



Handout 3

Source: Kenya JSR Assessment Report 2017

Strengthening Mutual Accountability through the Agriculture Joint Sector Review Process at the Country Level

JSR Building Blocks	Purpose/Tasks: Best Practices
1. Set Up a JSR Steering Committee (SC).	SC provides strategic direction for the establishment and operation of the JSR. It is usually chaired by the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and includes as members leading donors and 3–4 other representatives of key stakeholder groups.
2. Establish a JSR Secretariat.	The Secretariat coordinates activities and operations of the JSR and JSR SC. It can be made up of core staff from MoA Planning & M&E Unit.
3. Develop terms of reference (TORs) for the JSR.	TORs should lay out JSR objectives, state and non-state stakeholders and their roles, roles of the SC and Secretariat, operating principles, structure and frequency of JSR meetings, and follow-up and implementation of actions, etc. TORs may also need to be developed for consultants hired to conduct JSR studies.
4. Mobilize resources.	Human and financial resources should be mobilized to support JSR operations.
5. Have SC/Secretariat invite a broad and inclusive group of state and non-state actors/stakeholders to participate in the JSR (with clear objectives, expected outcomes, and roles of different actors).	A key aspect of the JSR is that it allows a broad group of state and non-state stakeholders to influence overall policies and priorities of the sector by assessing how well they have implemented their commitments stipulated in the CAADP Compact, National Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plan (NAFSIP), and related cooperation agreements, such as under the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition.

JSR Building Blocks	Purpose/Tasks: Best Practices
6. Assess any existing agricultural policy dialogue and review processes, along with data quality and analytical capacities.	An assessment of any existing agricultural policy dialogue and review processes, data quality, and analytical capacities and tools and networks and any existing knowledge systems is key to identifying any gaps and developing ways to fill gaps and enhance capacities, tools, and processes through the JSR.
7. Commission JSR studies.	Consultants may need to be hired and supervised by the SC to conduct JSR studies. Consultants may come from think tanks, universities, or private companies and should work closely with staff from the ministries' Planning Units, and the JSR SC and Secretariat.
8. Establish a JSR Review Team	A team made up of a multi-stakeholder group (state and non-state actors) with technical expertise should review and comment on various JSR studies and reports and ensure outputs of reviews are implemented.
9. Prepare a JSR report.	Evidence should be based on relevant high-quality studies and reports on the JSR content areas. To be an effective mutual accountability process, the JSR report will need to be grounded in high-quality data and analysis, as well as transparency and inclusive stakeholder participation.
10. Conduct a JSR meeting.	A 1- to 3-day meeting, using various formats (plenary, small groups, field visit, etc.) should be organized to allow stakeholders discuss and verify the evidence and recommendations presented in the JSR report. This meeting can be held at different levels (national and subnational). The process should assist in identifying sector priorities and policies and specific actions for the different stakeholders to put in place. These actions would be captured in a JSR Aide Memoir.
11. Follow up on JSR meeting actions.	The implementation of recommendations and decisions of the JSR meeting (embodied in the JSR Aide Memoir) should be closely monitored and ensured. Groups that meet more regularly, such as the Agriculture Sector Working Group, can help with follow-up and monitoring. The monitoring forms the basis of the next JSR cycle.
12. Share the JSR experience with other countries.	As many countries are still setting up JSR, it is essential to share lessons learned, best practices, and experiences to further strengthen country JSRs. Such forums as the CAADP Partnership Program and ReSAKSS annual conference provide an opportunity toward this end.