

# CCARDESA

Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa



Coordinating agricultural research and development  
in the SADC region



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## REMARKS: CCARDESA BOARD CHAIRPERSON

I am grateful to present to you the CCARDESA Annual Report for 2023. This report provides an overview of progress made by CCARDESA Secretariat, in collaboration with development partners and SADC Member States in the implementation of the 2023 Work Plan for the period January to December.

The reporting is structured according to the six CCARDESA Thematic Areas as reflected in the new Strategic Plan and a Medium Term Operational Plan, namely: (1) Agricultural productivity and food and nutrition security; (2) Resilience to emerging agricultural risks: environmental, climate change, and transboundary pests and diseases; (3) Commercialisation of the agricultural sector and market access; (4) Women, youth and social inclusion; (5) Knowledge and information management, communication and policy support; and (6) Capacity strengthening of CCARDESA and AR4D institutions.

The report also gives a picture of the outputs and the resource allocation by Thematic Area during the 2023 financial year. It also highlights the key achievements, expenditure analysis by thematic area, implementation challenges and recommendations for the future. This report also gives the financial performance and status of the organisation and strategic partnerships that were established in the year of reporting and shows an indicative plan of actions for the following year.

Out of a total of 116 main activities that were planned to be implemented in 2023 with an estimated budget of USD 4,933,825, a total of 94 activities were completed representing an 80% implementation rate. Financially, CCARDESA by November 2023, had managed to utilize 69% of the financial resources that were budgeted for 2023. By December 2023, the total assets had decreased from USD2,935,816 in 2022 to USD1,933,133 in 2023.

Under the guidance of the Board, the Secretariat has managed to deliver very important agricultural R&D deliverables for the region in partnership with several partners. Notably, the 3<sup>rd</sup> CCARDESA General Assembly (GA) was successfully held to fulfil the governance obligations of the organisation. Through the GA a number of important decisions were made by stakeholders to improve the governance of the organisation. The GA endorsed the new Board Members and the strategic direction of the CCARDESA and made recommendations towards improvement of the CCARDESA governance documents.

I would like to thank several individuals and organizations that contributed to the successful achievements realised by CCARDESA in 2023. These include: the SADC Secretariat, SADC Member States, the National Agricultural Research Systems of SADC Member States, Farmer Organisations, and regional and international organizations for their valuable contributions to CCARDESA in 2023. The flourishing partnership between CCARDESA and the CAADP-XP4 partners namely FARA, AFAAS, ASARECA, CCARDESA and CORAF) is worth a special mention. The invaluable contribution of the development partners including the World Bank, the European Union, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) for the financial and technical support is deeply appreciated.

Professor RAZAFINJARA Aimé Lala

**CCARDESA Board Chairperson**



## FOREWORD

CCARDESA was established to play an important regional role in the coordination of research and development efforts aimed at contributing towards improved food security in the SADC region. Besides being guided by the global commitments such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the CCARDESA Secretariat's interventions and strategies are primarily informed by key regional strategic documents such as the SADC Regional Agricultural Policy (RAP), the Regional Indicative and Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) and the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP).

To discharge this role CCARDESA amplifies its capacity by forging strategic partnerships to implement its interventions with various partners. In 2023, CCARDESA forged new partnerships with Africa

Agriculture Technology Foundation (AATF), Digital Earth Africa (DE-Africa) and the South Africa Agricultural Research Council (ARC) and executed a number of important events with its partners. Notable among them include the Africa Agribusiness and Science Week that was co-hosted in Durban with FARA and the South African Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD). CCARDESA is grateful to have worked with other stakeholders to host the 8<sup>th</sup> Edition of the All-Africa Conference on Animal Agriculture (AACAA8) in Gaborone, Botswana as well as the 6<sup>th</sup> Africa-wide Agricultural Extension Week 2023 in Abuja, Nigeria.

The achievements realized in 2023 were a result of contributions from many actors at organizational, regional, continental, and global levels. Therefore, I would like to thank every one of them because without them CCARDESA would not have realized this. The guidance from the Board of Directors and the diligent work of all cadres of staff at the Secretariat is greatly appreciated for their individual and group effort.

Prof. Cliff Sibusiso Dlamini (Ph.D., MDF., EMBA., CDFA)

**Executive Director and Head of Mission**

## ABBREVIATIONS

AICCRA	Accelerating the Impact of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa
AfCFTA	Africa Continental Free Trade Area
AGRINATURA	European Alliance for Agricultural Knowledge for Development
AR&D	Agricultural Research and Development
AR4D	Agricultural Research for Development
ASARECA	Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa
AU	African Union
AUDA	African Union Development Agency
CA	Conservation Agriculture
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
CAADP-XP4	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme Ex-pillar 4 Project
CCARDESA	Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa
CNRM	Climate Resilience and Natural Resources Programme
CSA	Climate Smart Agriculture
COVID 19	Corona Virus Disease 2019
CTA	Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation
DRR	Disaster risk Management
EU	European Union
FANRPAN	Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
FARA	Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa
FFS	Farmer Field Stories
GCCA+	Global Climate Change Alliance Plus
ICKM	Information, Communication, Knowledge Management
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MTOP	Medium Term Operational Plan

MS	Member State
NARES	National Agricultural Research and Extension Systems
NARS	National Agricultural Research System
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
RAP	Regional Agricultural Policy
RCoL	Regional Centre of Leadership
ReNAPRI	The Regional Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes
RISDP	Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan
RUFORUM	Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture
SAA	Sasakawa Africa Association
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
S3A	Science Agenda for Agriculture in Africa
S4AC	Science for Agriculture Consortium
SACAU	Southern Africa Confederation of Agricultural Unions
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SAAIKS	Southern Africa Agricultural Information and Knowledge System
SRO	Sub-regional Research Organisation
TA	Thematic Area
TFCA	Trans frontier Conservation Area
TIMPs	Technologies, Innovations and Management Practices
USD	United States Dollar
WB	World Bank



