



PROCEEDINGS REPORT

PARLIAMENTARY POLICY SEMINAR TO REVIEW THE IMPACT OF IMPORT AND EXPORT BANS ON FOOD SECURITY IN EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA



11-12th August 2014,
Intercontinental Hotel, Lusaka Zambia

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACTESA	ALLIANCE FOR COMMODITY TRADE IN EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA
AUC	AFRICAN UNION
CAADP	COMPREHENSIVE AFRICAN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
COMESA	COMMON MARKET FOR EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA
EAGC	EASTERN AFRICA GRAIN COUNCIL
ESA	EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA
DFID	DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
FAO	FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION
FEWSNET	FAMINE EARLY WARNING SYSTEM
FT-ESA	FOOD TRADE EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA
GTAZ	GRAIN TRADERS ASSOCIATION OF ZAMBIA
IFAD	INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
MPs	MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT
IFPRI	INTERNATIONAL FOOD POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE
MSs	MEMBER STATES
MIS	MARKET INFORMATION SYSTEMS
NEPAD	NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT
NTBs	NON TARIFF BARRIERS
ReSAKSS	REGIONAL STRATEGIC AND KNOWLEDGE SUPPORT SYSTEMS
SAFEX	SOUTH AFRICAN AGRICULTURAL EXCHANGE
SPS	SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY
UNECA	UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
USAID	UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
WB	WORLD BANK
WFP	WORLD FOOD PROGRAM
WRS	WAREHOUSE RECEIPT SYSTEMS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report presents the proceedings of the Parliamentary Policy Seminar on **“Reviewing the Impact of Import and Export Bans on Food Security in Eastern and Southern Africa”** held on 11-12th August 2014 in Lusaka Zambia.

The aim of the Parliamentary Seminar was to bring together stakeholders to review the regional food security situation in the context of agricultural and food trade policy and specifically the impact that import and export bans have on food security with a view to recommending alternative policy options for COMESA member states as well as finding ways to make policy making more inclusive and participatory for non-state actors.

. The Seminar was organized by the Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa- a specialized agency of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and was sponsored by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) of the Australian Government as well the Food Trade Eastern s and Southern Africa project funded by DFID. We appreciate the crucial support rendered.

COMESA–ACTESA would like to gratefully acknowledge all the partners especially the members of the Host Country Steering Committee including IAPRI who spearheaded the development of the Synthesis Paper that formed the core of the Seminar agenda, IFAD who met the costs of Workshop facilitation, and the NEPAD Business Foundation–Zambia for mobilizing country teams. Gratitude is also due to RESAKSS–ECA and FEWSNET as well as UNECA for their technical support. We want also to thank the FAO Regional office (Harare) through Zambia Country Office, WFP Zambia country office, the Grain Traders Association of Zambia (GTAZ) for their active participation during the preparation and hosting of the Seminar.

In importantly, we thank all the participants–Honorable Members of Parliament, Permanent Secretaries and other senior government officials as well as Private sector actors for their valuable time and active engagement in the deliberations of the workshop. Equally, we appreciate the efforts of the Facilitator Prof. Oliver Saasa for ably and effectively guiding the Seminar. I take this opportunity to also thank my colleagues and staff at COMESA–ACTESA for their commitment and time. I wish to single out the Director of Trade and Markets Mr. George Magai and his team of Mr. Jackson Kiraka (the Seminar Rapporteur) and Nelson Chisenga for successfully coordinating this important event. We owe a lot of thanks too to our other staff in Finance and Logistics for a job well done.

Argent Chuula

Chief Executive Officer–ACTESA

BACKGROUND

There has been persistent concern that Africa's place at the high table of food security remains unoccupied largely due to a very challenging and unpredictable agricultural trade policy environment. This explains the minimal investment by private sector players despite the numerous opportunities that exist especially along the food commodity value chains. As a result, production capacity remains low despite a big potential and market infrastructure is at best weak. The inevitable consequences of this scenario include the frequent spate of food insecurity and poor economic performance in the agricultural sector and when big shocks like the 2008 food price crisis and financial meltdown occur, they only help to reveal the soft underbelly of the national economic systems, further destabilizing the majority who depend on agriculture for their livelihoods.

Increasingly, there is growing consensus that creating a more predictable and enabling policy environment could significantly catalyze the regional food security potential. This necessarily shifts the onus to policy makers to realize that their actions or lack thereof, related especially to agriculture and food trade policy have far reaching implications on food security at the national as well as the regional levels. The next step is for policy makers to create more space at the table of policy dialogue so that policy making becomes more inclusive and participatory. Greater participation by the wider stakeholders can only strengthen the process and make the resultant policies easier to implement and monitor. Additionally, it widens the perspective of those involved so that policies become more outward looking. This is important if we are to succeed in creating the requisite policy coherence between the national and regional levels.

The ideal of national laws and regulations being in sync with regional integration aspirations is what the regional economic blocs and other AU level programs like the CAADP seek to achieve. The aim being to remove some of the policy bottlenecks hindering development. In recent times, there have been a number of studies conducted to scope the policy environment and more specifically to review the impact of some of the policy responses by government in the ESA region. The real concern being that for the most part, policy decisions like the banning of exports and imports only help to make a bad situation worse.

While governments resort to these options with the good intention of securing food security at the national level, the unintended results are always counterproductive and only help to worsen the very situation that was to be addressed. Most empirical studies show that the implications of such decisions include market gluts at the producer level, resort to informal trade channels including smuggling, cases of corruption and ultimately higher transaction costs and consumer prices.

In the recent past, a number of organizations have either conducted or funded studies to assess the impact of such policy decisions. Some of these include the USAID, FAO, IFPRI, UNECA and the World Bank (WB) among others. There is therefore sufficient evidence that reflects the negative effects of such policy decision and offer alternative policy options that would safeguard the national food security interests of the countries of the region while allowing their citizens to enjoy the fruits of regional market integration.

However, despite such studies having been done, the outcomes and reports of such studies are accessed by a very small number of users most of whom are outside the purview of policy. Their potential to influence policy decision is thus diminished as a result. There was thus need to synthesize some of the most recent ones into a comprehensive “Evidence Document” that can be used to inform, influence and provide evidence for policy makers.

As part of its program delivery under Research Policy and Advocacy, ACTESA planned to engage members of Parliament from the COMESA region through a roundtable dialogue with a view to bringing to their attention and understanding the implications of the constant trade bans especially on food security in the region. ACTESA as a specialized agency of COMESA is the implementing institution for regional initiatives in strategically important agricultural value chains, trade and investment. Its main focus is to:

- Improve competitiveness and integration of staple foods markets in the region through enhancing and influencing the micro and macro-economic policy environment as the engine for staple food markets;
- Improve and expand market facilities and services for key agricultural commodities; and
- Increase the commercial integration of smallholder farmers into national and regional markets

To achieve its objectives, ACTESA works with the Alliance members as well as partners working within the development and food security space to understand and lobby for a policy environment that enhances development and investment in agricultural value chains. Its interventions focus on developing value chains and key corridors of regional staple foods trade. Developing efficient and effective value chains requires a supportive policy environment that can attract investment in infrastructure to enhance storage, mitigate market risks, and provide market information and the harmonization of grades and standards to ensure access to markets and unfettered flow of trade in staple foods.

ACTESA uses its seat in the various COMESA policy organs to advocate for the interests of the small holder producers and value chain actors most of who are members of the Alliance through national apex farmer organizations.

In line with its mandate, ACTESA (with support from AuSAID now DFAT organized and hosted a roundtable forum for representatives of the Parliamentary Select Committees on Agriculture from several COMESA Member States who mostly resort to trade bans as a policy response for food security.

Strategic Approach

The meeting brought together representatives from the Parliamentary Committees on Agriculture from twelve COMESA member States, Permanent Secretaries from respective Ministries of Agriculture, development partners, and representatives from policy think-tanks as well as private sector for an open consultative meeting which reviewed the regional food security situation in the context of agricultural and food trade policy. Specifically the forum focused on the impact of import/export bans on food security and made appropriate recommendations.

Objectives

The Policy Seminar aimed at achieving the following objectives:

- Provide a platform for open deliberation on key policy issues between governments, parliamentarians and private sector actors
- Bringing the legislators up to speed with the current policy framework/environment in respect of food security
- Bring to light and the attention of the legislators the big picture implication of export/import bans on food staples
- Equipping the legislators with the necessary evidence to become champions for a more enabling regional food trade policy environment given their legislative and oversight role in policy making
- Establish a regional parliamentary network/forum on food security and develop a position paper that will be shared with the COMESA organs as well as decision making authorities in the region and other stakeholders including private sector
- Develop a clear **Action Plan and Road Map** to implement the recommendations from the forum

Expected Outputs

- Stronger partnerships for evidence based advocacy on the agricultural and food trade policy environment
- Regional Parliamentary Networking Forum on agricultural trade policy
- Position Paper/recommendations on Import/Export Bans

Timing

The Parliamentary Seminar on Import and Export Bans is slated to take place in Lusaka from 11-13th August 2014.

Preparations

In preparation for the Seminar, ACTESA launched the Host Country Steering Committee on 20th May 2014 at the COMESA Secretariat. The role of the Committee comprising key partners and players involved in food security and regional trade as well as development was to support and coordinate the planning as well as provide technical backstopping for the Seminar and its agenda.

Another of its roles was the development of a Synthesis Paper based on regional studies related to food and trade policy with specific emphasis on the impact of import and export bans. This took place during a technical partners' workshop held from 29th June to 3rd July 2014. The Synthesis Paper detailing the implications of import and export bans and such other policy related responses on regional trade and food security formed the core agenda of the Parliamentary Seminar.

2. WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS



2.1 Stage-Setting and overall welcome By Prof. Oliver Saasa

The Policy Seminar Facilitator Prof. Oliver Saasa welcomed the guests and laid before them the case for an inclusive and consultative policy making process saying that given that the majority of the populace in the region depended on agriculture for their livelihoods, the policy environment within which they operate was too important not be conducive. He said the spate of recent food price crises could be directly linked to the lack of a proper policy environment.

There was great need for effective policy dialogue that is inclusive and consultative and which results in relevant realistic, coherent and acceptable policy decision that spur rather stifle growth especially that of agricultural production and marketing.

He added that the legislative and regulatory environment that is supportive of policy making – must be in sync with the aspirations of the Regional economic Communities as well as those of the African Union.

Prof. Saasa highlighted some of the low points of trade restrictions.

- Import restrictions only exacerbate the food security situation leading to market gluts, production rigidities, reduced competitiveness , price and quality among other impediments
- Surplus countries find themselves limited/constrained by the bans
- Actors resort to smuggling which leads to corruption and higher costs
- Limited access to food y those who need it as supply is constrained
- Trade bans are underpinned by limited or no access to information ----actors are not privy to available evidence and information

The facilitator then summarized his welcome by laying down the objectives of the Seminar as being:

- To engage Members of Parliament, relevant Permanent Secretaries, think-tank's and private sector in constrictive dialogue
- Equip the players with the necessary evidence to help them support processes that lead to a more enabling food trade policy environment
- Explore the possibility of a regional Network of legislators for an oversight role on matters related to food security. ...
- Develop a clear action plan based on the Seminar's recommendations



2.2 Hon. Ngonga, the Chairman of the Agriculture Committee from the Zambia National Assembly.

welcomed the guests and said as the host Agriculture Committee in conjunction with COMESA, they were honored to participate in the deliberations adding that Zambia was keenly interested in the policy options available as the country was an important player in the food security matrix of the region and was potentially the regional food basket. He said it was important that MPs and other actors present understand what additional role they

needed to play in furthering the interests of the agricultural sector especially the staple foods sub sector.



