

ZAMBIA



Republic of Zambia

CAADP BIENNIAL REVIEW BRIEF

Africa Agriculture Transformation Scorecard Performance and Lessons

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Africa Agriculture Transformation Scorecard

Performance and Lessons for Zambia¹

1. Introduction

The agriculture sector is central to the development of Zambia's economy. It is the key element in achieving sustainable economic growth, job creation, poverty reduction, and foreign exchange earnings for the country. This is because Zambia has immense natural resources, including water and fertile soils, to support agricultural activities. In addition to producing primary agricultural commodities, the sector also provides raw materials for industrial development through agro-processing.

Increased production of major agricultural commodities in the crops, livestock, and fisheries subsectors can contribute positively to the country's gross domestic product (GDP). Therefore, the steady and sustained development of agriculture is crucial for the continued development of the Zambian economy.

Agriculture in Zambia, however, is largely subsistence in nature, and its contribution to the overall economy remains unstable due to the sector's heavy reliance on seasonal rainfall.

Zambia's signing of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) compact in January 2011 refocused attention to agriculture, placing the sector at the center of Zambia's economic development and embracing the CAADP Maputo Commitments. The launch of Zambia's National Agricultural Investment Plan (NAIP 2014–2018) in 2013, was another milestone in accelerating agricultural growth by providing an overall investment framework for the agriculture sector in Zambia.

In 2014, Zambia, together with the other African Union (AU) member states, committed to the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods, which is anchored around seven commitments:

- Recommitment to the principles and values of the CAADP
- Enhancing investment finance in agriculture
- Ending hunger by 2025
- Halving poverty through agriculture by 2025
- Boosting intra-African trade in agriculture
- Enhancing resilience to climate variability
- Enhancing mutual accountability for actions and results

To ensure that the Biannual Review (BR) process embodies the CAADP/Malabo principles, particularly focusing on Commitment 7 (enhancing mutual accountability for actions and results) of the Malabo Declaration, the African Union Commission (AUC) launched the Inaugural Biennial Review reporting mechanism on the implementation of the Malabo commitments.

¹ This brief was prepared by Derrick Sikombe, Christopher Mbewe, Greenwell. Matchaya, C. Nhemachena, and S. Nhlengethwa

In line with the above continental commitment on mutual accountability, Zambia implemented the BR process to track progress in the implementation of the CAADP agenda, particularly the 2014 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 financial and nonfinancial commitments they made toward common development goals for the agriculture sector. The BR process also helped provide a platform for agriculture sector stakeholders to learn from each other (peer learning).

The Biennial Review Report (BRR) fosters alignment, harmonization, and coordination among multisectoral efforts and multi-institutional platforms for peer review, mutual learning, and accountability. Through the BRR, the performance of member states is presented in the form of a scorecard covering the period 2015–2016. The review is based on 23 performance categories and 43 indicators for the seven thematic areas of performance.

2. Zambia’ Biennial Review (BR) Process

The BR process in Zambia started with the April 2017 regional training—organized by the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Southern African Development Community (SADC), and AUC—which took place in Johannesburg, South Africa. Key messages during training emphasized that, to be successful, a typical BR process in a country needs to (1) be locally owned and led, (2) use evidence-based analysis, (3) be inclusive of all key stakeholders, (4) foster open debate and transparent discussion, and (5) act as a conduit for behavior change toward better performance outcomes. Moreover, a successful BR process should reflect the core principles of mutual accountability, which requires a review process based on a shared vision or agenda among the cooperating parties; common objectives and strategies aimed at achieving the vision; jointly agreed-upon performance indicators based on mutually agreed performance criteria; and a genuine dialogue and debate process based on consent, common values, and trust.

Based on these key messages, the Zambian team developed a roadmap to guide the entire process in order to ensure stakeholder buy-in, coordination, and timely delivery of the country BR report. In line with the roadmap, the following tasks were undertaken:

Briefing Senior Management of the Ministry of Agriculture

The Zambian team briefed senior ministry officials (including the Minister and Permanent Secretary) on the BR exercise, data requirements, timelines, and AUC expectations. To expedite the process, the team ensured that all existing data from the ministry was collected and populated into the data collection tool.

Creating Awareness of the BR Process among Key Stakeholders

Within the broader context of the BR validation, key stakeholders were made aware of the BR process for Zambia. This was important for ensuring that the BR is country-owned and has the necessary support from key line ministries and stakeholder groups. Given the limited time available to organize formal meetings, awareness creation took the form of phone calls and one-on-one discussions while at the same time collecting the data to be included in the BR. These discussions introduced the BR concept and the framework for Zambia’s agricultural development agenda to stakeholders, and further elaborated on the country’s BR tasks and obligations. The Zambian team ensured that the key stakeholders included non-state and private sector actors to ensure inclusivity.

