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**REPORT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE AFRICA AGRICULTURE
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (CAADP) FOURTH BIENNIAL
REVIEW REPORT**

**FOURTH BIENNIAL REVIEW REPORT OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MALABO DECLARATION ON
ACCELERATED AGRICULTURAL GROWTH AND TRANSFORMATION FOR SHARED PROSPERITY
AND IMPROVED LIVELIHOODS.
*ASSEMBLY DECISION (ASSEMBLY/AU/2(XXIII)) OF JUNE 2014***

HIGHLIGHTS ON WITH ACCELERATING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AFCFTA”

**COMPREHENSIVE AFRICA AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (CAADP) BIENNIAL REVIEW
REPORT 2015 - 2022**

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

Africa Agricultural Transformation Scorecard
 African Conservation and Tillage Network
 African Continental Free Trade Area
 African Development Bank
 Africa Fertilizer Financing Mechanism
 Africa Food Safety Index
 Agenda 2063: *'The Africa we want'*
 Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa
 AKADEMIYA2063
 The African Post Harvest Loss Information System
 Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment
 African Seed and Biotechnology Programme
 Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators
 African Union
 African Union Commission
 African Union Development Agency
 African Union Inter-African Phytosanitary Council
 African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources
 African Union Semi-Arid Food Grains Research and Development
 Bio-vision Africa Trust
 Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
 Biennial Review
 Biennial Review Report
 Conservation Agriculture

Congo

Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
Codex Alimentarius Commission of the FAO
Conference of African Ministers for Fisheries and Aquaculture
Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
Coronavirus Disease of 2019
Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture
East African Community
Electronic (web-based) Biennial Review system for data entry and management
European Conservation Agriculture Federation
Economic Commission for Central Africa States
Economic Community of West African States
Ecological Organic Agriculture
Ecological Organic Agriculture Initiative
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Framework for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization in Africa
Gross Domestic Product
Information and Communication
Information and Communication Technologies
Irrigation Development and Agricultural Water Management
Intergovernmental Authority on Development
The International Food Policy Research Institute
International Livestock Research Institute
International Water Management Institute – South Africa
Joint Sector Review
Knowledge Centre for Organic Agriculture
Malabo Policy Learning Event
Monitoring and Evaluation
Member States
Metric Tonnes
Mechanization Service Provider
National Agricultural and Food Security Investment Plans
National Agriculture Investment Plans
National Agricultural Research Institutions
NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency
Natural Resources Institute
Official Development Assistance
Partnership for Aflatoxin Control in Africa
Policy Framework and Reform Strategy
Policy Research Network for Fisheries & Aquaculture in Africa
Permanent Secretary
Performance of Veterinary Services
Regional Agriculture Investment Plans
Regional Economic Communities
Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System – Eastern and Central Africa
Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System – Southern Africa
Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System – Western Africa
Research and Development
Southern Africa Development Community

ECA
SA
WA

Sustainable Development Goals
Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary
Sub-Saharan Africa
Specialized Technical Committee
Seed Sector Performance Index
The African Seed Access Index
Training of Trainers
Terms of Reference
Technical Working Group
Arab Maghreb Union
United Nations
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
United States Agency for International Development
United Nations Food Systems Summit
World Congress on Conservation Agriculture

FOREWORD

We are pleased to present to you the Fourth Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Biennial Review (fourth BR) Report which is the main mutual accountability tool to track the progress of the African Union (AU) Member States in implementing the Malabo Declaration. Forty nine (49) countries reported in this fourth Biennial Review (BR) – down from 51 countries reporting in the third and 49 countries in second BR, but up from 43 countries reporting in the inaugural BR.

As agreed, and reported in earlier Biennial Reviews, the Malabo Declaration provides the direction for Africa’s agricultural transformation for the period 2015 – 2025, within the CAADP framework, as a vehicle to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the First Ten-year Implementation Plan of Africa’s Agenda 2063.

The current report is released against the backdrop of the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak that started in early 2020, the Russian-Ukraine conflict, supply chain disruptions, multiple conflicts in the continent, in addition to the impacts of climate change. The combined effect of these shocks is reversing decades of progress that the continent had made in economic growth, social progress, and food security and nutrition, as recorded and advocated through the CAADP process. This has had a toll not only on the health of our population but also on our economies including the agriculture sector.

As reported during the Third Biennial Review, the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic affected food systems in many ways by disrupting the input and output markets, as well as the production of the various commodities mostly undertaken by smallholder farmers consisting mainly of women and youth. The cumulative effects of the pandemic and other shocks have led to millions of African citizens facing hunger; thereby undermining the progress made towards the achievement of the commitments made under the CAADP Malabo declaration, Agenda 2063, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Recent estimates by the UN indicate that more than a billion Africans cannot afford a healthy diet. While the effects of these shocks have had global impacts, it is in Africa that the proportion of the population affected by hunger has increased the most. Increasing prices of food, fuel and fertilizers have led to increased food price inflation and brought additional millions of Africans into a state of food insecurity because of the heavy reliance of the continent on international food markets for wheat, rice and edible oils.

The rising security challenges posed by terrorism threats in the Sahel region and the conflict in a number of African countries are also noteworthy as we are reporting on the performance of the affected countries against the Malabo targets.

Accelerating the implementation of CAADP for a resilient African Food System is therefore critical to ensuring the transformation of Africa's Agriculture.

This state of play clearly points to the need for strengthening the resilience of our food systems. In keeping with the commitment for Africa to speak with one voice in international fora, the African Union Commission (AUC) and AUDA-NEPAD in collaboration with the UNECA formulated an Africa Common Position to the UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) that was endorsed by the Extra-Ordinary Session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Agriculture Rural Development Water and Environment in July 2021. The common position was presented by the Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment, on behalf of the AU Chair, in September 2021 during the UNFSS.

The Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) became operational in January 2021. This is an opportunity for Africa to use trade as a means of ensuring food security by facilitating the movement of food from surplus to deficit parts of the continent. In line with accelerating the implementation of the AfCFTA as the theme of 2023 and of this report, the fourth CAADP Biennial Review (BR) takes a critical look at the progress made towards this objective.

The report highlights country performance against the 46 indicators defined in the inaugural and second BRs (2017 and 2019) and refined in this fourth BR (2023) to track the progress towards a fully transformed agriculture. It benefitted from the momentum created during the three previous reviews. It is gratifying to note that considerable efforts have been deployed in ensuring that quality data are used to evaluate the countries' performance by using the electronic biennial review (e-BR) system, building on lessons learned so far. These involved several training sessions of experts, rounds of data review and cleaning at the national, regional, and continental levels.

There has been departure from progress reported under the Third Biennial Review whereby one country was on-track to achieve the Malabo goals and targets, with twenty-five (25) countries which increased their overall score between 2019 and 2021. While no country is on track in the fourth biennial review cycle, 26 countries have seen their scores improve since the third biennial review cycle. In addition to the urgency to build a resilient agriculture sector in Africa as highlighted during the Third Biennial Review, this report highlights the need to fast-track the implementation of the AfCFTA. It is expected that this will foster a conducive environment and investments for the transformation agenda to produce the intended benefits as captured in National Agriculture Investment Plans (NAIPs) and the Regional Agriculture Investment Plans (RAIPs).

The report is the result of collaborative efforts of AU Member States, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), and several technical organizations and individuals, under the leadership of the African Union Commission and the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD). We are pleased and humbled to provide, through this Fourth CAADP Biennial Review Report, the current status of the progress made by Member States

of the African Union in implementing the Assembly Decision as contained in the CAADP Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods of June 2014.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Fourth CAADP Biennial Review (BR) reporting cycle has benefited from the overall coordination of AUC Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment (DARBE) and AUDA-NEPAD throughout the process. Our sincere gratitude is extended to the logistics teams that supported the process at various stages. The Policy LINK team is highly appreciated for the excellent facilitation of the various meetings supporting the overall fourth BR cycle process, including the final write-shop during which this report was drafted. Various staff of AGRA provided relentless logistical support to ensure that implementation of the fourth BR cycle was accomplished. Finally, but not least, the secretarial team of DARBE and AUDA-NEPAD, and the editorial team from PolicyLINK, are recognized for all the administrative support provided.

The African Union Member States and experts from partner institutions contributed to the process and the finalization of the fourth Biennial Review (BR) report. First and foremost, are the CAADP teams and the various technical experts in all the 55 AU Member States who collected and compiled the data that provided the backbone of this report. The Regional Economic Communities (RECs) CAADP focal point persons support and coordination ensured that Member States completed the data collection and validation process in time, and entered their country data in the electronic BR system. The BR Task Force team leaders and members are recognized for their overall technical leadership and direction provided throughout the BR process.

The contributors to the fourth BR Report included: African Union Commission (AUC); African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD); African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR); African Union Inter-African Phytosanitary Council (AU-IAPSC); African Union Semi-Arid Food Grains Research and Development (SAFGRAD); African Development Bank (AfDB); Agence nationale de la Statistique et de la Démographie; AKADEMIYA2063 (AK2063); Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA); Arab Maghreb Union (UMA); Biovision Africa Trust; Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA); East African Community (EAC) Secretariat; Ecological Organic Agriculture Initiative (EOAI); Economic Community for Central Africa States (ECCAS); Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Commission; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD); International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC); International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI); International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI); International Water Management Institute (IWMI); Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources – Bunda College; Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST); Natural Resources Institute (NRI), University of Greenwich; Network of Excellence on Land Governance in Africa/GIZ African Union Office; Partnership for Aflatoxin Control in Africa (PACA); Policy Research Network for Fisheries & Aquaculture in Africa (PRNFAA); Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System – Eastern and Central Africa (ReSAKSS-ECA), Southern Africa (ReSAKSS-SA); and West Africa (ReSAKSS-WA); Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Secretariat; The African Post Harvest Loss Information System (APHLIS); The African Seed Access Index (TASAI Inc.); the University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria; the University of Ilorin, Ilorin, Nigeria; the University of Pretoria, and the USAID Feed the Future, Policy LINK.

This Fourth CAADP Biennial Review Report has been produced with financial support from the AUC, AGRA, BMGF, and USAID/Policy LINK. The report has benefitted from the research and efforts of various authors and experts who contributed to the writing of different sections of the report and review of sections and the overall draft.

It is with the greatest appreciation that AUC-DARBE and AUDA-NEPAD give many thanks to all the authors and co-authors as well as experts and reviewers who made the completion of this report possible.

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INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This is the Fourth Biennial Review (BR) Report on the progress of the implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP). Tracking progress was a request made by AU Heads of State and Government under Commitment seven (7) of the Malabo Declaration on *Accelerated Africa Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods* ((ref.: Doc. Assembly/AU/2(XXIII)). Therefore, since 2018, the AU Commission in collaboration with the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) and partners has been producing and presenting such reports for endorsement by the AU Assembly every two years.
- 1.2. The Report provides an overview of the extent to which Member States have adhered to the Malabo Summit aspirations espoused in seven (7) Commitments to reconfirm the importance of investing in agriculture to realize inclusive and sustainable economic growth and poverty reduction. Consistent with the Inaugural Report, the seven (7) Malabo Commitments were translated into seven (7) thematic areas of performance: (i) re-committing to the principles and values of the CAADP process; (ii) enhancing investment finance in agriculture; (iii) ending hunger in Africa by 2025; (iv) reducing poverty by half, by 2025, through inclusive agricultural growth and transformation; (v) boosting intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services; (vi) enhancing resilience of livelihoods and production systems to climate variability and other related risks; and (vii) strengthening mutual accountability for actions and results.
- 1.3. The Report highlights the inclusive nature of the process and methodological approach that was used to collect, analyze data and write the report. Furthermore, the Report presents the key findings at continental and regional levels, the detailed profiles and scorecards of individual countries, and sets of recommendations for individual countries, regional bodies, and continental institutions.
- 1.4. As in previous years, the aim of the Report is to present individual Member States and their collective performances in order to trigger continental, regional, and national level actions to collectively drive agricultural transformation in Africa. The report also helps to create an increased appeal for individual entities to spur national and regional institutional capacity for agriculture data collection and knowledge management. Building on this principle, it is anticipated that this would support improved evidence-based planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and mutual learning.
- 1.5. For every reporting Member State, performance against the set targets is presented in the form of a “Country Scorecard in Implementing the Malabo Commitments”. The Report highlights outcomes of a period covering developments in the agricultural sector from 2015 to 2022.
- 1.6. The Report discusses 12 new indicators and 5 new performance categories, giving a total of 59 indicators (including the initial 47 indicators and 12 new indicators). These are classified into 28 (24 old and 4 new) performance categories under 7 performance areas (7 commitments) to reflect the June 2014 Malabo Declaration. The twelve new indicators introduced are related to: (a) Livestock Seed, (b) the Seed Sector Performance Indicator (SSPI), (c) Africa Biofortification Progress Index (ABPI), (d) Ecological Organic Agriculture (EOA), (e) Green House Gas (GHG) emissions from agriculture, (f) Cost of a healthy diet, (g) Overweight or obese population, and (h) four indicators related to trade. It is important to note that although the new indicators were introduced, they were not used in the computation of the scores of

Member States since their baseline could not be traced to 2015. These new indicators were being piloted in this fourth BR process and may be included in the computation of scores during the fifth BR cycle in 2025.

- 1.7. The report is complemented by an online smart and powerful interactive CAADP BR Communication Toolkit, which presents the BR data in various forms, making it more easily accessible to users. The tool was developed by the AU and its partners in close consultation with RECs, technical experts, and other stakeholders, as an accompanying output of the BR Report to facilitate the dissemination of its findings. The tool is designed to make it easier for policymakers and other stakeholders at national and regional levels to interact with the data and information provided. The Toolkit contains clear graphics, analyses and maps that facilitate easier access to the BR results.
- 1.8. The report includes a section on the implementation of ten (10) AU Decisions, thematic in nature, and specific to agricultural transformation in Africa, namely: Seed and Biotechnology; Livestock Development; Fisheries and Aquaculture; Irrigation; Mechanization; Fertilizer Use; Sanitary and Phytosanitary Capacities, Land Policy, Ecological Organic Agriculture, and Biofortification.
- 1.9. The sequential benchmarks for the inaugural (2017), 2019, 2021 and now 2023 are 3.96, 6.66, 7.28, and 9.29, respectively. The last year of tracking will be 2025 in which benchmark of 10 will be used. Against the fourth BR benchmark of 9.29 out of 10, which is the minimum score for a country to be on-track towards achieving the CAADP Malabo goals and targets by 2025, no Member State out of the 49 that reported is on-track. The best three performing countries in descending order are Rwanda (8.07), Morocco (6.99) and Egypt (6.83) ranking Rwanda as the best performing country for the fourth time. Although no country is on track to achieving the Malabo targets by 2025, the progress made is commendable considering the events that occurred during the reporting period. By and large, the findings reflect the consequences of successive crises including the Russia-Ukraine war, the lingering impact of COVID-19, vagaries of nature due to climate change and internal conflicts eroding some gains that have been made over the years. Recent studies are consistent with these findings such as the SDG Report on the Impact of the Russia-Ukraine war on African agriculture, trade, poverty, and food systems.
- 1.10. From the findings, although it seems that achieving the Malabo goals in their entirety may be an uphill task by 2025, the report identifies collective and individual actions that are needed to accelerate agricultural growth and transformation. One critical recommendation is to address resilience beyond issues of climate change and to include emerging matters like food supply disruption associated with e.g. COVID-19, Russia-Ukraine war, fall armyworm infestation and climate-related events such as severe floods and droughts. The timing of the release of this report is opportune as the AU Medium Strategic Plan (2024-2028) is being developed and as the formulation of the post-Malabo CAADP agenda is being initiated by DARBE.

THE FOURTH (2023) BIENNIAL REVIEW REPORT PREPARATION PROCESS AND METHODOLOGY

2A. The Process

- 2.1. The process of developing the 2023 Biennial Review Report has been significantly disrupted by the 2023 Russia-Ukraine War, which commenced in early February 2022 and has had a devastating impact on the agricultural input supply chain in Africa. Disruptions in the production and distribution of these inputs, such as fertilizers and agricultural chemicals, have resulted in higher prices, making farming more costly for African farmers.
- 2.2. Ahead of the fourth Biennial Review Cycle, the AUC and AUDA-NEPAD, in collaboration with partners, organized the Malabo Policy Learning Event (MAPLE) in December 2022, focused on reviewing lessons learned of the third Biennial Review (BR). The event took place virtually and over 200 participants from across Africa representing the public sector, private sector, farmer groups, civil society, youth, academia and media explored the lessons from the previous two cycles. The main topics of discussion, which subsequently helped shape the current BR process, were: i) Policy implications and lessons learned from the third Biennial Review (BR) cycle; (ii) Policy implications and lessons learned from the third Biennial Review (BR) cycle; iii) Policy implications and lessons learned from the third Biennial Review (BR) cycle.
- 2.3. Subsequently, the BR Task Force, which is a team of technical experts drawn from various institutions across Africa and which provides technical backstopping for the BR process, carried out a critical analysis of the BR process in August 2022, indicators, and methods to make suggestions for improvement of the data collection and analysis processes. The BR Task Force is divided into nine (9) Technical Working Groups (TWGs) organized around the seven performance areas of the Malabo Declaration, the coordination and the communication and Advocacy. TWG on communication and advocacy has been created to ensure the communication and viability concerns of the BR process and CAADP agenda. Members of the TWGs, met each week over several months in 2022 and 2023, not only to carry out the Critical Analysis of quality of data, process, and methods, but also to offer technical guidance for the revision of the BR reporting tools, to be prepared for the trainings. As a result of these engagements, the BR Technical Guidelines, the BR Reporting Template, and the BR Technical Notes were updated.
- 2.4. The results from the 2022 critical analysis and review process brought 12 new indicators and 5 new performance categories. For the fourth BR cycle, there are now a total of 59 indicators (47 existing indicators and 12 new indicators) classified into 28 (24 old and 4 new) performance categories under 7 performance areas (7 commitments) to reflect the June 2014 Malabo Declaration. Furthermore, the BR Task Force highlighted the following data related issues and changes: i) Previously silent or unutilized indicators in the BR system were either included in the analysis or completely removed from the data collection; ii) the e-BR, the web-based tool for data entry and management, was improved to identify errors by flagging unusual entries. It was also improved to accommodate information on the source of data to improve data traceability; iii) Several new indicators to track AUC decisions were developed to support the analysis on its implementation; and iv) Common data errors and gaps were identified which require additional investments by the AU and Member States in building capacity for collecting and managing data. Because of the fact that.

The roadmap for the third BR process

- 2.5. Working closely with Regional Economic Communities and technical experts, a roadmap for the fourth BR process was prepared by the AUC. The roadmap covered the various steps and timelines required to produce the fourth BR report.

Training of trainers

- 2.6. Due to some significant changes in the reporting templates with the addition of the new indicators and also because there were new experts joining the BR process, a Training of Trainers (TOT) workshop was organized physically and virtually (hybrid mode) on 6-9 February, 2023. About 135 experts participated in the TOT sessions, which covered technical elements of the BR and planned for the BR continental training workshop for country experts. During the TOT, at least 31 regional experts from the five regions were trained on the updated CAADP BR reporting tools.

Training of national experts

- 2.7. During this fourth BR process, AUC organized in collaboration with RECs, five Virtual Regional Trainings of National Experts on the updated CAADP BR reporting tools and AUC provided the support for the interpretation services : (i) Eastern Africa (English) 20-24 March 2023: EAC, IGAD and COMESA; (ii) Central Africa (French) 27-31 March 2023: ECCAS; (iii) Northern Africa (French, Arabic) 20-24 March 2023: UMA; (iv) Southern Africa (English, French, Portuguese) 27-29 March 2023: SADC and COMESA and (v) hybrid regional training for Western Africa (English, French and Portuguese) was postponed for 25-29 April 2023. Following the regional trainings, the fourth BR process at the country level was launched and has started. The national experts from countries have been trained by the regional experts from there that have been trained during the continental Training of the Trainers (TOT).

Data collection and validation at the national level

- 2.8. After the regional training, each REC organized with their Member States to implement their BR roadmap in line with the regional and continental roadmap. The RECs led and coordinated the steps on data collection and validation at the national level. Particularly, the African Union Commission, with financial support from AGRA and its partnership with Ak2063/ReSAKSS, FAO, IFPRI and Policy Link, facilitated the mobilization of the technical support needed by the RECs to facilitate data collection and validation at the regional level. At all levels of accountability (national, regional, and continental), the main challenges were: (i) the timely collection, cleaning, and analysis of the data; (ii) the limited resources to support the multi-stakeholder validation of the draft national BR reports. Throughout the process, the AUC and AUDA-NEPAD continuously encouraged AU Member States to integrate the biennial review process into regular monitoring and evaluation systems of government in order to alleviate logistical and financial challenges and improve the quality of the process and its results.

- 2.9. Like it was in the inaugural, second and third BR processes, each Member State was expected to organize a national multi-stakeholder workshop to review and validate the report and data before its submission to the respective RECs, with a signed letter from the Permanent Secretary or an authority of the ministry of agriculture. With the support of technical partners, RECs review and validate the Member State reports, carry out the first data analysis, and prepare regional BR summaries that are validated at the regional level before their submission to AUC.

Continental Data Cleaning and Validation Workshop

- 2.10. After the submission of country reports and data by 12 August 2023. This shift was possible because the date for the STC meeting, to which the report must be submitted, was changed from October to December 2021. Each REC mobilized regional experts and organized a review of country reports following the guidance note on data collection, national and regional validation processes for the fourth BR Process transmitted to RECs by the AUC. The regional validation was organized with the support of AUC through direct funding from AGRA and technical backstopping from Ak2063/RESAKSS for ECOWAS, for UMA plus Egypt, for SADC, Eastern region plus Rep. Sahrawi (IGAD, EAC, COMESA and Rep. Sahrawi). In Central Africa (ECCAS), only one country in eight was able to organize its national validation and meet the deadline of August 12. It was difficult to organize the regional exam due to the situation.
- 2.11. Overall, all RECs except ECCAS were able to achieve this important milestone and send comments and observations to Member States for correction in the country report, as well as in the e-BR system, aiming at their final submission on August 27, 2023. Even when the continental data cleaning started, the AUC still extended the submission deadline for all remaining countries to 15 September 2023 to allow those countries to finalize their national validation, data entry, and report submission in the e-BR system. This was the final cut-off deadline for all submissions. In the e-BR system, 43 Member States submitted their data on time.
- 2.12. The African Union Commission (AUC), AUDA-NEPAD, and Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Technical partners (IFPRI, AGRA, FAO, A2063/ReSAKSS, Plocy Link) and BR regional experts held a Data continental data cleaning and validation Workshop scheduled for late August to early September in Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania (from 29 August to Friday 1 September, 2023). This process involves extensive data checking and assessment to ensure data quality, accuracy, and completeness of the data that have been submitted by Member States. The workshop aims to harmonize data cleaning and validation processes, engage commitment area leaders, and finalize continental-level data cleaning and validation of submissions from Member States. The feedback and the comments that have been provided by the team leaders after data checking exercise have been sent to each REC by AUC requesting them to share with their country for consideration and the resubmission of the revised data and the report in the e-BR system by September 15, 2023.

BR technical write-shop

- 2.13. In terms of the reporting during the write-shop, it was 49 out of 55 Member States that been able to submit their data and report into the e-BR system. Thus, the write-shop prepared the draft Fourth CAADP Malabo Biennial Review Report and offered an opportunity to several

biennial review experts as well as all the institutions that have been contributing to this process to produce their appreciation on the quality of the data before starting the computation of the indicators and the analysis. More specifically, the write-shop covered: (i) discussion of the outline of the fourth BR report and the allocation of the expert for the writing; (ii) writing the draft report; (iii) the preparation of the individual country scorecards; (iv) the preparation of the consolidated draft continental fourth BR Report; (v) next steps with the deadline were defined. A final validation meeting was held virtually in October 2023 among AUC, AUDA-NEPAD, Experts of the Bureau of the STC, and RECs ahead of presenting the report to the fourth Ordinary Session of the STC on ARDWE in November 2023.

BR Communication Tools

- 2.14. As one of the outcomes of the critical analysis of the BR process conducted in August 2022, a ninth technical working group on BR communication and advocacy has been established to enhance communication, advocacy efforts related to the BR findings, and awareness. As customary, the BR communication and advocacy tools, namely the CAADP Biennial Review Dashboard and the CAADP Biennial Review Toolkit have been updated to facilitate the utilization of the fourth BR report's findings.

Technical support to the BR process

- 2.15. In partnership with the traditional BR technical partners and institutions, technical support was extended at different steps in the implementation of the fourth BR continental roadmap. BR experts from Ak2063/RESAKSS, IFPRI, FAO, AGRA, Policy Link amongst others, provided technical support during the critical analysis, the updating of fourth BR reporting tools (Technical Guidelines, Country Reporting Template, and e-BR platform), training of trainers (TOT), the training of national experts, the data collection, the data cleaning and assessment, and data validation at country level, data validation and review at RECs level, and continental data cleaning and during the technical write shop. BR experts trained during TOT and from other institutions (universities and think-tanks) provided technical support during the regional validations. AUC and Policy LINK team provided the support to hold virtually most of the regional BR trainings, the BR Task Force meetings, the CAADP monthly coordination meetings with RECs and AUDA-NEPAD, and other meetings related to the BR process.
- 2.16. Through this grant to the AUC from AGRA, during this fourth BR process, the budget support has been to RECs to enable them to undertake some of the critical activities of the BR roadmap at the REC levels. Thus, RECs were facilitated to undertake: (i) regional validation meetings; and (ii) other activities directly related to the BR process. This grant also provided some funding for the technical write-shop.
- 2.17. The RECs played a very instrumental role in engaging and mobilizing Member States and this eased and facilitated the role of the AUC and AUDA- NEPAD in compiling the Fourth Biennial Review Report successfully.

2B. The Methodology

- 2.18. The Africa Agricultural Transformation Scorecard (AATS) was developed to present the progress made by individual Member States and to recognize and award the best performing Member States towards achieving the Malabo Declaration goals and targets by 2025. The

AATS is based on benchmarking methods to evaluate country's performance in achieving the goals and targets set in the Malabo Declaration.

- 2.19. As the overall target year of the Malabo Declaration is 2025, the benchmarking method provides a gradual and incremental scale for evaluating the biennial progress against the indicators in the form of a score. By comparing the scores across Member States, the AATS enables peer-to-peer metric comparison of performance in order to stimulate continuous improvement of interventions towards commonly agreed targets. In this case, the benchmarks seek mainly to allow Member States to see how to improve their performance over time, and to search for best practices in order to overcome identified challenges while reinforcing the culture of continuous improvement, and providing a sense of urgency in achieving agriculture sector goals.
- 2.20. The updated 2023 Technical Guidelines provide details on the methodology used to compute each of the 59 performance indicators (47 existing indicators and 12 new indicators) with the required set of parameters. The 2023 Technical Notes provide further details on the methods used to calculate the performance scores, with the year 2015 as reference for performance measurement, including the weighting system used to aggregate the scores across the different thematic areas.
- 2.21. The fourth BR cycle is used to pilot the new indicators, but the new indicators will not be used for the calculation of the score and ranking of the Member States. The new indicators are: 3.1vii (Percentage increase in the proportion of evaluated and certified locally adapted livestock seed, by species/breed/ecotypes annually used in a country (pLCSU), Livestock Seed); 3.1viii (Seed Sector Performance Index); 3.5viii (Cost of a healthy diet as a percent of household food expenditure); 3.5ix (Percentage (percent) of the population overweight or obese, adult population); 3.7 (Africa Biofortification Progress Index, ABPI); 5.1ii (Diversification index for the intra-Africa trade of agricultural commodities and services); 5.3i (Tariff rate, weighted average applied tariff rate (percent)); 5.3ii (Index of non-tariff measures related to intra-Africa trade of agricultural commodities and services); 5.3iii (Index for enabling institutional environment for AfCFTA implementation); 6.1iii (Total Green House Gas (GHG) emissions from agriculture). Furthermore, the new parameter EIRB4 has been excluded from the calculation of 6.2 and its score. Due to serious issues with reporting and data quality, also, indicator 3.6iii has also been silence during this fourth BR cycle.
- 2.22. When an indicator is silent, it means it was not used in the calculation of scores and ranking of the Member States and is not considered in the analysis of the scores.
- 2.23. In line with the performance structure of the Biennial Review (7 commitment areas disaggregated into 28 performance categories, and further into 59 indicators), there are four types of scores: the ***I-score*** which is the score attributed to the performance indicator based on a scale of 0 to 10; the ***C-score*** which is an aggregation of the *I*-scores for the performance category; the ***T-score*** which is an aggregation of the *C*-scores for the performance theme or commitment area; and the ***O-score*** which is the overall score (or aggregation of the *T*-scores) in achieving the Malabo Declaration. For each aggregated score (i.e. *C*-score, *T*-score, and *O*-score), an equal weighting system is used.
- 2.24. The corresponding computing algorithms, fully detailed in the 2023 Technical Notes, have guided the design of the database for country data compilation to generate the 2023 Scorecard.

- 2.25. The Comparison of Country Scores in implementing the Malabo Declaration and the 49 Country Profiles presented in Chapter 7 of the *Africa Agriculture Transformation Scorecard (AATS)*, which summarizes individual country progress in achieving commitments of the Malabo Declaration. The following standard technical definitions must be noted to facilitate a complete understanding of the Biennial Review Report and the AATS.
- 2.26. A Target: Is a value to be reached at an ultimate year (target year) by an item expressed in a commitment. As an example, the commitment to “*triple intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services by 2025 from 2015*” –the target is 200percent to be achieved by the target year of 2025 from the baseline year of 2015.
- 2.27. An Indicator: Is a parameter or a combination of parameters that measures directly (without any further calculation) the value of the item that is measured. As an example, for the commitment in section 2.24, the indicator is the “*growth rate of intra-African trade*”.
- 2.28. A Milestone: Is the value to be reached by the indicator in a measurement year for the country to be on-track in reaching the target, with the assumption that the progress is linear. As such, the milestone may vary from year to year. As an example, for the commitment in section 2.24, the milestone for the third year (2018 measurement year) is 60percent [equal to $(200\text{percent}/10) * 3$]. It is to be noted that the milestone may remain constant if the target is the same for each year. As an example, for the commitment to “*increase government expenditures to agriculture as a share of total national expenditures, to at least 10percent each year*”, the milestone for each year is 10percent.
- 2.29. A Score: Is a value based on a scale of 0 to 10 that reflects performance against an indicator in the particular year. As in the example of the commitment in section 2.26, a country having reached 150percent progress in a particular year will have a score of 7.5 [equal to $(150/200)*10$].
- 2.30. A Benchmark: Is the score corresponding to the value of the milestone, which is the minimum score that a country must have to be on-track in that particular year. As with a milestone, the benchmark may vary from year to year and reach the maximum value of 10 in the target year or it may remain constant at 10 each year. The benchmark for this reporting period (2022 measurement year) is 9.29 compared to 7.28 in the last BR (2020 measurement year).
- 2.31. ON-TRACK: Means that the Member State obtained a score that is equal to or greater than the benchmark (9.29) and is, therefore, well on the trajectory to reach the target for the Malabo commitments.
- 2.32. NOT-ON-TRACK: Means that the country obtained a score that is lower than the benchmark and is, therefore, NOT on the trajectory to reach the target for the Malabo commitments.
- 2.33. The category of performance introduced in the third BR cycle remains for the fourth BR cycle and it indicates Member States that are PROGRESSING WELL, meaning the Member State whose overall score is five or greater than 5, but less than the benchmark of 9.29, and therefore, still NOT on the trajectory to reach the target for the Malabo commitments.

2C. Data Quality Issues

Data quality concerns

- 2.34. Obtaining high quality data for the BR process has remained a top priority. Various strategies have been implemented over the BR cycles to help improve the quality of the data. These include introduction of the online portal (eBR) during the second round of the BR that has helped to improve the rate of compiling, checking, and processing the data, documentation of the data, and timeliness of producing the scorecard and related results used in preparing the BR report. The eBR also has helped create a time-series database on more than 500 variables or parameters from 2015 to the most recent year in this fourth BR cycle. These can be used to conduct strategic analysis on various issues related to agriculture and food systems transformation. In this fourth round of the BR, the eBR system was further enhanced to reduce many of the common data entry errors (e.g., unintended zeros, units of measurement, and implausible ratios and percentages, among others) by placing various restrictions on the data entry fields or cells.
- 2.35. Whereas these steps seem to have helped to reduce many of the common errors mentioned above, the types and extent of critical analysis conducted to identify the data quality issues and used in implementing the above strategies have been limited to a few indicators and themes only. As such, the improvements have not been the same across the data for the different themes and indicators. In the past BRs too, the main data problems with missing data outliers have not been emphasized or have been hidden by the scoring methodology. For example, missing observations have been addressed by giving a score of zero (0) for the affected indicators and countries. The outlier problems have been addressed by trimming the affected indicator values to the minimum or maximum of the expected range of values and then giving a score of zero (0) or ten (10), respectively. These practices may have reduced the requirement, motivation, or incentive to conduct detailed data quality checks and ask countries to revise the data with problems.
- 2.36. In this fourth BR, additional time was provided in the process to conduct data quality checks on the parameters and for countries to revise their data accordingly. However, the time allocated and the capacity availed were not sufficient since the types of data quality checks required were underestimated. Similarly, the feedback to the countries (as was attempted in the third BR) was also overwhelming for them to fully address the identified data problems.
- 2.37. Below are highlights of BR data quality issues, grouped into three categories: (1) data submission process and eBR system, (2) quality of the data parameters, and (3) calculation of the indicators and scores.

Data submission and eBR system

- 2.38. One of the main things here is the issue raised by some of the Member States that they could not upload data because the eBR system will not allow them to do so. Because many Member States have succeeded in uploading data regarding the same indicators, the issue seems more to be on the side of those Member States and may reflect differences in the capacities of those attempting to navigate the eBR system. Also, trying to upload data at the last minute can be frustrating as the eBR system checks for many internal consistencies in the data before it can accept the data.

- 2.39. Submission of the data on intra-African agricultural trade (especially Indicator 5.1) seems to have been botched in general when evaluated from the data generated by the eBR for analysis. The data cells are populated with a mix of numerical and string data, with much incomprehensible information. This is reflected in the low number of countries that the indicator was successfully calculated for, compared to the previous eBRs.
- 2.40. Another shortfall of the eBR system is that the data provided for analysis does not come with a metadata. In addition, the data are in a wide form, where the variables are constituted from the parameters, their subdivisions, and the years. This may not make it user-friendly and could deter many people from using it.

Quality of the data parameters

- 2.41. Since the first BR report, several studies have analyzed the data quality issues, including missing data, unintended zeros, units of measurement, outliers and implausible ratios and percentages, and sum of the parts that do not add up to the total amount, among others¹. One of the most crippling is missing data (see Table 2.1). With the overall data reporting rate at 60percent (or 64percent excluding the 12 new indicators in this fourth BR cycle), missing data is a big problem. This means that many countries will be given a score of zero for the affected indicators. Theme 1 has the highest reporting rate (96.1percent), followed by theme 2 (82.8percent), theme 7 (75.7percent), theme 6 (67.2percent), theme 5 (59percent), and themes 3 and 4 (56.1percent each).
- 2.42. Although the new indicators reduced the overall reporting rate (64.3percent when excluded compared to 59.2percent when included), it had a mixed effect on the reporting rates of the affected themes: positive for themes 6 and 7 and negative for theme 3 and 5.
- 2.43. Table 2.2 shows the data reporting rate by country, with 12 of them reporting at least 80percent of the data (Gambia, Nigeria, Tanzania, Togo, Egypt, Rwanda, Kenya, Madagascar, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, and Burundi). At the other end of the scale, there are about 20 countries with a reporting rate under 50percent. When other data issues are considered (more on this later), the implication of this is that about one-half of the 49 reporting countries may not have enough data to conduct a comprehensive assessment of their progress in implementing the Malabo Declaration. For these countries, their BR scores are very low (given zeros for the missing indicators) and are better classified as “unknown” rather than “not-on-track”.
- 2.44. From Table 2.2, there are differences in the missing data across the parameters, indicators, and countries within a theme, which together with the other data issues, are summarized below for the various thematic areas.

¹ See e.g.: [The CAADP inaugural Biennial Review and Africa Agricultural Transformation Scorecard: Results and areas for improvement \(Benin, S., Ulimwengu, J., and Tefera, W. 2018\)](#); [Improving data quality for the CAADP biennial review: A partnership initiative piloted in five countries \(Benin, S., Karugia, J., Matchaya, G., and Yade, M. 2020\)](#); [CAADP BR data improvements and challenges: A critical analysis of theme 2 in the third BR cycle \(Benin, S., D. Navarro, D. Laborde, M. Fynn, M. Makhura, A. Moletsane, D. Adama, S. Kimathi, and M. Kaliba. 2022\)](#).

Table 2.1: Data reporting rate in the fourth BR by thematic area, 2015-2022

	Including the 12 new indicators				Excluding the 12 new indicators			
	Parameters (number)	Observations		Reported (No.)	Parameters (number)	Observations		Reported (percent)
		Required (No.)	Reported (No.)			Required (No.)	Reported (No.)	
Theme 1 ⁺	32	1,568	1,507	96.1	32	1,568	1,507	96.1
Theme 2	24	9,408	7,792	82.8	24	9,408	7,792	82.8
Theme 3	286	95,648	53,632	56.1	215	67,816	43,866	64.7
Theme 4	69	27,048	15,179	56.1	69	27,048	15,179	56.1
Theme 5 ⁺⁺	65	19,306	11,390	59.0	54	18,081	10,944	60.5
Theme 6	17	4,263	2,863	67.2	13	2,695	1,767	65.6
Theme 7	60	3,283	2,485	75.7	49	2,744	2,053	74.8
Total	553	160,524	94,848	59.1	456	129,360	83,108	64.2

Source: Analysis of fourth BR data.

Notes to Table 2.1: Observations = [parameters needed for latest year only * 49 (number of countries)] + [parameters needed for all years * 49 (number of reporting countries) x 8 (number of years)]. ⁺ Excludes data on three parameters that vary by country and depend on response to previous questions. ⁺⁺ Excludes data on 5.1 for about 12 parameters (quantity/value of imports/exports or goods/services) that could not be extracted and analyzed in Stata (see discussion on eBR issues).

