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SOUTHERN AFRICA

FY 2010 Implementation Plan

U.S. Government Working Document

The Feed the Future (FTF) FY 2010 implementation plans are working documents outlining U.S. government planning for the first year of the Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative. These plans represent a transition towards the development of multiyear strategies and are targeted at investments that lay the foundation for a new country-level and coordinated approach with a diversity of partners. Multiyear strategies are under development that will span development and diplomatic actions across multiple USG agencies.

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

ACTESA	Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa
AFSTA	African Seed Trade Association
AGCI	African Growth and Competitiveness Initiative
AgCLIR	Agricultural Commercial Law and Institutional Review
AGOA	African Growth and Opportunity Act
AU	African Union
ASARECA	Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in East and central Africa
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program
CARDESA	Centre for Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa
CDC	Center for Disease Control
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
COMESA	Common Market for East and Southern Africa
CORAF	West and Central African council for agricultural research and development
DFID	Department for International Development (United Kingdom)
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EAC	East Africa Community
EC	European Commission
FANR	Food Agriculture and Natural Resources
FANRPAN	Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FAS	Foreign Agricultural Service of USDA
FEWSNET	Famine Early Warning Systems Network
FFP	Food for Peace Program
FTA	Free Trade Area
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GFSR	Global Food Security Response
GMOs	Genetically Modified Organisms
GTZ	German International Cooperation Enterprise
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ICPs	International Cooperating Partners
IEHA	Initiative to End Hunger in Africa
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
MAPP	Multi-Country Agriculture Productivity Programme of SADC
MCC	Millennium Challenge Cooperation
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MYAP	Multi-Year Assistance Program
NARS	National Agricultural Research System
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGOs	Non-governmental Organizations
OFDA	Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID)
PASA	Participating Agency Service Agreement
PEPFAR	President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief
RAP	Regional Agriculture Policy (SADC)
RECs	Regional Economic Communities
ReSAKSS SA	Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System Southern Africa
RISDP	Regional Indicative Strategic Development Programme (SADC)
RUFORUM	Regional University Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture

SACAU	Southern Africa Confederation of Agriculture Unions
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SATH	Southern Africa Trade Hub
SDC	Swiss Development Cooperation
SIPO	Strategic Indicative Plan for the Organ on Politics, Defense and Security Cooperation (SADC)
SOAG	Strategic Objective Agreement
SPS	Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards
SSA	Sub-Saharan Africa
SSSN	SADC Seed Security Network
TIFI	Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment (SADC Directorate)
UK	United Kingdom
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USAID/SA	United States Agency for International Development Southern Africa
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USG	United States Government
USTR	United States Trade Representative
WTO	World Trade Organization

I. INTRODUCTION

I.1. BACKGROUND: POVERTY, HUNGER, AND AGRICULTURE

Southern Africa is a large, diverse, region comprising 15 countries. Its economies face challenges of poverty, frequent natural and man-made disasters, and food insecurity. The region includes a few countries—South Africa, Botswana and Mauritius—whose GDPs have risen relatively quickly, while other countries, for the most part, have been left behind. In all countries, including South Africa, large numbers of rural poor have not benefited from growth, are relatively much more vulnerable to economic shocks and, in general, worse off.

Despite the best efforts of national governments, civil society, and donors, the Human Development and Human Poverty indicators for the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) region show an increase in the regional poverty rate over the past 10 years. While in 1998, 31.5%¹ of the population was living in poverty, more than 43.5% were living in poverty² in 2008. Associated with these high levels of poverty is the severity of hunger within the region, which ranges from a rate of 7.2 (weighted indicators)³ in South Africa (moderate) to 41.5 in Angola (extremely alarming). Between 1990 and 2009 the DRC, Swaziland and Zimbabwe experienced increases in hunger. As a region, Southern Africa has a high average hunger rate, currently above 20%, with nine of 15 Southern African countries having rates between alarming and extremely alarming.

Agriculture is the dominant economic sector in the SADC regional economy, contributing up to 35% to its GDP. Approximately 70% of its people depend on agriculture for food, income and employment. Agricultural commodities and produce are the principal exports in many countries, on average contributing approximately 13% to total export earnings and 66% to the value of intra-regional trade.⁴ For these reasons, the performance of the agriculture sector has a strong influence on the economic growth, level of employment, demand for other goods, economic stability, food security and overall poverty of SADC countries and the region as a whole.

Southern Africa, as a region, is chronically vulnerable to food insecurity that extends for periods of several years. This is due to the region's susceptibility to droughts, floods, plant pests and animal diseases, the vulnerability of the population to HIV/AIDS infection,; political instability, and its inadequate irrigation and transport infrastructure. Chronic food shortages exist at both the national and household levels throughout the region. There is low productivity from the great majority of rural smallholders. These agricultural sector vulnerabilities were worsened with global food price increases for key cereal grains in 2007-2008. With variations across countries, food prices increased in 2008-2009 between 11% and 20% across the region.⁵

Additionally, Southern Africa has the highest HIV prevalence rates of any region in the world, with three of the highest prevalence countries globally. Further, the rate of HIV-TB co-infection is an astonishing 60%⁶. This combination of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, high poverty levels and the food price increase of 2007-2008 compounded regional food insecurity, especially for vulnerable populations.

Options for improving food security in the region include increasing productivity with the

¹ UN Figures

² ReSAKSS Estimates based on WDI, 2008; UN Statistics Division; IMF 2008 and ReSAKSS data collection.

³ Global Hunger Index combines three equally weighted indicators – 1. Proportion on undernourished as a percentage of the population; 2. Prevalence of underweight in children under age of five; and 3. Mortality rate of children under the age of five.

⁴ SADC FANR Annual Report 2009

⁵ ReSAKSS Studies 2008

⁶ Range is between 50% and 60%, Mission Health Office estimate

use of improved agricultural technologies, developing markets, improving the enabling environment for growth through policy reform, and eliminating food deficits at the regional level. Linking surplus and deficit areas through more efficient markets and trade would reduce dependence on food imports (from South Africa and from outside of the region) and on food aid.

However, smallholder agriculture in the region remains underdeveloped and the majority of its farmers are resource-poor. There is poor utilization of abundant natural resources such as water, fisheries, forest and wildlife. The food insecurity situation is exacerbated by climate-change phenomena, predicted to become more severe and frequent over the next decade.

Other key challenges and constraints to increasing food security for the Southern Africa region include an over dependence on rain-fed agriculture, poor access and utilization of improved inputs such as seed and fertilizer, and barriers to markets and trade. All of these issues are regional in scope, have multi-country implications and, affect the broad agro-ecological bands that cross Southern Africa. The region as a whole should, therefore, take appropriate, concerted action to address these issues, many of which are cross-border in nature and impact negatively and inordinately on the region's very poor and otherwise vulnerable populations.

1.2. IMPORTANCE OF TRADE AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION TO FOOD SECURITY

The importance of trade in the region cannot be overstated. Increasing regional trade and opening up an integrated regional market for staples and other agricultural products in Southern Africa will have multiple benefits. Regional food balance sheets show that certain countries face food crises in years when there is more than enough food in other countries within the SADC region. This is usually caused by variable weather conditions and other factors causing output in a given country to fluctuate widely, leading to food shortages in

certain areas and surpluses in others during the same year.

Open regional trade and increased investment in trade infrastructure to move staple foods would permit countries and areas within countries to take advantage of regional diversity and different harvest periods for the same and/or substitute crops and livestock products. Staple foods could then move from surplus to deficit areas. A country's regional comparative advantage and aspects from which it would expect better returns is by pursuing programs at a regional level.

The Southern Africa region also plays a major role in inter-regional trade on the continent as a whole. Of the top ten importers of African products in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), seven are in Southern Africa and four are among the top ten exporters to Africa. The impact of South Africa, the trade and economic powerhouse in the region, is significant as it plays a predominant role in determining intra-regional trade, both exports to and imports from the SADC region. South Africa alone accounts for 44% of intra-regional exports and 40% on intra-regional imports.⁷ South Africa participates in 16 of the 25 largest (by value) trade relationships on the continent, all clustered in Southern Africa. As South Africa is the largest importer and exporter of food within the region⁸, it must be considered as a critical stakeholder in achieving regional food security.

A recent study by Diao et. al. (2008) as part of the ReSAKSS program implemented by the International Food Research Institute (IFPRI) uses an economy-wide, multi-market model to assess the likely impacts of doubling African staples production and improving regional market integration⁹. Production can be doubled by realizing achievable increases in crop yields, combined with a modest increase in cropped

⁷ Source: UNCTAD 2008

⁸ UN Conference on Trade and Development – Economic Development in Africa Report 2009

⁹ Diao, X et al. (2008). *Accelerating Africa's Food Production in Response to Rising Food Prices – Impacts and Requisite Actions*. ReSAKSS Working Paper 3.

area. Within the model, improved market integration is achieved by eliminating tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade and by improving transportation networks. The benefits are disaggregated into those that arise from growth in production only and additional benefits from more integrated regional markets. The model projects that significant reductions in poverty, increased staple production, and enhanced market integration, should reduce poverty by 4.8 million people in Mozambique, by 3.4 million people in Malawi, and 8.4 million people in the rest of Southern Africa.¹⁰

1.3. THE ROLE OF SADC AND OTHER REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES (RECS)

Removing obstacles that impede the expansion of intra-regional trade, especially in staples, is expected to change the food security situation by making trade more effective in addressing food security. The challenges of developing external partnerships, such as multilateral, regional and bilateral agreements, also add to the complexity of the situation in the region.

To address the rationalization of multiple regional economic communities and their attendant overlapping memberships, East and Southern Africa Economic groupings—the Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA), the East Africa Community (ECA) and SADC—held a tripartite summit on October 22, 2008 to accelerate economic integration of the continent. The aim was to achieve economic growth, reduce poverty and attain sustainable economic development.

The tripartite summit agreed on a program of harmonization of trading arrangements amongst the three RECs, free movement of business persons, and joint implementation of an inter-regional infrastructure program as well as other institutional arrangements that would benefit from their cooperation.

