

**COMMON MARKET FOR EAST AND  
SOUTHERN AFRICA  
(COMESA)**



**REGIONAL AGRICULTURE INVESTMENT  
PLAN**

**2018-2022**

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. **This document presents the Regional Agriculture Investment Plan (RAIP 2018-2022)** of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), one the largest Regional Economic Communities (REC) in Africa, with 19 member States. COMESA's 2025 vision is to create a fully integrated internationally competitive regional economic community. The bloc endeavours to achieve sustainable economic and social progress in all Member States through increased co-operation and integration in all fields of development particularly in trade, customs and monetary affairs, transport, communication and information, technology, industry and energy, gender, agriculture, environment and natural resources.

2. **Agriculture is one of the main economic activities in COMESA.** The sector accounts for more than 32% of COMESA's gross domestic product (GDP), provides a livelihood to about 80% of the region's labour force, accounts for about 65% of foreign exchange earnings and contributes more than 50% of raw materials to the industrial sector. COMESA intends to contribute towards realising the ideals of the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) and the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods (2014). While the African Union (AU) provides the framework for CAADP implementation, the RECs including COMESA, coordinate and facilitate implementation in member states and the region. The COMESA Regional Agriculture Policy and Investment Framework (2013) has confirmed 3 core priority areas, and a series of 6 cross-cutting issues that constitute the 4<sup>th</sup> priority area, as identified by the COMESA Regional Compact. The three priority areas are: (1) Agriculture Production and productivity with a focus on food crops, livestock produce, fisheries and forest produce; (2) Removing barriers to agricultural trade and linking farmers to markets, with a focus on corridor development; (3) Reducing social and economic vulnerability and enhancing resilience and food and nutrition security. The 6 cross-cutting issues are gender and age, institutional capacity development, information and knowledge management, resources (financial and technical) mobilization, and effective sector coordination. This COMESA RAIP is structured into 4 Regional Investment Priority Areas (RIPA) consisting of each of those four priority areas.

3. **In line with the four RIPAs, the RAIP is designed to address four series of problematic issues.** The first one deal with lifting the key factors contributing to low productivity and production. The second challenge is to lift barriers to agricultural trade and farmers' linkages to markets within COMESA. The third challenge to be addressed is the need to reduce social vulnerability while enhancing food security and the resilience of the rural poor. Finally, the fourth challenge concerns dealing with a series of cross-cutting issues mentioned above, including enhancing sector coordination.

4. **The overarching Goal of the RAIP is derived from the COMESA regional compact as follows:** 'to contribute through better policy coordination, policy implementation and budget support for agriculture, forestry and fisheries, to sustainable agricultural production and productivity, food security and regional integration, enhanced competitiveness and improved markets and trade of agricultural, livestock, fisheries, and forestry products'.

5. **The RAIP has four outcomes which are defined along the four Regional Investment Program Areas (RIPAs) as follows:**

- *Outcome 1* is: Improved agricultural production and productivity, with a focus on food crops, livestock produce, fisheries and forest produce.
- *Outcome 2* is: Reduced barriers to agricultural trade and improved farmers' linkages to markets, with a focus on corridors.
- *Outcome 3* is: Reduced social and economic vulnerability and enhanced resilience and food and nutrition security.
- *Outcome 4* is: Soundly coordinated RAIP and cross-cutting issues effectively mainstreamed.

6. **Investment Areas and Policy Instruments.** To achieve these outcomes, each RIPA consists of a series of investment areas under which COMEAS along with Member States will implement specific policy instruments.

7. **RIPA 1 – Production and productivity of commodity value chains within selected agricultural corridor** consists of 4 intervention areas.

- *Investment Area 1.1 – Regional generation of and dissemination of agricultural knowledge and technology, with a focus on regional public goods.* The following 2 measures will be implemented: Measures 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 Strengthened generation of and improved access to agriculture knowledge and technology.
  - *Intervention Area 1.2 – Promotion of sustainable trans-boundary natural resources (water, land forestry, fisheries) management practices,* with 3 implementation tools: Measure 1.2.1 Trans-boundary natural resources management support; Measure 1.2.2 Facility for the promotion of improved irrigation policies; and Measure 1.2.3 Regional AU Land Policy Initiative (LPI) implementation support.
  - *Intervention Area 1.3 – Enhanced input quality, availability and accessibility.* The following two implementation tools will be implemented: Measure 1.3.1 Improved mobilization and availability of quality seed and genetic material scheme; Measure 1.3.2 Improved fertilizer, agro-chemicals, feed and other agriculture inputs scheme.
  - *Intervention Area 1.4 – Strengthened regional systems for inclusive agricultural finance and insurance.* The 2 implementation tools are: Measure 1.4.1 Support to mobilization of private investments; Measure 1.4.2 Facility for enhanced access to risk sharing and financial instruments in regional value chains.
8. **RIPA 2 – Agricultural trade and markets** is structured around 5 investment areas.
- *Investment Area 2.1 – Enhanced private sector participation in regional public-private dialogue to promote the development of regional agro-food value chains.* The only implementation tool is Measure 2.1.1 – Establishment of public-private platforms for regional agro-food value chains.
  - *Investment Area 2.2 – Improved market information systems and systems for aggregating smallholders’ production at borders and their integration in regional markets.* The 2 implementation tools are: Measure 2.2.1 – Regional agricultural market information systems; and Measure 2.2.2 – Support for aggregation of smallholders’ production.
  - *Investment Area 2.3 – Improved State of infrastructure along regional agricultural growth corridors,* with 2 implementation tools: Measure 2.3.1 – Identification of priority trade growth corridors and related infrastructure gaps; Measure 2.3.2 – Coordination of infrastructure development along agricultural growth corridors.
  - *Intervention Area 2.4 Improved regulatory environment for agricultural trade.* The 3 implementation tools are: Measure 2.4.1 – Implementation of trade facilitation agreements and protocols; Measure 2.4.2 – Implementation of legal framework on SPS measures and harmonized science based SPS and technical standards; Measure 2.4.3 – Enhanced stability, predictability and coherence of agricultural **trade** policy interventions.
  - *Intervention Area 2.5 Improved capacities of SPS laboratories.* The 2 implementation tools are: Measure 2.5.1 – Facility for strengthening capacities of regional SPS laboratories; and 2.5.2 Facility for strengthening satellite SPS laboratories.
9. **RIPA 3 – Resilience, food and nutrition security,** consists of 3 intervention areas.
- *Intervention Area 3.1 Strengthening regional coordination and linkage to information and knowledge for mitigating transboundary hazards and risks.* The 2 implementation tools are: Measure 3.1.1 – Facility for establishing harmonized systems for regional early warning response preparedness; Measure 3.1.2 – Facility for enhancing social protection systems.
  - *Intervention Area 3.2 Developing and implementing regional risk management tools and systems covering policy, hazards, and financial aspects.* The following 2 tools will be implemented: Measure 3.1.1 Facility to assist Member States to set-up risk management measures in agriculture; Measure 3.2.2 Facility to assist Member States improve response to climate change.
  - *Intervention Area 3.3 Strengthening bio-security for food safety.* The only one implementation tools is Measure 3.3.1 – Facility for bio-security systems.

- *Intervention Area 3.4 Promoting and engendering food safety and nutrition as well as high impact nutrition interventions.* The 2 tools are: Measure 3.4.1 Facility to improve awareness creation on food quality, safety and bio-security; and Measure 3.4.2 Facility to support high impact nutrition interventions and knowledge sharing on nutrition promotion.

10. **RIPA 4 – Coordination and cross-cutting issues** is organized in 5 intervention areas.

- *Intervention Area 4.1 Mainstreaming gender and age effectively into the implementation of the RAIP.* The only one implementation tool is Measure 4.1.1 – Gender and age mainstreaming.
- *Intervention Area 4.2 Strengthening human and institutional capacity.* The only one implementation tool is Measure 4.2.1 – Strengthening institutional capacity.
- *Intervention Area 4.3 Strengthening regional information and knowledge management system, with only Measure 4.3.1 – Regional information and knowledge management system.*
- *Intervention Area 4.4 Effective resource mobilization for corridor initiatives, transboundary trade and infrastructure projects.* The only implementation tool is Measure 4.4.1 Resource mobilization for corridor initiatives, transboundary trade and infrastructure development.
- *Intervention Area 5.5 Sound and effective coordination of the RAIP.* The only implementation tool is Measure 5.5.1 – Strengthening the RAIP coordination system

11. **Overview of institutional structure to implement the RAIP.** *At regional level,* the overall steering and fiduciary oversight of the RAIP resides in the *COMESA Council of Ministers and the relevant technical committees.* The day to day coordination of RAIP implementation will reside within the COMESA Secretariat’s Division of Industry and Agriculture, specifically the Agriculture Directorate which coordinates CAADP implementation. Some of the measures will be implemented through existing regional and/or national expert institutions or centres of excellence. The Consultative Committee of the Business Community and other Interest Groups will work with the *Regional Stakeholders Forum (RSF)* to create a consultative platform to provide direction and guidance on sector priorities, policy issues, and feedback on regional CAADP implementation. The Stakeholder Technical Advisory Committee will ensure that the decisions and implementation thereof draws from analytical evidence and that regional projects are responding to sensible regional priorities while specialised Taskforces will focus on on specific priorities.

12. *At national level,* the implementation of COMESA RAIP activities will articulate and fit within the existing national level CAADP partnership platforms and steering committees.

13. The RAIP accountability system will include 3 major complementary components: (1) financial management; (2) planning, monitoring and evaluation; and (3) reporting. It will equip the Secretariat to keep all contributing and implementing partners accountable by reporting not on only expenditures, but also on inputs and outcomes – impacts. While the financial management component will comply with the rules in force in COMESA, the planning, monitoring and evaluation systems for the Regional Agricultural Investment Plan will broadly be guided by the CAADP/MALABO Results Framework (2015-2025). The CAADP/MALABO results framework emphasizes mutual accountability and Results Based Management. The responsibilities on the RAIP M&E System will depend on the implementing partner institutions reporting to the COMESA Secretariat. To be finalized after printing.

14. **Budget.** The total budget for implementation of the RAIP is estimated at **US\$19, 154,865** which includes US\$2,494,900 for RIPA 1, US\$5,500,000 for RIPA 2, US\$6,950,628 for RIPA 3, and US\$3,297,201 for RIPA 4 as well as a 5% contingency allowance.

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## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACTESA	Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa
AgMIS	Agricultural market information systems
ALPFG	African Land Policy Framework and Guidelines
ASARECA,	Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa
ASYCUDA	Automated System for Customs Data
AU	Africa Union
BFHI	Baby Friendly Hospital Initiatives
BMS	Code of Breast Milk Substitute
CAADP	Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme
CBC	COMESA Business Chamber
CIF	COMESA Infrastructure Fund
COMESA	Common Market for East and Southern Africa
EAC	East African Community
EAFF,	East African Farmers Federation
EWS	Early Warning Systems
FANRPAN	Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network
FTA	Free Trade Area
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HIV/AIDS	Human Immune Deficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
IAPSC	International Association of Professional Security Consultants
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IPPC	International Plant Protection Convention
LPI	African Union Land Policy Initiative
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
NRM	Natural Resources Management
NTB	Non-Tariff Barriers
OIE	World Organisation for Animal Health
PTA	Preferential Trade Area
RAFD	Regional Agriculture Development Fund
RAIP	Regional Agricultural Investment Plan
RECs	Regional Economic Communities
REFORM	Regional Food Security and Risk Management Programme for Eastern and Southern Africa
RESAKSS,	Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System
RIPA	Regional Investment Priority Area
RUFORUM,	Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture
SACAU,	Southern Africa Confederation of Agricultural Unions
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SMEs	Small and Medium Scale Enterprises
SPIREWORK	Social Protection Plan for the Informal Economy and Rural Workers
SPS	Sanitary and Phytosanitary
TTF	Tri-partite Trade Finance Facility TTF
WTO	World Trade Organisation
ZEP-RE	COMESA Re-Insurance Company