2.3 Opening remarks by Mr. Chance Kabaghe, Chairman –ReNAPRI

Mr. Kabaghe, thanked COMESA–ACTESA for organizing the important forum saying there was now overwhelming evidence in favor of strong functional markets as the great incentive to increased production in the agricultural sector. He pointed out that the gathering of policy makers from the region in a common forum like the Seminar provided was a rare occurrence and it provided an important opportunity to compare notes on the highly important issue of food security. He said his organization was pleased to work together with others in the region in helping to provide evidence an advocacy towards a more enabling policy environment.

Citing the success in Zambia’s Seed industry, Mr. Kabaghe said the surplus food production potential in the region was too big to ignore only if an appropriate policy framework was put in place.

2.4 Mr. Tim Bergstrom- FT-ESA



The Team Leader at the FoodTrade Eastern and Southern Africa DFID project based in Dar-es Salaam, Tanzania said that his team and the entire project were glad to support regional efforts aimed at achieving “thinner borders and thicker markets especially for staple food commodities including maize and other grains and cereals cereal and pulses. He said FT-ESA which is funded by DFID had set aside about 18m pounds to support these efforts by especially working with and strengthening the capacity of the private sector.

The private sector has the opportunity to access support through FT-ESA’s Challenge Fund aimed at strengthening the private sector efforts in the region. He said the policy environment was very important in alleviating poverty and raising incomes and hence the need to address market access and trade challenges.

He said FT-ESA would support such processes and decisions that lead to impacting the livelihoods of small holder farmers.

2.5 The Seminar's Keynote address.

Was delivered by **Ambassador Kipyego Cheluget, the Assistant Secretary General who represented the COMESA Secretary General Mr. Sindiso Ngwenya**



Ambassador Cheluget said it was a rare opportunity to meet MPS representing various Committees of Agriculture from the COMESA Member states and commended ACTESA for working with the COMESA partners to put together the important forum. He said the Seminar's objectives were quite in line with the AU's CAADP agenda recognizing that agriculture was the

engine for growth in the region. He reiterated the role of ACTESA in capacity strengthening and linking small holder farmers to markets and said it has a crucial role to contribute to the COMESA aspiration of an economically integrated and prosperous region.

He noted that there was a huge potential in the agricultural sector and that the continent needed to build on the momentum it had built over the last decade of growth and that it had the potential to feed the world. He said it was dispiriting to see that Africa was not trading with itself as it should and that the challenges that were faced by small holder farmers including lack of access to markets, storage and transport-infrastructure capacity could be tackled by addressing the bottlenecks in the policy environment.

Ambassador Cheluget commended the delegates and especially the MPS for taking their time to deliberate on the important issue of market access and how it impacted their constituents in the region.

He said a better policy framework needed to be in place given that, most if not all of the countries were now free market economies and decried the fact that despite eleven out of the nineteen MSs being signatories to the FTA, trade bans were still rife in the region, and that it was easier exporting to the outside world than trading with each other in the COMESA region, a situation he said needed to be remedied.

He said forums like the Seminar offered tremendous opportunity and potential for actors to forge strategic partnerships that strengthen evidence-based regional trade policy advocacy to help bring down the trade barriers. He said that COMESA-ACTESA was committed to work with the MSs to share all the necessary information that would support producers and other actors in improving productivity and access markets at all levels.

2.6 Official Opening

The Policy Seminar was officially opened by Hon. Greyford Monde, Assistant Minister for Agriculture who represented the Minister, Hon. Simuusa.



In his remarks, Hon. Monde thanked COMESA –ACTESA for organizing the Seminar and said achieving food security was a global challenge and that is why it is embodied under the UN Millennium development goals. As such efforts like the one expressed y COMESA MSs towards addressing foods security were of value to the global food security agenda. He

said the developed world had designed such interventions as targeted welfare support –food aid, food stamps in order to alleviate hunger. He said however that this part of the world still faced myriad challenges on food security and still had some distance to cover in resolving the issue. He cited the high poverty levels in Sub Saharan Africa underpinned by an underdeveloped agriculture sector (lack of value addition, low technology adoption, poor post-harvest management among others) as being a big challenge that governments faced and especially given that about 99% of agriculture is still rain fed.

He said in order to rise to the next level of agricultural productivity, there was need to address emerging issues like climate change and improve adoption of agricultural technology. He said although the markets are now liberalized, investment along the value chains was still below par that is why actors and especially the small holder farmers still faced input access constraints, lack of market information, poor storage infrastructure, among others. He said resolving market access challenges would be a big incentive especially for countries like Zambia which had a huge food surplus potential an gave the example of the current marketing season when over 3m MT are expected about only half of which is required for domestic consumption. He said an open the regional market would be a big incentive to Zambian farmers.

The Minister urged players in the sector to work towards a coordinated information sharing mechanism and said an inclusive regional committee that would offer advice on Food security issues was a most welcome idea. He said that as government, they looked forward to the policy options that would be put on the table after Seminar and thanked COMESA –ACTESA for organizing the regional Seminar.

After the official opening, the various Parliamentary delegations were introduced by their leaders of delegations.

SUMMARY OF SYNTHESIS PAPER PRESENTATIONS

The first of the three main presentations (all based on the Synthesis Paper) was made by Dr.



Joseph Karugia of ReSAKSS. Titled **Food Security & Trade in Food Staples in COMESA Region, Dr. Karugia** sought to set the stage for “what is and what could be” in terms of the regional food security potential. He pointed out that while trends seemed to show a percentage increase in food production, it was more as a result of production expanded area rather than an increase in productivity. He highlighted the numbers of those still going hungry and said while the situation was dire, there was hope for change if appropriate productivity enhancing technologies were adopted.

He said general trends pointed to:

- Volatile food prices over the recent past
- Reactive policy responses by the authorities and
- A Persistently severe food crisis with millions still facing hunger and starvation
- Amidst all these, a great regional potential that is still not unleashed

The presenter indicated that while there were provisions under WTO and the treaties of the RECS for trade regulation, countries which unilaterally took such measures to ban trade under the guise of protecting national food security only ended up hurting the greater good of their own people and only helped to derail the aspirations of regional integration and expanded markets.

He made the case for regional trade saying pointing out some of the many positives including:

- Achieving economies of scale in agricultural investments
- Internalizing the international externalities of investment in agricultural development
- Giving coherence to regional projects
- Institutional strengthening, accountability and peer learning
- Less variability in production at the regional level compared to country level
- Linkage of the Food surplus/deficit areas
- Climatic diversity which ensured that there is staggered crop seasons across the region and thus facilitative of regional trade

He noted that trade in agriculture and especially that of staple foods was still one of the most protected trade components despite prevailing regional treaties.

Some of the trade protection manifested itself through several fronts including the following:

- Import and export tariffs
 - Tariff peaks, tariff escalation and other non-transparent tariffs e.g. specific tariffs
- Import and export permits
- Quotas
- Inconsistent implementation of SPS regulations
- Trade bans
- More important is the **un-predictability** and *ad hoc* manner in which trade restrictions are applied
- Leading to;
 - Uncertainty among private sector and
 - Inability to develop long term reliable trade relationships between deficit and surplus countries

In his concluding remarks, he said expert studies generally showed that the regional would be better off with a more open food without border policy and that ReSAKSS would continue to work with the other partners to continually provide supportive evidence towards a better policy environment.



Understanding the Effects of Trade Restrictions on Maize Prices by Antony Chapoto

This second presentation focused on the effects of trade restrictions on producer and consumer prices. Dr. Chapoto of the Indaba Agricultural Policy Research Institute (IAPRI) began by demonstrating the food price dilemma and said it was a big challenge for policy makers on;

- How to ensure that prices for agricultural commodities are sufficiently high to enable food producers to generate adequate profits to continue to produce, but...
- Low enough to be affordable to consumers.

The central question therefore remained; Are there ways to strike a balance without shunning maize without borders policy?

He said that over the years the argument had been how to find the middle ground between the advocates for government interventions and those for a completely open market. Advocates of government intervention in the market place often opined that:

- Under conditions of deficits.

- government institutions are better positioned than private sector to meet demand.
 - Releasing government reserves on the market at subsidized rates
 - Importing and then releasing grain on to the market at subsidized rates
- Under conditions of surplus:
 - Producer prices must be supported with government purchases: limits private sector's involvement in the market
 - National food security must be ensured before exports are allowed

In short they see no way of trusting the private sector with the “highly sensitive” matter of food security.

On the other hand, the counter argument is that;

- Under deficit conditions:
 - Private sector will respond to price incentives and import grain from regional or international markets.
 - These imports will place a ceiling on domestic maize prices (i.e. import parity price) and will limit large spikes in prices.
- Under surplus conditions:
 - Private sector will respond by exporting to higher priced markets.
 - These exports will place a floor price on maize (i.e. export parity price) without significant government expenditure buying maize.

From both standpoints, the presenter showed that preventing large and unnecessary swings in prices is important for the welfare of consumers and producers. However price movements in and of themselves are not such a bad thing as the price variations between locations and over time provide critical incentives for investments in storage and trade.

Case Studies

Drawing examples from specific countries in the region and with reference to several studies carried out in the recent past, Chapoto showed that on the whole maize price volatility was significantly higher in countries that actively intervened in their maize markets than it did in countries that make little or no effort to manage prices

Maize prices in Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, which have large state-owned trading enterprises that buy and sell maize, generally experienced food price movements that are 50 percent more volatile than in countries that do not have entities engaged in maize trade.

He cited a study done by Diao et al (2003) which shows that, maize export bans can have a dramatic effect on the welfare of rural producers, with minimal gains for consumers.

- Lower producer prices by 7 to 26% in surplus regions, such as Mbeya, while simultaneously increasing the number of poor households in those regions.
- Lowers the growth rate in maize production by about 2%.
- Despite these negative effects on producers' welfare, the bans only succeeded in marginally lowering the national food price index by about 1%.

He concluded that:

- Trade restrictions and other market interventions rarely achieve their objectives in terms of domestic prices and supplies
- Trade is more effective at keeping prices within reasonable bounds for consumers and producers than trade restrictions
- The unpredictability of trade restrictions is one of the greatest challenges posed to the development of a more efficient market system

Understanding the Effects of Maize Trade Restrictions on the Development of Maize Markets by Nicholas Sitko (Michigan State University and IAPRI)



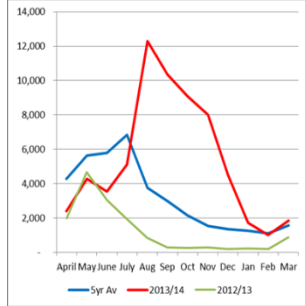
Dr. Sitko's presentation focused on what the real costs of trade bans to national treasuries, are, the opportunity costs of trade restrictions on private sector investment in maize markets and he policy options for improving maize market performance in the region.

He said the challenges faced by the agricultural sector required joint investments based on a PPP framework and that such joint and coordinated efforts would lead to improvement in:

- Productivity enhancement
- Roads, rails, and ports
- Storage infrastructure

He said not all public intervention was bad and identified areas of market development that still required great investment by the public as including:

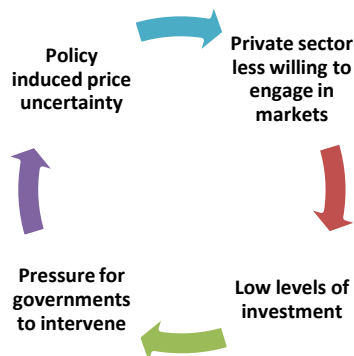
- Provision of public goods for which there were limited profit incentives for the private sector:
 - Roads, rails, and port
 - Agricultural research, development, and extension
 - Rule of law
- All these financed through taxes, government borrowing, etc...