The three RECs currently have a combined population of 527 million and combined GDP of US \$625 billion. The SADC, COMESA, and Southern African governments have committed themselves to increasing integrated regional markets and are moving from Free Trade Areas to Customs Unions. COMESA launched a Customs Union in June 2009. SADC is moving towards a Customs Union target date of 2010.

Of the fifteen SADC member countries, eight are also COMESA members (Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Tanzania are not COMESA members). COMESA is aggressively pursuing a regional CAADP Compact, and with COMESA assistance, member countries are well in the process of developing their CAADP Compacts. Mozambique through the assistance of COMESA is also pursuing its CAADP Compact.

For Southern Africa, SADC has developed a Regional Strategic Plan, a Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP), and the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR) strategy. These provide a broad spectrum of proposed activities, including in agriculture, which forms the basis for the CAADP Compact. SADC member states are increasing their efforts to conclude their CAADP Compacts.

Tanzania has appointed a CAADP contact person and has just concluded a lengthy consultative process on a national agriculture plan. Tanzania is now moving ahead with a request to the African Union (AU) for a review team to conduct an assessment of their process and match with the CAADP process. Namibia and Mozambique are also moving ahead with roundtable processes in 2010.

By addressing issues of trade from a regional platform, economies of scale can be achieved by identifying multiple partners at national levels and moving technologies and knowledge of markets to market participants more efficiently than could be done on a country-by-country basis alone. African decision makers have long recognized the importance of regional economic cooperation and integration as a

¹⁰ Ibid.

means for accelerating and consolidating economic and social development. The leadership within Southern Africa is no exception.

This concept is considered key to achieving food security within the region and is a central objective of the regional CAADP effort. Given the regional nature of the agricultural development and food security problems in Southern Africa, a regional-level approach is required to promote multi-country cooperation and coordination, particularly for improving trade and policy coherence, market development and more effective technology generation and dissemination.

1.4. USAID/SOUTHERN AFRICA PROPOSED PROGRAM

Within this economic, political, and geographical environment, USAID/SA will support the Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative (GHFSI) with the objective of “Enhanced Regional Food Security through Increased Agricultural Productivity and Regionally Integrated Markets to Sustainably Reduce Hunger”. The regional program will complement and support programs of the bilateral governments and missions, and work toward developing sound investment plans according to the principles of CAADP and the broader objectives of the GHFSI and the Millennium Development Goal targets of halving the number of people living in extreme poverty and suffering from hunger and malnutrition by 2015.

This will be done through program interventions that address a number of enabling-environment issues, particularly those related to market development and trade that cannot be addressed through bilateral efforts or by any one government. The program will also support regional market development and technology generation through support to key private sector groups and regional institutions charged with agricultural research. USAID/SA will take a leadership role in providing regional coordination for knowledge management and analytical services through its partnership with ReSAKSS and other specialized regional

organizations such as FANRPAN, to inform the regional and bilateral CAADP process and guide the identification of priority investments.

2. FY 2010 OBJECTIVES

USAID/SA has defined the specific objective for the Southern Africa region as “Enhanced Regional Food Security through Increased Agricultural Productivity and Regionally Integrated Markets to Sustainably Reduce Hunger”. Five core investment areas have been identified in the GHFSI framework:

- Improved access to well-functioning markets;
- Improved agricultural productivity;
- Increased private investment in agriculture and nutrition-related activities;
- Improved nutrition-related behaviors such as consumption of nutritious foods; and
- Improved policies to support agricultural sector growth.

It is worth noting that the first four investment areas are consistent with the second-level objectives of the GHFSI Results Framework. The fifth area relating to policy was elevated from a project-level outcome to a core investment area due to the importance of policy initiatives emanating from the GHFSI and CAADP analytical agendas to a regional program.

In 2010, the USAID/SA program will use its GHFSI resources to implement a set of interventions that will build on the recent achievements of regional partners in several important areas. USAID/SA will also support key sectoral analyses that will inform the GHFSI analytical agenda and lay the groundwork for investments and programs for 2011 and beyond.

These interventions reflect difficult strategic choices that were required in light of a less-than-anticipated allocation of GHFSI resources for 2010. Nonetheless, USAID/SA is confident

that the program can build on past investments and on the momentum generated by key partners to have a broad impact and achieve important GHFSI objectives.

USAID/SA will continue to work with donors, USG, and other regional partners on several key initiatives. This coordinated approach has the potential to leverage additional funding for the program. Much progress is also anticipated for the formulation of an East and Southern Africa regional CAADP Compact under the leadership of COMESA, in close collaboration with SADC, as well as additional progress in providing analytical support to regional missions for completing their bilateral CAADP Compacts.

2.1. AFRICAN REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS-LED COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY

To ensure the effective and efficient use of resources over the coming year, USAID/SA will broaden and deepen engagement with SADC, COMESA (in collaboration with the USAID East Africa Mission), NEPAD/CAADP, regional stakeholders (especially regional farmer organization SACAU), private sector organizations (such as commodity exchanges), key African institutions and international organizations present in the region, and the donor community. SADC, the RECs and multilateral organizations have all committed considerable resources to addressing food insecurity. These efforts have resulted in a number of plans, resolutions and frameworks.

USAID/SA believes that SADC is uniquely positioned to lead the region in aligning these into a coherent plan of action that will appropriately prioritize member states' interventions in line with CAADP principles and objectives. The major SADC policy frameworks, namely the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) and the Strategic Indicative Plan for the Organ on Politics, Defense and Security Cooperation (SIPO) have been adopted by SADC Heads of State. These frameworks are intended to drive socio-economic integration and political cooperation

and to guide the implementation and prioritization of programs to enhance competitiveness in the region.

SADC Heads of State are also signatories to the African Union New Partnership for Africa's Development (AU/NEPAD) CAADP. They have endorsed CAADP as a strategic framework to guide country development efforts and partnerships in the agricultural sector. USAID/SA and other donors (DFID, CIDA, the Swiss Development Agency (SDC) and others) will assist SADC to restructure the RISDP in line with the NEPAD/CAADP framework and processes, and to position SADC to lead the CAADP agenda in the region. Agriculture, sustainable food security and nutrition are three of the main intervention areas identified in the RISDP.

2.1.1. Consultative Process

Both the regional portfolio and this implementation plan are based on consultative processes with the RECs, which set priorities and implement programs for regional integration on behalf of their member states. Their priorities and programs are articulated in a regular series of meetings at various levels including: Permanent Secretaries, Ministers, Council of Ministers, and Heads of States Summits. Discussions on food security issues in SADC date back to 1997. The SADC Council of Ministers approved a Food Security Framework, which is closely aligned with the CAADP framework and contains three strategies: (1) Improved Food Availability; (2) Improved Access to Food; and (3) Improved Nutrition

To establish a coherent approach to implement these strategies, several consultative initiatives have been pursued. In May 2004, the Dar es Salaam Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security in the SADC Region laid the foundation for the region to address the problem of food insecurity. In April 2008, SADC held a high-level conference in Mauritius on Poverty and Development. This was followed in July 2008 by a meeting of the SADC Task Force of Ministers of Trade, Finance and Agriculture (Lusaka, Zambia), to discuss ways of mitigating the

effects of increasing food prices and to improve the food security situation in the region.

The COMESA Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa (ACTESA) advocates and assists East and southern Africa to implement CAADP Pillars¹¹ II and III by accelerating the integration of trade of staple foods and increasing access to markets for smallholder farmers for their staples. ACTESA has organized a series of meetings with stakeholders to set its priorities.

SADC Ministers of Agriculture have endorsed and agreed on the re-establishment of a sub-regional agricultural research organization, The Center for Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa (CARDESA). CARDESA will implement CAADP Pillar IV (agricultural research) in line with the CAADP process. USAID/SA is providing funding for the regional commodity research networks, and through IFPRI/ReSAKSS SA, for a regional research and development priority study. The study will be concluded by May 2010 and will provide priority investment areas for regional agriculture research and development.

The Food Security Policy and strategies under the RISDP address SADC strategic priorities to develop effective disaster preparedness and management mechanisms by implementing programs and projects aimed at early detection, early warning and mitigating the effects of disasters. The main achievements have been in information generation and early warning through the Regional Early Warning System, the Regional Remote Sensing Project, and Data Management and Analysis Projects. SADC has a Regional Food Security Training Program that focuses on building capacity of regional training institutions, while other SADC programs have concentrated on promoting seed availability and developing and disseminating participatory methodologies.

¹¹ The CAADP work falls under four pillars: (I) Land and Water Management, (II) Market Access; (III) Food Supply and Hunger; and (IV) Agricultural Research.

While SADC and other regional institutions have made significant progress on several fronts, additional analysis and planning is still required in some important areas. Specific issues such as food safety have been addressed in a fragmented manner, with no clear delegation of authority or accountability for policy development to facilitate regional positions on required regulations and procedures on food safety and quality. Furthermore, the food, agriculture and natural resources (FANR) sector has not been adequately linked to other sectors, such as rural infrastructure, transport and tourism. There is an urgent need for information on the operations of grain and cereal markets in the region to facilitate trade in food products. Within FANR, there are several strategies on capacity building. However, none of these addresses agribusiness, agro-processing or trade in agricultural products. The absence of a binding legal instrument on food security and agricultural development in general is a major weakness in the food security strategy.

The 2007-2008 food crisis in the region highlighted the need for increased cooperation in areas such as genetically modified organisms (GMOs) through support of a harmonized regional bio-safety framework, standardized regional sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures, and trade. Much recent progress has been made in the regional seed program, which addresses enhancing the multiplication of seed on improved varieties, harmonization of seed release and testing procedures, and seed laws in the region. However, much remains to be done in policy enforcement and research and multiplication of new varieties. National-level implementation of the harmonized system will increase trade and private sector investment in seeds across the region and allow smallholder access to improved seeds. For the most part, issues related to food security and nutrition have not been highlighted in overall discussions and analyses. Nutritional concerns and programs will require greater emphasis in the future.