Theme 1

2.45. The data required here are for most recent year only, i.e., 2022 in this fourth BR, to capture the state or extent of how the CAADP processes have been institutionalized, with respect to implementation of the NAIP, coordination of activities and investments, and use of evidence in decision making. The bulk of the data checks conducted here were on missing data, which has already been presented above. As there may be no publicly available records on these, a key challenge is how to conduct independent data quality checks. Comparing the data provided for this fourth BR to data provided for the third BR on the implementation of the NAIP (Indicator 1.1) for example, it seems that there has been a regression for several countries, which seems unreasonable. This is a red flag on which data (third or fourth BR) is more accurate. Whereas the high reporting rate on the parameters is encouraging, the reliability of the data will depend on the extent to which they hold when crosschecked with available records, which needs to be done.

Table 2.2: Data reporting rate in the fourth BR by country, 2015-2022

Country	Data reported		Country	Data reported	
	Number	percent of total		Number	percent of total
Gambia	3162	96.1	Guinea	1853	56.3
Nigeria	3138	95.3	Mauritania	1846	56.1
Tanzania	3134	95.2	Lesotho	1805	54.8
Togo	2867	87.1	Comoros	1684	51.2
Egypt	2814	85.5	South Africa	1657	50.3
Rwanda	2794	84.9	Djibouti	1643	49.9
Kenya	2762	83.9	Zambia	1510	45.9
Madagascar	2721	82.7	Cameroon	1494	45.4
Burkina Faso	2679	81.4	Namibia	1471	44.7
Ethiopia	2673	81.2	Niger	1411	42.9
Ghana	2653	80.6	Cabo Verde	1390	42.2
Burundi	2651	80.5	Liberia	1185	36.0
Uganda	2584	78.5	Mauritius	1169	35.5
Eswatini	2569	78.0	Congo	1163	35.3
Sierra Leone	2566	77.9	South Sudan	1129	34.3
Mali	2500	75.9	Seychelles	1011	30.7
Benin	2473	75.1	Botswana	1011	30.7
Mozambique	2448	74.4	Angola	958	29.1
Tunisia	2374	72.1	Guinea-Bissau	825	25.1
Zimbabwe	2323	70.6	Central African Rep.	798	24.2
Morocco	2195	66.7	Somalia	770	23.4
Cote d'Ivoire	2157	65.5	Equatorial Guinea	656	19.9
Gabon	2052	62.3	Rep. A. Saharawi	209	6.3
Malawi	1975	60.0	Libya	68	2.1
Senegal	1901	57.7			

Source: Analysis of fourth BR data.

Notes: The total number of observations is 3292 per country.

Theme 2

2.46. Various types of data quality checks were conducted, with outliers and the sum of the parts that do not add to the total being the most problematic (see results in Table 2.3). On an individual basis, the results may not seem to be substantial. When taken together, however, then they are concerning. For example, the missing data, zero values, and outliers together account for 25-30percent of the total observations required. This together with the other issues identified, undermines the high reporting rate (82.8percent, Table 1) and the data to reliably track progress of all countries in achieving the Malabo Declaration commitments related to Theme 2.

Table 2.3: Summary of data issues identified on the parameters for theme 2 in the fourth BR, 2015-2022

Type of data quality check	Total number of observations analyzed	Observations with red flags (percent of total)
Missing data	9408	17.2
Zero values that are not possible	9408	1.1
Outliers: annual growth rate > 50percent	9408	8.4
Units: thousands, millions, billions, etc.	9408	3.5
Total - Sum of subsector parts > 5percent		
Government agriculture expenditure	392	10.1
Agriculture value added	392	15.8
Total - Sum of male/female parts > 0		
Farmers with access to financial services	392	6.2
Farmers	392	6.2
Farmers > population	392	1.1

2.47. Looking at the distribution of the missing data for example, they were more prevalent with the parameters on domestic and foreign private sector investment and agriculture research expenditure. Comparing the countries, only 11 of them (Comoros, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, and Uganda) did not have any missing data for any of the parameters. The most affected countries, i.e., those with the highest percentage of missing data, include Libya (100percent), Angola (91percent), Central African Republic (61percent), Botswana (60percent), Cabo Verde (42percent), Zambia (41percent), and Niger (39percent).

Theme 3

2.48. The bulk of the data checks conducted here were on missing data, results of which have already been presented earlier. A few implausible zero values (13 in total) were found for the indicators under Performance Categories (PC) 3.4 and 3.5. As theme 3 has the bulk of the data required (about 60percent, see Table 1) as well as one of the lowest data reporting rates (56.1percent, see Table 1), more types of data

quality checks in addition to understanding the missing data problems is needed to help design better strategies that can help raise the reporting rate and quality of the data.

Theme 4

2.49. For theme four, the following data quality issues were identified:

- Annual growth of the agriculture value added (agricultural GDP): three countries with significant outliers (Malawi: 275.544 percent; Sierra Leone: 128.314 percent and South Africa: 125.1997 percent) and 23 countries with missing values.
- Reduction rate of poverty headcount ratio, at international poverty line (4_1iv) and Reduction rate of poverty headcount ratio, at national poverty line (4_1iii): i) 4_1iii and 4_1iv: negative, missing and zero poverty rates were all assigned zero scores; ii) 4_1iv: two countries with significant outliers (Egypt: -106.111 percent; Tunisia: -80 percent); iii) 4_1iii: Only 20 countries with non-zero scores; iv) 4_1iv: 30 countries with missing values.
- Reduction rate of the gap between the wholesale price and farm-gate price: i) negative, missing (18) and zero values were wrongly given zero scores; ii) significant outliers for Nigeria (-1283.26 percent) and Kenya (-167.04 percent).
- Youth engaged in new job opportunities in agriculture value chains: i) unusually higher values for Mali (89.2 percent); Nigeria (88.92 percent); Kenya (74.9 percent); Egypt (64.3 percent) and Zimbabwe (63.6 percent); ii) unusually low values for Togo, South Africa, Senegal, Mauritania and Angola, and iii) 21 missing wrongly set to zeros.
- Proportion of rural women that are empowered in agriculture: i) unusually higher values for Morocco (99.9 percent); Gabon (82.3 percent); Ghana (76.8 percent) ; Kenya (74.2 percent) and Rwanda: (63.9 percent); ii) unusually low values for Benin, Mauritania, Niger, South Africa, Togo and Togo; and iii) 21 countries with missing values were wrongly given zero scores

Theme 5

2.50. For theme 5, the bulk of the data checks conducted were on missing data, results of which have already been presented earlier. Other issues identified were with Indicator 5.2i (trade facilitation index (TFI)), which the parameters are supposed to be normalized (between 0-100). However, the parameter on 'border administration' was not normalized and had values outside the range. Thus, it was decided to exclude this parameter in the computation of the TFI indicator. Additional issues were also identified for a few countries (Egypt, Sierra Leone, and Equatorial Guinea) under the 'Immigration' parameter (number of African countries with visa on arrival + number of countries with visa free entry), where data values recorded were greater than the maximum possible of 54. This can be addressed by including a restriction on the data entry cell in the eBR, in addition to training on the issue with these examples. Overall, more types of data quality checks need to be conducted, in addition to understanding why the trade data under 5.1 was difficult to upload for many countries (see discussion under eBR issues).

Theme 6

2.51. Aside from the missing data issues identified earlier, the main issue here is with the parameter on “*percentage of public expenditure spent on resilience-building initiatives, specifically on early warning and response systems, social safety nets, and weather-based index insurance*” (EIRB4 under Indicator 6.2). It seems that while some countries used total government expenditure as the appropriate denominator, others may have incorrectly used agricultural expenditure as the denominator. This needs to be resolved and proper training conducted in the next BR cycle, in addition to defining the target. Different types of checks on the other parameters are also needed.

Theme 7

2.52. Here too, the bulk of the checks was on missing data, which was more prevalent with Indicator 7.1 on index of capacity to generate and use agriculture statistical data and information (ASCI). On the parameters for Indicator 7.1 for example, the percentage of countries that did not report ranged from 20percent to 50percent, compared to less than 20percent for the other parameters under theme 7. Other issues identified were some cases of zero values and mix of text and numerical values, especially for Madagascar and Togo. Like theme 1, there may not be publicly available records to conduct independent data quality checks on the various parameters. Therefore, consistency checks with data from the preceding BRs (see example under theme 1) may be needed to enhance the data checks. When the overall data reporting rate (see Table 2) is compared to the BR submission indicator (7.3) for example, Figure 1 raises concern about the subjective and higher rating of the BR submission and validation process versus the actual provided.

Calculation of indicators and scores

2.53. Because not all the years of data on the parameters are used in the calculation of the indicators, analyzing the missing data and outliers at the indicator level is also useful to further grasp the data further issues. Of the 58 indicators, 11 require all the years (2015 to 2022) of data, 15 require the data for 2015 and 2022, and the remaining 32 require data for 2022 only. Tables 2.4 and 2.5 show the results of the missing values, outliers, and zero values of the indicators by theme and by country, respectively. At this level of the analysis, seems less of an issue when compared to the analysis at the parameter level (see Tables 2.1 and 2.2). However, the distribution of the issues by the themes still shows that themes 3 and 4 are affected the most. Overall, 69 to 72percent of the indicators are calculated. The zero values seem to be the most problematic also with themes 3 and 4, as well as with the countries that have lower reporting rates. Overall, because the issues at the parameter level have not been addressed, these results may hide the data quality problems to the extent that the calculated indicators seem okay when the underlying data on the parameters are not. Then, it becomes difficult to draw reliable and useful policy implications from the analysis of indicators and scores that are derived from them.

Figure 2.1: Comparison between the overall data reporting rate and Indicator 7.3 in the fourth BR

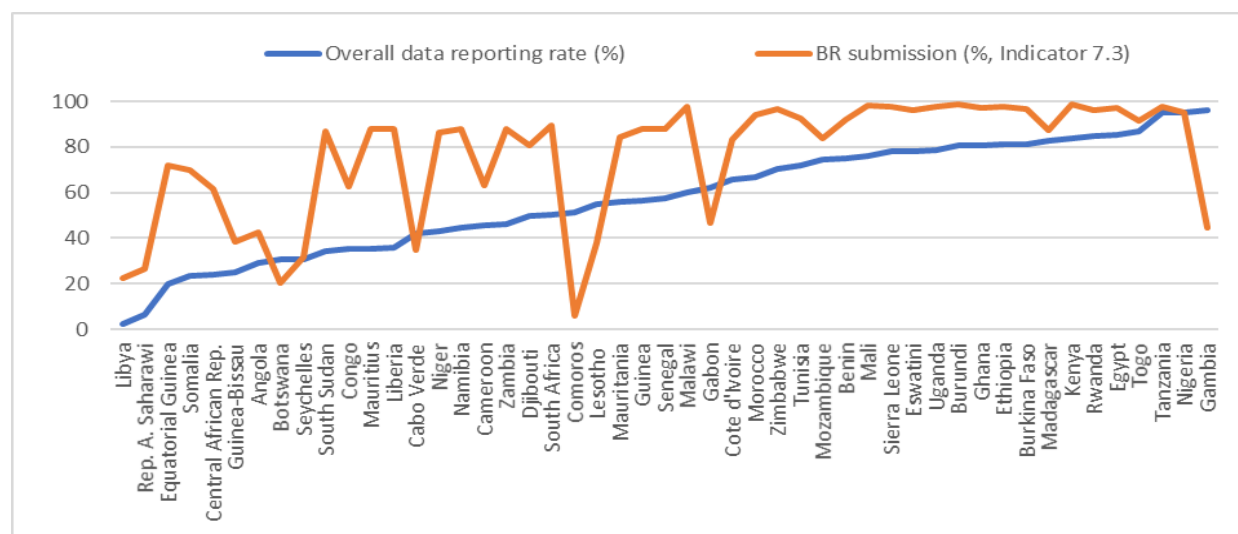


Table 2.4: Missing values, zero values, and outliers of the indicators in the fourth BR by theme

	Total required	Calculated, including zero values		Calculated, excluding zero values	
	Number	Number	percent of total	Number	percent of total
Theme 1	147	147	100.0	144	98.0
Theme 2	294	222	75.5	221	75.2
Theme 3	980	671	68.5	659	67.2
Theme 4	343	205	59.8	179	52.2
Theme 5	98	44	44.9	44	44.9
Theme 6	147	107	72.8	105	71.4
Theme 7	147	147	100.0	139	94.6
Total	2156	1543	71.6	1491	69.2

Notes: Total number of indicators is 44. Two existing indicators and the twelve new ones were excluded from the calculations for the report.

Conclusion and recommendations

- 2.54. The data quality issues indicate that about one-half of the 49 reporting countries may not have enough data to conduct a comprehensive assessment of their progress in implementing the Malabo Declaration. The main interventions recommended to address these issues include: (1) harmonizing the critical analysis across the various BR technical working groups, including reviews of their outputs; (2) strengthening the capacity (human, financial, organizational, and so on) of the BR country reporting teams and training on the data quality issues; (3) making the eBR accessible throughout the year or at multiple periods in each year for Member States to upload/update data as they get them; and (4) including a metadata with the eBR data and making the data publicly available to promote various analysis of the data. The AU must also work with the regional economic communities and Member States to institutionalize the BR process in national M&E systems and accountability mechanisms including exploring direct import of data from the national statistical databases into the eBR.

Table 2.5: Missing values, zero values, and outliers of the indicators in the fourth BR by country

Country	Calculated, including zero values		Calculated, excluding zero values		Country	Calculated, including zero values		Calculated, excluding zero values	
	Number	percent of total	Number	percent of total		Number	percent of total	Number	percent of total
Rwanda	44	100.0	44	100.0	Mozambique	33	75.0	32	72.7
Ghana	43	97.7	43	97.7	Niger	33	75.0	31	70.5
Mali	43	97.7	43	97.7	Djibouti	31	70.5	30	68.2
Egypt	42	95.5	42	95.5	Liberia	31	70.5	29	65.9
Morocco	42	95.5	42	95.5	Senegal	31	70.5	30	68.2
Benin	41	93.2	39	88.6	Guinea	30	68.2	28	63.6
Kenya	41	93.2	41	93.2	Cameroon	29	65.9	27	61.4
Madagascar	41	93.2	41	93.2	Congo	29	65.9	29	65.9
Tanzania	41	93.2	40	90.9	Guinea-Bissau	28	63.6	27	61.4
Tunisia	41	93.2	40	90.9	Mauritius	28	63.6	27	61.4
Ethiopia	40	90.9	39	88.6	Mauritania	27	61.4	26	59.1
Gambia	40	90.9	40	90.9	Comoros	26	59.1	24	54.5
Nigeria	40	90.9	39	88.6	Seychelles	26	59.1	24	54.5
Burkina Faso	39	88.6	39	88.6	Namibia	25	56.8	24	54.5
Burundi	39	88.6	39	88.6	Zambia	25	56.8	24	54.5
Togo	39	88.6	38	86.4	South Sudan	23	52.3	23	52.3
Uganda	39	88.6	39	88.6	South Africa	22	50.0	20	45.5
Malawi	36	81.8	35	79.5	Botswana	19	43.2	18	40.9
Sierra Leone	36	81.8	36	81.8	Somalia	18	40.9	16	36.4

Côte d'Ivoire	35	79.5	35	79.5	Equatorial Guinea	15	34.1	14	31.8
Zimbabwe	34	77.3	33	75.0	Central African Rep.	14	31.8	11	25.0
Cabo Verde	33	75.0	33	75.0	Angola	13	29.5	9	20.5
Eswatini	33	75.0	32	72.7	Rep. A. Saharawi	11	25.0	7	15.9
Gabon	33	75.0	33	75.0	Libya	8	18.2	4	9.1
Lesotho	33	75.0	32	72.7					

Notes: Total number of indicators is 44. Two existing indicators and the twelve new ones were excluded from the calculations for the report.

KEY FINDINGS

3A. Progress in Achieving Commitments

3A.0 Continental Performance

- 3.1. For this forth (2023) CAADP Biennial Review Report, 49 out of 55 Member States submitted their validated national reports to the African Union Commission (AUC) through their respective Regional Economic Communities (RECs). The countries that reported in 2023 are: Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central Africa Republic, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Eswatini, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sahrawi, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
- 3.2. The six Member States that were unable to meet the deadline and are thus without scores in this fourth Biennial Review (BR) report are Algeria, Chad, DR Congo, Eritrea, Sao Tome and Principe, and Sudan.
- 3.3. The fourth Biennial Review report presents some thought-provoking findings. The benchmark for a country to be on-track has successively increased over the eight (8) years of the BR process, from 3.94 in the inaugural (2017) BR, through 6.66 and 7.28 in 2019 (second) and 2021 (third), and now is at 9.29 for this fourth BR. Of the 49 Member States that reported progress in implementing the Malabo Declaration during the 2023 Biennial Review cycle, no country is on-track towards achieving the CAADP Malabo commitments by 2025. A striking fact is that in the third cycle, only one Member State was on track, four (4) Member States that were on-track in 2019 during the second Biennial Review cycle, and 17 in the inaugural (2017) BR cycle. Not being on-track does not mean that Member States have not made progress – actually twelve (12) Member States have steadily improved in their performance since the inaugural BR cycle. They are Comoros, Lesotho, Cabo Verde, Zimbabwe, Gambia, Nigeria, Uganda, Egypt, Morocco, Rwanda, Burundi and Kenya. Notably Ethiopia, Mali, Morocco, and Rwanda have had scores above five (5) out 10 for all the BR cycles.
- 3.4. The findings reveal the urgent need for accelerating CAADP implementation, over the next two years to 2025, in order to build a resilient African food system. The report also highlights the need to review the progress made by Member States since the start of the Malabo period

in 2015 to document progress and establish areas of success and challenges that will provide priority areas to feed into the development of the post-Malabo agenda for the next 10 years (2026-2035).

- 3.5. The overall score for the whole of Africa is 4.56. Although this score is higher than the overall score of 4.32 in 2021 and 4.03 for 2019 Biennial Review cycles, the continent is making progress but still not on-track to meet the CAADP/Malabo Commitments by 2025.

3A.1 Commitment 1: Recommitment to the Principles and Values of the CAADP Process

- 3.6. As part of the CAADP process, AU Member States are required to show commitment to the ideals and principles of CAADP and follow relevant CAADP processes. This Commitment required that Member States reach 100percent achievement by 2018 (equivalent to a score of 10). Overall, unlike in the 2021 Biennial Review where three (3) out of the fifty-one (51) Member States that reported were on-track on this commitment, in this reporting period, only 1 Member State (Niger) out of the forty-nine (49) Member States that reported on this indicator, is on-track to maintain achievement on this Malabo Commitment. This represents a decline in progress on the continent. However, it is important to note that the following other nine (9) Member States (Rwanda, Morocco, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Benin, Nigeria, Tunisia, Ethiopia, and Tanzania) are close to being on-track having scored over 9 out of 10.
- 3.7. This Commitment is tracked through three specific indicators. All the three indicators are highlighted in this report (CAADP Process Completion Index; Existence of, and quality of multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder coordination body in the sector; and evidence-based policies, supportive institutions and corresponding human resources).
- 3.8. The first indicator tracks the completion of national CAADP processes. It is the measure of the level of country completion of the CAADP process in the country. Measured through the level of availability of the necessary documents that justify the completion of each of the four main steps for rolling out implementation of the Malabo declaration at country level. These main steps include: (i)- the Step of Domestication, (ii)- the step of NAIP Appraisal, (iii)- the step of NAIP implementation; and (iv)- Step of NAIP M&E and reporting. This measure is based on the assumption that a ready document is enough to justify the successful completion of a particular step. In this fourth round of BR, countries were expected to up-load the necessary proof documents into the eBR platform. This contributed to their score for this indicator.
- 3.9. Of the 49 Member States that reported, 31 were able to show evidence that this process is completed (Angola, Benin, Burundi, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe). The average performance of the Member States that have not met the 2023 milestone is at 57.14percent (against a score of 100percent, or 5.71 out of 10).

- 3.10. The second indicator seeks to strengthen multi-sector coordination among stakeholders to improve implementation of the CAADP towards results, through establishment of a functional multi-sectorial and multi-stakeholder coordination body. Out of the forty-nine (49) Member States that reported, only three (3) Member States (Central African Republic, Comoros and Niger) achieved the score of 100percent (10 out of 10). This implies that more effort should be applied to maintain achievement of this indicator. It is also important to note that while only three Member States are on-track on this indicator, five others, including Rwanda, Uganda, Cameroon, and Morocco performed significantly well having achieved scores of at least 9 out of 10.
- 3.11. The third indicator tracks the progress made by Member States to ensure that there are evidence-based policies, supportive institutions and corresponding human resources critical to driving investments in the CAADP through the NAIPs to attain the goals and targets articulated in the Malabo Declaration. Out of the 49 that reported on this indicator, only eight (8) Member States, namely (Cameroon, Gabon, Mali, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger and Rwanda) are on-track achieving the score of 100percent (10 out of 10). This is a decline from the third BR performance where 11 Member States were on-track, but about double the number of six Member States that achieved this goal in the second BR. It is also well below the 29 Member States that were on-track in the first BR. This indicates that many Member States still need to put in place and maintain the enabling policy environment and institutional and functional capacities necessary for more rigorous planning and implementation of agriculture sector investment plans, which are core to delivering the Malabo Declaration. It is useful to state that nine (9) other Member States (Benin, Tunisia, Ethiopia, Uganda, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, and Nigeria) achieved encouraging scores of above 9 out of 10, implying that they are close to being on-track.
- 3.12. In spite of this overall moderate performance by some Member States, more effort is needed in order to meet and maintain the targets by 2025. Ideally, by now all Member States should have developed their NAIP document, and implemented the actions therein. From other studies, it is noted that by June 2015, 40 countries had engaged and launched the CAADP process, 44 African MS had signed the CAADP Compact (agreeing to invest 10percent of national budgets to agriculture), and 39 countries had formulated their first generation NAIPs. By 2019, in collaboration with the local experts and other technical partners, IFPRI² had provided technical support for the development of next (second)-generation NAIPs in around 30 countries. Therefore, possible reasons for this performance in this fourth BR cycle may be that Member States may not be keeping sufficient records of the process, or did not sufficiently report this process in the eBR system.

3A.2 Commitment 2: Enhancing Investment Financing in Agriculture

2.1 Introduction of Commitment

- 3.13. The African Heads of State and Governments committed themselves to enhancing public and private investment finance to agriculture. This commitment is tracked through four performance categories containing seven indicators on expenditures on agriculture by

² Sam Benin, 2019. <https://www.ifpri.org/project/national-agriculture-investment-plan-naip>

governments and donors, investments in agriculture by domestic and foreign private sector investors, and on increasing access to financial services by smallholder farmers. The commitment includes the following indicators and targets:

- Indicator 2.1i: Government agriculture expenditure as percent of total public expenditures, with a target of 10percent each year from 2015 to 2025.
 - Indicator 2.1ii: Government agriculture expenditure as percent of agriculture value added, with a target of 19percent each year from 2015 to 2025.
 - Indicator 2.1iii: Official Development Assistance to agriculture, disbursement as percent of commitment, with a target of 100percent each year from 2015 to 2025.
 - Indicator 2.2: Ratio of domestic private sector investment in agriculture, to agriculture value added, with a target of 5percent each year from 2015 to 2025.
 - Indicator 2.3: Foreign private direct investment in agriculture to agriculture value added, with a target of 9percent each year from 2015 to 2025.
 - Indicator 2.4: Proportion of men and women engaged in agriculture with access to financial services, with a target of 100percent by 2025.
 - Indicator 3.1v: Total agricultural research spending as a share of agriculture value added, with a target of 1percent each year from 2015 to 2025.
- 3.14. Majority of the countries reported on Indicators 2.1i, 2.1ii and 2.4, compared to the others. Forty-two countries reported on 2.1iii and forty-one countries reported on 2.4, compared to 38 for 3.1v, and 49 for Indicator 2.2. Indicator 2.3 was least reported on with 30 countries reporting.
- 3.15. Overall, none of the Member States that reported on this thematic area of enhancing investment finance in agriculture, despite it being a key driver of agricultural transformation, was on-track. This is a regression compared to the previous (third) BR when four countries were on-track for this commitment. However, three countries have scores of more than 7.5 (Eswatini, Burundi, and Lesotho), while eight countries had scores of between 5 and 7.5 of 10 (Cabo Verde, Seychelles, Mali, Tunisia, Morocco, Comoros, Ghana, and Rwanda). Fifteen countries scored between 2.5 and 5 out of 10 (Malawi, Kenya, Nigeria, Djibouti, Uganda, Madagascar, Benin, Mauritius, Zimbabwe, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Gambia, Togo, Somalia and Sierra Leone). The rest and majority of the countries (23), except the six that did not participate in fourth BR, have a score of between 0-2.5.

2.2 Assessment of Countries on Track by Indicator

- 3.16. The first indicator highlighted in this report is on government agriculture expenditure as a share of total public expenditure, with a target of 10 percent each year (Indicator 2.1i). Only three Member States achieved the target in this fourth BR cycle (Burundi, Ethiopia, and Mauritania). This is a decline from the previous BR report when four Member States achieved the target. Only two (Burundi and Ethiopia) still achieved the target, with the exception of DR Congo, which did not participate in the fourth BR process. The second indicator is government agriculture expenditure as a share of agriculture value added, with a target of 19 percent each year (Indicator 2.1ii). About four (4) Member States achieved the target in this fourth BR cycle (Cabo Verde, Comoros, Djibouti, Lesotho,). Sierra Leone, Eswatini and Mauritius scored 9.95, 9.72 and 9.32 out of 10 respectively, making them close to achieving the milestone.
- 3.17. While Member States have to allocate enough funds for agriculture in national budgets, it is also intended to ensure donors are delivering on their pledges and commitment to support national plans. The third indicator is official development assistance to agriculture, disbursement as percent of commitment, with a target of 100percent each year (Indicator 2.1iii). Only four (4) of the Member States that

reported on this indicator are on track (Congo, Egypt, Mauritania, and Mauritius). Benin scored 9.74 of 10, while Rwanda scored 9.38 of 10, making them close to achieving the milestone of 2023.

- 3.18. The fourth indicator highlighted in this report is on putting in place or strengthening mechanisms to attract domestic private investment in agriculture, which is measured as percent of agriculture value added, has a target of 5percent each year from 2015 to 2025 (indicator 2.2) with a milestone of 9 for the fourth BR. Mobilization of domestic private sector finance to invest in agriculture is still precarious across the continent as only nine (9) Member States (Burundi, Cabo Verde, Comoros, Eswatini, Ghana, Lesotho, Mali, Morocco, and Tunisia), representing about 18,4percent of 49 countries that reported, are on-track to achieve the target of 5percent.
- 3.19. Foreign private sector direct investment (FDI) in Agriculture is important to complement domestic private investment. The objective of the fifth indicator is to put in place or strengthen mechanisms to attract foreign private direct investment in agriculture, which measured as percent of agriculture value added has a target of 9percent each year from 2015 to 2025 (indicator 2.3) with a milestone of 9 for the fourth BR. Out of the Member States that reported on this indicator, only seven Member States (Burundi, Cabo Verde, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Somalia and Zimbabwe) were on-track in meeting the the fourth BR milestone. Reporting on this indicator was the most challenging for the theme, as only 30 countries or about 61percent of 49 Member States in the continent participating in BR, reported on or accounted for the FDI.
- 3.20. The sixth indicator on increasing access to and use of financial services by smallholder farmers for the purposes of transacting agricultural business (purchasing inputs, machinery, storage technologies, etc.) (Indicator 2.4). Access to finance for farmers is still a huge challenge across the continent as only two Member States (Egypt and Seychelles) of those that reported achieved the target of 100percent. There is no change in the number of Member States that surpassed the target compared with the previous BR. Rwanda scored 9.24 out of 10, which makes it close to achieving the milestone of the fourth BR.
- 3.21. The seventh indicator measures total agricultural research spending as a share of agriculture value added, with a target of one percent each year (Indicator 3.1v) and a milestone of 9 for the fourth BR. About eight Member States achieved the target in this fourth BR cycle (Cabo Verde, Egypt, Ghana, Mauritius, Morocco, Sierra Leone, South Africa and Tunisia).

2.3 Recommendations: Finance and investment towards Agri-Food Systems and implementation of AfCFTA

- 3.22. Enhancing investment finance in agriculture, especially public expenditures in agriculture, is a fundamental instrument for the African governments to achieve agricultural and food systems transformation and the implementation of AfCFTA. Thus, Member States need to put more emphasis on this Commitment by increasing public investments in agriculture and creating conducive environments to enhance the private sector and donor investments in the sector as well as the agri-food system. It is therefore imperative to focus on the following:
 - Reprioritize public expenditure on agriculture to support priority commodities for export to deficient African countries
 - Put in place or strengthen mechanisms to attract domestic private investment in agriculture. Mobilize the domestic private sector to invest and support farmers and intermediaries exporting and importing priority commodity groups. There is a need to make agriculture profitable and treated as business.

- Establish plans to create partnerships to mobilize FDI and ODA. Each Member State should identify stakeholders (private and civil society) to demonstrate value propositions for supporting Agri-Food systems transformation and the implementation of AfCFTA.
- Enhance access to finance for targeted groups such as women farmers and youth to produce commodities targeted for food systems transformation and AfCFTA.

2.4 Summary of main points

- 3.23. While this commitment is a key driver of agricultural and food transformation, none of the Member States are on track to achieve the target of this commitment. Three countries have scored more than 7,5 out of 10 and the majority scored less than 2,5 out of 10. Only 22 Member States were on-track with at least one indicator in this commitment. Similarly, only 11, six (6), four (4) and one (1) Member States were on-track with one indicator, two indicators, three indicators and four indicators respectively.
- 3.24. None of the Member States was on-track for the performance category for expenditure on agriculture (2.1). However, four (4) Member States were on-track with the indicator on the intensity of government expenditure on agriculture (2.1ii). While three (3) Member States were on-track with the indicator on the share of government expenditure on agriculture to total public expenditure (2.1i). Eight (8) Member States are on-track to achieve the target of one percent total agricultural research spending intensity (3.1v), and only four (4) were on-track with ODA disbursement to commitment (2.1iii).
- 3.25. Concerning other performance categories, nine of the Member States were on-track with the intensity of domestic private sector investments in agriculture, while seven were on track with the intensity of foreign direct private sector investments in agriculture. Only two Member States were on-track for the proportion of farmers with access to finance. This is the indicator that still requires more work by Member States as it was the least achieved.
- 3.26. The fact that there is still a low proportion of Member States being on-track in this theme leaves concerns on the potential of the continent to transform its food systems and implement AfCFTA. Finances, investments and resources are critical to facilitate transformation process and trade. There is a need to support Member States to fast track systems to mobilize, deploy and account for financial resources and investments in agriculture food systems. There should be active Mobilization of the private sector by making agriculture profitable.

3A.3 Commitment 3: Ending Hunger by 2025

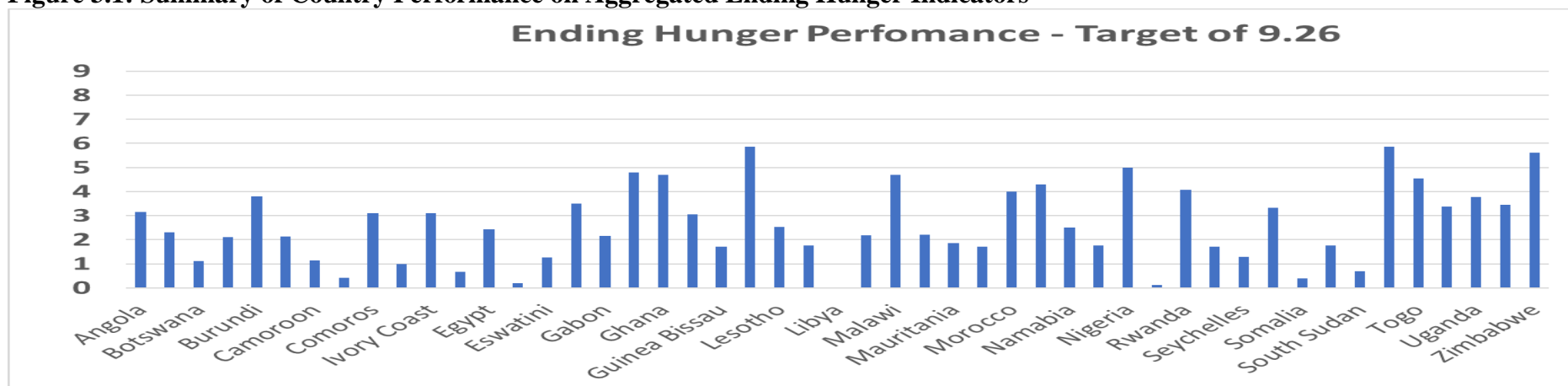
3.3.1: Overview

- 3.27. During the 2014 Malabo Declaration, African Union Member States through their Heads of State and government committed to ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition by 2025. To track progress towards achieving this commitment key indicators such as improved access to agricultural inputs and technologies for increased production and productivity are tracked. Other indicators include reducing post-harvest

losses, establishing functional SPS systems to ensure safe and nutritious foods while facilitating safe intra-African Trade through improved SPS standards and improving social protection coverage for vulnerable groups. New indicators include tracking of improved seeds of livestock and crops, including biofortified seeds. For the fourth BR cycle, the benchmark (minimum score for 2023) for the commitment on ending hunger is 9.26. The pooled continental average score for the commitment is 2.90. This shows that, with the 2023 performance data, the continent is not on-track in meeting the target of ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition by 2025. This has been the general trend since the first biennial review reporting, and little improvements are seen. Shocks in the agri-food systems like the persistent outbreaks of pest and diseases (including the negative impact of COVID-19), conflicts and climate change remain key albatrosses towards ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition in the continent.

3.28. A comparison of the continental score with the benchmark for each indicator gives details on why the continents remain off track in meeting the Malabo Targets. For example, the continental score of access to Agriculture inputs and technologies was 3.43 out of a minimum benchmark of 9.58, the score for the indicator on increased agricultural productivity was 1.73 out of a minimum of 9.00. On reducing post-harvest loss, the continent scored 2.37 out of 9.00 while for social protection, the continent scored 5.02 out of 10.00. For the Food security and Nutrition indicators, the score was 2.35 out of a set benchmark of 9.00. The same trend was observed for the improving sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures where the score was 2.51 out of 9.00.

Figure 3.1: Summary of Country Performance on Aggregated Ending Hunger Indicators



Source: Analysis of fourth BR data

- 3.29. Analysis of the countries' performances on each of the indicators reveals the reason for the poor continental performance on the ending hunger commitment. Most of the countries are off-track for almost all the indicators. The Table 3.1 summarizes some of the countries that were on-track in some of the disaggregated ending hunger indicators.
- 3.30. Countries are encouraged to report credible statistics since poor reporting, or no reporting has the impact of negatively affecting the country score and make it a challenge to track progress towards the Malabo Targets. Further disaggregation of each indicator in the Table 3.1 above reveals some of the trends discussed below.

Table 3.1: Countries on track with ending hunger indicators

Indicator	On track countries
PC 3.1 Access to Agriculture inputs and technologies	none
PC 3.2 Agricultural Productivity	none
PC 3.3 Post-Harvest Loss	Egypt, Gabon, Madagascar, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Sierra Leone
PC 3.4 Social Protection	Guinea Bissau, Madagascar, Morocco, Namibia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Zambia
PC 3.5 Food security and Nutrition	none
PC 3.6 Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures	Gambia, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, Tanzania, Togo, Zimbabwe

Source: Analysis of fourth BR data

3.3.2: Access to agriculture inputs and technologies

Fertilizer consumption (kilogram of nutrients) per hectare of cropland) (3.1i)

- 3.31. During the Africa Fertilizer Summit in Abuja, Nigeria, in June 2006, African Union Agriculture Ministers acknowledged the urgent need for an agricultural transformation in Africa, recognizing it as the primary means to alleviate farmer poverty. They also acknowledged the significant challenge of limited farmer access to fertilizers due to resource constraints and emphasized the necessity for strategic investments to enhance fertilizer availability. At the Summit's conclusion, the Heads of State and Government endorsed the Declaration on Fertilizer for an African Green Revolution [DOC. ASSEMBLY/AU/6 (VII), Decision: EX.CL/1041(XXXII)], designating fertilizers as a critical cross-border commodity and committing to expedite farmers' access to fertilizers. The twelve resolutions established in Abuja were geared towards formulating policies and cultivating markets to enhance the production, accessibility, and utilization of fertilizers. The initial resolution urged African governments to work towards a substantial six-fold rise in fertilizer utilization, elevating it from the yearly average of 8 kilograms of nutrients per hectare (which constituted only 10percent of the global average at that time) to at least 50 kilograms of nutrients per hectare by 2015 (later revised to 2025 under the Malabo declaration).

