



The United Republic of Tanzania  
Agricultural Sector Lead Ministries

# Realizing Tanzania's Agricultural and Agro-Industry Competitiveness

Fostering Competitiveness, Productivity and Efficiency in Agri-food Systems



Asante Estate , Dodoma, August 3-5, 2021.  
Organized by the Policy Analysis Group (PAG)  
in collaboration with Agricultural Sector Lead Ministries and the Prime Minister's Office



## THE CONTEXT: 7<sup>TH</sup> AAPC THEME AND SUB-THEME

Tanzania has made great strides in economic growth. At the beginning of 2020 the country was declared to have attained the Lower Middle Income status after achieving a gross national income (GNI) per capita of \$1,080 (the threshold is \$1,036). This achievement is part of Tanzania's 2025 Vision of becoming a middle-income country as stipulated in the 2010-2025 Long-Term Perspective Plan (LTPP). The 15-year LTPP is implemented in a series of three phases of 5-year development plans, namely:

- 2010–2015 Unleashing Tanzania's Latent Growth Potential
- 2016–2020 Nurturing Industrialization for Economic Transformation and Human Development
- 2021–2025 Building Tanzania's Competitiveness and Industry for Human Development

Tanzania is transitioning to the third phase of the LTPP (2021–2025) which focuses on enhancing the country's competitiveness in regional and global markets. The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Agricultural Policy Conference (AAPC) coincides with the inception of The Third Five-Year Development Plan whose agenda is to foster the country's competitiveness. The theme of the 7<sup>th</sup> AAPC is intended to reflect this development agenda, namely, *Realizing Tanzania's Agricultural and Agro-Industry Competitiveness: Fostering Competitiveness, Productivity and Efficiency in Agri-food Systems*.

Agricultural export contributes about a quarter of export earnings (BoT, 2019). Agricultural export earnings during the last ten years have been fluctuating annually from USD 500 million to USD 1 billion as influenced by volume of production and global market prices (NBS, 2019). Major agricultural exports include cashew nut, cotton, coffee, tobacco, tea, sisal and pyrethrum. Besides exports, Tanzania also imports various food products such as wheat, sugar, edible oil, etc. Food import bill in the last 10 years has ranged from USD 300 million to USD 650 million (BoT, 2019). So, agricultural competitiveness affects Tanzania's share in global markets but also the share of import substitutes in domestic markets.

Agricultural competitiveness is an integral part of ASDP II whose goal is to achieve transformation of the agricultural sector (crops, livestock and fisheries value chains) into modern, commercial, highly productive, resilient, and competitive in both national and international markets. The expected outcomes of ASDP-2

include increased productivity, enhanced development of the value chain, development of sustainable market linkages for competitive surplus commercialization, value addition, increased farmer incomes, increased food security and nutrition, and poverty reduction. The main component/program areas of ASDP 2 include: a) Sustainable Water and Land Use Management; b) Enhanced Agricultural Productivity; c) Rural Commercialization and Value Addition; and d) Strengthening Sector Enablers. Components 2 to 4 of ASDP II are all about enhancing the competitiveness of the sector.

There is ample literature on determinants of agricultural competitiveness. However, The World Economic Forum (WEF) through its “Global Competitiveness Report” seems to provide the most comprehensive indicators of competitiveness. The WEF approach adopts a 12 pillar approach, structured as follows:

- ✓ Enabling environment (1. Institutions, 2. Infrastructure, 3. ICT adoption, 4. Macroeconomic stability)
- ✓ Human capital (5. Health, 6. Skills)
- ✓ Markets (7. Product market, 8. Labor market, 9. Financial system, 10. Market size)
- ✓ Innovation ecosystem (11. Business dynamism, 12. Innovation capability)



Tanzania's ranking in the Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) in 2019 is 117 (among 141 economies) more or less the same ranking from the previous year (116 out of 140 economies). During the last 15 years (2007–2019) Tanzania ranking in GCI has ranged

between 97 and 125. Similarly, in the 2020 “Ease of Doing Business” report of the World Bank, Tanzania’s ranking has been 141 (out of 190 economies), a slight improvement from the previous year at 144. During the last 15 years, Tanzania’s ranking in EDB ranged between 125 and 145.

