



# **“Addressing World’s Food –Security Demands Through Private Sector Led Management Systems In The Comesa Region To Enhance And Sustain Agro-Exports, For Economic Development”**

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## **ABSTRACT**

The paper is about addressing world’s food –security demands through private sector led management systems in the COMESA region to enhance and sustain agro-exports, for economic development. It follows a need to address best management measures that can easily be practical in nature. It advances the methodology of how such can be achieved in the COMESA region, as it calls for foreign direct investment into the region to contribute to economic growth . Exports of agriculture products are on high demand following a global post 2015 framework , that is a Rio+20 outcome document “THE FUTURE WE WANT” that calls for the interconnected nature of sustainable agriculture ,food security and nutrition as priorities for sustainable development . The world calls on Africa to be a world food basket and support, enhance more sustainable agriculture food systems that are economically viable, so as to eradicate hunger, improve food security while conserving the natural resources . The papers discusses that since Abuja Treaty (1991) that institutes African Union, composed of 8 regional Blocks, Our COMESA Inclusive, COMESA as a regional is seen as the best Agricultural endowed among its member blocks , it could easily change the live hoods of its people through tilling the land and exporting the worldly demanded food, but it has not benefitted from this window , the reason the paper proposes the need for COMESA to partner with the private hands in the region to manage the food systems management and agro-exports than public agencies that are failing the service delivery. The proposal concludes that while it suggests the Private management of food-systems and Agro-exports, the governments must continue their drive for infrastructure development, industrialization policies and efforts to support conservation of natural resources and enhancing resilience to climate change and natural disasters. And concludes that while COMESA member countries have indeed continued the drive of togetherness in trade and come march 21, 2018 will launch the continental free trade area (CFTA) in Kigali – Rwanda, which was created in 2008 to boast trade integration , little efforts are seen for the region to position itself to fill the international welcoming aspect of Africa to lead in feeding the world. Hence with the COMESA realizing this and through the use of effective, timely and reliable means of the Private company for Management of Agro systems and Agro Export from COMESA region , we will for sure eradicate poverty, eliminate hunger and economically empower our populations and be respected as the proper service providers of the food source. Otherwise if we don’t be pro -active, I fore see, the re-colonization of Africa for Food so as to utilize the land left by our grandparents.

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **Background of the paper.**

The sustainable development goals (SDGs) recognize that food insecurity can affect all countries through many different channels .Therefore ensuring food security calls for coherent approaches among stakeholders at local, national, regional and international levels. But the

global interconnectedness between different sectors increases the risks that actions in one area undermine the efforts in another. Breaking down the silos that separate policy sectors is thus a key challenge in overcoming inconsistencies and promote cross sector synergies for achieving food security (SDGs) while also contributing to other SDGs. As developed by OECD for policy coherence for sustainable development to inform policy making in the 2030 Agenda. The fact is that from 2012 to 2014, a total of 805 million people (one in nine people) was reported to be suffering from chronic hunger, despite of the serious commitments and efforts by the global community (FOA 2014). Africa is seen on one side as a vulnerable continent needing strategies that can save it from the challenge it has of feeding its own people but on the other hand has been seen as probable world food basket of 21<sup>st</sup> century especially if it is to supply and produce organic food.

According to African Development Bank ,” Africa holds a potential to feed the anticipated 9 billion people on the planet by 2050 , as Africa sits on 65% of uncultivated land left in the world ,so what Africa does with agriculture will determine the future of food in the world. Therefore ,more than ever before , Africa must be supported to rapidly modernize its agriculture and unlock its full potential . Currently Africa spends \$35b annually on food imports this would otherwise be exports from rural economies that attract foreign exchange , producing very well and creating a lots of jobs for its people .” by Dr. Akinwumi A. Adesina , president African Development Bank ,New vision ,Thursday ,December 14,2017: Africa Must reclaim her Place as a world food basket. The bank has gone ahead to launch a strategy “Feed Africa strategy –Transformation of the African savannah Initiative (TASI) to help unlock the potential of savannas of Africa , that will bring land under cultivation of maize, Soya beans, and livestock productions in optimum conditions. These countries are, Uganda, Ghana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Central Africa Republic, Kenya , Zambia and Mozambique.