- 3.32. In line with this, the scoring system under the BR process ensures that countries' progress is sufficiently tracked towards attaining the Malabo target of 50kg/ha. Countries surpassing the 50kg of nutrients /Ha are designated as "on-track" and those not meeting this threshold designated as "not-on-track". For the fourth BR Cycle, only four (4) countries are on track i.e., Ethiopia, Egypt, Malawi and Morocco with an average of above 50kg of nutrients/ha out of 43 Member States who reported on this indicator. The continental average is currently pegged at 41.82kg/ha (84percent of the Malabo target) for this reporting cycle. Four countries are making good progress towards achieving this target with scores between 8.9-9.7 including Tunisia, Namibia and Kenya.
- 3.33. Despite the continental average of fertilizer use being around 84percent of the target, it is important to note that there are substantial disparities among countries. The gap between countries on-track and those not on-track is significant, with only a quarter either being on-track or progressing well, while the majority, constituting 75percent of the total, not being on-track or not having reported any data. On-track countries have achieved averages of over 70 kg/ha in fertilizer usage, while countries that are not on-track report averages of less than 10 kg/ha. These disparities underscore the need for targeted efforts and investments in agriculture and fertilizer access to bridge the gap and ensure more equitable progress across African nations.
- 3.34. For organic fertilizers under this fourth BR Cycle, 47 Member States submitted data. Among them, 26 countries had no data or reported 0 kg of fertilizers between 2015 and 2022. Only 21 countries submitted complete datasets. Six countries submitted various quantities of organic fertilizer used in 2022 compared to arable lands. These are Rwanda (5,684 kg/ha), Togo (623 kg/ha) and Rep. A. Saharawi (194 kg/ha), Egypt (98 kg/ha), Burundi (55 kg/ha), and Ethiopia (38 kg/ha). The remaining 15 countries reported lower volumes, ranging between 1-3 kg of organic fertilizer per ha. It is important to note that data for organic fertilizers is presented in product tons/ha and not nutrient tons/ha.
- 3.35. The low usage of fertilizers and significant disparities among African countries in fertilizer application rates are likely not to realize the expected improved crop yields hence likely to be a major obstacle to achieving food sufficiency and prosperous farming communities. To establish resilient food systems, end hunger, and ensure African farmers' prosperity, it is imperative to incentivize all countries to increase their fertilizer application rates. Member States are encouraged to implement national and regional policies and strategic plans that facilitate timely and sufficient access to fertilizers. This includes the removal of tariff and non-tariff barriers under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) to stimulate trade and provide financial support throughout the agricultural value chain. Additionally, countries should work towards implementing the 10-year action plan and the Soils Initiative for Africa. These measures are essential to address the fertilizer use disparities and promote agricultural development and food security across the continent.
- 3.36. In summary, the countries identified as "on track" in the Biennial Review (BR) offer valuable opportunities for knowledge sharing and collaboration with those in the "not-on-track" category. A common thread among these top-performing countries is the strong government support for policies related to fertilizer access. This support is an evidently inefficient procurement mechanism, robust financing models for fertilizers, and well-developed extension systems. These successful practices encourage farmers to adopt best practices for soil health and can serve as valuable lessons for other countries seeking to improve their fertilizer usage and agricultural outcomes.

On the indicator on growth rates of the size of irrigated areas from its value in year 2025 (3.1ii)

- 3.37. The Growth rate of the size of irrigated areas from the year 2015 value (RiIA). The Malabo target is to increase the size of irrigated areas by 100percent in 2025 from the 2015 baseline. The fourth BRR reveals that though growth has been slow, most Member States have been consistently increasing their total crop area irrigated over the years. The pooled continental data shows that over the 8 years period (2015-2023) the area irrigated has increased from 9.7mha to 12.4mha, with a yearly average of 3.9percent. Considering, specific Member State performance, 15 Member States did not report on this indicator. For the Countries that reported, there are some encouraging trends as nine (9) of them are on-track; they met the expected 2022 benchmark score of 9.5. These are Benin, Cameroun, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Mozambique, Niger and Sierra Leone. Also, eleven (11) other countries, though not on-track, were found to be progressing well as their total irrigated cropped lands have increased consistently over time. They scored above 50percent of the expected 2022 benchmark needed to meet the Malabo target of 100percent increase by 2025. These countries are Rwanda, Togo, Egypt, Botswana, Liberia, Tanzania, Malawi, Angola, Mauritania, Namibia and Burundi). The implication of this is that with the sustained use of irrigation and other agricultural water management solutions, there are high possibilities for increased productivity and intensification of production in the continent.
- 3.38. There is no doubt, that, huge opportunities exist to utilize the vast water resources in the continent to increase agricultural productivity and intensification and to build a climate resilient food system. Evidence from the last 3 BR Reports suggests that farmers managed, and market driven agricultural water management solutions are the most sustainable. However, these small farmer' led irrigation developments are under-reported as they are small (per unit area) and often dispersed. There is a need for government and development partners, at all levels, to devise a methodology for measuring and reporting on this. In addition, governments need to promote and encourage small holders' irrigation through targeted policy as well as enabling market and institutional reforms while rehabilitating and re-engineering the management of the large irrigation schemes. The same arguments go for other input indicators that follow.

Indicator on growth rate of the ratio of supplied quality inputs to total national inputs requirements (3.1iii)

- 3.39. This indicator aims to double (100percent increase) the current levels of quality agricultural inputs for crops (seed), livestock (breed), and fisheries (fingerlings), by the year 2025 from the year 2015. Inputs (for improved varieties, improved breed, and improved fingerlings) supplied compared to national input requirements. This is a measure of the extent to which quality inputs are utilized to boost production of the considered commodity. This will be derived from the proportion of quality seed used by crop (quality seed sold as a proportion of total national seed requirement for at least one priority commodity). Countries that met the target were the following: Burundi, Gambia, Ghana, Rwanda, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Proportion of farmers having advisory services (3.1iv)

- 3.40. This indicator aims for all farmers to have access to quality agricultural advisory services that provide locally relevant knowledge, information and other services by 2025. Agricultural extension is the function of providing need- and demand-based knowledge in

agronomic techniques and skills to rural communities in a systematic, participatory manner. This indicator therefore is the percentage of farmers having access to agricultural advisory services through training, information sharing, and other extension support related services to farmers and small-to-medium enterprises in rural value chains. Countries that were on target or on-track were Botswana, Egypt, Mauritius, Morocco, Senegal, Seychelles, South Sudan, Tunisia and Zimbabwe.

On the total spending in agricultural research as a share of GDP (3.1v)

3.41. This indicator aims to increase the level of Investments in Agricultural Research and Development to at least 1 percent of the Agricultural GDP from 2015 to 2025. 'Total agricultural R&D spending as a share of AgGDP offers useful insights into relative levels of agricultural R&D investment across countries and over time. It should be noted, however, that they do not consider the policy and institutional environment within which agricultural research occurs, the broader size and structure of a country's agricultural sector and economy, or qualitative differences in research performance across countries, so they need to be interpreted with care (ASTI). Agricultural R&D spending data is divided by total AgGDP values taken from the World Development Indicators. Countries that were on target in this indicator were Cabo Verde, Egypt, Ghana, Mauritius, Morocco, Sierra Leone, South Africa and Tunisia.

On the proportion of farmers having land rights (3.1vi)

3.42. This indicator aims to ensure that 100percent of farmers and agribusiness interested in agricultural production have rights of access to the required land by 2025. Land is a key factor of production and research indicates that land tenure security is necessary for investment in new technologies and sustainable practices. While men face a set of potential causes of tenure insecurity, such as a poorly functioning legal system and potential takeovers from powerful elites or the government, women face an additional layer of tenure insecurity if their rights are not recognized by the family, community, or by the law. Due to variations in land tenure arrangements, cultural contexts and legal frameworks, different ways of conceptualizing land rights, including land ownership, exist across and within countries. This indicator includes land held individually or jointly recognizing patterns of sole or joint ownership vary across contexts and have different implications in terms of law and property rights. As an official definition of agricultural population does not exist, the SDG indicator 5.a.1 definition is recommended. Such consistency would also reduce the burden on national statistic bureaus and land registries. Adult agricultural population is defined as all adult individuals living in agricultural households – i.e. households who operated land for agricultural purposes and/or raised/tended livestock in the past 12 months, regardless of the final destination of the production (SDG 5.a.1 definition). 2. Agricultural Land: In compliance with the classification proposed by the World Census of Agriculture 2020 (WCA 2020), land is considered 'agricultural land' according to its use (FAO, 2017). In particular, agricultural land includes: land under temporary crops; land under temporary meadows and pastures; land temporarily fallow; land under permanent crops; and land under permanent meadows and pastures. (SDG 5.a.1 definition). Countries on target in this indicator are Botswana, Liberia and Seychelles.

Livestock Seed (3.1vii)

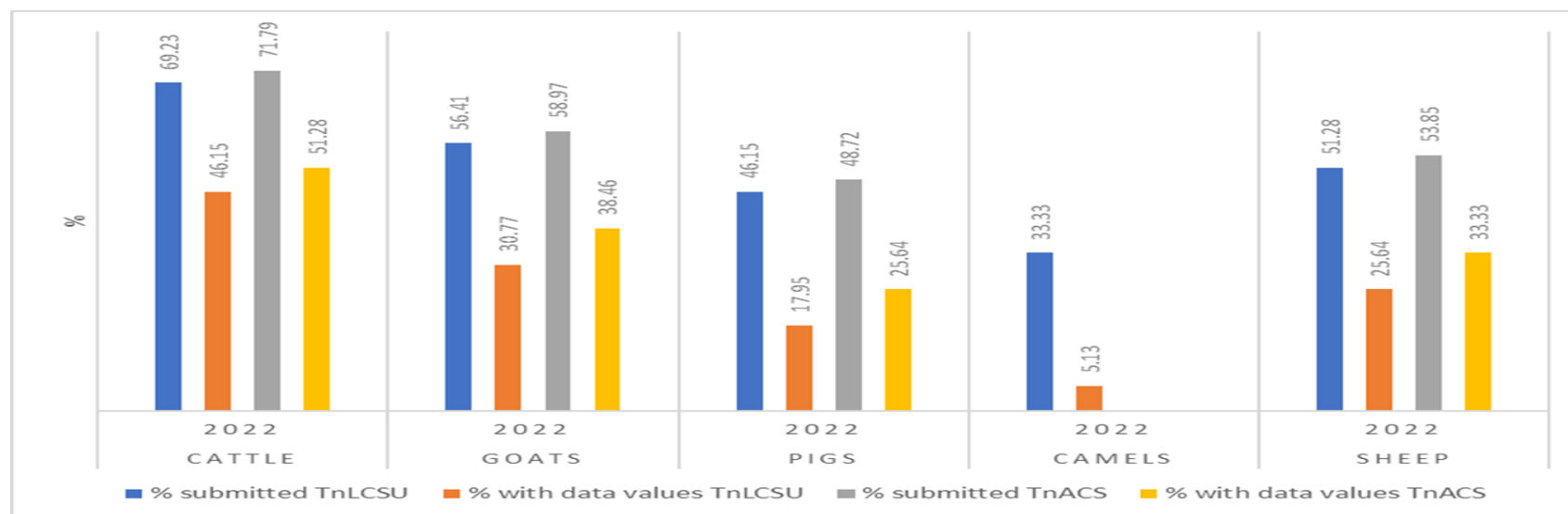
- 3.43. Access and use of quality livestock seed is important for improved productivity and yields from livestock. However, in Africa, national evaluation and certification systems are only functional in a few Member States. The majority of Member States, therefore, solely depend on evaluated and certified imported seed and unevaluated and uncertified local livestock seed. This scenario has made the African livestock industry uncompetitive and more importantly, over-dependent on foreign certified livestock seed, which are often not best-matched to the local production system and ultimately also contribute to the indiscriminate cross breeding and breed replacement and loss. Livestock seed is a new but equally important indicator for the livestock sector aimed at tracking and reporting the trends of locally evaluated and certified livestock seed used in Member States. The livestock strategic aim is to promote wider use of locally adapted livestock breeds to sustainably improve livelihood security and resilience in Africa. The performance target is to achieve a 5 percent increase in the use of certified locally adapted livestock seed by 2025, measured by annual changes in proportions of local over total certified seeds in Member States. Data collection started in 2023, with 2022 assumed to be baseline. Thirty-nine (39) Member States reported on this indicator for five species, cattle, goats, sheep, pigs, and camels (see Figure 3.2). Of these Member States, the percentage of certified local seed in use was reported at 69percent in cattle, 56percent in Goats, 46percent in pigs and 51percent in Sheep. Nigeria, Kenya and Egypt reported large numbers of evaluated and certified livestock seeds utilized in cattle species with Ghana, Eswatini, and Cote I'voire documenting the actual breeds. In addition, the total number of all available certified livestock seed (local and imported) by species/breed/ecotype was reported at 72percent, 59percent, 49percent and 54percent in cattle, goats, pigs and sheep respectively. For camels, only local seed was reported in Egypt and Nigeria.
- 3.44. Continental assessment based on pLCSU shows that the certified evaluated seed represented at 27.6 percent of cattle, 15.1 percent of goats, 7.5 percent of pigs and 14.1 percent of sheep are from local animal breeds found in the respective Member States. As evidenced, the Majority of Member States are animals at reproductive age that are artificially inseminated(NfcRal1) and Total number of day old chicks supplied (NDOC) yet no linkage of these total counts is reflected in reporting on livestock seed. It is recommended that to ensure reliable data, co-ordination with the relevant departments is critical, additionally, the need to coordinate the Member States through relevant regional organizations (e.g., AU-IBAR) with the concerned mandate is key. Member States should put in place policies and strategies that promote local livestock seed for sustainable livestock development, utilization and conservation which are key for livelihood (food, nutrition, and income), and a resilient economy.

Access to Seed and Biotechnology (3.1viii)

- 3.45. The Seed Sector Performance Index (SSPI) is a single score-based measurement tool that provides “a bird’s eye view” of the health of seed systems across Africa. The SSPI allows for cross-country comparisons with the primary goal of feeding into the fourth Biennial Review Report of the African Union Commission (AUC). The SSPI tracks 17 parameters, which have been selected from over 150. The indicators are prioritized based on their strength to assess a thematic area as well as the availability of data. The SSPI has been developed by *The Africa Seed Access Index* (TASAI) in close collaboration with AGRA and Steering Committee members of the ASBP. This report presents

data on the 17 parameters from 44 AU Member States that submitted it. This data was collected between June and August 2023 with financial support from AGRA and the AUC.

Figure 3.2: Percentage of countries that submitted data on the livestock seed indicator



Source: Analysis of fourth BR data

Notes: Percentage of countries that submitted data on the livestock seed indicator. TnLCU = Total number of locally certified livestock seed; TnACS = Total number of local and imported certified livestock seed.

- 3.46. In addition, these countries have a vibrant private sector involved in key activities in the seed system. South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Kenya have vibrant private breeding programs that complement the national programs. These countries also have authorized the private sector to engage in quality assurance services including seed inspection, seed testing, and seed analysis, to augment public seed inspectors. Other countries such as Malawi, Rwanda, Nigeria, Senegal, and Mozambique have also embarked on a similar path.
- 3.47. In 2022, the leading maize seed producers were Zambia at 131,017 MT, Zimbabwe at 50,480 MT, South Africa at 43,110 MT, Kenya at 40,264 MT, Nigeria at 37,714 MT, and Malawi at 21,993 MT. Senegal produced 68,226 MT of groundnut seed while Egypt produced 116,122 MT of wheat seed. For rice seed, Nigeria produced 36,010 MT and Egypt 13,708 MT. For soya bean seed, Zambia produced 35,409 MT and South Africa 13,399 MT.

- 3.48. Comoros, Congo Republic, Djibouti, and South Sudan, have either incomplete seed policy instruments or no instruments at all, a challenge that affects other areas of the seed sector in the respective countries. In addition, the harmonization of national seed policy instruments with the regional seed regulations is incomplete. The little improved seed that is available is imported and is used by a few commercial farmers or relief programs. Most smallholders rely on seed from the informal sector.
- 3.49. Seed systems are critical to improving food and nutrition security, and the livelihoods of smallholder farmers. An effective seed system ought to be able to deliver sufficient quantities of quality seed at affordable prices to farmers. Based on the analysis of the data, the priorities for seed sector reform across the countries would be:
- Enactment and implementation of seed policy instruments: Comoros, Congo Republic, Djibouti, Liberia, and South Sudan, do not have seed policy instruments such as seed laws, seed regulations, or ministerial orders. For Guinea Bissau and Lesotho, most seed policy instruments have not been enacted or are not implemented. The completion and enactment of these instruments is a key first step to the establishment of a formal seed system that centers around quality control and private sector competitiveness.
 - Strengthen government capacity for seed quality assurance: Comoros, Congo Republic, Djibouti, Guinea Bissau, Lesotho, Liberia, and South Sudan, don't have any seed regulatory authorities.
 - Exploit opportunities for technology transfer under regional seed instruments: several countries have released more varieties in the national systems from regional variety release mechanisms. For example, 60percent of all maize varieties released in Uganda in 2022 were from the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) catalogue. While 92percent of the maize varieties released in Mozambique in 2021 were from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) catalogue.
 - Increase funding to public agricultural research institutions: Djibouti does not have a NARI. The NARIs in Comoros, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Congo Republic, Guinea Bissau, Lesotho, Liberia, and South Sudan, have inadequate numbers of breeders and are poorly funded.
 - Establish national seed trade associations where they do not exist, and strengthen those that exist: Comoros, Congo Republic, Djibouti, Lesotho, and Liberia, do not have national seed associations. The associations in Cote d'Ivoire, and Guinea Bissau are weak. The establishment and proper functioning of national seed trade associations are key to the development of a vibrant and competitive seed system. This is because these entities play key roles in linking the private sector to the relevant government agencies. Countries that have strong seed systems also have vibrant seed trade associations.

3.3.3 Agricultural Productivity

Most of the indicators on agricultural productivity were not-on-track for most countries.

Growth rate of agriculture value added, in constant US dollars, per agricultural worker (3.2i)

3.50. This indicator aims to double (100percent increase) the current agricultural labor productivity levels by the year 2025 from the year 2015. Agriculture value added per worker is a measure of agricultural productivity. Value added in agriculture measures the output of the agricultural sector (International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, Rev.4 or ISIC divisions 1-5) less the value of intermediate inputs. Agriculture comprises value added from forestry, hunting, and fishing as well as cultivation of crops and livestock production (WDI, Word Bank, 2016). Only three countries were on target in this indicator namely Botswana, Comoros and Mauritius.

Growth rate of agriculture value added, in constant US dollar, per hectare of agricultural arable land (3.2ii)

3.51. This indicator aims to double (increase by 100percent) the current agricultural land productivity levels by the year 2025 from the year 2015. Agriculture value added per hectare of land is a measure of agricultural productivity. Agriculture comprises value added from forestry, hunting, and fishing as well as cultivation of crops and livestock production (WDI, Word Bank, 2016). Again, only three countries were on track this biennium, namely Comoros, Mauritius, and Nigeria.

Growth rate of yields for five key national priority commodities (3.2iii)

3.52. This indicator aims at doubling (100percent increase) the current agricultural yield levels by the year 2025 from the year 2015. Production per unit of area for products. In most of the cases yield data are not recorded but obtained by dividing the production data by the data on area harvested (FAO). Countries that are on track this biennium are Guinea, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone and Zimbabwe.

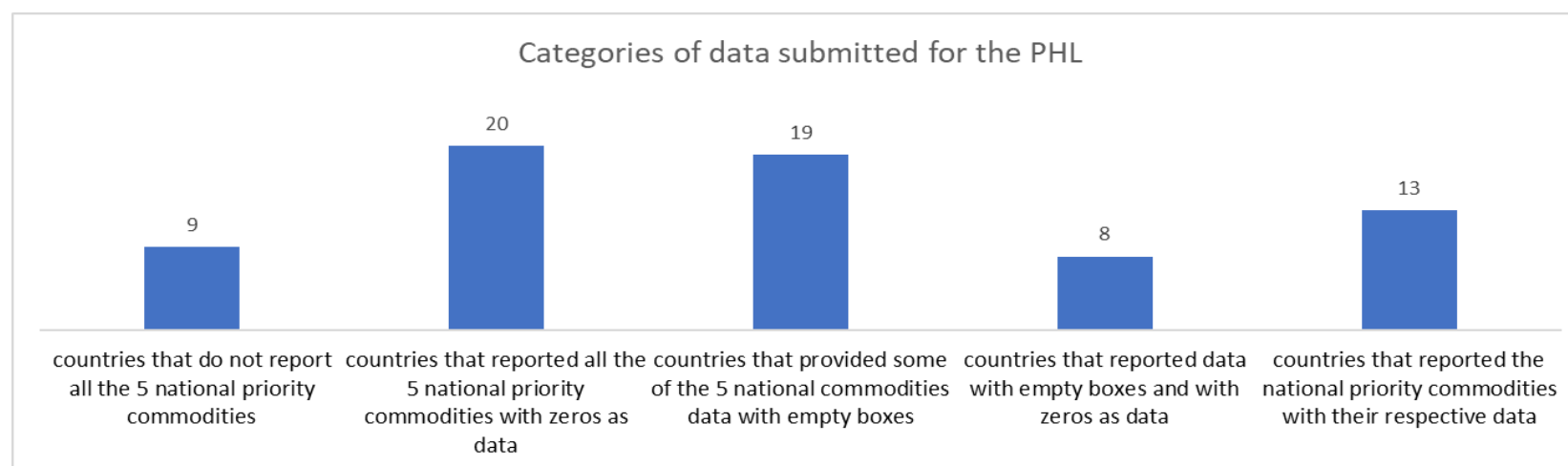
3.3.4 Post-Harvest Loss

3.53. Postharvest loss (from harvest to sales) remains a critical issue in Africa affecting the efforts of production to end hunger while decreasing poverty for the welfare of the populations. As expected in the Malabo 2015 commitments, halving postharvest losses by 2025 will significantly contribute to increase food in the national markets. At the time when low productivity, insufficient arable and fertile land, famine, climate change (floods, drought, pests' invasion), natural disasters (landslides, earthquakes), economic constraints, high food costs, food crisis, armed conflicts, terrorism, internal and external displacements, political instability and coup d'état are some of the issues affecting the African food system, focusing on postharvest to increase food in the continent becomes a challenge that can contribute to the overall development.

3.54. Known as losses in quantity and quality of food produced from harvest to consumption, halving postharvest losses contributes to alleviating the burden of food shortages and related consequences. Therefore, managing and controlling food harvested from farm to table becomes a crucial aspect of focus to avail more good food to the populations while improving nutrition, lowering food cost and preventing hunger. Addressing postharvest losses is protecting the inputs used in raw food production in order to maximize access, utilization and stability of food security relevant to the nexus between food and sustainable development. Reduction of postharvest losses therefore contribute to increasing the political and economic development and mitigate climate change while reducing greenhouse gas emission.

- 3.55. Out of the 49 Member States that submitted data in the fourth cycle e-BR, thirty-five (35) or 71percent reported on PHLs in different categories (see Figure 3.2. This includes: Nine (9) or 26percent countries that do not report all the 5 national priority commodities; twenty (20) or 57percent countries that reported all 5 national priority commodities with zeros as data; nineteen (19) or 54percent countries that provided some of the 5 national commodities data with empty boxes, eight (8) or 23percent countries that reported some data with empty boxes and with zeros as data and thirteen (13) or 37percent countries (Angola, Côte d’Ivoire, Comoros, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritania, Nigeria, Tanzania, Togo and Zimbabwe) of best practices that reported the five national priority commodities with their respective data.
- 3.56. The continental score indicator of 2.37/9 confirms that Africa is not on-track and thus, is strongly contributing to the postharvest losses decreasing the world’s economy. Knowing that the African food security and nutrition score is 2.35/9, we can easily notice that the PHL score is higher than food security and nutrition score (PHL score: 2.37 > food security and nutrition score 2.35/9). One can therefore say that if postharvest loss was reduced by half as expected, the food security and nutrition indicator score could be 3.83/8.55 far much higher than postharvest losses.

Figure 3.3: Percentage of countries that submitted data on the post-harvest loses



Source: Analysis of fourth BR data

3.3.5 Social Protection

- 3.57. Budget lines (percent) on social protection as percentage of the total resource requirements for coverage of the vulnerable social groups

3.58. *On the continental target of committing within national budgets, budget lines that amount to 100percent of the total resource requirements for coverage of the vulnerable social groups, from 2015 to 2025, for use to support social protection initiatives, and to address any eventual disasters and emergencies with food and nutrition security implications, only eight out of 36 countries that reported are on-track as in 2023. They are - Angola, Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar, Morocco, Namibia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Zambia. Nineteen countries are progressing well, having achieved 50percent or more of the 100percent of the total resource requirements for coverage of the vulnerable social groups. These are, Burundi (82.6percent), Burkina Faso (70.6percent), Ethiopia (99.8percent), Gabon (85.7percent), Guinea (60.8percent), Kenya (90.6percent), Liberia (65.6percent), Malawi (94.2percent), Mali (72.5percent), Morocco (99.9percent), Mozambique (88.6percent), Niger (50.9percent), Nigeria (52.5percent), Eswatini (61.8percent, Tanzania (78.8percent), Tunisia (74.6percent), Rwanda (66.5percent), Uganda (89.7percent) and Zimbabwe (81.7percent). It should be noted that, within national budgets, amounts of budget lines for use to support social protection initiatives and to address any eventual disasters and emergencies with food and nutrition security implications are still very low (less than 50percent) in 10 Member States. They are: Senegal (49.9percent), Benin (49.5percent), The Gambia (48.9percent), Cabo Verde (48.7percent), Cote d'Ivoire (45.4percent), Lesotho (18.6percent), Ghana (17.2percent), Central African Rep. (7.8percent), Egypt (6.9percent), and Togo (0.7percent). The implication is that these countries have weak social safety systems to take care of the most vulnerable segments of the population in cases of disasters/emergencies.*

3.3.6 Food and Nutrition Security

Prevalence of stunting (3.5i)

3.59. The continental target of bringing down the prevalence of stunting (Percentage of children 0-59 months of age with a height for age Z-score of <-2 SD) to 10percent or less, has not yet been achieved as of 2023. Out of the 40 Member States that submitted report on stunting, only 7 are on-track. They are: Cabo Verde (10percent), Comoros (8.8percent), Ethiopia (0.39percent), Gabon (0.14percent), Mauritius (8.6percent), Seychelles (6.7percent), and Tunisia (0.01percent). It should be noted that all these 7 countries that are on track in 2023 have already reached the 2025 benchmark for reduction of stunting. Four countries are making progress toward reducing the prevalence of stunting to 10percent or less by 2025. These are: Burkina Faso (20.2percent), Egypt (12.8percent), Kenya (17.6percent) and Somalia (18.0percent). However, stunting is still very high (above 25percent) in 19 Member States. They are: Uganda (26percent), Sierra Leone (26.2percent), Zimbabwe (26.7percent), Cameroon (28.7percent), Guinea Bissau (29.9percent), Liberia (30percent), Tanzania (30percent), Guinea (30percent), Nigeria (30.5percent), Eswatini (30.5percent), Benin (32.2percent), Rwanda (32.4percent), Zambia (34.6percent), Malawi (35.5percent), Mozambique (37percent), Lesotho (46.4percent), Niger (47percent), Burundi (55.8percent), and Madagascar (79.7percent). These countries need to double their efforts at reducing malnutrition and work towards achieving the target.

Prevalence of underweight (3.5ii)

3.60. The continental target of bringing down the prevalence of underweight (percentage of children 0-59 months of age with a weight for age Z-score of <-2 SD) to 5percent or less by the year 2025, is still not on track as of 2023. Out of the 39 Member States that reported progress

on reducing underweight, only 8 are on-track. They are: Gabon (0.05percent), Ethiopia (0.22percent), Mozambique (0.68percent), Tunisia (1.6percent), Morocco (2.9percent), Egypt (3.7percent), Seychelles (3.85percent) and Cabo Verde (5percent). It should be noted that all these 8 Member States that are on-track in 2023 have reached the 2025 benchmark for underweight. Four out of 31 countries that are not on-track are however making progress toward reducing the prevalence of underweight to 5percent or less by 2025. These are: Burkina Faso (13.2percent), Comoros (8.8percent), Gambia (11.6percent) and Uganda (7.8percent). Disappointingly, however, underweight is still very high (above 25percent) in 4 Member States. They are: Zimbabwe (26.7percent), Burundi (27.6percent), Niger (33.7percent) and Madagascar (46.9percent).

Prevalence of wasting (3.5iii)

3.61. The continental target of reducing the prevalence of wasting (percentage of children 0-59 months of age with a height for weight Z-score of <-2 SD) to 5percent or less by the year 2025, is not yet on track as of 2023. Out of the 40 Member States that reported on wasting, 21 (53percent) are on-track. They are: Gabon (0.03percent), Ethiopia (0.11percent), Seychelles (1percent), Lesotho (1.4percent), Mali (2.1percent), Tunisia (2.1percent), Rwanda (2.4percent), Malawi (2.6percent), Morocco (2.6percent), Uganda (2.9percent), Tanzania (3.5percent), Cabo Verde (4percent), Zambia (4.2percent), Cameroon (4.3percent), Benin (4.5percent), Central African Rep. (4.5percent), Burundi (4.8percent), Kenya (4.9percent), The Gambia (5.1percent), Congo (5.25percent), and Mozambique (5.2percent). It should be noted that 18 Member States have reached the 2025 benchmark for wasting and these are: Gabon (0.03percent), Ethiopia (0.11percent), Seychelles (1percent), Lesotho (1.4percent), Mali (2.1percent), Tunisia (2.1percent), Rwanda (2.4percent), Malawi (2.6percent), Morocco (2.6percent), Uganda (2.9percent), Tanzania (3.5percent), Cabo Verde (4percent), Zambia (4.2percent), Cameroon (4.3percent), Benin (4.5percent), Central African Rep. (4.5percent), Burundi (4.8percent), Kenya (4.9percent). Four countries are making progress toward achieving the target by 2025. These are: Togo (5.7percent), Egypt (6.0percent), Burkina Faso (7.0percent) and Comoros (8.8percent). Wasting is still unexpectedly very high (above 25percent) in one Member State (South Sudan). This country needs to double its efforts at reducing malnutrition and work towards achieving the target.

Prevalence of undernourishment (3.5iv)

3.62. With regards to improving food security and nutrition, progress towards the target of bringing down the proportion of the population that is undernourished to 5percent or less on the continent by the year 2025 is not yet on track. Out of the 37 Member States that reported on this indicator, only 9 countries are on-track. These are: Tunisia (0.04percent), Cameroon (0.14percent), Ethiopia (0.2percent), Seychelles (1.3percent), Morocco (3.4percent), Tanzania (3.8percent), Ghana (4.1percent), Egypt (5.2percent) and Liberia (7.1percent). It is worth noting that 7 Member States have already reached the 2025 target for undernourishment even in 2023 and they are: Tunisia (0.04percent), Cameroon (0.14percent), Ethiopia (0.2percent), Seychelles (1.3percent), Morocco (3.4percent), Tanzania (3.8percent), Ghana (4.1percent). Three Member States are progressing well, having achieved 50percent or more of the target of bringing down the proportion of the population that is undernourished to 5percent or less on the continent, by the year 2025. These are: Senegal (5.64percent), Mozambique

(8.9percent) and Burundi (9.0percent). It is disappointing to note however, that the prevalence of undernourishment is still very high (above 25percent) in 7 Member States namely: Sierra Leone (26.2percent), Kenya (26.9percent), Uganda (31.6percent), Congo (33.3percent), Zimbabwe (36percent), Madagascar (37percent) and Guinea Bissau (37.9percent). For these countries, it is important to put in place measures and policies that will urgently reduce the prevalence of undernourishment among the population to meet one of the sustainable development goals of zero hunger.

Growth rate of the proportion of Minimum dietary diversity women (3.5v)

3.63. The continental target for increasing the proportion of women of reproductive age (15-49 years) that attain the minimum dietary diversity by 50percent by the year 2025 is not on track as of 2023. Out of the 23 Member States that reported, only 5 are on-track. They are: Ghana, South Sudan, Kenya, Mali, Sierra Leone. Out of the eighteen countries that are not on-track for this indicator, two Member States are progressing well on way to achieving the target of increasing the proportion of women of reproductive age that attain the minimum dietary diversity to 50percent by year 2025. These are: Ethiopia (40.0percent) and Rwanda (23.0percent). Given that, this indicator is an indication of diet quality, including micronutrients adequacy, countries that are not on-track are encouraged to urgently put measures in place to achieve diversified diet and micronutrients supply for all women of reproductive age in their country.

Proportion of 6-23 months old children who meet the Minimum Acceptable Diet (3.5vi)

3.64. The continental target of increasing the proportion of children (6-23 months old) that receive the minimum acceptable diet to at least 50percent by the year 2025 is not on track as of 2023. Out of the 32 Member States that reported, only 2 are on-track. They are: The Gambia (86percent), and Tunisia (63percent). It is encouraging however, to note that one Member State namely Ghana (41.4percent) is progressing steadily to achieve the target by 2025 if it does not relax in implementing nutritional policies that target children of this age group. This is important because agriculture is the main strategy targeted by the Malabo declaration to impact nutrition. It is disappointing to note that the proportion of children (6-23 months old) that receive the minimum acceptable diet is still very low (less than 10percent) in 8 Member States and they are Malawi (8.1percent), Zimbabwe (6percent), South Sudan (5.9percent), Sierra Leone (4.9percent), Mali (4.2percent), Guinea (4percent), Congo (3.5percent) and Ethiopia (0.08percent).

Reduction in the prevalence of adult individuals (15 years or older) that are experiencing moderate and severe food insecurity in the population (3.5vii)

3.65. The continental target of reducing the proportion of adult individuals (15 years or older) that are experiencing moderate and severe food insecurity based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale by 50percent by the year 2025, has not been achieved as of 2023. Out of the 28 Member States that reported on this indicator, 13 are on-track. These are: Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Lesotho, Ethiopia, Tunisia, South Sudan, Nigeria, Congo, Ghana and Mozambique. No Member State is progressing well on achieving the target for this indicator and fifteen Member States that reported are completely not on-track. These countries that are not on-track and not

progressing well are encouraged to promote initiatives to improve nutritional status, and in particular, the elimination of hunger and child undernutrition by bringing down the prevalence of undernourishment and adult food insecurity.

Cost of a healthy diet as a percentage of household food expenditure (3.5viii)

3.66. Note that this indicator captures the cost and affordability of healthy diets and it is a useful indicator of people's economic access to nutritious foods and healthy diets. It is therefore important for Member States to diversify their diets using locally available foods to meet the requirements for energy and food-based dietary guidelines for a representative person within an energy balance at 2,330 kcal/day. For this to be achieved require diversifying the food systems in these countries.

3.3.7 Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures

3.67. In 2020, Member States endorsed the AU Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Policy Framework through Decision EX.CL/Dec. 1074(XXXVI). The SPS Policy Framework focuses on implementing SPS measures to safeguard consumer health and traded agricultural products. SPS measures include science-based regulations to protect human, animal or plant life or health. Three SPS indicators were introduced to assess implementation progress: SPS Systems Indicator (SSI), aiming for 100percent functional SPS systems by 2025; SPS Health Indicator (SHI), targeting a 50percent reduction in foodborne illnesses by 2025; and SPS Trade Indicator (STI), aiming for a 50percent reduction in unit rejection due to SPS non-compliance by 2025. Member States have also endorsed strategic Decisions on Animal Health (EX.CL/Dec. 1074(XXXVI)), Food Safety (EX.CL/Dec.1144(XL)), and Plant Health (EX.CL/Dec.1144(XL)). These align with the Malabo Declaration's goals and Africa's vision for safer trade practices, enhanced food security, and a healthier, more prosperous Africa. Functional SPS systems are characterized by:

- robust governance structures including quality policies, functional competent authorities with effective inter-agency coordination for enforcement and compliance,
- human and institutional capacities to effectively manage plant and animal pests and diseases, and food safety risks; and
- effective participation in international harmonization and trade facilitation frameworks.

3.68. Regarding the progress on SPS Systems Indicator, none of the 49 reporting Member States attained the benchmark of 9 out of 10 indicating that none are on track for achieving the target of 100percent functional SPS systems. However, it is noteworthy that 15 out of the 49 Member States representing 31percent of the total, attained a commendable score of 7 or higher indicative of substantial progress in their SPS systems. These Member States along with their respective score are as follows: Kenya (8.8), Mali (8.1), Morocco (8.8), Rwanda (8.3), South Africa (8.3), Tunisia (8.7), Nigeria (7.7), Benin (7.2), Burkina Faso (7.4), Burundi (7.5), Gambia (7.1), Ghana (7.3), Madagascar (7.4), Tanzania 7.1 and Zimbabwe (7.4). Concerning the progress on the SPS health Indicator, eight Member States (16percent) attained the benchmark of 9. These Member States which include Burundi, Gambia, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, Tanzania, Togo, and Zimbabwe are on-track towards the 50percent reduction in foodborne diarrheal diseases and associated mortalities, demonstrating positive strides in

improving public health. The introduction of SPS indicators is significant, but challenges remain. The submission of incomplete data on the SPS Health Indicator by some of the countries that progressed well on the SPS Systems Indicator may have accounted for their low performance in the SPS Health Indicator. The introduction of SPS indicators is a significant step in measuring progress in the implementation of the AU SPS Policy Framework. Despite the progress being made by some Member States, challenges still remain in implementing science-based SPS systems. Functional SPS systems align with the Malabo Declaration's goals and Africa's vision for safe trade, enhanced food security, and a healthier, more prosperous Africa. Enhanced investment is needed at the national level to: strengthen SPS governance structures, build capacity to manage SPS risks, enhance inter-ministerial coordination on SPS matters, implement health improvement measures, and facilitate data sharing mechanisms to achieve the goals of protecting human, animal or plant life or health and increased trade.

3A.4 Commitment 4: Halving Poverty through Agriculture by 2025

- 3.69. Ending hunger through agricultural development is still one of the main goals of AU Member States. In many Member States, a significant portion of the population depends on agriculture as their primary source of livelihood. Improving the performance of the agricultural sector thus has a direct impact on millions, lifting them out of poverty and enhancing their quality of life. It is therefore disappointing that, like in 2021, in 2023 only one (1) Member State, Ghana, out of forty-nine (49) compared to Nine (9) out of forty-nine (49) and twenty-seven (27) countries out of forty-seven (47) that were on-track in 2019 and 2017, respectively. The commitment to halve poverty through agriculture under the CAADP/Malabo agenda is not just a numeric target. It is a vision for a prosperous, resilient, and vibrant Africa where agriculture is the beacon leading the way. Achieving this goal will set the continent on a trajectory of sustainable growth, ensuring well-being and prosperity for its people.
- 3.70. ***Agricultural growth rate.*** One of the enduring commitments of the African Union Member States since Maputo and reiterated in the Malabo Declaration is the achievement of a minimum of 6percent growth rate of the agriculture value added per annum. In the fourth BR, of the forty-nine (49) Member States that reported on the growth rate of the agriculture value added indicator, eleven (11) are on-track for consistently achieving at least 6percent annual growth rate. These include Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Mauritius, Niger, Nigeria and Togo. This is a significant decrease from the third BR reporting period (2021) where twenty-one countries were on-track. However, the the fourth BR performance is still higher than the 2nd BR reporting period (2019) where only three countries were on-track; although below the inaugural BR reporting period (2017) in which eighteen (18) countries had achieved a growth rate of at least 6percent, and therefore were on-track.
- 3.71. ***Poverty rate.*** In this cycle, forty-nine Member States reported on this indicator. Compared to 2019 where no country was on-track, in the fourth BR only three Member States (Benin, Cabo Verde, Morocco) are on-track. It is an improvement, but the performance is concerning as the persistence of high poverty rates in many Member States significantly impacts Africa's food system, from production to consumption.

