

African Continental Free Trade Area and Agriculture in SADC and Beyond

Date: Friday, 17 May 2024
Time: 08h30 – 13h00
R.S.V.P: [Click here to R.S.V.P.](#)

LIVE  STREAM



Perspectives of Small-scale farmers on the AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA AND AGRICULTURE

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ESAFF

17th May 2024

Farmers Speak for themselves

OUTLINE

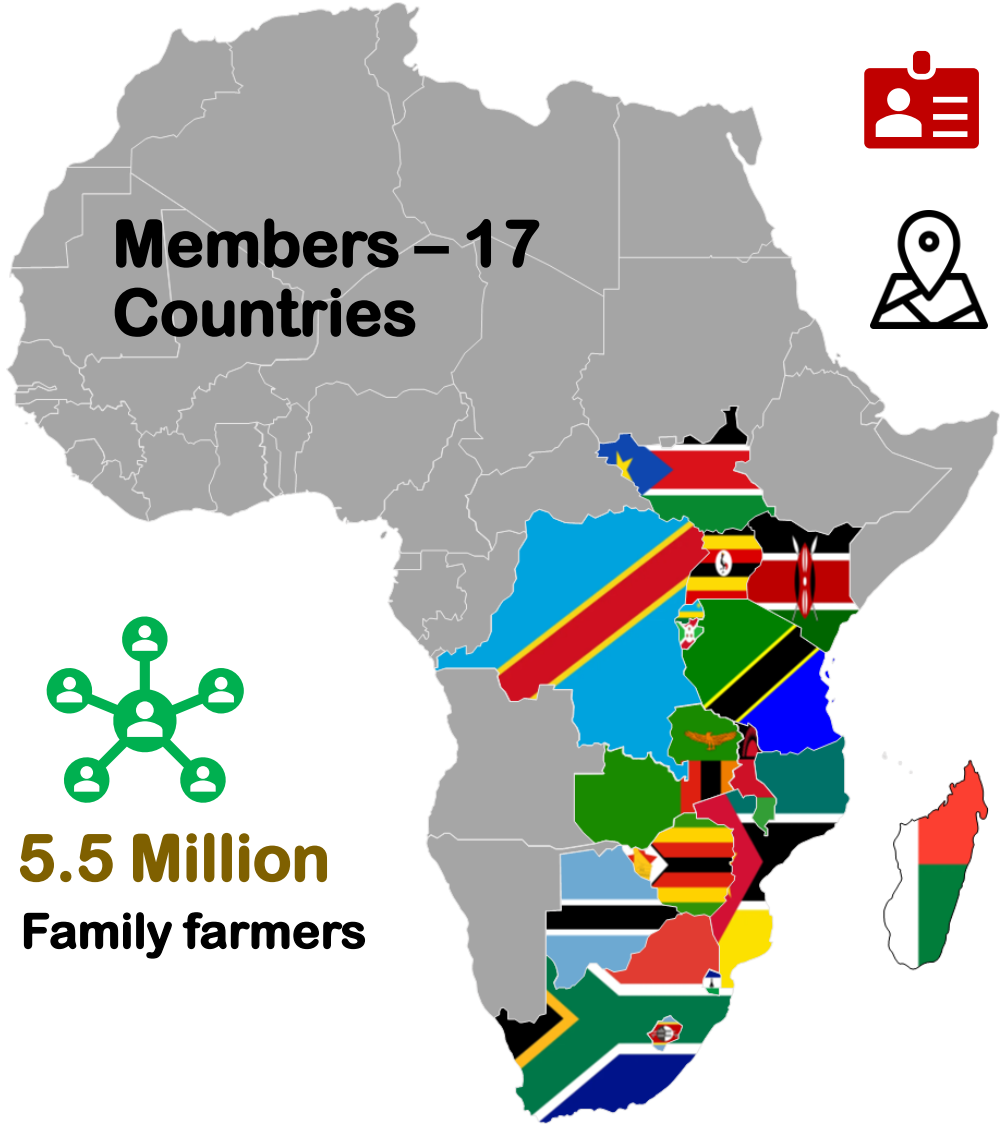


- 1. Agriculture and SADC**
- 2. SADC Performance on CAADP/Malabo Goal 5**
- 3. Small-scale Farmers Concerns on AfCFTA**
- 4. SSFs Concern on Continental and SADC Agriculture Frameworks**
- 5. Small-scale Farmer Recommendations on SADC AfCFTA**
- 6. Small-scale Farmer Recommendations on SADC RAP/RAIP/ RISDP**