2.1.2. Status of CAADP

FANRPAN—a regional policy analysis network established by the SADC Ministers of Agriculture—is taking the lead in developing a CAADP Regional Compact for COMESA. Eight southern Africa countries have dual membership in SADC and COMESA, and thus, it was envisioned by the food security donor group that the three RECs in East and southern Africa (COMESA-EAC-SADC) would develop a single Compact led by COMESA to lend greater coherence over the three zones.

SADC member states are in various stages of the CAADP Compact process. Good progress has taken place on CAADP round table processes in Malawi, Swaziland (to sign 4th March 2010) and Zambia. Mauritius, the DRC, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania and Zimbabwe are also progressing towards holding round tables in 2010 and signing of Compacts. The NEPAD Secretariat CAADP Coordination team is in consultation with the SADC Secretariat for hosting of the next Partnership Platform (PP) in the SADC region.

At the last CAADP PP (held in Abuja November 7-14, 2009), SADC was able to take advantage of discussions with the ECOWAS Regional Agriculture Policy cell (ECOWAP) to gather lessons learned that SADC will take into consideration in developing its Regional Agriculture Policy (RAP). The SADC Multi-country Agricultural Productivity Program (MAPP) translates CAADP Pillar IV (agricultural research) into a program of activities in agricultural research, technology generation, dissemination and adoption. The MAPP is designed as a 15-year program of change, arranged around three five-year phases. The MAPP overall goal is to strengthen linkages among agricultural institutions in the SADC region in order to accelerate smallholder productivity. The results will be smallholder focused and will facilitate farmer access to improved agricultural technologies, which will create agricultural growth, reduce poverty, and increase incomes, especially amongst the rural poor in line with the goals of the RISDP and

CAADP. The re-established CARDESA will help to implement MAPP.

2.2. AFRICAN CAPACITY BUILDING

Under the GHFSI, USAID/SA will prioritize investments in capacity building of regional institutions and individuals as a key component to achieving enhanced food security. It is through these key regional institutions that improved cooperation and coordination can be achieved by member states in the areas of market integration and trade, harmonized policies across an array of areas, and improved availability of improved agricultural technologies. SADC as a region suffers from weak institutions that lack skills in prioritizing investment areas that sustain growth. The SADC Secretariat itself has poor technical and managerial skills and low human capacity.

Regional institutions, with the exception of those located in South Africa, lack the necessary tools and expertise to match the technical requirements of development activities to economic trends in the region. In most SADC member states, there are weak links within and across countries, among national and regional agricultural researchers and extension and training institutions that also carry out research. Many of these institutions are chronically under-resourced. There is a need to build SADC capacity so it can better engage in and address these issues, including policies that relate to the CAADP framework as well as coordination and monitoring of member states.

In addition to the SADC Secretariat, other important partners that require capacity building as identified by USAID/SA and the FANR Directorate include the Southern Africa Confederation of Agriculture Unions (SACAU), national research centers, regional policy research networks, agricultural service providers, regional private sector organizations, and regional commodity research networks (e.g., Southern Africa Roots and Tubers Research Networks, Legumes Network, and Horticulture Network).

3. TARGET GROUPS BY LOCATION AND INCOME

The SADC Secretariat with the assistance of ReSAKSS SA provides analysis of key trends and development constraints throughout the region. The following provides important insight on priority groups that will be targeted by GHFSI bilateral programs and at regional level. SADC, with USAID/SA assistance, will continue to identify important areas requiring additional analysis as the GHFSI program goes forward.

3.1. TARGET BENEFICIARIES

The ultimate beneficiaries of the regional program will be farmers (women and men), farmer groups, and organizations within the agricultural value chain. USAID/SA will focus on capacity development and support for regional agriculture and food security institutions that develop policies, conduct and disseminate applied research, promote regional market development and trade facilitation, and carry out food-aid assessments and delivery. Through this support, the program will establish an enabling environment and institutional structure capable of responding to the needs of these important beneficiary groups. Thus, the initial focus for USAID/SA will be on the enabling environment and the building of regional systems that facilitate and strengthen linkages between producers and markets. These investments will also help coordinate a number of regional actors and processes necessary for African regional institutions, donors, and regional stakeholders to align their objectives to the principles of the CAADP framework.

3.2. ENSURING EQUITABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN AND YOUTH

3.2.1. Women

From production to processing, women provide over 70% of the labor force required in agriculture. The SADC Gender Unit is responsible for advising on matters pertaining

to gender mainstreaming and empowerment strategies, and for providing strategic direction to the SADC Secretariat and member states. Three of the six priority areas of the SADC Gender Program as stipulated by the RISDP are Policy Development and Harmonization, Gender Mainstreaming, and Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building.

Despite the predominance of women in the agricultural sector, they remain the most vulnerable segment of the population in the region. Women lack access to farm inputs, research services, extension services, credit, and input and output markets. Women are the caregivers and are responsible for safeguarding the health and nutrition of their children and agriculture is a food and income source for them. Without addressing the limited or lack of access to the necessary tools for women farmers, the battle of alleviating food insecurity and poverty in the region cannot be achieved.

USAID/SA will assist the SADC Gender Unit to establish gender objectives and targets in each of the investment areas. USAID/SA will do this as it assists SADC and member states to develop and implement pro-poor, agricultural growth, and food security strategies. Working with the Gender Unit, FY 2010 funds will finance a gender assessment for agricultural and regional development to inform the design of all activities, and monitoring and evaluation systems for FY 2011. USAID/SA will also ensure that partner strategies, program implementation, and monitoring efforts mainstream gender into policy and programming. The Gender Strategy will be implemented throughout the food security continuum.

One example of a gender-focused approach that should be brought to scale is the work of FANRPAN and the Gates Foundation to strengthen women farmers' ability to advocate for appropriate agricultural policies and programs. The goal is to give women farmers access to the tools that help them farm more successfully. These tools include access to credit, better farm inputs and outputs markets (seeds and fertilizers), access to extension

services and markets, and access to technologies by ensuring that local and national policies and services address their needs.

3.2.2. Youth

Large numbers of young people in the rural Africa population still remain under or unemployed. Agricultural production in the region has not been able to generate adequate employment to move generations out of poverty. Improvement in the efficiency of value-supply chains along key transportation corridors can create both on-farm and off-farm employment opportunities through the development of transportation, value addition through processing, and trade services. The USAID/SA regional strategy will look at options and opportunities for youth employment in agriculture and agribusinesses. The strategy will also include training in relevant skills required by the sector.

3.2.3. The Very Poor

Interventions at this level will be treated as cross cutting, as interventions to reach this focus group are largely a bilateral responsibility. From the regional mission, the USAID Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) will focus on this target group. The accelerated participation of the very poor in rural growth is key to the success of the USAID/SA strategy and implementation plan. There is a tension between the market-based approaches focused on regional trade in staples produced by market-oriented farmers, and the central GHFSI goal of reaching large numbers of very small, chronically food-insecure rural households. Economic growth will not be sustainable if large sectors of the population are excluded from the growth process. In the Southern Africa region, it is estimated that over 43% of the total population earns less than one dollar a day.¹² Regional programs coordinated with national level efforts will overcome bottlenecks and provide facilities and services that will make markets work for increasing numbers of

vulnerable yet viable farmers. USAID/SA will work with its USG partners and with humanitarian relief programs managed by OFDA, the Food for Peace Program (FFP), WFP, and other international organizations and NGOs to bridge the relief-to-development gap.

As part of the analytical agenda for 2010, FANRPAN and ReSAKSS, in collaboration with bilateral missions, will carry out studies to identify poor and vulnerable population groups in key areas across the region. ReSAKSS will set up a system for monitoring progress toward the objectives of the Initiative.

The systems and processes required for the implementation of CAADP-aligned programs within the SADC region have at their core the objective of alleviating hunger and poverty. The RISDP accords top priority to poverty eradication with the aim of promoting sustainable and equitable economic growth and socio-economic development to ensure poverty alleviation and, ultimately, eradication.¹³

Over the past two years, SADC has conducted a wide range of research projects for key poverty reduction challenges and strategies, stakeholder consultations at national level, a regional technical workshop and various policy meetings. This research has led to the development of a SADC Regional Poverty Alleviation Framework. The sub-themes of the Framework are trade, including informal cross-border trade, infrastructure support, education, skills and technologies, strengthening the role of agriculture, gender and development, and the economic cost of HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis in the SADC region.

The USAID/SA program will support the SADC Secretariat in its role as coordinator of region-wide initiatives to mainstream poverty alleviation in all policies and programs. While the regional program will support the implementation of core bilateral GHFSI programs focused on the very poor, USAID/SA will also support region-wide (including non-

¹² ReSAKSS estimates

¹³ SADC RISDP

core GHFSI countries) institutions and activities to enhance regional safety net activities of USG partners. This will include the Office of Food for Peace (FFP), OFDA, to some extent the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) and other programs that seek to move poor and vulnerable populations toward economic self-sufficiency and growth. The assessment and continued monitoring and evaluation of policies and programs supported under GHFSI—both those focused on poverty alleviation and those focused generally of food security and rural development—will form the basis and continuously inform implementation of the regional strategy.

3.3. GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS

Geographically, the USAID/SA program will work with the SADC Secretariat, coordinating various development initiatives and activities across its member states. The program will also support CARDESA as the leading regional agricultural research organization, which will coordinate research networks. Additional partners will include regional entities capable of carrying out the CAADP analytical agenda, regional farmer organizations, regional private sector organizations, and other organizations that can add value to and collaborate with bilateral missions in the region.