# CCARDESA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Prof. RAZAFINJARA Aimé Lala  
**Chairperson**  
Republic of Madagascar



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**Vice Chairperson**  
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SADC Secretariat



Dr Aggrey Agumya  
**Ex-Officio Member**  
**FARA Representative**  
FARA Secretariat



Dr Diana M. Earnshaw  
**Ex-Officio Member**  
**Environmental Expert**  
Kingdom of Eswatini

## CCARDESA HIGHLIGHTS

### GENESIS OF CCARDESA

CCARDESA is a subsidiary organization of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat. It was established through a decision of the SADC Council of Ministers in February 2010 and a Charter which came into force on 5 April 2011. CCARDESA has the mandate of coordinating agricultural research and development (R&D) in Southern Africa in furtherance of the objectives and targets set forth by the SADC Member States. The Centre became operational in 2012 and signed a hosting agreement with the Government of Botswana in 2014. The objectives of CCARDESA have been stipulated in the Charter, establishing the organization, and reflecting the desires of the SADC Member States

### IMPACT

- Resilient agricultural and food systems
- Improved incomes and nutritional status of rural farming communities and other value chain actors

### CCARDESA'S STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES



## KEY OUTCOMES



## CCARDESA'S THEMATIC AREAS AND PROGRAMMES

In order to achieve the outcomes, CCARDESA implements activities under the six thematic areas as follows:



In pursuing the implementation of the above thematic areas, CCARDESA implemented key programmes and projects in 2023



### SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PLANNED OUTPUTS

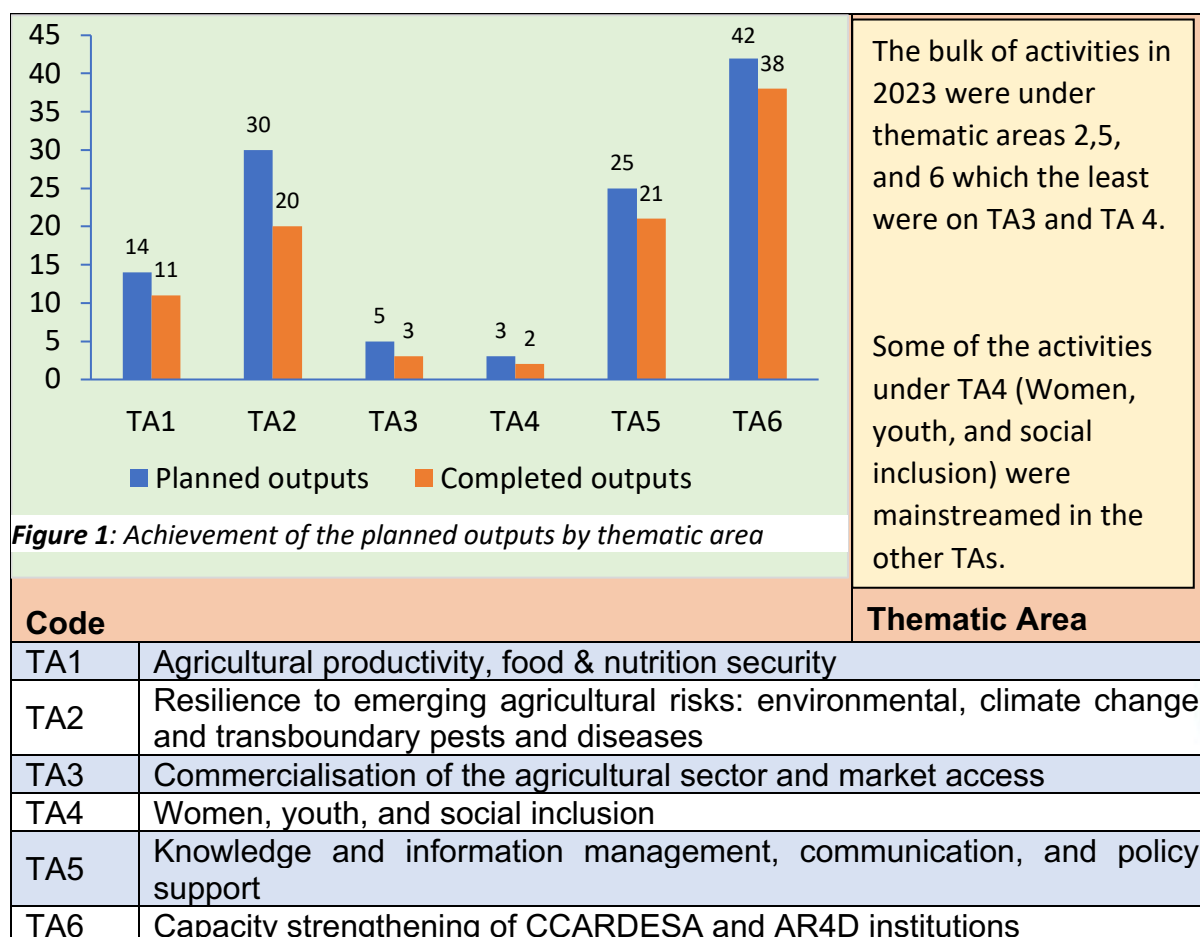
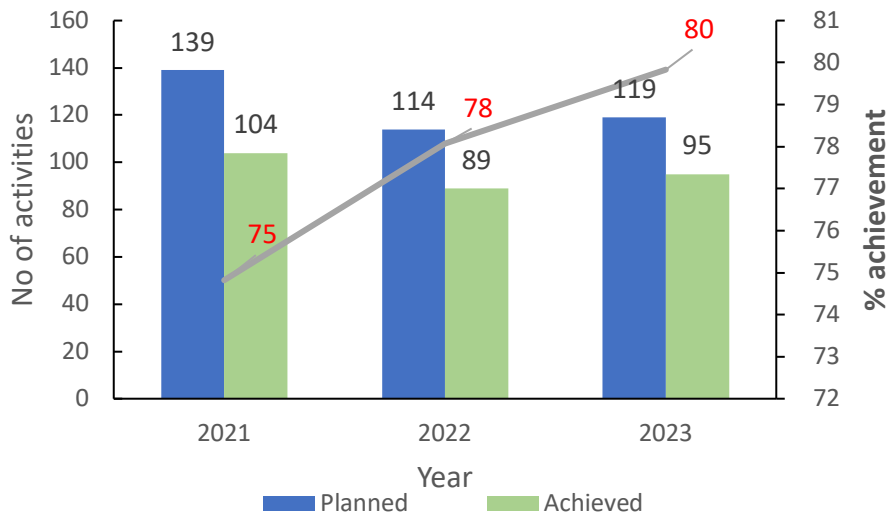