ABOUT ESAFF

Eastern and Southern Africa Small-Scale Farmers Forum



Members – 17 Countries



5.5 Million Family farmers



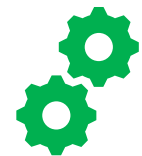
Registered in Tanzania in the year 2007-00NGO/1097 – URT (NGO Act) 2002



Headquarters Morogoro – Tanzania



Vision: A strong effective forum of empowered Small-Scale Farmers with united voices in the policy processes for ecological agriculture and poverty free Eastern and Southern Africa region.



Mission: Empowering Small Scale Farmers in ESA to influence development policies and promote ecological agriculture through capacity strengthening, research and networking.

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SADC at Glance



The Southern African Development Community (SADC) is an inter-governmental organization headquartered in Gaborone, Botswana. Its goal is to further regional socio-economic cooperation and integration as well as political and security cooperation among 16 countries in Southern Africa.



1992
Year established



\$721.3
Regional GDP



55.7
Million
Food Insecure People



16
Member States



1.8%
GDP
growth rate



18.7
million
Stunted children



345
Million People



20%
Agric to GDP
Contribution



70%
PEOPLE
rely on Agriculture



556 781 Km²
Land area



\$ 376,887
Total Trade



61%
LIFE
Expectancy

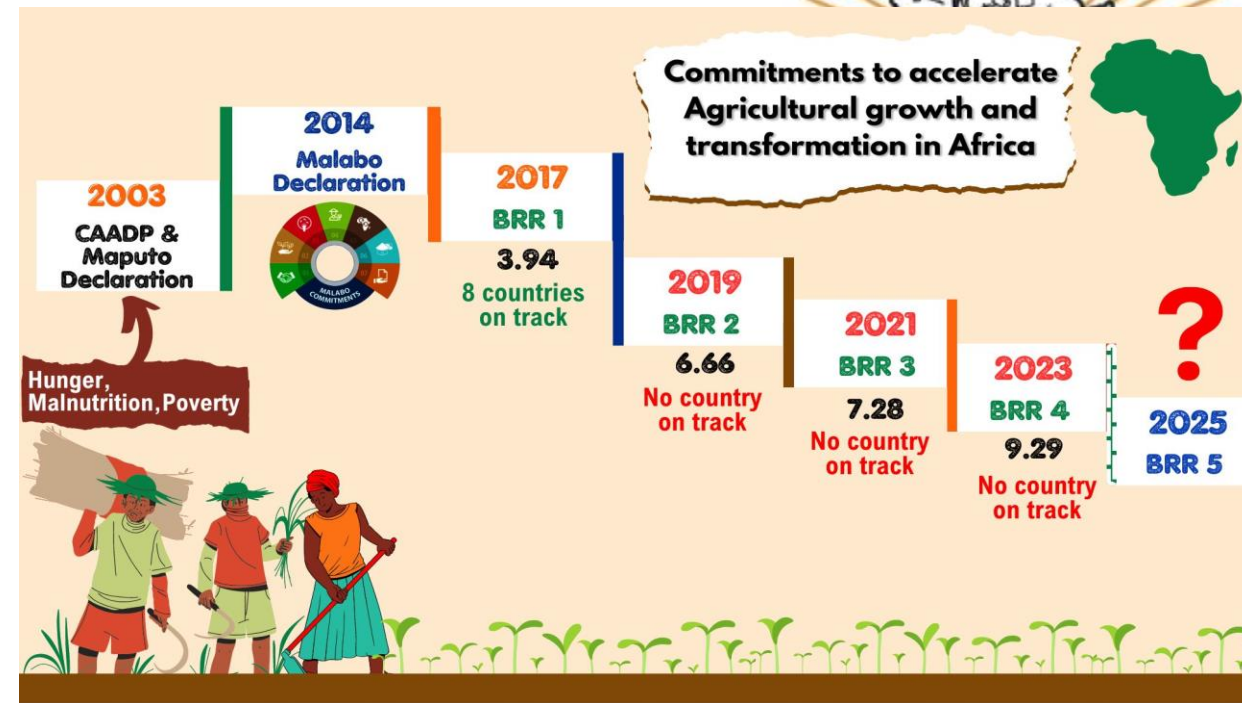
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Informal Cross-Border Trade (ICBT) in SADC