Food security is a common challenge to all countries .however its implications and policy responses vary among countries depending on their specific national context- for example even when government have done no effort to support food production , and people do it by their way of life as long as they feed , in Uganda , the pride goes to government. Fertile soils of Uganda,DRC-Congo may mis lead the world when we see most of the population is feeding compared to Burundi, South Sudan that may not have the same chance to have food to feed on. The truth be told that all COMESA members have a potential to improve and produce more food to feed their citizens than what they offer now.

### **Who is COMESA?**

COMESA is one of the eight Regional Economic Communities recognized under the African Union, made up of 19 Member States, namely Burundi, Comoros, DR Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Swaziland, Sudan, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. With a population of 592 million people (2017) and a GDP value of USD 718 billion (2016), and a focus on trade and investment, COMESA is one of the largest economic organizations in Africa.

According to New vision of wednesday14, march, 2018, page 33, prime minister of Uganda , Dr. Rugunda said that African free trade area was created in 2008, to boost trade integration and ultimately create a pan African economic and monetary union by 2018. And in the same paper , Bwalya , Andrew Ngandu, deputy governor for operations –bank of Zambia noted that African Countries trade more with each other than outside markets, so he proposes need of a plan to develop trade , industrial policies which are organic and identify our niches &

strength as a continent, he said that integration is a must since we can industrialize, eradicate poverty via job creation and economic growth .

Looking at what are real challenges of the exports from Africa, it is said that our farmers fail the sanitary and phytosanitary standards, High quality packaging capacity, storage facilities, high freight costs & un trained man power required to export foods to Europe and USA. Which issues can easily be solved by a committed private company than public –government agencies that are not bothered in most cases?

The World Bank forecasts COMESA population to be 725 million by 2030 and 1.1 billion by 2050. The African population is projected to increase to 1.68 billion in 2030 and 2.4 billion in 2050 implying that, COMESA region will account for almost half of the projected African population. According to a Nottingham, uk paper 1504, it is noted at Kigali, on 8 October 2015 (ECA) - Reflecting efforts to boost intra-regional trade and investment, 26 African countries have recently agreed to establish a *Tripartite Free Trade Area* (TFTA) by January 2016. The TFTA agreement comprises the East African Community (EAC), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), and the Southern African Development Community (SADC). With a total population of 638 million people and a total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of USD 1.2 trillion, the TFTA will create Africa's largest free trade area. Andrew Mold and Rodgers Mukwaya, economists of UN Economic Commission for Africa, suggest the TFTA could boost intra-regional trade by USD 8.5 billion. Particularly interesting is the fact that the economic sectors most likely to benefit are the industrial sectors – such as processed foods, light manufacturing and heavy manufacturing, providing an important impulse to regional industrialization. The authors also speculate that, if the elimination of tariffs is accompanied by measures to remove non-tariff barriers and infrastructural deficits, the potential gains could be much larger. The TFTA is estimated to increase regional welfare by US\$2.4 billion, with South African consumers being among the main beneficiaries. Other principal beneficiaries include Angola, D.R. Congo, Tanzania and Egypt. Therefore the truth is that under COMESA, people are united for trade and that the market is there , among the member states, the economic growth therefore can be boasted by the innovative ways and systems to take advantage of this opportunity and hence solve some world challenges of our time like hunger and poverty , just to mention but a few.

### **Statement of the problem**

The UN estimates that Africa will make up a quarter of the world population by 2050 with on Average 60% of the population being under 24 years. This youth bulge presents a great Opportunity for social economic transformation of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) region through tapping into the vigor and idealism of youth and Commercializing ideas into industries in the context of innovation and the fourth industrial revolution. This window of opportunity provided by the demographic dividend can be used to support accelerated economic growth which is needed to address the many challenges currently hampering prospects for industrialization and creation of a vibrant common market space in the region. What we must know is that while we are failing to sustainably feed our COMESA population, the world see us as a big potential to till the land and feed the world population, in evaluating our strength of such demand we must therefore acknowledge that global food security must be born and enhanced in Africa and actually COMESA region to be specific . Yet this is the area whose farmers are not sure of what to do, entrenched in poverty and experiencing hunger themselves, but with full potential to provide the food and be able to create wealth from their soils and natural resources like lakes ,rivers , forests among others. As noted by better policies for sustainable development,2016, page 16: That to achieve the global food security , we need to raise and motivate the poor farmers that are the production side as

well as invest in agriculture development through rural diversification, to foster economic growth and support for private sector.

