FANRPAN
Food Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network

Policy Component of the "Energy Crops and Agroforestry Systems for Arid & Semi-arid Ecosystems (COMPETE) Project"

Lindiwe Majele Sibanda

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Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN)

www.fanrpan.org; lmsibanda@fanrpan.org

Outline of Presentation

- About FANRPAN
- COMPETE Policy Activities
- COMPETE Policy Outputs
- Way Forward

ABOUT FANRPAN

- **Created in 1997, vision: A FOOD SECURE SOUTHERN AFRICA**

- **Focus:**
  - **Improving policy research, analysis and formulation on key SADC priority themes**
  - **Developing human and institutional capacity for coordinated policy development by all stakeholders**
  - **Improving policy decision making by enhancing the generation, exchange and use of policy-related information**

- **Stakeholder categories:**
  - **Farmers, Government, Researchers, Private sector**

- **Country nodes in 13 southern African countries:**
  Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

The role of FANRPAN in COMPETE

- **Policy Outputs**:
  1. To develop & evaluate policy initiatives for bioenergy development in Africa
  2. To develop a roadmap for policy research
  3. To provide policy recommendations on how to harness the potential of biofuels without damaging livelihoods and the ecosystem
  4. To share information from the policy work through seminars and workshops

Scope of the review

1. National Policies and Acts for selected SADC/ COMESA member states and partner countries in West Africa.

- National development frameworks (PRSP, etc), Agricultural policies, Energy policies, Taxation policies, Environmental policies, Forestry policies, Biotechnology policies, Food security policies, Decentralization policies, Science and technology policies, Research and Development policies.

2. Regional Policies/Agreements:

- SADC, COMESA, ECOWAS policies/protocols on trade, biofuels (energy), research and development, etc, and other relevant policies.

3. International policies:

- EU policies on trade, energy, research & development, international conventions and treaties and other relevant policies.

Policy Review: What we looked for!

- What do the policies state wrt bioenergy and agroforestry development?
- Which policies are complementary and which are contradictory?
- What are the notable gaps in the policies w.r.t. bioenergy and agroforestry sector development (compare policies of other countries)?
- What is government commitment in implementing the policies:
  - Has government allocated resources for implementation?
  - Are there institutional arrangements for policy implementation, coordination, monitoring and evaluation?

Drivers of Energy Crops and Agroforestry Systems

Policy Drivers

- Climate change
- Energy security
- Food security
- Rural livelihoods
- Ecosystem services

Market Forces

- Rising food prices
- Rising energy prices

Who Advises African Policy Makers?

- **Good Policies**:
  - Clarity of purpose and objectives
  - provide guidelines for implementation of interventions to achieve objectives (better livelihoods, sustainable production, food and energy security)
  - Facilitate the achievement of development objectives
- **Challenges:**
  - Policies coordinated by different public institutions complementary? often contradictory!
  - Some policies are political and are formulated without validated evidence (weak research policy link)
  - Involvement of policy implementers is minimum at policy formulation stage

Summary of key findings

National Development/Energy Policies

- PRSP for **Ghana** contains specific strategies for biogas development, with a target of substituting 20% of national gas and oil consumption with biodiesel and 30% of paraffin to be replaced with Jatropha oil by 2015.
- **Mozambique** 2009 has adopted a policy for large-scale production of biofuels, including the gradual introduction of blending of fossil fuels with biofuels initially at 5 – 10%.
- **South Africa** has a specific biofuels strategy aims at achieving market penetration of 4.5% in biofuels by 2013.
- **Malawi** has more than 20 years experience in bioethanol production-**it has no specific biofuel strategy**

Africa is moving slow on bio-energy debate!

The effects of moving "TOO slow" and The cost of "INACTION"

- Demand for policy is externally driven-"projectised"
- Multi-sectoral interests (energy, agriculture, environment, gender, etc.)
- Continental leadership by African Union, CAADP needed

Focus is on Africa !

- How will global green energy targets be achieved?
- **Eyes are on AFRICA**
  - Investors are coming to Africa to acquire land & put up plants and machinery for commercial biofuels production
  - About 4m sq km of land will be grown to energy crops in Southern Africa region (e.g., Jatropha) over the next 5 years

The “cost” of inaction

- Despite the controversies surrounding the viability of biofuels and its effects on the poor, “inaction” will lead to Africa missing out on the potential benefits that biofuels can offer

  - Missed joint-venture & share-holding opportunities
  - Contract-farming opportunities
  - Small-scale refineries for energy generation in rural areas
  - more land will be taken away from mainstream agriculture for large-scale, export-oriented production of biofuels
  - Without policy protection, profits will be expropriated
  - Rising prices of fossil fuels-high fuel import bills

Summary of key findings

Incentives Africa vs others

- Substantial government support has been provided to many countries that have made significant progress in biofuels such as South African, USA and other countries in Asia & Europe
- **Implications**
- African biofuel sector is unlikely to be competitive on international markets due to
  - **Subsides** and **tax** incentives provided to producers & consumers of biofuels in developed countries
  - **Law state of art** in biofuel production & processing
  - High international **standard specifications** for biofuels
  - Lack of clear **coherent supportive policy** on biofuels

Incentives: Integration of Energy Crops into Agroforestry Systems

Integration of energy crops into agroforestry systems can be a solution to all the potential detriments which can result from biofuel production systems

How?

