The Platform for Agricultural Risk Management (PARM), an outcome of the G8 and G20 discussions on food security and agricultural growth, is a four year multi-donor partnership between developing nations and development partners to make risk management an integral part of policy planning and implementation in the agricultural sector.

**Where Are We?**

**Our Results**

October 2015

The Platform for Agricultural Risk Management (PARM), an outcome of the G8 and G20 discussions on food security and agricultural growth, is a four year multi-donor partnership between developing nations and development partners to make risk management an integral part of policy planning and implementation in the agricultural sector.

Since its inception in December 2013, PARM has worked for a better management of risks in agriculture in developing countries, considered as a main constraint to improve farmers’ livelihoods. PARM’s governance has been designed to build partnerships and knowledge networks on Agricultural Risk Management (ARM), mobilizing existing resources and expertise. PARM is promoting a holistic preparedness approach to empower farmers and stakeholders with ARM tools and strategies, rather than resigning to cope with disasters. This is the essence of the Platform as a neutral environment where ARM demands and needs are rigorously identified and assessed, and where experts and service providers can develop tailored tools to these demands. During its first year of existence, PARM has consolidated its partnerships and launched setting up activities in six African countries. PARM efforts have been concentrated so far on developing a business model for the elaboration of studies, capacity development, and on implementing an ambitious knowledge management strategy.

NEPAD has been identified as PARM strategic partner and one of the main implementing entities in Africa. On February 2014 an Implementation Agreement was signed between IFAD and NEPAD to facilitate PARM process in bringing ARM tools into the agricultural investment plans, within the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) framework.

The Platform was officially launched during “IFAD-NEPAD Inauguration Workshop of the PARM” from 3-4 December 2013 in IFAD Headquarters in Rome. PARM activities have been carried out by an interim secretariat until the appointment of the official PARM Secretariat in early September 2014.

PARM network is already operational through the activities of the two PARM governance committees, created in 2014. The Steering Committee brings together the donor agencies and strategic partners (EC, AFD, Italy, IFAD and NEPAD) and it has already met five times. The Advisory Committee brings together a broader set of stakeholders and is engaged on more technical and methodological discussions.

A KM/Communication strategy has been approved by the 4th Steering Committee in March 2015 and it is now under implementation. The strategy is closely aligned with the programme overall objectives and strictly integrated within the PARM process, capacity development (CD) and monitoring and evaluation activities. In 2014-15, the strategy has focused on raising PARM visibility launching the official website, undertaking studies and assessing the needs of the stakeholders in order to develop tailored KM and Capacity Development products for the different target audiences.

To reinforce partnership and knowledge sharing, PARM has been active in several events and initiatives by different agencies and stakeholders, including FARM-D, World Bank, AFRACA, Agrinatura, FAO, African Union, Giif and NEPAD.
**COUNTRY ACTIVITIES**

PARM-NEPAD partnership, in cooperation with other agencies such as the FAO and World Bank has already initiated ARM assessments and policy processes in Ethiopia, Niger and Uganda, and is beginning to operate in Cameroon, Senegal, The Gambia and Cabo Verde.

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**Risk Assessment**

**Niger**

**WHERE ARE WE?**

01 Setting-up

PAGRA Validation Workshop

*June 2014*

A National Stakeholder workshop, led by the World Bank with active participation of PARM (Interim Secretariat) and NEPAD, was held in Niamey from 10 to 11 June 2014 to contribute to the improvement of the Plan d’Action pour la Gestion des Risques Agricoles (PAGRA), identifying priorities and develop a country road map.

Setting-up Mission

*December 2014*

The newly appointed PARM Secretariat jointly with NEPAD organised its first joint mission to Niger from 9-12 December 2014 to follow-up on the PAGRA Validation Workshop, to build synergies and re-launch activities in the country.

Three main areas have been identified (microfinance, credit and market access of smallholders) to be covered by PARM Risk Assessment Study to complete the 2014 World Bank analysis on ARM.

Potential partners to support PARM studies and capacity development have been identified.

Road map developed

*January 2015*

PARM Road map was developed and validated by the Haut Commissariat à l’Initiative 3N (HC3N).

Risk Assessment Terms of Reference

*February 2015*

The Terms of Reference for the Risk Assessment developed and validated.

**Risk Assessment**

Risk Assessment Study Kick-off

*May 2015*

The Institut de Recherches et d’Applications des Méthodes de développement (IRAM) has been identified and recruited to undertake the Risk Assessment study in Niger in collaboration with local experts which has started end of May 2015 and will be finalized by December 2015.

TO BE CONTINUED...

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**Risk Assessment**

**Uganda**

**WHERE ARE WE?**

01 Setting-up

Setting-up Mission

*December 2014*

The PARM Team organised its first visit (jointly with NEPAD) to the country from 15-18 December 2014 to follow-up on the ARM process already started with FAO and NEPAD in 2013, with the establishment of a National Steering Committee (NSC).

Road map developed

*December 2015*

PARM Road map was developed and validated by the NSC and the Government.

Risk Assessment Terms of Reference

*February 2015*

The Terms of Reference (TORs) for the Risk Assessment developed and validated.

**Risk Assessment**

Risk Assessment and Information System Study Kick-off

*March/May 2015*

National Stakeholder Validation Workshop

*June 2015*

A National Stakeholder Validation Workshop was held from 29-30 June 2015 in Kampala to present and discuss the Draft Risk Assessment Study and identify priorities on risks and tools.