The importance of reducing the poverty rate for Africa's food system transformation cannot be overstated. Poverty touches every facet of the food system, from the seeds sown in the ground to the food on the table. For Africa to realize its vision of a transformed, efficient, and resilient food system, tackling poverty is not just beneficial—it is essential.

- 3.72. ***Gap between the wholesale price and farm-gate price.*** One critical aspect that resonates with the goals of the CAADP/Malabo agenda is the reduction of the gap between the wholesale price and farm-gate price. In the fourth BR, only eight Member States (Eswatini, Ghana, Mali, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Tunisia, Morocco, and Uganda) are on-track out of the nineteen countries that reported on this indicator. The performance is slightly higher than in 2021 with a different group of Member States (DR Congo, Nigeria, Tanzania and Zimbabwe). The reduction of the gap between the wholesale price and the farm-gate price is not just an economic imperative but is foundational to the transformative vision of the CAADP/Malabo agenda. Achieving this will not only uplift millions of farmers but will also lay the groundwork for a robust, resilient, and equitable African food system.
- 3.73. ***Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) established with strong linkage to smallholder agriculture.*** At its core, the CAADP/Malabo agenda seeks inclusive agricultural growth, food security, and resilience. Within this framework, the role of Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) with a strong linkage to smallholder agriculture cannot be understated. In the 2021 reporting cycle, only 15 were on-track with respect to this indicator. In 2023, out of thirty-six Member States that reported, eighteen are on-track (Burkina Faso, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia and Uganda). Most of the countries that were on-track in the previous cycle managed to maintain the same performance. This is important because for the CAADP/Malabo agenda to realize its vision of a transformed African agricultural landscape, the engagement of all stakeholders, including the private sector, is imperative. PPPs, when centered around the needs and aspirations of smallholder farmers, can act as catalysts, accelerating progress towards the goals of the CAADP/Malabo agenda.
- 3.74. ***Percentage of youth that is engaged in new job opportunities in agriculture value chains.*** Governments in Africa have recognized agriculture as the engine of growth, employment, and wealth creation. There have also been concerns about promoting decent jobs (sustainable development goal 8) through the development of the agriculture value chain and agri-technology for the youth population. Moreover, there is a need to ensure adequate succession for the ageing agricultural population. Of the thirty-four Member States that reported, only eleven (11) countries (Benin, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, and Uganda) were on-track for attaining at least 30percent youth engaged in new job opportunities in agriculture value chains.
- 3.75. ***Proportion of rural women that are empowered in agriculture.*** Countries committed to support and facilitate preferential entry and participation for women in gainful and attractive agri-business opportunities. Women's participation in agriculture is limited by various obstacles such as access to land, finance, market etc. Member States therefore set a target of increasing the proportion of rural women that are empowered in agriculture to 20percent by 2025. Out of Forty-nine (49) Member States that reported in the fourth BR, seven are on-track against a milestone of a score of 9. These Member States are Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya and Rwanda. This was a regression in performance from the 2021 report where ten (10) out of twenty-three (23) Member States were on-track. It is worth noting that in the current reporting cycle, Guinea and Kenya joined the Member States on-track while two Member States are progressing well

towards achieving the target: Eswatini (8.2) and Gambia (6.7). Of the ten (10) that were on-track in 2021, Tunisia and Togo regressed in the 2023 report and are no longer on-track. In general Member States reported poorly on this Indicator with at least thirty-three having missing/incomplete data.

3A.5 Commitment 5: Boosting Intra-African Trade in Agriculture Commodities and Services

- 3.76. The CAADP target for boosting intra-African trade is to triple intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services by the year 2025. To achieve this target, Member States committed to two performance areas: (1) to increase the value of intra-trade in agricultural commodities and services by 200percent by 2025 from the levels in 2015 and (2) to create an enabling environment for intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services by improving the trade policy and institutional environment.
- 3.77. For the 2023 BR period, one additional performance area i.e., fast tracking the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) was added for tracking under this commitment following the official start of trading under this agreement in January 2021. However, its scores were not included in computing the overall theme performance.
- 3.78. In 2023, none of the Member States that reported was on-track to achieving the overall target under theme 5 on boosting intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services. In the 2017 BR, three (3) countries were on-track (Lesotho, Niger and Senegal), in 2019 the number increased to twenty nine (29) Member States (Benin, Central Africa Republic, , Eritrea, Guinea, Madagascar, Sierra Leone, Angola, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, and Zambia). In 2021 BR the number reduced to four (4) Member States (Botswana, Nigeria, Senegal, and Sierra Leone). The observed performance in 2023 is therefore the worst record so far in the four BR cycles so far conducted. However, under the Performance Category 5.1 specific on tripling intra-African trade, two Member States (Rwanda and Zambia) were on-track in tripling their trade with other countries in the continent. Under Performance Category 5.2 on facilitating trade through creating conducive trade policies and institutional conditions, only one Member State i.e. Equatorial Guinea was on-track.
- 3.79. The Theme score for commitment 5 was the lowest of all the themes scores in this fourth BR which stood at 2.23 against a minimum of score of 9.00. A slightly better performance was recorded under 5.2 on intra-African Trade policies and institutions (4.05) compared to 0.41 score under 5.1 on Intra-African Trade in Agricultural Commodities and Services.
- 3.80. At the regional level, none of the regions were on-track in achieving this commitment. The performance varied slightly across the regions; Eastern Africa achieved the highest score (2.54) followed by West Africa (2.26) and Southern Africa at 2.14. Central Africa and Northern Africa performed poorly achieving scores of 1.67 and 2.21 respectively. Compared to the 2021 BR, Central and Eastern Africa recorded a slight improvement in performance while Northern, Southern and West Africa performance declined.

- 3.81. It is also noteworthy that most Member States that reported in the 2023 BR cycle had ratified AfCFTA. This is a flagship continental agreement to boost trade in the continent. Whilst its implementation started only a few years back, there is a need to intensify its implementation. A huge potential and opportunities exist for countries to trade more with each other hence the need to enhance and facilitate more trade among Member States to utilize this potential especially in reducing non-tariff barriers and establishing strong and effective dispute resolution mechanisms.

3A.6 Commitment 6: Enhancing Resilience to Climate Variability

- 3.82. This commitment is critical in the context of the theme for the fourth Biennial Review report, *Enhancing the Implementation of The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)*. The Commitment to enhance resilience to climate variability is meant to help improve the resilience capacity of households to climate and weather-related risks and other shocks and to create permanent investment in resilience building. This is critical given the recent increased frequency and severity of shocks such as droughts, floods, and conflicts.
- 3.83. This Commitment is tracked through four specific indicators, three of which are highlighted in this report namely, the percentage of farm, pastoral, and fisher households that have improved their resilience capacity to climate and weather-related shocks, share of agricultural land under sustainable land management practices, and existence of government budget-lines and enabling environment to respond to spending needs on resilience building initiatives. The fourth indicator on Green House Gas (GHG) emissions from agriculture is not reported due to incoherent data from different sources, units, and protocols of measurements making it silent for this cycle. Also, the newly introduced parameter on the “percentage of public expenditure spent on resilience building initiatives, specifically on early warning and response systems, social safety nets and weather-based index insurance” is analyzed in its pilot phase to ensure that it is robust and fit enough (profiling, formula, data availability, etc.) to be fully integrated into the next BR cycle.
- 3.84. In terms of its preparedness to tackle climate change and other potential crises, the continent is currently falling short in its commitment to building resilience. The continent's average score in this regard stands at 5.91, with the Western (6.95) and Eastern (6.51) regions emerging as leaders in this endeavor. Conversely, Southern Africa trails behind with the lowest score of 4.65.
- 3.85. When it comes to measuring efforts invested in resilience to climate-related risks and other shocks, the Western (6.47), Eastern (6.38), and Northern (5.58) regions are all performing above the continental average of 5.17. On the other hand, when evaluating investments in resilience building, the Western (7.44), Southern (6.96), and Eastern (6.64) regions are setting the pace for the entire continent. Only 02 Member States, representing 4percent of the Member States that submitted reports, are on-track against a benchmark of 9.75 to achieve this Commitment. These are Ethiopia, and Egypt each with scores of 9.92 and 9.82, respectively.
- 3.86. In comparison to the third BR, 23 (47percent) countries have improved their score for commitment 6. These are Benin, Burkina Faso, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, and Uganda.

- 3.87. Over half of the Member States (29) are on-track with a score of at least 9 on the indicator as a percentage of farm, pastoral, and fisher households that have improved their resilience capacity to climate and other shocks (economic, social, environmental etc).
- 3.88. A total of 18 Member States out of 49 (37percent), (Benin, Burundi, Burkina Faso Cabo Verde, Comoros, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zimbabwe) are on-track with a score of at least 10 which is also the benchmark for the indicator on the share of agricultural land under Sustainable Land and Water Management (SLWM), including climate-smart agriculture practices.
- 3.89. A total of seven (7) Member States including Egypt, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gambia, Mozambique, Rwanda, and Uganda are on-track on the indicator on the existence of government budget lines and the enabling environment to respond to spending needs on resilience-building initiatives. This is a sharp decrease in comparison to the third BR where 8 countries (Ethiopia, Lesotho, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Senegal, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe) were on-track. Only Ethiopia which was on-track during the third BR remained on-track for the fourth BR. Morocco, which was on-track in the second and third BRs, lost track for the fourth BR. Mauritius was the only Member State on-track in the inaugural BR report. It is expected that with lessons learnt from COVID-19 and the effects of climate change Member States have purposively invested in resilience-building initiatives.
- 3.90. Therefore, it is recommended that Member States purposefully enact policies and progressively increase government budget lines on resilience-building initiatives. Furthermore, there is a need to scale up and implement appropriate programs around initiatives on resilience building towards climate variability as well as programs formulated with shock-responsive social protection components. This is important given the persistent effects of climate change and variability being experienced.

On the new parameter introduced in the existing parameters of indicator 6.2: percentage of public expenditure spent on resilience building initiative (EIRB4)

- 3.91. In total, 20 countries have provided accurate and comprehensive data for indicator 6.2, with particular attention to parameter 4 (EIRB4). On average, these countries allocate 2.28percent of their public expenditure to resilience-building efforts, specifically targeting early warning and response systems, social safety nets, and weather-based index insurance. When comparing this to the 5.35percent and 4.96percent of public expenditures allocated to agriculture in 2021 and 2022, respectively, it becomes evident that, on average, 42percent and 46percent of agricultural spending in those respective years were directed towards resilience-building initiatives.
- 3.92. Regional disparities in spending are noteworthy. The top-performing countries in this indicator are Benin (4.62percent), Rwanda (7.86percent), Nigeria (4.7percent), Sierra Leone (4.62percent), and Equatorial Guinea (4percent), with three of them belonging to the West African region. Conversely, some countries like Uganda and Burkina Faso allocate an exceedingly low percentage (less than 0.1percent) of their public expenditure to these initiatives, potentially indicating a limited focus on disaster preparedness and risk reduction.
- 3.93. It is also worth highlighting that countries with differing income levels, such as Equatorial Guinea and Eswatini, allocate a similar proportion of their public expenditure to resilience-building initiatives, suggesting that the commitment to such efforts is not solely determined by a country's income level.

3A.7 Commitment 7: *Enhancing Mutual Accountability for Actions and Results*

- 3.94. AU Member States committed to align, harmonize and coordinate multi-sectoral and multi-institutional platforms for peer review, mutual learning and mutual accountability. The Biennial Review target for all Member States was to attain a 100percent mark (score of 10) for the existence of inclusive institutionalized mechanisms and platforms for mutual accountability and peer review by 2018. Overall, of the forty-nine (49) Member States that reported on this commitment, thirteen (13) Member States (Morocco, Benin, Egypt, Rwanda, Uganda, Kenya, Ghana, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Malawi, Tunisia, Burkina, Faso and Sierra Leone,) are on-track. Compared to the previous Biennial Review where eleven (11) out of fifty-one (51) Member States were on-track, the 2023 Biennial Review results imply an increase of five (5) percent points in continental performance on this commitment.
- 3.95. This commitment is tracked through five specific indicators: Index of capacity to generate and use agriculture statistical data and information; existence of inclusive institutionalized mechanisms and platforms for mutual accountability and peer review; Country Biennial Report submission; country BR results dissemination; and country BR results utilization.
- 3.96. The first indicator aims at the *establishment of mechanisms and systems to measure, track and report the performance* of Member States with respect to progress on key commitments agreed upon. Out of the forty-nine (49) Member States which submitted a report, thirty-five Member States (34) (Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe), each obtained the minimum score of 69percent to be on-track. Compared to the third BR in which seventeen (17) Member States were on-track, this represents an increase of 100percent in performance on this indicator.
- 3.97. The second indicator focuses on the *existence of inclusive institutionalized mechanisms and platforms for mutual accountability and peer review*. Sixteen (16) Member States (Benin, Cabo Verde, Egypt, Ghana, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Cote, d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, and Mali) achieved the benchmark score of 10 in this indicator. This represents an improvement by one Member State when compared to the third BR where 15 Member States were on-track, and it is an improvement from the second BR where only thirteen (13) Member States were on-track on this indicator. The fourth BR performance however falls short of the inaugural BR where 18 Member States were on-track. It is however important to note that although only 16 Member States were on-track, a further four (4) Member States namely; Tanzania, Kenya, Mauritania and Djibouti had scores very close to being on-track on this indicator having achieved scores of above 9.7 out of 10.
- 3.98. The third indicator seeks to track the *Biennial Review report submissions*. A total of forty-nine (49) Member States reported on the indicator to show progress in availing the regular country Biennial Report for the AU Assembly, down from 51 in 2021, and 49 in 2019. Out of the 49 Member States that reported on this indicator, none is on-track for this indicator, however twenty (20) Member States

(Burundi, Kenya, Mali, Tanzania, Uganda, Sierra, Leone, Ethiopia, Malawi, Egypt, Ghana, Burkina, Faso, Zimbabwe, Eswatini, Rwanda, Nigeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Benin, Togo and South Africa) are closest to achieving the target for this indicator with scores of at least 9 out of 10. For a Member State to be on-track, it needed to report data on all parameters, Thus, improving data systems can quickly lead to improvements in continental performance on this indicator.

- 3.99. The fourth indicator seeks to track country ***BR Results dissemination*** across the continent. This is the first BR cycle in which this indicator is being reported. Out of the 49 countries that participated in this BR cycle, a total of 36 Member States (Burundi, Ghana, Mali, Tanzania, Uganda, Sierra Leone, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Tunisia, Rwanda, Benin, Mauritania, South Sudan, Morocco, Zambia, Niger, Gabon, Mauritius, Gambia, Lesotho, Congo, Malawi, Liberia, Mozambique, Egypt, Senegal, Guinea, Cabo Verde, Kenya, South Africa, Burkina Faso, Togo, Namibia, Djibouti and Equatorial Guinea) were on-track, having obtained scores close to the benchmark score of 7 or more out of 10. This implies that there is a drive towards disseminating BR results in many of the Member States, although more should be done in the rest of the Member States to disseminate the BR results.
- 3.100. The fifth indicator takes stock of each country's ***BR results utilization*** to ensure the recommendations emerging from the BR reports are implemented. This is also the first BR cycle in which this indicator is being reported. Out of the 49 Member States that participated in the fourth BR cycle, 30 countries reported on this indicator. Of the 30 countries, a total of 13 Member States (Mali, Sierra Leone, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Tunisia, Rwanda, Benin, Morocco, Egypt, Kenya, Namibia, Cameroon and Uganda) were on-track. This shows that about half of the Member States are taking steps to implement the BR results, but unfortunately, more countries are yet to start implementing the BR recommendations. Implementation of BR results is critical if Member States are to transform as per CAADP aspirations.

3.B. Developments in Performance of Member States between the Four Rounds of the Biennial Review Process

Developments in overall performance by Member States

- 3.101. Overall, no Member State has stayed on-track in all 4 BR reporting cycles. However, no Member State is on-track in 2023, additional twenty-five (25) of the Member States improved in their scores by at least 15percent compared to the 2021 scores. These are: Benin (26percent), Comoros (113percent), Guinea-Bissau (26percent), Niger (19percent), Nigeria (16percent), Sierra-Leone (36percent) and South Sudan (22percent).

Developments in Member States performance per commitment

Commitment 1: Recommitment to the Principles and Values of the CAADP Process

- 3.102. In 2023, no Member State stayed consistently on-track in all four BR reporting cycles. However, in 2023, it is worth noting that countries such as Rwanda (9.87), Morocco (9.71) and Uganda (9.65) made significant progress compared to 2021. Only Niger moved from not being on-track in 2021 to being on-track in 2023.

Commitment 2: Enhancing Investment Financing in Agriculture

3.103. Compared to 2021 where four (4) countries (Egypt, Eswatini, Seychelles and Zambia) were on-track, this year, no Member State was on-track. The majority of Member States have experienced a decrease in their performance on this commitment. Overall, throughout the four BR reporting periods, the performance of Member States in this commitment has been rather dismal. Given the importance of increased public and private investments in transforming African agriculture, there is urgency for Member States to address the problem of inadequate access to finance for the agricultural sector.

Commitment 3: Ending Hunger by 2025

3.104. Similar to the 2021 BR report, no Member State has met the benchmark for this commitment. Countries such as Gabon, DR Congo, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Mauritania and Angola that have made noticeable positive progress 2021 could not sustain it in 2023.

Commitment 4: Halving Poverty through Agriculture by 2025

3.105. In 2023, only one (1) Member State, Ghana, out of forty-nine (49) compared to Nine (9) out of forty-nine (49) and twenty-seven (27) countries out of forty seven (47) that were on-track in 2019 and 2017, respectively. Of the nine (9) countries that were on-track in 2021, only Ghana stayed on-track in 2023. However, Kenya, Ethiopia and Sierra-Leone have made significant progress compared to 2021.

Commitment 5: Boosting Intra-African Trade in Agriculture Commodities and Services

3.106. In 2023, probably due to the combination of lingering effect of COVID-19 and the war in Ukraine on trade, no Member State was on-track compared to five (5) countries (Uganda, Nigeria, Senegal, Botswana and Djibouti) in 2021 and twenty-nine (29) in 2019.

Commitment 6: Enhancing Resilience to Climate Variability

3.107. Throughout the previous three BR reporting periods, only four (4) Member States (Burundi, Cabo Verde, Morocco and Rwanda) managed to stay on-track. Among the eleven (11) Member States that were on-track in 2019 BR, four (4), Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali and Seychelles remained on-track in 2021. In 2023, only Ethiopia and Rwanda are on-track. In the wake of COVID-19 and the war in Ukraine, to enhance the resilience of livelihoods and production systems to climate variability and other related risks, Member States must stay the course on this commitment.

Commitment 7: Enhancing Mutual Accountability for Actions and Results

3.108. Four Member States (Morocco, Rwanda, Ghana, and Tunisia) are consistently on-track throughout all four BR reporting cycles compared to Eight Member States (Ghana, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, and Tanzania) for the first three BR reporting

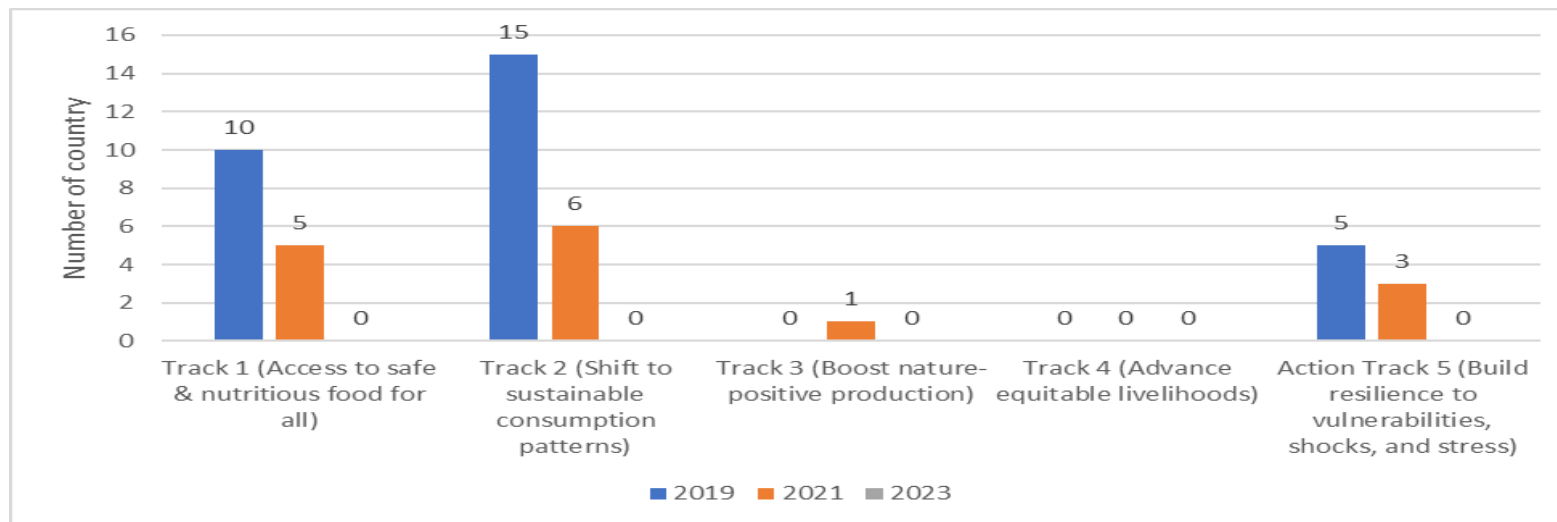
cycles. Countries with substantial progress compared to the previous BR report include Morocco, Benin, Egypt, Rwanda, Uganda, Kenya, Ghana, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Malawi, and Tunisia.

3.C. Tracking progress of food system transformation

3.109. In the 2021 BR report, the BR indicators were classified according to the five UN Food Systems Summit's Action Tracks: Action Track 1 (Access to safe & nutritious food for all); Action Track 2 (Shift to sustainable consumption patterns); Action Track 3 (Boost nature-positive production); Action Track 4 (Advance equitable livelihoods), and Action Track 5 (Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks, and stress). For this year's reporting cycle, the overall results (see Figure 3.4) indicate that no country is on-track for either of the UNFSS Action Tracks. This is a major setback compared to the two previous BR cycles where:

- with respect to Action Track 1, 10 countries (Cabo Verde, Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, Rwanda, Seychelles, Eswatini, Tanzania, Tunisia and Zimbabwe) were on-track in 2019, compared to 5 (Eswatini, Gambia, Mali, Tunisia and Zimbabwe) in 2021;
- with respect to Action Track 2, 15 countries (Burundi, Cabo Verde, Central African Rep., Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Madagascar, Mali, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Eswatini, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda) were on-track in 2019, compared to 6 (Botswana, Djibouti, Egypt, Eswatini, Mali and Uganda) in 2021;
- with respect to both Action Tracks 3 and 4, one country was on-track in each of the Action Tracks and review periods (Rwanda with respect to Action Track 3 in 2021);
- with respect to Action Track 5, 5 countries (Ghana, Mali, Morocco, Rwanda and Tunisia) in 2019, compared to 3 (Ghana, Morocco and Rwanda) in 2021.
- It is fair to assume the lingering effect of COVID-19, the war in Ukraine and other shocks may have slowed the process of food system transformation in Africa. The pandemic resulted in disruptions of global supply chains, affecting the import and export of agricultural products in Africa. Many African countries faced economic contractions due to the pandemic, which might have diverted funds away from agricultural development or food system transformation.
- Ukraine is known as the "breadbasket of Europe" and is a significant exporter of grains. A prolonged conflict can impact global grain prices, affecting food security in African nations that depend on imports. The conflict can also lead to increased energy prices, which in turn impacts the costs of agricultural production and transportation. International bodies and donors, which may otherwise support projects in Africa, might redirect attention and resources towards immediate humanitarian needs in conflict areas.

Figure 3.4: CAADP implementation by the UN Food System Summit’s Action Tracks (number of countries achieving target in 2019, 2021 and 2023)



Source: Analysis of fourth BR data

REGIONAL AND CONTINENTAL PERFORMANCE

4A. Central Africa

- 4.1. There are eight Member States in this region, namely: Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and Sao Tome and Principe. Under the joint coordination of the Economic Commission for Central Africa States (ECCAS) and Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), five (05) States submitted their Country Reports, representing a submission rate of 62.5percent lower than the rate of 87.5percent for the third BR cycle in 2021. In addition to Sao Tome and Principe (STP), two Countries (Chad and the Democratic Republic of Congo) did not submit their country reports for this fourth cycle of the BR.
- 4.2. The average score for the region is 3.29, compared with a 2023 benchmark of 9.29. Overall, the region is not on-track to meet the CAADP/Malabo Commitments. Comparing to the score of 3.33 in 2021, the Central Region is in regression. Even though the Central Africa Region is not on track for the CAADP commitments areas, it registered a good progress for Country's capacity for evidence-based planning, implementation, and Monitoring & Evaluation (0.14 in 2021 to 9.34 in 2023) indicator as well as Resilience to climate related risks and other shocks (2.64 in 2021 to 4.91 in this fourth BR (2023) report).
- 4.3. Regarding inter-African trade in agricultural commodities and services, even if the ECCAS region is not on-track, the progress is registered on the Intra-African Trade Policies and institutional conditions (2.91 in 2021 to 3.34 in 2023). We note that all countries had a proof of the deposit of ratification documents under the AfCFTA Agreement. Specifically, the countries of Congo, Cameroon, and Chad have developed their national implementation strategy for the AfCFTA Agreement.
- 4.4. Among the five (5) countries that submitted their country reports, only Equatorial Guinea registered an increase of 17percent of score compared to the previous BR (2.82 in 2021 to 3.30 in 2023). Scores decreased by 34percent for the Central African Republic, 19percent for Cameroon, 13percent for Congo, and 4percent for Gabon. For Equatorial Guinea, the most significant performance was observed for Intra-African Trade Policies and institutional conditions. Collectively, the region should improve the data collection system in each country.

4B. Eastern Africa

- 4.5. This region is composed of 13 Member States, namely: Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. The region is coordinated jointly by the East African Community (EAC), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA). All Member States except Eritrea and Sudan submitted their national biennial review reports, representing 85percent submission rate. The fact that two (2) countries did not complete the process and submit their reports on schedule is also a matter of concern.
- 4.6. The Eastern Africa region achieved an overall score of 5.00 against a benchmark of 9.29 and therefore was not on-track to achieving the CAADP goals and targets by 2025. At the commitment level, the region was not on-track in any of the seven CAADP commitment areas.

The observed performance reflected the general performance of the Member States in the region. None of the 13 Member States in the Eastern Africa region was on-track in achieving the CAADP goals and targets.

- 4.7. It is however noteworthy that in some of the commitment areas the region showed good progress towards achieving the targets. For instance, in theme 1 on the commitment to the CAADP Process, the region had a score of 7.91 out of 10. The target could be easily met if all Member States in the region recommitted themselves to implementing the remaining aspects of the domesticating CAADP process, formed required partnerships and alliance with all stakeholders and completed policy and institutional reviews. Similarly, for commitment area 7, the performance has shown impressive progress and could be achieved especially by strengthening the capacity of Member States for evidence-based planning, implementation, and M&E. The region has also made good progress in enhancing resilience to climate variability by achieving a score of 6.51 against a benchmark of 9.75. However, Member States need to increase investments in resilience building.
- 4.8. The region should pay attention in commitment 2 on investment finance in agriculture because it has not achieved even the half-way mark toward achieving the target. The Member States need to increase public spending for agriculture and create a conducive environment for increased investment by private sectors including foreign direct investment. The region needs to pay critical attention to the area of access to finance by the agricultural households whose performance is particularly poor. The region also needs to pay attention to the area of intra-Africa trade in agricultural commodities and services that are currently low; there is a need to lower barriers to trade (both tariff and non-tariff) and ensure that is freer trade among Member States as envisaged under the banner of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).
- 4.9. Overall, the region needs to pay attention to all commitment areas for it to meet the CAADP targets by 2025.

4C. Northern Africa

- 4.10. The Northern region includes six (6) Member States: Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia, coordinated by the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) as a Regional Economic Community (REC). During this fourth cycle of the BR, a major communication effort was helpful for awareness among Member States. Despite the context of COVID-19 and the consequences of the Russian-Ukrainian war, all Member States except Algeria, submitted their reports, representing a submission rate of 83percent lower than the rate (100percent) of submission for the third BR.
- 4.11. The overall score of the northern region is 4.22 and compared with the 2023 benchmark of 9.22, the region is not on track. In comparison to the previous BR score of 4.62, this region is regressing with underperformance on all commitments, except the Biennial Agriculture Review Process (6.41 in 2021 to 6.71 in 2023). Out of the five (5) countries submitted their reports, three (3) countries (Morocco (6.99), Egypt (6.83) and Tunisia (6.23) are progressing well considering scores out of 6. Specifically, Morocco registered good performance and is on-track for Commitment 7 and for Domestic Private Sector Investment in Agriculture, social protection, Youth job in agriculture, Women participation in Agri-business, Resilience to climate related risks and other shocks as well as Mutual Accountability for Actions and Results commitment. Egypt is on track for the two (2) commitments 6 and 7; Tunisia also performed well on Domestic Private Sector

Investment in Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Security, Inclusive PPPs for commodity value chains, and Mutual Accountability for Actions and Results.

- 4.12. Scores highly decreased for two (2) countries (Libya (49percent), and Mauritania (21percent)) Even Morocco, Egypt and Tunisia are progressing; these three (3) countries should improve Intra-African Trade in Agriculture Commodities and services and Investment in resilience building. The region should also improve the data collection system in each country.

4D. Southern Africa

- 4.13. As per AUC distribution of the countries for the BR reporting, the Southern Africa region reports on 12 countries (although SADC has 16 Member States), namely: Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Eswatini, Zambia and Zimbabwe. All countries in the Southern Africa region submitted their reports, representing a 100 percent submission rate. The overall average score for the region is 4.26, which suggests that the region is not on-track in meeting the CAADP Malabo commitments when assessed against the 2023 benchmark of 9.29. This represents a 3.6percent improvement in performance compared to the score of 4.11 for the third BR. Among the twelve (12) countries, none is on-track representing no change in performance of the region over the 1st BR (2017), 2nd BR (2019) and the third BR (2021).
- 4.14. The region is again not on-track in any of the seven (7) Malabo commitments in the 2023 BR, as was the case in the third, 2nd and inaugural BRs, although the region was on-track on four (4) commitments in the inaugural BR in 2017. However, the region has jointly made considerable effort to achieve half of the required milestones for the Commitment to CAADP Process and Mutual Accountability for Actions and Results.
- 4.15. Individually, none of the 12 countries in the region is on-track in meeting all of the seven (7) CAADP/Malabo commitments. Eswatini, Malawi and Zimbabwe have progressed well and achieved half of the overall benchmark of 10. In general, countries with relatively good agricultural data management systems produced better reports for the BR. Despite not meeting the targets set, eight countries namely, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe made good progress towards achieving all the commitments in general as evidenced by improvements in their overall scores from previous BRs.
- 4.16. Furthermore, seven countries namely, Angola, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Zambia, and Zimbabwe are on-track to achieving the commitment to the CAADP process. Two countries (Zimbabwe, Malawi) are on-track on Mutual accountability, and five countries, namely, Eswatini, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, and Zimbabwe, have performed well on resilience to climate change variability.
- 4.17. Countries in the region have not performed well on the commitment of Eradicating Poverty through Agriculture with only Eswatini and Madagascar making significant progress; only Lesotho and Eswatini have performed well on the commitment to investment finance in agriculture, while Mozambique, Madagascar and Namibia are on course, albeit not on track, on the commitment on ending hunger.

- 4.18. Going forward, the region needs to increase its efforts in meeting all the Malabo/CAADP commitments. Greater effort should be made to increase investment in agriculture by among others, increasing the share of the national budget to agriculture and creating a conducive environment for attracting both domestic and foreign private investment and public-private partnerships in agriculture. This will have ripple effects on ending hunger, eradicating poverty, promoting intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services, and achieve resilience to climate variability.

4E. Western Africa

- 4.19. The region has 15 Member States namely: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo, coordinated by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). The submission rate of this edition of the CAADP Biennial Review is 100percent despite political instability in the region. Western Africa has maintained this reporting rate since 2019. The average score for the region is 5.03, which indicates that the region is not on-track to meet the CAADP Malabo Commitments when assessed against the 9.29 benchmark for 2023.
- 4.20. The region has made slight progress over time. Between 2019 (with a score of 4.94) and 2023 (score of 5.03), there is an increase of 2percent. On the other hand, among the 15 countries, none achieved the benchmark set for the reporting year, hence not on-track. However, eight (8) of them have shown significant progress, with scores ranging from 5.09 to 6.68. These countries are Ghana, Mali, Nigeria, Benin, Sierra Leone, The Gambia, Burkina Faso and Cabo Verde.
- 4.21. In terms of progress, West Africa scored 8.30 out of 10 in Commitment one, 3.20 out of 9.50 in Commitment two, 3.04 out of 9.26 in Commitment Three, 3.89 out of 8.94 in commitment Four, 2.26 out of 9.00 in commitment Five, 6.95 out of 9.75 in Commitment six and 7.57 out of 8.60 in commitment seven. Commitment five (Intra-African Trade in Agriculture Commodities and services) and Commitment Three (Ending hunger) are the two commitments where the region shows very low performances.
- 4.22. Specifically for the countries, all countries in the region have committed to the CAADP process, and significant efforts have been made during the last three editions. However, for this edition, the added complexity was for countries to provide concrete evidences, which was not mandatory in the first three cycles. This deterred most countries except for Niger, which was the only country on-track for the Commitment to CAADP Process. On the other hand, Benin, Burkina Faso,, Ghana, Nigeria, Sierra Leone are on-track on commitment to mutual accountability (Commitment 7).
- 4.23. Despite numerous areas requiring improvement, the region must focus on the following performance categories: (i) Domestic Private Sector Investment in Agriculture; (ii) Foreign Private Sector Investment in Agriculture; (iii) Access to finance; (iv) Access to Agriculture inputs and technologies; (v) Agricultural Productivity; (vi) Food security and Nutrition as part of Ending Hunger; (vii) Poverty Reduction; and (viii) Intra-African Trade in agricultural commodities and services. Regrettably, access to finance and investment finance in agriculture are recurring concerns since the inception of the BR process.

- 4.24. The following recommendations are proposed: AUC, ECOWAS, and other stakeholders to work earnestly towards very clear action plans to support countries in addressing the areas for improvement as indicated above.

4F. Continental Performance

- 4.25. Overall, the continent remains not-on-track in achieving the Malabo Declaration Commitments, obtaining an overall average score of 4.56. With the relatively higher benchmark of 9.29 required to be on-track in this reporting period, compared to 7.28 in the third BR cycle, and 6.66 in the second (2019) reporting period, the rate of progress in the continent appears to have further slowed down. For this forth (2023) Biennial Review Report, 49 out of 55 Member States submitted their validated national reports to their respective African Union Commission (AUC) through their Regional Economic Communities (RECs). The six Member States that were unable to meet the deadline date and time and are thus without scores in this forth Biennial Review (BR) report are Algeria, Chad, DR Congo, Eritrea, Sao Tome and Principe, and Sudan.
- 4.26. In this fourth BR cycle, no Member State is on-track to achieving the Malabo target for 2025. In the third cycle, only one Member State was on track, four (4) Member States that were on-track in 2019 during the second Biennial Review cycle, and 17 in the inaugural (2017) BR cycle. This may be explained by the successively increasing continual benchmark. The gap between the overall performance of the continent compared to the benchmark for the reporting period is widening the difference in the score for the fourth BR (4.56) and the benchmark (9.29) is 4.73. While the third (2021) BR reporting period of a score of 4.32 and a benchmark of 7.28, gives a difference of 2.96; and the score of 4.04 and the benchmark of 6.66 (a difference of 2.62) in the second BR (2019) is somewhat smaller. It needs to be noted that the benchmark for each successive reporting period will increase, reaching the maximum value of 10 in 2025, since the continent is expected to continuously improve performance towards achieving the targets set in the Malabo Declaration. As a continent, we are also not on track in any of the seven (7) commitment areas.
- 4.27. It is worth noting that some Member States got scores that are almost close to the benchmark for that commitment area. Also worthy to note is that a good percentage of Member States (44, 13, 10, 18, 2, 34, and 41 countries) got more than half the benchmark score and so may be considered to be progressing toward the targets for the respective Commitments 1 to 7. This is presented in the Table 4.1. Overall, 23 Member States achieved a score of above 4.645, which is more than half the benchmark of 9.29. The continent as a whole is not on track to achieving the Malabo goals in any of the seven commitment areas.
- 4.28. The findings from this fourth BR report indicate the urgent need for accelerating CAADP implementation on all the seven commitment areas. Particular emphasis is to work on improving the data quality and incorporating the BR process into the national statistical data collection and validation procedures. Increased utilization of the BR report and undertaking country analysis to make country appropriate policy briefs with actionable recommendations for implementation will most likely yield better performance. Inclusive country dialogues, with all relevant stakeholders, on the BR reports and performance in the four BR cycles, is likely to increase awareness of the need for harmonized and concerted implementation towards joint national goals and towards achievement of CAADP Malabo targets. Such

dialogues will also contribute to document progress and establish areas of success and challenge that will provide priority areas to feed into the development of the agenda for the next 10 years (2026-2035).