Figure 1: Achievement of the planned outputs by thematic area



**Figure 1:** Trends in the completion of planned outputs across the three period, from 2021 to 2023.

CCARDESA registered improvements in the implementation of planned outputs over the past three years.

### DETAILED ACHIEVEMENTS BY THEMATIC AREAS

#### Thematic Area 1: Increased agricultural productivity and food and nutrition security.

Thematic Objective: To achieve increased agricultural productivity and food and nutrition security, with a special focus on smallholder farmers and priority commodities.

##### Expected Outcome/Results

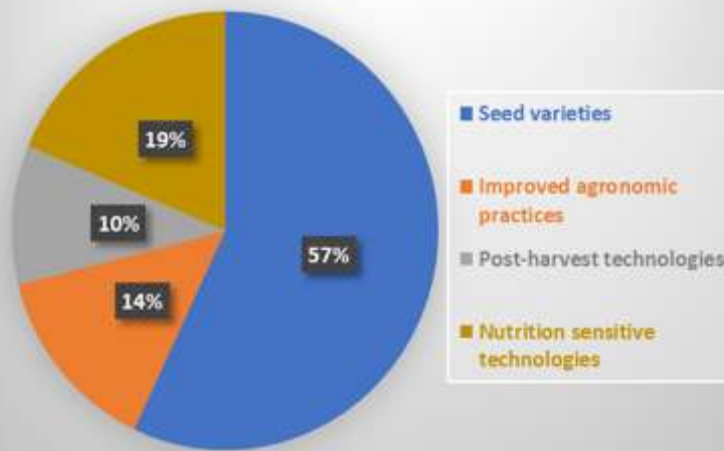
1. New and existing technologies, innovations and management practices developed.
2. Nutrition-sensitive agriculture integrated into AR4D institutions programs and resilient national and regional food systems improved.

##### Main activities

- Facilitate dissemination of existing agricultural technologies to farmers in Angola and Lesotho (Target is to promote availability of up to 100 technologies 2020 and 2024).
- Facilitate development of new technologies in Angola and Lesotho (Target is to generate at least 25 new technologies between 2020 and 2024)
- Facilitate the development of 10 proposals for projects that will contribute towards the development of new agricultural technologies.
- Facilitate dissemination of technologies that target primary underlying causes of malnutrition in Angola and Lesotho. The target is to promote at least 20 nutrition sensitive technologies between 2020 and 2024 under APPSA

## Key Achievements

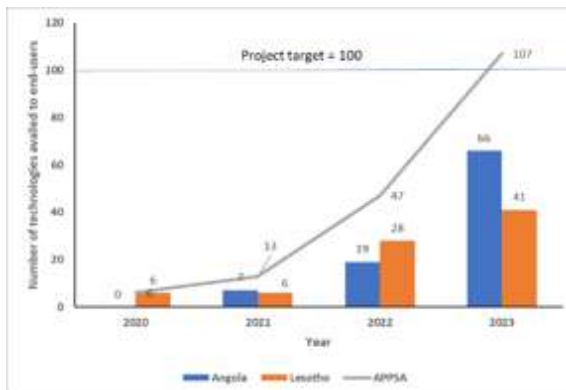
### TIMPs Made available to end-user in 2023



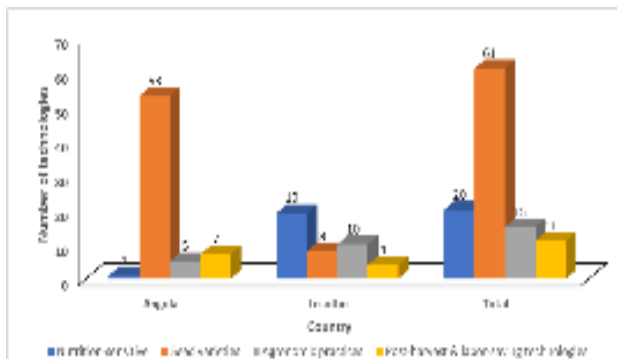
107 technologies, innovations, and management practices (TIMPs) (61 improved seed varieties, 15 improved agricultural practices, 11 improved post-harvest technologies, and 20 nutrition sensitive technologies) were available to end-users as compared to 47 TIMPs in 2022 benefitting 30,670 farmers in Angola and Lesotho.