Table 1: Poverty, Hunger and Agriculture Growth and Spending Targets for the SADC Region: Means for the 1990's, 2000's and 2008

Indicator	Percent		
	1990's	2000's	2008
Dollar a Day Poverty Rate	48.7	48.3	43.5
Child Malnutrition Rate	24.9	22.3	21.0
Adult Undernourished Rate	33.3	34.5	31.4
Average GDP growth	2.7	4.6	6.3
Average Agricultural GDP growth	2.5	2.2	6.3*
Agriculture spending in national spending	7.9	3.7	8.0*
Agriculture GDP in total GDP	15.2	17.1	14.3*

*This figure is for 2007. Source: ReSAKSS estimates, based on WDI, 2008; United Nations Statistics Division; IMF 2008 and ReSAKSS data collection

4. CORE INVESTMENT AREAS

In April 2008, USAID/SA engaged a team of experts to review the regional agriculture portfolio in the context of the Initiative to End Hunger in Africa (IEHA) and CAADP¹⁴ to determine regional priorities and how a regional program could best align with the CAADP objectives and support country-led efforts in

developing Compacts. The review team made the following recommendations for priority program interventions.

Support for Regional Marketing and Trade

As a priority, the USAID/SA should develop a program for trade-facilitating services. A regional program can serve as an important catalyst for facilitating agricultural trade and competitiveness in the region, by working to resolve barriers to trade common to most countries in the region that no one country can

¹⁴ Bloom R. et.al. (April 2008)

resolve on its own. Improved market information systems can enhance the efficiency and flow of price, quantity, market forecasts, and other information across borders to help commodity traders better match supply and demand for products. The Southern Africa Trade Hub and ACTESA are perfect implementers for such activities.

Support for Policy Analysis and Reform

Resolving important policy constraints to increased trade remains key to furthering economic growth and integration in the region. Continued support for policy reform is important and requires programmatic complementarities to a new market and trade intervention. The Food, Agriculture and Natural Resource Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN) is the only African entity in the region with strong relationships with individual country research institutions and civil society groups. Such relationships are necessary for promoting policy discussions and reforms. FANRPAN is a respected policy research institution in the region and an important partner for both SADC and COMESA in pursuit of the CAADP analytical agenda.

Seed Systems Development

As a region, Southern Africa has completed the seed regulatory policies and agreements across the region. The legislative progress achieved is also a necessary precondition for increased participation of the local and international private sector seed companies in the seed industry, a key element of the IEHA and CAADP efforts. Based on these accomplishments, USAID/SA should continue to support the implementation of more specific activities for seed sector growth across the region. This work is also critical for the establishment of a public/private seed sector alliance in East and Southern Africa. The alliance would increase private sector capacity for driving a strong seed industry, a fundamental requirement for making progress in development of the seed sector in collaboration with the USAID East Africa Mission.

Commodity Networks

Support to commodity research networks is important for providing expertise to national research programs in introducing and disseminating productivity-increasing technologies. These networks are key partners in the region's efforts to re-establish a sub-regional research organization.

These recommendations serve as the basis for moving forward with GHFSI. Given the realities of budget availability, USAID/SA has identified core interventions areas for 2010.

4.1. CORE AREAS

4.1.1. Improved Access to Well Functioning Markets

Overall increases in economic growth and food security in the SADC region can best be achieved by stimulating market growth through intra-regional trade and competitiveness. Agriculture plays a dominant role in the SADC region in terms of employment, income, and consumption and is a major source of exports of many countries, contributing 13% of total export earnings and about 66% to the value of intra-regional trade. Improving small farmer access to these markets will be important for achieving GHFSI goals. As such, it is critical that the USG and regional governments take a regional approach to improving transport corridors, developing other trade and marketing infrastructure, strengthening farmer organizations and the private sector, and creating an enabling policy environment that supports market development in order to increase the supply of staple foods and incomes among the farming populations.

As part of the CAADP deliberations, COMESA and SADC have made it a top CAADP investment area to improve market integration for the trade of staple grains in the East and Southern Africa region. Analyses undertaken as part of the CAADP analytical agenda highlight the following constraints to trade:

- Inconsistent and overlapping policies leading to unnecessary red tape and paperwork required for trade;
- Poor quality and/or lack of infrastructure, especially roads and rail along main corridors and important feeder routes;
- Long customs clearance procedures at border posts;
- Sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) requirements that are not standardized or applied consistently; and
- Lack of facilities for bulking and storage along key transit corridors.

The analyses go on to point out that trade in East and Southern Africa will permit the regions to take advantage of regional diversity and different harvest periods for the same crops and ensure the movement of agricultural commodities, especially staple food from surplus to deficit areas.^{15,16}

A key to improving markets and trade is policy harmonization and national-level implementation across the region. Potential areas for interventions for improving markets and trade include harmonization of grades and standards at a regional level, customs reforms that reduce time and cost of moving goods across border points, standardization of SPS guidelines and streamlining procedures, and technical support to regional transport corridors. Also, creating capacity among market participants to understand these policies and putting them to effective use is important for overall success.

While the challenges and potential intervention areas are many, for 2010, USAID/SA will have a priority strategic focus on policies that improve the alignment of regional agricultural and other

food standards through the harmonization of SPS measures, and on policies that support SADC countries in continued policy analysis and building analytical capacity to develop and participate in markets and trade. Although most direct support to market systems is carried out within bilateral programs, their effectiveness depends to a significant extent on the regional enabling environment and the emergence of improved infrastructure and services. The specific interventions for 2010 will be:

- Support for SPS - An essential prerequisite for greater economic integration and food security in the SADC region is the regional harmonization of member countries' standards and technical regulations for food quality and safety. Particularly in terms of food security, improved SPS standards will facilitate the flow of staple foods regionally. USAID/SA will partner with the USDA to support technical capacity building for SADC countries on the standardization of SPS rules and procedures as well as on the use of related international standards;
- Support for Trade Policy and Capacity Building - USAID/SA will build on its ongoing work with regional organizations, most notably FANRPAN and the regional Trade Hub to improve policy and capacity building in support of expanded trade. Although extremely limited by FY2010 budget constraints, the Trade Hub will begin work on value chain development for key staple crops that are widely grown and consumed in the region. In close collaboration with bilateral missions, attention will be given to market and trade linkages, storage, processing, and value addition. The program will also seek to expand the compilation and availability of regional market information and foster the emergence of a warehouse receipts system linked to regional markets in collaboration with ACTESA; and
- FANRPAN and ReSAKSS SA, in collaboration with regional analytical entities and private sector groups, will conduct analyses that will inform the overall

¹⁵ CGIAR and RESAKSS (2008) – Responding to the food price crisis in Eastern and Southern Africa. Policy options for national and regional actions.

¹⁶ BIZCLIR (Business Climate Legal and Institutional Reform Project) (2009). Cross-border trade in East African countries: Shared issues and priorities for reform. USAID Washington

policy environment for trade and work with governments, farmer organizations, and other private-sector groups to advocate for more effective policies to support expanded trade with regional and bilateral policy making authorities.

Consultations and Analysis in Support of Investment: SADC RISDP; SADC Dar-es-Salaam Declaration, the SADC Food Security Conference - Mauritius Declaration,

Key Partners: SADC FANR, SADC TIFI, Regional Private-sector Organizations, Regional Transporters Organization, Regional Transit Route Organization, Regional Farmers Organizations, ReSAKSS, Southern Africa Trade Hub, USDA.

4.1.2. Improved Agricultural Productivity

The low production levels of staple grains in southern Africa are principally due to lack of access to improved farm inputs and lack of linkages between and among research institutions, extension services and farmers. Increasing agricultural productivity is fundamental to improving overall food security and southern Africa agricultural competitiveness. It is therefore important that farmers have access to low-cost technologies and essential agricultural inputs to increase productivity and overall production and achieve GHFSI goals. Given that many of the region's countries face similar agro-ecological, climatic, and development challenges, many economies of scale and advantages can be gained by organizing certain major research efforts at the regional level.

The SADC RISDP recognizes the potential for increasing agricultural production and the advantages of effective regional-level research networks. Thus, as part of the SADC development plan, the Center for Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa (CARDESA) has been given the mandate to coordinate and provide research leadership in the SADC region. The CARDESA initiative will support further alignment of the RISDP with the

CAADP by building collaborative relationships with national research programs in order to expand the availability of improved technologies and knowledge through market-led applied research, improve access to inputs and facilitate the movement of inputs throughout the region, and to carry out knowledge management to inform policy. USAID/SA has been a committed partner with SADC in the institutional strengthening of CARDESA and will continue under the GHFSI. The program has supported CARDESA through the research priority setting effort led by ReSAKSS.

For 2010, USAID/SA specific support to CARDESA will be for activities that support agricultural research policy and institutional strengthening of CARDESA as the lead sub-regional agricultural research organization on the SADC zone. The specific assistance provided in 2010 will be informed by the research priority setting effort currently underway and by further deliberations with other donors and SADC officials on next steps for institutional development.

Consultation and Analysis in Support of Investment: SADC MAPP consultation meetings, SADC MAPP World Bank led donor group to assess CARDESA establishment – three Aide Memoirs with SADC in 2009, Regional stakeholders meetings on CARDESA.

Key Partners: SADC FANR, Regional Commodity Research Networks, CARDESA, Regional Institutions of Higher Learning (RUFORUM), the Southern Africa Confederation of Agriculture Unions (SACAU), the Africa Seed Trade Association (AFSTA), International Agricultural Research Centers (IARCs) and private foundations

4.1.3. Increased Private Investment in Agriculture and Nutrition-Related Activities

A legacy of state control over institutions serving the agricultural sector and misinformed sector policies have hindered private-sector investment in important agricultural enterprise and the growth of agro-industries. This is

particularly true for the provision of key agricultural inputs such as improved seed and adequate supplies of fertilizer. The CAADP process is now forcing regional governments to rethink the role of the private sector in agricultural development efforts and to devise ways of creating public-private partnerships for increasing investments in input supply and market development. Farm inputs (seed and fertilizer) sector reform is an important CAADP objective for all countries in the region and a central component of the 2010 program.