He noted that given the geography of the ESA region in particular, national boundaries only helped to separate surplus from deficit areas and that trade restrictions end up costing countries substantial foreign exchange and tax revenues that they would otherwise earn. This he said was largely because restrictions do not STOP trade. Given the porous nature of borders, trade only becomes informal as “Surplus always finds a way to meet demand.”

Giving an on-the-ground example, he said, in September 2013 Malawi witnessed an unprecedented surge in informal maize trade from Zambia and this was as a result of (coincided with) the imposition of a formal export ban in Zambia. This is shown in the figure below:

He said what was required was courage on the part of the part of government to allow the private sector to invest in and along the value chains otherwise what would ensue is a vicious cycle of underinvestment that would always prompt the government to intervene in the market place.



Some Policy Options:

Based on all the three presentations, Dr. Sitko summarized would be the policy options available:

- Predictability in the market is CRITICAL
 - Development of a policy framework that enhances the predictability of government actions in the market through a process of consultative and rules-based interventions.
 - State interventions in the market are pre-defined, well-known to all interested parties, and based on prevailing market conditions.
- Predictability does not necessarily mean full liberalization of trade or the loss of control over food supplies by the government.

- Rather it is a shift in policy towards a more rationalized system in which governments set the rules of the game to encourage participation by all interested stakeholders.
- Information is Power:
 - Governments and regional bodies should support the development of professional agencies for generating and disseminating accurate crop production forecasts and price information.
 - These can be developed at a national level, but ideally would also be housed in a regional database
- Link information to consultation:
 - Price and production data used in consultative dialogues aimed at determining governments' intended actions in maize markets in the coming year.
 - Dialogues should be used to solicit insights from a wide range of stakeholders, including farmers' associations, trade groups, consumer advocacy groups, and policy makers.
- The rules of the game: determining the price and supply triggers for specific actions:
 - If domestic wholesale prices drop below a predetermined price what steps will be taken?
 - If prices rise above a predetermined price what steps will be taken?
 - If prices remain within predefined range, government will allow private sector to operate without restrictions.
- Explore alternative means for managing national strategic reserve stocks. This can include:
 - Issuance of quotas to the private sector to buy on behalf of the government
 - Government has the right of first refusal to the grain at predetermined prices and locations
 - Governments can use call options on SAFEX to manage a portion of their reserves through financial instruments.
 - Call options give the buyer the right, but not the obligation, to a commodity
 - Buy options for multiple delivery dates and announce at what domestic price these options would be exercised.
- Reallocate revenue generated through maize trade and decreased expenditure on strategic reserve management or imports

- Increase public investment on public goods to lower transactions costs and increase farmer productivity.

Afternoon Session

Selected Case Studies on Trade and the Related Issues

His Worship the Mayor of Chililabombwe on the border of Zambia and DRC was the first to present some of the empirical case studies on the ground.

The Mayor pointed out that the issues that were being deliberated in the forum were very personal to him as they affected his subjects as Mayor and that constant government intervention in the market affected his own people as they mostly depended on cross border commodity trade for their livelihoods. Improving the trading environment was therefore a task he would very personally advocate for. He highlighted the following issues:

- The disconnect between regional level agreements/policies and the reality on the ground
- Market related Information accessible to and by all the players is key in facilitating trade
- He pointed out that the so-called informal or small scale traders are the potential big traders of tomorrow and there is need for very practical actions on the ground to help facilitate such traders

Uganda–Dr. Mukama’s highlights;

- Uganda was food secure because of a diversified diet and it presents a possible model for the other countries in the region
- Bans are more expensive in the medium and long term thus Uganda’s maize without border policy
- Open borders and access to cross border markets for Ugandan producers was catalytic for the increasing production in the country

EAGC–Gerald Masila’s highlights;

- The Eastern Africa Grain Council exists to offer a voice for the private sectors
- The policy issues being deliberated are real everyday issues for the Grain Council and do affect all the value chain players

- Export and import bans had adversely affected some of the members of the Council in the recent past and that the Council was calling for inclusive consultative policy processes to ensure the voices of the non-states actors are being heard
- The council runs a MIS system that contributes to evidence based advocacy for a enabling policy environment
- Another program the organization is running is the WRS and that it was a good risk mitigation instrument which players and especially governments needed to support



Hon. Munyaka (left in red tie) from Kenya commended the EAGC for the warehousing receipt concept which he said had benefitted his own constituents in Kenya.

Hon. Muntanga from Zambia had the following reactions:

- That most governments believe in open markets but were reluctant converts
- That open markets was a relatively new concept in Africa where those in authority still suffer the ‘nostalgia’ of the control-economy days
- There was opportunity to advance regional trade based on varying comparative advantage in production
- Trade between Zambia and DRC had been faced by regular tensions and spats and needed to be addressed. He asked COMESA-ACTESA to facilitate this dialogue
- Lack of engagement of private sector in Zambia was worrying and there was need to build strong platforms for public and private sector dialogue

Reactions from Mr. Jacob Mwale of the Grain Traders Association of Zambia (GTAZ):

- GTAZ represents key stakeholders and various value chains –wheat, soya, groundnuts and maize among other commodities
- Since 2005–08 private sector has especially been active in the Zambian market
- What the private sector requires is a very clear policy framework.
- Unpredictable nature of the market had been a big challenge for private sector especially with regard to investments of a capital nature
- He recommended that policy changes required at least two year lead time for proper planning
- Policy unpredictability at the national level resonates at the regional level

Reactions by the Zimbabwe delegation

- It is not possible to discount the role of government in food security and regional trade
- Ordinary citizens need to be at the center of the debate on policy
- Ad-hoc bans and trade restrictions are meant to protect national food security which the government cannot leave in the hands of the private sector



- Private sector players should learn to live and operate within the country's political context

Other General Discussions

ASARECA's feedback. Farmers are the biggest private sector and cannot be gainsaid or delegated from the policy discourse

- ACTESA has the task to work with its alliance members to establish an information network that links the surplus to the deficit areas

Hon Wanyonyi from Kenya

- Farmers representatives should be part of the policy dialogue fora
- Strong linkages between COMESA, Private sector and the governments (Executive) should be formed to enhance consultative policy processes
- Policy recommendations should be all- inclusive

Reactions from the DRC Representative

- The debate around the movement of grain has been a key and ongoing one in the region
- There is need to find binding bilateral solutions in order to enhance cross border trade
- Trade is not possible without an enabling policy framework

Recap of the 1st Day by the Facilitator

- Responsible open markets that cater for the national good are the way to go
- Private sector actors are looking for predictability. It is the way to build confidence for investment. A bad predictable policy is better than a good unpredictable policy
- Government has a role to play in creating the enabling environment but must see private sector as partners in development
- Non predictability leads to lack of incentive for investment
- There is a Symbiotic relationship between trade and productivity, as such, there is great need to strengthen functional markets as a way catalyze production

Day II-12th August 2014

The Day II program began with Mr. Argent Chuula's presentation. Mr. Chuula is the CEO of the Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa ACTESA. In his presentation, he gave highlights of the role the Alliance was playing to advance the interests of agricultural commodity trade in the region. He said that as a specialized agency of COMESA, ACTESA collates and channels issues affecting the agricultural sector to the appropriate COMESA Policy organs on behalf of the value chain actors. He said ACTESA was playing an active role not only to ensure that access to inputs by farmers was not only timely and affordable but that they also get access to regional and international markets for the output.



He pointed to some of the success of the Alliance including the approval by the Council of Ministers of two policy documents; the COMESA Harmonized Seed Policy and the and Biosafety Policy both of which would greatly enhance regional trade in seed and accessibility of affordable and quality seeds by the producers as well as giving guidance on COMESA member states would go about adopting issues related biotechnology.

He said ACTESA was keen to integrate value chain players in the policy making processes and that is why it was also spearheading the ESA Regional Food Balance Sheet making through a consultative process that includes public and privates sector actors as well as relief agencies. The Food Balance Sheet he said is an important tool in informing policy decisions on food security.

Other important areas that the Alliance was working on include harmonization of regional grades and standards to ease cross border trade and enhance food quality and safety for staple foods as well as instituting regional warehouse receipt frameworks to strengthen market risk mitigation especially for small holder value chain actors.

Other important presentations were from two of the national Assemblies represented: Zambia and Kenya on the working of the Parliamentary Agriculture Committees and how they interface with the executive arm on matters related to national food security.

4. WORKSHOP BREAKAWAY SESSIONS

Group 1.

Q1. Facilitating a More Predictable and Rules-Based Policy Environment for Food Trade

- a. Identify the Strengths and weaknesses with the current policy environment within the COMESA region at the level of inter- regional food trade
 - No link between COMESA and regional Parliaments in the member countries. *The role of Parliaments in COMESA activities must be strengthened*
 - No established committee in COMESA to sanction Governments in case of any irregularities like the abrupt Food Trade Bans. *An established committee to sanction Governments on irregularities should be put in place.*
 - No annual food balance sheet and information that allows knowledge about the common regulations of COMESA Member Countries. *There should be documented regular reports on the food balance sheet.*
- b. How best can the COMESA region enhance predictability, relevance, acceptance and coherence of food trade policy?
 - Regular communication with and to Member States.
 - Have structures that are able to enforce non- compliance (Institutional Framework)
 - Having deliberate actions so that COMESA can enhance on commodity exchanges
 - Promoting discussions among COMESA countries. Small scale famer organizations should be involved in COMESA discussions. *This also entails COMESA forming an Association of farmers.*
 - COMESA needs to introduce e- notifications and transparency.
- c. Country- level tariffs and Non-tariff barriers that must be addressed in order to promote freer trade in food commodities.

Non-tariffs

- Rules of Origin
 - Issues of food security
 - Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) restrictions
 - Food trade bans
- d. Justification of Import and export bans.
 - They are not justified, bans is a very strong word to use or put in place, Member Countries should only have restrictions or management tools for security reasons for particular countries for example like prevention of smuggling of arms and agriculture products from countries that are not under COMESA.

- There is also need for COMESA to encourage Member Countries to diversify food production and not stick to maize as the main staple food crop.
 - Member Countries can also use other measures that are WTO compatible.
 - e. Recommendations that can enhance freer exchange of food commodities in the region.
 - Structured trade systems among COMESA countries–the use of contract farming and development of commodity exchanges
 - Introducing genuine Public – Private Partnerships regulatory frameworks where the countries will make conducive, policies, laws and conditions for the private sector to enhance food trade.
 - Role of PTA bank must be enhanced
 - f. How can COMESA promote dialogue to enhance trade
 - PTA bank funding farming activities.
 - Establish Common Parliamentary Food Security Forums for COMESA Member Countries
 - Strengthen the COMESA Business Council.
 - Member Countries to have a joint Committee meetings with committees of trade and foreign relations
-

Group 2 Discussions

TOPIC: FACILITATING A MORE PREDICTABLE AND RULES BASED ENVIRONMENT FOR FOOD TRADE POLICY.

Question 1. What are the Strengths and Weakness with the Current Policy environment within the COMESA region at the level of intra–regional food trade?

Strengths.

- Larger markets for the food produced in the region, i.e market availability and access to available food produced in the region
- Increased productivity of food to service the larger COMESA market.
- Countries being able to produce crops that they have a comparative advantage on and sell to those that cannot produce.
- Achievement of more stable prices in the region within the year and across countries mainly due to pursuit of comparative advantage
- Weaknesses

- Infant industry in some countries may die as a result of opening up the COMESA
- Inadequate data of types and quantities of foods available for trade and required for consumption in the region.
- Undeveloped infrastructure hindering the trade and movement of food across the region, hence limiting trade.
- Lack of common and unified currency

Q2. How best can the COMESA region enhance the predictability, relevance, acceptance and coherence of food trade policy?