**Figure 2:** Types of technologies, innovations and management practices made available to the end users in 2023.

- 20 nutrition sensitive technologies were promoted as compared to 15 in 2022 (19 in Lesotho and 1 in Angola).
- Twenty-one (21) out of the end target of 25 technologies have so far been generated, and this includes 17 new varieties.
- Nine Proposals were developed through CAADP-XP4 project. Five have been merged with the SADC-FANR activities. One has been submitted to Horizon Europe for funding.



a. Number of TIMPs over 4 years



b. Type of TIMPs by Country

**Figure 3:** Cumulative number of Technologies, Innovations and Management Practices (TIMPs) being made available to end-users (a) and the types of the TIMPs (b)



**Figure 4:** post-harvest technologies promoted in Lesotho in 2023



**Figure 5:** A trial in Lesotho, testing the effect of biochar on maize yield (picture courtesy of Prof. Mekbib



**Figure 6:** A Sweet potato research field in Angola.

CCARDESA facilitated collaborative project in Angola (picture above) and Lesotho. The project facilitated the introduction of sweet potatoes in Lesotho through farmer field schools.

## Thematic Area 2: Resilience to Emerging Agricultural Risks: Environmental, Climate Change and Trans-boundary Pests and Diseases

Thematic Objective 2.1: To increase resilience to climate change and strengthen early detection and rapid response to trans-boundary pests and diseases.

### Expected Outcome/Results

1. Enabling regional environment for effective management of pests and diseases as well as natural resources created.
2. Farmers and other value chain actors supported to sustainably manage the environment and resilient value chains.
3. The impact of climate change

### Main activities

- Facilitate strengthening of Early Warning Systems
- AR4D institutions capacitated to support disaster risk reduction initiatives at national level.
- Capacitate Member States to report on the management of Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCAs) under NMRM project
- Promote Climate Smart Agriculture in at least 5 SADC Member States. The target was to support at least 150 households between 2021 and 2023.
- Promote earth observation tools to reduce impacts and shocks to climate change in the region.

### Key Achievements

- Two early warning systems, including the African Union Africa Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Action System for DRR Continental Situation Room, and the SADC Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Information Management System were identified.
- The process of establishing an Agroecology Regional Centre of Excellence was initiated with support from the European Union, through the Department for International Partnerships (DG INPTA)
- The report on tracking CSA indicators in Malabo Commitments (Scoring of climate STI in the BR) was produced and validated in February 2023
- Seven (7) journalists from Botswana, the Kingdom of Eswatini, the Kingdom of Lesotho, Namibia, Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe were trained to understand the functions and management of TFCAs.
- Twelve (12) Member States were supported in accessing three CSA knowledge products (supported by GCCA+ and AICCRA projects)



- Seven (7) Member States were supported with the establishment of climate smart technologies including drip irrigation systems. The MS are Botswana, Eswatini, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The systems benefited at least 449 farming households, representing 299% of the target (Botswana 70, Malawi 60, Namibia 100, Zambia 114, and Zimbabwe 105) to increase agricultural productivity in the context of climate change. The beneficiaries increased from 289 in 2022 to 449 in 2023.
- CSA handbook was developed and shared with stakeholders with support from GCCA+ and AICCRA projects.
- CSA trainings were delivered to stakeholders from the five MS (Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe) and 247 farmers (63% female). The training was supported by AICCRA and GCCA+ projects.



**Figure 7:** Stakeholder of GCCA+ project at one of the project sites in Zimbabwe where the beneficiaries were implementing different types of climate smart interventions including integrating aquaculture.

CCARDESA facilitated consultative meetings, in partnership with Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA) and Digital Earth-Africa, to orient stakeholders on the use of earth observation tools and products to

reduce impacts and shocks to climate change through early warning and for monitoring trends of resource utilization and spatial developments through remote sensing technologies.

- A training on Building Gender-Responsive Climate Resilience for decision makers was held for twenty-two participants from Member States.



**Figure 8:** Participants of the media training on transboundary natural resources management in SADC.

### Thematic Area 3: Commercialisation of the Agricultural Sector and Market Access

Thematic Objective 3.1: To promote commercialisation of smallholder agriculture through increasing productivity, value addition, and marketing with emphasis on commodity chain development.

#### Expected Outcome/Results

1. Foresight on market trends for regional priority agricultural commodities to enhance market driven production provided.
2. Integration of smallholder farmers into value chains and their capacity to access capital to invest in market driven production supported.
3. Value chain actors' access to technologies, innovations, and management practices (TIMPs) improved.
4. Participation of women and youths in commercialisation and markets linkages improved.

#### Main activities

- Facilitate Private Sector Engagement and Cross-Border Trade in the region
- Facilitate diversification and production of high value commodities in Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The target was to support 150 farming households between 2021 and 2023
- Value chain actors accessing technologies and innovations that promote CSA practices in Malawi, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe (target was 150 households between 2021 and 2023)
- Facilitate equal participation of women and youths in agricultural production and marketing in Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

#### Key Achievements

- Technical studies on value chain competitiveness and risk assessments initiated. The thrust is to analyse the agri-food value chains and rank the value chains based on the competitiveness and risks for each country. It is expected that regionally significant agricultural value chain will be recommended and their responsiveness to the needs of smallholder farmers and other value chain actors documented.
- CCARDESA, FARA, and ReNAPRI jointly hosted a side event during the 8th Africa Agriculture Science Week titled Private Sector Engagement and Policy Dialogue on Improving the Implementation of Existing Trade Policies to Support Cross-Border Trade in Africa. The dialogue was also an opportunity for countries to initiate discussions in support of responses to initiatives to increase cross-border trade for agricultural inputs and commodities such as the Africa Continental Free Trade Area Agreement (AfCFTA).
- A Greenhouse was constructed to facilitate production of high values crops throughout the year in Zimbabwe and it is benefiting 105 farming households



**Figure 9:** Participants at the Private Sector Engagement and Policy Dialogue during the AASW8

#### Thematic Area 4: Women, Youth and Social Inclusion

Thematic Objective 4.1: To promote the development and use of appropriate agricultural technologies and innovations for women, youth, and vulnerable groups.

##### Expected Outcome/Results

1. AR4D technologies and innovations specifically targeting women, youth and vulnerable groups developed and promoted.
2. AR4D institutions supported to develop interventions that will increase participation of women, youth, and other vulnerable groups in agricultural value chains.

