

The LGAs have constructed 271 and rehabilitated 187 dip tanks through support from ASDP. As a result, livestock deaths due to tick-borne diseases were reduced significantly. Livestock keepers are being encouraged to construct more dip tanks on a cost-sharing basis.

About 492.2 km rural feeder roads have been rehabilitated allowing for easy accessibility to crop and livestock input and output markets. It is easier now for farmers to transport their produce from one place to another. The Government plans to continue to expand the network of rural feeder roads so as to facilitate the private sector to invest in production as well as in marketing and agro-processing.

Agricultural mechanization implies the use of various power sources and improved farm tools and equipment, with a view to reducing the drudgery of the human beings and enhancing the overall productivity and production. There has been a significant improvement in accessibility and overall utilization of agro mechanization technologies through ASDP intervention. Through ASDP, 65 tractors, 1,972 power tillers, 1,321 plough and 1,908 processing machines have been procured through cost sharing arrangements which require farmers/beneficiaries to contribute 20% of the total costs of acquiring the equipment. The increased use of farm power has enabled farmers to expand area under cultivation and it has enhanced timeliness of farming operations. Timely farm operations is becoming crucial in view of the rainy season becoming shorter in many parts of the country which puts pressure on farmers to accomplish their field operations in the shortest possible time to capture the short growing period.

Agro-processing has a tremendous potential for increasing income (value addition and improved shelf life) and access to food security through the establishment of small-scale agro-processing businesses and rural agro-based industries. Strengthening agro-processing sector is therefore an important means by which food security and the alleviation of poverty could be achieved. So far the LGAs have supported farmers in the procurement of various processing machines. A total of 1, 852 various processing machines have been procured so far. This has resulted into enhancing household income, improving quality of crops such as coffee, minimizing walking distance for women to milling grain etc. Most of the agro-processing is still very small-scale, and not able to meet the demand for processed products. Effort will be directed towards encouraging medium and large-scale agro-processors to establish themselves in the areas of production in order to reduce costs, to provide ready markets and employment to the rural communities.

About 96 crop markets have been established. Through these crop markets farmers have a place where they can sell their produce and easily access customers and produce cost has been increased by 25-35%. However, the number of markets is still very small compared to the demand and effort will continue to construct rural market infrastructure to improve farmers' access to markets.

The LGA are encouraged to establish farmer owned Agricultural Resource Centres in every ward. These are multipurpose learning centres that are anticipated to enhance the ability of farmers to adopt improved technologies. At National level technology development and dissemination process has been improved through the adoption of Client Oriented Research and Development (CORDEMA) Management Approach that emphasise on development of technologies on farmer demands.

Conclusion

Successive reviews of the ASDP/ASP point to three main challenges: (i) inadequate resources, (ii) late disbursement of funds and (iii) limited farmer empowerment. In the course of implementation a number of success stories have been realized despite the challenges. Improvements in crop and livestock production and productivity in certain areas have been recorded and associated with ASDP activities: small scale irrigation projects, livestock dipping, charco dams, shallow wells and feeder roads. Other positive interventions recorded include Farmer Field Schools, Ward Agricultural Resource Centers, supply of farm power and small scale agro-processing, empowerment of human capacity to farmers, private sector service providers, extension personnel and national level staff.

The efforts being undertaken in the agricultural sector in Tanzania are in line with the CAADP agenda: agriculture is still the main sector of the economy and government policies put a heavy reliance on the sector in meeting the development goals especially, poverty reduction. However the rate of growth of the sector is yet to meet levels that can lead to poverty reduction. CAADP proposes a 6 percent annual agricultural growth target and at least a 10 percent allocation of the annual government expenditure.

In the last decade the growth of the agriculture sector has been fluctuating around 4%. The potential to attain a growth rate of around 6% is possible. The desire to allocate an increasing amount of the government budget to agriculture has been demonstrated by recent increase in allocations to the sector. These targets although not easily achievable can be met if the challenges identified so far are squarely addressed.

Agriculture Sector Contacts:
Coordinator of Agriculture Sector Lead Ministries (ASLMs),
Ministry of Agriculture Food Security and Cooperatives (MAFC),
P.O. Box 9192, Dar es Salaam. Telephone: +255-22-2862480/1, Fax:+255-22-2862077



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Review of Ongoing Agricultural Development Efforts

An Overview of the Agricultural Sector

Tanzania is an emerging economy with high growth potential. While the economy is relatively diversified, the agriculture sector is the driving force of the country's economy. The sector employs over 80 per cent of the population who constitute the majority of the poor. It is therefore through higher and sustained agricultural growth that Tanzania can realize the goals for economic growth and reduction of poverty. Agricultural transformation from low productivity agriculture to a commercialized agriculture is the key to the attainment of the overall development objectives. Being the main sector of Tanzania's economy agriculture provides important forward and backward linkages to other sectors of the economy that are essential for producing faster growth, reducing poverty, and sustaining the environment. The performance of the sector is an indicator of the effectiveness of development efforts.

Tanzania has an area of 95.5 million hectares of land out of which 44 million hectares are classified as suitable for agriculture. Out of the available arable land only 10.1 million hectares or 23% of the arable land is under cultivation. It is also estimated that land suitable for livestock production is about 50 million ha but only 26 million ha is under use while the rest of the rangeland cannot be accessed due to tsetse fly infestation. The country has huge potential for irrigated agriculture. The area suitable for irrigation is estimated to be about 29.4 million hectares but only 0.33 million ha are currently under irrigation. Tanzania's agriculture is dominated by small scale subsistence farmers who operate on average 0.2 to 2 ha and traditional agro-pastoralists and fishers. Over 80% of the arable land is used by smallholders and only about 1.5 million ha is under medium and large scale farming. A significant proportion of crops are produced by these farmers including tea, sugar cane, coffee, tobacco, sisal and some horticultural crops.

