.

CARD Achievement of Phase 1

In Sub Saharan Africa, over the last 10 years CARD worked mainly through 1) support for developing and implementing their National Rice Development Strategy (NRDS), and 2) provision of capacity development program for all rice value chain actors.

Through the support on formulation of NRDS, together with the efforts by the CARD member countries and partners to put the strategy into action, the member countries formulated 218 projects from their Rice Strategy, which amounted to 9 billion USD.

According to FAOSTAT, the significant progress made in rice production in Sub-Sahara Africa since 2008 that resulted in 108% achievement (from 14 million in 2008 to 30.1 million metric tons in 2017 (provisional)) against the overall goal of CARD (28 million metric tons).

Formulation of NRDS

218 PROJECTS

9Bn USD
03 Introduction of Phase 2

In the 7th General Meeting in October 2018, while noting the achievement of the set target of phase 1, all CARD stakeholders recognized the remaining challenges ahead, and therefore unanimously agreed to enter into the 2nd phase of CARD, from 2019 to 2030.

**Target:** The new CARD target is set to increase rice production from 28M tonnes to 56M tonnes by 2030. To achieve this goal, CARD aims to continue to support the Ministry of Agriculture in each involved country to formulate and revise their National Rice Development Strategy (NRDS) and focus on its implementation in a more coordinated manner.

Contribution to SDGs

An objective of the 2nd phase of CARD is to contribute to **SDG 2:** zero hunger, which aims to end hunger, achieve food security and nutrition, together with **SDG 8** and **SDG 17**.

04 Operational Structure

The organizational structure of CARD consists of General Meeting, Steering Committee, (18 partner organizations are the members) and the Secretariat. CARD partners work together for:

- Capacity development of the rice sector
- Increased investment through enable environment
- Coordination and harmonization of assistance for 32 CARD member states

05 Participating Countries
Rice Approach

The second phase of CARD is to adopt the “RICE” approach that is composed of Resilience, Industrialization, Competitiveness and Empowerment components, while maintaining value chain approach, capacity building and strong partnership with private sector as cross cutting approaches.

**R** Resilience will handle adaptation to climate change through seed breeding and dissemination as well as irrigation development.

**I** Industrialization will address the issues of mechanization, access to local and regional markets and support for private sector involvement and investment.

**C** Competitiveness will include dissemination of certified seed and improvement of post-harvest technologies.

**E** Empowerment will deal with improving household incomes and livelihoods as well as improving access to finance for smallholder farmers, a majority of whom, are women.

Coalition for African Rice Development

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