- ❑ Trade in SADC has grown from 19% to 23%
- ❑ Is significant in Southern Africa, accounting for between **30 per cent and 40** per cent of the total trade within the SADC,
- ❑ Estimated value of **ICBT is USD 17.6 billion.**
- ❑ Women make up approximately **70% of informal traders.**
- ❑ The majority of **female** informal cross-border traders are relatively poor, with low levels of education.

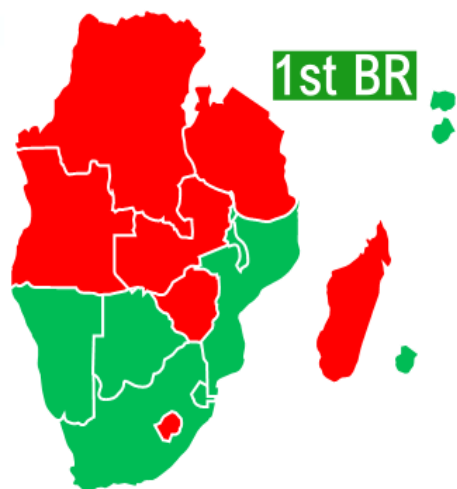
The CAADP/ Malabo Commitments (Goal 5)



CAADP targets on boosting intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services by 2025 include: -

- Triple intra-African trade by 2025 from 2015 (increase by 200%)
- Creating an enabling environment for trade by improving the trade policy and institutional environment (reach 100% trade facilitation index by 2025)
- Fully implementing AfCTFA agreement (**Progressive liberalization of 97% of tariffs lines starting from January 2021...**).

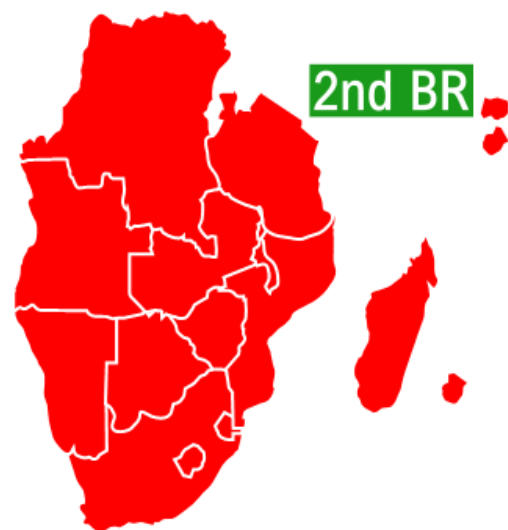
SADC Performance in the Four Previous BRs



5th Commitment:

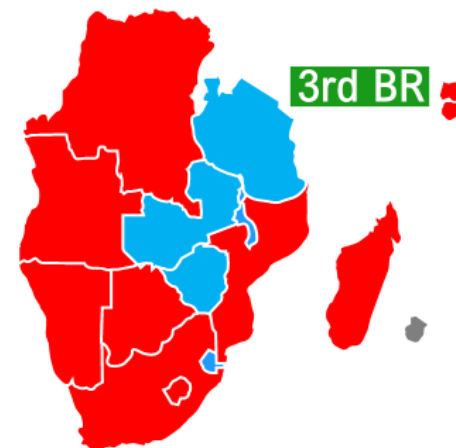
Only Lesotho was on track

Trade Facilitation Index (TFI) 12 on track in SADC - Botswana, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, eSwatini, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.