The establishment of COMESA came with advantages both for member states as well as other trading partners as reported below, COMESA trades within Africa as well as Europe, the EU-28, trades with COMESA but particularly in Mineral Fuels. For example in 2014, COMESA countries accounted for 18% imports from Africa and 20% of export to Africa. Egypt is by far the largest market for EU-28 exports to COMESA, taking well over half of the total in 2014. Machinery and transport equipment remained the largest EU-28 export category to the COMESA countries, making up 35 % of the total in 2014. Despite the impact of recent events, Libya remained the largest source of EU-28 imports from COMESA, with 44 % of the total and Egypt was the second largest source with 30 %. Mineral fuel was COMESA's largest export to the EU-28, accounting for 62 % of the total in 2014. In 2012, Egypt was by far the country with the largest trade in services with the EU-28 in the COMESA group. Its large and thriving tourist industry created a net deficit for the EU-28 of EUR 2.3 billion in 2012. Two other major tourist destinations, Mauritius and the Seychelles, also produced a deficit for the EU-28 in service sector trade.

Looking at the above facts, it shows that COMESA has not taken advantage of its Potential in exploiting trading opportunities, the fact that Africa- particularly COMESA can be a food basket and Europe, other countries are in dear demand for food, then there is an immediate need of a strategy that can take advantage of this, true COMESA exports but Agricultural Exports are few and yet demanded Highly, probably because of their organic content or because according to the theory of comparative advantage, COMESA to me is well positioned and advantageous to invest more than ever before in Agriculture production as its main focus than other sectors. The world has always responded to such commitments and systems have always been put in place to help out, for example developed countries have in some instances promoted organic food feeding, modernization of African Farming and export framework support for Africans into Europe, America, ETC. The unfortunate part is that all those programs about food security and feeding the world have either been proposed and managed by governments and non-governmental services of associations, that are either corrupt in nature or with poor or slow service delivery on such critical issue the reason to me they have never provided a sustainable framework that we can be sure of Africa preparedness to produce food enough to feed the world despite its potential for this opportunity. Now therefore that COMESA is one, the only solution is to allow private Companies promote run and manage the Agro-Export Sector without interferences from national governments, NGOs, where the Agro-Export services are directly benefiting the farmer, through an open pricing system, that shows the end-user pricing as well as farm pricing and a profit margin by the agency, that runs this privately so as to motivate the farmer, avoid middlemen who have no skill of the farming systems but take advantage of lack of know-how of the farmer about the market, because the export information is run between government and its agencies, by the time it reaches the farmer his share is so much reduced and he /she has no control over it.

### **The objectives of this paper.**

- To coordinate the COMESA food production systems and world markets like Europe, Other African buyers, through private hands management strategies for effective service delivery.
- To provide agriculture growth systems to farmers in COMESA so as to be able to increase production that can feed ever increasing world population on organic food that are ever demanding.

- To provide African Farmers access to world market for their organic food continuously.
- To avail practical real time data on food production and demands to the industry through research on demands and supply needs.
- To build practical production capacity of farmers with private hands for effective service delivery.
- To avail economic empowerment to small-African Farmers through assured markets for export , in order to attain a better live hood.

### **EXISTING KNOWLEDGE**

The universal Declaration on the Eradication of hunger and Malnutrition (1974) and paragraph 25 of the universal declaration on human rights (1948) established the right to food, that is realized when every man, woman and child alone or in community with others has physical, economic access at all times to adequate food or means to its procurement. The world summit on food security (2009) in its concluding declaration set out a comprehensive definition of food security that is now applied by FAO,2013,2015,(Food security exists when all people , at all times have physical ,social, and economic access to sufficient ,safe, and nutritious food that meet their dietary needs and food preferences for active and healthy life. The four pillars of security are availability, accessible ,utilization and stability. The nutritional dimension is integral to the concept of food security.)The definition implies that food security is about more than food available,it also encompasses access to food, food utilization and the stability of food supplies overtime and these dimensions are linked . For example measures to increase crop production (availability ) need to be accompanied by appropriate infrastructure investments (Access) in order to avoid food waste.