Table 4.1: Summary of the fourth BR results at continental level

Commitment	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Overall
Benchmark	10	9.50	9.26	8.94	9.00	9.75	8.60	9.29
Continental Score for each	7.66	3.15	2.90	3.04	2.23	5.91	7.02	4.56
No. Countries with a score of more than half of the benchmark	44	13	10	18	2	34	41	23
No. Countries on-track (greater than or equal to the benchmark)	1	0	0	1	0	2	13	0

Source: Analysis of fourth BR data

HIGHLIGHTS ON “Enhancing the Implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)”

5A. Enhancing the Implementation of The African Continental Free Trade Area

- 5.1. The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) was launched officially in January 2021 as a trade agreement to create a single continental market for goods and services in Africa. It had been signed in March 2018 and came into force in May 2019 with actual trading starting in January 2021. It aims to promote economic integration among African countries by removing tariffs and trade barriers, facilitating the free movement of goods and services, and fostering cooperation on investment, intellectual property, competition policy, and other areas of economic activity.
- 5.2. AfCFTA is the world’s largest free trade area bringing together the 55 countries of the African Union (AU) and eight (8) Regional Economic Communities (RECs). The overall mandate of the AfCFTA is to create a single continental market with a population of about 1.3 billion people and a combined GDP of approximately US\$ 3.4 trillion.
- 5.3. As of August 2023, 54 Member States have signed the agreement except Eritrea. Forty-seven (47) Member States out of the fifty (54) signatories have deposited the instruments of AfCFTA ratification (i.e., 87percent). Member States still pending to ratify AfCFTA include Benin, Eritrea, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Somalia, South Sudan, and Sudan.

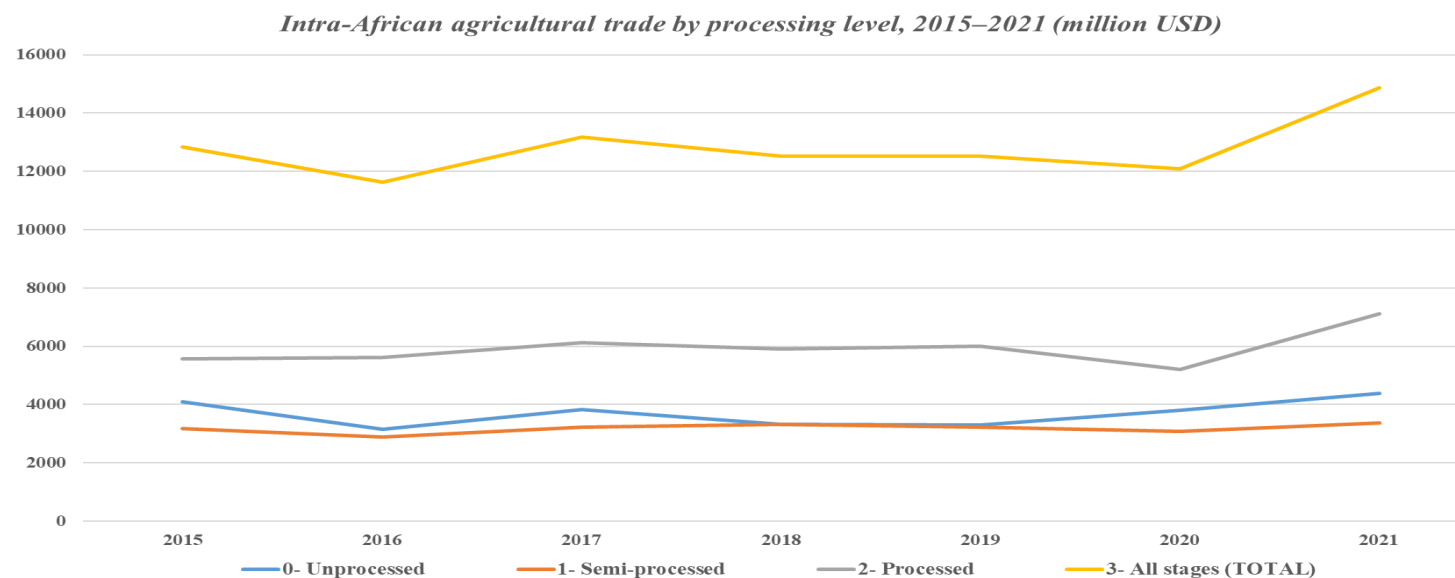
- 5.4. In line with the commitments on tariff liberalization, forty-two (42) Member States that have ratified the AfCFTA Agreement have submitted their Provisional Schedules of Tariff Concessions (PSTCs) to the AfCFTA Secretariat for verification and consideration of the AfCFTA Council of Ministers. To facilitate effective implementation of the AfCFTA at the national level, some countries have established National Implementation Committees and to develop AfCFTA Implementation Strategies. National Strategies have been validated in twenty nine (29) Member States while five (5) AfCFTA National Implementation Committees have been established in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, and Rwanda and are operational. The Democratic Republic of Congo, Comoros, and Tunisia have taken steps and passed laws paving way for the establishment of their National Committees. Algeria and Mauritania are also working toward passing laws to enable them put in place their National Committees. Other countries have preferred to use their existing negotiations and implementation structures for AfCFTA issues instead of establishing new structures. As the African Union and the AfCFTA building blocks, the Regional Economic Communities; ECOWAS and IGAD have already validated their AfCFTA regional strategies.
- 5.5. AfCFTA has put in place several operational instruments to facilitate its implementation which include; (i) The rule of origin (governing the conditions under which a product or service can be traded duty free across the continent), (ii) The tariff concessions (an agreement on 90percent tariff liberalization over a 5 and 10-year period of non-LDC and LCD countries respectively), (iii) The Continental Online Tool/Mechanism for monitoring, reporting and elimination of Non-tariff Barriers (NTBs), (iv) The Pan-African Payments and Settlement System (PAPSS) (a centralized payment and settlement infrastructure for intra-African trade and commerce payments).
- 5.6. In addition, the African Union Commission – Department of trade and development, tourism and minerals established the African Trade Observatory (trade information portal that will address hindrances to trade in Africa due to lack of information about opportunities, trade statistics as well as information about exporters and importers in countries) as an additional instrument to facilitate AfCFTA implementation
- 5.7. In 2023 BR, three indicators to track the implementation of AfCFTA were added under Theme 5: (i) Proportion of tariff lines applied to intra-Africa imports of agricultural goods and services with zero tariff rate (ii) Index of non-tariff measures related to intra-Africa trade of agricultural commodities and services and (iii) Index for enabling institutional environment for AfCFTA implementation. The data was used as a pilot and results were not included in the scoring of performance. While, it could be argued that the process is still at a very early stage, there is need to fast track AfCFTA's implementation.
- 5.8. Available trade related literature points out two main short-comings that could limit the effectiveness of AfCFTA implementation that should be noted. First, as an agreement AfCFTA has limited horizontal depth i.e. it covers limited WTO-related provisions specifically on tariff liberalization concessions. Deep trade agreements include reciprocal agreement between countries covering additional areas beyond trade such as flows of investment and the protection of intellectual property rights and the environment. On a positive note, some of the existing trade agreements within the regional economic communities e.g. EAC cover a bit more horizontal and vertical depth that augment trade agreements. The second aspect is on the effectiveness of dispute settlement mechanisms, especially their legal commitment and enforceability.
- 5.9. The success of the AfCFTA hinges on its effective implementation, infrastructure development including the development of transport and logistics to facilitate movement of goods, harmonization of agricultural policies and regulations, institutional quality of the Member States,

and resolving non-tariff barriers. In the negotiations under AfCFTA, it is critical that all partners take into account the fact that the horizontal and vertical depth of the AfCFTA is dependent on widening the product coverage and shortening the transition period to full liberalization of trade in agricultural commodities. Additionally, there is need for Member States to concretely own the AfCFTA implementation by domesticating the instrument in their national frameworks and creating awareness with the private sector who do the actual trading.

5B. Conflicts and their Impacts on Trade and Food Systems in Africa

- 5.10. The onset of the Russia-Ukraine war in 2022 soon after the COVID-19 pandemic added to the already precarious situation of the world agricultural commodity markets. The continent is dependent on imports of grain (wheat and maize) and fertilizer from the two countries. At the onset of the war, Russia and Ukraine on average accounted for 25percent of all global wheat exports. Russia accounted for about 14percent of global trade in urea and 11percent of trade in phosphate.
- 5.11. The continent imports about 25percent of all wheat traded globally and many countries are dependent on re-exports from countries that trade directly with Russia and Ukraine. At the onset of the war, several Member States were dependent on Russia, Ukraine and Belarus for between 50-100percent of their wheat imports (Libya, Egypt, Tanzania, Cabo Verde, Madagascar, Republic of Congo, Namibia, DRC, Togo Senegal and Benin). At the same time, several were dependent on fertilizer imports of 45percent and above from the conflict countries, these include Nigeria, Central Africa Republic, Niger, Cameroon, Ghana and Benin).
- 5.12. The onset of war led to the substantial increase in prices and disruption in the supply of major food commodities and fertilizer. The negative effects of the war were exacerbated further by trade restriction measures put in place by major food and fertilizer exporters. The exposure to high food and fertilizer prices has raised concern about the future of crop production and food security in many countries. While the initial impact of spikes in fertilizer and food prices have begun to decline, there are on average higher than they were in the pre-Russian-Ukraine war period.
- 5.13. Since 2015 when the implementation of the Malabo declaration began, intra-African trade has been on a positive growth; between 2015 and 2021, on average the value of total agricultural trade grew by 16percent (See Figure 5.1). Trade in processed agricultural products is higher than raw and semi-processed. This level of growth is still below the Malabo target of tripling the value of trade, further efforts need to be taken to increase the trade further.
- 5.14. With the target year only two years away, the continental is not on track to achieve the target of tripling trade in agricultural commodities and services. To achieve the goals and targets of the commitment, there is need to intensify trade among Member States especially by shortening the period for full trade liberalization under AfCFTA, eliminating non-tariff trade barriers and making complementary investment in trade policies and institutions.

Figure 5.1: Intra-African Agricultural Trade by Processing Level (2015-2021) in Million USD



Source: Authors based on the 2023 Africa Agriculture Trade Monitor (AATM) database

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6A. Conclusions and Main Highlights of the 2023 Biennial Review Report

- 6.1. The African Heads of State and Government endorsed the “Maputo Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security in Africa” (Assembly/AU/Decl. 7(II)) in July 2003 in Maputo. Prominent among the decisions is the commitment to the allocation of at least 10 percent of national budgetary resources to agriculture and rural development policy implementation within five years, and achieving agricultural GDP growth rates of at least 6percent per annum. Following the declaration, the African Union Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) was thus developed and became the key vehicle to improve food security and nutrition and increase incomes in Africa's largely agriculture-based economies. The CAADP has since gained popularity and is Africa's policy framework for all agriculture and agriculture-led development programs.

- 6.2. The Malabo Declaration on “Accelerated Africa Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods” ((ref.: Doc. Assembly/AU/2(XXIII)) that was adopted by the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government in June 2014 in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, to strengthen the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP). The Malabo Declaration has seven commitments. Under Commitment 7 of the Declaration, AU Heads of State and Government requested the AU Commission and the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) to produce a progress report on the implementation of the Malabo declaration commitments, for presentation to the AU Assembly every two years, starting from 2017. The inaugural, second and third Biennial Review Reports were presented to and endorsed by the AU Assembly in January 2018, February 2020, and February 2022, respectively.
- 6.3. African Union (AU) Member States were required to have developed, by 2018, compliant National Agricultural Investments Plans (NAIPs), or any other instrument that the Member States use to guide their investment in agriculture, as key instruments for implementing programs to deliver on the seven Malabo Commitments. AU Member States are required to show commitment to the ideals and principles of CAADP and follow relevant CAADP processes as measured in Commitment 1 of the Malabo Declaration. The key vehicle for implementing the CAADP-Malabo in a Member State is the NAIP, which generally covers all the other six Malabo commitments.
- 6.4. With apprehension, the findings from this fourth BR report indicate that not all Member States have fully and consistently embraced the CAADP process. Of the 55 Member States, 49 submitted their validated national reports to African Union Commission (AUC) through their respective Regional Economic Communities (RECs). Six Member States were unable to submit reports in this fourth BR cycle. The 2023 BR has two fewer countries reporting, down from the 51 Member States reported in the 2021 BR cycle.
- 6.5. The fourth Biennial Review report presents some thought-provoking findings. The benchmark for a country to be on-track has successively increased over the eight (8) years of the BR process, from 3.96 in the inaugural (2017) BR, through 6.66 and 7.28 in 2019 (second) and 2021 (third), and now is at 9.29 for this fourth BR. Notably for this BR, no country scored the benchmark target of 9.29 towards achieving the CAADP Malabo commitments by 2025. The overall score for the whole of Africa is 4.56. Although this score is higher than the overall score of 4.32 in the third (2021) and 4.03 for the second (2019) Biennial Review cycles, the continent is still not-on-track to meet the CAADP-Malabo Commitment by 2025.
- 6.6. Over four BR cycles, it has been observed that Member States with relatively advanced national data systems that are well integrated with other reporting mechanisms at national, regional, and global levels generally collect and process higher-quality data to produce well-informed BR reports. The Member States that achieved a score of greater than 6 out of 10 include Rwanda, Morocco, Egypt, Uganda, Ghana, Mali, Burundi, Nigeria, Kenya, Tunisia, Ethiopia, and Benin. A further set of countries achieved a score of greater than five (5) but less than six (6) out of ten (10) including Sierra Leone, Gambia, Tanzania, Burkina Faso, Eswatini, Zimbabwe, Malawi, and Cabo Verde.
- 6.7. The Biennial Review (BR) continues to inspire wide interest and dialogue on agricultural transformation in Africa as desired by the Malabo Declaration. Both the BR process and resultant Africa Agriculture Transformation Scorecard (AATS), as well as the Malabo BR Dashboard are key instruments for facilitating the peer review mechanism enshrined in the AU principles and the original NEPAD Agenda.

- 6.8. The findings from this fourth BR report indicate the urgent need for accelerating CAADP implementation in all the seven commitment areas, especially over the next two years to 2025, in order to build a resilient African food system.

6B. Recommendations

- 6.9. The results of this fourth BR, being the second last BR cycle before the lapse of the Malabo Declaration and the goals therein, are critical for the continent to evaluate. Many questions need to be answered as to why the continent is still far from achieving the Malabo targets. The trajectory towards the Malabo targets has not been as expected. This calls for more detailed studies to establish successes and failures, causes and effects, and opportunities and threats, to achieve stable and sustainable food systems in the next two years and after 2025.
- 6.10. Increased utilization of the BR report and inclusive country dialogues, with all relevant stakeholders, on the BR reports and performance in the four BR cycles, is likely to increase awareness of the need for harmonized and concerted implementation towards joint national goals and towards achievement of CAADP Malabo targets. Such dialogues are enhanced by strong communication and dissemination campaigns within Member States, the Regional Economic Communities, and at the continental level. The use of the CAADP BR Communication Toolkit and the BR Dashboard should be encouraged to allow different stakeholders to view, observe and reflect on the findings of this third BR cycle in relation to the achievement of the Malabo Commitments. The use of existing fora, such as the CAADP Partnership Platform and the Peer-to-Peer Malabo Learning Forum, is another avenue for increasing dialogues on the BR results, and the performance of the NAIPs implementation.
- 6.11. The findings in this fourth BR report point to the urgent need for accelerating CAADP implementation. The report also highlights the need to review the progress made by Member States since the start of the Malabo period to document lessons learned and establish areas of success and challenges that will provide priority areas to feed into implementation processes for the next two years until 2025, and the development of the post-Malabo agenda for the next 10 years (2026-2035).
- 6.12. Analysis of the results from this and previous BR cycles, and preparation and wide dissemination of Country Policy Briefs, to support evidence-based decision-making, is a clear actionable area that is likely to provide many opportunities and great strides for stimulating action in the next two years.
- 6.13. The CAADP in general, and the BR process in particular, requires stronger political leadership and commitment and the requisite capacity at all levels in order to drive government and stakeholder buy-in for financing and implementing key recommendations
- 6.14. Regional Economic Communities (RECs) play a key role in supporting the production of quality country BR reports from their Member States because they are responsible for checking the completeness of the individual reports before sending them to the AUC. As such, it is important that the capacity of RECs is strengthened with both human and financial resources to continue undertaking this critical role.
- 6.15. The emergence of continental and sustained shocks to the Africa food system (lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Russia-Ukraine conflict, multiple conflicts in the continent, and the impacts of climate change and climate variability) indicates the need to accelerate progress towards building a shock resilient African food system. Therefore, governments in Africa should sustain the strategic institutions, partnerships and funding mechanisms that have been fostered for responding to future shocks with a view to building a resilient

African food system. In addition, serious attention should be given to this issue to ensure that appropriate coping mechanisms are in place to respond to such shocks.

- 6.16. Conduct a critical analysis, of all the four BR cycles, with the view to encourage self-reflection and come up with a set of lessons learnt and proposals for the way forward for the fifth BR cycle and the post-Malabo era.
- 6.17. Particular emphasis is to work on improving the data quality and incorporating the BR process into the national statistical data collection and validation procedures. Synergize the processes of the BR, NAIP and Joint Sector Reviews (JSRs) within the Member States. Countries should deliberately invest in their data systems, ensuring regular, reliable data to enhance agricultural development strategies and goals. Member States are encouraged to foster a culture of massive data collection and use for maximized utility of the BR.
- 6.18. AU Member States and technical partners need to invest in strengthening national data systems and capacities to enable them to generate adequate and quality data on all the CAADP indicators to sustain production of high-quality BR reports. This includes, but not limited to instituting and training inter-institutional and multi-sectoral teams to support the BR process.
- 6.19. The AUC, RECs, and Member States need to develop and strengthen implementable mechanisms for peer learning. Well-structured peer-to-peer learning and exchange should be an integral part of the CAADP process.
- 6.20. The BR process is a critical mechanism for measuring Africa's progress in implementing the 10-year Malabo Declaration to achieve specific targets by 2025. The BR scorecard system allows for shared learning and knowledge among Member States, promoting best practices, addressing challenges, and setting a path forward to achieve the Malabo commitments.
- 6.21. The drop in both the number of Member States that reported and performance (no country is on track) underscores the need for transformational changes that must be made to ensure progress toward the attainment of Malabo targets.
- 6.22. Underscored in the recommendations from some of the AU Decision reports, there is still a need to conduct a comprehensive review to ensure that the BR system monitors and tracks progress equitably on key targets, at minimum, indicator level for all the sub-sectors (Crop, livestock, fisheries and forestry).
- 6.23. The new indicators on food systems should include local implementation capabilities.

6C. Proposed Biennial Review 2023 Awards

- 6.24. For this BR cycle, no country was on track to achieve the Malabo targets by 2025. The continent as a whole was not on track with regard to implementing the seven commitments of the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods. However, some Member States have shown continuous progress from the first to the fourth BR, and others have archived a score of above the half way mark of 5 out of 10, since the first BR.
- 6.25. **Special Mention for Member States:**
 - a. That have shown **continuous improvement in their scores from the first to the fourth BR:** Comoros, Lesotho, Cabo Verde, Zimbabwe, Gambia, Nigeria, Uganda, Egypt, Morocco, Rwanda, Burundi and Kenya.
 - b. That have archived a **score of above the half way mark of 5 out of 10, since the first BR:** Ethiopia, Mali, Morocco and Rwanda.

- c. That have an **average score of above 5 out of 10 for the four BR cycles**: Rwanda, Morocco, Mali, Ghana, Uganda, Ethiopia, Egypt, Burundi, Kenya, Burkina Faso, Benin, and Malawi
- 6.26. The following awards are proposed to recognize exemplary country performance:
- i. The **Malabo Biennial Review Gold Award** to the Best Overall Score (**8.07 out of 10**): **Rwanda**
 - ii. The **Malabo Biennial Review Silver Award** to the Second Best Overall Score (**6.99 out of 10**): **Morocco**
 - iii. The **Malabo Biennial Review Bronze Award** to the Third Best Overall Score (**6.83 out of 10**): **Egypt**
 - iv. The **Malabo Biennial Review Award of the Most Improved in Scores** from the previous third BR (**17percent**): **Comoros**
 - v. **Special Mention** for best Overall Regional Performance: **Western Africa**
 - vi. **Special Mention** by **Commitment Area** for **Member States that are on track in this fourth BR**:

Commitment Name	Commitment	Benchmark	Member States on-track
Recommitment to Principles and Values of the CAADP Process	Commitment 1	10.00	Niger
Enhancing Investment Financing in Agriculture	Commitment 2	9.50	---
Ending Hunger by 2025	Commitment 3	9.26	---
Halving Poverty through Agriculture by 2025	Commitment 4	8.94	Ghana
Boosting Intra-African Trade in Agriculture	Commitment 5	9.00	---
Enhancing Resilience to Climate Variability	Commitment 6	9.75	Ethiopia and Egypt
Enhancing Mutual Accountability for Actions and Results	Commitment 7	8.60	Rwanda, Morocco, Egypt, Uganda, Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya, Benin, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Tunisia, Sierra Leone, and Burkina Faso

PERFORMANCE AND SCORECARDS
7A. Continental Performance Score Card

7B. Individual Member States Performance Score Cards

Country overall progress for implementing the Malabo Declaration for Agricultural Transformation in Africa represented in the Africa Agriculture Transformation Scorecard (AATS) – Recommendations to Member States

Member State	Recommendations
1. Algeria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data collection system should be improved for the country, and encouraged to report in the next fifth Biennial Review (BR) cycle
2. Angola	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Angola should strengthen its capacity to generate and use agriculture statistical data and information as well as improve the country's biennial report submission. Angola should develop mechanisms to improve investment finance in agriculture by focusing access of farmers to finance, increasing domestic private sector investment in agriculture as well as foreign private sector investment in agriculture. Angola should address resilience to climate variability by increasing government spending on resilience building initiatives focusing on resilience to climate risks and other shocks.
3. Benin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Government of Benin should increase the agricultural productivity of Benin's priority commodities while reducing post-harvest losses. The Government of Benin should ensure that a larger percentage of its farm households have ownership or access to secured land for farming, through land use reforms and land legislation in the countries. The Government of Benin should implement strategies that would increase food and nutrition security through reduction of prevalence of underweight among children under 5 years old and undernourishment in the population.
4. Botswana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Botswana should increase investments in the agriculture sector to 10% of national spending, and specifically increase fertilizer consumption to 50kg per hectare. The presently low application rate of 11kg per hectare is too low to spur productivity of the sector. Botswana should strengthen mutual accountability mechanisms by recruiting more staff for planning, monitoring and evaluation within the ministry of agriculture, besides allocating financial resources for monitoring and Evaluation in general. Botswana should provide affordable loans for the youth to engage in various activities along parts of the agricultural value chains. The current low levels of youth involvement threaten the sustainability of agriculture production for Botswana
5. Burkina Faso	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Government of Burkina Faso should implement policy measures that improve agricultural productivity through increasing the fertilizer consumption per hectare of arable land at least equal to the recommended 50 kg/ha. The Government of Burkina Faso should implement measures that improve public agriculture expenditure and the total agricultural research spending.

Member State	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Government of Burkina Faso should implement strategies that would enhance the nutrition security of children through reduction of prevalence of stunting among children under 5 years old and the proportion of 6-23 months old children who meet the minimum acceptable diet.
6. Burundi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Government of Burundi should increase the agriculture productivity through efforts such as improving farmer access to productivity-enhancing technologies/inputs and practices for the country's priority agricultural commodities, decrease post-harvest losses by strengthening post-harvest management measures, and scale up biofortification to meet the country's food security and nutrition performance targets The Government should also increase its effort to empower rural women and youth in agriculture and support policies and initiatives favorable to the participation of women in Agribusiness The Government of Burundi should intensify efforts to reduce poverty and underweight children under 5. The government of Burundi should strengthen intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services, and decrease applied tariff rate
7. Cabo Verde	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cabo Verde Government should ensure it increase the size of her irrigated land for example by increasing access to agricultural inputs (such as fertilizer, seeds and agrochemicals) and technology. Cabo Verde should implement policies and strategies to reduce the poverty headcount ratio at national level. Cabo Verde should develop and implement mechanism that would improve the quality of multi sectoral and multi stakeholder coordination for the agriculture sector
8. Cameroon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The country must encourage the domestic and foreign private sector investment in agriculture Ending hunger and poverty eradication should be among the priorities of focus to the country The country should improve both its CAADP process and resilience to climate change variability.
9. Central African Republic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Regional score on investment finance in agriculture (1.07/9.50) is low. Parameters as domestic private sector investment, foreign private sector investment in agriculture and access to finance are very low. The Member States and Governments of the Region should allocate more financial resource to improve those parameters. The Region should work more on ending hunger and poverty eradication. The parameters including agricultural productivity (0.19/9.00), postharvest losses (0.00/9.00), sanitary and phytosanitary measures (0.00/9.00), inclusive PPPs for commodity value chains (0.40/9.00) and youth job in agriculture (0.36/9.00) among others are some of the areas to improve. The overall score of the Intra-African trade in agriculture commodities and services (0.59/8.00) is low. This can be related to the weak score (1.77/9.00) recorded on the implementation of the intra-African trade policies and institutional conditions that needs and improvement.

Member State	Recommendations
10. Chad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraged to report in the next fifth Biennial Review (BR) cycle
11. Comoros	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comoros has done well in supporting the development of agricultural land under sustainable land management practices; however, the country should implement policies to support and expand size of irrigated areas as a means to more resilient agricultural systems against climatic shocks • Financial access and inclusivity for women and youth in agriculture should be enhanced to ensure robust input and output markets that are profitable to all the actors in the agricultural value chains • Comoros has done tremendously well in the CAADP participation process and should deploy sector review frameworks to ensure recommendations are synthesized and adopted at national level
12. Congo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government should put more emphasis on domestic and foreign private sectors investments in agriculture while increasing access to finance. • Ending hunger (0.99/9.08) and poverty eradication (1.50/8.94) have low scores on agricultural productivity (0.05/9.00), postharvest losses (0.00), social protection (0.00), sanitary and phytosanitary measures (0.00), inclusive PPPs for commodity value chains (0.00), youth job in agriculture (1.81) and women participation in Agri-business (0.03). The country should put more efforts to improve these parameters • The country has not been committed to intra-African trade in agriculture commodities and services and has not as well utilizing biennial agricultural results. In the same trend, the country recorded low rates in the capacity for evidence-based planning implementation & M&E. The Government should start utilizing the biennial agricultural review results
13. Côte d'Ivoire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of Côte d'Ivoire should implement measures that improve public agriculture expenditure and the total agricultural research spending. • The Government of Côte d'Ivoire should implement policy measures that would improve agricultural productivity through increasing the fertilizer consumption per hectare of arable land at least equal to the recommended 50 kg/ha. • The Government of Côte d'Ivoire should implement measures that enhance resilience to climate related risk and other shocks, particularly for area of land under sustainable land management.
14. Democratic Republic of Congo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data collection system should be improved for the country, and encouraged to report in the next fifth Biennial Review (BR) cycle

Member State	Recommendations
15. Djibouti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of Djibouti should intensify and sustain efforts to address the challenges of hunger, food security and nutrition as well as micro-nutrient deficiencies by promoting nutrition-sensitive interventions such as micronutrient biofortification and improved post-harvest management. • The Government of Djibouti should develop a system for tracking private investments and partnerships in agricultural value chains as well as monitoring intra-Africa trade. • The government should increase the allocation of national budget towards agricultural investments to contribute to ending hunger and eradicating poverty.
16. Egypt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The share of total public expenditure allocated to agricultural expenditure is very low (1.8%). The country should increase public expenditures and investments in agriculture. • The government of Egypt should work to improve the rate 12.7% of proportion of moderate and severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale. • The growth rate (of the proportion of Minimum Dietary Diversity-Women (MDD-W) and the proportion of 6-23 months old children who meet the Minimum Acceptable Diet (MAD) remains low, respectively 11.0% and 28.1%. The country should promote policies and reforms for enhancing food security and nutrition. Actions should also done to increase the yield for the country's priority agricultural commodities.
17. Equatorial Guinea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The country should improve the financial investment in agriculture. • The scores of both ending hunger (0.19/9.08) and eradicating poverty (0.00/8.94) through agricultural activities are low. The Government should put more efforts to improve them. • The country's CAADP process, the intra-African trade in agriculture commodities and services and AfCFTA implementation should be improved by the Government
18. Eritrea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraged to report in the next fifth Biennial Review (BR) cycle
19. Eswatini	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eswatini should create favorable environment to improve youth access to new job opportunities in agriculture value chains. • Eswatini should improve spending on agriculture research as measured by the share of agriculture GDP. • Eswatini should expand social protection programs to protect vulnerable social groups especially the poor.
20. Ethiopia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of Ethiopia should scale up efforts to increase yield for the country's priority agricultural commodities while reducing the post-harvest losses for these commodities. • The Government should also work towards creating new job opportunities and favorable environments for the youth to engage in agriculture value chains.

Member State	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Government should also continue with efforts to increase agriculture land area under sustainable management and consequently contribute to increased yield for the country's priority agricultural commodities.
21. Gabon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The country should increase its investment finance in agriculture to improve while improving the intra-African trade in agriculture commodities and services. The country should better integrate and utilize the results of the biennial agriculture review to boost the national development through agriculture. The country should adopt a better way for agricultural productivity, encourage youth involvement in agriculture for the intra-African trade in agriculture commodities and services.
22. Gambia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government of the Gambia should improve on fertilizer application per hectare of arable land to boost productivity of the crops. This should also include expansion of arable land under ecological organic agriculture practice. The government of the Gambia should encourage youth to take up new jobs in agriculture value chains while encouraging the transformation of the agriculture sector through technology and innovation. The government of the Gambia should increase the proportion of total agriculture spending as share of agriculture gross domestic product to provide a knowledge driven agriculture economy as well as contribute to research uptake.
23. Ghana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government of Ghana should increase the response to spending needs on social protection for vulnerable groups. The country should reform its universal social protection scheme by raising special funds to address issues of disaster and risk management for the vulnerable groups and under-served communities. The government of Ghana should improve public agriculture expenditure as share of agriculture value added and increase the agriculture value added per arable land. Ghana should implement policies and strategies to reduce the poverty headcount ratio at national and international levels.
24. Guinea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Government of Guinea should implement strategies that would facilitate increased investment and finance in the agricultural sector through increase public expenditure to agriculture and the total agricultural research spending as well as farmers having access to agriculture advisory services. The Government of Guinea should implement strategies that would enhance access of both men and women to financial services. The Government of Guinea should implement strategies that will help to eradicate hunger through reduction of prevalence of stunting among children under 5 years old.
25. Guinea-Bissau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Government of Guinea Bissau should implement strategies that increase investment and finance in agriculture through increasing public expenditure in agriculture, improving farmers having access to agriculture advisory services, enhance both domestic and foreign private investments in agriculture as well as access to finance.

Member State	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of Guinea Bissau should implement measures that increase trade facilitation. • The Government of Guinea Bissau should implement strategies that will help to end hunger through better access to agricultural inputs and technologies, increasing agricultural productivity, reducing postharvest losses and enhancing food and nutrition security.
26. Kenya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of Kenya should continue to intensify efforts to reduce the prevalence of underweight among children under 5 years old. • The Government should also increase the percentage of agricultural value added per arable land, the farm households having ownership or access to secured land and the percentage of total agricultural research spending as a share of agriculture GDP. • The Government should also address food safety issues to ensure safe food for its citizens, enhance trade in agricultural products and increase the supply of quality agriculture inputs to the total input's requirements for agriculture commodities
27. Lesotho	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesotho should focus on eradication of poverty through agriculture by developing inclusive PPPs for commodity value chains, women participation in agriculture and reduction of poverty headcount. • Lesotho should also need to rethink its approaches to spending, expenditures and investments. This involves spending needs on social protection for vulnerable social groups from government budget, increasing public agriculture expenditure as a share of total public expenditure. • Lesotho should enhance its intra-Africa Trade in agriculture by focusing on implementation of AfCFTA and identifying critical commodities to prioritize in trade.
28. Liberia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The government of Liberia should provide significant increase in public agriculture expenditure as a share of total public expenditure. • Liberia should aim to significantly reduce the prevalence of stunting and underweight among children under 5 years old through strategic food and nutrition program. • Liberia should ensure trade facilitation of agricultural goods and services by attracting investments in public infrastructure.
29. Libya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The food safety systems Index (FSSI) remained low (31.5%). The country should improve the functional SPS systems in order to meet international best practices established (reach 100% functionality for the SPS systems). • The country should improve its performance, specifically for commitments to CAADP Process, Investment Finance in Agriculture, Ending Hunger, Eradicating Poverty through Agriculture, Intra-African Trade in Agriculture. Commodities and Services, and Resilience to Climate Variability. • Data collection system should be improved for the country.

Member State	Recommendations
30. Madagascar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Madagascar should invest more resources in the agriculture sector to spur land productivity. This can be achieved through increasing the use of inorganic fertilizers, which is presently below the 50kg per hectare target. • Madagascar should also find innovative ways of agriculture financing to ensure that its public spending on agriculture as a share of total spending approaches the 10% target. This can be achieved by leveraging on the private sector players, and as well as foreign direct investments in agriculture. • Madagascar should also take steps to ease international trade with the mainland Africa, by reducing tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade.
31. Malawi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malawi should intensify and sustain efforts to address food security and nutrition as well as micro-nutrient deficiencies by promoting nutrition-sensitive interventions such as micronutrient biofortification as well as investing in post-harvest management and productivity-enhancing technologies. • Malawi should also work towards creating favorable environment for women such as facilitating access to finance to enable them to actively engage in agriculture value chains for job creation and poverty reduction. • Malawi should develop or strengthen a robust system for recording, tracking and monitoring domestic private investments and partnerships in agricultural value chains as well as intra-Africa trade.
32. Mali	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mali Government is encouraged to put in place policies that will increase access to agricultural inputs (such as fertilizer, seeds and agrochemicals) and expand its spending on agricultural research. • Mali Government should ensure drastic reduction in the prevalence of malnutrition especially, underweight among under-five children in the country. This can be achieved through targeted nutrition programs for children in the country. • The Government of Mali should ensure it increase the size of her irrigated land through increased financing facilities for irrigation farming and ensure increased access to financial services through provision of credit at liberal terms to farmers.
33. Mauritania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The country should improve fertilizer consumption per hectare of arable land. • Mauritania should increase the number (1 out of 5) of agricultural commodity value chains for which a PPP is establish with strong linkage to smallholder agriculture. • The proportion (13.0%) of resilient farm, pastoral, and fisher households to climate and weather related shocks is too low. The country government should ensure that at least 30% of farm, pastoral, and fisher households have improved their resilience capacity by promoting initiatives of building resilience of production systems.
34. Mauritius	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mauritius should increase the share of the national budget that goes to the agriculture sector from the current low levels of under 2% towards the target 10%. This will strengthen the sector and increase its role in the economy.

Member State	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mauritius should invest in yield improvement programs for its commodities. Although its sugar production is efficient, the productivity of many of its crops is low and increasing fertilizer application and investing in better crop management can improve sector productivity. • Give the frequent incidences of cyclones; Mauritius should invest more in resilience building. Thus, Mauritius should increase the share of public spending allocated towards resilience building.
35. Morocco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morocco's food safety health Index (FSHI) is too low (15.3%) and efforts should be done to strengthen its capability to adopt and implement science-based, coherent, and integrated SPS system and reach 100% functionality. • The proportion of 6-23 months old children who meet the Minimum Acceptable Diet (MAD) is 46.0% against a minimum of 50%. The country should continue to promote policies and reforms for enhancing food security and nutrition. • The country should increase the current low level (17.9%) of supplied quality agriculture inputs to the total inputs requirements for agriculture commodities.
36. Mozambique	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mozambique should develop mechanisms to improve investment finance in agriculture by focusing access of farmers to finance, increasing domestic private sector investment in agriculture as well as foreign private sector investment in agriculture. • Mozambique should focus on eradication of poverty through agriculture by developing inclusive public-private partnerships for prioritized commodity value chains, increasing youth jobs in agriculture and women participation in agriculture. • Mozambique should invest more resources in the agriculture sector to boost land productivity by, for example, increasing the inorganic fertilizer consumption per hectare of arable land, which is currently below the 50kg per hectare target.
37. Namibia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Namibia should country also need to rethink its approaches to land by increasing size of irrigated area, increasing productivity or agricultural value added per arable land and boost annual growth of agricultural GDP. • Namibia should also focus on eradication of poverty through agriculture by developing inclusive PPPs for commodity value chains, increasing youth jobs in agriculture, women participation in agriculture and reduction of head count ratio. • Namibia should develop mechanism to improve investment Finance in Agriculture by focusing access of farmers to finance, increasing domestic private sector investment in agriculture as well as foreign private sector investment in agriculture.
38. Niger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of Niger should implement measures that will facilitate increase in public expenditure in agriculture as well as domestic and foreign private investment in agriculture. • Niger Government should ensure drastic reduction in the prevalence of malnutrition especially, wasting among under-five children in the country. This can be achieved through targeted nutrition programs for children in the country.

Member State	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Niger Government is encouraged to put in place measures that will increase access to agricultural extension services by farmers. Training and deployment of extension agents as well as encouraging private extension services would be needed to achieve this objective.
39. Nigeria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The government of Nigeria should improve the proportion of farmers having access to agriculture advisory services through adequate funding and collaboration for public and private extension services. • Nigeria should ensure farmers have access to affordable fertilizer to increase consumption per hectare of arable land through effective fertilizer policy and strategy. The use of organic fertilizer should also be encouraged as a complementary strategy. • Nigeria should increase the proportion of public agriculture expenditure as a share of total public expenditure to ensure adequate agricultural inputs use and capital formation.
40. Rwanda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of Rwanda should continue and intensify efforts to address malnutrition (both stunting and malnutrition) especially among young children of 6-23 months old to meet the Minimum Acceptable Diet. • The Government should intensify efforts to reduce the rate of poverty head count ratio, at international poverty line. • The Government should increase the percentage of agricultural value added per arable land. and the total agricultural research spending as a share of agriculture GDP.
41. Sahrawi Republic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sahrawi government should endeavor to improve its databases and statistics
42. São Tomé and Príncipe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data collection system should be improved for the country, and encouraged to report in the next fifth Biennial Review (BR) cycle
43. Senegal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of Senegal should ensure it increases the size of irrigated land through increased financing facilities for irrigation farming and ensure increased access to financial services by its farmers. • Senegal should ensure that a larger percentage of its farm households have ownership or access to secure land for farming, probably through land use reforms and land legislation in the country that will open up land for the use of farmers. • The Senegal Government is encouraged to put in place policies that will increase the yield of the country's priority agricultural commodities. Increased use of fertilizer could be adopted to achieve this objective.
44. Seychelles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government should complete the adoption of the CAADP process and support the quality of multi-sectorial and multi-stakeholder coordination, and inclusive institutionalized mechanisms for mutual accountability and peer review.