##### Main activities

- Support gender-responsive policies for sustainable agricultural value chains. The target was to develop Gender Policy on R&D
- Principle of inclusiveness in the planning and execution of AR4D interventions promoted.

## Key Achievements

- CCARDESA facilitated the development and validation of a Gender and Social Inclusion Policy and gender training for Decision-makers. This development marks a significant stride toward dismantling the barriers faced by women, youth, and particularly people living with disabilities in the agricultural sector. The Policy attempts to address existing gaps in social inclusion within the agricultural sector and there is optimism that the Policy will inspire Member States to revise and enhance their sector policies to be more inclusive and gender-sensitive.
- CCARDESA held a Gender Side Event, which emphasized the gender-responsiveness of the research activities. Apart from celebrating the successes of women and youth in agribusiness, the event explored potential partnerships for enhancing women's and youth's participation in establishing sustainable and inclusive food systems across Africa.
- Gender Training for Decision makers. CCARDESA facilitated a Climate change and gender training which was targeted at decision-makers in the climate change and gender sectors. Attendees focused on learning and sharing best practices for implementing gender-specific climate change interventions and addressed gender constraints at both national and regional levels. The goal was to enhance current policies, strategies, and action plans through technical knowledge and experiential learning.



**Figure 10:** Stakeholders from 11 Member States attended validation of the gender policy in Botswana Gaborone.

## Thematic Area 5: Knowledge and Information Management, Communication and Policy Support

Thematic Objective 5.1: To provide AR4D stakeholders with information and knowledge to ensure evidence-based policy making within the agricultural sector.

### Expected Outcome/Results

1. Knowledge management hubs to foster collaboration and information sharing among various stakeholders in different countries strengthened
2. Audience specific agricultural knowledge and information through CCARDESA's ICKM and the Southern Africa Agriculture Information and Knowledge System (SAAIKS) enhanced
3. NARES institutions strengthened in information packaging and use of digital innovations and ICT with potential to transform agriculture

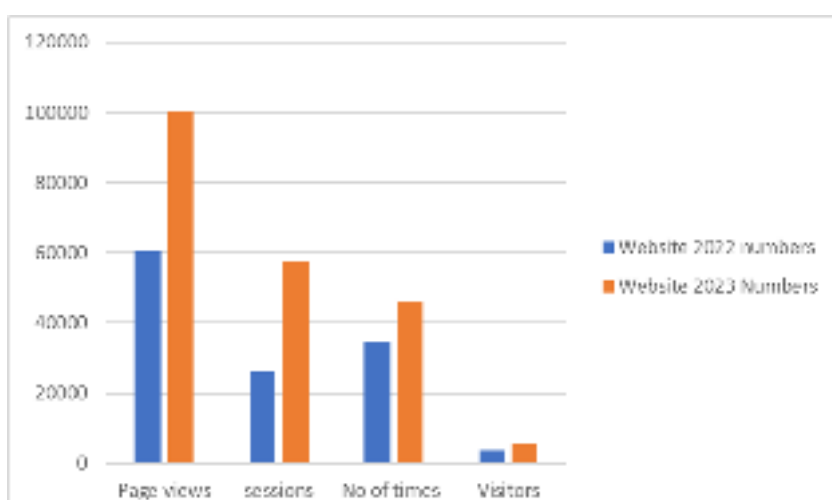
### Main activities

- Improve information and knowledge collection, curation, collation, packaging and reporting to meet the needs of the target audience.
- Strengthen AR4D institutions in information packaging and use of ICT tool and digital innovations to advance agricultural transformation
- Support food and agriculture regional policies development and harmonisation. The target was to undertake a situational on SADC Policy harmonization and recommend actions to strengthen harmonization

### Key Achievements

- In the continuous endeavor to enhance CCARDESA SAAIKS, a comprehensive content analysis report, which identified and outlined existing gaps in the current knowledge structure of CCARDESA SAAIKS was produced. Here is a link to the Content Analysis report: <https://www.ccardesa.org/knowledge-products/development-information-communication-technology-based-knowledge-products-3>. There are currently 990 knowledge products on the CCARDESA SAAIKS compared to 956 last year.
- CCARDESA generated the ICKM monitoring reports every quarter in 2023. The reports showed the traffic and usage of the ICKM system, including the website, the Discussion Groups, and Facebook. As of November 2023, a cumulative total of 57,665 visited the CCARDESA website 46,021 times, resulting in 100,485 page views, of which 5,600 were regular users of both the website and the SAAIKS in 2023.

- Users of the CCARDESA Website from 13 Member states out of 16 rated the CCARDESA system between 3.5 to 5 in 2023 on a scale of 1 to 5. This means that the users from the 13 member states were content with the knowledge products they accessed on the CCARDESA system. The users from the other three member states did not rate the system or they rated it low.
- CCARDESA facilitated Member States in information packaging as follows: (a) CCARDESA supported national agricultural department in Botswana with the development of knowledge management products; (b) CCARDESA conducted a Research to Extension and Social Media Engagement training bringing together 26 communication focal persons from SADC Member States to explore the dynamic intersection of research dissemination, knowledge extension, and effective utilization of social media
- CCARDESA Facilitated trainings in media relations, the power of digital tools (Twitter, Facebook), communication strategies, messaging and partnership building for the 10 Participants from the SADC region



About 100,000 people viewed the website in 2023 as compared to 60,000 in 2022

**Figure 11:** Number of users of CCARDESA Website

**Table 1:** Table Information, Communication and Knowledge Management items developed and posted in 2023 and compared with 2022.

