
Guiding Investments for Sustainable Agricultural Markets in Africa (GISAMA)

Project update presented at the 3rd
ACTESA Stakeholder Meeting
11-12 May, 2010, Lusaka, Zambia

Objectives

- Identify strategic opportunities and investment potential by which food markets can raise the incomes of smallholder households;
 - Assess the potential impact of specific types of public interventions on staple food markets, smallholder welfare, and food security;
 - Disseminate findings and promote public discussion in order to improve the quality of public policies and investments that are necessary to foster private sector investment and involvement in Africa's staple food markets;
 - Build capacity through direct collaboration between MSU, COMESA, and universities in carrying out analysis and outreach activities.
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Update

- Policy note prepared for the COMESA Trade and Customs Technical Committee: *Staple Food Trade in the COMESA Region: The Need for a Regional Approach to Stimulate Agricultural Growth and Enhance Food Security.*
 - Recommendations adopted by the COMESA Council of Ministers
- Policy Synthesis No. 1: *Policies and Public Investments to Promote Smallholder Green Revolutions in Africa: Lessons from Asia*

Awakening the Sleeping Giant: Making Grain Markets Work for Smallholders and Urban Consumers

- Identify priority investments and supporting policy actions
 - Smallholders characteristics
 - Grain market developments in ESA
 - Experiences with state interventions dealing with food production and price instability
 - Experiences with global development policies
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Conference Recommendations (1)

- Technology in hands of smallholders, including value addition
 - Smallholder capacity development, mktg skills
 - Transport infrastructure and corridor development
 - Producer input and output marketing organizations
 - Storage, logistics, and warehouse receipt systems
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Conference Recommendations (2)

- Development of under-utilized land
 - Intensification, yield improvements, crop diversification
 - Govt market interventions and trade barriers to be predictable
 - Govt market interventions in moderation if not altogether avoided
 - Govt to support R&D, e.g. evaluate merits or demerits of GMO, irrigation, etc.
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Conference Recommendations (3)

- Govt to facilitate access to markets to ensure disposal of excess output. Facilitate market linkages
 - strengthen regional dialogue around actionable interventions targeting smallholder farmers and regional food security. ACTESA should assume a more strategic role in this. This should be informed by an elaborate research agenda that is supplemented by a well-conceived network of strategic partners that include the private sector, academia, researchers, the media, governments, NGOs, etc.
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Conference Recommendations (4)

- Recommendations to be packaged for COMESA technical and ministers meetings:
 - Agriculture
 - Trade and Customs
 - Infrastructure
 - Recommendations to be considered by:
 - ACTESA
 - National CAADP investment programs
 - Regional CAADP investment program
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Thank you