- Development of a food trade information system with data on crops, available food, and upscale the Regional Food Balance Sheet initiative
- Continued interaction among Legislators in the COMESA region to ensure continuity in the engagement and dialogue as a program and not a one off activity.
- Establish an information sharing system eg. ReNAPRI that will be sustained.
- Establish sources of information for data collecting which should apply a harmonized methodology and enhance sharing of the information at the region.

Q.3. Are there Country level tariffs and/or non-tariff barriers that must be addressed in order to promote freer trade in food commodities? If so, what are these?

- Yes, there are Country level tariff and non-tariff barriers at country level for various reasons – especially protection of industry eg Dairy in Zambia, Sugar in Kenya.
- Harmonization of standards to facilitate trade in the region, and to avoid use of standards and NTBs.

Q. 4. Are Import and Export Bans justified and, if so, under what conditions.

- Economically, No.
 - Deficit and Surplus conditions DO NOT justify an Import or Export Ban.
- Politically Yes! but under only certain condition.
 - War
 - Economic Sabotage

Q. 5. What import and export bans are perceived to compromise intra-regional trade in food commodities, what actions should be taken at the Country level and or/COMESA/regional level to address the problem?

- Country level strategic food reserves be maintained.

- Implement measures like irrigation facilities to enhance productivity and also supplement production in the event of drought situations to supply intra-regional trade COMESA.
- COMESA level use the data to inform members states to respond appropriately.
- Onus should be on the country implementing a ban to provide a justification and advance notification.

Q6. Are there systematic constraints within the COMESA trade facilitation regime that should be addressed in order to address factors inhibiting freer exchange of food commodities in the region?

- Lack of data and information systems to inform decisions.
- Establish a robust trade information and facilitation system
- Members states to conduct crop estimates surveys, and early warning systems and share the data in COMESA

Q7. How best can the COMESA region promote dialogue to enhance regional trade?

- Country level data and information eg crop estimates, food balance sheets etc to avoid abrupt measures.
 - COMESA data be collated and made available to all member states.
 - COMESA continue being proactive on promoted trade in food in COMESA and address NTBS.
 - Intensify dialogue among member states by various stakeholders and interest groups eg Parliaments, Executive, and Private Sector etc to discuss and develop solutions.
 - COMESA to quickly come in and resolve issues whenever there are misunderstandings among member states.
 - Establish a standing committee in COMESA to meet regularly and enhance discussions and dialogue on promoting food trade in the region. This should be regular and not ad-hoc. The committee to include Legislators, Executive and Private Sector representatives including members states Agriculture committee and representatives of farmers.
-

GROUP 3 DELIBERATIONS

Qn(a) How does trade liberalization promote increased food productivity in the COMESA region?

- The ready market available for the consumption of food products, demand and supply chain is high
- Increased revenue from the available market should be invested in more food production to enhance food security
- Diversification into various other food products for value addition and venture into other by products
- Create enabling grounds for zoning of regions for specific food products to excel, increase capacity for specific crop production with high efficiency. Countries to concentrate in areas with comparative advantage
- Respect international game rules available which COMESA is party to and understand the food products available within the COMESA region. Push for rules that benefit our COMESA region

Qns 2 & 3: What steps should be taken at the National and Regional Levels to promote food productivity through trade promotion? & What are the key enablers that the region should focus upon as it promotes enhanced trade and food productivity in the COMESA region

- Render our food products competitive in and around the COMESA region by lowering the cost of our products without affecting the quality
- Define rules on seed production to enable our farmers get proper seeds suitable for the respective crops in the respective areas
- Develop proper infrastructure for transportation of food products to markets, roads, rails, seas etc harmonize the existing ones, cheap access to power for affordable value addition to our products.
- Develop a database of the available food balance sheet to determine the deficits and the surplus in the region to inform the imposition or lifting of the bans around the region and facilitate trade and also introduce the e-wallet and other ICT innovations arising from Research and Development.

- Lower the cost of transportation in and around the COMESA region eg direct flights within the COMESA country parties. Get into PPP to improve transport system within the COMESA region.
- Need to invest heavily into farm subsidies to our farmers to motivate them venture into more farming in large scale as well as agriculture insurance, give loans to farmers etc.

Qn 4:

- There needs to be honesty, mutual trust, fairness and integrity among the parties and abide by the existing rules which should be invoked in case of breach
- Arbitration measures under ACTESA to be enforced fully

The group held it that:-

- Investment in required instruments to enable venture into GMO products
- Put in place regulations with regard to safety measures and have well equipped facilities, laboratories
- Countries are at different levels in terms of bio technology and bio safety and therefore need to encourage countries to uphold their respective positions at various levels
- COMESA position on GMO seed trade to be upheld

GROUP 4

Question 1 (a): How does trade liberalization promote increased food productivity?

- Widens Market base, hence encouraging producers to grow more.
- Enables comparative and competitive advantages in production.
- Enables areas of surplus to supply areas of deficit (solves food insecurity) due to favourable weather patterns.
- Creates price incentives for further production (sustainable markets=sustainable production)

Question 2 (b): Steps at national & regional levels to promote food productivity through trade?

- Governments should have an enabling policy framework
- Encourage country specialization (comparative advantage)
- Identify competitive advantages of various groups.
- Promote commodity diversification (create awareness for its need)

Question 3 (c): Key enablers to promote enhanced trade and food productivity?

- Conducive, consistent and predictable policies
- Infrastructural facilities

- Existence of accurate information.
- Capacities (at all levels)
- Political stability, good governance and political commitment
- Need for a parliamentary forum at COMESA level to ensure that there is political commitment among partner states

Question 4 (d): How to administer rules of origin to ensure fair competition?

- Create a supervisory body to enforce rules of origin at COMESA level
- Have a desk at National to ensure rules of origin
- Ascertain the production capacity of COMESA member states.
- Have someone affiliated to Ministries of agriculture and Trade to counter check origin of goods

Question 5: Do import/export bans promote or impede trade? What should be done?

- Bans impede trade.
- What should be done?
- Legislation (governments should know when to apply breaks).
- Enough notice should be given (to allow those who entered contracts to fulfil their obligation).
- Always consult stakeholders (stakeholder consultations).
- Create a monitoring committee at national level to monitor stocks.
- In cases of export bans, governments should provide alternative markets.

Question 6: How can COMESA promote regional trade & product relevant information generation, retention and sharing?

- Develop mechanisms of collecting information at national level
- Strengthen the National systems to generate accurate data
- Establish a department/desk at under ACTESA to generate and disseminate market information.
- Develop Market information systems

Question 7: How should COMESA at National & regional level address the issue of GMOs?

- Have a bio safety & bio technology regulations.
- Do more research on GMOs
- Have a laboratory at a regional level to check GMOs.
- Make at national and regional level more awareness creation on GMO related issues

Question 8. Recommendations to enhance food productivity through trade?

- Embrace trade liberalization
- Promote market information flow among partner states
- Put in place market infrastructure.
- Commercialize agriculture sector
- Promote value addition
- Put in place conducive policy frameworks



Delegates listen as the seminar proceeds

WORKSHOP COMMUNIQUÉ AND RECOMMENDATIONS. COMESA PARLIAMENTARY POLICY SEMINAR

The Members of Parliament and Permanent Secretaries drawn from the Member States (that are mostly affected by Food Trade Restrictions) and Governments of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) met on 11-12th August 2014 at the Intercontinental Hotel in Lusaka Zambia to:

- (i) REVIEW the Impact of Trade Restrictions specifically the Import and Export bans on food security and trade in a region that is recognized to have a huge food surplus potential;
- (ii) REVIEW and propose alternative (appropriate) food trade policy options that guarantee national food security while enhancing the spirit of regional integration

(iii) NOTING that the COMESA region has a great food surplus production capacity that needs to be developed by addressing bottlenecks that hinder optimum benefits along the value chain but which are mostly manifested through poor access to markets by value chain actors

iv) COGNIZANT of the COMESA region's aspiration for a prosperous and integrated economic community

v) AGREED that optimum agricultural value chain outputs can be greatly increased by unlocking the various policy bottlenecks and the and by enhancing trade policy environment

2. The Parliamentary Policy Seminar:

i) Reviewed the Synthesis Paper which outlined the alternative Food Trade Policy Options for the COMESA Region;

iii) Proposed Recommendations and strategies that Member states can take to address food security;

With regard to **Facilitating a more Predictable and Rules- based Environment for Food Trade**, the Parliamentary Seminar recommended that:

- a) The need to form a regional Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture and Food Security drawing representatives from the Agriculture committees of the COMESA Member States' national assemblies to strengthen advocacy for regional agreements on food security and trade
- b) Country level strategic food reserves should be maintained by both public and private sector players
- c) There should be documented regular reports on food balance sheets to secure knowledge of food availability in the region.
- d) There is need for COMESA to facilitate and strengthen farmer associations at the national and regional levels
- e) The need for genuine Public Private Partnership frameworks to enhance food trade
- f) The role for enhanced agricultural financing options including reviewing the roles of such institutions as the PTA Bank in funding farming activities
- g) Strengthen the COMESA Business Council so that it plays a more active role promoting agribusiness
- h) The need to harmonize regional standards to facilitate trade and avoid use of NTBs.

- i) There is need to establish a robust trade information and facilitation system.
- j) Countries should conduct crop estimates surveys and early warning systems and share the data through the COMESA structure

With regard to **Enhancing Food Productivity through Trade**, the Parliamentary Seminar recommended that:

- a) Bans of imports and exports should generally be discouraged as they stifle food productivity and trade expansion. Where this happens, enough notice should be given before bans are imposed. There is also need to consult all relevant stakeholders before bans are imposed. Once bans are enforced, national monitoring committees should always be established to monitor stocks.
- b) Need for diversification into other crops/foods as well as promote food processing for value addition
- c) There is need to encourage country specialization. In this regard, there is need to divide regions according to agro-ecological zones and promote specializations based on comparative advantage
- d) COMESA should domesticate international rules and protocols
- e) Need to lower the cost of production without affecting quality and reducing competitiveness
- f) Define rules on seed production to enable farmers get proper seeds
- g) Develop transport infrastructure to promote intra-regional trade. Complimentary to this, effort should be made to lower the cost of transportation in the region
- h) Develop database on available food (balance sheet) to help in establishing deficit and surplus regions.
- i) Introduce e-wallet and other ICT innovations to support regional trade in food commodities.
- j) There is need to enhance trust and integrity among countries. Arbitration measures under ACTESA should be enforced fully
- k) COMESA position on GMOs seed trade should be upheld. Notwithstanding this, there is need to invest in instruments to enable ventures into GMOs. In this regard, there is need for well-equipped facilities and laboratories. Meanwhile, countries should be allowed to adopt their respective positions on GMOs.

- l) There is need to form a supervisory mechanism (if none exists) to enforce Rules of Origin. In this regard, COMESA States should set up monitoring desks to ensure rules of origin.
- m) Need to strengthen national systems to generate accurate data. In this regard, there is need to establish a desk at ACTESA to generate and disseminate market information. The development of market information systems at the national level should be complimentary to this.
- n) There should be national level bio-safety and bio-technology mechanisms to address the GMO issues. There is also need for more research on GMOs, the establishment of a regional laboratory to check GMOs is recommended. Complimentary to this, there is need to create more awareness about GMOs among the citizens of the COMESA region.