According to The EastAfrican feb3-9,2018 page 18, about the trends to watch out for in 2018 that could define Africa's future, during the 30<sup>th</sup> African Union Summit in Addisa Ababa, on jan 27<sup>th</sup>,2018. Un Secretary General Antonio Guterres noted that Africa needs to eradicate conflict and climate change to end hunger. He reminded members that in 2015 African Union Chief NkosazanaDlamini-Zuma offered A vision for Africa in 2063 , the vision of high speed inter country railways,diplomatic clout in the international arena, cutting edge fashion ,leadership, and space exploration leadership. But the progress on the agenda 2063 seems to be stalled. He noted that Africa has the highest rate of hunger in the world. The paper goes ahead to quote some other people like the mayor of Cape town ,Patrick de lilla , who said that cape town has been affected by its worst drought in over 100 years in this year of 2017, the drought is caused by the El nino made worse when too much water was allocated to agriculture in the western Cape.

The current population of Africa is 1.2 billion , and its likely to nearly double by 2045,meaning that around 20% of the world total population could live on the continent . Over next 20 years ,it is estimated that the city population in Africa are likely to grow 45% faster than in rural areas ,with 60% of people in Africa likely to live in cities by 2050. This is because as climate change cripples agriculture and pastoral economies in the country sides ,more people are seeking livelihoods in the cities and towns , urban areas are facing rising food prices, and increasing joblessness , which are feeding social tension. Tunisia and Sudan have already been hit by protests related to food prices this year.

According to china Africa research initiative at john Hopkins school of advanced international studies in Washington, it is recorded that in 2009, china took over the US as the African trading partner. In 2000, china -Africa trade was worth \$10 billion, by 2014 this had grown to \$220billion , though it has since fallen because of lower commodity prices. Less noted has

been Chinese efforts in addressing environmental concerns through Africa –China but according to environmental cooperation Centre funded by china trust fund , that supports some un environment projects says that while china is the world's emitter and remains heavily dependent on coal , it is now the largest investor in global clean energy development .So it is also shifting to clean Energy, and calls for African countries to campaign for greater funding towards developing of renewable energy sources and build on sustainable practices into china growing industrial footprint on the African continent. Meaning whether we addressed environmental issues or otherwise, we would still have trading partners to buy our exports if available, As COMESA we such an attractive Block , probably well strategically positioned among other seven Blocks that make African Union. But do ever see ourselves positively like that, our leaders are more busy writing proposals for grants and donations but not business negotiations, while we may not do industrial production we can the best in Agriculture value chain and that can define us and position our stake in the global politics of 21<sup>st</sup>, century that Addresses Capitalistic Tendencies only if one is to survive.

This year of 2018, African Union is scheduled to adopt an draft agreement on continental free trade area (CFTA) , aimed at boosting free movement of goods and services to spur growth and development among member states. Also to note is that over half billion people in Africa are subscribed to mobile services and there more than 150 million Smartphone in use across the continent . Internet use rose to over 300 million in 2017 and Africa is expected to become the largest consumer of mobile devices by 2020, may be because we never participated in the anology era and now that we need phones they are digital. This digital boom has played out in the mobile money explosion ,political and social mobilization ,improved market access for farmers,interactions in health and other social-economic areas ,but not yet in the conservation of the environment. So therefore if we can see light in dark areas of industry& services areas we never knew would grow why not embrace our own Agriculture that COMESA people know well, it can feed them first as well as earning an income from organized exports to themselves members countries, other African Blocks and the entire world, especially our neighbors Europeans who run industries instead of farming , they have enough to buy our produce, we need to produce it, package it and connect well to them.

