

# ECOWAS AGRICULTURAL POLICY (ECOWAP)/COMPREHENSIVE AFRICAN AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (CAADP)

### **COMPACT**

TO SUPPORT THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GHANA FOOD AND AGRICULTURE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY (FASDEP II)

ACCRA, WEDNESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2009

#### **Preface**

The Government of Ghana and the undersigned partners hereby agree under the terms of this COMPACT to coordinate their support for the implementation of the Government's Food and Agricultural Sector Development Policy (FASDEP II) through the Medium Term Agriculture Sector Investment Plan under a framework of a Sector Wide Approach and the ECOWAP/CAADP. This Compact is a civic document and therefore is neither an international treaty nor a legally binding instrument.

The Compact is structured in seven sections:

- Section 1: Background on the implementation of ECOWAP/CAADP in Ghana;
- Section 2: Rationale for and use of a Ghana ECOWAP/CAADP compact;
- Section 3: Long term vision and commitment of the Government of Ghana for economic and social growth and development;
- Section 4: Government's agenda for agricultural growth, poverty reduction and food security;
- Section 5: Forging partnerships for the successful implementation of the investment priorities;
- Section 6: Implementation of the partnerships:
- Section 7: Endorsements.

Annexes: Subsidiary MOUs to be signed between the signatory and the group members

### GHANA ECOWAP/CAADP COMPACT

## A. Background on the Implementation of the ECOWAS Agricultural ECOWAP) Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) in Ghana

1. ECOWAP/ CAADP as an African Owned Agenda and a Shared Development Framework

The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) is at the heart of efforts by African governments under the AU/NEPAD initiative to accelerate growth and eliminate poverty and hunger among African countries. The main goal of CAADP is to help African countries reach a higher path of economic growth through agriculturally-led development which eliminates hunger, reduces poverty and food and nutrition insecurity, and enables expansion of exports. As a program of the African Union, it emanates from and is fully owned and led by African governments.

It provides a shared framework for strategic planning and implementation, and for partnership and development assistance in the sector. Further, CAADP offers the prospect for political, technical and financial support for countries with plans and strategies that are aligned with the CAADP principles and framework. In aligning with CAADP, countries adopt the Maputo Declaration of: (i) achieving an annual agricultural growth rate of at least 6 percent and (ii) allocating at least 10 percent of the national budget to agriculture. The CAADP also reflects broader principles of mutual review and dialogue, mutual accountability, and partnership.

In the West Africa region, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) has been mandated to support and coordinate the implementation of the program. In this context, ECOWAS developed the regional agricultural policy (ECOWAP). The ECOWAP is the framework of reference that provides the principles and objectives assigned to the agricultural sector and guides interventions in agricultural development in the region. During 2005, ECOWAS and the NEPAD Secretariat developed a joint ECOWAP/CAADP action plan for the period 2005-2010 for the development of the agricultural sector.

Although regional and continental in scope, the ECOWAP/CAADP agenda is an integral part of national efforts to promote agricultural sector growth and economic development. Therefore, it is proposed to formulate and implement concrete investment programmes at national and regional levels to improve the livelihoods of the populations.

In the case of Ghana, the focus of the CAADP process is to strengthen and add value to the Food and Agriculture Sector Development Policy II and the Sector Plan under the National Development Programme. The current agenda of the Government of Ghana (GoG) stresses the essential nature of strong plans in all sectors and calls for the improvement of existing policies and strategic plans. Also, the need for a coordinated approach for effective development of the agricultural sector has become paramount in the face of global crisis with the potential to undermine development efforts aimed at combating food insecurity and poverty reduction. Overcoming the

increasing risks of food insecurity and poverty reduction requires that the right policies and working approach be adopted. This can be achieved through effective planning, monitoring and review of policies and plans in a manner that is inclusive and participatory. It is in the light of ensuring that key stakeholders play a critical role in the shaping of the agricultural sector that this agreement is designed. It is expected that signatories will be committed to the letter and spirit of the agreement.