Member State	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government should increase new employment opportunities for the youth in the agriculture value chains and the number of agricultural households with ownership/secure right to land. • The country should strengthen the capacity of the NSB to collect and analyze agricultural statistics and enhance collaboration between the NSB and the two ministries of Fisheries & the Blue Economy, and Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment on agricultural statistics. • The country and its development partners should investment in social protection and early warning systems and as well as promote weather-based insurance to mitigate weather related shocks such as cyclones, tsunamis, storm surge, extreme rainfall, flooding, landslides, rockslides, and forest fires
45. Sierra Leone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The government of Sierra Leone should improve the agricultural business landscape by encouraging more men and women to engage in agriculture through the provision of adequate, affordable, and accessible financial services. • The government of Sierra Leone should strive harder to reduce the prevalence of stunting and underweight among children under 5 years old. The government should also ensure improvement in the food safety health index of the country. • The government of Sierra Leone should put in place adequate funding to support inclusive institutionalize mechanisms for mutual accountability and peer review including the agriculture joint sector review and the biennial review process.
46. Somalia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of Somalia should allocate adequate budget towards agricultural investments; this to contribute to ending hunger and eradicating of poverty through agriculture. • The Government is highly applauded for providing data for the Fourth BR and is encouraged to deploy appropriate mechanisms, including joint sector review platforms, for promoting mutual accountability and peer review as well as quality of multi-sectorial and multi-stakeholder coordination in order to increase capacity to generate and use agriculture statistical data and information. • The government should increase investments towards building resilience to climate related risks and other shocks.
47. South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Africa should develop mechanism to improve investment Finance in Agriculture by focusing access of farmers to finance and advisory services, increasing domestic private sector investment in agriculture as well as foreign private sector investment in agriculture. • South Africa should enhance its intra-Africa Trade in agriculture by focusing on trade facilitation and identifying critical commodities to prioritize in trade. • South Africa should also improve its commitment to CAADP process by enhancing the quality of multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder coordination.

Member State	Recommendations
48. South Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of South Sudan should enhance efforts to encourage the youth, men and women to engage in new job opportunities in agriculture value chains and improve their access to both agriculture advisory services and financial services. • The Government of South Sudan should increase the share of government agriculture expenditure in the total government expenditure to meet the CAADP target of at least 10%. • The Government of South Sudan should increase spending on resilience building initiatives. • The Government of South Sudan should enhance intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services.
49. Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraged to report in the next fifth Biennial Review (BR) cycle
50. Tanzania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of Tanzania should increase their current budgetary support to agricultural research as a share of the GDP as well as their public expenditure as a share of agriculture value added. • The Government of Tanzania should scale up efforts to repurpose their current support to agriculture to reduce the cost of healthy diets in order to improve infant and young child feeding practices, which is critical to improved nutrition and health. • The government of Tanzania should put measures in place to increase the proportion of public agriculture expenditure as a share of agriculture value added.
51. Togo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Togo Government should ensure drastic reduction in the prevalence of malnutrition especially stunting among under-five children in the country. This can be achieved through targeted nutrition programs for children in the country. • Togo should ensure that a larger percentage of its farm households have ownership or access to secure land for farming, probably through land use reforms and land legislation in the country that will open up land for the use of farmers. • Togo Government is encouraged to increase its public expenditure as well as total agricultural research spending on agriculture and expand agricultural value added per arable land. Increased research spending could lead to technology advancement and increased productivity.
52. Tunisia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only 5.0% of youth are engaged in new job opportunities in agriculture value chains. Youth jobs in agriculture should be promoted by the country. • The country's proportion (7.9%) of agricultural land under sustainable land and water management (SSLWM) including Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) practices is low. Tunisia should ensure that at least 30% of agricultural land is under SSLWM by strengthening the promotion of Ecological Organic and Agro-ecological (EOA) practices

Member State	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tunisia achieved only 11.4% increase in yield for the country's priority agricultural commodities far from the objective of doubling (100% increase) the current agricultural yield levels by the year 2025. The government should promote the utilization of improved seeds.
53. Uganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of Uganda should intensify its efforts to reduce the prevalence of stunting among children below 5 years and ensure children below 2 years meet the requirement of minimum acceptable diet. • The Government of Uganda should increase its public expenditure on agriculture sector proportionate to its contribution to the GDP. • The government of Uganda should increase its public financing of agricultural research to meet the Malabo declaration target of at least 1% of the share of agriculture GDP.
54. Zambia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zambia should increase the share of the national budget to agriculture and create an enabling environment for attracting both domestic and foreign private investments and public -private partnerships in agricultural value chains for job creation, poverty reduction and trade in agricultural commodities. • Zambia should intensify efforts to address the challenge of food security and nutrition through post-harvest management, and other nutrition sensitive interventions such as biofortification. • Zambia should create new employment opportunities for the youths and women in the agriculture value chains by, among others enhancing access to agricultural inputs and other productivity-enhancing technologies and agricultural finance.
55. Zimbabwe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zimbabwe should increase the share of national budget to agriculture, intensify and sustain efforts to promote foreign and domestic private investments and partnerships in agriculture in order to increase investment finance in agriculture and for promoting trade in agricultural commodities within the region through value chain prioritization. • Zimbabwe should also create incentives for women participation in agriculture for poverty reduction through interventions that would enhance access to agricultural inputs, productivity-enhancing technologies and finance. • Zimbabwe should promote and intensify efforts to reduce food and nutrition security through post-harvest management, micro-nutrient deficiencies through nutrition-sensitive interventions such as biofortification.

7C. Regional Performance Score Cards

<p>Central Africa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are eight Member States in this region, namely: Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and Sao Tome and Principe. Under the joint coordination of the Economic Commission for Central Africa States (ECCAS) and Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), five (05) States submitted their Country Reports, representing a submission rate of 62.5% lower than the rate of 87.5% for the third BR cycle in 2021. In addition to Sao Tome and Principe (STP), two Countries (Chad and the Democratic Republic of Congo) did not submit their country reports for this fourth cycle of the BR. • The average score for the region is 3.29, compared with a 2023 benchmark of 9.29. Overall, the region is not on-track to meet the CAADP/Malabo Commitments. Comparing to the score of 3.33 in 2021, the Central Region is in regression. Even though the Central Africa Region is not on track for the CAADP commitments areas, it registered a good progress for Country's capacity for evidence-based planning, implementation, and Monitoring & Evaluation (0.14 in 2021 to 9.34 in 2023) indicator as well as Resilience to climate related risks and other shocks (2.64 in 2021 to 4.91 in this fourth BR (2023) report). • Regarding inter-African trade in agricultural commodities and services, even if the ECCAS region is not on-track, the progress is registered on the Intra-African Trade Policies and institutional conditions (2.91 in 2021 to 3.34 in 2023). We note that all countries had a proof of the deposit of ratification documents under the AfCFTA Agreement. Specifically, the countries of Congo, Cameroon, and Chad have developed their national implementation strategy for the AfCFTA Agreement. • Among the five (5) countries that submitted their country reports, only Equatorial Guinea registered an increase of 17% of score compared to the previous BR (2.82 in 2021 to 3.30 in 2023). Scores decreased by 34% for the Central African Republic, 19% for Cameroon, 13% for Congo, and 4% for Gabon. For Equatorial Guinea, the most significant performance was observed for Intra-African Trade Policies and institutional conditions. Collectively, the region should improve the data collection system in each country.
<p>Eastern Africa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This region is composed of 13 Member States, namely: Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. The region is coordinated jointly by the East African Community (EAC), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA). All Member States except Eritrea and Sudan submitted their national biennial review reports, representing 85% submission rate. The fact that two (2) countries did not complete the process and submit their reports on schedule is also a matter of concern. • The Eastern Africa region achieved an overall score of 5.00 against a benchmark of 9.29 and therefore was not on-track to achieving the CAADP goals and targets by 2025. At the commitment level, the region was not on-track in any of the seven CAADP commitment areas. The observed performance reflected the general performance of the member states in the region. None of the 13 member states in the Eastern Africa region was on-track in achieving the CAADP goals and targets.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is however noteworthy that in some of the commitment areas the region showed good progress towards achieving the targets. For instance, in theme 1 on the commitment to the CAADP Process, the region had a score of 7.91 out of 10. The target could be easily met if all Member States in the region recommitted themselves to implementing the remaining aspects of the domesticating CAADP process, formed required partnerships and alliance with all stakeholders and completed policy and institutional reviews. Similarly, for commitment area 7, the performance has shown impressive progress and could be achieved especially by strengthening the capacity of member states for evidence-based planning, implementation, and M&E. The region has also made good progress in enhancing resilience to climate variability by achieving a score of 6.51 against a benchmark of 9.75. However, Member States need to increase investments in resilience building. • The region should pay attention in commitment 2 on investment finance in agriculture because it has not achieved even the half-way mark toward achieving the target. The member states need to increase public spending for agriculture and create a conducive environment for increased investment by private sectors including foreign direct investment. The region needs to pay critical attention to the area of access to finance by the agricultural households whose performance is particularly poor. The region also needs to pay attention to the area of intra-Africa trade in agricultural commodities and services that are currently low; there is a need to lower barriers to trade (both tariff and non-tariff) and ensure that is freer trade among member states as envisaged under the banner of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). • Overall, the region needs to pay attention to all commitment areas for it to meet the CAADP targets by 2025.
Northern Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Northern region includes six (6) Member States: Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia, coordinated by the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) as a Regional Economic Community (REC). During this fourth cycle of the BR, a major communication effort was helpful for awareness among Member States. Despite the context of COVID-19 and the consequences of the Russian-Ukrainian war, all Member States except Algeria, submitted their reports, representing a submission rate of 83% lower than the rate (100%) of submission for the third BR. • The overall score of the northern region is 4.22 and compared with the 2023 benchmark of 9.22, the region is not on track. In comparison to the previous BR score of 4.62, this region is regressing with underperformance on all commitments, except the Biennial Agriculture Review Process (6.41 in 2021 to 6.71 in 2023). Out of the five (5) countries submitted their reports, three (3) countries (Morocco (6.99), Egypt (6.83) and Tunisia (6.23) are progressing well considering scores out of 6. Specifically, Morocco registered good performance and is on-track for Commitment 7 and for Domestic Private Sector Investment in Agriculture, social protection, Youth job in agriculture, Women participation in Agri-business, Resilience to climate related risks and other shocks as well as Mutual Accountability for Actions and Results commitment. Egypt is on track for the two (2) commitments 6 and 7; Tunisia also performed well on Domestic Private Sector Investment in Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Security, Inclusive PPPs for commodity value chains, and Mutual Accountability for Actions and Results.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scores highly decreased for two (2) countries (Libya (49%), and Mauritania (21%)) Even Morocco, Egypt and Tunisia are progressing; these three (3) countries should improve Intra-African Trade in Agriculture Commodities and services and Investment in resilience building. The region should also improve the data collection system in each country.
Southern Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per AUC distribution of the countries for the BR reporting, the Southern Africa region reports on 12 countries (although SADC has 16 member states), namely: Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Eswatini, Zambia and Zimbabwe. All countries in the Southern Africa region submitted their reports, representing a 100 percent submission rate. The overall average score for the region is 4.26, which suggests that the region is not on-track in meeting the CAADP Malabo commitments when assessed against the 2023 benchmark of 9.29. This represents a 3.6% improvement in performance compared to the score of 4.11 for the third BR. Among the twelve (12) countries, none is on-track representing no change in performance of the region over the inaugural BR (2017), second BR (2019) and the third BR (2021). • The region is again not on-track in any of the seven (7) Malabo commitments in the 2023 BR, as was the case in the third, 2nd and inaugural BRs, although the region was on-track on four (4) commitments in the inaugural BR in 2017. However, the region has jointly made considerable effort to achieve half of the required milestones for the Commitment to CAADP Process and Mutual Accountability for Actions and Results. • Individually, none of the 12 countries in the region is on-track in meeting all of the seven (7) CAADP/Malabo commitments. Eswatini, Malawi and Zimbabwe have progressed well and achieved half of the overall benchmark of 10. In general, countries with relatively good agricultural data management systems produced better reports for the BR. Despite not meeting the targets set, eight countries namely, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe made good progress towards achieving all the commitments in general as evidenced by improvements in their overall scores from previous BRs. • Furthermore, seven countries namely, Angola, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Zambia, and Zimbabwe are on-track to achieving the commitment to the CAADP process. Two countries (Zimbabwe, Malawi) are on-track on Mutual accountability, and five countries, namely, Eswatini, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, and Zimbabwe, have performed well on resilience to climate change variability. • Countries in the region have not performed well on the commitment of Eradicating Poverty through Agriculture with only Eswatini and Madagascar making significant progress; only Lesotho and Eswatini have performed well on the commitment to investment finance in agriculture, while Mozambique, Madagascar and Namibia are on course, albeit not on track, on the commitment on ending hunger. • Going forward, the region needs to increase its efforts in meeting all the Malabo/CAADP commitments. Greater effort should be made to increase investment in agriculture by among others, increasing the share of the national budget to agriculture and creating a conducive environment for attracting both domestic and foreign private investment and public-private partnerships

	<p>in agriculture. This will have ripple effects on ending hunger, eradicating poverty, promoting intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services, and achieve resilience to climate variability.</p>
<p>Western Africa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The region has 15 Member States namely: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Côte d’Ivoire , The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo, coordinated by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). The submission rate of this edition of the CAADP Biennial Review is 100% despite political instability in the region. Western Africa has maintained this reporting rate since 2019. The average score for the region is 5.03, which indicates that the region is not on-track to meet the CAADP Malabo Commitments when assessed against the 9.29 benchmark for 2023. • The region has made slight progress over time. Between 2019 (with a score of 4.94) and 2023 (score of 5.03), there is an increase of 2%. On the other hand, among the 15 countries, none achieved the benchmark set for the reporting year, hence not on-track. However, eight (8) of them have shown significant progress, with scores ranging from 5.09 to 6.68. These countries are Ghana, Mali, Nigeria, Benin, Sierra Leone, The Gambia, Burkina Faso and Cabo Verde. • In terms of progress, West Africa scored 8.30 out of 10 in Commitment one, 3.20 out of 9.50 in Commitment two, 3.04 out of 9.26 in Commitment Three, 3.89 out of 8.94 in commitment Four, 2.26 out of 9.00 in commitment Five, 6.95 out of 9.75 in Commitment six and 7.57 out of 8.60 in commitment seven. Commitment five (Intra-African Trade in Agriculture Commodities and services) and Commitment Three (Ending hunger) are the two commitments where the region shows very low performances. • Specifically for the countries, all countries in the region have committed to the CAADP process, and significant efforts have been made during the last three editions. However, for this edition, the added complexity was for countries to provide concrete evidences, which was not mandatory in the first three cycles. This deterred most countries except for Niger, which was the only country on-track for the Commitment to CAADP Process. On the other hand, Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Nigeria, Sierra Leone are on-track on commitment to mutual accountability (Commitment 7). • Despite numerous areas requiring improvement, the region must focus on the following performance categories: (i) Domestic Private Sector Investment in Agriculture; (ii) Foreign Private Sector Investment in Agriculture; (iii) Access to finance; (iv) Access to Agriculture inputs and technologies; (v) Agricultural Productivity; (vi) Food security and Nutrition as part of Ending Hunger; (vii) Poverty Reduction; and (viii) Intra-African Trade in agricultural commodities and services. Regrettably, access to finance and investment finance in agriculture are recurring concerns since the inception of the BR process. • The following recommendations are proposed: AUC, ECOWAS, and other stakeholders to work earnestly towards very clear action plans to support countries in addressing the areas for improvement as indicated above.

7D. Continental Performance Score Card

<p>Continental analysis</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall, the continent remains not-on-track in achieving the Malabo Declaration Commitments, obtaining an overall average score of 4.56. With the relatively higher benchmark of 9.29 required to be on-track in this reporting period, compared to 7.28 in the third BR cycle, and 6.66 in the second (2019) reporting period, the rate of progress in the continent appears to have further slowed down. For this fourth (2023) Biennial Review Report, 49 out of 55 Member States submitted their validated national reports to their respective African Union Commission (AUC) through their Regional Economic Communities (RECs). The six Member States that were unable to meet the deadline date and time and are thus without scores in this fourth Biennial Review (BR) report are Algeria, Chad, DR Congo, Eritrea, Sao Tome and Principe, and Sudan. • In this fourth BR cycle, no member state is on-track to achieving the Malabo target for 2025. In the third cycle, only one member state was on track, four (4) Member States that were on-track in 2019 during the second Biennial Review cycle, and 17 in the inaugural (2017) BR cycle. This may be explained by the successively increasing continual benchmark. It needs to be noted that the benchmark for each successive reporting period will increase, reaching the maximum value of 10 in 2025, since the continent is expected to continuously improve performance towards achieving the targets set in the Malabo Declaration. As a continent, we are also not on track in any of the seven (7) commitment areas. • The findings from this fourth BR report indicate the urgent need for accelerating CAADP implementation on all the seven commitment areas. Particular emphasis is to work on improving the data quality and incorporating the BR process into the national statistical data collection and validation procedures. Increased utilization of the BR report and undertaking country analysis to make country appropriate policy briefs with actionable recommendations for implementation, will most likely yield better performance. Inclusive country dialogues, with all relevant stakeholders, on the BR reports and performance in the four BR cycles, is likely to increase awareness of the need for harmonized and concerted implementation towards joint national goals and towards achievement of CAADP Malabo targets. Such dialogues will also contribute to document progress and establish areas of success and challenge that will provide priority areas to feed into the development of the agenda for the next 10 years (2026-2035).
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PROGRESS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF KEY AFRICAN UNION DECISIONS

8A. Report on Fertilizer Consumption in Africa – Fertilizer for an African Green Revolution (Decision: EX.CL/1041(XXXII)), 2006

Background

- 8.1. During the Africa Fertilizer Summit held in Abuja, Nigeria, in June 2006, the African Union Agriculture Ministers called for an agricultural transformation in Africa, recognizing it as the primary means to alleviate poverty. They also acknowledged the significant challenge of limited farmer access to fertilizers due to resource constraints and emphasized the necessity for strategic investments to enhance fertilizer availability. At the summit's conclusion, the Heads of State and Government endorsed the **Declaration on Fertilizer for an African Green Revolution [DOC. ASSEMBLY/AU/6 (VII), Decision: EX.CL/1041(XXXII)]**, designating fertilizers as a critical cross-border commodity and committing to expedite farmers' access to fertilizers.
- 8.2. The twelve resolutions established in Abuja were geared towards formulating policies and cultivating markets to enhance the production, accessibility, and utilization of fertilizers. The initial resolution urged African countries' governments to work towards a substantial six-fold rise in fertilizer utilization, elevating it from the yearly average of 8 kilograms of nutrients per hectare (which constituted only 10% of the global average at that time) to a minimum of 50 kilograms per hectare by the year 2015. On fertilizer financing, the African Development Bank (AfDB), with the assistance of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), was called upon to establish an Africa Fertilizer Financing Mechanism (AFFM) by the year 2007. This mechanism was intended to fulfil the financial requisites of the various initiatives agreed upon during the Summit. The twelfth resolution entailed a mandate for the African Union Commission (AUC) and the NEPAD Agency, in collaboration with other partners, to oversee and periodically report on progress, with updates provided every two years.

Progress on Implementation of the Abuja Declaration

Establishment and operationalization of the Africa Fertilizer Financing Mechanism (AFFM)

- 8.3. AfDB Board of Governors approved the establishment of AFFM as a dedicated fund in April 2008. The fund became operational in 2015 when it garnered contributions totaling \$10 million from the AfDB, the governments of Nigeria and Tanzania, and the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), meeting the required financial threshold. AFFM subsequently achieved full functionality in 2018, marked by the endorsement of pertinent strategic and operational guidelines and documents by the AFFM Governing Council and the Board of Directors of AfDB, which serves as the host institution for AFFM.

Table 8.1: Status of contributions to AFFM (December 2022)

#	Contributor	Amount (\$)	%
1	AfDB	7,664,844	32%
2	Nigeria	6,362,336	27%
3	Tanzania	203,005	1%
4	AGRA	998,842	4%
5	NORAD	8,735,645	36%
	Total	23,964,672	100%

Source: [AFFM Annual Report 2022](#)

8.4. As of Dec 2022, AFFM has received total contributions of about \$24 million (Table 1), from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD, 36%), AfDB (27%), Nigeria (27%), AGRA (4%) and Tanzania (1%).

8.5. Over the same period, AFFM allocated \$9.5 million of the funds received into projects and operating costs, with a balance of about \$12.5 million available for future commitments. AFFM is currently mobilizing \$300 million to finance its 7-year strategic plan (2022-2028)³

- 8.6. Besides financing through AFFM, AfDB has been involved in the fertilizer sector across the continent via special programs, technical assistance, and financing arrangements over the past five years. In line with the AfDB's industrialization strategy for 2016-2025, AfDB has financed different fertilizer-related projects, including a corporate loan of US\$300 million to Dangote Industries Limited in Nigeria to construct a greenfield crude oil refinery and a greenfield fertilizer manufacturing plant that produces 6,200 tons of nitrogen-related fertilizer daily. Further, it has extended a loan of US\$100 million to Nigeria's Indorama Eleme Fertilizer & Chemicals Limited to produce 1.4 million metric tons of urea annually and approved a second loan of \$200 million in 2018 to support the company's plans to double its production to 2.8 million tons per annum. Furthermore, in 2018, AfDB approved a second corporate loan of EUR 180 million to the OCP Group for expansion, including extending fertilizer storage capacity by 200,000 additional tons.
- 8.7. There are also ongoing discussions for a potential further US\$2 billion for Nigeria and Ethiopia. The fertilizer manufacturing industry is on the rise. Fertilizer manufacturing and blending projects are emerging across the continent, attracted by existing natural gas and phosphate reserves and a growing demand for affordable inorganic fertilizer.
- 8.8. In the fertilizer distribution, AfDB approved a US\$1.5 billion- African Emergency Food Production Facility (AEFPF) in 2022 to support the delivery of climate-smart certified seeds and 3.54 million metric tons of fertilizers to smallholder farmers, provision of technical and financial resources and policy commitments to reforms.

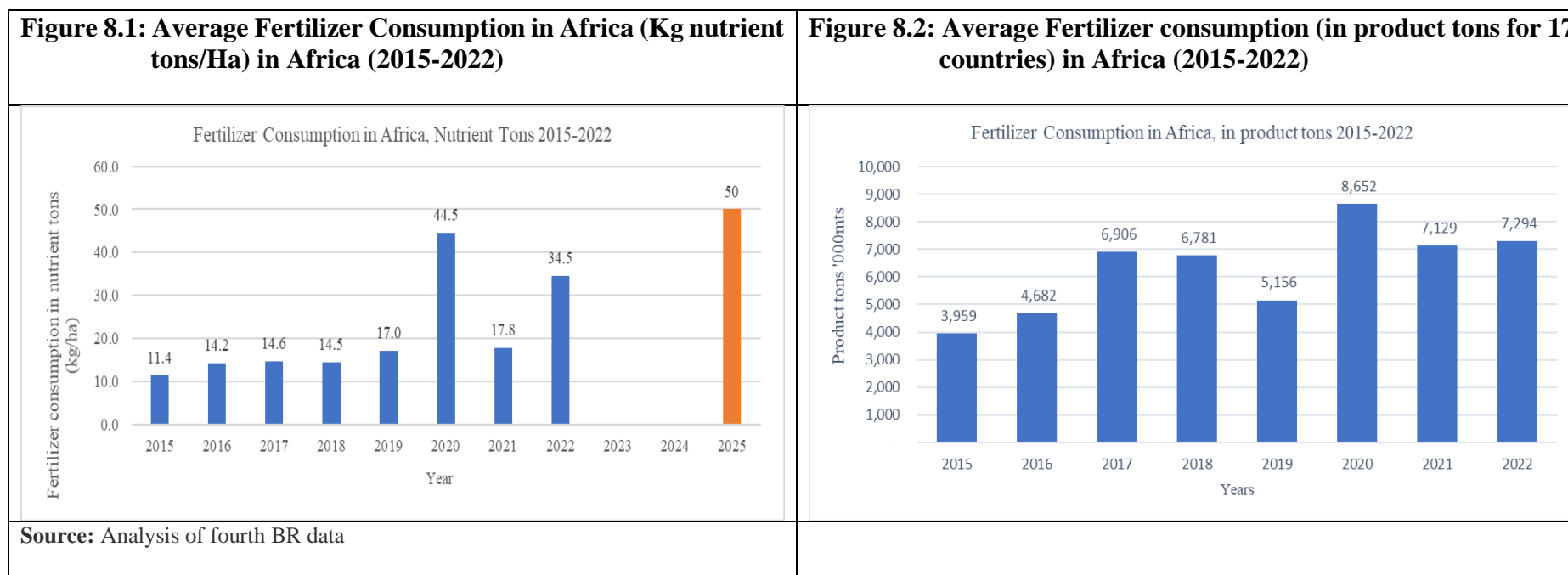
Fertilizer Consumption

- 8.9. The BR process tracks the progress of African Member States towards the target of 50kg of nutrient tons/ha by 2025 (revised from the original target year of 2015 in the Abuja Declaration). The specific indicator is "fertilizer consumption (kg/ha of arable land)," with 2015 as the base year and 2025 as the target year. The second Biennial Review report (2015-2018) indicated that only four countries had

³ <https://www.afdb.org/en/documents/africa-fertilizer-financing-mechanism-affm-strategic-plan-2022-2028>

consistently met this target. This number increased to five in the third Biennial Review report (2015-2021). In addition to financial interventions, various initiatives within the continent have been supported, e.g. AfricaFertilizer⁴ with CountrySTAT from FAO, to develop national-level technical working groups to ensure mutual accountability on fertilizer matters and spur growth in utilization of fertilizers through the provision of data for policy and business decisions.

- 8.10. In 2020, compared to the previous years, the count of reporting countries decreased from 40 to 27. Importantly, many of these countries are significant consumers of fertilizers. This reduction in reporting countries had the effect of distorting the average fertilizer use upward. Notwithstanding, two notable interventions at the continental level supported healthy inventory among member states.



- 8.11. As detailed in the Figures 8.1 and 8.2, financial intervention through the AfDB supported a robust financing framework for fertilizer markets in Africa. During the COVID-19 pandemic, many Governments in Africa, by policy, instituted fertilizers as an essential commodity, ensuring ease of trade and availability to farmers.

⁴ <https://africafertilizer.org/#/en>

- 8.12. Between 2016 and 2019, Africa's average fertilizer consumption ranged from 14.2 kg/ha and 17.0 kg/ha, with an annual growth rate of about 11%. From 2020 to 2021, there was a significant dip in the consumption figures reported. Several factors, including the Covid-19 pandemic and climatic disruptions, likely contributed to this dip. However, between 2021 and 2022, there was an uptick in consumption from 17.8 kg/ha to 34.5 kg/ha, per data collected from 43 member states in the fourth Biennial Review (BR) cycle. Again, factors such as the emergency relief programs in the continent, emergency subsidy programs by Governments, and infusion of \$1.5 Billion by AfDB into the distribution stream for access to seeds and fertilizers could have corrected the trend.
- 8.13. To reach the 2014 Malabo target of 50 kg of nutrient tons per hectare by 2025, Africa must achieve an average annual growth rate of more than 15%.
- 8.14. Eco-friendly fertilization is another sustainable approach to improving crop yield, crop quality, and environmental sustainability. Besides mineral fertilizers, organic fertilizers contribute to this, and hence, they need to be promoted to ensure that soil health is approached from a holistic point of view. Developing testing protocols and measuring nutrients contained in organic fertilizers and soil amendments will contribute to understanding and sustaining soil health for increased productivity.
- 8.15. The past two years have highlighted the crucial role of fertilizer in African agriculture. To expedite progress, member states should implement deliberate policies and investments to improve access and affordability of fertilizer, boost local production capacity, and support intra-Africa trade through the AfCFTA (African Continental Free Trade Area) and other initiatives. These efforts are essential to enhance agricultural productivity and food security across the continent.

Findings

Key findings from the analysis reveal that.

- 8.16. Fertilizer consumption is steadily growing across Africa's different countries and regions. One main drawback is that the target set in Abuja is likely not to be achieved by the year 2025 should the annual growth rate achieved over the last three years not be sustained.
- 8.17. Growth in consumption is not uniform across the continent, with the main drivers of this uptake being countries in Northern Africa. e.g., Egypt and Morocco. Eastern African countries doing well include Ethiopia and Kenya. The gap between countries on track and those not on track is significant. On-track countries have achieved averages of over 70 kg/ha in fertilizer usage, while countries that are not on track report averages of less than 10 kg/ha. These disparities underscore the need for targeted efforts and investments in agriculture and fertilizer access to bridge the gap and ensure more equitable progress across African nations.

Conclusions and recommendations

- 8.18. Promoting extension services within African Union Member states is a sure way of incentivizing fertilizer usage. This component requires significant strengthening, as exemplified by Ethiopia's successful model. When combined with the effective dissemination of the latest research and knowledge transfer through such a framework, farmers will be more motivated to increase their fertilizer usage.

- 8.19. As the continent prepares to implement the 10-year action plan in the upcoming 2023 summit, collaborative efforts are essential in developing country-level roadmaps that comprehensively address soil health from all perspectives.
- 8.20. An aggressive resource mobilization campaign through the Africa Fertilizer Financing Mechanism (AFFM) is essential to secure the necessary funding for enhanced fertilizer consumption and improved soil health across Africa.
- 8.21. The past four years have underscored the vulnerabilities of Africa's fertilizer distribution systems. Member states must prioritize the development of local capacity where feasible and eliminate both tariff and non-tariff barriers to facilitate the smooth movement of fertilizer products between countries. It is worth noting that Africa produces approximately 30 million metric tons of fertilizer products, but a significant portion of this is currently exported to other continents.

8B. Access to Seed and Biotechnology (Decision: Doc. ASSEMBLY/AU/6 (VIII), 2007

Introduction

- 8.22. The Eighth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 29-30 January 2007 endorsed the African Seed and Biotechnology Program (ASBP) as a strategic framework for the development of the seed sector in Africa (Doc. ASSEMBLY/AU/6 (VIII)). The overall program goal is to contribute to increased food security and nutrition and to poverty alleviation in Africa through the establishment of effective and efficient seed systems and enhanced application of biotechnologies and methodologies within the seed sector.
- 8.23. The objectives of the ASBP include the following: (i) Enhanced national capacity for improved seed production, multiplication and distribution to better supply farmers with high quality seed that enables them to respond to changing environmental conditions and market demands; (ii) Improved seed quality assurance procedures in place to ensure sustained production and distribution of high quality seed to farmers; (iii) Strengthened linkages between the formal and informal seed sectors to better understand and respond to farmer needs, including small-scale and women farmers; (iv) Effective seed policies and regulations in place to enable and promote increased seed trade among African nations; (v) Enhanced capacity for the conservation and sustainable use and development of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, to ensure adapted crop varieties are available to meet future farmer needs; (vi) Increased capacity to utilize tools of biotechnology to enhance plant breeding and high quality seed production; (vii) Increased capacity to implement biosafety measures in relation to seed production and distribution and plant genetic improvement, to protect human health and the environment; (viii) Establishment of model codes of conduct for seed used in emergency situations.

Analysis

- 8.24. The Seed Sector Performance Index (SSPI) is a single score-based measurement tool that provides “a bird’s eye view” of the health of seed systems across Africa. The SSPI tracks 17 indicators (parameters) that feed into the fourth Biennial Review Report of the African Union

Commission (AUC). The 17 parameters have been selected from over 150 and are prioritized based on their strength to assess a thematic area as well as the availability of data.

Findings

- 8.25. Out of the 44 Member States that submitted data, 19 have scored between 7-10, indicating that the country is on track for this indicator. The leading countries are Egypt, Kenya, Malawi, Morocco, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. These countries can be characterized as having seed systems that are in the late growth to mature stages of development and have the following characteristics: robust and conducive seed policy instruments, functional variety release processes, clear and enforced import/export processes, functional seed regulatory authorities, and relatively strong national seed trade associations. They also have strong seed inspection services and relatively well-supported National Agricultural Research Institutes (NARIs) in terms of the number of breeders, funding, and breeding infrastructure.
- 8.26. In addition, most of these countries have a vibrant private sector involved in key activities in the seed system, including plant breeding. South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Kenya stand out as countries with vibrant private breeding programs that complement the national programs. In these countries, the private sector is also authorized to conduct quality assurance services such as seed inspection, seed testing, and seed analysis, augmenting the work of the public sector. Other countries such as Malawi, Rwanda, Nigeria, Senegal, and Mozambique have also embarked on a similar path.
- 8.27. Countries that are on track are also the leading seed producers for the key food crops in Africa. In 2022, the leading maize seed producers were Zambia at 131,017 MT, Zimbabwe at 50,480 MT, South Africa at 43,110 MT, Kenya at 40,264 MT, Nigeria at 37,714 MT, and Malawi at 21,993 MT. Senegal produced 68,226 MT of groundnut seed while Egypt produced 116,122 MT of wheat seed. For rice seed, Nigeria produced 36,010 MT and Egypt 13,708 MT. For soya bean seed, Zambia produced 35,409 MT and South Africa 13,399 MT.
- 8.28. A total of 20 countries scored between 5-7, indicating they are progressing well. They include Burundi, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, Senegal and Uganda. These countries can be characterized as having seed systems that are in the early growth and growth stages of development. These countries have a fairly robust seed policy environment that encourages private sector participation in the seed industry, a strong private sector that is involved in seed production and marketing, and relatively strong breeding programs for key food crops. However, seed sectors in a number of these countries, such as Burkina Faso, Ghana, and Senegal are reliant on government seed subsidy programs. The regulatory agencies are often stretched and are not well facilitated to conduct their work effectively.
- 8.29. Eight countries have scored below 5, indicating they are not on track to achieve the set-out targets. They are Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Congo Republic, Djibouti, Guinea Bissau, Lesotho, Liberia, and South Sudan. These countries can be characterized as having seed systems that are in the nascent stages of development. These countries have weak variety release processes, resulting in too few varieties released and making their way to farmers. They also tend to have insufficient quantities of seed in small packages (a feature that allows smallholder farmers greater access to more varieties). National seed trade associations are weak or non-existent, and the NARIs are constrained by

insufficient funding, resulting in too few breeders and a lack of basic breeding infrastructure. For example, at present, crop breeding programs in Djibouti and Lesotho have no active breeders for the key food crops.

- 8.30. One of the major challenges in a number of these countries pertains to the status of national seed policy instruments. The seed policy instruments in Comoros, Congo Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, and South Sudan are either incomplete or non-existent, a challenge with negative repercussions for other areas of the seed sector. In addition, the harmonization of national seed policy instruments with the regional seed regulations is incomplete. The little improved seed that is available is imported and is used by a few commercial farmers or relief programs. Most smallholders rely on seeds from the informal sector.

Recommendations

- 8.31. Seed systems are critical to improving food and nutrition security and the livelihoods of smallholder farmers. An effective seed system should be able to deliver sufficient quantities of quality seed at affordable prices to farmers. Based on the analysis of the data, the following priorities for seed sector reform are recommended:
- Enact and implement the necessary seed policy instruments, which include seed laws, seed regulations, or ministerial orders. Comoros, the Congo Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, and South Sudan do not have seed policy instruments. For Guinea Bissau and Lesotho, most seed policy instruments have not been enacted or are not implemented. The completion and enactment of these instruments is a key first step to the establishment of a formal seed system that centers around quality control and private sector competitiveness.
 - Strengthen government capacity for seed quality assurance: Once the relevant seed laws, regulations, and ministerial orders are enacted, there is a need to ensure that the regulatory bodies are adequately staffed and equipped to perform all activities related to seed certification.
 - Exploit opportunities for technology transfer under regional seed instruments: several countries have released more varieties in the national systems from regional variety release mechanisms. For example, 60% of all maize varieties released in Uganda in 2022 were from the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) catalogue. While 92% of the maize varieties released in Mozambique in 2021 were from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) catalogue.
 - Increase funding to public agricultural research institutions: Djibouti does not have a NARI. The NARIs in Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Congo Republic, Guinea Bissau, Lesotho, Liberia, and South Sudan, have inadequate numbers of breeders and are poorly funded.
 - Establish national seed trade associations where they do not exist, and strengthen those that exist: A total of eleven countries do not have national seed associations. These are Angola, Central African Republic, Comoros, Congo Republic, Djibouti, Eritrea, Guinea (Conakry), Lesotho, Liberia, Namibia, Seychelles, Somalia, Sierra Leone, and T'Chad. There is a need to encourage the establishment of national associations in these countries. In addition, the established associations in other countries need to be

strengthened to effectively perform their role as the platform for the private sector with effective linkages to government and other key entities. Countries that have strong seed systems also have vibrant seed trade associations.

Conclusion

- 8.32. Nineteen (19) out of 44 countries that are on target having scored between 7 and 10. These countries should maintain the current momentum by maintaining robust and competitive policy environments, functional seed authorities, and well-funded NARIs.
- 8.33. Twenty (20) out of the 44 countries score between 5 and 7 and are progressing well. However, to be on target, seed producers should reduce their reliance on government seed subsidy programs. The countries should enhance their support to NARIs breeding programs in terms of the number of breeders, funding, and breeding infrastructure. They should also enhance support to the regulatory authorities by boosting the number of inspectors and facilitating them to conduct their work effectively.
- 8.34. Eight countries have scored below 5, indicating they are not on track to achieve the set-out targets. These countries should enact and or implement seed policies so that they can have functional seed sectors. With requisite seed policy instruments in place, the countries can establish functional regulatory authorities and support them to conduct their functions effectively. They should enhance funding to NARIs breeding programs in terms of the number of breeders, funding, and breeding infrastructure.