Many more challenges keep coming into the COMESA and Africa as a whole, according to the Secretary General of United Nations , Antonio Guterres, in his article to the Newvision of Monday January 15,2018 page 27, on topic of Towards A new Global Compact on Migration, he noted that managing migration is one of the most profound challenges for international cooperation in our time. But migration powers economic growth ,reduces inequality and connects diverse societies. Yet it is also a source of political tension and human tragedies. Migrants make a big contribution, to their host countries and of origin, they take on jobs that the local may not do, boasting economic activity. Many may be innovators and entrepreneurs, they make great contributions to international development by sending remittances to their home countries , remittances in 2017 added up to \$ 600 billion , three times all development aid. The Arrangement by a blocks like COMESA and African Union to take advantage of this would not be bad to economically empower your countries. But you must invest where you have a comparative advantage and for COMESA, agriculture should be the first priority- these foreigners in your country are the first market to your food crops , instead of mistreating them ,labeling them , let us see them as a market of what we produce.

According to Moses Ariong , Newvision of Monday February 5, 2018, page 27, he proposes keeping up with climate change through a zoning policy as a tool to fight hunger, true that globally farming households are facing un predictable climate change patterns. And this has

resulted in poverty and hunger, the year 2017 saw over 30 million people facing starvation in the east African , south Sudan, Yemen and north eastern- Nigeria alone according to Oxfam international reports. He calls for mapping of climate and live hood zones such that targets advisory and innervations to be implemented. Looking at soils, rainfall patterns and farmer cropping patterns and behaviors can be a solution to this hunger and drought. But how organized and prepared to this challenge, as a country, regional block or the world, meaning if we are to implement it our ways must change, we must be serious on seeing that hunger and poverty are serious issues that must be tackled now for every human being so look for all ways possible to help us eradicate them, government systems and public agencies have test this management of such system and have almost failed to delivery meaningful service delivery. So let us emphasis be but to another stakeholder, the private people through a partnership and collaborations and see how they will help.

According to Juba monitor of Monday feb,5,2018, page 8 there is a special report on Turning resources into wealth , where FAO, country Representative to South Sudan Promises alongside , Opio Jackson minister of livestock and fisheries , do promise how together , they can eradicate hunger in south Sudan. In the discussion the two identified the conditions that make south Sudan a favorable for livestock and production, that it is drained by many large rivers, including Nile , the Sobat river and its tributaries, the south Sudan -Congo divide that drains into the Nile from the west and other tributaries., type of soil, vegetation suitable for agriculture and Pastures. The countries location on the tropical, its green belt that receives about 2,2000 milliliters per year as well as moderate temperate range of 25-35 degrees centigrade. A lot of tropical forest and equatorial forest type of vegetation, trees of hard wood , with shrubs and glass land for livestock, leave alone the Sudd , that is considered the world largest wetland, occupying an area of 30,000 sq.kmetres.It has papyrus grass that produces biomass and in the water of rivers that sum up to 70,000sq.kms that provide fish. Therefore South Sudan is Arab land giving a potential for crop farming and with a nice topography it can keep livestock like cattle ,sheep and goats. Serious fish farming can be exploited at estimated rate of 300 to 400 metric tons of fish per year making it commercial type of production.The minister said they are looking at food and nutrition Security for the citizens , thought about is the agricultural sector, milk production and meat that can be complemented with poultry and fish .They are promising special programs of feeding the vulnerable expecting mothers as well as the sick. Also in plan is the poverty eradication programs, to look for market for the produced and hence reduce on unemployment and boasting of private sector investments. This will be achieved through securing of foreign markets and thus service delivery will be fostered as long as the commercialization stage is achieved. The minister identifies the stakeholders of Intergovernmental Authority (IGAD), The East African Community (EAC) and African Union(AU) in general that are great partners and if policies are harmonized , they have the same resources and programs that we can all benefit from. The Country could start with its neighbors the African-Arab world, the East-African Community itself and Europe, but how will its potential be exploited if no better means of managing services not put in practice. Noted most recent was a collaboration with the united food and Agriculture Organization(FOA) that is currently providing vaccines for cattle ,goats and sheep. FAO has also put up Milk bars in Rumbek and A weil ,that allows people to sell milk and its products to earn income,in addition they distribute fishing kits to the people , international agencies in that way are doing their part but us the producers must find a long term solution to our own poverty, hunger as well as positioning ourselves for being the World food basket through growing and feeding the world with good food.