The ultimate goal of the ECOWAP/CAADP process in Ghana is to support strategic planning in Ghana's agricultural sector, by: (i) helping define a coherent long term framework to guide the planning and implementation of current and future FASDEP II programmes; and (ii) developing synergies and complementarities between existing and new strategic analysis and knowledge support systems to facilitate peer review, dialogue, and evidence based planning and implementation of agricultural sector policies and strategies. Furthermore it is intended that the compact will provide a basis and inputs into the formulation of a supporting regional compact.

### B. Rationale for and Use of a Ghana ECOWAP/CAADP Compact

Building on GoG's vision and commitment for economic and social development and planning and budgeting developments in the agriculture sector, the Compact (a) sets the parameters for long term partnership in the agricultural sector; (b) specifies key commitments on the part of government and partners; and (c) clarifies expectations with respect to the agribusiness and farming communities in order to ensure successful implementation of the FASDEP II agenda. Most important among these are sector policy, budgetary and investment commitments as well as commitments to align and scale up long term development assistance to the sector.

The Compact gives notice of GoG intentions and aspirations for the agriculture sector and confirms the consensus around the goals and priorities that Ghana has set for the sector and the partnerships and assistance that are required to achieve these goals. The ultimate purpose is to: (i) increase the effectiveness of planning and execution of government efforts; (ii) increase the effectiveness and delivery of external assistance in the agricultural sector with coordinated donor support and limited transaction costs; and thereby (iii) provide a solid framework under which assistance can be scaled up to help meet the short and long term investment needs in the sector.

### C. Long Term Vision and Commitment of the Government of Ghana for Economic and Social Growth and Development

GoG's long term vision for economic and social development is set out in the National Development Programme, translated into policy and an operational plan for the agricultural sector through the FASDEP II and Sector Plan. The overall agricultural sector goal is to achieve sustainable economic growth and social development, leading to the increase and diversification of household incomes, and ensuring food and nutrition security for the entire population. The strategic orientations guiding the pursuit of the above goal and related objectives are defined in the FASDEP as follows:

- Value chain concept as a tool to develop commodities
- Focus on selected commodities for food security

- Emergency preparedness
- Diversification of income generation and stability
- Use of modern technology to enhance productivity
- Irrigation to remove over reliance on rainfall
- Meeting the challenge of quality standards and safety
- Transforming smallholders to embrace modernization
- Promoting Public-Private partnerships
- Inclusivity whereby all operators (youth, vulnerable, women and men) are reached with services
- Enhanced Institutional Coordination and Harmonisation

### D. The Government of Ghana's agenda for Agricultural Growth, Poverty Reduction, and Food Security

The national vision for the development of the food and agriculture sector is a structurally transformed Ghanaian economy where modernised agriculture has culminated in improved food security, employment opportunities and significantly reduced poverty, particularly in rural areas. FASDEP II aims to modernize agriculture in a way that provides critical linkage between agriculture and industry, and is based on application of science and technology and sustainable land management and environmental practices. The agricultural sector is targeted to grow at 6-8% per annum to support the national output growth and the achievement of a middle income status by 2015.

FASDEP II provides a sector wide framework for guiding investments and interventions in the sector. A seven year agriculture sector investment plan is designed as an instrument for implementing the policy and would be rolled out in annual plans under the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF).

In line with the FASDEP, GoG has defined in the sector plan, the following six major programmes for the period 2009-2015. These together represent Ghana's priorities across the four CAADP pillars as shown in the following table:

From Table 1, it is clear that all CAADP pillars are contained in the FASDEP and the programme components of the Sector Plan. The final detailed cost, objectives, and specific outputs and activities are summarized in the round table briefs.

Table 1 – FASDEP Objectives and their Alignment with CAADP Pillars and the Investment Plan

