



Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Review of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS): Towards food security and sovereignty in Central Africa by 2040**

From January 16 to 18, 2024, the West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF), in collaboration with the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and Hub RuRal, is organizing a regional conference in Yaoundé, Cameroon, to update the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and its operational instrument, the Regional Agriculture Investment Plan and Food Security and Nutrition (RAIP-FNS).

ECCAS adopted its Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) in 2015. After nine years of implementation, it decided to revise it, holding a series of consultations with all stakeholders in the development of agriculture in Central Africa. This participatory process should lead to a new revised Common Agricultural Policy. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) provides technical and financial support to this revision of the CAP through support provided to the Rural Hub to facilitate the process.

As part of its mission to support the definition and implementation of national and regional agricultural policies, CORAF also supports this initiative to revise the CAP of the ECCAS which also allows to strengthen its cooperation with organizations under The European Union is committed to strengthening its redeployment in Central Africa. The objective of the regional conference is to have the proposal of the revised CAP document and its operational instrument reviewed by all stakeholders; RAIP-FNS to have it validated by Member States and partners.

The meeting will take stock of the implementation of the CAP, analyse the prospects for 2040 and propose a new ECCAS Common Agricultural Policy by 2040 with a regional five-year action and investment plan, ECCAS RAIP-FNS for 2040.

In this ECCAS CAP review process, the objective of CORAF's engagement and participation is to make its technical and financial contribution with a view to promoting food security and sovereignty in Central Africa. In addition, CORAF intends to seize this opportunity to share the assessment and prospects for the development of technologies and innovations for the resilience of agricultural systems in Central Africa.

For the Acting Executive Director of CORAF, Dr Alioune FALL, *“The involvement of CORAF in the revision of the ECCAS Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) represents a crucial step towards enhanced collaboration in the expansion of CORAF initiatives in Central Africa. CORAF aims to strengthen its ties with ECCAS, recognizing the potential for closer collaboration to address common agricultural challenges.”*

The conference is co-facilitated by ECCAS, FAO, CORAF with the moderation of the Hub Rural. Under the patronage of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Cameroon, it will see the participation of its Excellency the President of the ECCAS Commission, representatives of the Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (CEMAC), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Focal Points of the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) in the 11 ECCAS member countries, the Directors of National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS), civil society organizations, the private sector, agricultural stakeholders, technical and financial partners, and other regional, continental and international stakeholders.

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### **About CORAF**

CORAF is a sub-regional organization consisting of the national agricultural research systems of twenty-three West and Central African countries. It is tasked with coordinating the implementation of sub-regional and regional agricultural research policies as defined by governments. Established in 1987, with its Executive Secretariat located in Dakar, Senegal, CORAF's primary goal is to enhance livelihoods in West and Central Africa by achieving sustainable increases in agricultural production and productivity while fostering competitiveness and access to markets.

Learn more: [www.coraf.org](http://www.coraf.org)

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### **About ECCAS**

The Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) aims to promote cooperation and the strengthening of regional integration in Central Africa in all areas of political, security, economic, monetary, financial, social and cultural activity, scientific and technical.

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### **About FAO**

<https://www.fao.org/about/who-we-are/en>

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