Finally FAO and the ministry of Agriculture and fisheries of south Sudan are calling for the financing of the Sector , whether from government, as well as international support . But

strongly call for the private sector whether solely or in public partnership very important engine for growth and economic development of this nation. If the country like south Sudan can have such great potential , and yet we see it as un productive place , as compared to Uganda , DRC-Congo among others, then indeed if organized we can chase away hunger though Using Africans great Agriculture potential to feed the world.

According to African Development Bank ,” Africa holds a potential to feed the anticipated 9 billion people on the planet by 2050 , as Africa sits on 65% of uncultivated land left in the world ,so what Africa does with agriculture will determine the future of food in the world .Therefore ,more than ever before , Africa must be supported to rapidly modernize its agriculture and unlock its full potential . Currently Africa spends \$35b annually on food imports this would otherwise be exports from rural economies that attract foreign exchange , producing very well and creating a lots of jobs for its people .” by Dr. Akinwumi A. Adesina , president African Development Bank ,New vision ,Thursday ,December 14,2017: Africa Must reclaim her Place as a world food basket. The bank has gone ahead to launch a strategy “Feed Africa strategy –Transformation of the African savannah Initiative (TASI) to help unlock the potential of savannas of Africa , that will bring land under cultivation of maize, Soya beans, and livestock productions in optimum conditions. These countries are, Uganda, Ghana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Central Africa Republic, Kenya, Zambia and Mozambique.

As a relatively new concept, sustainable agriculture does not yet reflect a coherent vision of possible and preferable modes of agricultural production and distribution. In the current moment we have the opportunity to create conceptual and practical forms that eliminate exploitive conditions in agriculture, both for the environment and for human beings. (Allen and Sachs 1993: 162) As the current global political gridlock repeatedly thwarts attempts to develop consensus on pressing issues including climate change, global hunger and poverty the world screams out for reform. The need for change is particularly acute in the realm of food systems as over 1 billion people are malnourished and another 1.3 billion are overweight (Popkin 2009). Before launching the World Food Summit in Rome in November 2009, Jacques Diouf, head of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization went on a 24- hour hunger strike proclaiming, ‘We have the technical means and the resources to eradicate hunger from the world so it is now a matter of political will, and political will is influenced by public opinion’ (UN FAO 2009). Confronted with these frustrating contradictions, the question becomes how to ignite change-And what changes can we address to this effect?

### **METHOLODOLOGY**

The fact that food supply and demand have been managed by public agencies, which to me look having gaps of effective service delivery, with increased funding requests and even with failure to report whether allocated funds are sufficient when there is no true measure of analysis, that leads to no control thus no continuous improvement , which leads to lack of projections on food demands and production hence no sustainable food supply assurance to feed the ever increasing population. For example European union commission will set standards that are given to African countries agencies like ministries, Non-governmental organizations, who can only communicate to the public, and keep seeking for more funding but no or less impact is seen on the demand side as well as farmers, the messages need to be shared and practically implemented by the farmers on the ground, none of such agencies will ever do that effectively. And since we can put on priority for food production for export, then we need to take advantage of the best option to be able to impact change on food production, its pricing and hence sustainability for the ever growing population. And Being that COMESA is basically Agriculture Endowed, The methodology bases on theory of partnerships (Maxwell