<b>Corresponding CAADP Pillars and</b>	FASDEP Objectives	Medium Term Agriculture Sector
crosscutting issues		Investment Plan (2009-2015),
		programmes and components
Increasing Food Supply and Reducing	1. Food Security and Emergency	
Increasing Food Supply and Reducing Hunger Across the Region by Increasing Smallholder Productivity and Improving Responses to Food Emergencies. Includes emergency food supply management, nutrition, school feeding schemes, HIV/AIDS support strategies, attention to priority livelihood sectors (pillar 3).  Sustainable Development of Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry Resources.(cross- cutting)  Extending the Area Under Sustainable Land Management and Reliable Water Control Systems. Includes soil fertility management and conservation, agricultural water use and irrigation, and land policy and administration. (pillar 1)	1. Food Security and Emergency Preparedness. Includes vulnerability in food security through contingency planning, emergency preparedness including establishment of strategic stocks to address the negative effects of climatic change and natural disasters.	<ul> <li>Productivity improvement</li> <li>Support to improved nutrition</li> <li>Support for Diversification of         Livelihood Options of the poor with Off-         farm Activities Linked to agriculture</li> <li>Food storage and distribution</li> <li>Early Warning Systems and Emergency         preparedness</li> <li>Irrigation and water management</li> <li>Mechanisation services</li> </ul>
administration. (pillar 1)		

Corresponding CAADP Pillars and crosscutting issues	FASDEP Objectives	Medium Term Agriculture Sector Investment Plan (2009-2015), programmes and components
Increasing Market Access Through Improved Rural Infrastructure and Other Trade Related Interventions. Includes supply chain development, quality control and management system development, export infrastructure, and global trade policies and agreements (pillar 2)  Sustainable Development of Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry Resources(cross- cutting)	2. Improved Growth in Incomes and Reduced Income Variability. Includes income diversification activities involving a range of commodities including cash crops, livestock and indigenous commodities. This will be done through the value chain approach and application of science and technology to improve productivity.	<ul> <li>Promotion of cash crop, livestock and fisheries production for income in all ecological zones</li> <li>Development of new products</li> <li>Development of pilot value chains for one selected commodity in each ecological zone</li> <li>Intensification of FBOs and out-grower grower schemes concept</li> <li>Rural infrastructure</li> <li>Support to Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture</li> </ul>
Increasing Market Access through Improved Rural Infrastructure and other Trade Related Interventions. Includes supply chain development, quality control and management system development, export infrastructure, and global trade policies and agreements (pillar 2)  Extending the Area under Sustainable Land Management and Reliable Water Control Systems. Includes soil fertility management and conservation, agricultural	<ul> <li>3. Increased Competitiveness and Enhanced Integration into Domestic and International Markets. Includes enhancing capacity of players to access markets, improving quality standards, safety and provision of infrastructure such as cold chain facilities.</li> <li>4. Sustainable Management of Land and Environment. Includes sustainability in utilisation of resources through programmes, policy, regulation and</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Marketed output of non-export smallholder commodities increased.</li> <li>Export of non-traditional agricultural export commodities by men and women smallholders increased.</li> <li>Grading and standardization systems made functional.</li> <li>Policies and regulations to support SLM at all levels reviewed and strengthened.</li> <li>Institutional capacity at all levels within the food and agriculture sector built to</li> </ul>
water use and irrigation, and land policy and administration. (pillar 1)	mitigation measures against environmental degradation.	<ul><li>support the promotion of SLM.</li><li>Technology dissemination and adoption</li></ul>

Corresponding CAADP Pillars and crosscutting issues	FASDEP Objectives	Medium Term Agriculture Sector Investment Plan (2009-2015), programmes and components
		<ul> <li>for scaling-up of SLM.</li> <li>Technical capacity at all levels built to support promotion and dissemination of SLM technologies.</li> <li>SLM knowledge to support policy and investment decision making generated and adequately managed.</li> <li>An effective, efficient and motivating incentive system for SLM established</li> </ul>
Improving Agricultural Research and Systems to Disseminate Appropriate New Technologies and Increasing the Support Given to Help Farmers Adopt Them. Includes technology development, access and dissemination; innovation systems platforms; building research capacity and training (pillar 4)	5. Science and Technology Applied in Food and Agriculture Development. Includes enhancing application of science by all economic agents, improved technologies to support priority areas and client linkage systems to ensure demand driven research and utilisation of results.	<ul> <li>Adoption of improved technologies by men and women farmers increased.</li> <li>Agricultural research funding increased.</li> <li>A MOFA Unit to coordinate research output of the agricultural sector is well resourced and made functional.</li> <li>A sustainable funding mechanism for RELCs established and operational.</li> </ul>
Institutions. (cross-cutting)	6. Enhanced Institutional Coordination. Includes enhanced partnership and harmonisation of efforts in order to achieve maximum results in growth and development of the sector.	<ul> <li>Strengthen Intra-ministerial coordination</li> <li>Inter-ministerial coordination</li> <li>Partnership with Private sector and Civil Society Organisations</li> <li>Coordination with Development Partners</li> </ul>