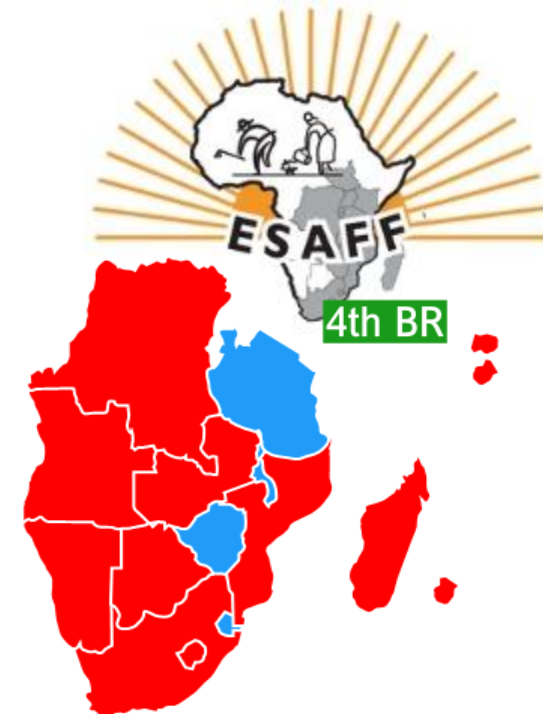
5th Commitment:

Angola, Madagascar and Zambia were on on-track in 2019



5th Commitment:

Boosting Intra-African trade in agriculture; Only Botswana did doing well in the region



