

LONG TERM PLAN OF ACTION

Enhancing Agriculture and Food Security for Poverty Reduction

Objective	Constraints	Action to Remove Constraints	
		National Level	SADC/Regional Level
1. Sustainable agricultural financing and investment	<p>Low budgetary allocation for agricultural and rural infrastructural development</p> <p>Declining flow of development assistance from private sector and ICPs to agriculture.</p> <p>Financial institutions are biased against investing in agriculture hence credit is not readily available to farmers</p>	<p>Increase budgetary allocations for agriculture up to 10% as per Maputo declaration of July 2003</p> <p>Adoption of investment policy favorable to agriculture.</p> <p>Improve macroeconomic policies and regulatory frameworks for effective private sector participation and increased investment in agriculture</p> <p>Align national programmes with the NEPAD initiatives so as to collectively mobilize financial resources</p> <p>Upscale the establishment and use of rural financial intermediaries such as savings and credit schemes</p> <p>Expand tertiary financial institutions and special windows for Small Medium Enterprises in agriculture and natural resources</p> <p>Member States should invest in agro-processing to maximize value addition, and in rural infrastructure in order to reduce transaction costs and increase access to markets</p>	<p>Facilitate mobilization of resources for agricultural development</p>

<p>2. Improved access to key agricultural inputs</p>	<p>Escalating costs and unavailability of basic agricultural inputs such as fertilizers, seeds, agro-chemicals, veterinary drugs, vaccines, breeding materials and tools.</p> <p>High transportation costs of inputs</p>	<p>Generate effective demand for inputs through promotion of crop and livestock technologies, and linking input supply with product marketing</p> <p>Explore means of becoming self-sufficient in the production of key inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, agro-chemicals and essential drugs, vaccines, breeding materials</p> <p>Encourage bulk procurement of key inputs.</p>	<p>Exchange of information on availability of inputs in the region</p> <p>Accelerate harmonization of regulations of seeds to facilitate trade within the region</p>
<p>3. Enhancing food production, productivity and the overall availability</p>	<p>Susceptibility of agriculture to droughts and floods</p> <p>Limited availability and high cost of key agricultural inputs</p> <p>Inadequate infrastructural support for transport, communication, storage, marketing and irrigation</p> <p>Low level of mechanization</p> <p>Inadequate access to and control of resources especially land, credit and other forms of capital</p>	<p>Establish geographical specialization and diversification of crop and livestock production based on comparative advantage and rural</p> <p>Increase area under irrigation and/or increase yield on existing irrigated land</p> <p>Provide targeted support to livestock and crop development compatible with WTO Agreement on Agriculture</p> <p>Promote smallholder irrigation programmes including supply of appropriate irrigation equipment at affordable prices</p> <p>Promote mechanization through establishment of equipment service and hiring centres</p> <p>Introduce/expand animal traction through training and credit facilities</p> <p>Review policies and legislation for increased access to production resources especially land, labour and capital</p>	<p>Support spatial development programmes based on comparative advantage</p> <p>Enhance efforts to reverse the menace of further spread of livestock and plant diseases within the SADC region in collaboration with relevant international agencies</p> <p>Promote trade in agricultural products through harmonization of SPS/TBT standards.</p> <p>Establish irrigation centres of excellence for the SADC region</p>

	<p>Research extension farmer linkages are weak resulting in low dissemination and poor adoption of technologies</p>	<p>Enhance gender mainstreaming in particular repealing discriminatory laws on finance, credits and promote access to land</p> <p>Strengthen research-extension-farmer linkages</p> <p>Promote demand driven agricultural technology development</p>	<p>Facilitate regional research priority setting and resource mobilization</p>
<p>4. Access to productive agricultural land.</p>	<p>Inequitable land distribution due to historical (colonial) heritage and culture;</p> <p>Inappropriate land and forestry resource use in communal land holdings</p> <p>Inadequate mapping and surveying services</p> <p>Landmines</p> <p>Insecure tenancy rights that discourages private sector investment</p>	<p>Formulate and implement appropriate national land reform policies that integrate land tenure security and land management issues</p> <p>Develop and implement national action plans to combat desertification, land degradation and mitigate against drought</p> <p>Promote land use planning and Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM)</p> <p>Allocate adequate resources for agricultural land mapping and surveying</p> <p>Accelerate de-mining in areas affected with wars</p> <p>Develop and implement national policies that will encourage private sectors</p>	<p>Fast track the establishment of the Regional Land Reform Technical Support Facility</p> <p>Facilitate further national and regional level consultations to review land reform policies; Provide regional support in undertaking mapping and surveying</p> <p>Exchange experiences on best approaches towards land distribution and utilization</p> <p>Resource mobilization</p>

