SYMPOSIUM ON HOW TO MAKE ZAMBIA THE FOOD BASKET OF THE REGION THROUGH AGRICULTURAL TRADE,
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COMESA IN FIGURES

- Membership: 19; Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, DRC, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia; Kenya, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe
- Geographical land size: 12million sq. km
- Total population: (2011) >450 m people
- Total GDP: (2011) USD 450 bn.
- Total exports: USD 116 bn. (2011)
- Total imports: USD 153 bn. (2011)
- GDP Growth (2011) 5%
26 Countries
610 Million People
Represents 58% of Africa population
GDP US$1.2 trillion
RFTA – signed and launched last month in Egypt
Expansive African market
60% total arable global arable land is in Africa
This is opportunity for agricultural growth and economic integration
CREATION OF ACTESA

- Regional Alliance as well as Specialized Agency of COMESA established in May, 2009 by COMESA Head of State and Government to:
  - Harmonize and coordinate multiple interventions of State and non-State actors
    - 2003 Maputo Declaration on CAADP
  - Exploit synergies and complementary competencies among implementing actors
    - 2005 Paris Declaration on AID Effectiveness
  - Forge regional collaboration and partnerships on agricultural trade
    - 2006 Abuja Declaration on Partnerships for Trade
All COMESA Member States/ Plus Mozambique, Botswana & Tanzania (Through the Tripartite)

- Burundi
- Comoros
- D.R. Congo
- Djibouti
- Egypt
- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- Kenya
- Libya
- Seychelles
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Mauritius
- Rwanda
- Sudan
- Swaziland
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe
- Mozambique
- Botswana
- Tanzania
Integrate smallholder farmers into national, regional and international markets through an improved policy environment and expanded market facilities/services.

**Focus Area one**
Policy Research Outreach and Advocacy
- Trade Policy
- Sector-specific policies
- Research
- Advocacy
- Stakeholder Outreach

**Focus Area Two**
Expanding Market Services and Facilities
- Market facilities and services
- Market Information system
- Service Forum (CAADP pillar II)

**Focus Area Three**
Capacity Building for commercialization
- Innovative Linkages to markets
- Productivity and technology adoption
- Development of Farmer Organisations (CAADP pillar III)
ACTESA COMMODITIES

- GRAINS AND PULSES
- OILSEEDS
- ROOTS AND TUBERS
- LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES
- FOREST AND NATURAL PRODUCTS
- TREE AND PLANTATION CROPS
- AGRICULTURAL INPUTS
CHALLENGES OF SMALL-HOLDER FARMERS

• Over-reliance on rain-fed agriculture
• Low use of agricultural inputs like fertiliser and seed
• High marketing costs brought about by poor infrastructure
• Insect pests and diseases in the farmers’ fields
• Post-harvest storage losses
• Lack of mechanised agricultural system
• Regional coordination and facilitation
  – will not lead implementation at Member State level
• Principle of subsidiarity
  – national level activities to be led by national partners
  – partners to leverage on ACTESA materials and capacities but independently plan and mobilize additional resources
• Conducting pilots and developing case materials in MS to be done jointly with Members of the Alliance
  – on contractual and/or partnerships basis
• Activities (on-going & funded but new ones need funding)
IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH

• ACTESA’s exclusive position
  – connects with grass roots organizations
  – access to a high-level political platform of COMESA

• ACTESA’s unique value
  – communicates regulatory recommendations from partners to COMESA Policy Organs and follow-up decisions
  – Reference Center
    • Review experiences,
    • document and package information, knowledge and best practices,
    • conduct regional training of trainers and
    • disseminate materials to partners
Partnerships forged with:

• REGIONAL FARMERS’ ORGANISATION: EAFF and SACAU
• IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES in Seed (AFSTA) Agro-dealers (IFDC), etc.
• Regional Organisations (FARNPAN), CCARDESA, (ASARECA), (AFAP), ReSAKKs, IFPRI etc
• COMESA Secretariat with SPS, CAADP Unit, Climate Change, etc....
• Agri-business and Commodity associations (EAGC, NSTA, WASAA..)
• Government departments (Agriculture, commerce, meteorological, etc....)
ACTESA PROGRAMMES

• ACTESA Knowledge Portal in close collaboration with Agro-Enterprise Learning Alliance (AELA): store house for best practice, information sharing, publication, etc for ACTESA and its Alliance partners.