Despite modest ranking in competitiveness Tanzania is highly ranked in terms of potential for agricultural growth. Analyzing productivity potential across 44 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, the [McKinsey Report \(2019\)](#) showed that nine countries make up 60 percent of the total potential, with three countries -- Ethiopia, Nigeria, and Tanzania -- comprising half of that. While this potential is highly concentrated, the significant variation in agricultural development and policy on the continent means differentiated approaches are required for each market. The three highest potential countries illustrate this variation well with respect to government involvement in agriculture, enabling environment, and factors such as improved input adoption. Since 2015 Tanzania has embarked in implementing policy reforms to improve agribusiness environment which among other things yielded the following results:

- ✓ Removal of over 120 fees and charges in agriculture, livestock and fisheries
- ✓ Reduction of produce cess from a ceiling of 5 percent of producer price to 3 percent and institution of a threshold of 1tonne for exclusion in payment of the cess
- ✓ Granting a waiver in import duty or VAT for various agricultural technologies to reduce production cost
- ✓ Increasing import duty of various food commodities to temporarily protect domestic industry

In 2018, the GoT endorsed the “Blueprint on regulatory reforms to improve business environment in Tanzania”. The “Blueprint”, as popularly referenced, provides a comprehensive roadmap for regulatory reforms in Tanzania - across sectors and within specific sectors. The Agricultural Sector Lead Ministries (ASLMs) have to champion reforms within their sectors. Implementation of reforms under the Blueprint offers a great opportunity to accelerate reforms in the sector.

The theme of the 7<sup>th</sup> AAPC is intended to reflect this development agenda. The theme: *Realizing Tanzania's Agricultural and Agro-Industry Competitiveness: Fostering Competitiveness, Productivity and Efficiency in Agri-food Systems*, entails seven thematic areas that will be categorised using a value chain approach.

Tanzania has diverse climatic conditions and there are over 80 crops and different types of livestock across seven agro-ecological zones, with climate ranging from temperate highlands to semi-arid central zones. However, the numerous value

chains could be categorized into seven groups, with each value chain within a group sharing policy and regulatory issues.

On the other hand, Tanzania is in both mixed and modern food systems transformation characterized by highly-processed and packaged food products. The country is also in preparation of the Global Food System Summit to pave a way on opportunities and challenges around the food system and food environment. The transformation is associated with moderate levels of undernutrition, as well increased prevalence of overweight and obesity but also threats to food security. From the 1990s to 2015, overweight and obesity rates have risen among Tanzanian adults by averages of 62% and 279 %, respectively. Besides, overweight prevalence among girls and boys aged from 5 to 19 years have increased by averages of 293% and 557%, respectively.

The 7<sup>th</sup> AAPC analyzes value chain competitiveness within seven value chains grouped as follows:

- ✓ Staples and food crops
- ✓ Traditional export crops
- ✓ Non-traditional export crops
- ✓ Import substitution commodities
- ✓ Livestock and fisheries
- ✓ Farm inputs
- ✓ Farm services

## KEY POLICY QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Based on the theme and sub-theme for the 7<sup>th</sup> AAPC, the following are some of the key questions tackled during paper presentations and discussions:

1) How competitive are Tanzania's agricultural commodities and products in the regional and international markets? What are the determinants of competitiveness for Tanzania's agricultural commodities and products? How could Tanzania prioritize its investment in various value chains taking into consideration their comparative and competitive advantages? What lessons could Tanzania draw from other countries in the region and from global leaders in agricultural exports?

2) What kind of policy reforms have been implemented recently to enhance Tanzania's competitiveness? What policy areas are yet to be implemented to enhance competitiveness? Of the six broad value chain groups across agro-ecological zones, which value chains are facing more policy challenges than others and why? What are the value-chain specific challenges? Could the policy issues be prioritized?

3) What nutrition and food system policies should be in place if we are to improve the nutrition status and health of human capital as we are fostering competitiveness, productivity and efficiency in agri-food systems?