Capacity Development Seminar

*July 2015*

A Capacity Development Seminar has been conducted from 1 to 2 July 2015 by PARM, NEPAD and FAO in partnership with MAAIF to provide trainees with capacity to understand the holistic approach to analyze and manage the main agriculture risks affecting smallholders.

ARM National Steering Committee

*July 2015*

A National Steering Committee (NSC) met on the 3 July to guide the process that will lead to further integrate ARM into the national policy based on the workshop results.

TO BE CONTINUED...
“Managing agricultural risks to improve farmers’ livelihoods”

Risk Assessment
Ethiopia

WHERE ARE WE?

01 Setting-up

Kick-off Workshop
November 2014
PARM activities kicked-off in Ethiopia in occasion of the “Policy Forum on Integrating agriculture and food risk management and innovative financial services” jointly organized by AFRACA, NEPAD, PARM and FAO in Addis Ababa on 11-13 November 2014.

02 Setting-up

Setting-up Mission
February 2015
A setting-up mission was undertaken from 9 to 12 February 2015. During the mission, a PARM Road Map and was developed and discussed with the temporary ad hoc National Steering Committee. Potential partners to support PARM studies and capacity development plan were also identified.

Risk Assessment Terms of Reference
February 2015
The Terms or Reference (TORs) for the Risk Assessment has been developed and discussed with temporary ad hoc National Agricultural Risk Management (ARM) Steering Committee (NSC).

Risk Assessment

Risk Assessment Study Kick-off
May 2015
The Natural Resources Institute (NRI) from the University of Greenwich (member of Agrinatura network) has been identified to undertake the Risk Assessment study in Ethiopia to be presented in December 2015.

TO BE CONTINUED...

Setting-up
Senegal

WHERE ARE WE?

01 Setting-up

World Bank ARM Workshop
March 2015
PARM participated in the World Bank “Risk Assessment and Response in the agricultural sector” workshop held on 12 March 2015 to explore synergies with the on-going ARM initiatives and present PARM in view of the setting-up mission.

Setting-up Mission
April 2015
A joint PARM-NEPAD first country visit in Senegal was undertaken from 13 to 19 April 2015. The mission represented the first step of PARM process in Senegal and to find complementarities with the Risk Assessment Study (RAS) recently undertaken by the World Bank. The main achievement of the mission has been the informal commitment expressed by the MoA, through the SG, to insert PARM in the national agenda. A multi-sector pool of experts coming from different Ministries and organizations has been constituted to identify the gaps of the current RAS and to be integrated (partially or totally) by PARM process. A formal commitment from the Government is expected by the end of 2015.

Road Map and TORs Development
May 2015
A draft road map and TORs for the Risk Assessment have been developed by the Government in collaboration with the CAADP Focal Point and is expected to be completed by end of December 2015.

TO BE CONTINUED...

Setting-Up
Mozambique

First Country Contacts
November 2014
PARM has started its first country contacts with the Ministry of Agriculture during the FARM-D forum organized by the World Bank in South Africa. Considering the elections in October 2014 the country is still listed as a 2015 target of PARM and a first country visit is planned for the first quarter 2016.

Setting-Up
Cabo Verde

NEPAD Country Visit
April 2015
A NEPAD first country visit in Cape Verde took place in April 2015 to launch the PARM setting-up phase and engage in the first contacts with the government and national stakeholders.

Setting-Up
Liberia

Activities will start in 2016.
ETHIOPIA
Risk Assessment Workshop
Addis, 16-17 December 2015
A National Stakeholder Workshop will be held from 16 to 17 December 2015 in Addis, Ethiopia in collaboration with the Government of Ethiopia (ATA) and NEPAD to present and discuss the Draft Risk Assessment Study currently on-going and identify priorities on risks and tools.

UGANDA
Donors and Technical Partners Meeting
Kampala, 27 October 2015
PARM will bring together local partners to discuss about the priority areas identified during the PARM process with strategic partners, government and stakeholders and how to take investment actions on specific policies.

NIGER
Capacity Development Training
Niamey, 9 December 2015
A Capacity Development Training will be held on December 9, 2015 to provide trainees with capacity to understand the holistic approach to analyze and manage the main agriculture risks affecting smallholders.

Risk Assessment Workshop
Niamey, 10 December 2015
A National Stakeholder Workshop will be held on 10 December 2015 in Niamey to present and discuss the Draft Risk Assessment Study and identify priorities on risks and tools.

SENEGAL
Capacity Development Seminar
Dakar, January 2016 (tbc)

STEWERING COMMITTEE
Planning Review Meeting
5 November 2015, Teleconference

KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT
Webinar on Uganda Risk Assessment
FARM-D, 11 November 2015
PARM hosted by FARM-D will hold a webinar to present and discuss Uganda Risk Assessment Study with international and local experts.

Africa Day for Food and Nutrition Security
Kampala, 28-30 October 2015
In occasion of the ADFNS commemoration, PARM will organize a pre-event on October 28th when the Risk Assessment Study in Uganda will be launched. PARM will also participate in one Panel on October 29th.

Country Partners Meeting on ARM
Kampala, 27 October 2015
PARM will bring together the different PARM country focal points and experts recruited to share the risk assessment studies process and results in the different countries, share the lessons learned to improve PARM and Government synergies across countries.