

Tanzania Citizen Engagement Platform

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Focus

- 1. Impediments to agricultural productivity & improved rural livelihoods**
- 2. Policy actions that are needed in the short and medium term**

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1 - Context

Productivity – The need to broaden the definition specifically for Development Interventions.

1.1 What do we want from interventions in the agriculture sector ?

- i. Increases in harvested volumes !! – most commonly referred to.
- ii. Yield - **production per unit area** [**Labor** productivity, encompassing effective land use].
- iii. **Growth of rural enterprise**: increases in yield, together with reduction of *post harvest losses*, creating *quality employment*, and enhancing rural *standards of living*

We should aim at **Bullet III** **[Productivity of Interventions]**

Bullets **i & ii** are **necessary** but not **sufficient conditions** to raise **‘Productivity of Interventions’**

Policies & strategies should be articulated & designed targeting growth of rural agriculture enterprises

2. Major Impediments to Agriculture Productivity

2.1 Policies: The enabling business environment for agriculture

Examples of elements of the Enabling Business Environment:

- i. Trade, Taxes and Fees, Regulations [*Special focus on Sub-national Level policies – further below*]
- ii. Increasing government expenditure on mainstream agriculture

2.2 Strategies: Productivity enhancing interventions

- Adoption of advanced/improved farm technologies
 - a. *Seed, Fertilizer,, Pesticides, Fungicides and Herbicide*
 - b. *Machinery and other farm gadgets (including IT) that reduce drudgery*
 - c. *Improved crop and livestock husbandry practices*
 - d. *Irrigation: conventional and intensive agriculture models (drip, sheds and green houses)*
 - e. *Access to commercial production supporting **financial services** – loans, insurance, guarantees, lease finance*
- **Currently, the above are are mostly promoted using sub-optimally designed interventions – next slide**

2b -Major Impediments to Agriculture Productivity Ctd.....

2.3 Tanzania is short of locally proven intervention models to increase productivity in agriculture

Elements of good interventions:

- i. **Correct diagnosis of problems** – i.e. low productivity as per the agreed definition
- ii. **Properly targeted interventions** – entry points and clarity of intended beneficiaries
- iii. **Clarity of the purpose:** Raise rural wellbeing
E.g. eyeing subsistence, micro & small producers—What is it that is needed to transform and improve them?
- iv. **Clarity on the logic of the intervention** – including monitoring results, outcomes and long term impact
- v. **Sustainability parameters built in the intervention** – to ensure lasting benefits.
- vi. **Complementary investments** – Rural Ag. Production augmenting infrastructure: *roads, water systems, Telcom*

3. Required Short and Medium Term Policy [& Strategic Interventions]

3.1a Reform Policies & Guidelines Governing Agricultural Research and Outreach [Extension] - 7 points to note

- Agriculture transformation shall have to be research based
- Research provides the building blocks for good interventions

We have to:

- Articulate diverse national policies that foster relevant & mostly **demand driven** research
- Redesign current organization level research policies to serve MSM&L Scale Pvt. sector led commercial agriculture enterprises, fostering both **technology transfer** and **local innovation**.

Mandate the research organizations to encompass **resilience to natural disasters** [E.g. the locusts threat, drought]

- Funding:
 - Increase public research funding
 - Institute policies for innovative research fund(s), e.g. raising funds from commodity value chains
(He who pays the piper, calls the tune) :- Good elements are there – Tea at TRIT, coffee at TACRI

- Continued review of strategic goals and plans for the 17 Well-performing Research Centers
 - Reviews should support TARI's 9 Main Research Centers and 8 Sub-research Centers
 - Re-orientation of research is also needed at SUA and Agricultural & Livestock Training Institutes

3.1b Reform Policies & Guidelines Governing Agricultural Research and Outreach [Extension]. Ctnd.....

- v. Improve & modernize management of human and financial resources** at research centers
Consider performance based remuneration combined with demand driven research

- vi. Invest on human capital in the Agriculture Research Space**
This ought to entail training, employing more researchers, & re-tooling the existing ones.

- vii. Strengthen and improve outreach wings** of these research centers
 - i. Raise commercial acumen & promote agribusiness orientation to advisory services.
 - ii. Decentralize and ease the flow of information from researchers to extension workers

3.2 Policies to Protect Agric. Land & Enhance Scales of production units

Soon good agricultural land won't be an abundant natural resource

- i. **Continued work is needed on Land Related Policies**
Foster **protection of agricultural** land and **better land use management**
Enhance property rights; major incentive for long term investment, & collateralization potential

- ii. **Articulate scale enhancing policies and strategies. Scale enhancement may take the form of:**
 - a. Individual medium and large scale farms – these are emerging fast, **policies to support the process**
e.g. access to just labor deployment, land and water resources need to be in place

 - b. Block farming, pooling together smallholder farmers and jointly linking them to commodity value chains. **Policies and Regulatory Frameworks:** despite some efforts, still leave a lot to be desired.

 - c. Contract farming – again the **policy, regulatory frameworks and guidelines need to be improved.**
One weakness is the generalization embodied in the current tools.
Different commodity Value Chains call for differentiated contract farming Regulations and Guidelines.

AN ARGUMENT:

Impactful returns to investments are dependent on optimal scales [Due respect to Land Size-Productivity inverse Rtn.]
Experience shows optimal interventions are achieved where there is some degree of vertical integration

3.3 Sub-national policies and strategies need major work

National Policy Initiatives need cascading sub-nationally honoring The 2020 Decentralization Policy

- i. Governance in Tanzania is still **heavily central**: Decentralization is a strenuous process.
Centrality - worked well post-independence with a Pop. of 10 million ; context has changed
- i. The **2020 Decentralization Policy**, as was the defunct D-by-D, vests upon LGAs the mandate to design and enforce a diverse range of By-Laws, Rules and Regulations. These have to conform with national policies, or more so vice versa, often they don't!!
- ii. Decentralization, when executed unerringly, can enhance public service delivery, transparency and accountability, and thus accelerate growth led by the local private sector.
- iii. For example, the **national business environment** improvement, the **roadmap** and the **blue-print** initiatives, all need sub-national level lenses.
- iv. Attention ought to be paid to Sub-national **Local Economic Development [LED] Strategies**.

A subnational policy lens will mostly benefit agriculture, the biggest employer

Thank you for listening
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