3. The Parliamentary Policy Seminar was attended by the following Members of Parliament, Ministry Representatives and other select stakeholder representatives:

4. The following organizations represented the Private sector and other stakeholders:

Grain Traders Association of Zambia (GTAZ), Grain Traders and Processors Association (GTPA) from Malawi, the Eastern Africa Grain Council, Southern Africa Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU), the Rwanda Grain and Cereals Corporation (RGCC), Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS), Indaba Agricultural and Policy Research Institute , FoodTrade, The NEPAD Business Foundation(TNBF), the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), IFAD, Famine and Early Warning Systems Network (FewsNet), Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA) among others.

5. In his official remarks, the Minister for Agriculture–Zambia commended COMESA for the initiative saying the government of Zambia was working with all stakeholders in creating a policy environment that would enhance productivity and market access for the benefit of value chain actors

7. The COMESA Assistant Secretary General in charge of Programs Ambassador Kipyego Cheluget, in his welcoming remarks, said COMESA’s aspirations were a fully economically integrated region and that addressing trade restriction was one of COMESA’s priorities.

8. The Chief Executive Officer of the Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa (ACTESA) Mr. Argent Chuula also gave opening remarks and thanked the Honorable Members for honoring the invitation and said that ACTESA was honored to convene the Seminar and said this was part of ACTESA's role in advancing the interests of the Alliance members many of whom are small holder farmers across the region.

9. Executive Director of IAPRI on behalf of the organizers laid out the objectives of the Seminar and commended the Honorable members and government representatives for finding time to attend the important deliberations and reiterated that creating an enabling policy environment required a multistakeholder approach and that the meeting was a Seminar was a great step in that direction.

9. The Seminar was facilitated by Prof. Oliver Saasa of Premier Consult while ACTESA served as the Policy Seminar Rapporteur.

10. The Seminar reviewed the Impact of the Trade Restrictions through the three perspectives presented: The COMESA food security potential, the Price Effects of Trade Restrictions and the Impact of Trade Restrictions on Market Development for staple foods trade.

11. Ambassador Kipyego Cheluget in his closing statement CONGRATULATED the ACTESA for successfully hosting the Policy Seminar and thanked the all Honorable members and government representatives who had taken time to participate and contribute to the Resolutions of the seminar whose recommendations would go a long way in enhancing the trade policy environment for food trade and security.

12. The Policy Seminar ADOPTED its Communiqué as read by the facilitator Prof. Oliver Saasa.

Annex 1. Seminar Programme

Parliamentary Policy Seminar: Reviewing the Impact of Import and Export Bans on Food Security in ESA, 11-13th August 2014, Intercontinental Hotel, Lusaka Zambia

Time	Activity	Responsibility
Sunday 10 th August	Arrival	
Monday 11th August 2014		
08.00-09.00	Arrival and registration	
09.00-10.00	Welcoming Remarks	CEO, ACTESA
	Opening Remarks: The Objectives of the <i>Parliamentary Policy Seminar</i>	Mr. Chance Kabaghe
	Special Remarks from Strategic Institutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food-Trade- ESA • WFP- Simon Camelbeck • World Bank – John Kaiser • IFAD • DFAT • Jacob Mwale-Host Country Steering Committee • Keynote Address- Mr. S. Ngwenya, Secretary General, COMESA 	
	Official Opening: Minister for Agriculture-Zambia	
10.00-10.30	HEALTH BREAK	
10.30-11.00	Synthesis Policy Paper (First presentation) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The COMESA FOOD Surplus Potential Opportunities for food security and Trade in ESA • Prevailing agricultural trade policy Framework, • WTO framework for Trade restriction 	Joseph Karugia (ReSAKSS)
11.00-11.30	Synthesis Policy Paper (Second presentation)	Antony Chapoto (IAPRI)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessing the Price effects of Maize Trade restrictions–case study of Zambia, TZ, Kenya, Malawi 	
11.30-13.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plenary Discussion (Synthesis Paper) 	Facilitator
13.00-14.00	LUNCH	
1400 – 1430	Synthesis Policy Paper (Third presentation) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effects of Food Trade Restrictions on Market Development 	Nick Sitko (Michigan State University/IAPRI)
14.30-15.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plenary Discussion (Synthesis Paper) 	Facilitator
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	
15.00-15.45	Case Studies Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eastern Africa Experience on Trade Bans Kasumbalesa (Zambia/DRC) Border Experience ESA Private sector experience The Cost of Trade Bans 	Uganda PS/EAGC Mr. Paul Kabuswe–Mayor Senwes Trading –ESA Mr. Atul Shah (Mt. Meru Traders)
15.45-16.00	Health Break	
16.00-17.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plenary Discussions (Case Studies) 	Facilitator
Tuesday 12th August 2014		
08.30-10.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Role of the Parliamentary Select Committee on Agriculture in a liberalized economy: Zambian Experience–ZNA Working with the Executive for national Food Security in times of food deficits: Kenyan Experience –KNA Understanding the Trade Policy Making Process: Zimbabwean experience 	Mr. Chitsiko Ringson, PS, Zimbabwe
10.30-11.00	Health Break	
11.00-11.15	Plenary: Allocation of delegates into groups	
11.15-1300	Break-away Group Discussions	Facilitator
1300-1400	Lunch	
14.00-15.30	Plenary: Groups report back	Facilitator

15.30-16.00	Health Break	
17.00-17.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolutions • Closure 	Facilitator



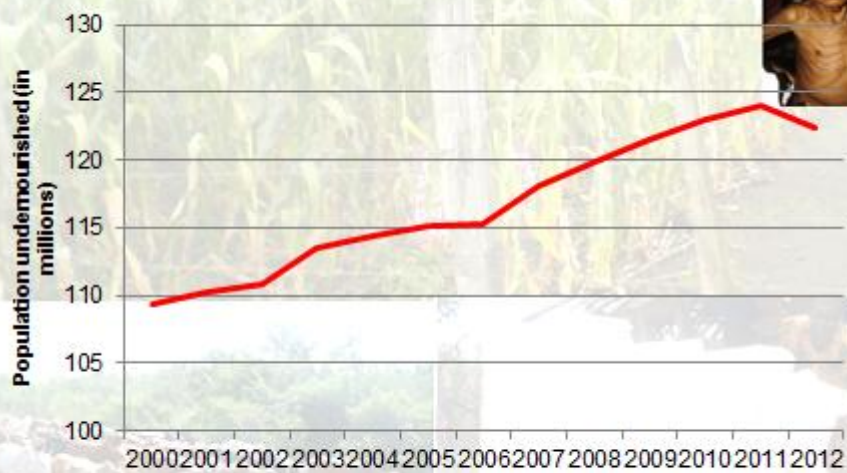
Annex 2A: Food Security & Trade in Food Staples in COMESA Region, Dr. Karugia



Food Security Situation in COMESA region



Population undernourished...increasing



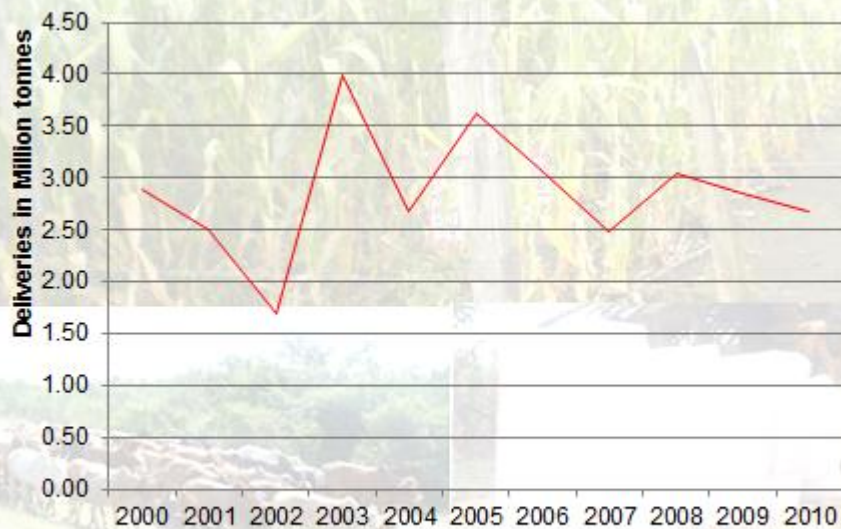
- The number of undernourished people in COMESA has been rising; over 120 million people were undernourished in 2012

Global Hunger Index (1990-2012)

YEAR	1990	1996	2001	2012
COMESA Region	23.1	24.5	23.6	21.2

- GHI measures and tracks hunger globally and by country and region (includes undernourishment, child underweight and child mortality)
- Ranks countries on a 100-point scale, with 0 being the best score (no hunger) and 100 being the worst;
 - 20.0 - 29.9 indicates alarming hunger.
 - 30.0 or higher-extremely alarming

Food aid is a common phenomenon..



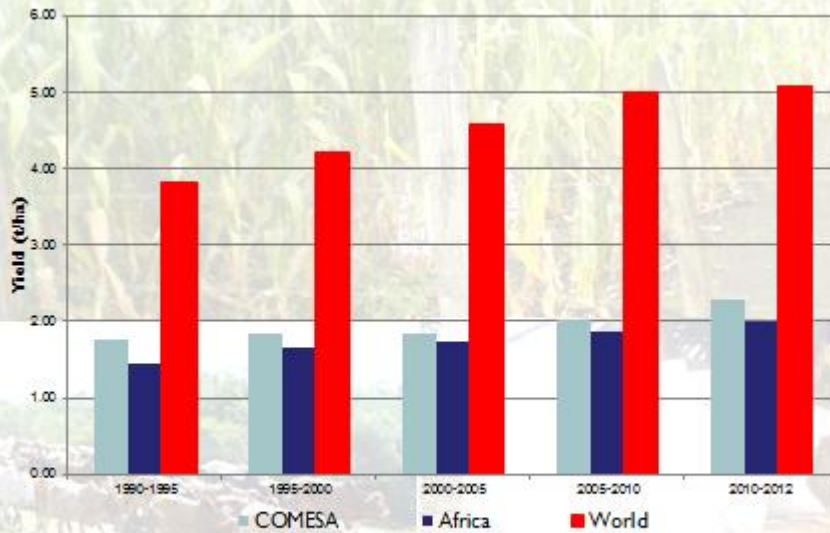
Region is largest recipient...

YEAR	2002-2012
Total deliveries to COMESA (MT)	29,458,621
Total deliveries to Sub-Saharan Africa, North Africa and Middle East (MT)	45,874,109
Proportion to COMESA (%)	64.2

Agricultural production & productivity

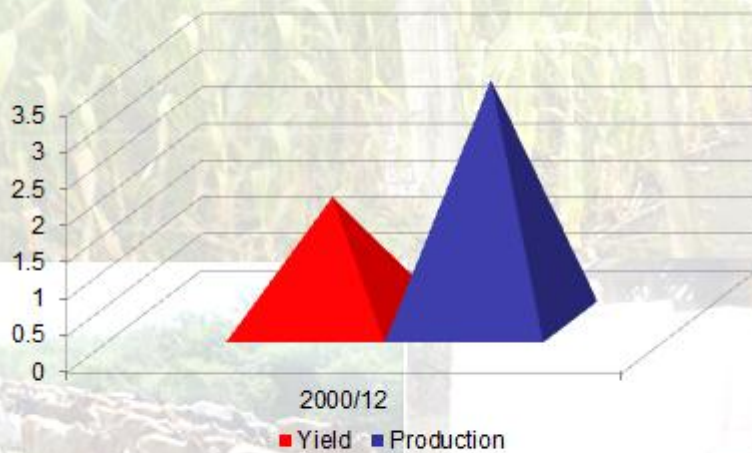


Crop productivity-Cereals



- o Very low compared to the rest of the world
- o Stagnant or growing very slowly

Percentage increase in cereal yields and production (2000-2012)



- o Increase in production, only achieved through expansion in area under production

Net maize production and imports in COMESA Region (2001-2012)



Source: COMSTAT

- Maize production has increased but maize imports have increased at an even faster rate
- The imports are accounted for by 5 countries; with few being net maize exporters

Major importers and exporters of maize in COMESA Region

Trade Position	Country	Cumulative Annual Avg. Quantity 2000-2011 (MT)
Largest Importers	Egypt, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Swaziland, DRC	2,237,017
Periodic net exporter	Zambia, Malawi	78,602
Consistent net exporter	Uganda	45,141

- The bulk of maize imports into COMESA region come from outside the region
- According to the FAO (2006), of the \$3.7 billion of cereal imports in sub-Saharan Africa, only 5% were produced by African farmers.

