What delegates say

They came, participated, interacted, debated and resolved. This is what some of the 200 delegates from around the continent said.

"My country now stands a better chance of taking the CAADP process forward."

Lesedi Modo, Principal Agricultural Economist at the Botswana Ministry of Agriculture.

"It would have been nice to have an organised trip to see these success stories, so far it's all talk. But it's good because without the dialogue, most of the stakeholders would not have known or interacted with each other."

Bright Honou, University of Lesotho.

"The highlight of this dialogue is the fact that the youth have really come on the platform and seeing how FANRPAN has developed over the years. It is a growing organisation. It's my expectation to see that the growth can be maintained, and it looks like it is happening. I am quite happy with the developments so far.

Dr Isaiah Mharapara, CEO Agriculture Research Council Zimbabwe.

"This entire dialogue has been helpful because we got to learn a lot about agriculture and how we can actually attain food security. We met different people from different backgrounds discussing how to attain food security. We are developing nations and we are very vulnerable to climate change which has led to a lot of uncertainty on agriculture."

Relebohile Letele, SECCAP Lesotho.

"One key thing, youths in this policy dialogue have been prioritised as key actors and equal stakeholders. This gives an opportunity to get the innovative and creative ideas of African young people concerning issues of the continents sustainable development."

Lawrence Mdambuka Muli, Advocacy and Communications Associate, Division for Human Resource and Youth Development.

"The theme on the youths was timely and opportune. Many of the USAID projects focus on youths in agriculture, especially in the agricultural value chain. We work with regional economic communities and private sector to support more engagement."

William Benjamin, US Agency for International Development.

"Generally, I have learnt a lot from other farmers. As a woman advocate, the experiences I have got from here will especially benefit women farmers in the Tidi village, Chwamba in the Lilongwe district of Malawi."

Nevelesi Maliseni, farmer from Malawi

"I got new ideas from participating countries on how to reduce the barriers in seed trade. I learnt a lot about seed production from the many delegates - knowledge which I can go and practice in my country."

Isaac Chiundira, Ministry of Justice, Malawi.

"The workshop was very organised, the facilitator was well vested with the session especially the HASSP impressed me. I am looking forward to the day where all on the African continent would be able to access proper seeds. Countries need to involve youth."

Innocentia Thioula, Swaziland farmer representative.

"The dialogue has contributed to bringing awareness on transparency between the government and civil society to create good management of agricultural activities and resources."

Joseph Kandiyesa, Salima Civil Society Forum, Malawi.

"It was a good and impressive dialogue particularly the showcasing of youth and women in agriculture - a hallmark conference. The successful ideas, I believe should be communicated much further than meetings like this so that much more people can benefit."

Dr Olu Ajayi, CTA, The Netherlands.