

# PROMISING AFRICAN SUCCESSES FOR ENHANCING AGRICULTUREAL PRODUCTIVITY AND POVERTY REDUCTION

By

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African Fertilizer and  
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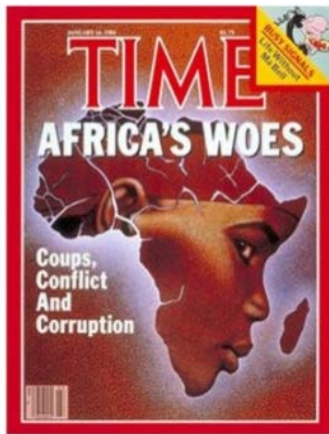
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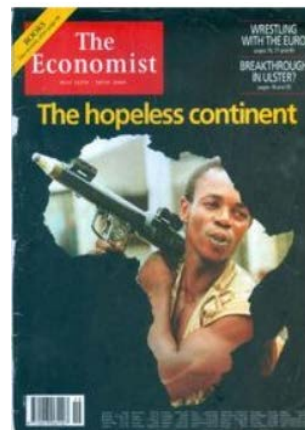
# Africa's woes, conflict, and rising narrative



- The past half a Century has seen Africa touted as a continent of disasters , wars diseases,- a dying continent of untold woes. More recently Africa is touted as a continent of hope, Rising Africa of Lions on the move!
- The recent narrative of Rising Africa has over shadowed the continued woes of millions of Africans who are living in abject poverty.



16/01/1984



03/05/2000



24/11/2012



02/03/2013

# The woes of food insecurity and poverty



- Africa poverty rates declined marginally from 56% in 1990 to 49% in 2010
- 388 million in extreme poverty (more than 50%)
- 239 million Africans chronically undernourished.
- Africa has made the least progress in reducing poverty
- Africa 41% “off” MDG 1 versus 25% in South Asia; and 6.1% in Latin America

# The woes of food insecurity and poverty cont.



- Asia number of undernourished people declined whereas in Africa there was increase
- Africa, however, has the greatest potential, per capita, to be on top of the world within 50 years
- This however requires bold political commitment and decisive action by African leaders to refocus on agriculture.

# Why has Africa lagged behind?



- 50 years of Africa development failure
- African governments for decades mortgaged policy panning and implementation to outsiders
- Africans passive recipients of externally designed policies and programmes
- Ineffective institutions, policies and technologies
- Africa has no STRATEGY for the world
- Africa has no NARRATIVE of its own

# The African context: Challenges and opportunities



- Growth without development
- Rapid urbanization: 50% by 2035
- Youthful population: (40% under age 23)



# Prospects of an agriculture-led social and economic transformation



- Agriculture arguably the lead sector towards MDG 1 goal
  - *supplies food and raises incomes*
  - *creates demand for manufactured goods and services*
  - *singularly powerful tool for lifting large numbers of Africans out of poverty.*
- Agricultural revolution in Europe led to transformation
  - Food, incomes, raw materials for industry, forex, savings, labour for industrial sector
- Green Revolution in Asia led to similar transformation
- Meanwhile Africa's agriculture is undercapitalized, uncompetitive and underperforming.

# Africa's production and productivity levels



- Cereal yields:
  - Africa 1,230kg/ha average
  - Asia 3,090 kg/ha average
  - Latin America 3,040 kg/ha average
  - EU 5,470 kg/ha average
- Fertiliser use:
  - Africa 80 kg/ha average
  - Asia 80 kg/ha average
  - Latin America 100 kg/ha average