## **A. BACKGROUND OF COMESA**

1. The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) has 19 Member States. It is one of the largest Regional Economic Community (REC) in Africa by both population and geographical size. COMESA's 2025 vision is to create a fully integrated internationally competitive regional economic community. The bloc endeavours to achieve sustainable economic and social progress in all Member States through increased co-operation and integration in all fields of development particularly in trade, customs and monetary affairs, transport, communication and information, technology, industry and energy, gender, agriculture, environment and natural resources. The secretariat's specific mission is centred on providing excellent technical services to member states in order to facilitate the region's sustained development through economic integration.
2. In terms of priorities, COMESA was formed to replace the former Preferential Trade Area (PTA) which had existed from the earlier days of 1981. COMESA (as defined by its Treaty) was established 'as an organisation of free independent sovereign states which have agreed to co-operate in developing their natural and human resources for the good of all their people' and as such it has a wide-ranging series of objectives which necessarily include in its priorities the promotion of peace and security in the region. Due to COMESA's economic history and background its main focus is on the formation of a large economic and trading unit that is capable of overcoming some of the barriers that are faced by individual states. With a population of over 389 million and annual import bill of around US\$32 billion with an export bill of US\$82 billion COMESA forms a major market place for both internal and external trading.
3. COMESA's decision-making structure has the Heads of State of the 19 member countries at the top. There is a Council of Ministers responsible for policy making, 12 technical committees and a series of other advisory bodies (including specific relations with partner countries and the business community). In addition, each member state appoints liaison persons in their appropriate ministries who form part of the day-to-day communication process. Overall co-ordination is achieved through the Secretariat, based in Lusaka, Zambia. Several institutions have been created to promote sub-regional co-operation and development.
4. The COMESA Trade and Development Bank in Nairobi (PTA Bank), Kenya is an African regional development financial institution established in 1985. The Bank's mandate is to finance and foster trade, socio-economic development and regional economic integration across its Member States. Although PTA Bank is an institution of the COMESA, its membership is open to Non-COMESA States, non-regional countries as well as institutional shareholders. It offers a broad range of products and services, across both the private and public sectors, including debt, equity and quasi-equity as well as guarantees. PTA Bank's investments cut across agriculture, trade, industry, infrastructure, energy and tourism, among others and are made on a commercial basis and sustainability principles. Through trade Finance PTA Bank aims to facilitate exports from the COMESA region through the provision of finance and trade related facilities that are tailored to meet the client's needs. Project and Infrastructure Finance is PTA Bank's window for medium and long term finance on commercial terms to growth sectors and infrastructure development. Under the bank, two strategic fund initiatives have been launched to date i.e. the COMESA Infrastructure Fund (CIF) which is a Mauritius based fund to be managed by a fund management company set up as joint venture between PTA Bank and an independent regional private equity manager; and, the Tri-partite Trade Finance Facility (TTFF) which is a Mauritius-based open-ended investment fund which will undertake trade finance related investments.

5. COMESA also has the Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa (ACTESA) which is a regional Alliance organization and a Specialized Agency of COMESA. The Alliance was born out of the need to harmonize and coordinate multiple interventions of Member States, Development Partners and Implementing Agencies, the Alliance focuses on common agricultural trade issues that include learning, capacity building, harmonization and coordination which require a regional institution and are expected to have impact on all COMESA, EAC and SADC Member States.

6. There is also the COMESA Business Council (CBC) which is a Business Member Organization and recognized private sector institution of the COMESA. It is the voice of the Private Sector in the region. It was established in 2005 with the objectives of: (i) providing a platform for three core services namely- business support services and linkages, policy advocacy and membership development; (ii) addressing the pertinent constraints to business and competitiveness in the region; (iii) influencing the policy formulation agenda on behalf of the private sector; and (iv) increasing private sector participation in the regional integration agenda. The establishment of CBC is mandated by the Treaty of the COMESA, Article 18-Chapter 23 and 24, as a consultative committee for the business community at the policy organs level.

7. Other COMESA institutions include: (a) the COMESA Clearing House in Harare, Zimbabwe; (b) the COMESA Association of Commercial Banks in Harare, Zimbabwe; (c) the COMESA Leather Institute in Ethiopia; and, (d) The COMESA Re-Insurance Company (ZEP-RE) in Nairobi, Kenya. In addition, a Court of Justice was also established under the COMESA Treaty and became formally operational in 1998. Further initiatives exist to promote cross border initiatives, form a common industrial policy and introduce a monetary harmonisation programme.

8. COMESA's activities are structured around 11 thematic areas namely Trade, Infrastructure; Industry & Agriculture; Administration; Environment & Natural Resources; Information & Networking; Legal & Corporate Affairs; Budget & Finance; Gender & Social Affairs; Corporate Communications; and , Executive Support Division.

9. Agriculture is one of the main economic activities in COMESA. The sector accounts for more than 32% of COMESA's gross domestic product (GDP), provides a livelihood to about 80% of the region's labour force, accounts for about 65% of foreign exchange earnings and contributes more than 50% of raw materials to the industrial sector. Compared to other regions on the African continent where oil, minerals and other resources are abundant, the COMESA region relies more heavily on agriculture for employment and economic growth. Within the region, growth of agricultural output over the last three decades has been low at 2% p.a. The region has also relied heavily on food imports including food aid which has increased at about 13% p.a. Heavy and chronic dependence on food imports poses a serious food security problem for the region.

10. The Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) AU Maputo Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security (2003) is a key framework for agricultural transformation that has raised the political profile for increased investments, African ownership, leadership and attention towards agriculture as the vehicle for economic growth and poverty eradication. The AU Malabo Declaration on Agriculture and Post-Harvest Losses (2014) represented a renewed commitment by African leaders to the values and principles of CAADP, with emphasis on results and impact and reference to the CAADP Results Framework and CAADP Mutual Accountability Framework. The Malabo Declaration requires the participation of key stakeholders such as regional economic communities (RECs), private sector and non-state actors and development partners, both technical and financial. As a Bloc, COMESA intends to contribute towards realising the ideals of the Malabo Declaration. While the AU provides the framework for implementing decisions, the RECs including COMESA, coordinate and facilitate implementation in member states and the region. Therefore, the value of COMESA Regional CAADP Compact lies in the delineation of strategic regional investments that individual countries, acting alone, cannot achieve. The Compact serves to accelerate individual country agricultural growth by enabling them to benefit from regional spill overs and economies of

scale in technology, human and policy development, as well as in trade and investment.

## B. CONTEXT AND SITUATION ANALYSIS

11. The COMESA Regional Agriculture Policy and Investment Framework (2013) has confirmed 3 core priority areas, and a series of 6 cross-cutting issues that constitute the 4<sup>th</sup> priority area, as identified by the COMESA Regional Compact. These are drawn from the COMESA treaty, the COMESA Agricultural Strategy, analytical studies across the region, a FANRPAN<sup>1</sup> draft report, stakeholder consultations and review of agricultural strategies and regional compacts of other RECs.

12. The 3 core priority areas are:

- Priority Area 1: Agricultural production and productivity with a focus on food crops, livestock produce, fisheries and forest produce.
- Priority Area 2: Removing barriers to agricultural trade and linking farmers to markets with a focus on corridors (corridor development).
- Priority Area 3: Reducing social and economic vulnerability and enhancing resilience and food and nutrition security.

13. The 6 cross-cutting issues that make the 4<sup>th</sup> priority are: (i) gender and age mainstreaming; (ii) human and institutional capacity development and strengthening; (iii) information and knowledge management; (iv) climate change; (v) resource mobilization to complement national efforts; and (vi) improved coordination. 3.

14. In total, the RAIP is structured into 4 Regional Investment Priority Areas (RIPA) consisting of each of these four priority areas:

- *RIPA 1: Production and productivity of commodity value chains within selected agricultural corridor.* The focus of COMESA will be on regional agricultural commodity value chains with priority given to selected regional corridors. Eligible commodities are: food crops, livestock produce, fisheries and forest produce.
- *RIPA 2: Agricultural trade and markets.* The focus will be on reducing barriers to agricultural trade and improving farmers' linkages to markets, especially in identified regional corridors.
- *RIPA 3: Resilience, food and nutrition security.* The focus will be on contribution to reducing social and economic vulnerability and enhancing food and nutrition security.
- *RIPA 4: Coordination and cross-cutting issues.* The focus will be on building trust and accountability, while mainstreaming the above listed cross-cutting issues into the implementation of the RAIP.

15. The situation analysis is presented for each of these regional investment priority areas in sections B.1 to B.4.

### B.1. Production and productivity

16. The majority of the region's population derives their livelihood and employment from agriculture. However the sector's contribution to the economy is declining in most countries. The agricultural sector continues to under-perform, with low levels of value addition in the sector. Per capita

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<sup>1</sup> Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN)

production for key food crops, such as cassava and yams have decreased over the last 30 years, with yields remaining below world average.

17. **Increased production and productivity of agriculture** is considered a top priority in the Regional Compact. The aim is to contribute to both food security and pro-poor growth through increased regional trade of commodities. Key factors contributing to low production and low productivity are multiple: low and poor-quality public and private financing and investment in the sector, inadequate institutional capacities and poor functioning markets, harsh agronomic conditions and reliance on rain-fed agriculture, increased natural resource degradation, poor infrastructure, and persistent poverty and food insecurity. These factors are inter-related and hence need to be addressed simultaneously. Peace building and conflict resolution should be part of this integrated approach.

18. There is a need for increased investments in **agriculture research, knowledge and technology**, both public and private, to increase productivity and to meet the requirements of quality and standards for domestic and regional trade purposes. Furthermore, the general tendency in investments is to focus on commercially oriented farming at the expense of sustainable agriculture. The various good practices around sustainable agriculture and climate resilience should be promoted and scaled up.

19. The Regional Compact's strategy for coordinating and sharing lessons regionally, seeks to move away from isolated, project-based approaches to more sustainable collective action linked to CAADP. Hence the RAIP emphasises collective action to address common problems and **sharing of available technologies and capacities** and encourages sharing of best practices to minimise the duplication of efforts and resource wastage. This also ties in strongly with the promotion of regional trade through the development of regional agro food value chains.

20. Related to technology and knowledge, are the lack of harmonised regulations hindering the availability of **agricultural inputs, products and services**. Building on the work that ACTESA has been doing on developing regional trade, through corridor development and market facilitation, with the harmonisation of seed regulations, there is need to develop an accreditation system for provision of quality products (and services), and expand this to other genetic material and agricultural inputs, namely fertilisers, agro-chemicals, veterinary drugs and feed.

21. Though there has been a large focus on crops, the livestock (and fisheries) sectors play an important role in the COMESA sub-region in terms of providing commodity outputs such as meat, milk, eggs, wool, hides, skins, manure and traction. Currently pests and diseases and a low use of improved breeds, quality feeds and veterinary services is limiting growth in the sector.

22. The level of **value addition and processing** of agricultural commodities is low and post-harvest losses in sub-Saharan Africa average 30 percent of the total production, meaning that the region loses over US\$4 billion each year. Furthermore, agricultural production by smallholders remains low mainly because of limited access to agricultural knowledge and technology (including inputs).

23. **Natural resource degradation** is a major challenge in raising the productivity of agriculture. Incentives should be in place to support farmers and their organisations in the implementation of sustainable practices, which often come with associated costs. Delineation of hotspots of regional importance, such as water towers, forests and water spots, will require joint efforts to conserve and utilize for the benefit of all.

24. Reliance on rain fed agriculture, with very low use of **irrigation** is persistent in COMESA. The percentage of arable land that is irrigated is 7 percent, with barely 3.7 percent of it in Sub-Saharan Africa. Water availability in most COMESA countries limits expanding irrigated agriculture, and hence water management (water harvesting and water efficiency and productivity) is integral when scaling up irrigation schemes in the region.

25. **Land governance and tenure security** remains another main challenge to agricultural production and productivity, and although women constitute the bulk of the labour force in the continent's agriculture sector, rules governing ownership and transfer of land rights are unfavourable to women in Africa. COMESA can play a strong role in supporting the implementation of the African Land Policy Framework and Guidelines (ALPFG) and the Nairobi Action Plan on Large Scale Land Based Investments in Africa.

26. Lastly, strengthening **regional financial systems** for agricultural finance and micro-insurance and building the capacity of stakeholders to mobilise resources, is integral in order to develop suitable models and products to support agriculture finance and insurance. Appropriate financial services and risk sharing instruments, such as microloans, micro-insurance, credit registries, and value chain financing, are therefore needed to improve access to finance to smallholder farmers and MSME processors

## **B.2. Barriers to agricultural trade and farmers' linkages to markets within COMESA**

27. COMESA has placed strong emphasis on facilitating enhanced trade of agricultural products, specifically food staples, livestock and fisheries, to help contribute to the overall goal of improved food security in the region. Of high priority are improving market infrastructure, market information systems and the institutional capacity and structure of market institutions. Commercialisation of smallholder farmers and improved market services within staple crops and livestock are also high priorities. Residual tariffs, unpredictable export and import restrictions, and a wide range of non-tariff barriers all keep the volume of intra-regional trade, particularly in staple crops, well below its potential.

