

## **Background**

The African Union (AU) established the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) as a strategy to achieve agriculture-based growth and food security on the continent. As the technical arm of the African Union Commission (AUC), the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NEPAD Agency) has been mandated to implement CAADP in 55 AU member states. To achieve this, the NEPAD Agency - with support from the GIZ CAADP Support Programme - promotes Agricultural Technical Vocational Education and Training (ATVET) to strengthen a professionalised and productive agricultural sector.

The CAADP ATVET Community of Practice (CoP) was launched by the NEPAD Agency at the 13<sup>th</sup> CAADP Partnership Platform (2017) in Kampala, Uganda. The CoP's inception is based on the rationale that ATVET-related issues benefit from being discussed by a community of practitioners who can leverage on the experiences of others to improve the state of agricultural skills development in Africa.

The CAADP ATVET CoP embodies the NEPAD Agency's core mandate to create and disseminate knowledge across Africa. Through this mandate, the CoP seeks to further the progress of pan-African commitments, such as the Malabo Declaration (2014) and Agenda 2063. Stakeholders are encouraged to engage in dialogue on improving the status quo of agricultural skills development in order to profitably boost agricultural production, processing, business and trade on the continent. By providing a space for online discussions and by establishing a pool of ATVET experts, the CoP aims to foster regional and continental synergies through the sharing of best practices.

In order to maximise its impact on the African continent, the CoP will facilitate physical meetings to garner stakeholder buy-in. In addition, members of the CoP will have the opportunity to meet face-to-face and to exchange on topical debates generated via the online platform.

### **What does the CADP ATVET CoP do?**

- Provides an online forum for stakeholders and ATVET experts to engage in dialogue and exchanges of best practices.
- Facilitates open discussions and technical consultations on the ongoing CAADP ATVET project implementation; the results and outcomes of which will inform policies, strategies and technical meetings.
- Strengthens the capacity of project stakeholders through mutual exchange and by providing solutions to challenges through best practices and experience sharing.
- Increases awareness of issues and/or processes that are crucial to strengthening ATVET around the continent.

### **Benefits of being a CAADP ATVET CoP member**

- Opportunity to exchange experiences with fellow African experts via online discussions, physical workshops and conferences.
- Contact CoP members directly for in-depth exchanges.
- Help identify priority issues on strengthening ATVET across the continent.
- Stay informed on the latest news and developments relating to the ongoing CAADP ATVET project implementation.

- Network with other ATVET practitioners and be part of a continental community.
- Participate in ATVET CoP webinars, workshops and surveys.
- Access and share relevant ATVET resources, documents and news.