ICKM Item	Number produced in 2023	Number produced in 2022
Media Stories	94	59
Videos	23	2
Publications/Printouts	6	2
Policies	4	1
Facebook posts	139	535

## Thematic Area 6: Capacity Strengthening of Ccardesa and AR4D Institutions

Thematic Objective 6.1: To increase the effectiveness and capacity of NARES and CCARDESA Secretariat in governance, management, human and financial resources.

### Expected Outcome/Results

1. Regional AR4D agenda developed, and foresight provided to AR4D institutions Governance, management, and resource mobilisation systems for CCARDESA strengthened.
2. New strategic partnerships established, and existing ones strengthened.
3. AR4D institutions' programmes supported and managed efficiently.

### Main activities

- Revise research priorities to include livestock, fisheries, and forestry
- Revise CCARDESA Strategic Plan
- Convene General Assembly
- Strengthen existing multi stakeholder partnerships to develop and implement joint programmes.
- Support regional AR4D Institutions to establish and access infrastructure for enhancing the efficient delivery of AR4D projects/programmes. The target is to rehabilitate and equip at least 3 research Centres in Angola and Lesotho between 2020 and end of 2024.
- Enhance human capacity in AR4D by facilitating short term technical and administrative trainings.
- Enhance human capacity in AR4D by facilitating long term technical and administrative trainings. The target is to have 15 experts who will have successfully completed training by end of 2024 in Angola and Lesotho under APPSA (BSc, MSc, and PhD)
- Facilitate regional collaboration and mentorship to enhance skills transfer and support for efficient delivery of AR4D projects/ programmes.
- Support AR4D institution to capacitate their staff in resource mobilisation.

### Key Achievements

- **Revision of strategic documents:**
  - The research priorities were revised to include livestock, fisheries, and forestry
  - The process to revise the CCARDESA Strategic Plan was initiated.
- Convening of the General Assembly, during which stakeholders were consulted on the strategic direction of the organization and on governance matters of the Secretariat.
- **The establishment and strengthening of partnerships and collaboration:**
  - MoU with the Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN) was established. The aim was to collaborate with APPSA on policy harmonization activities and to facilitate the adoption of a One Health

approach to climate adaptation in Southern Africa by establishing a regional platform that convenes and coordinates animal, human, and environmental health services, enabling interagency coordination at the regional level, and disseminating knowledge products.

- Partnership with FAO was established. The aim was to partner in establishing a regional Farmer Field Schools (FFS) curriculum that follows an experiential learning model for CSA involving the demonstration, practice, and application of learning materials on farmers' own plots.
- Collaboration water resources management with Global Water Partnerships for Southern Africa (GWP-SA) and Global Water Management Institute (GWMI).
- Collaboration with the African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF) to support efforts of stepping up technology development and dissemination efforts in the SADC region.
- **Capacity strengthening of Regional Centres of Leadership (RCoLs):**
  - Research Infrastructure in Angola and Lesotho was upgraded. In Lesotho, four (4) research stations were rehabilitated, and laboratories and main offices for the Department of Agricultural Research were constructed. This infrastructural development included perimeter fencing of five Research Stations (Mokhotlong, Mohobong, Nyakasoba, Machache, and Siloe) in Lesotho. In Angola, two video conference rooms were installed in Huambo, while contracts for the construction of Cassava RCoL in Malanje and the rehabilitation work of the Tissue Culture Laboratory of the Mazozo EEA in Luanda were signed (Figure 13).
  - Short-term training of RCoL's staff on management and leadership, HR, and financial management (FM), procurement, safeguards, and M&E, totaling 8,522 days of training (4,816 for Angola and 4,041 for Lesotho). This exceeded the APPSA project target of 2,000 days of training.
  - Long-term training through APPSA-supported postgraduate training for 21 students (7 from Angola and 14 from Lesotho). As of the end of 2023, three Scientists (2 males and one female) had completed their MSc, while four (4) BSc, 5 MSc, and 5 PhD students from Lesotho were still undergoing training. As of the end of 2024, Angola had only five students undergoing long-term training
  - Trainings were conducted on experimental designs and field layout, data management and statistical analysis, DNA extraction, genotyping, and analysis of genotypic data under APPSA. The trainings benefitted Angola and Lesotho
  - Specific knowledge and expert exchange programs working with national and regional centers coordinated to facilitate the establishment of Regional Centres of Leadership (RCoL).
- **Other Institutional Capacity Strengthening achievement:** Short-term trainings were provided to SADC Member States by different CCARDESA projects and programmes across all six thematic areas. Some key capacity building programmes were:



- Training of 32 people from 14 member states on Enhancing Forecasting Capacities and Developing Crop Capability Prediction Models/Tools under AICCRA
- Three national trainings were conducted in Mozambique and Zambia to disseminate the contents of the policy brief on the use of a crop yield prediction tool, which was developed under AICCRA