28. Regional cross-border trade in food staples is crucial for maintaining farmer and trader incentives to invest in high-potential food production zones. Within the COMESA region, political borders frequently separate surplus food production zones from the closest deficit markets. In order to maintain producer incentives in the region's many surplus food production zones, farmers in these zones need access to growing cross-border markets. Without access to regional export markets, production surges in thinly traded national markets lead easily to price collapses, which in turn risk stalling production growth and private investment in agriculture. As a result, more fluid cross-border flows of food staples will play a critical role in maintaining production incentives for producers in high-potential areas while at the same time ensuring low-cost food supplies in deficit zones.

### **B.2.1. Public-private dialogue and the promotion of regional value chains**

29. Value chain development initiatives to promote production and marketing of priority agro-food commodities (e.g. grains, fruits and vegetables, roots and tubers, dairy and livestock) are ongoing in most, if not all, COMESA member states, in many cases through a public-private partnership approach. However, most of these initiatives focus on the development of a value chain within one specific country, neglecting opportunities that exist for boosting cross-border trade, investment and technology transfers, and for the sharing of knowledge and policy lessons across neighbouring countries. Furthermore, while public-private cooperation is viewed as an important means for unlocking investments along regional value chains, current levels of private sector engagement with regional policymaking, e.g. through regional platforms, is suboptimal. Despite their large numbers in the region, smallholder farmers are particularly poorly represented at the regional level.

### **B.2.2. Agricultural market information systems and smallholders' participation in regional value chains**

30. Within the COMESA region, numerous agricultural market information systems (AgMIS) have been established to provide price, volume and other information relevant to farmers and value chain actors. However, the effectiveness AgMIS in promoting agricultural trade in COMESA is hampered by

the inability of many AgMIS providers in the region to develop financially sustainable business models. Accessibility of AgMIS services in the region is also an issue, especially for smallholder farmers, many of whom are excluded from using AgMIS due to their low capacity to utilise ICT-based AgMIS platforms or to the costs involved. As a result, these producers do not benefit from information about prices in regional markets, or the grades and quality standards demanded in these markets, and are therefore unable to fully exploit regional market opportunities. On top of all this, many smallholder farmers in the region are excluded from regional agro-food value chains due to an inability to produce sufficient quantities to supply commercial buyers along these value chains.

### **B.2.3. Infrastructure along agricultural trade corridors**

31. There are a number of existing and planned transport infrastructure and corridor development initiatives in the COMESA region. If designed with regional agricultural trade objectives in mind, these initiatives can improve farmers' access to markets, thereby creating opportunities for enhancing agricultural production and increasing volumes of agricultural trade. However, gaps in infrastructure (e.g. feeder roads, insufficient storage and aggregation facilities, inadequate border post infrastructure) may limit the opportunities for transport corridors to link farmers to regional markets. Moreover, the development of infrastructure to facilitate agricultural trade requires cooperation between a wide range of stakeholders to ensure that investments promote linkages between production areas and regional markets. The development of such infrastructure also requires enabling policies at the national level to attract the needed investments.

### **B.2.4. Regulatory environment for agricultural trade**

32. A number of challenges relating to the regulatory environment in COMESA member countries can impede intra-regional trade in agro-food products. Cumbersome border clearing procedures within COMESA increase the time and costs of moving goods across borders in the region. There is a need to implement trade facilitation measures to address such barriers to trade. Limited harmonisation and mutual recognition of SPS standards between COMESA Member States inhibits agricultural trade in the region. In addition, some aspects of COMESA's SPS framework need to be streamlined to eliminate discrepancies with the WTO SPS Agreement (Magalhaes 2010)<sup>2</sup>. Lastly, despite the creation of the COMESA Free Trade Area (FTA), Member States have continued to impose ad-hoc trade restrictions such as export and import bans, particularly on food staples, to address short-term national food security concerns. Such measures can create an uncertain policy environment, leading to lower investment in commodities frequently affected by such measures. There is a need to facilitate dialogue between private (farmers, traders, processors) and public actors to promote transparent, evidence-based policymaking. All of these factors create an ineffective policy, legal and regulatory environment for intra-regional trade.

### **B.2.5. Capacity of SPS laboratories**

33. The three COMESA Regional SPS Reference Laboratories require upgrading in terms of infrastructure and certification so as to be able to offer additional diagnostic services. The laboratories also lack clear modalities through which Member States can access the services they offer. Moreover, as there are only three accredited COMESA Regional SPS Reference Laboratories serving 19 COMESA Member States, the diagnostic services they offer are not easily accessible by all value chain actors in the region. There is therefore a need to improve laboratory capacities in the region to reduce bottlenecks to SPS-related testing and certification services which are required for intra-regional trade.

## **B.3. Social and economic vulnerability, resilience and food insecurity in COMESA**

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<sup>2</sup> Report for the standards and trade development facility, Joan Magalhaes 2010.

## Region

### B.3.1. Coordination and linkages mitigate transboundary hazards and risk management tools

34. **Regional coordination of surveillance, early warning and response to disasters.** The COMESA Region aims to adapt to and mitigate the current and potential future impact of an array of hazards and risks which reduce resilience and contribute to social and economic vulnerability. The risks and hazards include the effect of climate change, transboundary pests and diseases of plants and animals, food hazards and insecurity. In addition, the existing social protection measures in some member states though a step in the right direction, are contributing to vulnerability of the marginalized groups. Because of transboundary nature of the above challenges, an inefficient coping system in any one member state has a regional dimension, thus the hazards cannot be effectively addressed at individual member states level in the absence of a streamlined regional coordination and linkages to information and knowledge for informed decision making. Generally, the information and surveillance systems in COMESA member states vary and are constrained by variability in quality of information gathered, limited surveillance and inadequate sharing of information. Further, to minimize their impacts, the hazards must be contained at infancy stage but some COMESA member states lack well-coordinated and efficient surveillance and early warning systems (EWS) which poses a challenge to developing a regional EWS as it draws from nationally generated information and data. Also, the limited resources including timely access to finances constrain regular surveillance activities and efforts to rapidly mitigate hazard outbreaks.

35. **Regional social protection measures.** Within the COMESA region, there are serious employment related vulnerabilities, in particular, discrimination and inequalities affecting vulnerable groups, such as the youth, women, smallholders, landless poor, wage labourers, children, indigenous people and migrant workers. COMESA has been working with the African Union to mainstream Social Protection Plan for the Informal Economy and Rural Workers (SPIREWORK) into CAADP. Social protection has also been addressed through the Regional Food Security and Risk Management Programme for Eastern and Southern Africa (REFORM) which focuses on improving regional and national capacities to analyse policies and programs to manage chronic food insecurity and assess the potential of alternative social protection approaches. There is need for greater integration of social protection measures, climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction efforts as a means to; enhance resilience, reduce vulnerability and poverty. As the vulnerabilities posed by different hazards within the region persist, there is need for a paradigm shift and progressively improve social protection through well designed policies and programs with emphasis on diminishing people's exposure to risks and enhancing their capacity to manage economic and social risks. This also makes it critical for member states to share lessons on locally provisioned social protection mechanisms including; social safety nets for victims of epidemics (HIV/AIDS, vectors, plant and animal diseases and pests, natural and manmade disasters).

36. **Management of Agricultural risk.** Within the COMESA region, agricultural production and marketing has been affected by macro-economic disturbances, pest and disease outbreaks and adverse weather events. In addition, price volatility has increased, with sharp swings in product and input prices. There are different layers of risks which include: (a) normal variations in production, prices and weather which do not require any specific policy response; (b) extreme and infrequent but catastrophic events that affect many or all farmers over a wide area such as severe and widespread drought, outbreaks and spread of highly contagious and even zoonotic diseases which will usually be beyond farmers or markets capacity to cope; and (c) marketable risk layer that can be handled through market tools, such as insurance and futures markets or through cooperative arrangements among farmers. With agricultural policies that are more decoupled from production and prices, farmers are now more exposed to market



forces than in the past. Risk management in agriculture is now an essential tool for farmers to anticipate, avoid and react to shock. An efficient risk management system for agriculture will preserve the standard of living of those who depend on agriculture production, strengthen the viability of farm businesses and provide an environment which supports investment in the farming sector. Given this background, government policies should take a holistic approach to risk management, assessing all risks and their relationship to each other, and avoid focusing on a single source of risk such as prices. Governments can help farmers to assess and manage risks by providing information and training as well as incentivizing private sector to develop and offer innovative smallholder farmer risk management products. In addition, governments should develop and implement risk management systems/measures covering risk sharing tools (such as guarantee fund, insurance schemes) to incentivize private insurers to take up insurance business in agriculture.

37. **Climate change response in the region.** Climate change is a global challenge and there is evidence that Africa is warming faster than the global average. It is therefore a threat to resilience and contributes to vulnerability through on-going and expected impact on rain-fed agriculture production arising from; increase in the frequency and intensity of floods and droughts, decrease in supply of fresh water, changes in rainfall pattern, increase in pests and diseases of plants and animals and associated vectors and compromising food safety. COMESA member states are committed to addressing climate change issues as stipulated in individual Regional Economic Community policies and strategies and the Tripartite Free Trade Area negotiations. However, unsustainable production approaches are widespread including high rate of de-forestation, widespread use of persistent synthetic pesticides and other agro- and vet chemicals, limited incentives for producers and other agro-value chain actors to adopt climate smart practices.

### **B.3.2. Biosecurity systems for food safety and promoting food nutrition**

38. **Regional biosecurity systems.** Crop pests, animal and zoonotic diseases which; spread at high rate, are a threat to food and nutritional security, livelihoods and human health are a challenge in COMESA Region. Some of the emerging and re-emerging high impact transboundary plant pests and diseases include; Asian fruit fly, tomato boring leaf miner, Fall Armyworm, locust and African Armyworm. Similarly, a range of transboundary animal diseases are a threat in COMESA region and these include; Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia, Foot and Mouth Disease, Peste des Petits Ruminants, Rift Valley Fever and the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza which has been reported in limited member states. Further, aflatoxins, inappropriate use of synthetic pesticides and substandard feeds compromise food safety. The pests, diseases and food safety challenges are mainly attributed to; limited diagnostic capacity due to insufficient laboratory infrastructure and skills, limited regular surveillance owing to lack of inclusive surveillance networks and occasional failure to synchronize surveillance and hazard management within border areas in some neighbouring countries. To strengthen biosecurity this investment plan proposes that; laboratory infrastructure be upgraded and diagnostic skills enhanced, harmonized standards and guidelines are developed and the capacity in domestication of same is enhanced. Further, where outdated the national biosecurity regulatory frameworks be updated. Also, the existing knowledge gaps exist in the emerging exotic high impact transboundary pests and diseases should be addressed.

39. **Food safety systems.** Ensuring food safety to protect public health and promote economic development remains a significant challenge and priority area within the COMESA region. Considerable progress to strengthen food safety systems has been achieved in some member states, highlighting the opportunities to reduce and prevent food-borne diseases. However, unacceptable rates of foodborne illness remain and new hazards continue to enter the food supply. Food-borne risks to human health can arise from hazards that are biological, chemical or physical in nature. Better scientific knowledge and awareness of the hazards that cause food-borne disease and the risks these hazards pose to consumers, combined with the capacity to take appropriate interventions should enable governments

and industry to significantly reduce food-related risks. However, the links between hazards in foods and illness in humans have sometimes been difficult to establish, let alone quantify and, where they have been identified, interventions have not always been technically, economically or administratively feasible. Serious challenges therefore continue to face food safety regulators in many countries within COMESA region. In addition to improving public health, effective food safety systems maintain consumer confidence in the food supply and provide a sound regulatory foundation for domestic and international trade in food, which supports economic development. To improve implementation of sanitary and phytosanitary measures requires targeted awareness creation so as to highlight on-going phytosanitary activities to avoid duplication of efforts and build on past interventions, enlighten policy makers on the benefits of aligning national policies to international instruments, promote investment in plant health systems and support control and inspection efforts by empowering travellers, traders and other stakeholders on phytosanitary issues.

40. **High impact nutrition interventions.** Limited knowledge on nutrition and access to nutritious food is contributing to malnutrition in COMESA member states. It is critical to support member's states in the implementation of high impact nutrition interventions and best practices. As an example, bio-fortification is recognized to be amongst the highest value-for-money investments for economic development. This is due to its improvement of the nutrient quality of crops, through the use of agricultural methodologies, with the aim of making nutrients bio-available to the body after ingestion. The use of bio-fortified foods reduces the need for supplements which are costly, especially amongst the most vulnerable target groups. There is however limited awareness on many high impact nutrition interventions such as bio-fortification, Baby Friendly Hospital Initiatives (BFHI), Code of Breast Milk Substitute (BMS) Marketing. COMESA region can benefit by sharing knowledge and best practices on high impact nutrition interventions.