Performance of the Sector

The agriculture sector contributes about 26% of total GDP. In the past agriculture was the leading contributor to GDP but since 2000 its share has been decreasing due to growth in other sectors like mining and services.

The growth of the sector has not been homogeneous among sub-sectors within it. For example the crop sub-sector grew faster than the livestock sub-sector. Within the crops sub sector the growth has not been uniform. Commercial crops have registered fluctuating trends in area cultivated, production and yield. The food crops sub sector performed better than the cash crop sub sector largely emanating from a gradual increase in area and production of non-food grains. Partly this has also been attributed to increased marketed surplus of food crops compared to their past role as subsistence crops.

The growth of agriculture itself has been fluctuating around 4% while that of the overall GDP has been fluctuating around 6%. The targeted GDP growth rate by 2015 is envisaged to be 6.3%. However the growth of GDP is still significantly determined by the agriculture Sector

The Agriculture Sector Development Framework (ASDP/ASP)

In the last decade Tanzania has moved to support its agriculture in a more systematic way using a sector-wide (Ag-SWAP) approach. In 2001 the Agricultural Sector Development Strategy was formulated basically as an implementing framework for the Agricultural and Livestock Policy of 1997. The formulation of the ASDS process was closely coordinated among the Agricultural Sector Lead Ministries (ASLMs) and the Development Partners. The ASDS was operationalised into the Agricultural Sector Development Programme (ASDP) in 2006. ASDP serves as a tool of the Government and stakeholders for coordinating and monitoring agricultural development in the country. Development activities at national level are based on the strategic plans of the ASLMs while activities at District level are implemented by Local Government Authorities (LGAs), based on District Agricultural Development Plans (DADPs).

In Zanzibar the Agriculture Strategic Plan (ASP) is the ongoing initiative since 2002 which was reviewed in 2004 and 2008. The ASP is implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Environment (MALE). Similar to ASDP, ASP is an instrument for guiding public and private efforts to meet broadly shared sector objectives to realize agreed inputs and outputs.

The ASDP has two major components, namely:

- A local component directing funds to Local Government Authorities (LGAs) for investments in infrastructure (including irrigation and marketing) or productive activities, agricultural services (primarily public and private agricultural extension and LGA based research activities), and capacity building and empowerment for farmer groups, local government and the private sector; and
- A national component, which finances agricultural research and extension service activities, development of irrigation policy and national level infrastructure, policy development and planning, capacity building for food security and nutrition interventions, market development activities and programme coordination. The National component also provides technical guidelines to implementation of local component activities. Within this framework, 75% of the resources to support the sector are allocated to the local level, and 25% to the national level.

The ASP programmes and projects that are implemented by MALE cover a wide range of programme areas in crop, livestock and fisheries, forest conservation, irrigation and infrastructure and cross cutting issues.

There are also a number of sub-sector programmes and projects that are being implemented within the ASDP framework. They cover livestock, fisheries, irrigation, mechanization, seeds, cooperatives, small and medium enterprises, trade, food and nutrition, agricultural marketing, land, environment, forest, water, micro-finance, investment promotion and industry. These include stand alone projects such as: Participatory Agricultural Development and Empowerment Project (PADEP), District Agricultural Sector Investment Project (DASIP), Agricultural Marketing Systems Development Programme (AMSDP), Rural Financial

Services Project (RFSP), and Marine and Coastal Environment Management Project (MACEMP). The Agricultural Services Support Programme (ASSP) is a sub-sector programme implemented within the framework of ASDP in Zanzibar.

Private Sector Efforts

Public efforts to support the sector are also being complimented by a number of local and international NGOs that are working in agriculture implementing innovative projects targeted mainly at smallholder farmers. Farmers' organizations are also increasingly becoming important players in supporting efforts to improve the situation of small-scale farmers. Apart from cooperatives there is a growing presence of farmer associations that serve as advocacy groups. These include the Agricultural Council of Tanzania (ACT), National Network of Farmers Groups (MVIWATA), and Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA).

There has also been a gradual improvement of the investment climate leading to a notable increase of private investment throughout the agricultural value chain: farming, processing and marketing. This pace is far from satisfactory and more efforts are needed to promote a more conducive environment for investment. On the other hand, *Kilimo Kwanza* has been formulated as a concerted effort by the private sector (with public support) to invigorate the drive towards a "green revolution" in the agricultural sector. The 10 pillars of *Kilimo Kwanza* build on, and amplify ongoing efforts under existing programs. *Kilimo Kwanza* has already inspired a number of initiatives by the private sector. An example is the current development of the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT) concept that is designed to spearhead public and private sector initiatives to promote investment along an agricultural growth corridor model.

Performance of the ASDP/ASP

In the course of implementing the ASDP/ASP notable achievements have been registered. Production and productivity has increased due to an expansion of area under irrigation, livestock dipping tanks, water infrastructure e.g. charco dams feeder roads and development and adoption of improved production technologies. Development of irrigation schemes is one of the main activities that have been implemented at District level About 120 irrigation schemes have been rehabilitated and 105 constructed since the ASDP inception. These schemes have contributed to an increase of area under irrigation from 264,388 ha recorded in 2006 to 326,511 ha by March, 2010. The average productivity of paddy has increased from 1.8 to 2.0 tons per ha with traditional irrigation to 4.0 to 5.0 tons per ha with improved irrigation and gross income per acre increased from TSh 600,000 to TSh 1,700,000 per year. However, more effort is needed particularly to encourage the private sector to invest in irrigation infrastructure, provide extension and research services and establish contract farming and out-grower schemes that will benefit small-scale farmers in the surrounding areas.