Trends in food prices

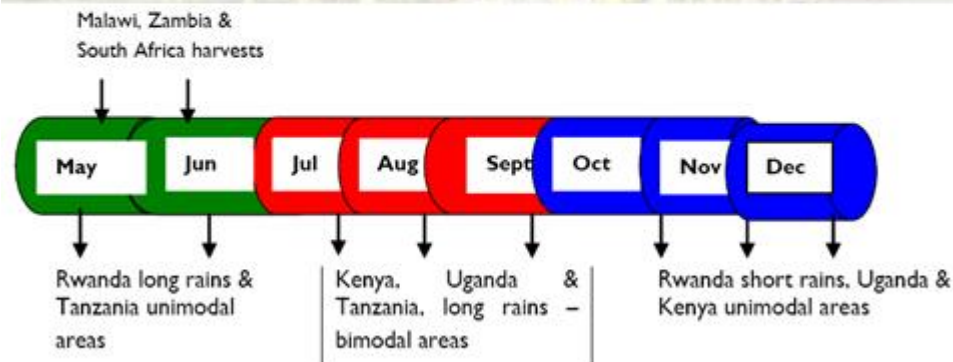
- Food prices in Eastern Africa region have remained persistently high and volatile since 2007/8 food price crisis.
- Individual governments adopted different policy responses...but most did not offer a relief to the food price crisis situation
- Actually some policy responses (including trade bans) that individual countries employed may have worsened the crisis

Why regional trade?

- Regional approach has many advantages:-
 - Achieve economies of scale in agricultural investments
 - Internalize the international externalities of investment in agricultural development
 - Give coherence to projects
 - Institutional strengthening, accountability and peer learning
- Less variability in production at the regional level compared to country level
- Food surplus/deficit areas
- Climatic diversity which can facilitate regional trade

Opportunities for trade; staggered harvesting

- Harvesting timeline, very diverse across the year



Source: Data: FEWSNET,2008

But, food trade is restricted

- Regional trade is important in addressing regional food insecurity
- Intra regional trade has increased - but trade in staple foods remains low (about 12% of staple food imports)
- Tariffs reduced but not completely eliminated
- Tariff restrictiveness varies from one country to another and from product to product
- In addition - *ad hoc* trade restrictions and non-tariff measures
- Trade restrictions diminish the gains expected from regional trade

Intra-regional protection in agriculture and food, staple foods and non-agricultural products

Trade description	Simple Average	Weighted Average	Min Rate	Max Rate	No. of Int'l Peaks	Dutiable (%)	Specific duty (%)
Agri- foods intra-regional	7.26	10.48	0	75	2048	39.6	4.41
Non- agricultural- intra regional	4.7	2.7	0	60	8984	25.1	0.03
Intra-regional staple foods	7.42	28.98	0	75	206	64.0	0.01

Source: ReSAKSS-ECA, 2011

- Protection still exists: Agriculture and food trade is more protected, high tariffs exists, specific duties exist
- Staple foods even more protected: higher simple average tariff, larger proportion is dutiable

Specific restrictions on staple food trade

- Import and export tariffs
 - Tariff peaks, tariff escalation and other non-transparent tariffs e.g. specific tariffs
- Import and export permits
- Quotas
- Inconsistent implementation of SPS regulations
- **Trade bans**
- More important is the **un-predictability** and **ad hoc** manner in which trade restrictions are applied
- Leading to;
 - Uncertainty among private sector and
 - Inability to develop long term reliable trade relationships between deficit and surplus countries

Provisions for trade restrictions-WTO

- WTO regulations dealing with quantitative restrictions are relatively limited; offering ample “policy space” for domestic policy considerations
- GATT XI requires Members to eliminate all prohibitions and quantitative restrictions on exports with the exception of:
 - Those imposed “temporarily” to prevent and alleviate food shortages; and
 - Those intended to allow time for the application of regulations such as classification and grading.

About ReSAKSS

- Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System - established in 2006
- Information and knowledge management initiative
- Objective is to promote and support effective and sustainable agricultural and rural development in Africa
- Provides analytical and knowledge support to RECs, governments, donors, other agriculture sector stakeholders

ReSAKSS Organization

- **Africa-wide and 3 regional nodes:**

- IFPRI: ReSAKSS-AW
- ILRI: ReSAKSS-ECA
- IITA: ReSAKSS-WA
- IWMI: ReSAKSS-SA

- **Key partners**

- AUC
- NPCA
- RECs (COMESA, EAC, ECOWAS, SADC)

- **Funding**

- B&M Gates Foundation, DfID, IFAD, Netherlands, SIDA, USAID





POLICY SEMINAR ON THE IMPACT OF IMPORT & EXPORT BANS



UNDERSTANDING THE EFFECTS OF TRADE RESTRICTIONS ON MAIZE PRICES

Antony Chapoto and Nicholas Sitko
11-12th August, Lusaka Zambia



Welfare and production effects of trade restrictions



- Diao et. al. (2013) show that maize export bans can have a dramatic effect on the welfare of rural producers, with minimal gains for consumers:
 - lower producer prices by 7 to 26% in surplus regions, such as Mbeya, while simultaneously increasing the number of poor households in those region.
 - Lowers the growth rate in maize production by about 2%.
 - Despite these negative effects on producers' welfare, the bans only succeeded in marginally lowering the national food price index by about 1%.





Outline



2

1. The food price dilemma
2. Trade restrictions versus open borders
3. Trade restrictions and price instability
4. Country experiences: trade restrictions and effects on consumer and producer prices
5. Conclusions



The Food Price Dilemma



3

- A big challenge for policy makers
 - How to ensure that prices for ag. commodities are sufficiently high to enable food producers to generate adequate profits to continue to produce, but..
 - Low enough to be affordable to consumers.
- Are there ways to strike a balance without shunning maize without borders policy?





Maize Trade Restrictions



4

- Restrictions often imposed to strike a balance in this food price dilemma. Yet, questions remain:
 1. Do trade restrictions for maize help to keep maize prices within reasonable bounds for consumers and producers?
 2. Can trade restrictions support medium-term objectives of increased maize productivity, agricultural-led poverty reduction, and improved food security?



Maize Trade Restrictions



5

- Arguments by advocates of trade restrictions:
 - Under conditions of deficits:
 - government institutions are better positioned than private sector to meet demand:
 - Releasing government reserves on the market at subsidized rates
 - Importing and then releasing grain on to the market at subsidized rates
 - Under conditions of surplus:
 - Producer prices must be supported with government purchases: limits private sector's involvement in the market
 - National food security must be ensured before exports are allowed
- There is no trust in the private sector or open borders





Maize Trade Restrictions



6

- Arguments by advocates of open borders:
 - Under deficit conditions:
 - Private sector will respond to price incentives and import grain from regional or international markets.
 - These imports will place a ceiling on domestic maize prices (i.e. import parity price) and will limit large spikes in prices.
 - Under surplus conditions:
 - Private sector will respond by exporting to higher priced markets.
 - These exports will place a floor price on maize (i.e. export parity price) without significant government expenditure buying maize.

➤ Politically less attractive?



Promoting More Stable Grain Prices



7

- Preventing large and unnecessary swings in prices is important for the welfare of consumers and producers:
 - Price predictability allows people to make decisions about how to spend their scarce resources for food and for production
- However the goal should not be to prevent price movements:
 - Price variations between locations and over time provide critical incentives for investments in storage and trade

➤ What are the effects of trade restrictions?

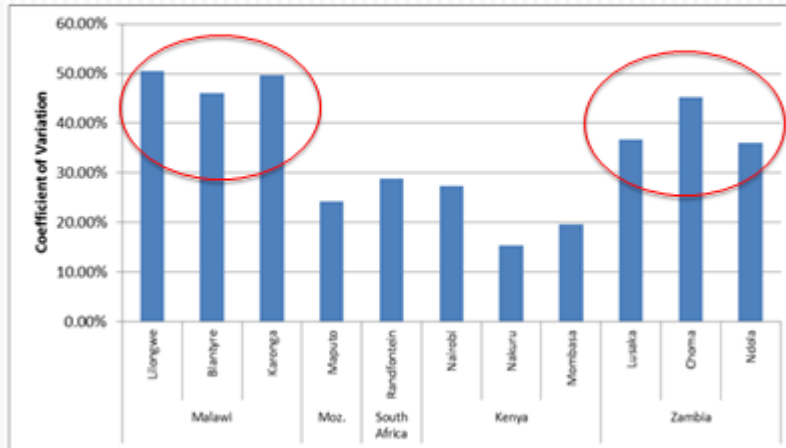




Do Trade Restrictions Promote More Stable Maize Prices?



8



Source: Chapoto and Jayne 2009



Do Trade Restrictions Promote More Stable Maize Prices?



9

- Chapoto & Jayne (2009), Minot (2013) finds that:
 - Maize price volatility is significantly higher in countries that actively intervene in their maize markets than it is in countries that make little or no effort to manage prices
- Minot (2013)
 - Prices in Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, which have large state-owned trading enterprises that buy and sell maize, experience food price movements that are more than 50 percent more volatile than in countries that do not have entities engaged in maize trade





Example Country Experiences



10

- Remember that:
 - When maize prices spike above import parity consumers are being unnecessarily taxed by an inefficient market
 - Imports will be cheaper than the local market but no imports allowed.
 - When maize prices fall below export parity producers are denied income opportunities from crop sales
 - Farmers can earn more if they export but no exports allowed.