5th Commitment: **No country on track**

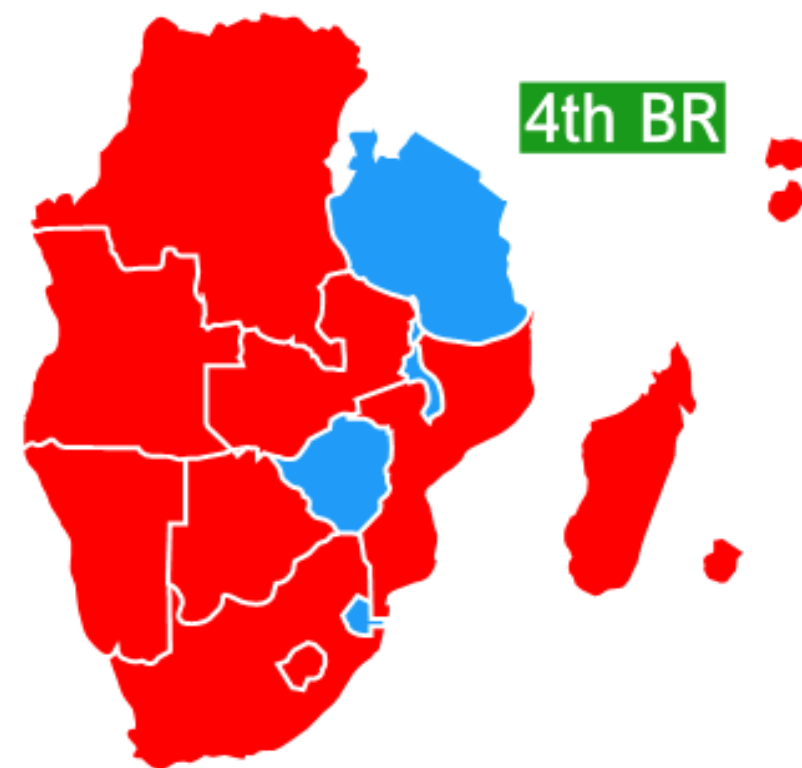
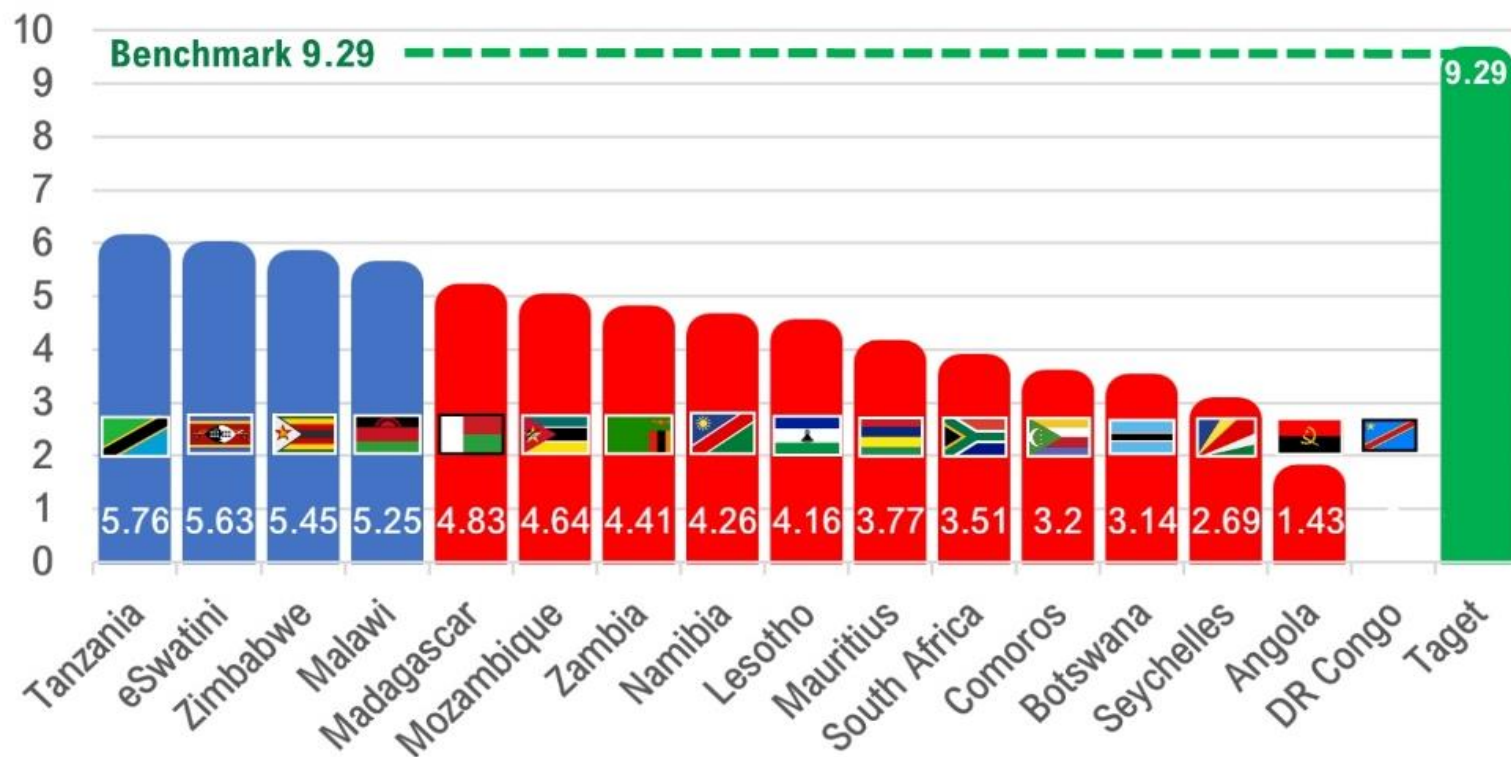
Indicator on Tripling intra-African trade: **Only Zambia is on Track**