## ABOUT PAG AND AAPC

The Annual Agricultural Policy Conference (AAPC) is organized by the Policy Analysis Group (PAG) in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture. The PAG is an informal (community of practice) and voluntary group that consists of members working on agricultural policy projects/initiatives, academia, and local and international policy think tanks. Established in 2013, the group has about 20 members and provides a platform for sharing information on policy research findings so as to enhance coordination, collaboration and synergy. The PAG also aims at ensuring consistency in policy messaging.

The AAPC brings together over 150 participants from academia, research institutions, policy-makers, advocacy groups and development practitioners from Tanzania, in the region and beyond. The Conference provides an opportunity to assess progress in implementing policy reforms under the CAADP framework of the New Alliance on Food Security and Nutrition. In addition, the conference discusses successes, lessons learned and identified remaining gaps, how to increase competitiveness within the alliances, and emerging issues that require attention.



PAG members deliberating during the last PAG retreat hosted by TAHA in Arusha

The Policy Analysis Group (PAG) members include the following:

- Africa Lead
- Agricultural Markets and Development Trust (AMDT)
- Agricultural Non-State Actors Forum (ANSAF)
- Agricultural Sector Policy and Institutional Reforms Strengthening (ASPIRES)
- Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)
- Dalberg
- Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC)
- Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF)
- Enabling Growth through Investment and Enterprise Program (ENGINE)
- Financial Sector Deepening Trust (FSDT)
- International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)
- Monitoring and Analysing Food and Agriculture Policies (FAO-MAFAP)
- Agricultural Sector Lead Ministries (ASLMs)
- Research on Poverty Alleviation (REPOA)

- Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS)
- Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT)
- Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA)
- Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA)
- Feed the Future Tanzania NAFKA II
- Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF)

## PREAMBLE FOR VALUE CHAIN SESSIONS

**Staples and Food Value-chain:** Food crops are widely grown in Tanzania involving over 4.5 million farming households and 15 million hectares. Because of broad population participation in food crops value chains, this value chain group has a high potential to contribute to food security and inclusive poverty reduction. Maize and rice are Tanzania's major staples in which annual production stands at 6 million and 2 million tonnes, respectively, in 2019. It is estimated that 50% of the farmers (2 million) grow maize while 20% (700,000) grow rice.

There are high prospects for cereals and food grains due to rapid population growth. Tanzania's current population is about 60 million people and is expected to grow to 100 million people by 2035. Africa's current population of 1.2 billion is expected to reach 2 billion by 2050.

How competitive is Tanzania in maize and rice production? Average yields for food-grains such as maize and rice is about 1 tonne per hectare as compared to 4 tonnes in some eastern and southern African countries. Comparatively, Egypt produces 4.2 million tonnes of rice per annum from 450,000 hectares of farmland, while Tanzania produces 2.1 million tonnes of rice from 1.2 million hectares. South Africa produces 10 million tonnes of maize out of 2 million hectares of farm land while Tanzania is producing 6 million tonnes out of nearly 5 million hectares of land.

Within the eastern, central and southern African region, Tanzania is the second largest producer of rice after Madagascar. However, Tanzania lags behind other countries in the region in terms of food grain trade. Besides, even when trade takes place, most of it is informal and hence important information is missing to enable vital tracking of regional trade measures. For example, in 2018 Uganda exported 1 million tonnes of maize mostly to Kenya while Tanzania merely exported 200,000 tonnes. An unpredictable policy environment including



occasional export ban in the past is cited as one of the reasons why Kenyan maize importers prioritize Uganda favorably over Tanzania.

Most countries in the eastern and southern Africa are net importers of maize and rice and hence an opportunity for intra-regional trade. Currently, intra-regional trade in East Africa is about 12 percent which is far below intra-regional trade in Asia (60%) and Europe (40%).