### E. Forging Partnerships for the Successful Implementation of the Investment Priorities in the FASDEP Programmes

The Government of Ghana (GoG), the Development Partners (DP) and stakeholders in the agricultural sector are working together to increase effectiveness of development cooperation and implementation of agriculture interventions through harmonization and alignment of activities and procedures. The need to work together and adopt common approaches has become critical against the backdrop of international and national agenda to adopt comprehensive development strategies and to harmonize and align aid to country development frameworks and processes. The aid agenda is expressed in the following documents.

- The Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, Ownership, Harmonization, Alignment, Management for Results, and Mutual Accountability (2005).
- The Ghana Joint Assistance Strategy (2007)
- The Accra Agenda for Action (2008).

In addition, there exists active donor coordination in the agriculture sector with commitment by donors to increasingly harmonize their procedures and use country systems in an effort to enhance aid effectiveness. To this end, 2 joint sector reviews have been conducted, in 2008 and 2009.

Since 2006 the Ministry and the DPs have expressed a commitment towards adopting a Sector Wide Approach (SWAp). This approach would be used in the planning, joint analytical work, implementation and review of the sector's activities in order to enhance coordination, effectiveness and efficiency. FASDEP II was developed through an extensive consultative process with all development actors in the agricultural sector and was approved by Cabinet in June, 2008. The development of the Sector Plan adopted the same consultative process.

The Agriculture SWAp is anchored on the FASDEP and the Sector Plan. Key elements of a SWAp include:

- The existence of a sector wide policy linked to the macro framework
- Public finance management system
- Institutions and capacities
- Accountability and performance monitoring
- Aid alignment and harmonization
- Coordinated donor support and limited transaction costs

Financial management, monitoring and evaluations systems exist and are continuously improved. Government continues to build capacities of institutions to enhance their efficiency in delivery of services.

1. Purpose, Principles, and Modalities of the FASDEP II Partnerships

This compact will support partnerships between the Government of Ghana, the agribusiness and farming communities, and the Development Partners in the successful implementation of the FASDEP II and Sector Plan programmes that are specified above, in the medium term and of subsequent programmes to be defined in

the future, in line with the principles, modalities, and commitment agreed herein. The partnership modalities and principles follow the consultative, long term, sector wide strategic planning and sector wide programmatic approach to implementation defined in FASDEP II. Further within the ECOWAS region the partners supporting the CAADP agenda are urged to support Ghana in the implementation of programmes and activities under this compact.

### 2. Government of Ghana commitments under the FASDEP II Agenda and Partnerships

The Government of Ghana confirms its commitment to a modernized agriculture culminating in a structurally transformed economy and evident in food security, employment opportunities and reduced poverty as defined in the National Development Plan. GoG confirms FASDEP II as its framework to achieve the objectives related to the above vision through the promotion of sustainable agriculture development, thriving agribusiness, research and technology development, effective extension and other support services to farmers, processors and traders for improved livelihood. It will endeavor to ensure efficiency and effectiveness in pursuing the implementation of the FASDEP II agenda through its Sector Plan to achieve and exceed the 6% CAADP growth target over the next 7 years. It commits to work towards fulfilling the Maputo decision of the heads of state and government of the African Union of allocating at least 10% of the national budget to the agricultural sector within this period, in order to contribute to meeting the investments required to meet the outcomes in the Sector Plan programmes. In this regard, it will work to ensure maximum efficiency and effectiveness of utilization of resources in the sector through improvements in the sector monitoring and evaluation framework and systems together with the broader efforts to strengthen public financial management. It commits to dialogue, coordination, mutual review, and accountability mechanisms and modalities. Finally, the Government of Ghana agrees to the coordination of Ministries, Departments and Agencies through planning, the budget, performance reviews and implementation of measures and reforms necessary to promote and secure investments in the agriculture sector.