Across the SADC region, seed industry development has been hampered by country policies that restrict the dissemination and use of new and improved seed varieties coming from outside the country until the varieties have been properly tested locally. This process can take up to five years in many cases. These policies greatly reduced flow of improved seed and their use, and thus, impede increased farm-level productivity and overall production. The fertilizer sector is not spared from these policy restrictions. More importantly, these policies stifle private sector investments, including increased involvement of international seed and fertilizer companies who are needed to expand the seed and fertilizer industries. Facilitating the movement of improved seed and fertilizer distribution throughout the region can have a very positive effect both on staple food production and on investments in the two sectors.

Recognizing these policy constraints, USAID/SA has worked with SADC FANR to partner with ICRISAT, FANRPAN and Iowa State University to review the region's seed policy, analyze the overall industry, and make recommendations for improvements in the regulatory systems of different countries to standardize policies and increase the flow and supply of improved seed throughout the region. Based on this analysis and extensive consultations with FANR and member states, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by SADC Agricultural Ministers approving the proposed system of harmonizing seed policies across the region for the freer flow of improved seed and private sector investment.

FANRPAN assisted both SADC and COMESA to develop a joint fertilizer strategy that was tabled at the Africa Fertilizer Summit in Abuja in 2006. The strategy is still to be made operational by both RECs. Through the work of the Southern Africa Trade Hub, reducing barriers to trade and cost of transportation, and corridor work led by DFID (North-South Corridor development), the cost of transporting fertilizer from the ports to farm gate will be assessed.

For 2010, USAID/SA will continue to partner with FANR and engage technical and analytic support from ICRISAT and FANRPAN to work on seed policy reform and implementation, in close collaboration with USAID bilateral missions in the region. The activities will include developing a seed register which classifies seed by ecological zone, promoting private sector engagement and local breeding of improved seed, conducting further sector analysis, and continuing consultations and advocacy with farmer groups, the private sector, and government for improved seed policy.

Consultations and Analysis in Support of Investment: SADC RISDP, CAADP Framework, SADC Ministers of Agriculture meetings, SADC Regional Stakeholders meetings, FANRPAN Regional Dialogue Conferences.

Partner: Iowa State University, African Seed Trade Association (AFSTA), and the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT).

4.1.4. Improved Nutrition-Related Behaviors Such As Consumption of Nutritious Food

As the CAADP process progresses, the importance of agriculture-nutrition linkages will become more prominent in policy debates and program development. Currently, however, questions relating to agriculture-nutrition linkages are still being formulated and analysis to inform the CAADP process are in very preliminary stages across the region, with no

real regional nutrition policies in place to guide implementation. Nutritional components of humanitarian assistance programs managed by FFP, OFDA, and other relief agencies, need to be mainstreamed into agricultural development programs to increase the likelihood of sustainability. Thus, several potential actions need to be initiated on the research and policy front to achieve meaningful progress.

USAID/SA feels that questions of nutrition as they relate to agriculture need to be elevated with regional and national officials, civil society groups and the private sector at the local level to begin generating momentum for the integration of nutrition into the agricultural development agenda. Recognizing the importance that nutrition has in the implementation of the GHFSI, USAID/SA will commence activities to investigate policies and issues and advocate their inclusion more prominently on the CAADP analytical agenda.

For 2010, USAID/SA will support FANRPAN for the analysis of issues related to nutrition and agriculture in order to identify key policy issues that can lead to an eventual comprehensive agriculture-nutrition regional policy. Additionally, FANRPAN will work with constituent groups to advocate for improved programs in areas related to nutrition (e.g., research on crops with high nutritional content, bio-fortification, fortification of processed foods, approaches for combating the HIV/AIDS pandemic through improved food production and feeding practices), and the regional sharing of analytic findings and other information throughout the region.

Consultation and Analysis in Support of Investments: SADC RISDP, NEPAD CAADP Pillar IV (agricultural research).

Partners: FANRPAN, ReSAKSS SA, SADC FANR, the NEPAD/CAADP Nutrition Initiative, TerraAfrica Nutrition Initiative, FANRPAN Regional Dialogue Conferences.

4.1.5. Improved Policies to Support Agricultural Growth

Efforts to improve agricultural sector policies play a major role in USAID/SA 2010 GHFSI Implementation Plan. Policy analysis and advocacy are central to the above four investment areas and will continue to be a key area of emphasis in GHFSI implementation.

For 2010, USAID/SA will continue to work with FANRPAN to provide support to the implementation of the SADC analytical agenda for CAADP. FANRPAN is a multi-stakeholder, multi-national, autonomous policy network based in southern Africa with the mandate to promote, influence, and facilitate quality food, agriculture, and natural resources policy research and dialogue at the national and regional levels. FANRPAN achieves its policy agenda by facilitating linkages and partnerships between governments and civil society, building the capacity for policy analysis and dialogue in the region, and supporting demand-driven policy research and analysis at the national level. The FANRPAN network consists of 13 national nodes in the SADC region that implement the research and manage the national policy dialogues. Members include universities, research institutes, think tanks, government, the private sector, farmer organizations, and other civil society organizations that are stakeholders in FANR policies.

FANRPAN involvement and role in this FY 2010 Implementation Plan has already been mentioned in the other investment areas that have a distinct policy emphasis. However, USAID/SA intends to further engage FANRPAN in other areas of its GHFSI analytical agenda for moving forward. Specifically, for 2010, as the analytical needs become identified and the necessary research defined, FANRPAN will use its network at national levels and engage its members to conduct the required research and advocacy, and to move forward the analytical agenda.

ReSAKSS is involved in analyses to identify the types of investments and policies needed to accelerate agricultural growth and poverty

reduction in Southern Africa. ReSAKSS will be engaged to continue monitoring regional agricultural productivity trends, monitor CAADP targets of 6% growth in agriculture and 10% national budget allocation to agriculture, and monitor regional progress on the MDG target of halving poverty and hunger by 2015.

Consultations and Analysis in Support of Investment: RISDP, ReSAKSS studies, IFPRI studies. Several SADC Stakeholders Workshops on regional agriculture policy (2009).

Partners: FANRPAN, ReSAKSS SA.

4.2. CROSS-CUTTING ACTIVITIES

4.2.1. Global Climate Change

Coping with climate variability is a major challenge in southern Africa. The majority of the countries' economies and rural populations rely heavily on rain-fed agriculture and institutional capacity is limited. The region is prone to droughts and floods and the frequency of these extreme weather events has risen dramatically over the last couple of years. The number of people affected by these climate events has also increased. Changing climate can be exacerbated by land degradation, deforestation to clear more land for agriculture, overgrazing of rangelands, unsuitable agricultural practices on croplands, and excessive exploitation of natural habitats. These conditions are reducing primary productivity on as much as 20% of the land in Sub-Saharan Africa, with the most severe impacts in drylands and forest margins.

New opportunities exist that show significant results for both smallholder and commercial farmers, for productive and sustained land management practices that help them adapt to increasing variable weather conditions. These include re-forestation, improved water management, conservation agriculture, integrated soil fertility management, agro-

forestry, improved rangeland management and others.¹⁷

The new USG program on Global Climate Change will be closely coordinated with the GHFSI. In collaboration with OFDA and its implementing partners, work on policy, productivity, and input supply supported under this plan, will help farmers adapt to and mitigate the impact of climate change at a regional level.

Collaborative work will be conducted with the technical assistance of the bilateral mission Environment Officers to assist countries in mitigating the impact of climate change through decreased emissions and increased sequestration of greenhouse gases and carbon management. Countries in the region can earn money and benefits from carbon trade. The SADC region will be assisted in developing a regional policy and strategy for engaging with global carbon markets. Capacity of the regional remote sensing unit within the SADC FANR office to predict accurate climate conditions is necessary. Organizations such as FEWSNET will assist in building capacity at the country level to facilitate country ownership of data collection and analysis.

4.2.2. Nutrition

USAID/SA recognizes its important role of coordination and backstopping bilateral and other regional activities in nutrition, and has included work on the agriculture-nutrition linkages as a core investment area for 2010. Nutritional components of humanitarian assistance programs managed by FFP, OFDA, WFP, UNICEF and other agencies, including national governments, with programs to support nutrition need to be mainstreamed into sustainable development programs.

The promotion of bio-fortified crop varieties, the fortification of processed foods, and other

¹⁷ World Bank and IFPRI (2009) The Role of Sustainable Land Management for Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation in Sub-Saharan Africa, TerraAfrica/World Bank partnership platform. Washington.

bilateral activities should closely link the components of agriculture and trade. The Mission will begin consultations with stakeholders in FY 2010 and develop a regional framework for addressing nutrition in collaboration with bilateral missions responsible for implementing and managing the nutrition programs in country. The regional mission will provide technical backstopping.

4.2.3. Conflict Mitigation

In close coordination and collaboration with OFDA, the Mission Conflict Mitigation and Governance Program will be engaged in the agriculture and food security program, especially in fragile environments where natural resources are under constant increasing pressure. Regional stakeholders will be brought into multi-sectoral policy dialogues to understand the cultural and economic causes of conflict, and to work together to mitigate its effects.

4.3. AFRICAN PRIORITIES

SADC as a region provides an opportunity for USAID/SA to partner with regional institutions, the private sector, national governments and regional networks and constituencies to align USAID and other USG programs with the SADC RISDP, MDG, AU/NEPAD' CAADP, and Initiative goals and objectives. The USG-supported FANRPAN has been selected and contracted by COMESA to lead the coordination of a regional CAADP Compact for COMESA. Eight SADC member states belong to COMESA. During FY 2010, the USG will assist SADC and member states that are not COMESA members to develop their CAADP compacts. FANRPAN has a presence in 13 of the 15 SADC member states. Through these linkages, USAID/SA will assist SADC to develop a regional Compact. Table 2 shows the alignment of SADC priorities with CAADP Pillars.

