Secretariat Mid-Term Strategic Direction 2014-2018

*At the country level,* the PACA Secretariat will work closely with RECs and local country stakeholders through a country steering committee to support the preparation, execution, and oversight of ***country government-led, and stakeholder aligned country plans.*** The Secretariat’s country activities will build on the country planning work already underway. These country plans will be prepared and executed through the following four stage process:

* Stage One: Gather evidence to inform the plan
* Stage Two: Develop, validate and finalize the country plan
* Stage Three: Build government capacity to implement the plan
* Stage Four: Monitor progress and advocate

To support the country planning process, a country steering committee will be formed and will be comprised of a diverse group of 6 to 8 members representing all key stakeholders segments (e.g., national government, REC(s), development partners, private sector, research institutes, NGOs, and PACA Secretariat). The Country Steering Committee will be chaired by the country focal point from a relevant government ministry. The respective REC will play facilitation role to support the operations of the Country Steering Committee. The Country Steering Committee will work hand in hand with a local Country Officer funded by the Secretariat. The local country officer will be a full-time contractual staff position, embedded in a country institution. The organogram below illustrates the structure envisaged **(Fig. 2)**.

**Figure 1. Country-level coordination structure**

**Gov’t**

**Dev. Partner**

**Research Inst.**

**NGO**

**Private Sector**

**Country Focal Point**

**Chair**

**REC(s)**

**Country Officer**

**PACA Secretariat**

Country Plan Steering Committee