## **B.4. Cross-Cutting Issues**

### **B.4.1. Gender and age**

41. Gender and age are aggravating factors of poverty, food insecurity and decent work deficits. COMESA recognizes the need to create an environment where both sexes get equal opportunity to fulfil their full potential. Women tend to be clustered in fewer sectors than men. They are found to be concentrated in certain phases or activities of the supply chain (e.g. packaging, post processing), due to gender stereotypes or different skills and abilities than men. Articles 154 and 155 of the treaty recognize the importance of women as a vital link within the chain of agriculture, industry and trade. Integrating gender perspectives into the mainstream of all aspects of the work of COMESA is therefore an important goal of the COMESA Vision and Strategy into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Rural areas are losing the young productive workforce, due to consistent rural-urban migration of young people. There is a need to provide appropriate education, training, and job opportunities that give rural youth the choice of staying, working and prospering in rural areas. Gender and the roles of women and youth in agriculture deserve significant discussion and programming to ensure quality of opportunity and treatment for women, men and youth.

### **B.4.2. Institutional capacity development**

42. The Ezulwini Declaration adopted by the Ministers of Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources in July 2011, calls for the COMESA Secretariat to mobilize resources for strengthening capacity of key stakeholder groups in member states to effectively contribute to achieving CAADP results. The implementation of the RAIP is a partnership process led by the COMESA Secretariat. It is crucial to enhance the capacity of different partners to play their respective roles. The roles and responsibilities must be defined for key players to ensure that different players are fully engaged.

Moreover, partnership means involvement and it will be necessary to define and establish mechanisms to allow that partnership to work effectively.

43. An important part of any programmatic approach such as the RAIP is the existence of a coherent financial framework and funding mechanisms that links the different elements of the program together. It is proposed to set-up a Regional Agriculture Development Found for (RAFD), which will be partially funded by the COMESA budget and complemented by donor contributions. The RAFD would consist of a series of facilities designed to achieve specific results. Ideally, the management of the RAFD will follow COMESA procedures, and this might involve all funding partners placing their financial support to the sector into this sector budget and agreeing to follow COMESA audit procedures. However, a number of different funding arrangements can exist.

44. Building trust is crucial to the success of the RAIP and a key part of that is accountability. To ensure a sound implementation of the RAIP, an accountability system will be established and operated. This means linking budgets to key activities and developing effective reporting systems which can document the progress made. It also means establishing an M&E system that is able to monitor achievement of the outputs of both the RAIP process and the deliverables according to the vision. M&E should also be able to monitor and measure the generated the impacts.

45. Harmonisation and alignment is also crucial for the success of the RAIP. Having similar systems across the program and its implementing agencies will ensure more efficient operations. The RAFD and the accountability system will provide room for aligning and harmonizing interventions by donor and regional and national implementation agencies.

46. Priority will be given to developing and enhancing the capacity of the COMESA Secretariat and the regional and national implementation agencies to operate complying with the RAIP accountability system.

### **B.4.3. Information and knowledge management**

47. The CAADP implementation process is generating a lot of information and knowledge the value of which can be lost quickly if not properly harnessed. This information and knowledge should be assessed, documented and shared across countries and relevant stakeholders. National and regional planning depends on making informed choices, and this is aided by good practices in information and knowledge management. The sharing of such information and knowledge may help stakeholders in to scaling-up of positive lessons/interventions, and in some cases in to avoiding costly mistakes or unnecessary duplication. Proper information and knowledge management facilitates rapid communication that may translate into a source of competitive advantage. Developing a RAIP information and knowledge management system will also promote good governance, accountability and transparency. The system would utilize updated ICT applications and be appropriately secured against potential loss through cyber-crime.

### **B.4.4. Resource mobilization**

48. To date, the implementation of CAADP-related activities in the COMESA region has been supported by COMESA member states and, in particular, by a variety of development partners. The implementation of the RAIP and its constituent Programmes will necessitate the mobilisation of significant additional financial and technical resources, including to supplement national implementation of measures relating to regional trade and infrastructure. Given COMESA's high level of dependence on financial support from development partners – around 70% of the COMESA budget is financed by development partners – and the challenges this creates for ownership and sustainability of regional programmes and activities, it is crucial that additional resources for RAIP implementation are mobilised not only from development partners but also from member states and the private sector. Resource mobilisation efforts under the RAIP will also be aligned with ongoing efforts to address

COMESA's resource mobilisation strategy under the COMESA Medium Term Strategic Plan 2016-2020. To finance the implementation of the RAIP, it is proposed to constitute the Regional Agricultural Development Fund to be pledged by Member States and Donors.

#### **B.4.5. Improved coordination**

49. The coordination of the RAIP is the responsibility of the COMESA Secretariat, specifically, the Directorate in charge of Agriculture. The key coordination challenge is the need to set-up and operate an accountability system consisting of various linked components such as planning, monitoring and evaluation, financial management, reporting. Such a system will also ensure the harmonization and alignment of interventions by different players, including the donors. For that purpose, there is a need to enhance the capacity of the Directorate of Agriculture (staffs, software, equipment) to operate such a system. The program will also provide for developing and strengthening the capacity of regional institutions and national implementation agencies in complying with the requirements of the accountability system.

### **C. RAIP STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK**

50. The full RAIP results framework is presented in Annex 1. Section C.1 presents the program outcomes and the intervention areas that will generate these end-results.

#### **C.1. Program outcomes and intervention areas**

##### **C.1.1. Overarching Goal of the COMESA regional compact**

51. The overarching goal of the regional compact is to contribute (through better policy coordination, policy implementation and budget support for agriculture, forestry and fisheries) to sustainable agricultural production and productivity, food security and regional integration, enhanced competitiveness and improved markets and trade of agricultural, livestock, fisheries, and forestry products.

52. Each of the Regional Investment Priority Areas is designed to achieve *a specific RAIP outcome*, for which 2 or 3 indicators have been formulated. Under each RIPA, the intervention is structured around several intervention areas designed each, to achieve *a specific RAIP intermediate outcome*. The RAIP 4 outcomes and their indicators, as well as the intermediate outcomes are presented in the section C.1.2 below.

##### **C.1.2. Program outcomes and indicators**

#### **Outcomes and indicators for RIPA 1: Production and Productivity of Agricultural Commodity Value Chains within selected Regional Corridors**

53. *The outcome 1* is: Improved agricultural production and productivity, with a focus on food crops, livestock produce, fisheries and forest produce. The 2 indicators to measure the achievement of this outcome are:

- *Outcome Indicator 1.1:* Growth in productivity of agricultural commodities in selected regional corridors. The target is about 25% in 5 years
- *Outcome Indicator 1.2:* Increase in the value added agricultural commodity value chains within selected corridors. The target is about 25% in 5 years.

54. This outcome will be achieved through 5 *intermediary outcomes*:

- *Intermediate outcome 1.1:* Strengthened regional generation and dissemination of agricultural knowledge and technology

- *Intermediate outcome 1.2:* Strengthened regional input quality, quantity, availability and accessibility
- *Intermediate outcome 1.3:* Sustainable transboundary natural resources (water, land forestry, fisheries) management practices, promoted.
- *Intermediate outcome 1.4:* African Union Land Policy Initiative implemented by Member States
- *Intermediate outcome 1.5:* Strengthened regional finance systems for inclusive agricultural finance and micro-insurance.

### **Outcomes and indicators for RIPA 2: Agricultural Trade and Markets**

55. *The outcome 2 is:* Reduced barriers to agricultural trade and improved farmers' linkages to markets, with a focus on corridors. The three indicators to measure the achievement of this outcome are:

- *Outcome Indicator 2.1:* Increase in value of intra-regional agricultural trade
- *Outcome Indicator 2.2:* Increase in share of smallholder farmers participating in regional value chains
- *Outcome indicator 2.3:* Decrease in non-tariff barriers to regional agricultural trade

56. The outcome 2 results will be achieved through 5 *Intermediate outcomes*:

- *Intermediate outcome 2.1:* Enhanced *private* sector participation in regional public-private dialogue to promote the development of regional agro-food value chains.
- *Intermediate outcome 2.2:* Improved market information systems and systems for aggregation of smallholders' production at borders and their integration in regional markets and regional value chains.
- *Intermediate outcome 2.3:* Improved state of infrastructure for agricultural trade along corridors.
- *Intermediate outcome 2.4:* Improved *regulatory* environment for agricultural trade.
- *Intermediate outcome 2.5:* Strengthened capacities of SPS laboratories.

### **Outcomes and indicators for RIPA 3: Social and economic vulnerability, resilience and food and nutrition security**

57. *The outcome 3 is:* Reduced social and economic vulnerability and enhanced resilience and food and nutrition security. The indicator to measure the achievement of this outcome is:

- *Outcome indicator 3.1:* Change in *percentage* of food insecure people in the selected regional corridors. The target is a decrease by at least 25%.

58. The outcome 3 results will be achieved through 4 *intermediate outcomes*:

- *Intermediate outcome 3.1:* Strengthened *regional* coordination and linkages to information and knowledge to mitigate transboundary hazards and risks.
- *Intermediate outcome 3.2:* Improved response to climate change
- *Intermediate outcome 3.3:* Strengthened *biosecurity* systems for food safety
- *Intermediate outcome 3.4:* Food safety and high impact nutrition interventions promoted and engendered.

### **Outcomes and Indicators for RIPA 4: Sound coordination of RAIP and effective mainstreaming of cross cutting issues**

59. *The outcome 4 is: Soundly coordinated RAIP and cross-cutting issues effectively mainstreamed.* The 2 indicators to measure the achievement of this outcome are:

- *Outcome Indicator 4.1: Rate (percentage) of achievement of RAIP activities. The target is at least 75%.*
- *Outcome indicator 4.2: Rate (percentage) of achievement of RAIP expenditures. The target is at least 75%*

60. The outcome 4 will be achieved through 5 *intermediate outcomes*:

- *Intermediate outcome 4.1: Gender and age effectively mainstreamed in the implementation of RAIP.*
- *Intermediate outcome 4.2: Strengthened human and institutional capacity.*
- *Intermediate outcome 4.3: Strengthened regional information and knowledge management system.*
- *Intermediate outcome 4.4: Resources effectively mobilized for corridor initiatives, trans-boundary trade and infrastructure projects*
- *Intermediate outcome 4.5: Effective sound coordination of RAIP*

## **C.2. Alignment to CAADP**

61. The CAADP Results Framework is an integral part of the AU Agenda 2063 and defines the agricultural “space” in the Agenda. It is earmarked as the tool that will be used in tracking, monitoring and reporting on the progress in meeting the Malabo commitments. Consequently, the Framework outlines expected results and impacts, and as well specifies benchmarks and milestones for Africa’s agricultural development agenda. It consists of three levels:

62. Level 1 is entitled ‘Agriculture’s contribution to economic growth and inclusive development’. It outlines the impacts to which agriculture contributes as: (i) wealth creation; (ii) food and nutrition security; (iii) economic opportunities, poverty alleviation and shared prosperity; and (iv) resilience and sustainability. All those impact areas are well covered by the RAIP.

63. Level 2 is entitled ‘Agricultural transformation and sustained inclusive growth’. It outlines the changes in agriculture resulting from the CAADP implementation. The RAIP is also perfectly aligned with the change areas described: (i) increased agriculture production and productivity; (ii) increased intra-African regional trade and better functioning of national and regional markets; (iii) expanded local agro-industry and value chain development inclusive of women and youth; (iv) increased resilience of livelihoods and improved management of risks in the agriculture sector; and (v) improved management of natural resources for sustainable agriculture.

64. Level 3 is entitled ‘Strengthening systemic capacity to deliver results. It describes the added value of CAADP support to institutional transformation and systemic capacities. The institutional support areas described are well covered across the 4 regional investment priority areas: (i) effective inclusive policy design and implementation process; (ii) effective accountable institutions including assessing implementation of policies and commitments; (iii) strengthened capacity for evidence based planning and implementation and review; (iv) improved multi-sectoral coordination, partnerships and mutual accountability in sectors related to agriculture; (v) increased public and private investment in agriculture; and (vi) increased capacity to generate, analyse and use data, information, knowledge and innovations.

## **C.3. Intervention areas and implementation measures**

65. **Intervention areas.** Each intermediate outcome under RIPA 1, 2, 3 and 4, determine an intervention area.