SADC Performance in the Four Previous BRs



In the 4th BR report, **no country was on track** in the region, only four countries are progressing well which are **Tanzania – 5.76**, **eSwatini – 5.63**, **Zimbabwe – 5.45** and **Malawi – 5.25**.

SADC countries score in 4th CAADP BR Report



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Why Boosting Intra Africa Trade on Agriculture is important? AUC



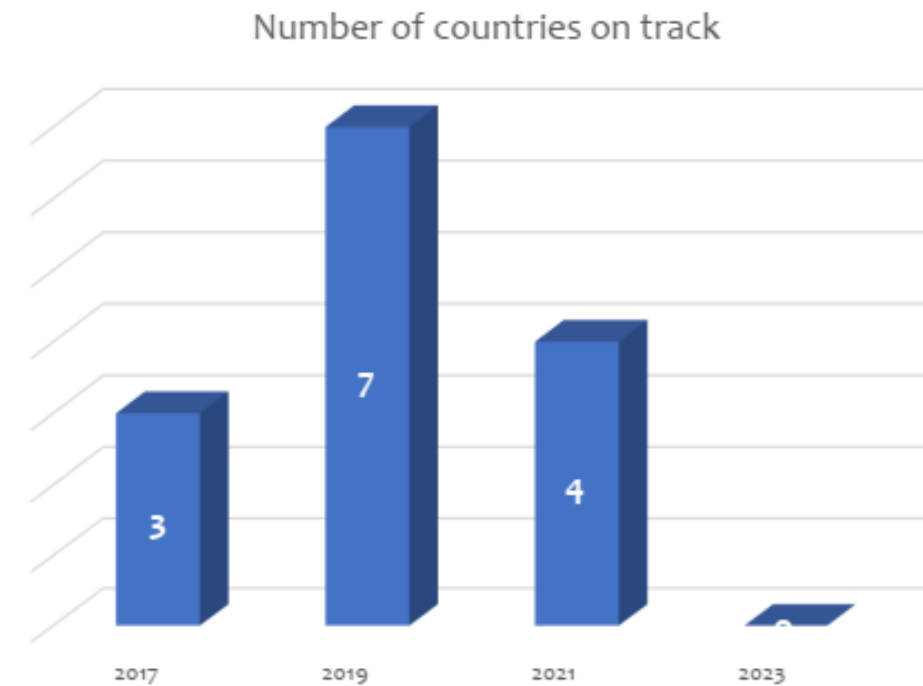
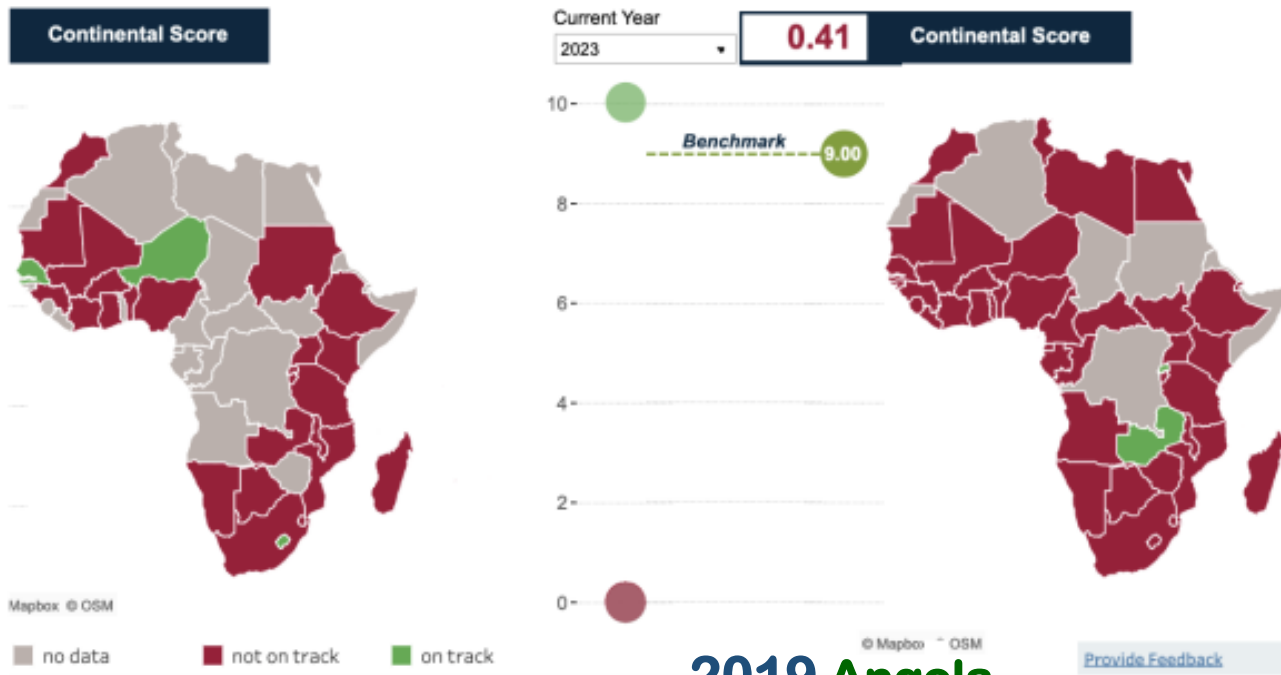
- ❑ Agriculture makes up **35%** of Africa's GDP and employs about **half** of its people,
- ❑ However, Africa is **highly dependent on food import** from outside the continent
- ❑ It currently stands at **USD 54 billion/year** and expected to rise to **over USD 110 billion/year by 2030!**
- ❑ This can be reduced/offset through;
 - Increased production and
 - More intra-African trade
- ❑ Market opportunity through trade can trigger required **investments** for increasing production and productivity
- ❑ **Variability in domestic production** is a major contributor to local food price instability
- ❑ Food **production is more stable at regional level** than at country level
- ❑ Greater **integration of food markets** can reduce supply volatility and price instability