- allows food and fuel at the same time and on the same piece of land,
- conserves the ecosystem yet offering sustainable production from the land through practices such as; minimum tillage, integrated pest and soil management, multiple cropping, appropriate crop choice and crop rotations
- and is compatible with the social cultural aspirations and economic conditions of the farmers

The synergy of agroforestry offers more benefits than those which can be realised individually in agricultural or forestry sector.

Review of Progress towards Achievement of MDG 1 and 7

- **Goal 1: Progress made in SSA towards achievement of MDG1 is low and & varied**

- MDG's are beyond year 2015 dream

- The Food, Fuel, Financial crisis have impacted progress

- Poverty reduction has been an over-aching policy in all countries - poverty reduction strategy papers (PRSPs) and poverty reduction programmes that focus on raising family incomes

- ***Goal 7: Ensuring environmental sustainability (and improving access to safe drinking water and supplies)***

Scale of implementation is still too low or meaningful assessment

Take-home messages

1. **Livelihoods should be** at the centre of SSA biofuels strategies, policies, programs.
2. **Policies urgently needed in SSA**:
   - To protect the poor from exploitation by private interests at the expense of local livelihoods
   - To prevent from falling into the trap of replacing food crops with energy crops for producing fuel to power vehicles
   - To prohibit biofuels expansion to protected areas (e.g., forests, catchment suitable for of biofuels to rural development
3. **Define the biofuels development path in SSA**:
   - Smallholder focus for rural development
   - Expansion beyond small-scale to be carefully guided & monitored

Policy Recommendations

Supportive programs and incentives should be put in place for the production of energy crop to help subsistence farmers. These programs should offer;

- farmers access to capital to invest in improved energy crop - agroforestry systems
- farmers training in farming techniques
- farmers reliable markets for their energy crops
- extension services on

- Implementation of agroforestry & bioenergy systems in Africa should take into account the prevailing land tenure systems

- There is need for **capacity building of all stakeholders** including farmers, extension services, scientists and research in order to ensure sustainable implementation and management of improved agroforestry systems

- A comprehensive carbon balance assessment of each system should be done

- Academic and research institutions should be involved in identifying suitable energy crops for each particular area depending on prevailing biophysical factors.

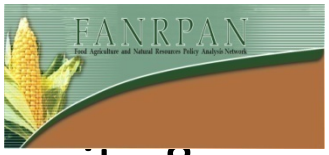
Policy Recommendations

- **Relevant research** institutions should study and come up with different compatible energy crop-tree combinations for each agroforestry system
- Nitrogen agronomic requirements of various energy crops must be studied to avoid risk of volatilization of excess nitrogen from leguminous trees into the air
- **Indigenous energy crops** in a particular area should be capitalized so as to avoid detrimental effects of invasive alien species
- Degraded land should be the first option for large scale energy crop farming so as to help in the rehabilitation of soils and also avoid competition for land
- **Agroforestry systems** where both cash and energy crop production would be promoted simultaneously should be encouraged.
- **Crop water requirements** of various energy crops should be analysed and matched with available water resources in a particular before these can be grown so as to avoid water use conflicts

Emerging Issues for followup!

- In terms of FANRPAN, emerging issues for policy are:
  - Slow pace of policy development around biofuels in Africa and the slow move by many governments
  - The issue of transparency and corruption on land grab deals
  - Gender links critical as the majority of feedstock growers are women
  - Lack of harmonised policies on standards in the region and between trading blocks Africa-EU

What next beyond COMPETE?



- The era of biofuels is here to stay to ensure energy security & address environmental concerns at the same time, enhancing rural livelihoods.
- NEED
  - Urgent need to provide **guidance for development of policy** and legislation for biofuels development
  - Partnerships to support **rigorous research** & analysis to provide evidence-based responses to biofuel development
  - Development of a stakeholder directory and platform for researchers & stakeholders involved in the **biofuels sector-exchange information**, north-south; south-south
  - VOICE-To sensitize politicians, famers & civil society at large on the potential benefits as well as dangers of unregulated biofuels expansion

Africa-wide Civil Society Climate Change Initiative for Policy Dialogues

- ACCID -

FANRPAN

The Position of African Civil Society

Africa-wide Civil Society Climate Change Initiative for Policy Dialogues - ACCID

- News Digest – NO AGRICULTURE NO DEAL!

Week ending 13 November 2009

Editor's choice

[The imperative of re-designing Africa's development trajectory]

African Development Bank

Addis Ababa: Ethiopian Prime Minister, Meles Zenawi, officially opened the 2009 African Economic Conference in Addis Ababa, where he tasked African economists and policy-makers to consider redesigning the continent's development trajectory for sustainable growth and development...

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