66. **Implementation measures.** For each intervention area, COMESA will implement specific measures in order to support the players at regional and national level to partner to achieve the intermediate outcomes. Those implementation measures are briefly described in section D below. They are further detailed in Annexes 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4 for RIPA 1, 2, 3 and 4 respectively, with the rationale, the aim, the implementing partners, the modalities, and some target values.

#### **C.4. Implementation principles**

67. The following principles will govern the RAIP Implementation:

68. *Compliance with the orientation described in the implementation measures.* The intervention by all contributing partners will be aligned with the result framework and implementation measures described for each intervention area. Eventually, donor agencies will specify which intervention areas, and within them, which intervention measures, their financial contribution will cover. It is also expected that the activities and expenditures are performed in compliance with the orientation described under each of the RAIP implementation measures.

69. *Subsidiarity.* The Secretariat will not be involved in any activity that falls under the competencies on individual Member States. It will focus on interventions of regional dimension.

70. *Accountability.* Every partner contributing the implementation of the RAIP will comply with the requirement of the accountability system to be set-up and operated to ensure trust and transparency, and to hold implementers accountable.

### **D. PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION**

71. The intervention measures COMESA will implement to achieve the expected outputs under each intervention area, are presented in the section D.1 to D.4 below.

#### **D.1. RIPA 1 – Improved agricultural production and productivity, with a focus on food crops, livestock, fisheries and forest produce**

##### **D.1.1. Intervention area 1.1. Strengthened regional generation and dissemination of agricultural knowledge and technology, with a focus on regional public goods**

72. The focus of this intervention areas is access to innovative knowledge and improved technologies for value chain players (farmers and agri-businesses) involved in the regional corridors. The 2 measures below will be implemented:

73. **Measures 1.1.1: Strengthened generation of and access to agricultural knowledge and Measure 1.1.2 Strengthened generation of and access to agricultural technology.** Through these measures, the COMESA Secretariat will support the generation, manufacture and dissemination of agricultural knowledge and technology for smallholder farmers and Micro, small and medium processing enterprises, to sustainably increase productivity, comply with regional standards and improve competitiveness. To achieve this, COMESA will, at regional level, facilitate knowledge sharing by commissioning experts to develop manuals and materials to meet identified gaps in the production, preservation and processing of agricultural commodities meeting quality standards for regional trade. This will include knowledge products and sharing on policy measures to enhance farmers and processors' access to such knowledge and appropriate technology. The 2 measures will enable COMESA, to support Member States, through initiative subsidies, to: (i) organize learning events to disseminate such knowledge; (ii) support technical assistance to design and set-up policy

implementation measures aimed at enhancing farmers and processors' capacity to comply with regional quality standards. The key implementation partners will include research and extension agencies, as well as trade and industry associations.

#### **D.1.2. Intervention area 1.2: Promotion of sustainable (trans-boundary) natural resources (water, land, forestry, fisheries) management practices**

74. Under this intervention area, COMESA will implement 3 different measures aiming at: (i) promoting a sound management of trans-boundary natural resources; (ii) enhancing farmers' access to irrigation services and (iii) support Member States in the implementation of the African Union Land Policy Initiative (LPI).

75. **Measure 1.2.1 – Trans-boundary Natural Resource Management (NRM) support.** The objective of this facility is to improve trans-boundary NRM practices in regional hotspots, through the promotion of harmonised governance systems, appropriate policies and financing measures. COMESA will support the development and adoption of joint plans along with common guidelines for NRM in hotspots of regional importance where joint effort in conservation and utilization is required. Manuals will be developed on best practices and policy measures for incentivising users and agencies, to implement the adopted guidelines. COMESA will also facilitate dialogue for knowledge sharing and for conflict resolution. COMESA will support Member States with incentive grant, for technical assistance to domesticate joint plans and guidelines for the joint management of regional hotspots and design adequate policy measures. Key partners are Natural Resource Management agencies.

76. **Measure 1.2.2 – Facility for the promotion of improved irrigation policies.** This facility aims to promote innovative irrigation policies, with emphasis on improved technologies, as well as efficiency and economic viability of irrigation schemes through systematic linkage to smallholder inclusive value chains. At regional level COMESA will commission the development of relevant knowledge products and knowledge sharing on irrigation policy measures that promote improved irrigation technologies, and the efficiency and economic viability of irrigation schemes, specifically, best practices in linking irrigation schemes to smallholder inclusive value chains. It will share such knowledge through conferences, and training workshops. At national level, COMESA will support technical assistance, through incentive grant, to design policy measures aiming at promoting improved irrigation technologies and schemes, and linkages to smallholder inclusive value chains. Key partners include irrigation development agencies in Member States.

77. **Measure 1.2.3 – Regional AU Land Policy Initiative (LPI) support.** The facility aims to enhance member states' capacity in land governance through support in the implementation of (i) the African Land Policy Framework and Guidelines (ALPFG) and (ii) the Nairobi Action Plan on Large Scale Land Based Investments in Africa. COMESA will commission experts to develop a menu of concrete policy measures for the implementation of the above AU land policies and host learning events such as conferences and training workshops. At national level, COMESA will support Member States through incentive grant, to design the appropriate policy measures to support implementation. Key partners are national agencies in charge of land resources management.

#### **D.1.3. Intervention Area 3: Strengthened regional input quality, availability and accessibility**

78. **Measure 1.3.1: Improved mobilisation and availability of quality seed and genetic material scheme.** This scheme aims at mobilising, conserving and making available seeds and genetic resources (plant and animal, including fish) through the harmonisation and mutual recognition of standards, in order to facilitate trade and the availability of quality seed and genetic material for farmers in the region. To achieve this COMESA will build on ACTESAs work on the harmonisation of systems and regulations for seed and animal genetic material. It will commission experts to develop regional



regulations (and/or mutual recognition) on: (i) regional variety release system; (ii) seed production; (iii) seed certification; (iv) quality assurance system; and (v) mutual accountability framework. Experts will also develop knowledge on policy measures to implement such regulations and systems. COMESA will support the establishment/strengthening and running of seed, plant, animal and fish genetic banks in the region. At national level, COMESA will provide incentive grants for technical assistance on the domestication of such regional regulations and systems, and designing appropriate policy measures for their implementation to enhance access of farmers to certified genetic materials. Key partners are public and private seed agencies.

79. **Measure 1.3.2: Improved fertilizer, agrochemicals, feed and other agricultural inputs scheme.** This scheme aims to enhance the access of farmers to quality fertiliser, agro-chemicals, and other agricultural inputs (such as veterinary drugs, livestock and fish feed), safeguarding human and environmental health while improving productivity of the agriculture sector. At the regional level, COMESA will commission experts to develop harmonized regional guidelines and procedures for effective utilization and disposal of fertilizer and other agro-chemicals. Experts will also develop mutual recognition protocol for harmonization of quality standards for veterinary drugs and vaccines and feed composition. Likewise, knowledge products will be developed on policy measures to enhance farmers' access to, use and disposal of quality fertilizer and other agro-chemicals and sharing of such products at regional learning events. At national level, COMESA will provide incentive grants for technical assistance to support the domestication of harmonized regional guidelines and procedures, and appropriate policy measures, for effective utilization and disposal of fertilizer and other agricultural inputs. Key partners are agencies in charge of quality control for fertilizer and other agricultural inputs.

#### **D.1.4. Intervention area 1.4. Strengthened regional systems for inclusive agricultural finance and micro-insurance**

80. **Measure 1.4.1. Mobilization of private investment.** The facility aims to provide incentives for the mobilisation of private investments in Member States in commodity value chains of regional interest. COMESA will commission experts to develop knowledge products and knowledge sharing on policy measures and best practices (e.g. investment promotion, guarantee funds, insurance, smart subsidies, fiscal measures) on incentives for private investments, including enhancing farmers and agribusinesses' access to financing. Experts will also develop a regional mutual accountability framework for responsible investments in agriculture and food, with COMESA hosting learning events on the framework. At the national level, COMESA will provide an incentive/grant for technical assistance to design policy measures aimed at providing incentives for private investments and enhance farmers and agri-businesses' access to financing, specifically in the regional commodity value chains. Key partners include national agencies in charge of agriculture investment policies targeting bankers, agribusinesses and farmer organizations.

81. **Measure 1.4.2. Enhanced access to risk sharing and financial instruments in regional commodity value chains facility.** The facility aims to enhance the access of regional value chain farmers, processors and agribusinesses to agriculture finances and risk sharing instruments. COMESA will cover the costs of regional risk sharing instruments, which players (farmers, processors, and agribusinesses) involved in regional commodity value chains and within regional corridors can access. These include, at a regional level a Regional Guarantee Fund. At national level, COMESA will provide incentive grant to support insurers in Member States developing premiums to cover players' risks, and to enhance farmers' access to production and on-farm pre-processing equipment, in those priority regional value chains. In concerned Member States, Government will be requested to implement attractive fiscal measures to incentivise private investments in these value chains. Key partners include financial institutions (regional and national; private and public) targeting farmers, processors and agribusinesses in regional commodity value chains (regional corridors).

## **D.2. RIPA 2 – Reducing barriers to agricultural trade and improving farmers' linkages to markets, with a focus on corridors (corridor development)**

### **D.2.1. Intervention area 2.1: Enhanced private sector participation in regional public-private dialogue to promote the development of regional agro-food value chains**

82. **Measure 2.1.1. Public-private platforms for regional agro-food value chains.** The objective of this measure is to establish a small number of inclusive regional public-private platforms to provide proof of concept for a regional approach to promoting the development of priority agro-food value chains in Eastern and Southern Africa. Building on work already undertaken to establish a Regional Dairy Platform for Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda, the COMESA Secretariat, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, will facilitate the finalisation and launch of the Regional Dairy Platform by the end of Year 1 of RIPA 2 implementation, ensuring participation in the Platform by relevant regional and national stakeholders. The Secretariat will then develop and launch at least 3 other regional value chain platforms for priority agro-food value chains in Eastern and Southern Africa by Year 5 of RIPA 2 implementation, again in collaboration with, and ensuring the participation of, relevant regional and national stakeholders.

### **D.2.2. Intervention area 2.2: Improved market information systems and systems for aggregation of smallholders' production at borders and their integration in regional markets and regional value chains**

83. **Measure 2.2.1. Regional agricultural market information system portal.** This measure aims to support ongoing efforts in the COMESA region to provide farmers and other agro-food value chain actors with agricultural market information (e.g. prices, volumes traded, etc.). COMESA/ACTESA will commission a study, to be completed by the end of Year 1 of RIPA 2 implementation, to assess the current state and coverage of agricultural market information systems (AgMIS) in the COMESA region, identify existing challenges in the AgMIS 'ecosystem' and formulate recommendations for regional collaboration on AgMIS. Building on the findings and recommendations of this assessment, COMESA/ACTESA will develop a web-based regional AgMIS portal that provides information on: (i) existing AgMIS providers and products in the region; (ii) gaps in AgMIS provision in the region and potential sources of supply and demand for AgMIS services; (iii) potential providers of AgMIS platforms and other software; and (iv) successful AgMIS models and approaches. This portal will be developed and operational by Year 4 of RIPA 2 implementation. COMESA/ACTESA will also take steps to raise awareness about the portal among COMESA member states and to support them to link national publicly operated AgMIS to the regional portal.

84. **Measure 2.2.2. Catalysing smallholder aggregation.** The objective of this measure is to establish a more supportive environment in the COMESA region for the aggregation of smallholders and their production, so as to facilitate greater integration of smallholders into regional agro-food value chains. COMESA/ACTESA will commission a study, to be completed by the end of Year 1 of RIPA 2 implementation, to assess the effectiveness and impact of different models for smallholder aggregation in Eastern and Southern Africa, and identify the main bottlenecks to effective smallholder aggregation in COMESA, and specific interventions that COMESA and its institutions can implement to facilitate the adoption and/or upscaling of promising models for smallholder aggregation. Building on these insights, COMESA/ACTESA will provide support, through incentive grants, to the development of promising public-private partnerships for smallholder aggregation, and to member states to design and/or implement national policy measures to facilitate more effective aggregation of smallholders.

### **D.2.3. Intervention area 3: Improved state of infrastructure for agricultural trade along corridors**

85. **Measure 2.3.1. Mapping opportunities for regional agricultural trade along transport corridors.** This measure aims to mainstream agricultural trade objectives into transport corridor development projects in COMESA, in order to maximise opportunities connect food surplus and deficit areas in the region. COMESA will commission a study, to develop a report mapping opportunities for increased intra-regional trade along existing and planned transport corridors in the COMESA region, and critical infrastructure gaps that need to be addressed to capitalise on these opportunities (e.g. rural feeder roads, railways, energy, ICT, agricultural resource centres, one stop border posts etc.); reference can be made to previous COMESA infrastructure studies, and Weng et al, 2013<sup>3</sup>. Building on the findings of this study, COMESA/ related institutions will commission at least 2 project preparation and feasibility studies to address infrastructure gaps impeding agricultural trade along these transport corridors.