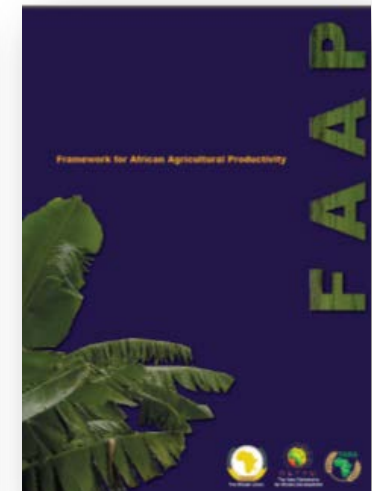
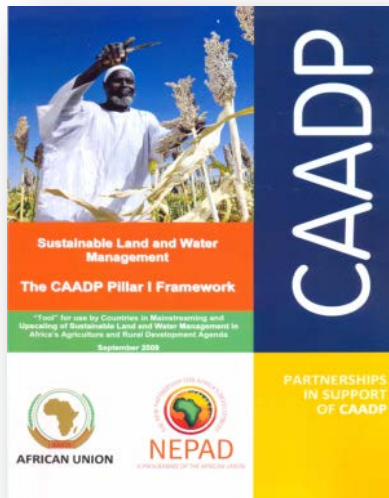




# Changing tide: The comprehensive Africa agriculture development program (CAADP)



- Maputo 2003 and Malabo 2015 Political Commitments to Agriculture
- Commitments to Increase Budget Allocation to Agriculture
- CAADP fostered issues of mutual peer review and accountability
- CAADP Framework for development Partner coordination support to Africa Agriculture



# Progress emerging



- Since Maputo Declaration of 2003:
  - 10 countries had reached or surpassed the 10% budgetary allocation target
  - 9 were are in the 5% - 10%
- 2000-10 unprecedented sustained economic growth:
  - Africa's annual GDP grew by an average of 4.8%
  - Compared to 2.1% in the previous decade (1990-99)
  - Agricultural annual GDP growth rates were 3.2% and 3.0% respectively for the two decades.
- Although moderate growth has contributed to reductions in poverty in many African countries

# CAADP implementation & achievements



**\* 40 Country Compacts**

**\* 27 National Investment Plans**

**\* 24 country Business meetings**

**1 regional compact & Investment Plan (ECOWAS)**



# CAADP in 1<sup>st</sup> decade: A success Story?



- CAADP raised expectations of new resources and created a financial dependency to which only donors could respond
- African financial institutions (AfDB, regional development banks, and private investors) hardly involved
- Not much focus on Institutional capacity; policy reform
  - Shallow problem analysis; poor political economy analysis
- Shift from **'poverty reduction'** to **'wealth creation'** as development strategy
- Shift from **'food security'** to **'food sovereignty'**

# CAADP an Opportunity in Triggering Agricultural Successes



Promising African Agricultural Successes have been adopted by CAADP as Flagships.

- The Cassava Research and Developments initiative
- New Rice for Africa (NERICA)
- Horticulture Production for Export
- Bio science and technology support

# Need for Governments to re-think Smallholder Support Programmes



- State-driven investments intended for smallholder farmers have been ineffective
- Smallholders mainstay of African agriculture
- They respond to markets quicker- they could do more with supportive policies
- State run Fertilizer and Seed Subsidy Programmes have become the center piece for rent seeking and power

# Women Key to the African Agricultural revolution



- New technologies often expensive
- and not suited to women priority crops
- Need for appropriate labour saving machinery and technology



# Recommendations in Fostering Agricultural successes



1. Institutional reforms and policy alignment for inclusive growth models- shift from POVERTY REDUCTION to WEALTH CREATION
2. Shift from FOOD SECURITY to FOOD SOVEREIGNTY policy
3. Constitutions to provide full recognition of customary land rights, and customary rights to natural resources
4. Regional agricultural policies should all be organised around the central thrust of integrating African economies
5. Reverse the tide of old people as famers- bring on board youth
6. Define responsive programs for Women famers.



# Conclusion



- CAADP as a framework for agricultural successes in Africa
- Successful agriculture programmes in Africa have been driven by technical and political leadership commitment
- Technology and opportunities for leapfrogging by African agricultural institutions
- Changing global partnership architecture
- Political commitments to policy reforms and increased private sector participation including growing assertive farmer organisations
- Innovative linkages between smallholder farmers and commercial farmers





**THANK- YOU**

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