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# SUCCESS STORY

## Moving Agriculture Policy Forward

**USAID training graduates work hard to bring Mozambique closer to participating in Africa-wide agriculture initiative**

***“After Africa Lead’s training, I see more commitment from my group than before and it made a big difference in the way (we) lead.”***

**Anina Manghanhele**  
**Mozambique**

Although Mozambique hosted the summit that saw the adoption of the Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) by all African heads of state in Maputo in 2003, the country has yet to meet a key milestone of the process—a national CAADP Compact signed by stakeholders from across all sectors committing to working together toward broad agricultural-led growth. With a large majority of Mozambique’s population living in poverty and involved in small-scale subsistence farming, the country could benefit from the investments that follow a rigorously conceptualized investment plan that aligns all economic development efforts towards CAADP’s dual targets of a minimum 10% national budget dedicated to the agricultural sector and a 6% increase in agricultural productivity per year.

High turnover in the country’s political leadership stalled Mozambique’s CAADP progress over many years. However the government relaunched the process in earnest in December 2010, naming a CAADP Focal Point and team to take the country to a Compact and ensuing investment plan. With limited guidance on CAADP implementation from their Regional Economic Community and few countries in the region offering a model of CAADP achievement, Mozambique’s new CAADP country team members needed training in how to move CAADP’s transformative agenda forward.

Enter USAID’s Africa Lead project, which—in keeping with CAADP’s principles of being “African led and owned”—is equipping Africans across the continent with the skills to lead CAADP processes and a platform to learn from their peers in other countries. In Southern Africa, where CAADP has lagged compared to other regions, Africa Lead partnered with South Africa’s University of Pretoria to deliver the project’s flagship CAADP leadership training course, *“Champions for Change: Scaling up Food Security”*, to 126 participants from countries across the region. The training, which was funded by USAID/Southern Africa, included a dozen Mozambicans directly or indirectly involved in their country’s CAADP.

Anina Manghanhele, an Agro-Economist in Mozambique's Ministry of Agriculture, was eager to participate in the training after hearing about its value from fellow Mozambican "Champions". As a newly appointed member of Mozambique's CAADP National Group and Food Security Team Leader for CAADP, Anina sought tools and knowledge to be effective in these functions. Since taking the course in June 2011, Anina has assumed additional leadership roles, such as facilitating multi-stakeholder consultation meetings. She shared her learning with other CAADP team members by developing a guiding document for stakeholder engagement and then training them in the methodology. As a part of the Food Security Technical Working Group, she contributed to the first CAADP Compact draft, and then helped incorporate feedback by peer reviewers from CAADP's institutional home within the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Agency.

Anina credits the Africa Lead training with giving her the confidence and skills to manage these processes effectively: "We were able to lead the consultation process with more confidence than ever, because we learnt that as champions, we should have a vision and we must call for the sense of urgency in searching for ways to rebuild the 'broken pot' [reference to a theme of the training]". She believes this sense of urgency and commitment, fostered by Africa Lead and shared with three other "Champion" members of Mozambique's National Group, has helped speed up the CAADP process in her country. Mozambique is now preparing to sign its CAADP Compact and will then begin consultations to develop the country's National Agriculture Investment Plan.

*Anina Manghanhele (second from left) and her fellow Mozambican "Champion for Change" training graduates Almeida Tembe, Bruno Araujo, Paola Machungo, and Higino Filimone are now working hard to bring Mozambique closer to a key milestone in the Africa-wide agricultural initiative, CAADP*