In line with its mission and as the lead ministry, the specific roles of MOFA are:

- Policy analysis and formulation
- Monitoring and evaluation of policy implementation
- Advise Cabinet on laws required to regulate agricultural activities in order to protect all stakeholders and the environment.
- Coordination and harmonization of policies and sector activities with other MDAs
- Government of Ghana (GoG) shall strive to achieve the Maputo Declaration of allocating at least 10% of annual government expenditure to the agricultural sector

- Facilitation of public-private dialogue and partnerships
- Advocacy for sector interests locally and in international agreements
- Facilitation of capacity building of sector's human resources
- Facilitation of research and technology development
- Facilitation of the linkage between agriculture and industry
- Facilitation of the integration of cross cutting issues such as gender equality into the work of the Ministry
- Facilitation of international trade and domestic marketing of agricultural commodities
- Provision and facilitation of agricultural service delivery
- Coordination of enforcement of regulations
- Coordination of Development Partners' development policies and activities with the sector policies and activities.

MDAs will partner with MoFA in sector development through:

- Participation in sector policy development, planning and review
- Research and technology development
- Human resource development
- Implementation of cross sectoral activities
- Monitoring and evaluation of relevant development indicators and provide information to MOFA.
- 3. Development Partners' Commitments under the FASDEP II Agenda

The Development Partners acknowledge that achieving the MDGs and meeting Ghana's agriculture vision requires increases in the volume, quality and effectiveness of development assistance. Therefore they commit collectively to harmonize and align their assistance to the sector, in line with the programmes and priorities identified in the FASDEP II and Sector Plan (2009 -2015) agenda. The Development Partners will work towards the scale up of assistance in the medium (the next 7 years) to long term, in order to help meet investment costs of the programmes defined under the agenda. In the same spirit they will, in consultation with the government, provide indications of future aid to the sector on a multiyear basis in order to improve predictability and allow better planning, budgeting, and implementation. They commit, in the maximum extent possible, to provide such financial / non- financial aid and related technical assistance in line with appropriate principles. This will reinforce the use of country systems which could include such modalities as budget support, government accounting systems, procurement, common reporting requirements, common fiduciary and risk management measures, which include the principles and

mechanisms for dialogue, coordination, mutual review, and accountability. These mechanisms will leverage country ownership, reduce transaction costs and speed up implementation.

#### Specific roles include:

- Contribute financial / non financial and technical resources to support the achievement of sector objectives within the parameters of the prevailing policy framework;
- Continue to seek new opportunities to harmonize and align their assistance according to the Government's Harmonization Action Plan;
- Engage constructively in policy dialogue relevant to agriculture and related sectors;
- Facilitate government management of financial / non financial and technical assistance:
- Participate in and support sector monitoring and evaluation efforts and feedback into policy.
- 4. African Union/NEPAD and Regional Partners commitments under the Maputo Declaration:

The African Union/NEPAD, ECOWAS, Pillar Institutions and regional partners are committed through the Maputo Declaration, to support Ghana in its endeavors to define priority programmes that would allow the country to meet the objectives of CAADP and be on the road to attaining MDG1. In this regard the African Union, ECOWAS and other regional partners will support Ghana's national strategies as defined in the FASDEP and Sector Plan through mobilizing of political, financial and technical support.

5. Commitments of the Private Sector, Civil Society, Agriculture Associations, Agriculture Unions, Parliament and Traditional Rulers.

Given the need to work in appropriate partnerships to realize the goals set in the Millennium Development goals and the FASDEP, the private sector, civil society, Parliament and Traditional Rulers commit to effectively partnering the government and people of Ghana in establishing enterprises and initiatives that will have measurable impact in reducing poverty levels in the country and increasing economic growth. Specific roles include:

- Participate in policy dialogue to ensure that their interests are reflected;
- Invest in productive activities in the sector;
- Ensure that commercialisation is balanced with social responsibility and environmental sustainability;

- Support training and improving skills of the sector's manpower;
- Participate in research and utilise results;
- Disseminate of good agricultural practices;
- Comply with laws and regulations;
- Partner government in sector development.

#### F. Implementation of the Partnerships

### 1. Coordination and oversight

Oversight and coordination of the implementation of the above partnerships will take place within the Joint Sector Reviews of the Agriculture Sector Plan, the Agriculture Sector Working Group and other bodies of similar consultative nature to be decided. The bodies will include such stakeholders as CSOs, the private sector, trade unions and agricultural bodies / associations as appropriate.