a. Storeroom at Siloe, Lesotho



b: Construction of Horticultural RCoL in Lesotho, Maseru



c. Cassava RCoL drawing in Angola



d. A refuse collection facility in Malanje, Angola



**Figure 12:** Construction of Regional Centres of Leadership in Lesotho (a and b) and Angola (c and d)



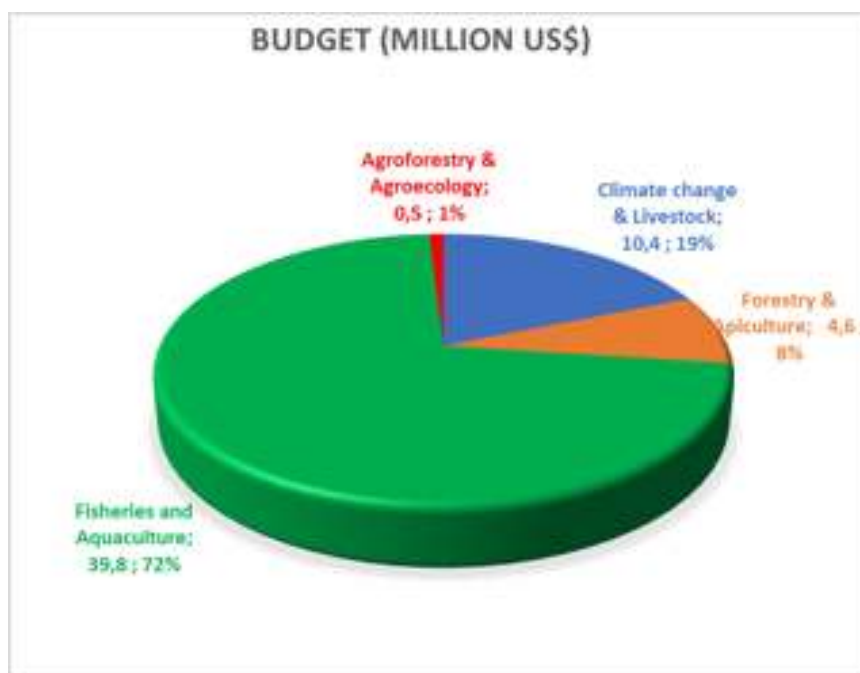
**Figure 13:** Scientists undergo DNA extraction and genotyping training in Nairobi, Kenya

## RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

Nine (9) concept notes and project proposals were developed in the four thematic areas (Figure 15), thus

- fisheries and aquaculture (\$39.8M),
- forestry and apiculture, (\$4.6M)
- climate change and livestock (\$10.4M) and
- agroforestry and agroecology (\$0.5M)

Some of the proposals were submitted to potential donors for consideration.



**Figure 14:** Estimated budget for the proposals that were developed in 2023.

## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

### Statement of Financial Position

Cash and cash equivalents decreased by 34% from US\$ 2.9 million in the previous year to US\$ 1.9 million on account of implementation of planned activities. International and regional cooperating partners (ICP) disbursed US\$ 2.6 million during the year to compliment the opening financial resources for various projects and US\$ 3.3 million was expended on project activities implementation during the year. The Member states contributed US\$ 0.12 million to support the Secretariat activities.

Property and equipment increased from USD 6 026 to USD 31 757 during the period due to the addition of a motor vehicle and office equipment. There was no material movement in the CCARDESA Reserve Fund as there were no contributions received or expenditure in the account for the period. The Reserves and Net assets decreased by 37% owing to implementation of planned activities. The Table below shows the organisation's Statement of Financial Position at 31 December 2023

**Table 2: Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2023**

	2023 USD	2022 USD
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	1 923 002	2 921 816
Trade and other receivables	38 374	7 974
	<u>1 961 376</u>	<u>2 929 790</u>
<b>Non - Current assets</b>		
Plant and equipment	31 757	6 026
	<u>31 757</u>	<u>6 026</u>
<b>Total assets</b>	<u>1 993 133</u>	<u>2 935 816</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Trade and other payables	167 934	25 358
	<u>167 934</u>	<u>25 358</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<u>167 939</u>	<u>25 358</u>
<b>Total net assets</b>	<u>1 825 199</u>	<u>2 910 458</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Reserve Fund	531 501	531 589
Member States Contribution Fund	335 693	741 394
Administration Fund	933	(765)
Capital Grants	31 757	6 026
Programme Funds	925 315	1 632 214
<b>Total net assets</b>	<u>1 825 199</u>	<u>2 910 458</u>

**Statement of the Financial Performance**

The revenue for the period increased by 22% from US\$ 3.1 million to US\$ 3.8 million. The expenditure increased by the same percentage on account of implementation of programme activities during the period. The Project/ Programme implementation costs included in the operating expenditure were USD 3,300,495 which translate to 87% of the total costs for the year. The Table below shows the abridged Statement of the Financial Performance of CCARDESA for the year ended 31 December 2023.

**Table 3: Statement of the Financial Performance of CCARDESA for the year ended 31 December 2023**

	2023 USD	2022 USD
Revenue	3 791 713	3 116 094
Amortisation of capital grant	12 697	3 709
Operating expenditure	<u>(3 804 410)</u>	<u>(3 119 803)</u>
<b>Surplus for the period</b>	-	-

### Financial Performance by thematic areas and by projects

The overall financial implementation rate was 65% of the budget, with Thematic Area 6 recording the highest performance rate of 81% and Thematic Area 2, following at 69%. The financial performance per project was topped by GCCA+ at 98% as the project closed in the year 2023. The CAADP XP 4 and APPSA project financial performance was 67% and 68%, respectively. Other projects performed around 44% as depicted in tables below.

**Table 4: Financial Performance by Thematic Area, 2023**

#	Thematic Area	Budget (US\$)	Expenditure (US\$)	Variance	Utilization rate (%)
1	Agricultural productivity and food and nutrition security	471,190	145,511	325,679	31%
2	Resilience to emerging agricultural risks: environmental, climate change and transboundary pests and diseases	708,060	488,507	219,553	69%
3	Commercialisation of the agricultural sector and market access	321,810	64,089	257,721	20%
4	Women, youth, and social inclusion	74,800	7,817	66,983	10%
5	Knowledge and information management, communication, and policy support	573,950	213,769	360,181	37%
6	Capacity strengthening of CCARDESA and AR4D institutions	2,939,709	2,380,803	558,906	81%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>5,089,519</b>	<b>3,300,495</b>	<b>1,789,024</b>	<b>65%</b>

**Table 5: Financial Performance by Programme/Project, 2023**

Programme/Project	Budget (US\$)	Expenditure (US\$)	Variance (US\$)	Utilization rate (%)
APPSA	2,059,729	1,394,160	665,569	68%
CAADP-XP4	2,038,884	1,360,571	678,313	67%
FSRP	281,410	124,835	156,575	44%
CNRM	175,390	71,452	103,938	41%
AICCRA	325,284	144,314	180,970	44%
GCCA+	208,822	205,163	3,659	98%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,089,519</b>	<b>3,300,495</b>	<b>1,789,024</b>	<b>65%</b>

### International and Regional Cooperating Partners financial support

During the financial year ended 31 December 2023, CCARDESA received financial contributions from various International and regional Cooperating Partners to support the implementation of Programme activities during the year. The Table below shows the financial support for the year ended 31 December 2023.