8C. Tracking Progress on the Implementation of Decisions Promoting Land Tenure Security (Decision Assembly/AU/Decl.1(XIII) Rev.1), 2009

1. Introduction

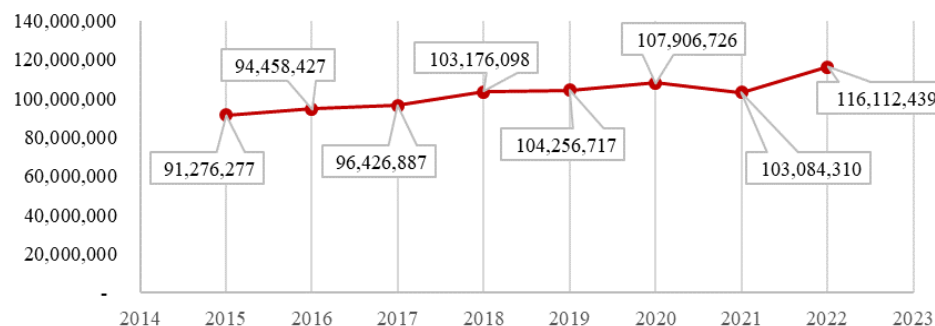
- 8.35. Agriculture is one of the largest contributors to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of most African countries and is the main source of livelihood and household income for Africans, most of whom are rural dwellers. As land is an essential factor of production in the agricultural sector, access to and secure land rights are critical for agricultural transformation. Through the AU Declaration on Land Issues and Challenges (AU Declaration on Land), the Heads of State and Government resolved to take ownership of and lead land reform processes by strengthening institutions for effective land governance and allocating adequate budgetary resources for policy development, implementation and tracking of progress. They also resolved to ensure equitable land access for all land users and improve access and security of land tenure for women as key priorities. The AU Declaration on Land urges Member States to develop comprehensive land policies that address the specific needs of each State, and build adequate human, financial and technical capacities in accordance with the Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa (F&G). Acknowledging the importance of land in Africa's agricultural dispensation, the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) implementation framework, underperformance theme three on Ending Hunger, has set a target for Member States to ensure that 100 percent of farmers and agribusiness interested in agriculture have

right to access the required land by 2020. AU Member States are, therefore, required to measure the proportion of adult agricultural population with ownership or secure land rights over agricultural land, segregated by gender during the BR reporting process.

2. Analysis

- 8.36. African Union (AU) Member States have been making efforts to secure lands of their agricultural population. As illustrated in Figure 8.3, a slow but positive trend has been witnessed on the entire African continent.
- 8.37. The total adult agricultural population in Africa, as reported by the thirty-nine (39) AU Member States in 2022, was 323,118,592 million farmers in 2022 compared to 286,497,741 in 2016. Only thirty-six percent of this population was reported to have secured rights to their land, three percent higher as compared to 2016. It must be noted that the majority of the agricultural population in Africa are smallholder farmers, most of whom farm on customary land that may not be officially documented. Figure 8.4 illustrates the percentage of agricultural populations with secured land rights between 2015 and 2022. Most countries have experienced an increase in the share of agricultural population with secure land rights. Though the increase varies significantly among reporting states. By 2016, it was anticipated that AU Member States should have achieved a minimum score of 3.3 in terms of securing rights to agricultural lands. Fifteen (15) countries had achieved the 2016 target of 3.3 on achieving land tenure security as depicted in the 2017 BR Report. In the previous BR report of 2019, the targeted score on securing tenure for agricultural land was 10, however Mali with a score of 9.52 and Côte d’Ivoire that scored 9.46 were observed to have achieved the highest progress. The 2019 BR report also showed that Tunisia, Seychelles and Mauritius were the only countries on-track to achieving the indicator.

Figure 8.3: Agricultural Population with Secure Land Rights in AU Member States, in millions, 2014-2022



Notes: Figures are based on data available for 39 AU Member States
Source: Analysis of fourth BR data

- 8.38. The 2021 BR report showed that only Egypt managed to achieve the targeted score of 10 while some countries reported an improvement in the scores from the 2017 results including the Gambia (from 5.25 to 8.5), Nigeria (7.75 to 9) and Sudan (2.95 to 7.3).

3. Findings

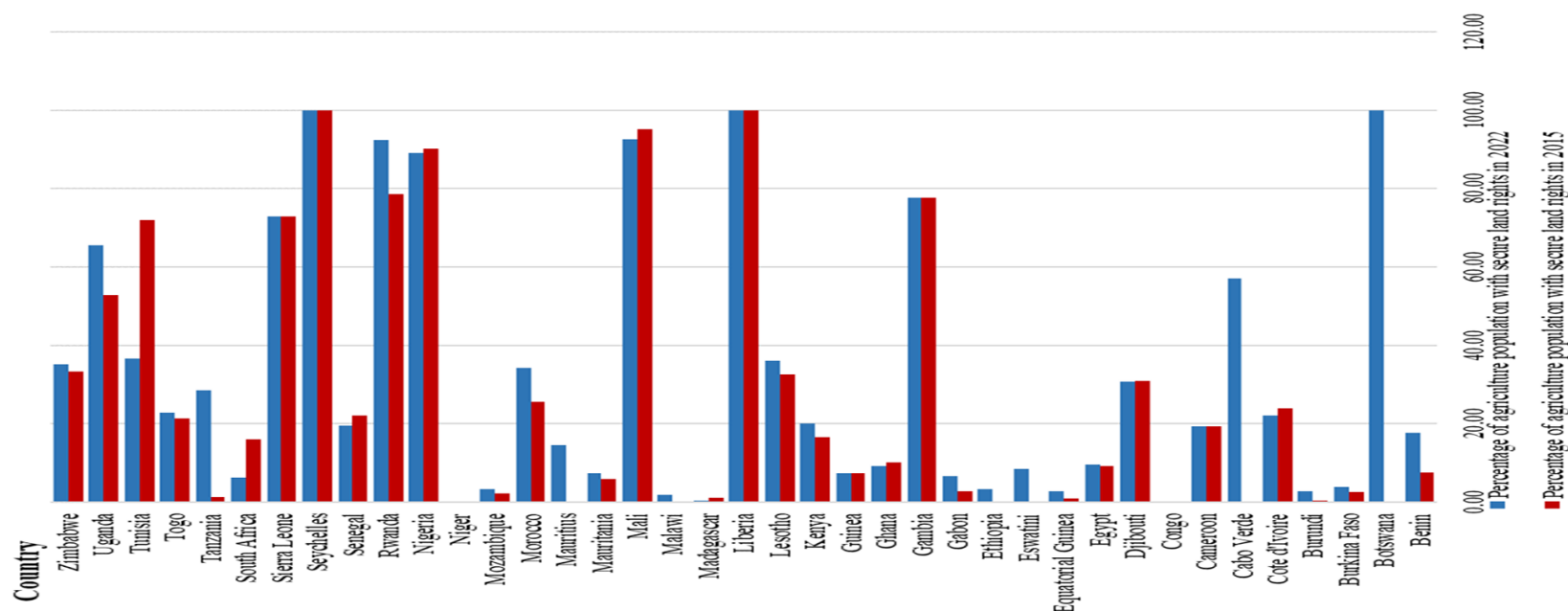
- 8.39. Figure 8.4 depicts that as at 2022 Botswana, Liberia and Seychelles were the countries that have achieved the target as all their agricultural populations had secure land rights. Seychelles has been making efforts to give lease or provisional lease given to all farmers when registering them.

- 8.40. In Liberia, the National government collaborated with local authorities through the Liberia Land Authority to conduct awareness and advocacy on people's rights and responsibilities towards access to land and ownership in various fora. Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Carbo Verde, and Benin made the most significant strides toward achieving the target of securing land rights for the agricultural population between 2015 and 2022. Most of these countries such as Rwanda and Uganda have been implementing land registration initiatives and have therefore progressed to securing agricultural lands. It is worth noting that land held/owned jointly, or land held communally by a group of people or community is not reported on as the parameter/data, thus not collected. For instance, Tanzania provides mechanisms for the registration of collective rights that can be used to secure pastoralists' rangelands; such information is essential in understanding efforts to secure pastoralists' contribution while taking into consideration their transhumance nature as they move from one grazing ground to another in between seasons.
- 8.41. Despite several efforts to improve the rights to land of women and the overall promotion of gender equality, there are still significant disparities in land held by women and men on the continent, as illustrated in Table 8.1. The share of women with secure land rights ranges between as low as 5 per cent to as high as 67 per cent. Egypt, Morocco, Senegal and Côte d'Ivoire for example, have a disparity in secured land rights between men and women that is substantial. On the other hand, some countries have more women than men with secured land tenure, such as Cameroon, Rwanda, Botswana, Malawi, Equatorial Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania and Mali. Niger and Mauritius did not provide gender disaggregated data while Tanzania as well as Nigeria were almost achieving gender parity in securing rights to the land of their agricultural population.

4. Recommendations

- 8.42. In order to improve land tenure security among agricultural landholders in Africa, it is recommended that:
- States should make efforts to recognize and strengthen the diverse and dualistic land tenure systems including their governance structures;
 - States should domesticate the Monitoring and Evaluation for Land in Africa (MELA) Framework and mainstream its agri-land indicators into their NAIP and performance tracking as well as reporting system;
 - More AU Member States should be encouraged to report progress towards achieving the target using gender disaggregated data and, where necessary, provision for the securing as well as reporting of rights for agriculture land users such as pastoralists, women, youths, and persons living with disabilities and provide mechanisms for joint ownership of land;
 - Country teams developing the BR reports should include land focal points from representative land agencies/ Ministries of Lands,
 - BR focal personnel should be provided capacity development on the best way to capture data on land input under agricultural investments – farming, livestock and fish production. Data collectors should be able to identify land used for agricultural purposes regardless of whether such land is under customary or statutory tenure; and
 - Support should be provided to AU Member States to improve their land information systems.

Figure 8.4: Percentage of Agricultural Populations with Secure Land Rights in 2015 and 2022



Notes on Figure 8.4:

a. Data from Congo shows that less than one percent of the agricultural populations had secured land rights.

b. Niger did not provide base information for the number of agricultural households with secured land rights in 2015 but based on data provided 2022, less than one percent of its agricultural population had secured access to land.

Source: Analysis of fourth BR data

5. Conclusion

8.43. Data gathered from 2016-2022 does not indicate significant improvement in securing agricultural land as less than thirty-six (36) percent (%) of the agricultural population in AU Members States that provided information relevant to the target do not have documentation of the land they use. The the fourth BR results show that Botswana, Liberia and Seychelles achieved the target of 10. This is despite efforts that have been witnessed throughout the continent to secure land rights by AU Member States. There is no ‘one size fits all’ solution towards measuring access to land and land ownership due to the dominance of different tenure systems on the continent significantly impacting the functioning of land information systems management and overall land administration.

Table 8.1: Agricultural Land Holding by Gender in AU Member States in 2022

No.	Country	Number of men with secure land rights	Number of women with secure land rights	Number of agricultural populations with secure land rights	Share of women with secured land rights of total as a %	No.	Country	Number of men with secure land rights	Number of women with secure land rights	Number of agricultural populations with secure land rights	Share of women with secured land rights of total as a %
1	Eswatini	4,975	1,842	6,817	27	21	Madagascar	42,038	8,281	50,319	16
2	Benin	378,455	74,629	453,084	16	22	Malawi	30,764	46,147	76,911	60
3	Botswana	42,339	53,213	95,552	56	23	Mali	4,116,631	4,222,186	8,338,817	51
4	Burkina Faso	99,872	64,009	163,881	39	24	Mauritania	38,482	45,174	83,656	54
5	Burundi	110,979	48,576	159,555	30	25	Mauritius			2,002	-
6	Cote d'Ivoire	1,413,096	319,856	1,732,952	18	26	Morocco	435,000	45,000	480,000	9
7	Cabo Verde	41,620	33,642	75,262	45	27	Mozambique	261,751	136,513	398,264	34
8	Cameroon	997,754	1,038,479	2,036,233	51	28	Niger			831	-
9	Congo	165	74	239	31	29	Nigeria	34,878,500	32,882,054	67,760,554	49
10	Djibouti	977	269	1,246	22	30	Rwanda	1,258,631	1,637,333	2,895,964	57
11	Egypt	5,410,000	230,000	5,640,000	4	31	Senegal	300,777	15,429	316,206	5
12	Equatorial Guinea	3,928	7,923	11,851	67	32	Seychelles	1,221	343	1,564	22
13	Ethiopia	460,000	200,000	660,000	30	33	Sierra Leone	2,795,884	1,198,236	3,994,120	30
14	Gabon	4,699	2,254	6,953	32	34	South Africa	32,195	21,464	53,659	40
15	Gambia	261,251	206,795	468,046	44	35	Tanzania	2,476,149	2,345,536	4,821,685	49
16	Ghana	289,070	107,441	396,511	27	36	Togo	275,511	59,253	334,764	18
17	Guinea	80,887	60,623	141,510	43	37	Tunisia	144,149	40,400	184,549	22
18	Kenya	2,049,446	1,023,005	3,072,451	33	38	Uganda	4,101,795	3,464,631	7,566,426	46
19	Lesotho	85,970	70,339	156,309	45	39	Zimbabwe	1,267,320	708,536	1,975,856	36
20	Liberia	554,201	943,639	1,497,840	63						

Note on Table 1: listed countries are those of which data is available

Source: Analysis of fourth BR data

- 8.44. Gender disparity in landholding continues to exist in most of the reporting AU Member States. As land is key to agricultural development on the continent and women provide a significant proportion of land users, concrete efforts should be made to reduce the gender gap in the land sector. The lack of data on land in most AU Member States may imply either a widespread lack of well-developed land information systems, or that government agencies related to land were not able to provide the country teams developing the BR report the relevant information on time, or there may be weak coordination among institutions providing input to the BR report process at country level. More efforts are also needed to enhance knowledge sharing with BR focal points on appropriate ways of securing and reporting land rights in Africa. AU Member States should be encouraged to secure access to agricultural land through context-specific mechanisms grounded on principles of inclusion and participation of the different agricultural land users.

8D. Fisheries and Aquaculture in the CAADP Process (Decision: Doc. EX. CL /627(XVIII)), 2011

Introduction

- 8.45. Africa's vast aquatic resources, encompassing marine and freshwater ecosystems and aquaculture production systems, play a significant role in advancing food security and livelihood, aligning with CAADP Commitments to eradicate hunger and poverty and promote intra-regional trade. Recognizing the crucial importance of the fisheries and aquaculture sector, the African Union has embraced a policy framework to enhance its performance in harmony with CAADP commitments. The recommendations for fisheries and aquaculture development, originating from the first Conference of African Ministers for Fisheries and Aquaculture (CAMFA 1) in 2010 in Banjul, The Gambia, gained endorsement at the 18th Ordinary Session of the AU Heads of State and Government in 2011 (Doc. EX. CL /627(XVIII)) (AU, 2011). Subsequently, the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy (PFRS) for Fisheries and Aquaculture was developed and endorsed by the second Ministerial Conference (CAMFA 2). The PFRS blueprint was later adopted by the Summit of African Heads of State and Government in 2014 through Executive Council Decisions No. EX.CL/Dec.831(XXV), serving as a guiding document for reforming Africa's Fisheries and Aquaculture sector reform to maximize benefits for Member States.
- 8.46. The ten Policy goals of the PFRS are consistent with the CAADP Malabo Commitments, with a particular focus on three cross-cutting themes: resilience, gender and youth and financing. There exist a significant alignment between the PFRS goals and the CAADP Commitments, with the exception of Malabo Commitment 7, which pertains to strengthening mutual accountability to actions and results. Moreover, an analysis of available data indicates that fisheries and aquaculture are only partially integrated into the majority of National Agriculture Investment Plans (NAIPs) Regional Agriculture Investment Plans (RAIPs)⁵. As part of the third BR, AUDA-NEPAD and AU-

⁵ Murekezi, P., Martone, E. & Menezes, A. Assessment of the integration of fisheries and aquaculture in policy development – Framework and application in Africa. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Technical Paper No. 663. Rome, FAO. <https://doi.org/10.4060/ca9322en>

IBAR engaged specialists' fisheries and aquaculture expert network to review and recommend key indicators for inclusion in the BR processes. This ensures that fisheries and aquaculture activities and outcomes are systematically incorporated into the BR process and accurately reflecting the sector's role in achieving the Malabo Commitments. The recommended fisheries and aquaculture indicators for inclusion in the BR reporting process are as follow:

- i. Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture production and productivity;
- ii. Increased intra-African regional fish trade and better functioning of national and regional markets;
- iii. Expanded local fisheries and aquaculture industry and value chain development inclusive of women and youth;
- iv. Increased resilience of livelihoods and improved adaptation and risks management in the fisheries and aquaculture sector;
- v. Improved natural resource management for sustainable fisheries and aquaculture.

Analysis and Findings

Commitment to Enhance Investment Finance in Agriculture

- 8.47. Data reported by member states in the CAADP BR on government expenditure in fisheries as a percentage of total government agriculture expenditure indicates relatively low spending levels for the fisheries sector. Over the period from the 2015 baseline to 2022, the continent allocated an average of about 10.51% of agriculture expenditure in the fisheries sector. Notably, 2019 (8.68%) and 2020 (9.46) recorded the lowest public sector spending, while the allocation remained relatively steady, ranging from 12.33% in 2016 to 9.62% in 2022 across member states. Of significance, nine (9) countries reported public spending on fisheries that significantly exceeded the average in 2022. These countries include Cabo Verde (42.68%), Tanzania (39.61%), Sierra Leone (36.52%), Comoros (30%), Djibouti (24.98%), Mauritania (16.93%), Somalia (15.40%), Guinea-Bissau (15.22%), and Benin (14.14%).
- 8.48. The intensity of public spending in the fisheries sector is a measure of the proportion of fisheries valued added (GDP) reinvested into the sector. It assesses whether the level of spending aligns with the sector's contribution to GDP. For reporting in the CAADP BR, the benchmark for fisheries spending intensity (spending relative to the sector's GDP contribution) is set at 19%, reflecting the achievement of the top ten (10) performing countries. On average, from 2015 to 2022, across Africa, the intensity of fisheries spending represented 12.75% of the GDP generated by the fisheries sector. Notably, there was a decrease from 16.27% in 2018 to 12.88% in 2022. In the fourth BR, only four countries allocated 15% or more of the sector GDP to fisheries spending. These were Benin, Comoros, Djibouti, and Tunisia.

Commitment to Zero Hunger – Ending Hunger by 2025

- 8.49. Fish consumption in Africa varies significantly across countries, with 3 countries surpassing the global average of 19.4 kg per capita annually (FAO, 2017b). when comparing fish consumption by region, it becomes evident that ECOWAS inhabitants consume nearly four times more fish than those in IGAD. While per capita fish consumption in ECCAS is above the African average, when combined with EAC, it registers the lowest average total protein intake of 53.1 grams per capita per day among the African RECs.

- 8.50. Research conducted in Malawi, Uganda and Tanzania has uncovered that households in rural areas near water bodies tend to have higher levels of fish consumption. Furthermore, studies have demonstrated the critical role of inland fisheries in enhancing the diet quality of young children in sub-Saharan Africa. Approximately 20% of rural children in this region rely on fish for a more diversified diet, and it has been observed that children who consume fish are less likely to experience stunting.

Halving Poverty by 2025

- 8.51. A 2022 research paper illustrated a strong correlation between Small-Scale Fisheries, reduced poverty, increased fish consumption, and improved food security⁶. This research underscores the vital role of fisheries and aquaculture in ensuring livelihood security, with evidence showing that households engaged in fishing are 9% less likely to experience income-poverty compared to those involved in agriculture. Furthermore, households residing in close proximity to water bodies are more likely to achieve a diverse and nutritious diet than those situated farther away. Additionally, households near water bodies tend to exhibit higher levels of asset wealth compared to non-fishing households. Overall, the study provides empirical evidence of the beneficial connection between Small-Scale Fisheries, poverty reduction, increased fish consumption and enhanced food security in Malawi, Tanzania and Uganda.

Boosting Intra regional trade

- 8.52. Fisheries and aquaculture are critical sectors of the African continent, as recognized by the Abuja Declaration of 2006. However, their significance is not adequately represented in the CAADP in the CAADP Results Framework and other strategic frameworks. Fish continue to be the most highly traded commodity, contributing significantly to both intra- and inter-regional fish trade in Africa. Studies conducted by WorldFish, AU-IBAR and AUDA-NEPAD have revealed a robust informal trade network for fish and fisheries products across African borders. For example, research conducted in three selected markets in Ghana has estimated an annual informal export of around 6,000 metric tons of fish to neighboring countries with an annual market value of US\$18.6 million⁷. Zambia has seen an estimated 102,000 tons of fish, valued at US\$3.3 million, informally exported to neighboring countries. In Malawi, informal fish exports to neighboring countries have been estimated at over 24,000, with a total value of US \$42 million. It is crucial to note that these figures significantly surpass official statistics, which do not account for informal trade activities.
- 8.53. Fisheries and aquaculture are among the most genderized subsectors, with extensive and active participation from women and youth, particularly in the fish production and trade value chain. Consequently, the demographics of informal trade in Africa are noteworthy, as a

⁶ Simmance, F. A., Nico, G., Funge-Smith, S., Basurto, X., Franz, N., Teoh, S. J., Byrd, K. A., Kolding, J., Ahern, M., Cohen, P. J., Nankwenya, B., Gondwe, E., Viridin, J., Chimatiro, S., Nagoli, J., Kaunda, E., Thilsted, S. H., & Mills, D. J. (2022). Proximity to small-scale inland and coastal fisheries is associated with improved income and food security. *Communications Earth & Environment*, 3(1). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s43247-022-00496-5>.

⁷ Ayilu RK, Antwi-Asare TO, Anoh P, Tall A, Aboya N, Chimatiro S and Dedi S. 2016. Informal artisanal fish trade in West Africa: Improving cross-border trade. Penang, Malaysia: WorldFish. Program Brief: 2016-37. Available on: http://pubs.iclarm.net/resource_centre/2016-37.pdf

significant portion of informal cross-border fish traders are under 40 years of age. In fact, youth participation is remarkably high throughout the entire value chain. This underscores the sector's vital importance in income generation among Africa's growing populations.

Recommendations

- 8.54. **Fine-tune Fisheries and aquaculture indicators:** Conducting a critical analysis of the recommended fisheries and aquaculture indicators for the BR Report is a vital step in enhancing the sector's visibility and effectiveness within the CAADP framework. By ensuring the indicators' significance, alignment with broader goals, sensitivity to context, comprehensiveness, data reliability, capacity for measuring progress and impact, and stakeholder engagement, the CAADP process can better capture and harness the potential of fisheries and aquaculture for sustainable food systems transformation in Africa.
- 8.55. **Increase Investment in the Fisheries Sector:** Recognizing the low levels of government expenditure in the fisheries sector compared to the broader agriculture sector, it is recommended that African countries prioritize increased investment in fisheries. Governments should allocate a higher percentage of their agriculture budgets to fisheries to support the sustainable growth of the sector. This can be achieved through strategic allocation of resources and investment in initiatives that promote sustainable fisheries and aquaculture production.
- 8.56. **Promote Fish Consumption and Food Security:** Given the significant variation in fish consumption across African countries and regions, efforts should be made to promote fish consumption, particularly in regions where it is lower than the African average. Policies and programs should be designed to enhance access to fish, especially for vulnerable populations, and to improve diet quality. Inland fisheries, crucial in providing diverse and nutritious diets, should be supported and expanded.
- 8.57. **Boost Intra-Regional Fish Trade:** Integrating fisheries into the AfCFTA framework presents a significant opportunity to formalize and boost intra-Africa regional fish trade. By harmonizing regulations, improving infrastructure, promoting sustainability, and fostering collaboration, African nations can harness the full economic potential of their fisheries resources while ensuring food security and livelihoods for their citizens.
- 8.58. **Leverage Small-Scale Fisheries for Poverty Reduction:** Small-scale fisheries have been shown to have a positive impact on poverty reduction, food security, and income generation. To harness this potential, governments and stakeholders should invest in and support small-scale fisheries, ensuring they receive adequate resources and attention. This can include providing access to fishing resources, improving infrastructure, and facilitating access to markets.

Conclusions

- 8.59. The National Agricultural Investment Plans (NAIPs) and Regional Agricultural Investment Plans (RAIPs) continue to serve as essential instruments for the implementation of CAADP Commitments, aligned with the recommendations for the development of fisheries and aquaculture across the continent.
- 8.60. Despite the African Union's recognition of the substantial economic and social benefits associated with fisheries and aquaculture development in Africa, investment finance in this sector remains notably inadequate.

- 8.61. The available data in the BR highlights the fisheries sector's potential contribution, but the persistently low level of investment undermines its capacity to significantly impact economic transformation and inclusive growth.
- 8.62. Presently, the BR process does not include a comprehensive tracking mechanism for the progress of the fisheries and agriculture sectors at the indicator level. Despite recommendations made during the third BR process, the implementation of targeted indicators for fisheries and aquaculture has not yet been realized.

8E. Status of Implementation of Decision on the Ecological Organic Agriculture in Africa (Decision: Ex. CL/Dec. 631 (XVIII)), 2011

Introduction:

- 8.63. The Decision on Organic Agriculture (EX.CL/Dec.621 XVII) took note of the Report of the Conference of Ministers of Agriculture held in Lilongwe, Malawi on 28 and 29 October 2010. It endorsed the Resolution contained therein and expressed concern over the current practice of exploitation of the organic farmers in Africa; and requested the Commission and its African Union Development Agency AUDA-NEPAD) to
 - i. Initiate and provide guidance for an African Union (AU)-led coalition of international partners on the establishment of an African organic farming platform based on available best practices, and,
 - ii. Provide guidance in support of the development of sustainable organic farming systems and improve seed quality; called upon development partners to provide the necessary technical and financial support for the implementation of this Decision.
- 8.64. In 2019, the African Union Specialized Technical Committee (STC) on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment officially decreed the EOAI Secretariat as its agency to oversee the implementation and report the progress of the implementation of its Decision on Organic Agriculture (EX.CL/Dec.621 XVII) and endorsed Biovision Africa Trust to host it. Subsequently, an MoU was signed in Addis Ababa on 20 July 2022 between Biovision Africa Trust and the AUC.
- 8.65. Organic agriculture in Africa (increasingly considered ecological organic agriculture, or EOA and Agroecology) received much attention from farmers, practitioners, policymakers, and other stakeholders during the COVID-19 pandemic. This demonstrated EOA/Agroecology's potential to ensure nutrition security while addressing food insecurity, land degradation, poverty, climate change and shock resilience, among other benefits.

Analysis and findings:

- 8.66. The Ecological Organic Agriculture (EOA) Initiative, with the guidance of the AUC-DARBE chaired Continental Steering Committee (CSC), has made commendable policy achievement by having status and progress of the AU Decision on organic Agriculture reported for

the first time in the third CAADP Biennial Review Report (2015-2021). Further milestone has been achieved in the fourth CAADP Biennial Review where three indicators related to EOA/Agroecology were adopted, data were collected from the countries, and they have been included in the current analysis.

Parameter 3.1i d: Organic fertilizer use

- 8.67. Organic fertilizers are captured under the indicator 3.1i, under Total fertilizers use (N+P₂O₅, N+P₂O₅+K₂O and organic fertilizers) in Kg. The provided data are in “kg” of organic fertilizer used, and not disaggregated into microelements (N, P and K). Therefore, the provided organic fertilizer figures cannot be added to the inorganic fertilizer data in terms of nutrients but weight. It is relatively simple to track inorganic fertilizers, which are industry-made and clearly traded with known codes.
- 8.68. Forty-seven (47) Member States submitted data into the e-BR system. 21 countries submitted complete datasets and on total fertilizer use parameter for the first time. Compared to arable lands, six countries submitted various quantities of organic fertilizer used in 2022 and these included Rwanda (5,684 kg/ha), Togo (623 kg/ha) and Rep. A. Saharawi (194 kg/ha), Egypt (98 kg/ha), Burundi (55 kg/ha), and Ethiopia (38 kg/ha). The remaining 15 countries reported lower volumes, ranging between 1 and 3 kg of organic fertilizer per ha. The other 26 countries either had no data on organic fertilizers, or reported zero kg of fertilizers, between 2015 and 2022.
- 8.69. The figures suggest that there could be different ways of capturing or estimating quantities of “organic fertilizer”. Some countries probably reported the estimates of composts produced and used at the farm level (e.g., Rwanda, Burundi), while others reported the commercialized, well packaged, and standardized organic fertilizers. Increasing focus on enhancing soil health through interventions that improve crop yield, crop quality, and environmental sustainability by mainstreaming the use of organic fertilizers in the agriculture sector is paramount.
- 8.70. Developing and standardizing procedures for measuring nutrients in organic fertilizers and soil amendments and training farmers on how to use them will significantly contribute to improved and sustained soil health. Such procedures can be used to authenticate organic fertilizer products and bring transparency to the organic fertilizer industry.

Parameter 3.1viii: Seed Performance Index and Status of Farmer Managed Seed Systems in national seed policy instruments and institutional arrangements

- 8.71. A total of 43 countries reported that in some way there is national discussion around Farmer Managed Seed Systems (FMSS). A total of 18 countries recorded progress above 70% meaning they have presence of enabling conditions such as policy, strategy, proclamation, ordinance and investments or programs in place. Partial recognition of FMSS by governments in the rest of the countries was reported.

Parameter 6.Iii: Agriculture area under Ecological Organic and Agroecological (EOA) practices in ha

- 8.72. A total of 33 countries, representing 60% of the total of 55, reported on the share of agriculture land under EOA/ Agroecology. Overall, 17 countries are on track on having targeted share of agricultural land under Sustainable Land and Water Management (SLWM). The country

with the highest land under EOA was Botswana (25.6 million hectares) and the smallest was Liberia reporting only 2 hectares. While this could be a data related issue, large discrepancies were recorded in the way countries reported on this indicator.

- 8.73. In the current EOA project countries (under SDC support), Mali emerged as the country with the highest land under EOA reporting 3.2 million hectares, followed by Benin (1.0 million hectares), Ethiopia (1.0 million hectares), Uganda (505,000 hectares), Tanzania (286,000 hectares), Kenya (123,000) and Nigeria (58,000 hectares). Other countries that had considerable land under EOA are Morocco (1.0 million hectares), Tunisia (325,000 hectares), Egypt (116,000 hectares) and South Africa (97,000 hectares). Countries with considerably smaller land on EOA include Equatorial Guinea (510 hectares), Mozambique (1404 hectares) and Cameroon (1969 hectares). The 60% reporting success rate for this indicator is clear indication that EOA data is available, and countries could aim at reporting at 100% in subsequent cycles.
- 8.74. These new developments are informative of the progress towards mainstreaming EOA into National Agricultural Investment Plans (NAIPs) and Regional Agricultural Investments Plans (RAIPs) by 2025 as stipulated in the EOA Initiative Strategic Plan (2015-2025). The EOA Initiative has already commenced the plan to review the current SP in preparation of developing strategy for the period 2025-2035.
- 8.75. It is worth noting that the EOA Initiative Strategic Plan coincides with the ongoing discussion on post Malabo and the future of the CAADP BRR planning which will also be for a period of ten years (2025-2035). This is an opportunity to align the EOAI with post Malabo outcomes as will be projected in the next period of CAADP BRR.

Figure 8.5: Status of Farmer Managed Seed Systems



Source: Analysis of fourth BR data

Recommendation

- 8.76. There is evidence that EOA/AE data is available and can be collected by countries. Therefore,
- i. Disaggregate the parameters that differentiate between conventional and EOA/AE practices to inform countries more on how the different agricultural sub sectors are performing and to further inform policy and investment decisions. e. g. Access to Advisory services parameter, Investments in agriculture etc.
 - ii. Strengthen national data collection and reporting on EOA indicators: Sensitization and training of countries on EOA practices and technologies, data collection for disaggregated parameters.
 - iii. The AfCFTA framework should closely collaborate with the EOAI and the African Organization for Standardization (ARSO) to develop certification, standards, tariffs, and general trade protocols that offer opportunities for organic farmers and make organic products more attractive and competitive.
 - iv. Develop and standardize protocols of measuring nutrients in organic fertilizers and soil amendments to document well quality and quantity of organic fertilizers.
 - v. The recently developed AU framework for harmonizing seed systems in Africa should be adapted along with the FMSS road map developed by the EOAI and endorsed by the ASBPP in Kampala in May 2022.

Conclusion

- 8.77. Regions where the EOA Initiative has active projects (Eastern and West Africa) have performed better on EOA indicators than regions without focus on EOA Initiative. A more continental approach by the EOA Initiative is more desirable to foster regional balance and facilitate collection of representative data to be drawn from all the 5 regions of Africa. Increased government support for EOA will likely ameliorate many of the institutional barriers that limit EOA policy formulation processes.
- 8.78. Indeed, a well-organized and highly motivated sector, with common goals and a common analysis of the current situation, obstacles, and opportunities, and policy formulating strategies with a clear division of roles and functions, would be a strong positive force at all policy formulation levels. Stakeholder inclusivity and involvement is extremely crucial for the relevance of the decisions in EOA policy formulation, coordination, and planning initiatives.
- 8.79. The AU EOA Initiative calls upon development partners to join its coalition of donors that are currently supporting EOA/AE interventions in research and applied knowledge, knowledge management, markets and value chains development, youth and women, advocacy and policy, institutional and capacity development across Africa.

*Reporting by: EOA Initiative Secretariat-Biovision Africa Trust (BvAT)
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8F. Implementation of the Framework for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization in Africa (F-SAMA)” (Decision EX.CL/1041(XXXII), 2015

1. Background

- 8.80. Sustainable agricultural mechanization is important for Africa to improve agricultural productivity, agro-processing and reduce post-harvest losses. However, the use of sustainable agricultural mechanization in the African continent in general, and in Africa South of the Sahara, in particular, is at a low level compared to other continents. It is estimated that about 65% of farm power is still provided by human muscles and the rest by draught animals (25%) and engine power, which contributes only about 10%. The current trend shows that the youth are migrating from rural areas to urban areas to seek greener opportunities, thus leaving the elderly, mostly women and children to tend the farms. It is for these reasons that one of the resolutions under Commitment number 3 of the 2014 Malabo Declaration identifies agricultural mechanization as a key factor in achieving the target of doubling agricultural productivity levels by 2025. Specifically, the resolution calls for creating and enhancing appropriate policies, institutions and support systems to facilitate “suitable, reliable and affordable mechanization and energy supplies”. Thus, sustainable agricultural mechanization in Africa is seen as an indispensable pillar for attaining the commitment to Ending Hunger by 2025 as stated in the Malabo Declaration, and by 2030 as stated in Goal 2 of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- 8.81. In support of this aspiration, the erstwhile Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma launched a campaign to “confine the hand-held hoe to the museum” at the 25th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, in June 2015 in South Africa, and symbolically handed over a power tiller to every African Head of State and Government, to signal the expectation of rapid agricultural mechanization in Africa. DARBE has continued to sustain the momentum on the implementation of this initiative.

2. Targets and objectives

- 8.82. While there are no specific targets on agricultural mechanization in the Malabo Declaration, the objective is to contribute to the doubling of agricultural productivity levels by 2025, accelerate economic growth, and end hunger by 2025.

3. Achievements/progress on the promotion of agricultural mechanization

- 8.83. Following the launch of the Framework on Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization (F-SAMA) jointly developed by the AUC and FAO during the FAO Committee on Agriculture (COAG) meeting in October 2018, FAO, AUC, AU Member States, and the African Conservation Tillage Network (ACT) have strived to operationalize the Framework by implementing various activities. This has included:
- (i) Eight AU member states (Benin, Chad, Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Sierra Leone, Togo and Zambia) have been supported by FAO to formulate or revise national sustainable agricultural mechanization strategies drawing from F-SAMA. In addition, three countries

- i.e. Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda, have reviewed their national agricultural mechanization strategies using other resources. FAO is also currently supporting Tanzania to revise the national mechanization strategy, and Togo to formulate a new strategy.
- (ii) An online platform “AfricaMechanize Platform” (www.africamechanize.org) has been developed and launched to become the core platform for exchanges on all aspects of development and promotion of sustainable agricultural mechanization in Africa. The platform is hosted by the African Conservation Tillage Network (ACT) and has 4 main components which are (a) Knowledge Hub (b) Capacity building, Partnerships and Networking (c) Magazine and Journal, and (d) Technical Assistance;
 - (iii) Creating awareness on the F-SAMA, strengthening networking and linkages through 10 webinars, conducted in both English and French over two years, involving 60 speakers, over 1,600 participants from 75 countries, the majority (45) being African Union Member States. Materials from the Webinars were widely distributed through the AfricaMechanize Knowledge Management & Networking Platform;
 - (iv) The Third Africa Congress on Conservation Agriculture (3ACCA) (<https://africacacongress.org/>), held in Rabat, Morocco, 5 – 8 June 2023, strengthened Africa’s position on Conservation Agriculture (CA) and Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization (SAM). Organized jointly by the ACT Network, the Kingdom of Morocco, the African Union Commission, the African Union Development Agency (NEPAD), the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the UN, National Institute for Agronomic Research of Morocco (INRA), and the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), in collaboration with various partners, under the theme “Building a Resilient Future in Africa through Conservation Agriculture with Sustainable Mechanization”, it was attended by 557 people (155 female) from 63 countries (32 from Africa). The Rabat Declaration called on the African Union to operationalize F-SAMA in order to increase support from partners and donor organisations and to accelerate its adoption by African states. The key outcomes are summarized in the 13-point 3ACCA Declaration. The resolutions in the Declaration target specific actions to be undertaken by the AUC, Member States, Civil Society, and Research and Academia to promote sustainable agricultural mechanization in Africa;
 - (v) The FAO Sub-regional Office for Southern Africa is preparing a Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization for Climate Smart Agriculture (SAM4CSA) Flagship Program, which includes national roadmaps to support the operationalization of F-SAMA. This initiative covers 15 SADC member countries. The initial focus is on two overarching elements of F-SAMA: Element 9 (Need for a long-term vision: policy and strategy issues) and Element 10 (Creating sustainable institutions for regional cooperation).
 - (vi) FAO commissioned a study which was implemented by the ACT Network entitled **Development of Directions for Investment (D4I) in Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization in Africa** in 2021/22. This study entailed carrying out an analysis of the interlinked social, economic, institutional and environmental conditions to identify entry points needed for leveraging investments in SAM along the entire agri-food value chain in line with AUC-FAO F-SAMA and the National Agricultural Investment Plans (NAIPs). The study was conducted in selected African countries (Benin, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, Nigeria and Zambia), and it identified **six priority areas of investment**: (i) Strengthening mechanization and development of agricultural value chains; (ii) Strengthening mechanization of climate-smart agriculture; (iii) Strengthening capacity for agricultural mechanization;

(iv) Improving management of agricultural mechanization knowledge; (v) Improving the measurement of agricultural mechanization performance; and (vi) Establishing mechanization enabling environment and innovative financing. The study **recommended that international technical and financial institutions and organizations have a role to play in bringing their expertise and financial support to bear on the problems and challenges of establishing SAM in African countries.** Some of the relevant institutions and organizations include FAO, UNIDO, The European Agricultural Machinery Association (CEMA), International financial institutions (e.g. AfDB, IFAD and the World Bank), development partners and multilateral development banks;

(vii) On March 31, 2022, Directors and Heads of Agricultural Mechanization and Engineering Services (DAMES) from various African countries and other key stakeholders convened virtually to actualize the **establishment of operational structures for the implementation of the F-SAMA at sub-regional and regional levels.** The webinar, jointly organized by the FAO, the AUC and the ACT Network, attracted 68 invited participants, including DAMES from 30 countries and representatives of four Regional Economic Communities (RECS) (https://www.fao.org/F-SAMA_structures_development).