Key policy challenges for staples and other food crops include the following:

- Policy predictability especially in regional food trade
- Predominance of informal sector
- Lack of enforcement of standards – product standards, weights and measures
- Effect of climate change in productivity

In summary, the following key policy issues predominate the discussion in relation to staple crops:

- ✓ Does Tanzania have a comparative and competitive advantage in production of cereals such as rice and maize?
- ✓ How could Tanzania maximize its potential by increasing trade in regional food grain markets?
- ✓ How could Tanzania promote structured grain trade as opposed to informal trade?
- ✓ How can Tanzania participate in intra-regional food trade without risking food security?
- ✓ How could Tanzania diversify its grain market to avoid price crash during bumper harvests?
- ✓ Will the role of staples diminish during agriculture transformation and dietary change?
- ✓ How could Tanzania diversify its food grain markets by tapping into legumes such as common bean and soybean, especially in the feed sector?



### **Traditional Export Value-chains**

About 1.5 million farming households engage in production of traditional export crops. These include coffee, tea, cotton, cashew-nut, sisal, tobacco and pyrethrum. Export earnings from traditional export crops during the last 5 years ranged from USD 700 million to USD 1.1 billion per annum accounting for 17 percent of total export earnings. During the last 10 years, the average production of cotton and cashew-nut has been increasing while production of tobacco and coffee has been dwindling. Traditional exports sector is predominantly formal and attracts both local and international companies. Most crops are exported in raw form after primary processing, therefore most of the value addition happens after export leading to export of jobs abroad. In the 1960s and early 70s, Tanzania was one of the leading global exporters of such crops as cashew nut and sisal. Since then Tanzania has lost its market share as new entrants like Brazil and Vietnam became global players in agriculture. Regionally, Kenya has become a major exporter of tea and horticultural produce.

# General Overview of Traditional Export Crops

Farmers **1.5 Mil** Total export earnings **USD 1.1 Billion**



Sources: 1. Production data NBS- Annual Agriculture Sample Survey 2016/17, 2. Data on number of farmers-NBS Annual Agriculture Sample Survey 2016/17, 3. Data on export earnings -BOT, 4) BOT Monthly Economic Review, November 2018

Policy issues pertaining to traditional export crop value chains include the following:

- Indicative pricing and the perceived risk of market distortion
- Market regulation including operation of crop boards
- Rolling out of commodity exchange and phasing out of crop auctions
- Inadequate value addition to export crops

Lead questions for focusing the discussion include the following:

- ✓ How could Tanzania restore its competitiveness and market share in global markets?
- ✓ How to de-commoditize traditional exports into value-added products?

- ✓ What would be the pros and cons of regional blocks such as EAC and SADC in consolidating their exports in order to enhance their market command and leadership for crops such as coffee or tea, similar to OPEC?



### **Non-traditional Value Chains**

The non-traditional exports include horticultural crops, pigeon peas, sesame and other pulses. Non-traditional crops are providing an opportunity to diversify exports and mitigating the glut effect of traditional exports in global markets.

The horticultural sector is estimated to annually grow at 8 percent which is far above the 3 percent growth for the overall agricultural sector. The horticultural industry accounts for 38 percent of the total agricultural export value, valued at USD 545 million (TAHA 2016), and employs 450,000 households with a cultivated area of about 78,358 ha (URT 2014). Horticulture has potential to address micronutrient deficiencies that are one of the leading causes of malnutrition in Tanzania.

Annual export earnings via horticultural crops are estimated at USD 545 million, creating employment for over 2.5 million Tanzanians especially the youth and women. Despite having ample land, water and suitable climate, Tanzania lags behind other countries in the region such as Kenya and Ethiopia in horticultural exports. Also Tanzania continues to import fresh produce such as fruits and vegetables (e.g. apples, citrus, etc.).



Despite their potential, the non-traditional crop value-chains face the following policy issues:

- Lack of regulatory framework – unlike other crops that have their respective crop boards
- Inadequate investment in research (because of their newness compared with other crops)
- Persistent delays and costly registration of pesticides, seed, fertilizers and other technologies (these are not common to other crops)
- Underdeveloped export infrastructure and logistics support
- Pronounced seasonality of production leads to glut and surplus supply and hence high price fluctuations

Issues for discussion:

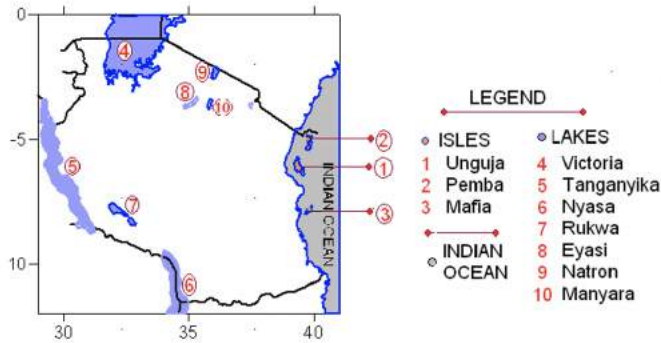
- ✓ How could Tanzania enhance its competitiveness in production of non-traditional exports such as horticultural produce?
- ✓ How could efficiency in export logistics be improved?
- ✓ How could seasonality of production and price be addressed to reduce market risk?
- ✓ Given the long range of horticultural crops, which of its value chain might Tanzania have both comparative and competitive advantage?

### **Livestock and Fisheries Value Chains**

As economic transformation is taking place in Africa, consumption of perishables such as meat, dairy products and eggs is increasing rapidly; therefore, the livestock and fisheries sub-sectors have a promising future. Tanzania has the second largest livestock population in Africa after Ethiopia. According to the [Livestock Sector Analysis](#) (2017), Tanzania has approximately 30.5 million cattle, 18.8 million goats and 5.3 million sheep. Other livestock kept in the country include 38.2 million local breed chickens, 36.6 million exotic breed chickens and 1.9 million pigs.

Also, Tanzania co-hosts 2 of the largest lakes in the world, namely, Lake Victoria and Lake Tanganyika, as well as over 1,500 km of the Indian Ocean coastline. Despite such wealth, livestock and fisheries sub sectors contribute only 7.4% and 1.71% respectively to the GDP (Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Budget Speech, 2020/21). Owing to its labor intensity nature, the leather industry has high potential to contribute to job creation in the country. There are success stories of the livestock sector in the region. For example, Ethiopia has successfully established its leather industry while Botswana is among leading exporters of meat to Europe from Africa. Kenya and South Africa have successfully established their dairy sectors.

# Livestock and Fisheries Sub-sectors



- Tanzania hosts three of the largest lakes in the world; Lake Victoria, Lake Tanganyika and Lake Nyasa and also 1,424 km coast line of the Indian Ocean.
- Total fish weight held in the water bodies is about **3.3** mil tons.
- Despite such wealth, livestock and fisheries sub sectors have an annual growth rate at 5% and 9.2% respectively with a low national GDP contribution of 7.4% and 1.71 % respectively.

Some of the policy challenges facing livestock and fisheries sector include the following:

- Competition from cheaper imports
- Policy options to manage imports (day old chicks, milk, etc.)
- Competition for food grain between human and livestock leading to high feed prices
- Dependence on fish meal due to inadequate production of soybean as an alternative source of protein in the feed resources subsector
- Sustainable management of natural resources – e.g. competition for land between crops, livestock and wildlife; inadequate water due to land degradation and climate change



The discussion focuses on addressing the following questions:

- ✓ Tanzania's Livestock Master Plan shows that the poultry sub-sector is more promising than the livestock sector. How could the livestock sector be revamped?
- ✓ How is Tanzania's competitive advantage in the production of livestock products?
- ✓ As the changing food consumption pattern is in favor of livestock products, how has Tanzania positioned itself to the rising market opportunity?