Conducting a Country Stakeholder Consultation on the Data Collection Effort

A second important step toward a fully validated report was to engage stakeholders in populating the country reporting template. In Zambia, due to time constraints, this was done simultaneously with the awareness creation detailed above. Collecting data on the 43 indicators per the AUC's technical guidelines while ensuring accurate analysis and reporting of the data using the country reporting template was explained and sent to the stakeholders who were involved in providing the information. These consultations/discussions were necessary to help with data collection. This process led to increased awareness of the BR process and provided contacts from institutions that the data would be collected from. With this effort, over half of the indicators were collected, entered, and actually computed and filled into the reporting template.

Conducting a Final Data and Report Validation Workshop/Meeting

Once data collection and analysis were finalized (although data collection was not completely done due to the limited time available) and the reporting template was filled in, a validation workshop/meeting was held in Lusaka on August 1, 2017, in line with the AUC requirements.

Submission of the Report to the REC and AUC

As required, the report was officially submitted to COMESA and then to the AUC. The report was reviewed and cleared by the ministry's senior management before submitting to the AUC.

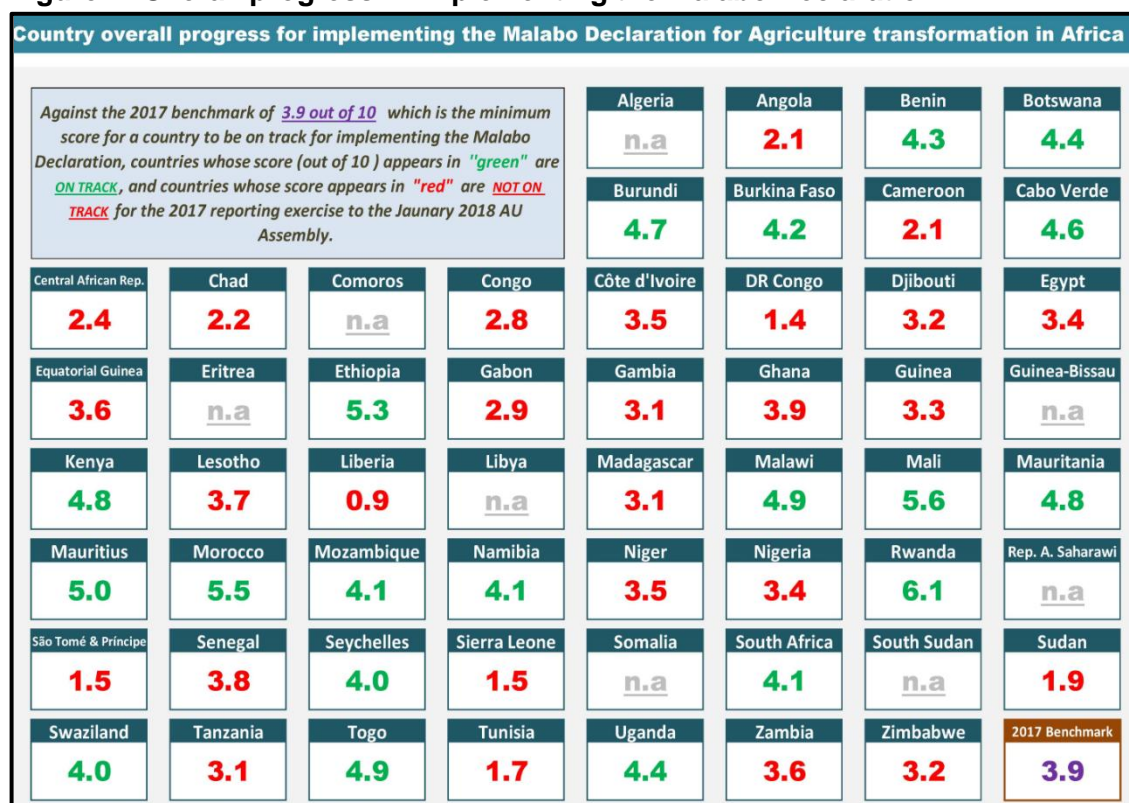
3. Overview of the Africa Agriculture Transformation Scorecard

Figure 1 below presents the results of the Africa Agriculture Transformation Scorecard presented to the Heads of State and Government in Addis Ababa in January 2018. Zambia scored 3.6 out of 10 against a benchmark of 3.9 for a country to be on track. Zambia was among the 27 member states that were not on track. Only 20 of the 47 member states were on track

4. Zambia's Performance on the Seven Commitments

Zambia's performance in the Biennial Review was not satisfactory. Zambia's performance on the seven commitments is presented in Table 1 below. The results show that Zambia was on track in only two of the seven thematic areas: recommitment to the principles and values of CAADP and enhancing mutual accountability for actions and results.