8.84. The meeting resolved as follows:

- It called for expedited actions towards collaboration among the DAMES to resolve the many challenges that have caused continued stagnation and decline in agricultural mechanization in Africa.
- The urgent need for establishing a formal network for the DAMES to realize the long-term vision for mechanization in Africa based on the ten elements of F-SAMA.
- DAMES to formally work together in operationalizing F-SAMA to accelerate access and use of agricultural mechanization in SSA.

8.85. Through an interim steering committee of representatives (from Senegal, Cameroon, Congo, Madagascar, Tanzania, Sierra Leone, and Zambia), the **DAMES are developing (a) Structures for the Regional Network of DAMES, (b) A Framework for Action for the Network of DAMES, and (c) F-SAMA program Concept Notes.**

4. Missing data/information and recommendations on how to fill in the gaps

8.86. A major challenge is the lack of up-to-date data from Member States on what is being implemented towards operationalization of the F-SAMA and the status of agricultural mechanization at the country level. Steps have been taken to involve Directors of Agricultural Mechanization in the Africa Mechanize platform but more needs to be done;

8.87. The BR process does not currently track progress of the agricultural mechanization at the country level. Specific indicators on agricultural mechanization should be developed, and included in the BR reporting to track the progress on the declaration;

8.88. Although Member States are developing national agricultural mechanization strategies, resources are needed to implement those strategies. Member States, development partners and the private sector need to enhance investments towards the implementation of those strategies.

8.89. Sustainable mechanization should be accorded prime importance in the post-Malabo Framework being developed.

5. Conclusion

8.90. Ensuring that sustainable agricultural mechanization is integrated into the agricultural development policies and strategies of AU Member States, with accompanying implementation modalities, is crucial in the efforts towards ending hunger in Africa by 2025 and beyond. Investments in agricultural mechanization along the food value chain are urgently needed to enable actors to increase their productivity and communities' prosperity while renewing the attractiveness of the agricultural sector to rural youth with the introduction of new jobs and technologies. This will require significant capacity building efforts, especially in strengthening the coordination role of the DAMES within countries. The time is ripe for all stakeholders to develop a new paradigm for mechanization in Africa drawing on F-SAMA.

8G. The Second Livestock Sector Progress Report on EX.CL/Dec.792(XXIV) Decision on Formulation of the Livestock Development Strategy for Africa in the Report of the Ninth Conference of Ministers Responsible for Animal Resources Doc. EX.CL/807(XXIV), 2015

8.91. This is the second report in the Biennial Review Report on the progress made in the implementation of EX.CL/Dec.792 (XXIV) which mandated African Union Commission to formulate a Livestock Development Strategy. Developed in 2015, through a highly consultative continental process, led by the InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) and funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), the twenty-year (2015 – 2035) the Livestock Development Strategy for Africa (LiDeSA) sets a transformative agenda for the livestock sector to harness the underutilized livestock sector potential.

8.92. Like other productive sectors, the livestock sector was affected significantly by the compounding effects of the triple C global crises: covid-19, climate change (the worst drought in living memory that occurred between 2018 and early 2023 with five consecutive seasons of failed rainfall seasons in the Greater Horn of Africa, and instances of unprecedented flooding in some regions) and the conflict in Eastern Europe, with significant negative effects on livelihoods, availability and cost of livestock sourced foods impacting on food and nutrition security, employment, value chain functionality, business continuity with many livestock enterprises going into closure, and erosion of livestock sector contribution to economies. The triple crises have highlighted the vulnerabilities in the livestock sector but also served to drive innovation and showcase potential that can be harnessed if sufficient investment is made in the sector.

Progress in Achieving Key Targets in the Livestock Development Strategy for Africa

8.93. Six indicators, key to tracking the progress of LiDeSA implementation are presented: of these, four are input level indicators; one is an output/outcome level indicator, and the last is an impact level indicator.

Input Level Indicators

Indicator 1: Public Investment in the Livestock Sector

(a) Livestock Expenditure as a Percent of Total Government Agriculture Expenditure

8.94. Data reported by Member States in the fourth CAADP Biennial Review show low levels of livestock sector spending against the LiDeSA target of at least 30% of the public agriculture expenditure to be invested in the livestock sector. For the period 2015-2022, on average the continent spent about 19.35% of agriculture expenditure in the livestock sector. Expenditure increased from 13.82% in 2015 to 16.15% in 2020 but decreased to 12% in 2022. This decrease in the average expenditure is worrying for the livestock sector. In the fourth BR only five (5) countries met the LiDeSA target of 30% and above: Namibia (55%), Mauritius (51%), Burkina Faso (40%), Lesotho (38%), and Malawi (36%). While the number of Member States meeting the LiDeSA target has increased, it is notable that none of these were among the best performing in 2020, therefore indicating inconsistency in livestock sector expenditure.

(b) Livestock Expenditure as a Percent of Livestock Value Added (GDP).

8.95. Intensity of spending in the livestock sector is measured as the proportion of livestock valued added (GDP) that is spent in the sector. In other words, the fraction of livestock output that is re-invested into the sector. It is an objective metric for assessing whether the sector spending is commensurate to its contribution to the GDP. For the CAADP BR reporting, the target for the intensity of spending (spending relative to the sector's GDP contribution) is set at 19%, i.e., what was achieved by the 10 best performing countries. On average (2015-2022), across Africa, livestock spending represented only 13.77% of the livestock GDP with a notable growth from 4.82% in 2015 to 13.53% in 2022. Only five countries had livestock spending that was 15% and more of the livestock GDP in 2022: Comoros, Eswatini, Mauritania, Namibia and Seychelles.

Indicator 2: National Feed Balance

8.96. Sixty to seventy percent of the total cost of animal production is related to feeding and in other regions of the world up to 60% of grain produced is for animal feed. A National Feed Balance provides a dashboard that compares the status of feed requirement demands of livestock and the available utilizable feed. It is critical for providing an indication of the gap in feed to maintain the national herd and produce the required livestock sourced foods to meet human nutritional targets. Very few AU Member States have an articulated feed sector and industry with most livestock producers feeding animals on what is available rather than against livestock feed requirements and production targets. There is a lack of institutional capacity and contractual investment mechanisms to deliver the feed that livestock require and a poor link between livestock production and human nutritional needs that can be met through livestock sourced foods.

8.97. An AU-IBAR 2023 Feed and Fodder Survey undertaken by the Resilient Feed and Fodder Systems Project jointly funded by the BMGF and AUC indicated that of the 55 Member States to which the Survey was administered, only 17 responded to the query of having recently undertaken a feed inventory: Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Eswatini, Gabon, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Niger, Nigeria,

Somalia, South Sudan, Togo, Uganda and Zimbabwe. Of the twelve only five responded in the affirmative: Ethiopia, Kenya, Niger, Uganda and Zimbabwe, with all five countries reporting negative feed balances indicating challenges for meeting livestock requirements.

- 8.98. The recent huge losses of an estimated 9.5 million animals in the recent drought in the Greater Horn of Africa, worth over two billion USD in terms of livestock assets, production, livelihoods and employment, ecosystem services among other values, underscores the importance of tracking national feed balances. Currently, disaster determinations are triggered by climate alerts and other output/outcome level indicators based on standing dry matter, livestock body condition and humanitarian alerts, at which point there is limited recourse to address feed issues. Generally, the input level information provided by national feed balances have not been harnessed to trigger necessary action including emergency alerts for increased investment in feed resources.

Indicator 3: Animal Seed

- 8.99. An Animal seed indicator was recently introduced into the Biennial Review as important for tracking livestock industry growth. The LiDeSA recommends Member States to develop and locally adapt livestock seed for a vibrant and resilient sector growth. Thirty-nine (39) Member States reported data on the new livestock seed indicator for cattle, goats, pigs, sheep and camels. Performance shows that Member States still rely on imported, exotic livestock seed. These imported livestock seed drive the commercial sector of livestock only, while majority producers are from smallholding communities. Member States are encouraged to put deliberate efforts into creating strategies and structures that will initiate local development and certification of local livestock breeds that will be accessible and usable by the majority livestock keepers.

Indicator 4: Animal Health and Animal Welfare

- 8.100. The animal health systems and services in the majority of African countries remain weak as demonstrated by the findings of the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) analyzes studies carried out in recent years and presented in the 2021 BRR. To improve performance, AU-IBAR in partnership with Regional Economic Communities, Member States, the private sector, and strategic partners, and within the framework of the LiDeSA has undertaken activities to enhance animal health services delivery through Institutional reforms that comprised development/enhancements of policies, strategies and veterinary legislations. Based on the Animal Health Strategy for Africa (AHSA), which expounds on animal health aspects of the LiDeSA, thirty-seven (37) Member States have updated various veterinary legislation and built capacity for compliance.
- 8.101. During the AU-IBAR 70th Anniversary Celebrations, the Pan Africa PPR Eradication Program (2023 – 2027) was launched. Twenty-eight (28) Member States have developed national PPR control and eradication strategies and five-year action plans in line with the global initiative to eradicate PPR by 2030 and the continental strategy on PPR. EU has pledged Euro 500,000 for the preparatory activities and Euro 8,000,000 for the Program to eradicate PPR. Lesotho was officially recognized by the World Organization of Animal Health (WOAH) as a country historically free of PPR; while Burundi and Sierra Leone were supported to respond to PPR out-breaks, while Cabo Verde and Kenya where trained on animal bio-surveillance. The African Association for Veterinary Education Establishments (2A2E-V) supported

the adaptation and contextualization of the WOAH day one recommendations on the competencies of graduating veterinarians in the African context.

- 8.102. Regional harmonization, coordination, information sharing and cross border prevention and control of transboundary animal diseases (TADs) was enhanced through the convening of eleven continental and regional coordination mechanisms: Meetings of the Regional Steering Committee (RSC) of Global Framework for Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs) Africa; the Continental Animal Health Platform Africa (CAHP-Africa) Guiding Group; and Meetings of the ECOWAS and the Eastern Africa Regional Animal Health Networks (RAHNs) that promote coordination, harmonization and information sharing to reduce threats from transboundary animal diseases (TADs) on food security, livelihoods and trade. Progress was made in implementing the African Animal Welfare Strategy through convening's of the Coordination Committee of the African Platform for Animal Welfare (CCAPAW) and the development of an advocacy document: A Compelling Case for Animal Welfare in Africa.

Output / Outcome Level Indicator

Indicator 5: Livestock Trade Indicator

- 8.103. This indicator is a critical measure of progress towards achieving a critical LiDeSA Strategic Objective of identifying, mapping and promoting priority livestock value chains that confer comparative advantage at national and regional levels, which directly contributes to the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement. LiDeSA set out to boost intra and inter regional trade in livestock and livestock commodities.
- 8.104. Africa as a continent continues to perform dismally in terms of global trade in livestock and livestock products. It constitutes only 5.1%, 6% and 2.9% of the share in world trade of imports of dairy products, live animals and of meat and edible meat offal, respectively. Africa's share in world trade of exports of dairy products, live animals and meat and edible meat offal remains meager at 0.7%, 3.1% and 0.5% respectively in 2022 (International Trade Statistics 2023. <https://www.intracen.org/itc/market-info-tools/trade-statistics>).
- 8.105. An insight on livestock trade performance can be obtained from the Growth rate of the value of trade of agricultural commodities and services within Africa and the Diversification index for the intra-Africa trade of agricultural goods and services which are the two key indicators. In the fourth BRR, only 11 Member States reported at least one livestock commodity among their five priority commodities. This is a drop from 13 that reported at least one livestock commodity among their priority traded commodities in the third BRR. While the number of Member States that reported livestock trade data (imports and exports) in the Fourth BRR is relatively significant at 21 for both imports and exports, the quality of the data has declined making it difficult to establish or extract trends.

Impact Level Indicator

Indicator 6: Nutrition Indicator: Growth Rate of the Per Capita Consumption of Livestock Sourced Proteins

- 8.106. A growing body of research shows that increased consumption of animal sourced foods (ASFs), milk, meat and eggs is associated with a significant reduction in the risks of stunting and micronutrient deficiency. ASFs are energy-dense and good sources of protein and many

key micronutrients. ASFs provide readily absorbed and used proteins and they are especially important for vulnerable groups like children and sick people. With Africa's low consumption of animal-sourced foods, even small quantities provide large benefits. Therefore, access to animal-sourced foods (ASFs) is a powerful way to ensure that Africa's poorest can improve their diet. In this regard, Africa must use its rich livestock resources to meet the Malabo Declaration of ending hunger and the related Sustainable Development Goal (SDG2) and Agenda 2063 Goal Number 3, as espoused in the Livestock Development Strategy for Africa (LiDeSA).

- 8.107. An indicator to track consumption of livestock products in Africa is the growth rate of per capita consumption of livestock-sourced proteins which is easy to compute using data from the New Food Balance Sheet of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Data are available for 45 African countries among 175 countries in the world for the period 2014-2020 (<http://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/FBS>).
- 8.108. Analysis of this data shows that African consumption of livestock-sourced proteins is very low, averaging 12.5 grams per day per capita (g/day/capita) between 2014 and 2020. This is less than half the global average of 26.8 (g/day/capita). Worryingly, the level of consumption has been declining over this period, falling by 8.4% to 11.9 (g/day/capita). During the same period, global consumption increased by 5.5%. Twenty-one African countries are consuming more than the continental average while only five (Botswana, Gabon, Mauritania, Mauritius, and South Africa) have a consumption level that is above the global average. Twenty-six countries (twelve of which consume less than the continental average) experienced negative growth in the consumption of livestock-sourced proteins and are responsible for the declining continental average.
- 8.109. Countries with high rates of stunting should implement nutrition-sensitive strategies to increase dairy, eggs and/or meat consumption among young children and women of reproductive age through both supply and demand-side interventions.

8H. Progress in the implementation of the Africa Union's Decision on the Framework for Irrigation Development and Agricultural Water Management (IDAWM) Practices in Africa ({EX.CL/1187(XXXVI)} 6-7 February 2020, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)

Introduction

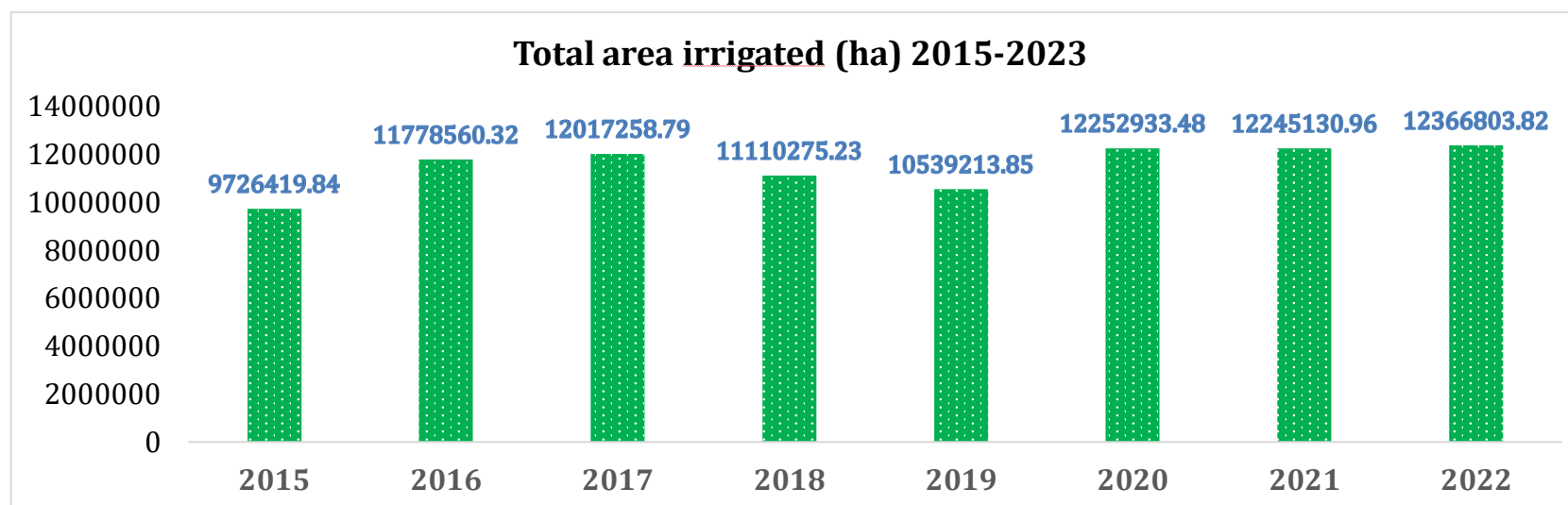
- 8.110. The African Union' Decision on Irrigation Development and Agricultural Water Management seeks to promote access to the use of irrigation and other agricultural water management solutions for sustainable increase in agricultural productivity and intensification. The overarching objective is to increase land productivity, smoothen income and consumption and promote resilient livelihoods against the backdrop of climate related shocks from the high dependence on rain fed agriculture.
- 8.111. The low productivity of African agriculture has been linked to little or no use of productivity enhancing input such as irrigation technology. To achieve the ending hunger goal, the 2014 Malabo target is to increase by 100% the size of irrigated arable crop area by 2025. In the

Biennial Review Report (BRR), access to irrigation technology is one of the indicators under access to agricultural input and technology category in the commitment to ending hunger. Doubling productivity and building resilient food system in the continent is inherently dependent on increased use of irrigation and other agricultural water management solutions considering the unpredictability of rainfall; in duration and intensity. The BRR tracks Member State' (MS) performance in access to irrigation technology as the growth rate of the size of irrigated area from the year 2015 baseline value. The irrigated area is defined as all areas that are functionally irrigated and/or equipped for irrigation. The caution is that, due to the technical and methodological challenges associated with the measurement and estimation of total area irrigated, most of what is reported by MS are grossly underestimations. Emphasis are mostly on large-scale public irrigation schemes while neglecting the fast-growing farmer-led (small scale) Irrigation. Also, the fragmented sizes, seasonality in use (seasonal invisibility) and dispersed nature of irrigated area poses measurement challenges. Access to Irrigation technology is tracked and reported in the BRRs as the percentage change in the total area irrigated from the 2015 baseline value.

Analysis and Findings

- 8.112. In the fourth BRR on the performance of MS in the implementation of the IDAWM, it is evidence that most of the MS are sustainably increasing their total crop area irrigated. The Malabo target is to increase the size of irrigated areas by 100% in 2025 from the 2015 baseline. The pooled continental data shows that over the 8years period (2015-2023) the area irrigated has increased from 9.7mha to 12.4mha, with a yearly average of 3.9%. Considering, specific MS performance, 15 MS did not report on this indicator. For the Countries that reported, there are some encouraging trend as nine (9) of them are on track; they met the expected fourth BR benchmark score of 9.5. These are Benin, Cameroun, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Mozambique, Niger and Sierra Leone. Also, eleven (11) other countries, though not on track, were found to be progressing well as their total irrigated cropped land have increased consistently over time. They scored above 50% of the expected fourth BR benchmark needed to meet the Malabo target of 100% increase by 2025. These countries are Rwanda, Togo, Egypt, Botswana, Liberia, Tanzania, Malawi, Angola, Mauritania Namibia and Burundi). The implication of this is that with the sustained use of irrigation and other agricultural water management solutions there are high possibilities for increased productivity and intensification of production in the continent.
- 8.113. The trend analysis shows, on the overall, between 2015 to 2022, there have been an increase in the crop land irrigated. Though the annual growth rate within the period has been somehow low. Considering the 2014 Malabo target of increasing by 100% the area under irrigation in 2015 by 2025, it is evident that with an annual growth rate of 3.9%, it will be impossible to reach the target in the remaining 2years. However, it has not been all gloom as there have been some improvement across the continent. Northern Africa still have the largest irrigated crop land (4.8mHa) while Central Africa region has about 71,464ha of crop land under irrigation. Within the period under review (2015-2022) it was only in Western Africa region that there was reduction in irrigated cropped area. This may not be unrelated to the failures and underutilization of many large irrigation schemes.

Figure 8.6: Continental performance in terms of total crop land irrigated between 2015 to 2023.



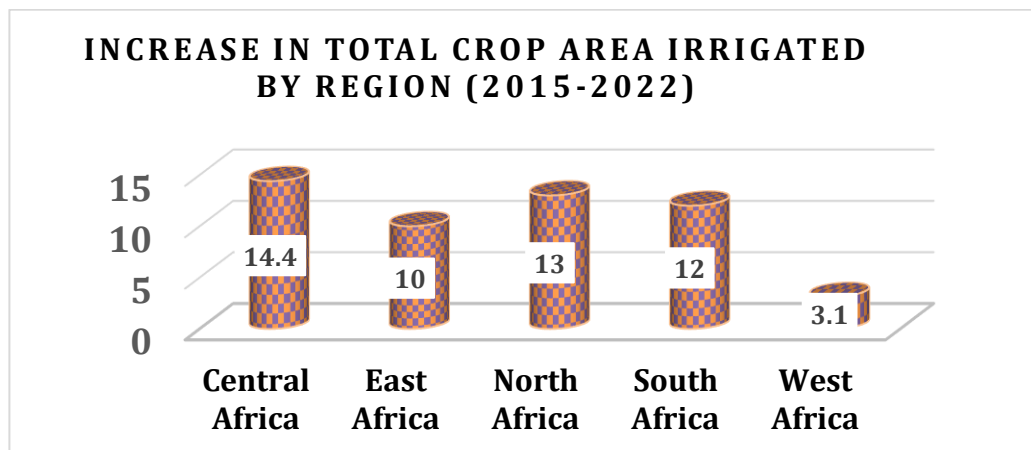
Source: Analysis of fourth BR data

8.114. Figure 8.7 shows the increase in total crop land irrigated within the 8 years period (2015-2022) disaggregated by region. Increase was highest (14.4%) in the central African region while it was lowest (3.1%) in Western Africa region. The total irrigated areas by 2022 for the northern, southern, central, eastern and western Africa regions are 4.8mHa, 2.2mHa, 71,464ha, 3.4mHa and 1.6mHa respectively.

Conclusion and Recommendation

8.115. Huge opportunities exist to utilize the vast water resources in the continent to increase agricultural productivity and intensification and to build a climate resilient food system. Evidences from the last third BRR suggest that farmers' managed and market driven agricultural water management solutions are the most sustainable. However, these small farmer' led irrigation development are under-reported as they are small (per unit area) and often dispersed. There is a need for government and partners at all levels to devise a methodology for measuring and reporting on this. Also, government need to promote and encourage small holders' irrigation through targeted policy as well as enabling market and institutional reforms.

Figure 8.7: Increase in total crop area irrigated by region



Source: Analysis of fourth BR data

8I. Progress on Implementing the AU Decision EX.CL/DEC. 1074(XXXVI) on SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY (SPS) Policy Framework, 2020

Introduction

8.116. In 2020, the African Union took a significant stride towards safeguarding consumer health and facilitating safe trade by endorsing the AU Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Policy Framework through Decision EX.CL/Dec. 1074(XXXVI). This framework focuses on the implementation of SPS measures, which are science-based regulations to protect human, animal or plant life or health. Three SPS Indicators have been introduced in this fourth CAADP Biennial Review Report, to monitor progress in the implementation of SPS Policy Framework. These indicators include:

- The SPS Systems Indicator (SSI), which aims for 100 percent functional SPS systems in accordance with international standards by 2025. This indicator measures the status of governance structures, capacity to manage SPS risks and implementation and participation in international frameworks aimed at trade facilitation.

- The SPS Health Indicator (SHI) that aims for a 50 percent reduction in foodborne illnesses and associated deaths by 2025.
- The SPS Trade Indicator (STI), whose goal is to reduce the rate of unit rejection of agricultural commodities due to SPS non-compliance by 50 percent by 2025.

8.117. Additionally, the AU endorsed the Animal Health Strategy for Africa in 2020 (EX.CL/Dec. 1074(XXXVI)) and the Food Safety Strategy for Africa (FSSA) and Plant Health Strategy for Africa (PHSA) in 2022 (EX.CL/Dec.1144(XL)). These strategic Decisions complement the SPS Policy Framework, highlighting the holistic approach adopted to improve consumer health and strengthen intra-African trade.

8.118. The Decision on the SPS Policy Framework and the three strategies are aligned with the Malabo Declaration's goals of ending hunger in Africa by 2025; poverty reduction; and tripling intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services. Successful implementation of a well-functioning SPS system is essential for reducing trade rejections and foodborne diseases, thereby promoting safer production and trade practices. This, in turn, contributes to improved food security and intra-African trade, which is consistent with Africa's vision of a healthier, more prosperous continent with thriving intra-African trade. This report examines the implementation of SPS measures by African Union member states.

Analysis

8.119. Member States have been committed to tracking food safety indicators since the 2019 BR cycle. In this Biennial Review cycle, the food safety index was expanded to encompass Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures, which include plant health, animal health, and food safety. These newly introduced SPS Indicators include the SPS Systems Indicator, SPS Health Indicator, and SPS Trade Indicator. This report examines the implementation of SPS measures in African Union (AU) member states, utilizing these indicators to measure progress. Due to underreporting on the SPS Trade Indicator in this fourth BR cycle, our analysis focused on data from the SPS Systems and Health indicators. Our findings indicate that none of the 49 Member States that submitted reports on their SPS systems achieved the benchmark of "9" for the year 2022. Regarding the health indicator, Member States have set a target for countries to achieve a 50 percent reduction in foodborne diarrheal diseases and associated mortalities by 2025. Encouragingly, several Member States are progressing toward this target, underscoring the positive impact of ongoing improvements in SPS systems on public health outcomes.

Findings

8.120. In this fourth CAADP Biennial Reporting cycle, achieving a benchmark of 9 out of 10 was considered on track for both the SPS Systems Indicator and SPS Health Indicator. Functional SPS systems are characterized by:

- robust governance structures including quality policies, functional competent authorities with effective inter-agency coordination for enforcement and compliance,
- human and institutional capacities to effectively manage plant and animal pests and diseases, and food safety risks; and
- effective participation in international harmonization and trade facilitation frameworks.

- 8.121. Regarding the progress on SPS Systems Indicator, none of the 49 reporting Member States attained the benchmark of 9 out of 10 indicating that none are on track for achieving the target of 100% functional SPS systems. However, it is noteworthy that 15 out of the 49 Member States representing 31% of the total, attained a commendable score of seven or higher indicative of substantial progress in their SPS systems. These Member States along with their respective score are as follows: Kenya (8.8), Mali (8.1), Morocco (8.8), Rwanda (8.3), South Africa (8.3), Tunisia (8.7), Nigeria (7.7), Benin (7.2), Burkina Faso (7.4), Burundi (7.5), Gambia (7.1), Ghana (7.3), Madagascar (7.4), Tanzania (7.1) and Zimbabwe (7.4).
- 8.122. Concerning the progress on SPS Health Indicator, eight Member States (16%) attained the benchmark of 9. These Member States which include Burundi, Gambia, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, Tanzania, Togo, and Zimbabwe and are on track towards the 50% reduction in foodborne diarrheal diseases and associated mortalities, demonstrating positive strides in improving public health. It is worth mentioning that Member States that were on track for the SPS Health Indicator were also progressing well in achieving functional SPS Systems, further demonstrating the impact of functional SPS systems on public health outcomes. The submission of incomplete data on the SPS Health Indicator by some of the countries who progressed well on the SPS Systems Indicator may have accounted for their low performance in the SPS Health Indicator.
- 8.123. The introduction of SPS indicators is a significant step in measuring progress in implementation of the AU SPS Policy Framework. Despite the progress being made by some Member States, challenges still remain on implementing science-based SPS systems. Functional SPS systems align with the Malabo Declaration's goals and Africa's vision for safe trade, enhanced food security, and healthier, more prosperous Africa. Enhanced investment is needed at national level to strengthen SPS governance structures, build capacity to manage SPS risks, enhance inter-ministerial coordination on SPS matters, implement health improvement measures, and facilitate data sharing mechanisms to achieve the goals of protecting human, animal or plant life or health and increased trade.

Recommendations

- 8.124. Member States should prioritize the comprehensive implementation of policies, laws, and programs related to Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) systems. This includes investing in the development of robust SPS governance structures to ensure consumer health protection and the safe trade in agricultural commodities.
- 8.125. There is a need for Member States to strengthen their institutional and human capacities in managing SPS risks effectively. This entails investing in training and resources to enhance the ability to respond to challenges related to food safety, plant health, and animal health.
- 8.126. Member States should prioritize health improvement measures, aiming for a 50% reduction in foodborne illnesses and associated deaths by 2025, in line with the SHI goal. This includes strengthening food safety standards, enhancing surveillance systems, and promoting public awareness campaigns to reduce the incidence of foodborne diseases.
- 8.127. To facilitate better tracking of SPS indicators, Member States should improve their reporting mechanisms and data sharing practices at the national level. Encouraging inter-ministerial coordination mechanisms, transparency and active participation in reporting will enable more accurate assessments of progress and better targeted interventions.

Conclusions

8.128. The introduction of SPS indicators marked a significant step in assessing SPS measures, including SPS Systems (SSI), SPS Health (SHI), and SPS Trade (STI). However, none of the African Union Member States are on track for 100% functional SPS systems (SSI), highlighting the need for increased investment in SPS governance, risk management capacity, and trade facilitation. Progress toward the goal of a 50% reduction in foodborne illnesses and related deaths by 2025 is challenging but ongoing. Functional SPS systems can reduce trade rejections and improve health outcomes, aligning with the goals of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and ending hunger. Strengthening SPS frameworks, inter-ministerial coordination, capacity building, and data reporting are essential for safer production and trade, food security, and intra-African trade in agriculture. Simultaneously, targeted health initiatives, collaboration, and data sharing will contribute to a healthier, more prosperous Africa by reducing foodborne diseases and associated deaths.

8J. African Union Continental Declaration on Scaling-up Food Fortification and Biofortification – Decision {Assembly/AU/Decl. 2(XXXV)}, 2022

Introduction

8.129. Micronutrient deficiency is one of major health challenges in Africa which accounts for over 340 million cases-the highest disease burden. As such, the AU endorsed declaration number {Assembly/AU/Decl. 2(XXXV)} with four commitments aimed to scale-up food fortification, biofortification and diversification. These commitments were: promotion of nutrition-sensitive agriculture through sustainable diversified nutrient-rich foods; development and implementation of nation-wide food system-based approaches, including industrial fortification and biofortification, supporting scaling up of industrial food fortification and biofortification and support research into conventionally biofortified foods and industrially fortified food. The declaration would enable member states to develop policies and implement programs that are aimed at reducing micronutrient deficiency.

8.130. To assess the progress of member states in terms of the declaration, a number of indicators are used including child dietary diversity (CDD), Hunger and Nutrition Commitment Index Africa (HNCI), cost of nutritious foods, food fortification and biofortification index. Data for CDD and Biofortification Index, cost of nutritious foods will come from BR report. Data on HNCI was obtained from Hunger and Nutrition Commitment Index Africa website while data on fortification index was obtained from Food fortification index.

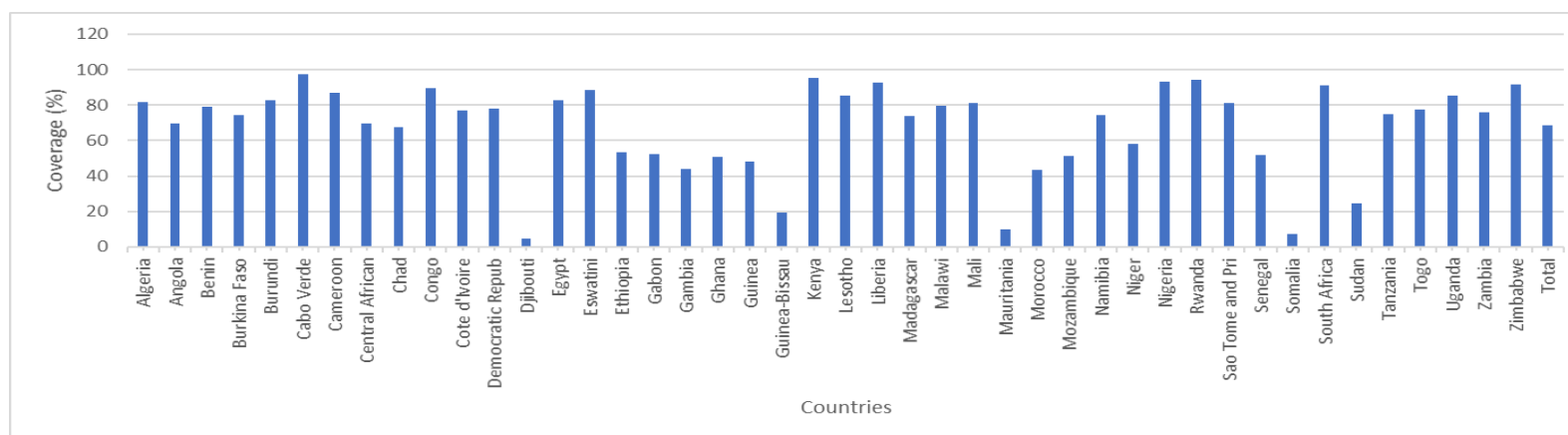
Results

8.131. Results from HNCI for 2019 categorizes the countries based on their commitment to reducing hunger and undernutrition. There were 30 countries with data. Most (38.6%) of the countries had low commitment to reducing undernutrition. These countries include Uganda,

Senegal, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Mauritania, Mozambique, Cameroon, Liberia, Lesotho, Sudan, Angola, Guinea-Bissau, and Togo. The rest of the countries are categorized as low commitment (25% -Niger, Côte d’Ivoire , Gambia, Sierra Leone, Zambia, Burundi and Ghana), moderate commitment (20.5% -Mali, Rwanda, Tanzania, Kenya, Madagascar and Benin) and high commitment (15.9% -South Africa, Burkina Faso and Malawi). The performance of the countries based on HNCI does not depend on region or GDP per capita. For example, middle incomes countries are not consistent with being categorized as high commitment.

8.132. The food fortification index indicator has available data on the coverage of salt fortification, which is the proportion of the country’s population reported to consume the fortified food vehicle, compared to the proportion of the population that uses the food that is industrially processed or compared to the proportion of the population with access to the food in question. Most countries have fortified their salt, which is being consumed by their population with exception of Djibouti, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, and Somalia where the coverage is below 20% (Figure 8.8).

Figure 8.8: Coverage of salt fortification by country



Source: Analysis of fourth BR data

8.133. The biofortification index measures the progress member states are making in terms of scaling biofortification. In this report we used the fourth BR reporting cycle to determine the performance of the member states in terms of progress in scaling biofortification. The results in the biofortification index are presented in Figure 8.8 and shows that 34% of the countries had zero scores meaning that no data was reported or there was no implementation of biofortification programs. Another 66% of the countries had a score between 1 and 60. Though these countries made some strides to scaling of biofortification, these were not enough to achieve the required target of 70.

DRAFT DECISION

The Executive Council,

1. **ENDORSES** the 4th CAADP Biennial Review Report;
2. **URGES** Member States and Regional Economic Communities (RECs), AUC, and all stakeholders to renew their commitments to CAADP as Africa's transformative plan for agriculture-led growth;
3. **CALLS UPON** Member States, AUC and RECs to use different available platforms to disseminate the 4th CAADP BR Report and use it as widely as possible to stimulate debate, discussions, and policy changes;
4. **REQUESTS** AU Member States, RECs, the AUC and AUDA-NEPAD to strengthen the existing established central multi-sectoral coordination mechanism for effective CAADP implementation;
5. **ENCOURAGES** the AUC and other stakeholders to document lessons learned and establish areas of successes and challenges that will provide priority areas to feed into implementation processes for the next two years until 2025. This will also feed into the development of the post-Malabo agenda for the next 10 years (2026-2035);
6. **REITERATES** the need for strong political leadership and commitment, including strengthening of financial and human resources capacities at all levels to drive implementation, mutual accountability, to achieve the aspirations of CAADP;
7. **ENCOURAGES** RECs to continue to play a critical role in the CAADP implementation and, in particular, the management of the Biennial Review process;
8. **REQUESTS** AUC and Member States to work on improving data quality and incorporating the BR process into the national statistical and monitoring and evaluation systems. Furthermore, Member States, with support of AUC and technical partners should synergize the processes of the BR, National Agricultural Investment Plans (NAIP) and Joint Sector Reviews (JSRs).

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