### 2. Funding mobilization

Where necessary the GoG and Development Partners will: (i) take stock of and explore opportunities to scale up implementation in 2010 of Sector Plan projects and programmes that are ready, are ongoing or that need scaling up; and (ii) finalize operational investment plans for the remaining components in order to start their implementation not later than 2011. For this purpose the GoG, Development Partners and stakeholders will undertake consultations, aimed at aligning funding to the Sector Plan and with a view towards formulating a sector wide approach. These consultations will take place immediately after the round table event, at the earliest possible opportunity. The support will be based on the comparative advantage of individual partners. With regard to Participating DPs' support, the resource envelope will include MDBS, Sector Budget Support and other commitments whether through bilateral projects or other mechanisms with a view towards leveraging Private Sector investment

#### 3. Implementation capacities

The GoG will endeavor to strengthen capacities in order to meet the personnel, institutional, and logistical requirements for a timely start of implementation. Development Partners will endeavor to provide in a coordinated manner the necessary technical assistance, to assist GoG, when demanded, to meet the above capacity requirements.

### **G.** Endorsement

By endorsing this Compact:

1) The Government of Ghana pledges to fulfill the commitments specified therein, in line with the goals, objectives, principles, and modalities laid out in the FASDEP and Sector Plan agenda;

- 2) The development partners pledge, collectively, to fulfill the commitments specified therein, in line with the Accra Agenda for Action 2008 approved between the Government and Development Partners in February 2005.
- 3) African Union/NEPAD, ECOWAS, Pillar Institutions and Other Regional Partners pledge collectively, to fulfill the commitments specified therein, Maputo declaration and global principles of CAADP implementation.
- 4) The Private Sector and Civil Society, Agriculture Associations and Unions, Parliament and Traditional Rulers collectively, pledge their support to realizing the aspiration of this compact.

### **Signatures**

Signed and dated as follows:

We accept the arrangements set out in all Sections of this COMPACT:

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS
Signature:
Name: CIRIS PACKION
Title: CO - COSAR
Organization CNECT DANT/ ARRIC SCERRE CROSS
Date: 28/10/09.
CIVIL SOCIETY
Signature: Seaw 600
Name: DAVIN ELI
Title: From Steurity, POLICY and ADVOCACY NETWORK (Food SPAN) Organization. FOOD SECURITY, POLICY and ADVOCACY NETWORK (Food SPAN)
Organization FOOD SECURITY, POLICY and ANDO CACY NETWORK (In COM
Date: 28: 10: 09
FAMER/AGRICULTURE ASSOCIATIONS
Signature:

REPUBLIC OF GRANA

Name:

Title: NAT.

Organization GN Aft / GFA1

PRIVATE SECTOR  Signature:  Name:  ASALL AKNY  Title:  PRESIDENT  Organization.  PRIVATE BUTCHIST FUMATION  Date:  Date:  Date:
AGRICULTURE TRADE UNION - GAWU  Signature:  Name:  Mingsly ofei-Wansol  Title:  General Secretary  Organization.  Date: 28-10-29
PARLIAMENT - AGRICULTURE SELECT COMMITTEE  Signature: Title: Try  Date: A 10 2009
Signature: Affrage Sonabila - Title: President Mafjanal House of Chief

#### Glossary

For purposes of this COMPACT the following terms have the following meaning:

- SWAp (Sector Wide Approach) is a way of working of government and partners based on a unified multi-annual budgetary framework and coordinated planning, funding and implementation that ensures local ownership, increases coherence between policy spending and results and relies on country systems.
- Annual Composite Work Plan" means the annual consolidated work plans and budgets of implementing MDAs detailing the program of activities to be carried out in each Government financial year.
- "DP Group" means the Agriculture Sector Development Partners Working Group.
- "Government" and GoG means the Government of the Republic of Ghana.
- "Implementing MDAs" means the Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies responsible for implementation of the FASDEP and the Sector Plan.
- "Joint Review Meetings" are meetings of joint participation by key stakeholders to review sector performance.
- "Participating DPs" means all Development Partners signatories to the COMPACT.