Figure 1: Overall progress in implementing the Malabo Declaration



Source: AUC, 2018

Table 1: Zambia's BR thematic scores compared with SADC member states

	Recommitment to CAADP	Enhancing Agriculture Finance	Ending Hunger by 2025	Halving Poverty through Agriculture	Boosting Intra-Africa Trade in Agriculture	Enhancing Resilience to Climate Change	Mutual Accountability for Actions & Results
Zambia	7.19	6.08	2.32	0.18	0.88	3.42	5.11
SADC Average	5.72	4.47	2.26	2.59	3.22	3.94	5.94
Minimum Score	3.33	6.67	3.71	2.06	1.00	6.00	4.78
Zambia's Progress	On Track	Not on Track	Not on Track	Not on Track	Not on Track	Not on Track	On Track

Strengths

Despite the unsatisfactory performance in the overall rating for the seven commitments, Zambia recorded five areas of strong performance that should be built on in future BR processes. These five areas, shown in Figure 2 below, are:

- 86 percent of the score for the CAADP process completion index;
- 26.7 percent increase in supplied quality of agriculture inputs to the total input requirements for agricultural commodities

- 74.1 percent increase of the size of irrigated areas from its original value in the year 2000.
- 56 percent inclusive, institutionalized mechanisms for mutual accountability and peer review; and
- 35 percent of the benchmark score for the trade facilitation Index.

Weaknesses

- -3.4 percent of the benchmark score for the growth rate of agriculture value added, in constant US dollars;
- 8.2 percent of the benchmark score for public agriculture expenditure as share of total public expenditure;
- 27.4 percent of men and women engaged in agriculture with access to financial services;
- 47.8 percent of the population is undernourished; and 40 percent prevalence of stunting among children under 5 years old.

5. Key Policy Issues and Recommendations

Policy recommendations for Zambia include:

1. Increase public expenditure in agriculture to meet the CAADP Malabo target of 10 percent, enhance access to agricultural inputs and technologies (such as investments in irrigation for smallholder farmers) and to agricultural financial services for men and women engaged in agriculture.
2. Seriously invest in nutrition interventions to reduce undernourishment and the prevalence of stunting among children under 5 years old.
3. Put policies in place to facilitate and promote intraregional African trade in agricultural commodities and services.

Responding to the BRR recommendations, the Government of Zambia, through the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock and their stakeholders, developed an action plan to address the gaps in performance. The actions include:

1. Increase public expenditure in agriculture to meet the CAADP Malabo target of 10 percent and increase private sector investment in agriculture and access to finance for men and women engaged in agriculture by:
 - a) Strengthening the capacity of agricultural focal persons (desk officers) in the Ministry of Finance to track public expenditures in agriculture by all ministries);
 - b) Appointing a high-level champion (eminent person in Zambia) to engage with the Ministry of Finance on matters of public expenditure, and assigning this person the responsibility of ensuring that the CAADP budget allocation target of 10 percent is achieved;
 - c) Convening a breakfast meeting to sensitize the Minister of Finance on Zambia's CAADP BR results and lobby for increased budget allocation to agriculture;
 - d) Implementing the AU Country Agribusiness Partnership Framework (CAP-F) and NEPAD Investment Financing Platform (IFP) framework for improving private sector investment in agriculture, agribusiness, and agro-industries;

- e) Strengthening the capacity of the Zambia Development Agency to track foreign private sector investment in agriculture, agribusiness, and agro-industries; and
 - f) Convening a stakeholders' meeting with the Bank of Zambia, Ministry of Finance, and other financial institutions/projects to discuss ways of enhancing access to finance by all value chain players in the agriculture sector.
2. Improve access to agriculture inputs and technologies through:
 - a) Enhanced dissemination of research and technological information and skills to smallholders along the agriculture commodity value chains; and
 - b) Enhanced capacity of data analysis on existing data sets in order to obtain a full picture of the number of farmers accessing agriculture inputs and technologies in the country
 3. Improve food security and nutrition by:
 - a) Improving collection and validation of data on stunting, underweight, and wasting for children under 5 years of age;
 - b) Improving social protection system instruments and enhancing management tools, including data collection on social protection issues; and
 - c) Developing indicators to improve data collection and disaggregation in order to obtain a full picture of women's engagement in agriculture.
 4. Tripling intra-Africa trade in agricultural commodities and services through strengthening data collection and validation.

6. Improving Progress Toward Agricultural Transformation

To help member states that were not on track improve their rating in the next reporting, which will be in 2019, the AUC has appointed the African Green Revolution Alliance (AGRA) to provide technical assistance to member countries such as Zambia. Member countries were requested to develop Country Action Agendas based on the recommendations provided in the BRR.

In collaboration with Zambia's Agricultural Consultative Forum (ACF), Zambia developed a detailed action plan to improve the quality of BR reporting. The plan was validated by stakeholders on August 15, 2018. The Minister of Agriculture signed the Country Action Agenda that was presented at the 2018 African Green Revolution Forum in Kigali, Rwanda in September 2018.

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For more information contact

Mr Derrick Sikombe
Deputy Director
Department of Planning
Ministry of Agriculture
Mulungushi house, Independence Ave.
P.O. BOX 50197, Lusaka, Zambia
Website: www.agriculture.gov.zm
Telephone: +260 01-253933
Fax: +260 250305
Email: dmsikombe@gmail.com

ReSAKSS-Southern Africa
Private Bag X813
Silverton 0127
Pretoria, South Africa
Tel: + 27128459141
Fax: + 27 (0)12 845 9110
Email: resakss-africa@cgiar.org
Website: www.resakss.org

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Facilitated by IFPRI & IWMI