### **Import Substitution Value-Chains**

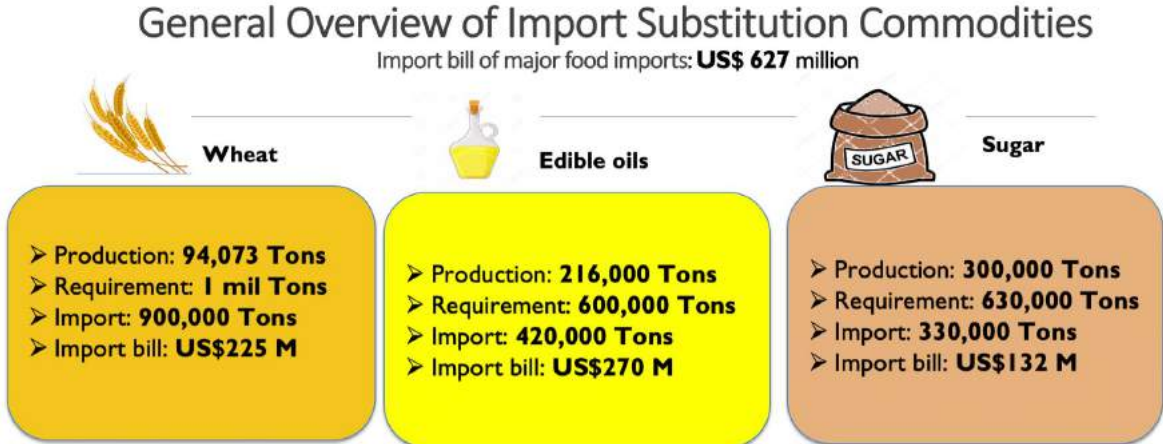
Competitiveness is not all about exports but also competition from imports. The annual food import bill in Tanzania is estimated to be USD 627 million. Major food imports are edible oil (USD 270 million), wheat (USD 225 million), and sugar (USD 132 million). Rice imports in recent years have exceeded USD 75 million ([USDA, 2018](#)). Although most imported products are locally produced, the demand exceeds supply and hence the need to import in order to close the supply gap. Other imports include milk and dairy products (cheese, butter, etc.), meat and meat products, and fish. Also, finished products including shoes, leather products, textiles and apparel. In recent years, importation of used clothing and shoes have



become a subject of public debate. Though the value of these products might be insignificant, their displacing capacity in terms of volumes (due to their cheapness) and jobs lost are issues of concern.

In terms of prospects, there is a huge regional market potential as Africa has become a major importer of food commodities spending annually between USD 35 billion and USD 52 billion in food import bill.

While imports help to mitigate supply gap and potential excessive price to consumers, the challenge has been on how to manage imports in a way that would not undermine domestic production. Policy challenges for import substitutes include the following:



- Oligopolistic market where imports are controlled by large few companies
- Large capital intensive value addition industry at the port as opposed to labor intensive SMEs in rural areas
- Effect of imports on domestic industry

Policy issues for discussion include the following:

- ✓ What are policy options to mitigate dumping of cheap imports without restricting trade?
- ✓ How to reduce domestic production and logistics cost in order to enhance the country's competitiveness for import substitutes?
- ✓ What lessons do we learn from the previous failed import substitute industry?

- ✓ What changes have taken place in recent years to enhance the viability of import substitutes?
- ✓ Imports are not always bad especially if there is significant domestic value addition which could create mass jobs e.g. soft drinks, wheat and cashewnut in India.



**Farm-Input Value Chain: Fertilizer, pesticide, seed (seed crop, day-old chicks, fingerlings, heifers, etc.), feed**

Tanzania imports over 90 percent of its fertilizer and 60 percent of seeds. Until recently Tanzania relied on importation of day-old chicks but lately Tanzania has started to export chicks to other countries in the region. Issues of concern in the farm inputs sub-sector include the following:

- Prolonged and expensive registration process for seed, fertilizer, pesticide and livestock drugs
- Overreliance on imports
- Inadequate funding for crop/seed breeding and research
- Fiscal burden of input subsidy
- Defining the roles of public and private sectors in farm inputs sub-sector

This session discusses key policy issues in relation to farm inputs such as:

- ✓ How could Tanzania enhance its competitiveness in farm inputs?
- ✓ What policy measures could be taken to avoid competition between human and livestock for food grain consumption?
- ✓ How could extension services be improved to enhance farmers' uptake for appropriate technologies?



### **Farm-Services Value Chain: Extension services, credit, machinery, storage, irrigation, water, energy, transport**

The agricultural services value chain is often overlooked but such services are critical for successful value chain development. Agricultural services are critical to agricultural transformation as they are necessary for farmers to access inputs, products and credit markets. Agricultural services entail both public and private sector investments. This session discusses the following issues:

- ✓ Policy options (fiscal and non-fiscal) to enhance farmers' and agribusiness access to agricultural services e.g. secured transactions reforms, the role of agricultural development bank, the role of social venture funds, etc.