86. **Measure 2.3.2: Coordination of agricultural trade infrastructure development along transport corridors.** This measure aims to support regional cooperation, multi-sectoral coordination, and development of an enabling environment for infrastructure development to promote agricultural trade along transport corridors. COMESA/ related institutions will establish and operationalize a corridor coordination mechanism to coordinate regional investments in agricultural trade infrastructure (e.g. feeder roads, bulking centres, one stop border posts, energy and ICT infrastructure etc.) along transport corridors. This will entail dedicated team in COMESA with the responsibility to convene regular stakeholder dialogues. Based on the demands raised through this corridor coordinating mechanism, COMESA will also provide technical support and matching grants to Member States, to promote implementation of enabling policies (e.g. responsible investment promotion and land-use policies; procedures to enable cross-border contract farming; support measures targeting SMEs; trade reforms etc.).

#### D.2.4. **Intervention Area 2.4. Improved regulatory environment for agricultural trade**

87. **Measure 2.4.1: Implementing trade facilitation measures.** This tool aims to facilitate implementation of trade facilitation measures that can reduce the time and costs of moving goods across borders. COMESA will commission a consultancy to develop and disseminate guidelines on legislation to allow Member States to share customs data collected through the ASYCUDA system with each other (thus reducing duplication of effort at borders). Based on these guidelines, COMESA will also develop a pilot programme, which through matching grants, would support adoption of such legislation and sharing of customs data along 4 borders. At the same time, COMESA will administer a survey in all COMESA Member States to understand their 'Category C' notifications under the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (i.e. those measures requiring technical assistance), and prepare a programme proposal to address common regional needs for technical assistance. Finally, responding to the demands arising from the public-private value chain platforms (Measure 2.1.1) and the corridor coordination mechanism (Measure 2.3.2), COMESA will provide technical assistance through consultancies, and financial assistance through incentive grants, to Member States and regional traders' associations, to fast track implementation of trade protocols and measures (such as the Simplified Trade Regime, Yellow Card, Harmonized Road User Charges, one-stop border posts etc.).

88. **Measure 2.4.2: Strengthen the COMESA SPS regulatory framework and promote harmonisation/ mutual recognition of SPS standards.** This measure aims to reduce barriers to trade resulting from limited harmonization and mutual recognition of SPS standards between COMESA

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<sup>3</sup> Weng, L., et al., Mineral industries, growth corridors and agricultural development in Africa. Global Food Security (2013);

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/51b078a6e4b0e8d244dd9620/t/5379e845e4b075c0a11a10ea/1400498245724/Weng+et+al.+2013.pdf>

Member States. This will be accomplished through activities at multiple levels. COMESA will commission a consultancy and validation workshop to fully align the COMESA SPS regulatory framework and the WTO SPS Agreement. At the same time, COMESA will convene workshops to build the capacity of at least 19 Member States representatives in the COMESA SPS Technical Committee, on obligations under the WTO SPS Agreement and on standards developed by the three international standard-setting bodies. COMESA will also commission studies and validation workshops to develop at least 3 harmonized SPS standards for priority value chains and emerging regional hazards. Lastly, in response to demands arising from the regional public-private value chain platforms (Measure 2.1.1), COMESA will convene studies to assess specific SPS-related non-tariff barriers to trade and recommend solutions for harmonization and mutual recognition. Based on these recommendations, COMESA will also provide incentive grants to at least 8 Member States (2 per value chain platform) to mutually recognize/ adopt harmonized SPS standards.

89. **Measure 2.4.3: Promote stability and predictability of agricultural trade policy interventions.** The objective of this measure is to promote transparent, stable, predictable and evidence-based policies affecting agricultural trade in the COMESA region. COMESA will convene at least 2 high-level policy dialogue events, along with studies to serve as the basis for these dialogues – with parliamentarians, governments, and representatives of the private sector, on policies to promote a transparent, stable and predictable enabling environment for agricultural trade. COMESA will also establish a Rapid Response Mechanism to respond to export restrictions, by convening dialogue among relevant Member states, traders’ and farmers’ associations, to present evidence on food prices and availability, and provide a forum for discussing viable solutions to the food security concerns that triggered the restrictions. In response to demands from the regional public-private value chain platforms, COMESA would also commission consultancies to provide technical assistance to at least 4 Member States, on the implications of trade policy interventions on food prices, availability and food security, and obligations of Member States under regional and multilateral trade agreements.

#### **D.2.5. Intervention Area 5. Improved capacities of SPS laboratories**

90. **Measure 2.5.1. Upgrading Regional SPS Reference laboratories.** This measure aims to enhance the capacities of the regional laboratories to offer additional diagnostic services, and to establish clear modalities for the use of the laboratories by COMESA Member States. COMESA will support the upgrading of the 3 reference labs in terms of equipment and accredited diagnostic services through incentive grant. COMESA will also commission a consultancy and validation workshop to design and adopt the modalities for Member States to access the regional laboratories’ services.

91. **Measure 2.5.2: Strengthening and accrediting satellite SPS laboratories.** This measure aims to upgrade the capacities of strategically located existing satellite laboratories in COMESA Member States (particularly those relevant to priority regional agro-food value chains), and support their accreditation. COMESA will support the upgrading of at least 5 satellite laboratories in terms of equipment and accredited diagnostic services through an incentive/grant.

#### **D.3. RIPA 3: Reducing social and economic vulnerability and enhanced resilience and food and nutrition security**

##### **D.3.1. Intervention area1: Strengthening Regional coordination and linkage to information and knowledge for mitigating transboundary hazards and risks.**

92. **Measure 3.1.1: Facility for establishing harmonized systems for regional early warning and response preparedness.** This facility will support the improvement of emergency response preparedness at COMESA and member state level. To achieve this, COMESA will commission profiling of regional risks and hazards and establish a Regional database of same. The secretariat will also engage multidisciplinary teams to develop hazard/risk specific harmonized early warning,

surveillance and response tools and upon request provide incentive grants to member states for establishing national portals which will feed into the regional web based portal for early warning, surveillance and response system. The facility will also enable COMESA to offer technical assistance to member states to implement the harmonised tools and build the capacity of Disaster and Risk management offices. Emergency funds will be established at both regional and member state level. The key implementation partners will include: Universities and Research institutions, Centres of Excellence, Private sector players and relevant government departments.

93. **Measure 3.1.2: Facility for enhancing social protection systems.** This facility will support sharing lessons on locally provisioned social protection mechanisms including social safety nets for victims of epidemics to empower member states to design more appropriate social protection policy implementation measures. At the regional level, COMESA will fund

- a. the packaging of information on best practices on social protection implementation policy measures/tools and use existing web based portals and other fora to disseminate the packaged information.
- b. It will also fund and convene periodic gathering/conferences to share lessons on successful social protection implementation policy measures/tools. Member states will request and access technical assistance (through incentive grant) to design and implement social protection policy implementation measures.

### **D.3.2. Developing and implementing regional risk management tools and systems covering policy, hazards, and financial aspects.**

94. **Measure 3.2.1: Facility to assist member states to set up risk management measures in agriculture.** This facility is structured to encourage COMESA member states to develop and implement risk management systems/measures covering risk sharing tools which incentivize development of innovative insurance products that enable farmers to access credit. To achieve this COMESA will;

- a. commission development of frameworks for mapping and assessing risks and associated risk premiums,
- b. provide technical assistance to member states in mapping/evaluating/assessing risks and associated risk premiums/risk management measures in agricultural value chains,
- c. fund periodic conferences to share lessons on risk management measures, products and best practices,
- d. Package information on risk management products and disseminate it through existing web portals and other fora.
- e. The facility will also allow COMESA to provide incentives in form of incentive grants to encourage member states to implement schemes and measures to encourage companies to take up insurance business and roll out innovative risk management products in agriculture. Upon request COMESA will cover costs of technical assistance on design and implementation of risk management products.

95. **Measure 3.2.2: Facility to assist member states improve response to climate change.** This facility aims to assist member states to develop and adopt climate smart innovations and facilitate access to climate financing for enhanced response to climate change. At the regional level, COMESA through regional centres of excellence and universities will commission a regional research program whose findings will be packaged and used in implementing a lobbying and advocacy strategy to negotiate with global players on climate finance issues. Additionally, member states will generate and adopt climate smart innovations following which COMESA will provide financial incentives to countries which have put in place measures to facilitate development and application of climate smart innovations and to

discourage use of non-climate smart innovations. Through COMESA technical facility, member states will receive assistance to enhance their negotiation skills and for applying for climate financing.

### **D.3.3. Strengthening bio-security systems for food safety to control hazards**

96. **Measure 3.3.1: Facility for strengthening biosecurity systems.** The objective of this facility is to strengthen the COMESA biosecurity system which will be achieved by establishing a regional biosecurity fund, developing regional biosecurity standards and guidelines, building technical capacity in member states and generating knowledge to address critical gaps. The key players include centres of excellence as well as the public and private sectors. The implementation modalities will include: COMESA commissioning experts, covering training costs of biosecurity experts and subsidising member states to upgrade their biosecurity infrastructure.

### **D.3.4. Promoting and engendering food safety and nutrition as well as high impact nutrition interventions**

97. **Measure 3.4.1: Facility to improve awareness creation on food quality, safety and biosecurity.** This facility will support COMESA member states to raise literacy in food quality, biosafety and biosecurity at all levels including; producers, transporters, processors, traders, consumers and policy makers. At regional level COMESA will commission experts to develop a food safety and biosecurity literacy campaign program while member states will launch literacy campaigns on food safety and biosecurity. Cost related to the campaigns will be subsidized by COMESA (through incentive grants) and the key partners will include the private sector, universities and research institutions, public health, education and health, bureaus of standards and safety institutions.

98. **Measure 3.4.2: Facility to support high impact nutrition interventions and knowledge sharing on promotion of nutrition.** The facility will support member states in the implementation of high impact nutrition interventions and best practices. Deliverables will include; guidelines and packaged information/knowledge products on high impact nutrition interventions. Information sharing platforms and a mechanism for making countries take up recommended interventions. COMESA will commission development and packaging of guidelines and specific knowledge and information products and use existing web based portals and other fora to disseminate. It will use incentive grants to encourage countries to take up recommended high impact nutrition interventions.

## **D.4. RIPA 4: Sound coordination of RAIP implementation of and effective mainstreaming of cross-cutting issues**

### **D.4.1. Mainstreaming gender and age effectively the implementation of RAIP**

99. **Measure 4.1.1: Gender and age mainstreaming:** This measure will facilitate the integration of gender and age issues into regional interventions as well as the mitigation of gender and age-related vulnerability and marginalization. At the regional level, this will be achieved through developing information and knowledge on improved gender and age mainstreaming policies, strategies and measures and facilitating their adoption. At the national level, the facility will facilitate design of policy measures to mainstream gender and age issues into interventions aiming at combating maternal and child malnutrition, and promoting better nutrition. The facility will also facilitate monitoring and evaluation of gender and age mainstreaming outcomes at both the regional and national levels.

### **D.4.2. Strengthening human and institutional capacity**

100. **Measure 4.2.1 strengthening institutional capacity:** The measure aims to enhance the capacity the COMESA Secretariat and key regional institutions to effectively implement the RAIP. At the regional level, the facility will facilitate development and adoption as well as the running of the RAIP accountability system. It will also strengthen the capacity of staff (training) from the COMESA

Secretariat and regional institutions (EAFF, SACAU, FANPRAN, ASARECA, RUFORUM, RESAKSS, regional NGOs....) in implementing the RAIP accountability system and using the software and manual. In collaboration with the World Bank it will also support the establishment of regional centres of excellence (research institutions) on a phased-program basis. At the national level, the facility will strengthen the capacity of staff (training) from national partner institutions in implementing the RAIP accountability system by using the software and manual.

#### **D.4.3. Strengthening regional information and knowledge management system**

101. **Measure 4.3.1: Regional information and knowledge management system:** The measure will enable COMESA to develop and operate of a regional information and knowledge management system which is linked to various affiliated national level agencies. This will be achieved through establishment and operation of a regional information system in a web-portal. The facility will also facilitate capacity building through equipment, software and training of the regional and national agencies affiliated to the system.