**Table 6: International and Regional Cooperating Partners' financial support**

Financing Agreement details				Total Received	
Development Partner	Project/ Programme	Action period	Total Grant	2023 USD	2022 USD
World Bank IDA/ IBRD	Agricultural Productivity Program for Southern Africa (APPSA)	2019 - 2025	USD 7.05 million	1 046 925	1 885 857
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme Ex-pillar 4 Project (CAADP XP 4)	2019 - 2024	Euro 5.37 million	1 205 530	1 248 546
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ)	Climate-Sensitive Resilience and Natural Resources Programme (CNRM)	2022 - 2024	Euro 186,910	-	93 455
European Union (Through SADC)	Global Climate Change Alliance Plus (GCCA+) - Harnessing Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) Practices to Reduce the Impacts of Climate Change in Southern Africa	2021 - 2023	USD 397,899	-	230 799
World Bank IDA	Food Systems Resilience Programme (FSRP)	2023 - 2029	USD 5 million	281 990	-
Alliance of Biodiversity International and the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)	Accelerating the Impact of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa	2021 - 2024	USD 379,741	55 985	200 000
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>2 590 430</b>	<b>3 658 657</b>

### BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 2024

The budget for 2024 activities is estimated at US\$3,608,222. Knowledge Management and agricultural productivity were allocated the highest share (Figure 16). Budgets under the thematic areas of women, youth and social inclusion were mainstreamed in other thematic areas.

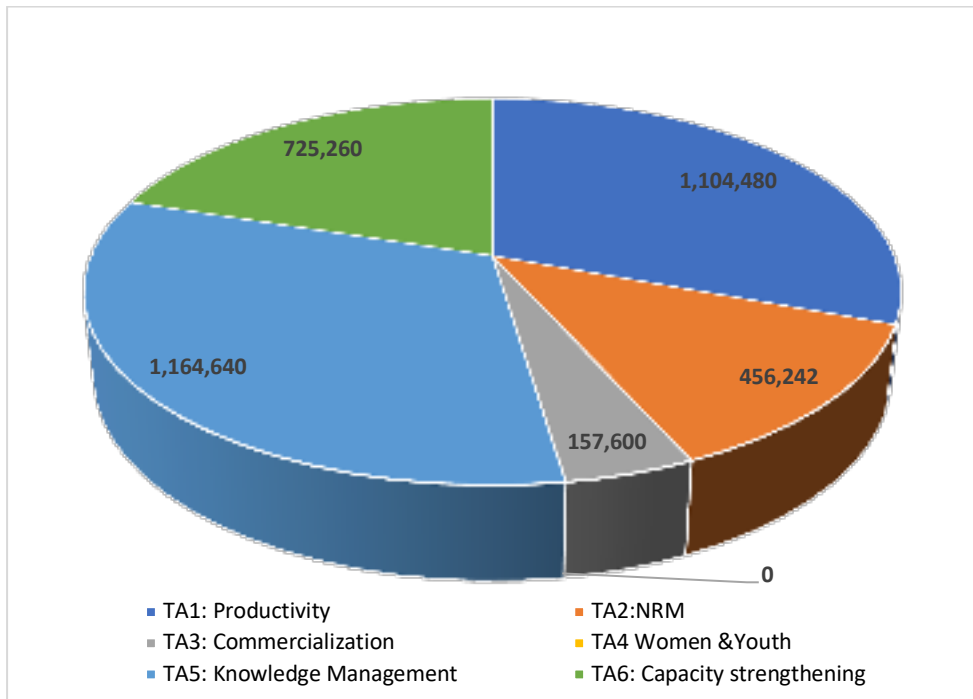


Figure 15: Budget estimates for the 2024.

# CCARDESA Secretariat Staff

## Executive Director



**Professor Cliff Sibusiso Dlamini (Ph.D.)**  
Executive Director and Head of Mission

## Senior Managers



**Mr. Ndaba L. Makaya (PhD)**  
Deputy Regional Coordinator



**Dr. Sibusiso Mkhanyane (PhD)**  
CCARDESA Regional Programme Director



**Mrs. Lesang Masingi (PhD)**  
Deputy Head of HR and Admin



**Mr. Sibusiso Makaya**  
Finance Manager

## Middle Management



**Dr. Ndabawona Chabela (PhD)**  
Programme Officer



**Ms. Ndaba Mkhanyane (M. Ed)**  
Programme Officer



**Mrs. Ntsheng Mkhize, BSW**  
Information, Communication and Knowledge Management Officer



**Mr. Sibusiso Jantzi Mkhize**  
Information, Communication and Knowledge Management Officer



**Mr. Sibusiso Mkhanyane**  
Finance Officer



**Mr. Sibusiso Mkhanyane**  
Monitoring & Evaluation Officer



**Mr. Tshameko Mkhanyane**  
Programme Officer



**Ms. Ntsheng Mkhize**  
Information, Communication and Knowledge Management Officer

## Support Staff



**Mrs. Sibusiso Mkhanyane**  
Administrative Services



**Mr. Sibusiso Mkhanyane**  
IT Support Officer



**Mrs. Sibusiso Mkhanyane**  
Assistant Programme Officer



**Mr. Sibusiso Mkhanyane**  
IT Support Officer



**Mrs. Tshameko Mkhanyane**  
Receptionist

**CCARDESA**

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