• Biotechnology and Biosafety: enhance awareness of the benefits and risks of modern Biotechnology: includes recognition to both the benefits and potential risks of genetically modified crop varieties, establishment of a regional-level risk assessment mechanism but a national-level decision, and capacity building both at national and regional levels.
• COMESA SEED HARMONIZATION IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM (COMSHIP) - a public-private partnership earmarked to establish and enhance a viable and sustainable seed industry in East and Southern Africa ensuring that the region’s farmers have affordable, timely and reliable access to improved seed
• Funded by Food Trade (DfID/DAI) and USAID
• Implemented in 7 countries – Burundi, Swaziland, Malawi, Madagascar, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Zambia
ACTESA PROGRAMMES

• ACTESA has developed and will launch a program on **Regional Fertiliser Trade Platform**, accreditation of agro-dealers and access to micro-finance for small-holder farmers through guarantees.

• **Regional Agriculture Commodity Exchange**: establish and integrate national markets into regional and international markets (price discovery/standards/policy harmonization - (now including the Pan Africa Food Exchange – PAFEXE).

• **Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Food Balance Sheet**: Promote more informed policies and decision making on food security by government agencies, food-aid agencies, private sector.
Informal Cross Border Trade Monitoring System (ICBTMS): The principal purpose of the monitoring system was to: “better understand regional trade flows in foodstuffs and apply this information and analysis to the planning of food aid, humanitarian response and strategic food import decisions”.

ACTESA PROGRAMMES
• **Strategic Commodity Value-Chains in COMESA:** The overall goal is to enable effective Public-private partnerships to play a significant role in the development of a vibrant agribusiness sector capable of capturing untapped opportunities such as economies of scale, intra-regional complementarities, trade and economies of transactions in cross-border investment.
COMESA Fifth Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources, recognized the need to unlock the full potential of the region’s

- Regional Maize Value Chain to include pulses and cereals
- Regional Livestock Value Chain
- Fertilizer Marketing and Distribution in Eastern and Southern Africa Region
Pan African Food Exchange (PAFEXE)

- Pan African Food Exchange™ (PAFEXE) is the African online portal for the food security and agriculture industry. PAFEXE allows farmers in Africa to register free of charge to connect via mobile phone or fixed internet with food industry professionals and service providers worldwide.

- Pafexe will have expert sections where farmers can go to get access to information needed from seed, post harvest storage, finance, crop care, weather, insurance including local, regional and global market prices etc, etc. The list and information is infinite.

- PAFEXE is a fully integrated information communication technology (ICT) solution, a virtual, ‘peer-to-peer’ web based dairy and agricultural commodities trading exchange and networking platform.

- PAFEXE offers commercial companies access to an untapped market. As a member, you are connected to worldwide partners and markets and have the ability to do business on whatever scale you want, whether it be micro, locally, regionally or globally.
PAFEXE Connects

- Connects African farmers to local, regional and international marketplaces (the Value Chain).
- Connects international and local food manufacturers, processors, traders, distributors, wholesalers and retailers to the farmers and global service providers.
- Connects input suppliers, machinery suppliers, farm technology companies including irrigation, off grid energy and ICT companies to the farmers and global businesses.
- Connects Governments, foundations, farming organisations, NGO’s, research councils, universities and executive agencies to the entire sector and gives them access to vital Big Data.

- PAFEXE and its many features connect developed and emerging markets together in a fully integrated value chain.
- PAFEXE is launching in Kenya and this will provide a benchmark for all the African countries we introduce the platform to in the future.
CONCLUSIONS

- Innovative financial services and improved risk management on both the small-holder farmers and financial institution necessary.
- Inputs management by the private sector and farming should be business orientated.
- Public and Private Partnership is a key element of the success of ACTESA programme.
- EAC-COMESA-SADC tripartite is essential for ACTESA programme implementation.
- Awareness creation of ACTESA programmes necessary and country-specific capacity building of all key stakeholders for ACTESA programmes.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION