

# ESWATINI

CAADP BIENNIAL REVIEW BRIEF



Kingdom of Eswatini

CAADP BIENNIAL REVIEW BRIEF

Africa Agriculture  
Transformation Scorecard  
Performance and Lessons



# Africa Agriculture Transformation Scorecard Performance and Lessons for Eswatini<sup>1</sup>

## 1. Introduction

The seventh commitment of the 2014 Malabo Declaration focuses on strengthening mutual accountability to action and results in the implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). African Heads of State and Government committed to systematic and regular reviews on the implementation of the Malabo Declaration through a biennial review for tracking, monitoring, and reporting progress (AUC, 2014). In line with this commitment, the African Union Commission (AUC) and the African Union Development Agency–New Partnership for Africa's Development (AUDA-NEPAD), in collaboration with the regional economic communities (RECs), member states, and technical and development partners, designed and implemented the inaugural agriculture sector Biennial Review (BR) for the continent. African Union (AU) member states participated in the inaugural BR process self-reporting on progress made in the implementation of the seven Malabo commitments. Results of the BR process were presented at the 30<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the AU in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in January 2018. Eswatini implemented the inaugural BR process to track progress in the implementation of the Malabo commitments. The process provided a platform for stakeholders in the agriculture sector (the public sector, private sector, development partners, civil society organizations, academia, and research institutions) to hold each other mutually accountable on both the financial and nonfinancial commitments they made on common development goals for the agriculture sector. The BR process also provided a platform for agriculture sector stakeholders to learn from each other (peer learning).

The objective of this brief is to analyze Eswatini's performance and discuss lessons from the implementation of the inaugural CAADP BR mechanism. Based on the results, recommendations are proposed for strengthening mutual accountability and performance of the agriculture sector in Eswatini. The analysis is based on results of the Africa Agriculture Transformation Scorecard (AATS) that was presented to African Heads of State and Government in January 2018. Additional information for the analysis came from technical notes in Eswatini's BR report. Furthermore, experiences and lessons from continental and regional engagements in the implementation of the BR process were also integrated in the analysis.

## 2. Overview of the Agricultural Transformation Scorecard

Figure 1 below presents results of the 2017 Africa Agriculture Transformation Scorecard. For the 2017 BR, the benchmark (minimum) score for a country to be on track in implementing Malabo Declaration commitments was 3.94 out of 10 (AUC, 2018). Countries with scores in

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green colour are on track while countries in red colour are not in track. Eswatini achieved an overall score of 3.99, indicating the country is on track to meet the Malabo commitments and targets by 2025. Eswatini is also among the 8 out of 15 countries in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region that are on track.

**Figure 1: Results of the 2017 Africa Agriculture Transformation Scorecard**

Country overall progress for implementing the Malabo Declaration for Agriculture transformation in Africa							
<p>Against the 2017 benchmark of <b>3.9 out of 10</b> which is the minimum score for a country to be on track for implementing the Malabo Declaration, countries whose score (out of 10) appears in "green" are <b>ON TRACK</b>, and countries whose score appears in "red" are <b>NOT ON TRACK</b> for the 2017 reporting exercise to the January 2018 AU Assembly.</p>				Algeria	Angola	Benin	Botswana
				n.a	2.1	4.3	4.4
				Burundi	Burkina Faso	Cameroon	Cabo Verde
				4.7	4.2	2.1	4.6
Central African Rep.	Chad	Comoros	Congo	Côte d'Ivoire	DR Congo	Djibouti	Egypt
2.4	2.2	n.a	2.8	3.5	1.4	3.2	3.4
Equatorial Guinea	Eritrea	Ethiopia	Gabon	Gambia	Ghana	Guinea	Guinea-Bissau
3.6	n.a	5.3	2.9	3.1	3.9	3.3	n.a
Kenya	Lesotho	Liberia	Libya	Madagascar	Malawi	Mali	Mauritania
4.8	3.7	0.9	n.a	3.1	4.9	5.6	4.8
Mauritius	Morocco	Mozambique	Namibia	Niger	Nigeria	Rwanda	Rep. A. Saharawi
5.0	5.5	4.1	4.1	3.5	3.4	6.1	n.a
São Tomé & Príncipe	Senegal	Seychelles	Sierra Leone	Somalia	South Africa	South Sudan	Sudan
1.5	3.8	4.0	1.5	n.a	4.1	n.a	1.9
Swaziland	Tanzania	Togo	Tunisia	Uganda	Zambia	Zimbabwe	2017 Benchmark
4.0	3.1	4.9	1.7	4.4	3.6	3.2	3.9

Source: AUC (2018)

Eswatini performed well (above the minimum score) and is on track in four thematic areas, namely: the recommitment to the CAADP process; enhancing agricultural finance; boosting intra-Africa trade in agriculture commodities; and the commitment to mutual accountability for action and results (as depicted in Table 1). Eswatini submitted 80 percent of the required data, which implies that it reported on most of the BR indicators. However, there are still some data gaps that the country needs to address in future BRs.

**Table 1: Summary of Eswatini's BR Results Relative to the SADC Average, by Theme**

Themes	Eswatini	SADC Average*	SADC LI	SADC MI	Minimum Score	Eswatini's Progress
Re-commitment to CAADP	5,15	5,72	5,91	5,00	3,33	On Track

Enhance Agriculture Finance	8,07	4,47	3,04	5,04	6,67	On Track
Ending Hunger by 2025	2,72	2,26	1,91	2,32	3,71	Not on Track
Halving Poverty Through Agriculture	1,00	2,59	2,17	2,45	2,06	Not on Track
Boosting Intra-Africa Trade in Agriculture	1,54	3,22	1,49	4,02	1,00	On Track
Enhancing Resilience to Climate Change	3,33	3,94	3,17	4,06	6,00	Not on Track
Mutual Accountability for Actions & Results	6,16	5,94	4,78	6,42	4,78	On Track
Averages	3,99	4,02	3,21	4,19	3,94	On Track

Source: Authors based on AUC (2018) Scorecard data.

Notes: SADC LI Countries: Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe

SADC MI Countries: Botswana, Lesotho, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa and Swaziland  
Tanzania was not included in the SADC average and in SADC LI because it was grouped in the East African Community

### 3. Experiences and Lessons from the Implementation of the BR Process in Eswatini

Eswatini adopted the following practices during the inaugural BR process which contributed to its success:

- *Participation at regional BR training workshop and dissemination of BR report in the country.* Eswatini selected and sent the right candidates to the regional training (the CAADP Focal Person, Principal Economist, and Statistician).
- *Stocktaking of data and developing a clear BR roadmap.* The Eswatini BR team undertook stocktaking of available data during the regional BR training. This was pivotal in drawing up a succinct roadmap that enlisted steps and processes toward raising awareness, fostering ownership, data collection, verifying the accuracy and quality of the data, report writing, and the validation of the BR report within the ministry and by the stakeholders.
- *Raising awareness and ownership of the BR process.* The BR team raised awareness on the process across all pertinent stakeholders which was paramount to collecting accurate data. This also brought about commitment from stakeholders to provide required data for the BR.



- *Physical and virtual backstopping by ReSAKSS-SA.* ReSAKSS-SA provided post-training support to countries in the region including Eswatini which helped to speed up the country's completion and submission of the country BR report.

However, the following areas still require improvement in the Eswatini BR Process:

- *M&E and Data Management Systems:* There is a need to improve and develop efficient M&E and data management systems in Eswatini. There is need to streamline all the BR data into the Central Statistics Office. The country also needs to align its indicators and targets with those of the BR process in order to avoid duplication and to minimise discrepancies.
- *Report Validation Process:* There is a need to improve the coordination of Eswatini's BR report validation processes so that it fosters principles of ownership and mutual accountability in the agriculture sector.
- *Adoption of the BR Report by cabinet and parliament:* Presenting the country BR report in parliament (in the agriculture portfolio committee) and to the cabinet can help to generate buy-in and ownership of the process at the highest level of political leadership.
- *Investing in the BR Process:* Resources should be set aside to improve the BR process and enhance the capacity of the country BR secretariat.

#### 4. Key Policy Recommendations

This section notes some key policy recommendations around the three thematic areas in which Eswatini did not do well (i.e. was not on track).

Theme 3: Ending Hunger by 2025:

- Eswatini needs to develop and strengthen existing social protection programs to ensure the protection of the vulnerable. Providing specific training (e.g. production techniques, marketing, and entrepreneurial skills) to the agricultural population is a pivotal way to enhance social protection.
- There is a need to for the country to improve access to high quality agricultural inputs (seeds and fertilizers) and technologies (irrigation) to improve productivity especially of staple crops.
- There is a need to develop or adopt technologies that will curb post-harvest losses from pest and harsh climatic conditions.
- The country must put in place programs that will train farmers and promote processing of agricultural products to reduce food losses and improve nutritional content of the food.

Theme 4: Halving Poverty through Agriculture:

- Eswatini needs to develop policies that will instruct all public-private partnerships to involve youth and women.
- The country must develop agricultural value chains with significant participation from youth and women.
- Eswatini should promote the commercialization of small ruminants by developing goat and sheep value chains.

## Theme 6: Enhancing Resilience to Climate Change:

- Eswatini should conduct a robust study on households and country resilience.
- There is need to adopt best practices for climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- The country should develop effective and robust early warnings systems to inform decision making.
- Eswatini needs to create programs that support agricultural diversification to minimise the impacts of climate change.

## 5. Conclusion

The inaugural BR reports shows that Eswatini is on track to achieving the Malabo commitments as a whole. However, the country is still quite a long way out with regards to ending hunger and halving poverty through agriculture by 2025. Eswatini needs implement recommendations coming of the BR process to ensure progress on the commitment areas it did not do well in while still focusing on areas it did well.

## 6. References

AUC (African Union Commission) (2014). Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods, Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, June 26-27, 2014.

AUC (African Union Commission) (2018). Biennial Report to the AU Assembly on implementing the June 2014 Malabo Declaration, the 2017 report to the January 2018 Assembly

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