11

ZAMBIA

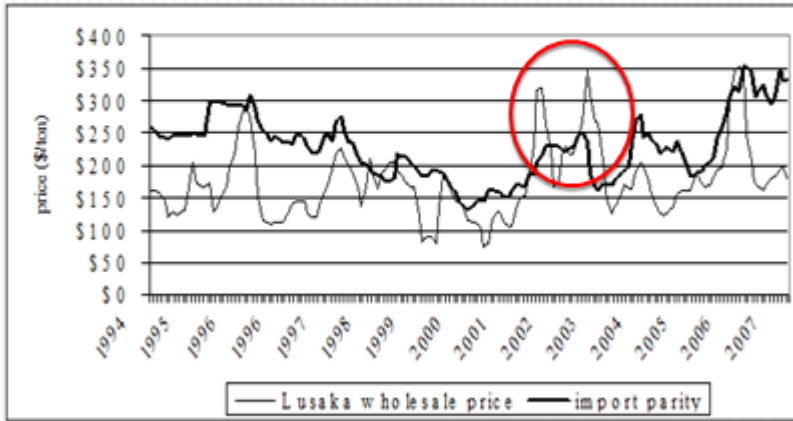




Deficit years



12



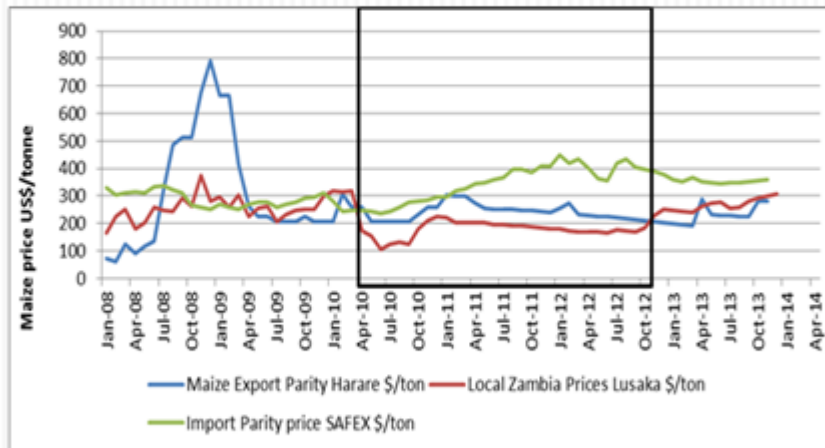
Source: Dorosh, Dradri and Haggblade (2007)



Surplus years



13

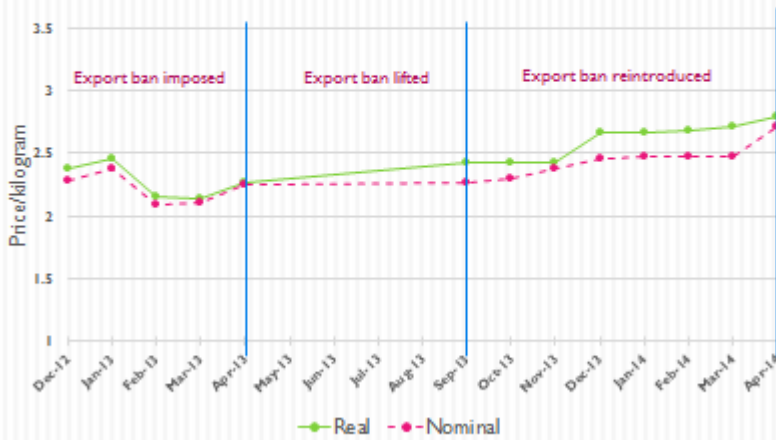




Export ban effects on maize meal prices (Consumer prices)



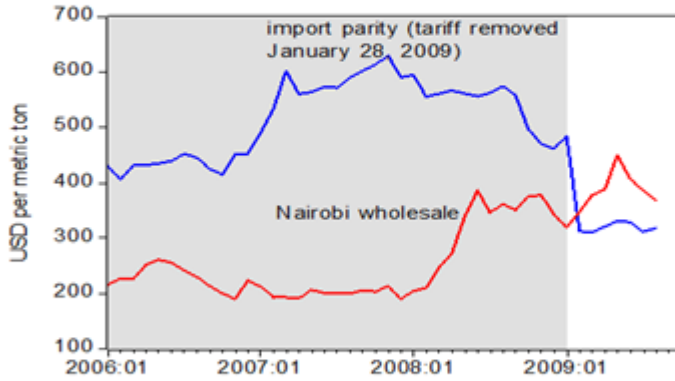
14



15

KENYA





Source: Ministry of Agriculture Market Information Bureau for Nairobi wholesale prices; Kenya Bureau of Statistics for exchange rates; SAFEX and Tegemeo Institute for import parity prices.



TANZANIA





Welfare and production effects of trade restrictions



18

- Diao et. al. (2013) show that maize export bans can have a dramatic effect on the welfare of rural producers, with minimal gains for consumers:
 - lower producer prices by 7 to 26% in surplus regions, such as Mbeya, while simultaneously increasing the number of poor households in those region.
 - Lowers the growth rate in maize production by about 2%.
 - Despite these negative effects on producers' welfare, the bans only succeeded in marginally lowering the national food price index by about 1%.



Conclusion



19

- Trade restrictions and other market interventions rarely achieve their objectives in terms of domestic prices and supplies
- Trade is more effective at keeping prices within reasonable bounds for consumers and producers than trade restrictions
- The unpredictability of trade restrictions is one of the greatest challenges posed to the development of more efficient market system





Thank You



20



Thank You



20



Annex 2C: Understanding the Effects of Maize Trade Restrictions on the Development of Maize Markets by Nicholas Sitko (Michigan State University and IAPRI)



POLICY SEMINAR ON THE IMPACT OF
IMPORT & EXPORT BANS



Understanding the Effects of Maize Trade
Restrictions on the Development of Maize Markets

Nicholas J. Sitko
Parliamentary Policy Seminar: Reviewing the Impacts of Import and Export Bans on
Food Security in ESA
August 11-12th 2014



Outline of Presentation

- Background: The importance of coordinated investment in market development
- What are the costs of trade bans to national treasuries?
- Trade restrictions and informal trade
- Opportunity costs of trade restrictions on private sector investment in maize markets
- Review of policy options for improving maize market performance in the region

Background: What do the markets need and can trade restrictions get us there?

3

- **Regional maize markets face a host of challenges:**
 - Low yield and rain-fed dependent production systems
 - High marketing costs
 - Limited public resources
- **Improvement requires coordinated investment from public and private sectors in:**
 - Productivity enhancement
 - Roads, rails, and ports
 - Storage infrastructure
- How do trade restrictions affect investments in these critical areas?



What is the Role of the Public Sector in Market Development?

4

- Provide public goods for which there are limited profit incentives for the private sector:
 - Roads, rails, and port
 - Agricultural research, development, and extension
 - Rule of law
- Financed through taxes, government borrowing, etc...
- Trade restrictions can cost countries substantial foreign exchange and tax revenue



Foregone Foreign Exchange and Tax Revenue: Zambia

5

Production year	Production (1000 MT)	Production + carryover stocks (1000 MT)	Domestic Consumption (1000 MT)	Expected Exports (1000 MT)	Exported Formally (1000 MT)	Not Exported Formally (1000 MT)	Foregone Foreign Exchange Earnings through Trade (\$US)	Lost Tariff and Licensing Revenue (US\$)
	A	B	C	D=B-C	E	F=D-E	G=F*US\$220	H=F*\$20
2008/09	1,887	1,950	1,700	250	173	77	\$16,940,000	\$1,540,000
2009/10	2,795	3,094	2,000	1,094	3	1,091	\$ 240,020,000	\$21,820,000
2010/11	3,020	3,450	2,500	950	30	920	\$ 202,400,000	\$18,400,000
2011/12	2,853	3,350	2,500	1,050	358	692	\$152,240,000	\$13,840,000
2012/13	2,532	2,988	2,500	488	73	415	\$91,300,000	\$8,300,000
Sub-Total						3195	\$702,900,000	\$ 63,900,000
Total							\$766,800,000	

Source: MAL/CFS, COMTRADE on formal exports

Trade Restrictions Encourage Informal Trade

6

- National boundaries often separate natural markets:
 - Many surplus and deficit areas separated by national borders
 - Examples:
 - Northern Mozambique and Southern Malawi;
 - Northern Zambia and Katanga Province DRC;
 - Northern Tanzania and Kenya



Trade Restrictions Encourage Informal Trade

7

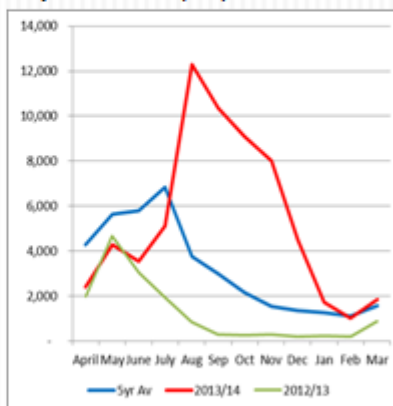
- Trade restrictions do not stop trade
 - Long and porous borders between surplus and deficit areas
 - Supplies will find ways of meeting demand
- Informal trade is expensive and untaxed
 - Cost of loading and unloading, payments to border guards, etc...
 - Drives up prices and deprives governments of revenue



Example of Effects of Trade Restrictions on Informal Trade

- In September 2013 Malawi witness an unprecedented surge in informal maize trade from Zambia
 - coincided with the imposition of a formal export ban in Zambia

Observed Malawi Informal Maize Import Trends (MT)

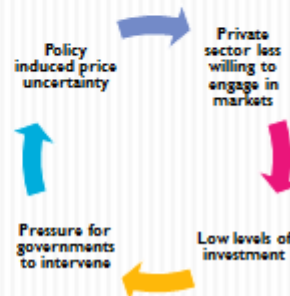


Source: FEWNET Cross-border monitoring

Effects of Trade Restrictions on Private Sector Investments

9

- Reliable cross border trade is a critical precondition for unlocking private sector investment in maize marketing and production
 - *Ad hoc* trade restrictions and other state interventions in grain markets the increases price uncertainty
 - High price uncertainty makes private sector unwilling to invest significantly in grain markets
- Vicious cycle of private sector underinvestment in grain infrastructure and procurement, leading to pressure on the public sector to continue to intervene in markets.



Foregone Investments in Grain Storage

10

In Zambia

- **Members of Grain Traders' Association currently have:**
 - \$US 30 million in 550,000 mt storage in 11 districts
- **With greater policy predictability:**
 - Additional US \$45 million to increase to 825,000 mt storage in 18 districts.
 - Particular interest in investing in northern corridor to tap into east Africa market.
- **Instead 2013 Ag budget allocated K179.7 million for construction & rehabilitation of silos**
 - Greater than the combined spending on R&D (86.6 million) plus rural feeder roads (63.5 million) in ag budget

Conclusions

11

- **The current market situation:**
 - Supplies are incapable of meeting demand requirements
 - Maize prices frequently trade outside of the bounds set by import and export parity prices
 - Stagnant yields
 - High levels of rural poverty
 - There is need to chart a new path
 - Unlocking the agricultural potential of the region will require:
 - Farmers are given the price incentives and tools to raise yields,
 - Public sector has resources and will to invest in public goods to raise yields and lower transaction costs;
 - Private sector complements public investments to increase storage capacity and to better link producers to consumers.
- Evidence summarized shows that trade restrictions do not aid in achieving these goals.**

Options to Consider

12

- What are the options?
 - Predictability in the market is CRITICAL
 - Development of a policy framework that enhances the predictability of government actions in the market through a process of consultative and rules-based interventions.
 - State interventions in the market are pre-defined, well-known to all interested parties, and based on prevailing market conditions.
- Predictability does not necessarily mean full liberalization of trade or the loss of control over food supplies by the government.
 - Rather it is a shift in policy towards a more rationalized system in which governments set the rules of the game to encourage participation by all interested stakeholders.

Options to Consider

14

2. Link information to consultation:
 - Price and production data used in consultative dialogues aimed at determining governments' intended actions in maize markets in the coming year.
 - Dialogues should be used to solicit insights from a wide range of stakeholders, including farmers' associations, trade groups, consumer advocacy groups, and policy makers.

Options to Consider

13

1. Information is Power:
 - Governments and regional bodies should support the development of professional agencies for generating and disseminating accurate crop production forecasts and price information.
 - These can be developed at a national level, but ideally would also be housed in a regional database

Options to Consider

15

3. The rules of the game: determining the price and supply triggers for specific actions:
 - If domestic wholesale prices drop below a predetermined price what steps will be taken?
 - If prices rise above a predetermined price what steps will be taken?
 - If prices remain within predefined range, government will allow private sector to operate without restrictions.