#### **D.4.4. Effective resource mobilisation for corridor initiatives, transboundary trade and infrastructure projects**

102. **Measure 4.4.1: Resource mobilization for corridor initiatives, transboundary trade and infrastructure development:** This measure will enable COMESA to mobilize additional resources to supplement national efforts in the development of corridor initiatives, transboundary trade and infrastructure development. At both the regional and national level this will be achieved through additional resource mobilization from the private sector and development partners. The facility will facilitate review and map current level of resources from private sector and development partners, identify any additional sources, develop investment proposals and facilitate monitoring of progress of resource mobilisation at both levels.

#### **D.4.5. Effective sound coordination of RAIP**

103. **Measure 4.5.1: RAIP coordination:** This measure will strengthen the coordination of implementation of RAIP. It will enable COMESA to coordinate various linked components such as planning, monitoring and evaluation, financial management, reporting for harmonization and alignment of interventions by different players at both regional and national levels, including the donors. This will be achieved through enhancing staff and operational capacities, facilitating regular meetings with key stakeholders, and capacity building of taskforces and working groups. It will also facilitate effective coordination among partner institutions and the broader development communities by facilitating timely sharing of information, capacity building of partner institutions and monitoring reporting. The facility will also enhance the effectiveness of coordination among the task forces of the RECS to enhance success of the tripartite process as well as capacity building of country teams.

### **E. BUDGETS**

104. The Estimated budget to roll out the RAIP is **USD\$ 19,154,865**. The budget showing the estimated amounts for each RIPA is summarised in the table below, while a detailed activity budget is presented in the **annexure 2**.

**Table 1: Summary of RAIP Budget**

<b>SUMMAR Budget RAIP</b>						
	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>RIPA 1</b>	633,800	805,500	348,900	210,800	463,100	<b>2,494,900</b>

<b>RIPA 2</b>	1,960,000	1,685,000	600,000	1,090,000	365,000	<b>5,500,000</b>
<b>RIPA 3</b>	1,113,278	1,771,403	1,549,478	1,370,478	1,145,991	<b>6,950,628</b>
<b>RIPA 4</b>	563,591	1,378,010	711,200	382,200	337,200	<b>3,297,201</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,270,669</b>	<b>5,639,913</b>	<b>3,209,578</b>	<b>3,053,478</b>	<b>2,311,291</b>	<b>18,242,729</b>
<b>Imprévu (5%)</b>	213,533	281,996	160,479	152,674	115,565	<b>912,136</b>
<b>TOTAL RAIP</b>	<b>4,484,202</b>	<b>5,921,909</b>	<b>3,370,057</b>	<b>3,206,152</b>	<b>2,426,856</b>	<b>19,154,865</b>

## **F. INSTITUTIONAL, ORGANISATIONAL AND GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES**

### **F.1. Overview of Institutional Structure to Implement the RAIP**

105. At the Regional level, a number of institutions will have specific roles in the implementation including the COMESA Council of Ministers and its technical committees, Regional COMESA RAIP Stakeholder Forum (RSF), Stakeholder Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), and the COMESA secretariat and its institutions, national level CAADP steering and partnership platforms, and Taskforces.

106. At the national level, the implementation of COMESA RAIP activities will be driven through the national CAADP partnership steering and partnership platforms in each country.

#### **F.1.1. Steering and consultation mechanisms**

##### **At Regional Level**

107. **The overall steering and fiduciary oversight of the RAIP** resides in the *COMESA Council of Ministers and the relevant technical committees*. The COMESA Council of Ministers takes decisions on the secretariat's programmes and activities and approves the Secretariat's budgets, including monitoring and review of the secretariats financial and administrative management. There are 12 Technical Committees, namely, on Administrative and Budgetary Matters; on Agriculture; on Comprehensive Information Systems; on Energy; on Finance and Monetary Affairs; on Industry; on Labour, Human Resources and Social Affairs; on Legal Affairs; on Natural Resources and Environment; on Tourism and Wildlife; on Trade and Customs; and on Transport and Communications. The Technical Committees are responsible for the preparation of comprehensive implementation programs and monitoring their implementation and then making recommendations to the Council.

108. **Consultative Platform.** The *Regional Stakeholders Forum (RSF)* will act as a consultative platform to provide direction and guidance on sector priorities, policy issues, and feedback on regional CAADP implementation and is linked to the Consultative Committee of the Business Community and other Interest Groups. The COMESA Secretariat assumes the responsibility of constituting and convening the Regional Stakeholder Forum. It will be constituted with membership drawn from the following stakeholder groups: (i) Regional Farmers' Organizations such as SACAU, EAFF, and Regional Producer Organizations; (ii) Private sector (East African Grain Council (EAGC), COMESA Business Council, etc); (iii) Development Partners; (iv) Research Organizations; (v) Implementing Partners; (vi) NGOs; (vii) Training organizations; (viii) Media; (ix) Governments (national e.g. Ministry of Agriculture – CAADP focal persons); and (x) Other Regional Economic Communities (RECs).

109. **Stakeholder Technical Advisory Committee.** The COMESA Secretariat will constitute and convene a regional Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). The Purpose of the TAC will to ensure that the decisions and implementation thereof draws from analytical evidence and that regional projects are responding to sensible regional priorities. In addition, the TAC ensures that new projects are designed, monitored and evaluated according to the CAADP principles and the priorities in the RIPA. The TAC will be a key source of information for the indicators and variables in the RAIP results framework. The TAC will be constituted by membership from key technical agencies as follows: (i) Technical agencies



within COMESA secretariat; (ii) Africa Union and Regional Economic Communities Technical Agencies; (iii) United Nations Technical Agencies; (iv) Centres of Excellence; and (v) CGIARs centres.

110. **Specialised Taskforces.** From time to time, COMESA Secretariat with the advice from the TAC and RSF may constitute specialised RAIP taskforces to deal with specific issues. The COMESA Secretariat will be responsible for defining the Terms of Reference for these specialised taskforces, resourcing them and ensuring that they deliver.

#### **At National Level**

111. The implementation of COMESA RAIP activities at national level will articulate and fit within the existing national level CAADP partnership platforms and steering committees.

### **F.1.2. Implementation arrangements**

#### **At Regional Level**

112. The COMESA secretariat and its institutions assumes the role of implementing agency for the RAIP. The Secretariat and its institutions will be responsible for day to day implementation of activities, developing new programmes and projects, reporting, implementation capacity building and ensuring strong collaborations with the member states, RSF, TAC, RECs as well as taskforces.

113. Internally, the CAADP unit within the Division of Industry and Agriculture within COMESA will enter into specific delivery agreements/arrangements in line with COMESA administrative rules with all other internal institutions (ACTESA, CBC, etc) to ensure delivery of RAIP results for the specific interventions residing in each of these internal units and institutions.

114. Depending on the nature of the intervention, COMESA Secretariat will interface with each of the stakeholders and service providers in different ways: contractual arrangements with service providers, memorandum of understanding or Letter of Agreement with Partner Agencies at regional and national levels.

#### **At national level**

115. For activities under Member States competencies, all the implementation arrangements will be channelled and coordinated through the existing national level CAADP institutions

## **F.2. The RAIP accountability system**

### **F.2.1. Overview**

116. The aim of the RAIP accountability system is to build trust among stakeholders while supporting the planning and monitoring of the implementation of the planned measures, as well as the assessment of the achieved results. The system will include a financial management component along with a monitoring and evaluation and reporting components.

### **F.2.2. The financial management component**

117. The Division of Industry and Agriculture will be equipped with a financial management system coherent with the overall COMESA governance system. The financial management component will enable the Secretariat and the Division of Industry and Agriculture to report on the level of expenditure for each of implementation measures under each of the intervention areas and to map the level of expenditures with the percentage of achieved target for each measure. This will also enable to establish the cause to effect link between the implementation measures and the outcomes.

### **F.2.3. The Monitoring and evaluation system**

118. The planning, monitoring and evaluation systems for the Regional Agricultural Investment Plan will broadly be guided by the CAADP/MALABO Results Framework (2015-2025). The CAADP/MALABO results framework emphasizes mutual accountability and Results Based Management.

119. The **objectives** of M&E System are to: (i) monitor the performance of the program and track the effectiveness and use of the policy instruments deployed in the RAIP.

120. The **system** will be designed to enable the Division of Industry and Agriculture assess the level of achievement of: (i) the outputs (targets for implementation measure); (ii) the intermediate outcomes for each intervention area; (iii) the outcomes for each RIPA); and (iv) the final impacts of the RAIP. In that perspective, the RAIP M&E System will define baseline values for all indicators. The system will also track the effectiveness and use of the policy instruments deployed in the RAIP.

121. **Obligations.** The system will clarify the obligations for every participating agency, with regard to data collection, processing and reporting. These obligations will be included in the contractual arrangements with service providers and partner institutions at regional and national levels.

#### **F.2.4. Objectives of the RAIP M&E Systems**

122. The aim is to build trust and inform decision making. The reporting system will clarify the obligations for each player: What kind of report? What content using what indicators? When (periodicity)? To be addressed to who? Under what approval procedures? The reporting system will be designed to put the emphasis on linking expenditure and results (not only the outputs, but also the outcomes).

### **G. SUSTAINABILITY**

123. Firstly, with the instrument-based approach, the implementation of RAIP transcends the action and duration of simple projects. The facilities and measures proposed in the RAIP are the technical and financial instruments that the COMESA will implement over the long term to contribute to sustainable agricultural production and productivity, food security and regional integration, enhanced competitiveness and improved markets and trade of agricultural, livestock, fisheries, and forestry products. Funding from donors will then be directed to help the COMESA implement its own instruments. Periodic evaluations will help to readjust these operational policy measures and improve their performance.

124. Second, accountability of beneficiaries and their commitment to implementing sustainability mechanisms is a guiding principle of the RAIP measures and facilities.

125. Thirdly, the value chain approach focusing on regional corridors favours the sustainability of production, processing and marketing of commodities of regional interest.

### **H. RISKS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

<b>Description and level of risk</b>	<b>Mitigation measures</b>
Delays in the adoption of the RAIP  <i>Risk level: Low</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Quality assurance in the preparation of the RAIP, with the technical assistance of FAO</li> <li>2. Internal consultation on the content of the RAIP within COMESA between different responsible Divisions, Units and Specialized Institutes</li> <li>3. Consultation with COMESA member States and other relevant external stakeholders to ensure relevance to and</li> </ol>

	<p>support of Member States and other stakeholders</p> <p>4. Validation by COMESA member states</p>
<p>Inadequate resourcing of the RAIP and its facilities and/or delays in mobilising financial resources for the RAIP</p> <p><i>Risk level: Medium to high</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensure high visibility of the RAIP and advocate for its importance</li> <li>2. Consultation with COMESA member states on financing the RAIP</li> <li>3. Consultation with development partners on financing the RAIP</li> <li>4. Consultation with private sector on financing the RAIP</li> <li>5. Technical support from FAO for the preparation of funding requests and/or a resource mobilisation schemes</li> </ol>
<p>Failure to identify and/or engage appropriate partners for implementation of the RAIP and its constituent Programmes</p> <p><i>Risk level: Low to Medium</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Analysis and stakeholder mapping of all RAIP intervention areas</li> <li>2. Consultation with external stakeholders</li> </ol>
<p>Lack of human resource capacity in COMESA Secretariat and/or other COMESA institutions to coordinate RAIP implementation</p> <p><i>Risk level: Medium to high</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensure sufficient dedicated staffing of the COMESA Secretariat and relevant COMESA institutions for coordinating RAIP implementation</li> </ol>

## ANNEXES

### Annex 1: Results framework

#### Annex 1.1: Impact indicators

RAIP											
<u>Development Objective (PDO):</u>											
To contribute to sustainable agricultural production and productivity, food security and regional integration, enhanced competitiveness and improved markets and trade of agricultural, livestock, fisheries, and forestry products (through better policy coordination, policy implementation and budget support for agriculture, forestry and fisheries)											
Outcome Indicators (OI)	Unit of Measure	Baseline	Cumulative Target Values*					Frequency	Data Source/ Methodology	Responsibility for Data Collection	Description (indicator definition etc.)
			YR 1	YR 2	YR3	YR 4	YR5				
<b>Outcome 1: Improved agricultural production and productivity, with a focus on food crops, livestock, fisheries and forest produce</b>											
<i>OI.1.1: Growth in productivity in select regional commodities (in crops, livestock and forestry and fisheries)</i>	<i>Percentage change of Kgs/Ha (crops), Kg/animal (livestock), volume (fisheries)</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>15%</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>25%</i>	<i>Annual</i>	<i>FAOSTATS &amp; National Agriculture Statistics</i>	<i>COMESA Secretariat</i>	<i>The percentage change in productivity for select regional agro food value chains (percentage change of crops Kgs/Ha, kg/animal for livestock and volume for aquaculture and capture fisheries)</i>