**Table 2: Regional Priorities
(RISDP, SADC Dar es Salaam Declaration of 2004 and Mauritius Declaration of 2008)**

SADC Regional Plans and Priorities	CAADP Pillars	USAID Regional Office GHFSI Intervention Areas
Ensure Food Availability	Pillar III: Increasing food supply, reducing hunger, and improving responses to food emergency crises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased agriculture productivity and Accelerate participation of the very poor in rural growth
Ensure Access to Food	Pillar II: Improving rural infrastructure and trade related capacities for market access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce trade and transportation barriers and Sound market based principles for agriculture
Improve Safety and Nutritional Value of Food	Pillar III: Increasing food supply, reducing hunger, and improving responses to food emergency crises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anticipates future inclusion of nutrition programming into the Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative
Ensure disaster preparedness for Food Security	Pillar III: Increasing food supply, reducing hunger, and improving responses to food emergency crises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiative objective: increase the impact of humanitarian food assistance
Strengthen Institutional Framework and Capacity Building	Pillar IV: Improving agriculture research and technology dissemination and adoption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building and institutional frameworks developed to underpin all investments.
Ensure equitable and Sustainable use of the Environment and Natural Resources	Pillar I: Extending the area under sustainable land management and reliable water control systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased agriculture productivity Accelerate participation of the very poor in rural growth

4.4. HOW AREAS BUILD ON EARLIER INVESTMENTS

The core investment areas chosen for 2010 reflect priorities of regional partners and build on recent momentum in the key areas of regional market integration, seed policy, and agricultural research through the institutional strengthening of CARDESA. Assistance in these areas reflects the successful culmination of progress of past support, and will continue to be the strategic focus as USAID/SA moves forward in 2010.

All of USAID/SA prior assistance to the agriculture and food security sector has been in support of SADC objectives in that all activities are developed and implemented in collaboration with SADC, FANR and an Agricultural/FANR Donor Coordination Working Group. USAID/SA focus, through the Initiative to End Hunger in Africa (IEHA) and the African Growth and Competitiveness Initiative (AGCI), continues to improve intra-regional cooperation in increasing agricultural productivity by supporting:

- Increased adoption of improved technologies and effective natural resource management techniques;
- Capacity building of crop research institutions;
- Facilitation of market access;
- Promotion of food, agricultural, and natural resources policy research and analysis;
- Implementation of harmonized regional seed agreements and regional sanitary and phytosanitary protocols; and
- An improved policy environment for agricultural trade.

The USAID/SA regional agriculture program—in partnership with other USG departments (USDA FAS), regional and international research institutions, private sector, US and regional universities, and NGOs—will assist SADC in coordinating regional agricultural research, policy research and analysis,

technology development and dissemination, and commodities marketing for smallholder farmers and processors. This partnership benefits the SADC organization and its member states.

USG assistance has helped the region commit to a seed harmonization process that will enable countries to trade new, improved seed varieties across borders without the lengthy delays caused by each country's importation approval process. With this development, SADC member states have set up national committees to review internal legislation and amend where necessary to conform to the approved and agreed harmonized system.

4.5. LINK TO FOREIGN ASSISTANCE FRAMEWORK

Targeted investments of USG resources, through the USAID/SA, have revitalized regional agricultural commodity research and development networks. These networks are now poised to work with SADC and to address regional research priorities under the SADC MAPP. The USAID/SA implementing partners also identified regional and international markets and linked smallholder producers/farmers to these opportunities. The region has benefitted from a number of agricultural enterprises receiving technical assistance (quality assurance, quality control, crop production technologies) and business training, leading to an increase in international trade (herbal teas, peppers and chili) to the US and Europe. As a result, a new market is now opening up for herbal teas and spices in Japan.

Prospects for long-term impact on regional food security are mixed. The global food price increase has both negative and positive effects on food security in Southern Africa. The USG will continue to focus more on the enabling environment and agricultural productivity through market-led research and technology development and by encouraging adoption of market-friendly policies that will improve food security, market exports, and regional sustainable development. Table 3 shows the links to the Foreign Assistance Framework:

Table 3: Links to Foreign Assistance Framework

FA Framework Program Area	FA Framework Program Element	Program Sub-Element
Economic Growth 4.5 Agriculture	4.5.1 Agriculture Enabling Environment	4.5.1.1 Agricultural Resource Policy 4.5.1.2 Food Policy 4.5.1.3 Agricultural Market Standards and Regulations
	4.5.2 Agriculture Sector Productivity	4.5.2.1 Research and Technology Dissemination 4.5.2.2 Land and Water Management 4.5.2.3 Rural and Agricultural Finance 4.5.2.4 Agribusiness and Producer Organizations 4.5.2.5 Markets and Trade Capacity 4.5.2.6 Emerging Agricultural Threats 4.5.2.7 Agricultural Safety Nets and Livelihood Services
	4.5.3 Program Support (Ag)	4.5.3.3 Personnel

5. FY 2010 RESULTS/ INDICATORS/TARGETS

The USAID Regional Mission actively supports the development of a mutual-accountability framework for the region through engagement with FANRPAN and support to ReSAKSS. FANRPAN has been chosen by COMESA to be the lead on developing the CAADP Compact, which will form the foundation for monitoring results. CAADP is a strategic framework that embodies the principles of peer review and dialogue to stimulate and broaden the adoption of best practices, facilitate benchmarking and mutual learning, and raise the quality and consistency of country policies and strategies in the agricultural sector. The Mission plans to continue its dialogue with FANRPAN and engage other donors, such as DFID and SDC, who are actively involved in this process. The result of the country-led process will be increased accountability by both the donors and compact countries.

ReSAKSS will be supported by the Mission to monitor the progress of the region towards the goals of the CAADP and MDG targets. The monitoring of results is a critical component of CAADP. The Mission will analyze the

monitoring by ReSAKSS and revise and align its own results framework to be consistent with the multi-stakeholder strategy.

The USAID Regional Mission will establish a results framework, indicators, and targets as it develops the new strategy and completes new activity design. Below are expected results and illustrative indicators. Because of lower than expected budget levels for the regional program, the results and indicators have been reduced to fit the new budget levels. If funding levels in 2011 are around \$15 million, then results in regional trade and trade finance will be added.

5.1. IMPROVED ACCESS TO WELL FUNCTIONING MARKETS

Improving farmers' access to markets requires both the improvement of regional systems and the reduction of barriers. The regional aspects of this are very evident. Support to the Trade Hub on specific agricultural commodity value chains important to regional and international trade will be a focus. Increasing the capacity of farmers in the region to meet sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) regulations through USDA will improve access to international markets. Investments in seed policy harmonization will

allow for freer movement of seeds between countries in the region.

Activities will create an environment whereby more reliable access for private-sector grain traders to larger, multi-country, and more predictable markets will create incentives for investments in market infrastructure and service such as storage facilities, market information, creation of commodity exchange networks, and other systems that stimulate productivity. This will increase the reliability of food supplies, buffer fluctuations across seasons and regions, reduce dependence on imports, and accelerate agricultural growth. Expected results include:

- Improved monitoring and enforcement of the SADC Trade Protocol and FTA;
- Increased trade flows;
- Improved customs procedures in accordance with current agreements and international standards;
- Reduced transport delays at border crossings;
- Reduced transit times along transport corridors;
- Improved harmonization of standards for agricultural products, including seeds, across the region;
- Increased knowledge within the region of SPS requirements, food safety and other international standards requirements;
- Increased intra-regional trade of crops and inputs;
- Increased regional trade within specific value chains;
- Improved use of technology;
- Higher quality products and processes within specific value chains;
- Increased private-sector investment in agricultural technologies; and
- Increased access to finance, especially for women.

5.2. IMPROVED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY

Improved quality of agricultural research and the development of cost-effective, productivity increasing technologies will enable farmers to increase production and incomes. A strong regional institution for the coordination of agricultural research and policy will, likewise, strengthen national level research institutions and programs in carrying out more effective programs. Expected results include:

- Increased agricultural production (per type and in quantity);
- Training of regional researchers to improve the quality of policy and agriculture research (crops and livestock);
- Increased capacity of agricultural researchers and extension services in the region;
- Increased supplies of staple food grains and cash crops in the region;
- Improved management of livestock and increased supplies of meat and poultry in the region; and
- Increased regional capacity to analyze and advocate for policy change.

5.3. INCREASED PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURAL AND NUTRITION RELATED ACTIVITIES

It is expected that continued progress in seed-sector reform will have a major impact on increasing agricultural productivity and food production throughout the region. Establishing a supportive enabling environment for private-sector investment will foster the expansion of supply of improved seed and ensure the continued growth of the seed industry.

5.4. IMPROVED NUTRITION-RELATED BEHAVIOR

It is expected that the ultimate impact of this investment will be an increased supply of more

nutritious foods for the farming populations of Southern Africa. Of immediate impact, however, will be generating the momentum necessary to raise the profile of questions and policies of agricultural-nutrition linkages on the SADC CAADP analytical agenda.

5.5. IMPROVED POLICIES TO SUPPORT AGRICULTURAL SECTOR GROWTH

The ultimate impact of USAID/SA involvement in this investment area will be the establishment of evidence-based policies in support of agricultural sector growth in the SADC region. The more immediate impact will be to move forward with the CAADP analytical agenda in support of program implementation. Expected results include:

- Improved regional management and support systems for agro-dealers and seed companies;
- Increased management and leadership role of the SADC FANR in CAADP processes;
- Improved management and leadership by firms and financial institutions;
- Strengthened leadership and management capacity of women;
- Improved capacity for policy research and evidence based advocacy; and
- Increased capacity of science and technology development and dissemination

Table 4: Illustrative GHFSI Indicators for Core Investment Areas, FY 2010

Core Investment Areas	GHFSI Indicators
1) Improved Access to Well Functioning Markets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in value of regional trade. • Change in volume of regional trade.
2) Improved Agricultural Productivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of targeted technologies
3) Increased Private Investment in Agricultural & Nutrition Related Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Value of new private investments.
4) Improved Nutrition Related Behavior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dietary diversity. • Prevalence of maternal and child anemia.
5) Improved Policies to support agricultural sector growth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved policies implemented by national governments. • Increased capacity of farmer's organization and the private sector to take advantage of policy reforms

6. KEY ISSUES AND ANALYTICAL ACTIVITIES LOOKING TOWARD FY 2011

SADC as a region does not have a regional priority list for agricultural investment. With the assistance of the IFPRI ReSAKSS SA, USAID/SA will fund a regional priority study that will inform the USG and other donors in the region on priority areas for investments. SADC has a number of protocols in place, including gender and development, energy, telecommunications and transportation, trade. However, these have no strategic linkages to FANR.