Options to Consider

16

4. Explore alternative means for managing national strategic reserve stocks. This can include:
 - Issuance of quotas to the private sector to buy on behalf of the government
 - Government has the right of first refusal to the grain at predetermined prices and locations
 - Governments can use call options on SAFEX to manage a portion of their reserves through financial instruments.
 - Call options give the buyer the right, but not the obligation, to a commodity
 - Buy options for multiple delivery dates and announce at what domestic price these options would be exercised.

Options to Consider

17

5. Reallocate revenue generated through maize trade and decreased expenditure on strategic reserve management or imports
 - Increase public investment on public goods to lower transactions costs and increase farmer productivity.



Thank You

18



ANNEX 2D: Bridging the Gap Between Value Chain Actors and Policy Makers: The Role Of ACTESA



STATUS OF ACTESA PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION



Argent Chuula
ACTESA CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ALLIANCE FOR COMMODITY TRADE IN EASTERN AND SOUTHREN AFTERICA (ACTESA)

- A Specialised Agency of COMESA.
- Established by **COMESA Heads of States on 9th June 2009** to implement agricultural activities on staple foods with a focus on small scale farmers in the ESA region.
- Implements programmes mainly in CAADP pillar **2** on **Market access** and pillar 3 on **increasing food production and reducing hunger (food security)**.
- Fits into CAADP regional framework's priority **1** on **Agricultural productivity** and priority **2** on **removal of barriers** to trade

ACTESA's Coverage



All COMESA Member States/ Plus Mozambique, Botswana, Tanzania & South Africa

- Burundi
- Comoros
- D.R. Congo
- Djibouti
- Egypt
- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- Kenya
- Libya
- Seychelles
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Mauritius
- Rwanda
- Sudan
- Swaziland
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe
- Mozambique
- Botswana
- Tanzania
- South Africa

COMESA/ACTESA INTERFACE



OVERSIGHT

- Policy & regulation
- Legal matters
- Vehicle for donor funds
- Audit/M&E

- Implementation of Regional Agricultural Policies

- Promotion of investments in Agriculture

- Promotion of Trade in Agro commodity products and

ACTESA' ROLE?

1. Channels policy issues between the public, private sector and other stakeholders
2. An regional hub that brings together information, knowledge and best practices on developing staple food markets in the COMESA region.
3. Facilitates and co-ordinates activities of implementing partners at regional and national level
4. Co-ordinates the mobilization of resources for implementing partners on agricultural activities in the region

ACTESA's Strategic Focus Areas

Integrate smallholder farmers into national, regional and international markets through an improved policy environment and expanded market facilities /services

Focus Area one

Policy Research
Outreach and
Advocacy

Priority Issues:

- Trade Policy
- Investment Policy
- Sector-Specific Policies
- Research
- Advocacy
- Stakeholder Outreach

Focus Area Two

Market Facilities and
Trade Expansion

Priority Issues:

- Service Forums
- Market Facilities and Services
- Market Information System

Focus Area Three

Capacity Building for
Commercialisation

Priority Issues:

- Development of Farmer Organisations.
- Innovative Linkages to Markets
- Productivity and Technology Adoption

ACTESA PRIORITIES / PROGRAMMES

Agro-inputs: Seed Programme, Fertiliser standards and supply system,

Agro-Technology: Biotechnology and Biosafety Policy, Mechanization

Food security: Regional Food Balance Sheet, Cross Border Informal Trade monitoring, early stages include food safety, post harvest management, imports and exports bans, etc

Market Access: Baseline studies on maize value and livestock value chains, programme development under way

Strengthening Farmer Organisations: Not yet done, but scope in place

SEED HARMONISATION

- Urgency to increase productivity of farmers for food and income security, and to meet CAADP commitments
- Directive COMESA Ministers of Agriculture in March 2008 directed.
- Seed harmonisation started in 2010 with support of EU and COMESA Seed Trade Harmonized Regulations were approved by Council of Ministers in February, 2014



SEED HARMONISATION (Cont)

- COMESA Seed Trade Harmonized Regulations gazetted and in force
- ACTESA directed to come up with detailed plan
- Completed COMSHIP in March, 2014 with support of USAID
- Validated in April, 2014 by ACTESA Alliance Partners
- Presented to Development Partners on the 17th of July 2014.

FERTILIZER DEVELOPMENT

- Through the Abuja declarations by A.U heads of states and directive by COMESA ministers of Agriculture ACTESA undertook a study on the Joint Fertilizer Procurement Initiative JFPI in 2012.
- Study was approved by Ministers of Agriculture in 2013 and directed ACTESA to implement the findings of the study.
- To facilitate the implementation of JFPI, ACTESA is undertaking three programs;
- COMSHIP was validated by Public, Private Partners including CSOs, in April, 2014
- Development Partners' Meeting being held for resource mobilization
- COMSHIP will be presented to Ministers of Agriculture for noting in September, 2014

FERTILISER DEVELOPMENT (Cont)

Undertaking a harmonisation of fertiliser standards supported and in collaboration with the African Fertiliser Agribusiness Partnership – AFAP.

Is putting in place structures and financial arrangements as well as engaging overseas suppliers for negotiated prices on bulk procurement of fertiliser for the region.

Is finalising a program on the Fertiliser Inputs Marketing Program through the support of DFAT and will be tabled before the development partners for support.

FOOD SECURITY

REGIONAL FOOD BALANCE SHEET - RFBS

Has piloted in four countries Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe in building capacity and setting up committees for the construction of national food balance sheet NFBS.

Has created a web portal for the uploading of NFBS for the consolidation of a Regional Food Balance Sheet.

Has taken over the Informal Cross Border Monitoring System – ICBMS from FEWSNET in 2012 and has automated the system through the support of AGRA, WFP and DFAT.

Planning to extend the RFBS and NFBS to the rest of COMESA countries so as to have a full COMESA Regional Food Balance Sheet.

MARKET ACCESS

Undertook a study for the Maize Value Chain(Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia) and Livestock Value Chain (Botswana and Ethiopia)in 2011 and 2012.

Studies approved by ministers of Agriculture in 2013

ACTESA directed to develop full fledged maize Value Chain program as well as Livestock Value Chain program

Designed and validated the Maize Value Chain through the support of DFAT

In the process of designing the Livestock Value Chain through the support of DFAT.

STRENGTHENING FARMER ORGANISATIONS

Planning to map out farmer organizations through the national structures to have a data base on

The farmer groups existing in our regions.

The commodities produced by the farmer organizations

The nature and market structures

The challenges of farmers and

The nature of capacity building required for the different target groups.

MEMBERS OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

- ❖ The Nepad Business Foundation
- ❖ Grain Traders Association of Zambia
- ❖ Zambia National Assembly
- ❖ Food and Agric. Organization
- ❖ World Food Programme
- ❖ FEWSNET
- ❖ IAPRI
- ❖ IFAD
- ❖ ESAANet



THANK YOU



ANNEX 3: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

	Name	Position	Country
1	Barampama Remy	Member of Burundi National Assembly	Burundi National Assembly
2	Hon. Ntangamajeri Diomede	Deputy Chairman of Agriculture Committee	National Assembly of Burundi
3	Nduwimana Joseph	Permanent Secretary	Burundi Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
4	Beza Dejene	Member of Parliament	Ethiopia- House of Peoples Representatives
5	Aregawi Atsebena	Chairperson of Sub standing Committee	Ethiopia- Member of House of Peoples Representative s
6	Dagnachew Beyene	Advisor,	Agricultural Development Sector State Minister
7	Hon. Benjamin Washiali	Member of Parliament	Kenya National Assembly
8	Hon. Fred Outa	Member of Parliament	Kenya National Assembly
9	Hon. Dr. Victor Munyaua	Member of Parliament	Kenya National Assembly
10	Hon. Francis M. Waititu	Member of Parliament	Kenya National Assembly
11	Hon. Ferdnand K. Wanyonyi	Member of Parliament	Kenya National Assembly
12	Oscar Namulanda	Senior Assistant Committee Clerk	Kenya National Assembly
12	Nasir Mahmoud Talab	Assistant Head of COMESA Unit	Ministry of Trade
13	Dr. Mukama Charles	Director-and COMESA Liaison	Ministry of Agriculture
14	Nabasomba Agness Amooti	Senior Public Affairs Officer	Parliament of Uganda
15	Kusasipa Peace	Member of Parliament	Parliament of Uganda
16	Oleru Huda Abason	MP-Chairperson Committee of Agriculture	Parliament of Uganda
17	Hon. Villioe E. lombanya	Member of Parliament	National Assembly of Zambia
18	Hon Kenneth Chipungu	Member of Parliament	National Assembly of Zambia

19	Request Muntanga	Member of Parliament	National Assembly of Zambia
20	Hon. Miyufu Chinga	Member of Parliament	National Assembly of Zambia
21	Hon. Ronnald K. Chitotela	Member of Parliament	National Assembly of Zambia
22	Nkombo Gary	Member of Parliament	National Assembly of Zambia
23	Hon. Dr. Efron C. Lungu	Member of Parliament	National Assembly of Zambia
24	Kennedy Hamudulu	Member of Parliament	National Assembly of Zambia
25	Hon. Mbulakulima Mwansa	Member of Parliament	National Assembly of Zambia
26	Sage Samuwika	Assistant Committee Clerk	National Assembly of Zambia
27	Ng'onga Maxas B.	Member of Parliament	National Assembly of Zambia
28	Hon. Mandi Chimene	Deputy Chief Whip	Parliament of Zimbabwe
29	David Butau	Chairperson Agriculture Committee	Parliament of Zimbabwe
30	Stevenson Nzaramba	Regional Trade Advisor	Eastern Africa Farmers Federation
31	Gerald Masila	Executive Director	Eastern African Grain Council
32	Rwabidadi Eric	Country Program Manager	IFAD
33	Dr Opio Fina	Executive Director	ASARECA
34	Chance Kabaghe	Executive Director	IAPRI
35	Tawonga Mkandawire	Office Assistant	GTAZ
36	Chansa Mushinge	National Technical Manager	FEWSNET
37	Chipego Zulu	Coordinator	ReNAPRI
38	Brian Chisanga	Research Associate	IAPRI
39	Arthur Shipekesa	Project Officer	NEPAD Business Foundation
40	Prof. Oliver Saasa	CEO	Premier Consult Ltd
42	Felix Chizhuka	CEO	ESAANeT
43	Brenda K. Nang'amba	Executive Secretary	Agri-Business Forum
44	AbdelDaliF Ali Mohamed	Director General Irrigation Sector	Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation
45	Daniel Njiwa	Trade Policy Expert	Food Trade ESA
46	Karimu Mtambo	Director of National Food	Ministry of Agriculture

		Security	
47	Albert Mandizha	General Manager	Grain Marketing Board
48	Tim Bergstrom	Deputy Team Leader	Food Trade ESA
49	Grace Mijiga Mhango	Chairperson	Grain Traders and Processors Association
50	Paul Kabuswe	Mayor	Chililabombwe Municipal Council of Zambia
51	Dr. Anthony Chapoto	Research Director	IAPRI
52	Ballard A.M. Zulu	Outreach Director	IAPRI
53	Joseph Karugia	Coordinator	ILRI/ReSAKSS
54	Andy Simpson	Managing Director	IMANI Development/AAPF
55	Jamie Morrison	Senior Economist	FAO
56	John Keyser	Senior Agriculture Trade Economist	World Bank
57	Paida Mpasu	Media Practitioner	National Newspaper
58	Nick Sitko	Applied Research Liaison	Michigan State University
59	Chris Kakunta	Media Practitioner	NAIS
60	Retlaw Matorwa	Associate Editor	Focus Agriculture Africa
61	Argent Chuula	CEO	ACTESA
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