<i>OI.1.2: Annual percentage growth in agricultural value added</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>Annual</i>	<i>World bank &amp; National Agriculture Statistics</i>	<i>COMESA Secretariat</i>	<i>This indicator measures the percentage growth in value addition of agricultural products produced and traded. Value addition can be a result of processing, innovation, efficiency, as well as storage and distribution.</i>
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**RIPA 2: TRADE**

**Outcome 2: Reduced barriers to agricultural trade and improved male and female farmers' linkages to markets, with a focus on corridors**

<i>OI.2.1: Increase in value of intra- regional agricultural trade</i>	<i>Value of intra- regional agricultural trade</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>Annual</i>	<i>COMTRADE / COMSTAT</i>	<i>COMESA Secretariat</i>	<i>Growth in the value of intra-regional agricultural trade should indicate the extent to which barriers to regional trade have been reduced</i>
<i>OI.2.2: Increase in share of male and female smallholder farmers participating in regional value chains</i>	<i>Share of smallholders using the Simplified Trade Regime</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>Annual</i>	<i>Survey data; STR Reports/ Database</i>	<i>COMESA Secretariat</i>	<i>Share of male and female smallholders using the STR is a proxy indicator for the share of male and female smallholders participating in regional value chains, since it is expected that an exact estimate of male and female smallholders participating in regional value chains is information that is not readily available.</i>

<i>OI.2.3: Decrease in non-tariff barriers to regional agricultural trade</i>	Number of agriculture-related NTBs reported and not yet resolved	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	Annual	COMESA Online NTB Reporting Mechanism; Trade and customs committee reports	COMESA Secretariat	A reduction in the number of NTBs that persist (i.e. Number of NTBs reported minus the number of NTBs resolved) should indicate the extent to which barriers to trade have been reduced. This is however a proxy indicator as it relies on the level of reporting on the online NTB Monitoring Mechanism
<b>RIPA 3: RESILIENCE AND NUTIRTION</b>											
<b>Outcome 3: Reduced social and economic vulnerability and enhanced resilience and food and nutrition security</b>											
<i>OI.3.1: Reduction in number of food insecure people</i>	<b>percentage</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>	TBD	TBD	Annual	FAO/Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS)	Member states, COMESA,	Measured through the average dietary energy supply adequacy

## Annex 1.2: Intermediate Outcome indicators

RIPA 1: PRODUCTION AND PRODUCTIVITY											
Outcome 1: Improved agricultural production and productivity, with a focus on food crops, livestock, fisheries and forest produce											
Intermediate Outcome Indicators (IOI)	Unit of Measure	Baseline	Cumulative Target Values*					Frequency	Data Source/ Methodology (for verifying the indicator)	Responsibility for Data Collection	Description (indicator definition etc.)
			YR 1	YR 2	YR3	YR 4	YR5				
Intermediate Outcome 1: Strengthened regional generation and dissemination of agricultural knowledge and technology											
IOI.1 Number of gender sensitive management practices, innovations and technologies adopted in the production, preservation and processing of agricultural products in regional agro food value chains	Number	TBD	n.a.	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	Annual	Survey conducted via the regional value chain platforms and directly at national level for specified regional agro food value chains	COMESA Secretariat	This indicator measures both the generation (or fabrication) and innovation of agricultural knowledge and technology, as well as dissemination and uptake thereof by regional agro food value chain actors
Intermediate Outcome 2: Strengthened regional input quality, availability and accessibility											

<b>IOI.4</b> Number of male and female smallholder farmers, in particular in regional agro-food value chains, accessing improved quality inputs and services (e.g. fertilisers, seeds, artificial insemination, pesticides)	Number	TBD	n.a.	10%	15%	20%	25%	Annual	Survey, together with FAOStats (for Fertilisers & Pesticide) and National Agricultural Statistics	COMESA Secretariat	The indicator measures the improved quality and availability of agricultural inputs, as well as the accessibility of these inputs to male and female smallholder farmers
<b>Intermediate Outcome 3: Promotion of sustainable (trans-boundary) natural resources (water, land, forestry, fisheries) management practices</b>											
<b>IOI.2</b> Number of countries that have strengthened institutional frameworks for water resource development and management, based on agreed criteria	Number	TBD	n.a.	5	7	9	12	Annual	Survey based on agreed criteria; National statistics on irrigation	COMESA Secretariat	Criteria to measure strengthened institutional framework can include: Integrated water resource planning; private sector participation; closed financing loop, from service user to service provider; male and female beneficiaries sharing in the costs of irrigation development; male and female farmers'





IOI.5 Number of agricultural finance and micro-insurance products and services offered to male and female smallholders, MSME processors and traders of regional agro food value chains	Number	TBD	n.a.	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	Annual	Survey of regional and national financial institutions servicing regional agro food value chains	COMESA Secretariat	The indicator measures the increase in the provision of appropriate financial and micro-insurance products and services offered by regional and national financial institutions to regional agro food value chain actors (male and female smallholder farmers, MSME processors and traders)
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## RIPA 2: Reducing barriers to agricultural trade and improving farmers' linkages to markets, with a focus on corridors

### Outcome 2: Reduced barriers to agricultural trade and improved farmers' linkages to markets, with a focus on corridors

Intermediate Outcome Indicators (IOI)	Unit of Measure	Baseline	Cumulative Target Values					Frequency	Data Source / Methodology (for verifying the indicator)	Responsibility for Data Collection	Description (indicator definition etc.)
			YR 1	YR 2	YR3	YR 4	YR5				
<b>Intermediate Outcome 2.1: Enhanced private sector participation in regional public-private dialogue to promote the development of regional agro-food value chains</b>											
<i>IOI.2.1.1: Regional public-private value chain platforms established and operational</i>	Number of platforms	0	1	1	2	3	4	Annual	Communication from COMESA	COMESA Secretariat	Description of platform (value chain focus, geographical scope, composition of participants, etc.)

<b>Intermediate Outcome 2.2: Improved market information systems and systems for aggregation of male and female smallholders' production at borders and their integration in regional markets and regional value chains</b>											
<i>IOI.2.2.1: Relevant AgMIS in the region documented by and/or linked to COMESA's regional AgMIS portal</i>	Number of AgMIS documented by and/or linked to COMESA's regional AgMIS portal	0	0	0	0	???	???	Annual	Monitoring of the COMESA regional AgMIS portal	COMESA Secretariat / ACTESA	Detailed list of all AgMIS documented by and/or linked to the COMESA AgMIS portal
<i>IOI.2.2.2: Increased in public-private partnerships to promote smallholder aggregation in the COMESA region</i>	Number of public-private partnerships for smallholder aggregation supported by COMESA / ACTESA	??	??	??	??+1	??+2	??+3	Annual	Communication from COMESA / ACTESA	COMESA Secretariat / ACTESA	Information on the nature the public-private partnership and COMESA's / ACTESA's involvement in it
<b>Intermediate Outcome 2.3: Improved state of infrastructure for agricultural along transport corridors</b>											
<i>IOI.2.3.1: Number of project preparation and feasibility studies completed to support agricultural trade infrastructure development along transport corridors</i>	Number	??	0	1	1	2	2	Annual	Communication from COMESA Secretariat/ Regional Investment Agency	COMESA Secretariat/ COMESA RIA	The project preparation and feasibility studies will be conducted based on a report (on the gaps in agricultural trade along corridors) which will be completed in Year 1. The project preparation studies indicate progress on gap analysis and infrastructure development planning.

<i>IOI.2.3.2: Number of Member States implementing enabling policies for agricultural trade infrastructure development along corridors</i>	Number	0	0	0	1	2	3	Annual	Communication from COMESA	COMESA Secretariat	A corridor coordination mechanism will be established in year 1, forming the basis for identification of policy gaps. This indicator measures the extent to which the mechanism is successful in engaging policy makers and supporting implementation of enabling policies.
<b>Intermediate Outcome 2.4: Improved regulatory environment for agricultural trade</b>											
<i>IOI.2.4.1: Number of borders where Member States are sharing customs data, and have adopted enabling legislations</i>	Number	??	0	1	2	3	4	Annual	Communication from COMESA; Pilot programme report/ survey of customs authorities	COMESA Secretariat	Guidelines on legislation to allow sharing of customs data will be prepared and disseminated in year 1, and a pilot programme covering 4 borders will be initiated. This indicator measures the successful implementation of the pilot programme.
<i>IOI.2.4.2: Number of Member States mutually recognising/ adopting harmonised SPS standards</i>	Number	??	1	2	4	6	8	Annual	Communication from COMESA	COMESA Secretariat	COMESA will support the development of harmonised SPS standards, as well as support analysis and dialogue for promoting mutual recognition of SPS standards (particularly in response to demands arising from the value chain platforms). This indicator measures the extent to which SPS standards are harmonised or mutually recognised among Member States as a result of this effort.

<i>IOI.2.4.3: Number of Member States with improved technical capacities on the implications of trade and trade policy for food security, and on obligations under trade agreements</i>	Number	??	0	1	2	3	4	Annual	Communication from COMESA	COMESA Secretariat	COMESA will convene a number of policy dialogues and technical workshops to promote a transparent, stable and predictable enabling environment for trade, particularly among Member States involved in the regional public-private value chain platforms. This indicator measures the successful implementation of COMESA's capacity development activities on promoting evidence-based decision making.
<b>Intermediate Outcome 2.5: Strengthened capacities of SPS laboratories</b>											
<i>IOI.2.5.1: Number of reference laboratories for which additional diagnostic services are certified</i>	Number	??	0	1	2	3	3	Annually	Database/ reports of reference regional labs and accreditation bodies.	COMESA Secretariat	Number of diagnostic services indicates the strengths of SPS lab capacities, in conducting analysis on SPS issues that are relevant for agricultural trade
<i>IOI.2.5.2: Number of satellite laboratories upgraded and accredited</i>	Number	??	1	2	3	4	5	Annually	Databases/ reports of satellite labs and accreditation bodies.	Data collection by National governments; COMESA Secretariat analysis	Number of upgraded and accredited satellite labs indicates the extent to which satellite labs have strengthened capacities to deliver diagnostic services in the sub-regions, such that it eases the traffic for the regional labs

<b>RIPA 3: RESILIENCE AND NUTRITION</b>											
<b>Outcome 3: Reduced social and economic vulnerability and enhanced resilience and food and nutrition security</b>											
Intermediate Outcome Indicators (IOI)	Unit of Measure	Baseline	Cumulative Target Values*					Frequency	Data Source/ Methodology (for verifying the indicator)	Responsibility for Data Collection	Description (indicator definition etc.)
			YR 1	YR 2	YR3	YR 4	YR5				
<b>Intermediate Outcome 3.1: Strengthened regional coordination and linkages to information and knowledge to mitigate transboundary hazards and risks.</b>											
IOI.3.1											
Implementation effectiveness	Dollars	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	annually	COMESA programmes records	COMESA	Measured through percentage of spending and completion of activities implemented
Functional Regional early warning systems established	Number	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	annually	COMESA Portals	COMESA member states	Measured through number of early warning systems for pests and diseases of animals and plants, food balance sheets, outbreaks of food hazards, climate forecast, etc. established and populated with data collected and disseminated by member states

<b>Intermediate Outcome 3.2: Improved response to climate change in COMESA Region/member states</b>												
IOI.3.2.1												
Male and female farmers in COMESA member states adopting climate smart practices and technologies including climate smart agriculture	number	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	annually	COMESA	COMESA	Measures number of countries implementing policy measures to facilitate implementation of climate smart technologies
IOI.3.2.2 COMESA member states accessing climate financing	number	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	annually	COMESA secretariat	FAO	Measures number of countries applying and accessing global climate finances
<b>Intermediate Outcome 3.3: Strengthened Biosecurity systems for food safety</b>												
IOI.3.3 COMESA member states reporting outbreaks of pests and diseases of animals and plants and food hazards.	Number	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	annually	OIE, CODEX, COMESA Secretariat, IAPSC, IPPC	COMESA Secretariat	Measures use of the regional early warning system

Intermediate Outcome 3.4. Food safety and high impact nutrition interventions promoted and engendered												
IOI.3.4 Reduction in number of malnourished people in COMESA Region	percentage	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	annually	FAO/Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS)	Member states, COMESA secretariat	Reduction in number of malnourished children, youth women and men expressed as percentage. Measures number of undernourished including; stunted growth, wasting, micronutrient deficiencies