AN OVERVIEW OF CASSAVA PRODUCTION IN ZAMBIA

Presented by
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Where is Zambia?

- **Size**: 752,612 sq.km (4.5% arable)
- **Population**: over 14 million. 2016, (60%-in rural areas)
- **GDP**: $20.9bn; > 6% growth p.a. last 5 years
  - Agriculture: contributes 13-15% to GDP; employs > 85% of the population

Source: CSO
Outline

Overview of cassava production
Overview of cassava marketing
Challenges
Opportunities
Recommendations
Overview of Cassava Production [1]

- Cassava most important crop grown after maize in Zambia
  - Grown by over 33% of 1.5 million small-scale farmers
  - Cassava fields size range between 0.5 and 2ha
  - Resilient to climate change
  - Contributes to household food security and income

- Cassava production is over 1 million mt per annum
#### Overview of Cassava Production [2]

90 of varieties grown are local, 10% is improved

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Varieties</th>
<th>Year Released</th>
<th>Yield (Mt/ha)</th>
<th>Taste</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bangweulu</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Bitter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kapumba</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Sweet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nalumino</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Bitter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mweru</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>Sweet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chila</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Bitter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanganyika</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Sweet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kampolombo</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>Sweet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>1600</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Bitter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Overview of Cassava Production [3]

- Total area under cassava production was 325,350ha in 2014/15

% of area under cassava by Province

- Luapula
- Northern
- Northwestern
- Southern
- Western
- Lusaka
- Muchinga
- Eastern
- Copperbelt
- Central
Most of Zambia’s cassava is grown in the northern part of the country.
Overview of cassava production [5]

- Land preparations and Planting – November through January
- Planted on mounds, ridges, flat land
- Temperature: $25^\circ\text{C}$ and $29^\circ\text{C}$
- Rainfall: 600 and 1500mm, Sandy loam soils
- Adapt to mixed and mono-cropping systems
- Harvesting is done throughout the year, but drier months
Overview of cassava marketing [1]

- Most of the cassava produced (92%) is consumed and only about 7% is traded
- Trading in-country and also exports (DRC and Angola)
- Three forms uses
  - Human consumption
  - Livestock
  - Industrial
  - export
Overview of cassava marketing [2]

Trade flow of cassava in Zambia
Factors affecting the cassava sector

Lack of an effective demand for cassava and its products
- This is as a result of lack of policy framework
- Maize centric policies
- Unrevised Cassava strategy

Lack of marketable surplus
- Low productivity among farmers
- Lack of market information

Lack of storage and trade infrastructure

Limited access to finance
## Opportunities in Cassava sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Government</th>
<th>Two Ministries involved Agriculture and Commerce</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Managed to get a loan from Africa Development Bank to commercialization cassava</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• CAMEP – Cassava Mechanization Programme</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Private Sector</th>
<th>Companies getting involved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Zambia Breweries using cassava in making beer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Premiercon Company using cassava to make starch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Mines want to start using cassava in mineral processing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Recommendations

To enhance effective demand

• Government should develop a set of policy measures eg 5% maize or wheat substitution

To improve productivity

• Improve awareness to use improved varieties
• Improve cassava production knowledge through enhanced extension

To enhance market linkages and promote value chain

• Improve supply chain efficiency by strengthening farmer organization ZANACA
• Infrastructure development eg road net
Thank You