One role that ReSAKSS SA will play for USAID/SA is to develop studies in collaboration with SADC FANR to monitor progress on the protocols and their links to agriculture. This will be particularly important for nutrition. ReSAKSS SA will also continue to monitor progress of the region in achieving the CAADP and MDG targets.

Southern Africa currently has a poverty rate of 43.5% (2008 estimate)¹⁸. Though low compared to other regions in Africa, these poverty rates are still high and unacceptable. In conjunction with SADC, USAID/SA expects to undertake assessments, studies, and data gathering and analysis exercises to inform programming and priority investment areas. These will include:

- A regional priority study and a gender assessment with ReSAKSS SA;
- Completion of regional Vulnerability (Food Security) Assessments with FANRPAN;
- A regional AgCLIR for Southern Africa; and,
- Identifying further nutrition analyses and updating of nutrition measures and data.

¹⁸ Source: RESAKSS estimates based on WDI, 2008; United Nations Statistics Division, 2008; IMF, 2008 and data collected by ReSAKSS.

7. PARTNERSHIP PLAN

The Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative will be planned and implemented in coordination with USG agencies operating in the region (SADC and COMESA), and regional networks (regional farmer organizations, regional private-sector organizations, regional research institutions, regional civil society organizations) and implementing partners.

7.1. USG INTER-AGENCY CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

The US Mission in the region includes several federal agencies that support US foreign assistance objectives. These include USAID, the US Department of State (whose Ambassador to Botswana also serves as the Special US Representative to SADC), the US Department of Agriculture, the US Trade Representative (USTR), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the US Department of Commerce, PEPFAR (a joint initiative of USAID, CDC, the US Department of Health and Human Services), the Department of Defense, and the Peace Corps.

During FY 2010, the objectives, roles and responsibilities for regional food security activities among USG agencies will be further defined. At USAID/SA both the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance and Food for Peace work concertedly on and support regional and bilateral food-security agendas. USDA also works on food security issues in the region. In FY 2010, with the assistance of USTR, USDA, and the Trade Hub programs will continue to work in a coordinated manner to assist the regional implementation of the SADC Trade Protocol and build regional trade negotiation skills that conform to WTO requirements. The following table provides a summary of all USG programs related to implementation of the Southern Africa program.

Table 5: USG Programs Related to USAID/SA IP

Agency or Organization	Current Engagement	Future Enhanced Coordination	Timeline
USDA Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) (Reduced Trade and Transportation Barriers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With Trade Hub on trade capacity building programs and trade facilitation using USDA/FAS expertise and training programs Joint management of the Southern Africa SPS contractors (under the AGCI USDA PASA). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater use of USDA/FAS expertise for training and capacity building purposes (bio-safety and biotech outreach) Greater use of USDA/FAS expertise for research and link into Southern Africa research networks. Joint use of capacitated local and US NGOs and associations. Joint nutrition program planning and implementation (i.e., FAS School feeding program and Title I activities). <p>Note: FAS/Pretoria does not provide services to Zambia or Malawi; covered from Nairobi office.</p>	Regional Strategy Development June 2010 Ongoing, particularly around training and capacity building activities and research.
OFDA (Accelerated Participation of the Very Poor in Rural Growth; Increased Agricultural Productivity))	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programming discussions on mitigation efforts, in response to drought, flood, pests, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gap analysis needed between OFDA, Agriculture and FFP programming Joint programming of activities along the Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative development continuum, including support of OFDA Southern Africa Region Three-Year Strategy and Annual Work Plans. 	Regional Strategy Development June 2010
FFP (Accelerated Participation of the Very Poor in Rural Growth)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal to date 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gap analysis needed between OFDA, Agriculture and FFP programming Joint programming of activities along GFSR development continuum; incorporate Multi-year Assistance Plan (MYAP) activities (Malawi and Mozambique) into the Southern Africa GFSR Strategy 	Regional Strategy Development June 2010
USTR (Reduced Trade and Transportation Barriers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trade Hub support to implementation of trade agreements SADC and SACU; AGOA re-focus on inter- and intra-regional SSA trade. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue with current level of engagement 	NA
MCC (Sound Market Based Principles for Agriculture)	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussions needed with MCC infrastructure country programs especially in key transportation corridors and how these investments can benefit agriculture development and growth 	Regional Strategy Development June 2010
USG PEPFAR (Accelerated Participation of the Very Poor in Rural Growth; Increased Agricultural Productivity)	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussions needed with PEPFAR Team and other USG departments working in HIV/AIDS activities on how to integrate nutrition, gender and livelihoods in their activities 	Regional Strategy Development June 2010

7.2. CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION WITH GOVERNMENT

SADC member states launched an Inter-Ministerial Task Force on food security in April 2008. The Ministerial Task Force comprises Ministers of Trade, Finance and Agriculture. The role of the Task Force is to look at measures to mitigate increasing food prices and the current and persistent food crisis, and ways to improve the food security situation in the SADC region in line with the SADC agenda of Regional Integration and Poverty Reduction.

SADC, through its FANR Directorate, is working on a regional agricultural policy and a regional climate change policy. During FY 2010, the USAID Regional Mission will support SADC efforts to integrate the CAADP process as a priority within the regional agricultural development agenda.

The USAID-supported FANRPAN has been selected by COMESA to lead coordination of a

regional CAADP Compact. Eight SADC member states belong to COMESA. In FY 2010, the USG will assist SADC member states who are not members of COMESA to move the CAADP agenda forward. The USAID Regional Mission is an active participant in SADC donor-coordinated thematic groups on trade and agriculture, and will work closely through these multilateral donor groups to move the regional CAADP agenda forward. CAADP Pillar 4 on regional agricultural research is well underway, and USAID/SA will ensure that all the CAADP pillars are addressed at the SADC regional level.

USAID/SA has made significant contributions to the work of the SADC Secretariat and Directorates, with the Trade Hub acting as a key interlocutor and advisor to SADC on the full range of trade and investment issues. The following table provides a summary of USAID/SA engagement with SADC.

Table 6: Engagement with SADC

Organization	Current Engagement	Future Enhanced Coordination	Timeline
SADC and Member States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Trade Hub and Regional Agriculture activities implemented under SADC strategies. Looking to sign regional SOAG with SADC in FY2010. Engagement with SADC member states on implementation of SADC Trade Protocol and annexes (SPS annex). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced relationship with SADC Secretariat through signing of SOAG at Mission Management Level that will enable technical work to happen on the ground with SADC Capacity support to Food, Agriculture and Natural Resource (FANR) Directorate within SADC to develop and implement SADC Food Security Strategy, continue support of SSSN, continue support of SADC commodity research networks and provide support to SADC CARDESA 	<p>SOAG signed July 2010</p> <p>Work plan developed with FANR – July 2010</p>

7.3. CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION WITH GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA AND OTHER DONORS

As a regional organization, SADC has a well-coordinated donor group, the International Cooperating Partners (ICPs), that meets every year with SADC to review investments made in the region. The USG, through USAID/SA, is an active partner in these donor meetings. Initially, the meetings were for donors to pledge their support to SADC. Over time, the meetings embraced all investments that contributed to regional economic growth, trade, poverty alleviation and food security. The donor group is divided into thematic sub-groups under SADC Chairmanship. USAID/SA participates in the Trade, Infrastructure, Agriculture, and Climate Change sub-groups with the World Bank, DFID, the European Union, SDC, CIDA, GTZ, JICA and the African Development Bank. USAID/SA also participates in a donor-only group where areas of cooperation are discussed.

The most apparent benefit of these consultations is that donors are now able to cooperate and coordinate support to the region through partnerships and coherent policies. Through this collaboration, the USG has been able to leverage funds from other donors in the region. For example, with Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (the Netherlands), the Gates Foundation, and SDC co-funding FANRPAN, the USAID Regional Mission plans to conduct agricultural policy

research and analysis in the region, including topics such as the role of women and the impact of HIV/AIDS. Also, with SDC, the USG will co-fund regional seed harmonization work. The World Bank is coordinating donor support for the SADC MAPP exercise that addresses all the CAADP pillars and investments in regional agriculture.

The USG, through USAID/SA, is funding a regional priority study for SADC that will be used as a tool to inform all regional donors and SADC about priority areas for future investments in agriculture. DFID leads donors in the north-south transportation corridor investment area. This work will complement the work by GHFSI funds from FY 2010 and beyond in developing the agricultural sector along key transportation corridors.

Trilateral activities of USAID/SA, the South African Government, and SADC and its member states will focus on support through which the USG supports the South African Government, South African tertiary institutions and South African research institutions, as well as the private sector, in delivering development assistance.

USAID/SA already has an agreement with the South African Government under which the USG co-funds trilateral assistance to countries within the SADC Region (e.g., in Malawi for the development and propagation of pathogen-free potato seed for yield improvement). The following table provides a summary of engagement with the South African Government and other donors.

Table 7: Engagement with the South Africa Government and Other Donors

Donor	Current Engagement	Future Enhanced Coordination	Timeline
South African Government	Limited Scope Grant Agreement in place to fund and implement South/South activities through this trilateral agreement	Expanded use of South African expertise throughout the SADC region	Regional Strategy Development June 2010
Other International Donors	Coordination occurs at frequent regional meetings.	Greater planning and potential joint programming through multilateral financing mechanisms	July 2010—assumes USG and other donors (World Bank, UK DFID, European Commission, SDC, GTZ, the French Government, the African Development Bank and FAO) reach agreement on mechanism(s)

8. FY 2010 CAPACITY-BUILDING PLAN

The GHFSI prioritizes capacity building of regional institutions and individuals as a key component to achieving economic growth in the agriculture sector. African institutions and firms employ many capable people, but specific skills are needed to scale up programs and activities to reduce hunger and improve food security in the region on the scale envisioned by the GHFSI.

The region suffers from weak institutions that have poor technical and management skills and low human capacity. The region lacks skills in prioritizing investment areas that can sustain growth. HIV/AIDS and other diseases have also added to the problem by reducing the number of available scientists in key technical and policy analysis areas.

With the exception of South Africa, regional institutions lack the tools and experts necessary to match the teaching curriculum to regional economic trends. In most SADC member states, national agricultural research, extension and training institutes are poorly funded and weak. Linkages between and among regional institutions are also weak, including regional research networks, the seed alliance, and regional market and trade systems. This is evident in, for example, the institutional capacity

of SADC to implement, coordinate and deliver key important results in the region as mandated by the region's policy decision makers. For a number of years, USAID/SA has been working with regional partners to build their institutional capacity. This will be continued, with more effort targeted at SADC FANR.

In 2010, due to budget constraints and the time needed to properly implement a training program of the magnitude envisioned by GHFSI guidance, training will be limited to collaborating partners, short-term in nature, and conducted in the course of ongoing activities. Training will be conducted through workshops, seminars, short courses, and hands-on learning while working with implementing partners.

As implementation moves forward, USAID/SA will need time and input from partners to develop a considered and focused plan for capacity building. This will be a priority in 2010. As such, a capacity needs assessment and gap analysis will be conducted, and a new training program will be developed in line with the central mechanism being developed by AFR/SD to address the types of capacity building that needs to be conducted with regional partners.

The assessment for the region will be conducted in close collaboration with the bilateral missions to determine needs and available capacity within the region to carry out regional training. Several highly regarded

training institutions exist in the region, and the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) has identified institutions of higher learning on the continent that can provide certain skills training. Four of these institutions are in the Southern Africa region: Sokoine University in Tanzania, the University of Free State in South Africa, the University of Zambia, and the University of Zimbabwe. The institutional capacity and technical know-how and innovation capacity of South Africa will also be tapped to implement training activities.

The initial focus will be to upgrade the management and leadership skills of the regional organizations and firms. The aim is to increase the effectiveness of program management, and to strengthen partner organizations to take active leadership roles in regional agricultural growth and food security. Training in analytical skills will also be important to support the CAADP and GHFSI efforts as we move forward.

Target Institutions

The target for the first year is to train 100 key individuals from a range of strategic institutions. A variety of stakeholders from farmer organizations, private sector organizations, SADC FANR, ACTESA, and AFSTA will be contacted and consulted to help organize and implement these activities. USAID/SA will draw on the following institution to lead the capacity-building efforts:

Center for Agriculture Research and Development in Southern Africa (CARDESA): SADC, through the SADC MAPP, has established a sub-regional organization (CARDESA) to coordinate regional research. The USG will provide support to CARDESA to build capacity in the region for regional research in key priority crops and livestock. Strategic linkages for information sharing and learning exist between CARDESA and other similar sub-

regional research organizations, e.g., ASARECA and CORAF;

The Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa (ACTESA) provides support to encourage regional trade in staples (including livestock), and build regional food security by providing access to markets for smallholder farmer (nationally and regionally). ACTESA will coordinate policy analysis as it relates to trade in staple foods, the delivery of market service, and market access;

International Research Centers: The USG will build research capacity in the region both at CARDESA and National Agricultural Research System (NARS);

The Policy Research Network provides support to the regional policy research network to continue to build capacity at national levels to advocate for policy reform and change. It also provides trade policy and analysis training;

The Southern Africa Confederation of Agriculture Unions (SACAU) provides support to the regional organization to continue to build national capacity of their members; and

Regional Universities, Institutions of Higher Learning and Research Institutions: The USAID Regional Mission already provides support for strategic linkages among regional and US institutions of higher learning. The USG will continue to build capacity of regional institutions to play a better citizenship role at the national level and assist in curriculum development that conforms to market demands. Additionally, the USG will promote centers of excellence that will serve the region.

Key Partners: SADC FANR, COMESA, ACTESA, FANRPAN, RUFORUM, US Land Grand Universities and other institutions of higher learning, USDA/APHIS, AFSTA, IARCs

Table 8: Proposed Regional Training against Core Investment Areas (all training to be conducted in collaboration with and buy-in from bilateral missions in the region)

Core Investment Areas	Proposed Training	Numbers to be Trained	Proposed Timing of Training
Improved Access to Well Functioning Markets	SPS Grades and Standards	400 400	First and Second Quarter 2011
Improved Agricultural Productivity	Training of Scientists (key research activities) from NARS and CARDESA Management Training (CARDESA)	300 300	Third and fourth quarter 2011
Improved Policies to Support Agricultural Sector Growth	Policy Analysis Policy Development Policy Advocacy Skills	450	Second to Fourth Quarter 2011
Improved Nutrition Related Behaviors such as Consumption of Nutritious Food	Household Data collection and advocacy (with bilateral missions). Train the Trainers	300	Second Quarter 2011
Increased Private Investment in Agriculture and Nutrition Related activities	Dialogue with key private sector players and governments in the region	200	2011 TBD

9. MANAGEMENT PLAN

9.1. WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT COORDINATION STRUCTURE

The USAID/SA and partner USG agencies have been implementing a ‘whole-of-government’ approach in a number of sectors for several years, most notably in the areas of health, trade and agriculture. USAID/SA and USG partners have quantified and documented the successes that this approach yields.

In implementing the GHFSI, coordination activities will be taken to the next level by formalizing and conducting more frequent consultations and joint programming with partner USG agencies. For example, USAID/SA partners closely with USDA on the delivery of technical assistance on SPS standards throughout the region, an activity currently funded through the AGCI-USDA PASA. Given the high level of results obtained from this activity and the growing demand from bilateral USAID missions and US Embassies in the Southern Africa region, USAID/SA will continue

this activity using GHFSI or trade funds. Other collaborative activities with USDA/FAS include implementation of the delivery of training and technical assistance on agricultural trade, bio-safety, bio-tech outreach and food security/agricultural research.

USAID/SA also coordinates with OFDA by sharing program strategies and activity documents, and in the development and dissemination of best practice information. Discussions are currently underway with OFDA/SA on the joint programming of technical assistance and training for certain food security and agricultural productivity activities and for the development of best practices for drought, flood, cyclones and other risk mitigation efforts which OFDA pilots throughout Southern Africa (through trilateral activities with South African tertiary institutions). USAID/SA will incorporate the OFDA three-year Southern Africa Strategy into this GHFSI strategy.

Likewise, closer coordination and perhaps joint programming of activities will be pursued with

FFP on the implementation of Multi-Year Assistance Programs in Mozambique and Malawi. These programs include activities focused on vulnerable households (the very poor), child nutrition, food security safety nets, and programs designed to increase agricultural productivity and mitigate risks.

Through the Southern Africa Trade Hub (SATH), USAID/SA works closely with the Office of the US Trade Representative (USTR) as the primary agency driving US trade interests and activities under the AGOA and regional trade integration in Africa. The SATH is called upon by the USTR to provide training, policy reform advice, and technical assistance related to regional trade capacity building and facilitation. Agriculture and agribusiness are two of the primary sectors of interest.

One of the largest issues affecting the efficient and cost effective movement of goods and services in Southern Africa is the current state of transport infrastructure and services. The Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) Compacts are being developed in Malawi and Zambia. Implementation of a Compact in Mozambique is ongoing. Notwithstanding MCC policies of country ownership of Compact implementation, USAID/SA will engage with the MCC and host governments to discuss the importance of road and transport infrastructure to country and regional growth objectives and seek areas of opportunity for program complementarities. Discussions are ongoing between USAID/SA and the donor community supporting the North-South Corridor Initiative that should culminate in a coordinated effort and perhaps joint financing of corridor infrastructure and systems.

The US departments of Commerce (international trade standards and customs) and Treasury (country performance-based budgeting and budget transparency), the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (debt and equity finance), and the US Trade and Development Agency (technology transfer and project development) are also key USG partners and could play an active part in supporting this initiative.

9.2. REVIEW AND EVALUATION SCHEDULE

As a regional program platform, the USAID/SA Regional Mission Monitoring and Evaluation Plan will focus on setting targets and monitoring progress toward achievement across multiple areas:

- Achievement of SADC food security objectives;
- Achievement of host government, NGO and private sector stakeholder food security objectives;
- Achievement of USG GHFSI annual targets and multi-year outcomes;
- Achievement of region-wide coordination objectives;
- Collecting and validating data that will benefit bilateral missions; and
- Developing and sharing of best practices with bilateral missions.

The USAID Regional Mission will develop a mechanism to monitor, evaluate and provide required reporting for both the regional program and for the core bilateral programs and support to SADC as well. This will include but is not limited to:

- Development of a GHFSI Performance Monitoring Plan;
- Annual and multi-year target setting;
- Links into SADC monitoring and evaluation systems;
- Data collection with quarterly and annual data analysis and reporting; and
- Documentation of best practices and region success stories.

The USAID Regional Mission can see great value in such a mechanism if managed correctly to achieve greater efficiencies in the collection and sharing of data, and the monitoring and dissemination of regional impacts and outcomes.

For this regional program, frequent site visits and stakeholder meetings, and bi-annual mission-level implementation and management reviews are anticipated. Reviews undertaken with the SADC Secretariat, relevant SADC divisions and affiliated organizations, SADC member states, and key stakeholders will be held at least twice a year.

9.3. STAFFING REQUIREMENTS

USAID/SA has a space constraint that will only be resolved in FY 2011. Staffing levels are straight-lined in FY 2010 because of lower than expected budget levels. Staffing increases will be delayed until FY 2011 subject to adequate budget levels.