<p>5. Water resources development and management for promoting irrigated agriculture</p>	<p>Highly variable and erratic rainfall patterns;</p> <p>Inadequate water harvesting infrastructures and techniques</p> <p>Inefficient irrigation systems resulting in very high water losses, averaging 40-60%</p> <p>High initial cost of establishing irrigation systems</p> <p>Inefficient utilization of water resources</p>	<p>Promote effective management of catchment areas, forests and wetlands</p> <p>Embark on water management options including infrastructure; storage/ harvesting technologies</p> <p>Implement regional program on irrigation development and water management under AfDB support.</p> <p>Enhance human resource capacity in water resource and irrigation management</p> <p>Promote efficient utilization of water resource through programmes such as aquaculture</p> <p>Upscale adoption and use of simple and cost effective irrigation technologies</p>	<p>Establish and strengthen shared watercourse institutions in line with the SADC Protocol on Shared Water Resources</p>
<p>6. Sustainable utilization of natural resources</p>	<p>Unsustainable utilization of forests, wildlife and other natural resources</p> <p>Inadequate policies and programmes resulting in poor awareness and participation of local communities in management of natural resources</p>	<p>Promote conservation, management and utilization of forests and wildlife resources</p> <p>Develop and implement programmes to conserve soil resources</p> <p>Improve management of special ecosystems e.g. catchment areas, wetlands, and mangroves</p> <p>Improve fish products quality through post harvest handling processing and storage</p> <p>Encourage investments in processing and packaging of natural resources in order to add value to products.</p>	<p>Harmonization of policies on conservation of natural resources in particular forest and wildlife</p> <p>Facilitate the policy and legal reforms to monitor the management of natural resources</p> <p>Increase information exchange among Member States</p>

	<p>Inability to fully utilize natural resource in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)</p> <p>Prevalence of Illegal Unregulated and Unreported Fisheries (IUU)</p> <p>Land degradation</p>	<p>Promote effective management of marine resource and inland fish stocks</p> <p>Establish policy and legal reforms to monitor and curtail illegal harvesting and export of natural resources</p> <p>Restoration of degraded land</p>	
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<p>7. Improve access to safe and nutritious food</p>	<p>Lack of employment opportunities in rural areas</p> <p>Slow progress in the development of SPS Annex to the SADC Trade Protocol.</p> <p>Absence of national regulatory systems on biotechnology and biosafety</p> <p>Risky and uncertain agricultural commodity marketing</p> <p>High pre and post harvest losses</p>	<p>Strengthen the laws and regulations governing trade in agriculture through the implementation of the SADC Protocol on Trade</p> <p>Expedite the harmonization of the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures</p> <p>Finalize the development of national biotechnology policies and strategies and expedite the process of establishing national biosafety regulatory systems</p> <p>Promote agricultural marketing management interventions through contract farming, agricultural commodity exchange system, farm insurance, warehouse receipt systems etc</p> <p>Enhance appropriate gender sensitive food processing and storage facilities at household and national level</p>	<p>Facilitate regional agricultural market integration, intra-regional agricultural commodity chains and agro-food industry linkages</p> <p>Fast track harmonization of the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures within the region.</p>
<p>8. Strengthen disaster preparedness</p>	<p>Weak National and regional Early Warning Systems</p> <p>Weak institutional, infrastructural and financial capacity to respond timely and effectively during emergencies</p> <p>Lack of strategic reserves to be used as first line of response in meeting emergency food requirements</p>	<p>Strengthen National Early Warning and Monitoring Systems</p> <p>Support cross-sectoral and inter-agency vulnerability assessment groups or units to better understand household food security and livelihood conditions to allow better targeting of emergency and development intervention</p> <p>Establishing or updating where they exist social safety nets that correspond to the needs and reality in individual member states</p>	<p>Facilitate the strengthening of the Regional Early Warning and Monitoring System</p> <p>Coordinate the implementation of the outcome of the feasibility study on the Regional Food Reserve Facility</p> <p>Support vulnerability monitoring and mapping system development activities</p>

	Poor land use management	Undertake a critical analysis of the impact of recurrent food aid on sustainable agricultural development and food security Promote disaster mitigation through appropriate natural resource management	
9. Mitigating the Impacts Of HIV/AIDS and Other Chronic Diseases on Agriculture and Food Security	High prevalence and mortality in agricultural labour force due to HIV and AIDS Low efficiency and effectiveness of extension services due to HIV and AIDS and other chronic disease	Implement the SADC HIV and AIDS Strategic Framework and Plan of Action (2003-2007) Promote gender sensitive labour-saving technologies at all levels Improve knowledge to prevent transmission of HIV and AIDS Improve nutrition and nutrition education; Strengthen social and economic safety nets Mainstream measures to combat HIV/AIDS in agricultural policies and programmes	Facilitate the implementation of the SADC HIV and AIDS Strategic Framework and Plan of Action (2003-2007) Monitor effectiveness of HIV and AIDS programmes Facilitate the sharing of relevant information on HIV and AIDS pertaining to agriculture