AFRICA and SADC Performance on Goal 5. Tripling Intra Africa Trade



☐ Tripling intra-Africa trade by 2025...



2017: Only Lesotho was on track

2019: Angola, Madagascar and Zambia were on track

2021: Only Botswana was on Track

2023: Only Zambia is on Track

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Small-scale Farmers Concerns on AfCFTA



1. Non participatory and Non Transparency of the negotiations - But The AfCFTA aims to liberalize 97% of inter-African trade in goods. It also sets rules on trade in services, as well as intellectual property, investment and e-commerce.



2. Competition among Corporations In and outside Africa - Trade in Africa has always been conducted informally by small scale traders, the majority of whom are women. The AfCFTA overlooks this reality, and focuses on boosting competition among corporations.



3. Criminalization of Sharing and Trading Seeds among Farmers - Peasant agriculture and African food systems stand to be undermined by AfCFTA. Under intellectual property it may strengthen the criminalization of farmers' seeds sharing and trading as the AfCFTA's draft intellectual property rights protocol pushes harmonized rules turning seed into private property.



Small-scale Farmer Recommendations on SADC AfCFTA



1. Negotiations to be transparent and **involve smallholder farmers (Private sector No1)** and informal cross borders esp. women
2. Should NOT **Criminalise Farmer Managed Seed Systems** and its exchange and trade
3. **Protect Smallholder farmers in the AfCFTA against influx of food, farm inputs: fertilizers, Harmful pesticides and herbicides**
4. SADC AfCFTA Should **provide special treatments to ICBT** across the borders (40% of Trade is informal)
5. SADC should speed up **industrialisation strategy 2015-2063** and **New RAIP 2025-2035** and **invest more on agriculture and rural transformation** (as centres of production, processing, value addition, marketing)
6. SADC should embrace **Food Sovereignty**
7. **Comprehensive study** on the loss, gains and impact of AfCFTA

Recommendations to SADC and MSs RAP/RAIP

1. **SADC, MSs to fulfil 7 Malabo/KAMPALA commitments** and allocate progressively, timely at least **10%** of national budgets *(to support agroecology, youth and women)*
2. **Develop SADC Regional Agriculture Extension Strategy (2024), to support agroecology approaches at scale**
3. SADC review **PBR to accommodate Farmer Managed Seed System (FMSS)-indigenous nutrition seeds and plants**
4. **SADC, MSs - operationalize the SADC Regional Development Fund (RDF) and the SADC ADF to support the implementation of RAIP, RISDP***

- ❑ The Agriculture Development Fund (ADF) was signed by SADC Heads of State in 2016 in accordance with Article 8 of the Agreement on the Operationalisation of the SADC Regional Development Fund. (According to SADC Treaty 1992)
- ❑ It was agreed MSs to contribute an initial capitalisation of **US\$120 million** payable in equal instalments over a **three-years** commitment period starting from 2017/2018 financial year to **2020**.
- ❑ **Only 7 MSs signed** the agreement on the operationalisation of the fund, (see signatures on the right hand), these are **Angola, DRC, Lesotho, Mozambique, eSwatini, Tanzania** and **Zimbabwe**.
- ❑ **But none, to date** have deposited instruments of ratification with the Secretariat

8. Need to enhance NSAs participation in the **SADC National Committees** (art.9 of the SADC Treaty)
9. **Country can develop national agroecology policies and strategies** (based on **FAO 10 principles +13HLPE**)

10. **Govt to increase funding to research** for *indigenous nutrition seeds and plants and agroecology*

11. **NEED new MALABO, RAIP**

12. **RECOGNISE SHFs as PRIVATE Sector No. 1**



Thank you



ESAFF Headquarters



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