- ✓ Policy and regulatory framework to promote public-private-partnership in providing agricultural services e.g. private versus public extension services
- ✓ Impact of public investment (rural roads, rural electrification, water projects, extension services) in productivity and the competitiveness



### **COVID 19 and its Effect on Value Chains and Agricultural Competitiveness**

The 7th AAPC also features a session to share data and analyses from various members regarding Covid-19 and its effects on agricultural value chains. Although this session was part of the program, it was not one of the upfront sessions given the nature of the content. The rationale for the session is to enable agricultural stakeholders to specify what targeted interventions and approaches should be taken to increase market competitiveness and access to capital in light of the global recession caused by the pandemic.

Also the analysis will enable further structured support towards value chains that proved to be successful during the COVID era such as spices, cereals and horticultural value chains.

The following table details the COVID 19 research work by PAG members that could be presented at the 7th AAPC:

<b>Member</b>	<b>Research and Analytical Papers</b>
ANSAF	A Rapid Analysis of the Impact of Coronavirus (COVID19) on Selected Commodity Chains, Smallholder Producers, Women and Youth
ESRF	In conjunction with UNDP has produced a report titled, "Rapid socio-economic impact assessment of COVID 19 in Tanzania."
ASPIRES/MSU	MSU report highlighting changes in consumption pattern.
TPSF	Conducted an assessment on the impact of COVID-19 to businesses in all sectors of the economy.
NAFAKA	Will have synthesized data by November, 2020



### **Special Session: Nutrition for a productive and competitive workforce for Tanzania industrialization**

The 7th AAPC includes a special session on nutrition. The ongoing rapid transformation in the food systems and environment makes an impact on nutritional outcomes leading to incidences of undernutrition, overweight and obesity. As the nation embarks on fostering competitiveness, productivity and efficiency in agri-food systems, it is extremely important that policy and

programming responses in nutrition and food systems are taken into consideration to reduce all forms of malnutrition and hence to ensure a healthy, skilled and productive workforce. This is essential if we are to achieve competitiveness and industrialization by 2025/2026. The special session discusses the following aspects:

- ✓ The new nutrition reality that Tanzania is facing and thus requiring pragmatic policy responses
- ✓ What are the gaps and lessons learnt from other countries that the country can adopt in nutrition and food systems space as Tanzania realizes agricultural and agro-industry competitiveness?
- ✓ What are the policy and programmatic responses needed in Tanzania to address food system and food environment issues?

Issues for discussion:

- ✓ How could Tanzania design or redesign its nutrition and food system interventions and policies to ensure that agricultural commodities and products are nutrition sensitive?
- ✓ In cognizant of the global food system movement, what are the policy and programmatic recommendations to improve the functioning of food system and food environment in Tanzania
- ✓ How would the food and nutrition security be sustained as the agro-food system goes competitive?

## PARTICIPANTS

The three-day conference will bring together more than 50 - 75 participants from the agricultural and nutrition sensitive sector. These include representatives from the following entities:

- Agricultural Sector Lead Ministries
- Nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive sectors/ organizations
- Regulatory authorities in agriculture
- Members of the Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture Livestock and Water
- Farmers and agribusiness associations
- Development partners
- NGOs engaged in agricultural development
- Research and training institutions
- Private sector

## THE APPROACH

As the AAPC is gradually turning into a regional and international platform, this particular conference marks the launch of a digital AAPC program platform. The conference has a blended format constituting about 75 participants (at the Asante Estate) with others joining virtually. The conference is still in the “Davos” style in which thematic papers are presented followed by a panel discussion before opening the session to the floor for questions and answers. All meetings take place in facilities that can aid virtual meetings. The technology used provides the output in high resolution format and the AAPC task force works with virtual communication professionals with experience in managing virtual meetings these form their own technical committee so as to build in house capacity.

The blended format also motivates buy in from the donor community. Best practices from AGRA’s AGRF and also tools from the AGRF are affected to ensure the 7th AAPC a success.