&Conway 2000,p.viii) that it is a collaborative relationship between entities towards a shared objective through mutual agreed division of labour, world Bank -1998,p.5). I am proposing that COMESA as an Agency, Hires a Private Company that can manage and coordinate Agro-Exports from the COMESA it should be established as private enterprise that clusters potential farmers of different items that can be exported, this information will be shared on a single web based buyers tool, with information on demands of the buyers, on this website the buyers will access the producers of different products from the COMESA, who will have been clustered. This Private Company will cluster market demands and what gaps to fill for export. The Data systems will be integrated that all the time will know what is to be produced and the intercepted market demands, the real time pricing as well as costs in the value chain. The Company will run this Services on behalf of COMESA, replacing Ministries of trade, cooperative, Export Promotion Agencies & NGOs or Embassies in the member countries. The fact that it is a private it go an extra mile to be on the ground advising farmers, training them, mentoring them and finally providing the available market that is now sourced from the European, Egypt, Arab world, and any other Anticipated Buyers as it will run an outreach offices in each of the member states. The Company will lead customers engagement meetings for the demand driven services and do the practical -field trainings for the assured agriculture production, it will be a purely privately led management system, whose costs will be part of the production and the pricing be the open door policy, but targeting to sustain the local African-COMESA- Production as well as the effective market of Organic food that will feed the world. local system of production will be built and approved by the buyers before they are put in use, the principles of food production will be followed but the difference here is that since it is privately managed we are guided by the profit and practices that can sustain the market, hence increased production and demand of African -COMESA foods, in the end people will benefit from stress of poor pricing, be assured of real buyers for export and improve their livelihoods through better earning in the process be motivated to go agriculture for export, and then the world is feed, Africa-COMESA gain economic growth and takes its position of being the world's food basket. As recognized in Rio+20 outcome document of "the future we want" that re-affirms the necessity to promote, enhance & support more sustainable agricultural-food systems, which improve food security, eradication of hunger and are economically viable for the people participating. The Agency will take advantage of already established infrastructure COMESA debates and proposals of helping on climate changes like drought, floods and others will continue, this agencies is best judged on enhancement Agricultural products Exports From Africa-COMESA into the region itself and its outside buyers. That timely, reliable, open service is Run for the benefit of the Members and the region at large.

## FINDINGS

According to Andrew Mold and Rodgers Mukwaya, economists of UN Economic Commission for Africa, papers to quantify the potential benefits from the (Tripartite Free Trade Area) that is being practiced under COMESA, African Union, East African Community and other African Blocks, TFTA, suggest the TFTA could boost intra-regional trade by USD 8.5 billion. Particularly interesting is the fact that the economic sectors most likely to benefit are the industrial sectors - such as processed foods, light manufacturing and heavy manufacturing, providing an important impulse to regional industrialization. The authors also speculate that, if the elimination of tariffs is accompanied by measures to remove non-tariff barriers and infrastructural deficits, the potential gains could be much larger. The COMESA -TFTA is estimated to increase regional welfare by US\$2.4 billion, with South African consumers being among the main beneficiaries. Other principal beneficiaries include Angola, D.R. Congo, Tanzania and Egypt. The paper addresses concerns that industrial production in the TFTA may concentrate in the countries with the highest productivity levels - namely, Egypt and South

Africa. The simulation results suggest that these fears are exaggerated, with little evidence of concentration of industries in the larger countries, with only marginal changes in industrial output in the largest countries in the region - in South Africa and Egypt output increases by 0.21 percent and 0.06 percent, respectively.

Why are the changes in output on average so modest? Even after the elimination of tariffs on intra-TFTA trade, the simulation results suggest that the level of intra-regional trade will still be relatively low (barely 12 percent of total trade). And because, with the exception of commodity-exporting activities, traded output in many sectors is still a relatively small share of total output, it implies that the tariff changes on intra-TFTA trade alone have a relatively limited potential to change the overall pattern of trade. This in itself should allay fears of a dramatic concentration of industrial activity through the elimination of tariffs on TFTA trade. But it also highlights the fact that more would need to be done to incentivise both industrialisation and intra-TFTA trade beyond the removal of tariff barriers. In this sense, it is important to note that the results are dependent on the full implementation of the free-trade area, and contingent on resolving outstanding issues such as regional-wide rules of origin. Issues like this need to be resolved if the TFTA is to reach its full potential. Nonetheless, Mold and Mukwaya's research shows that the TFTA provides an excellent opportunity for countries in the region to increase intra-regional trade, and create a more attractive market for both greater foreign and domestic investment. It is an opportunity which deserves to be seized. Therefore in addition to their own local market among member states, teaming up for export to other regions is indeed possible because since the COMESA is big and Agriculture endowed, unlike other parts of the world, concentrating on Agriculture sector as an export led would definitely bring better results of economic development, and what is hampering it now is that it is not targeting export and also management is by public agencies that have no targets to achieve, unlike if it became a demand driven service, managed privately, motivating farmers and meeting buyers demands properly, it can be an engine of local growth and hence sustain food production in turn for the COMESA people as well as the hungry world in need of good food.

Looking at regional programme for food Security for COMESA-May 2002, draft by FAO. The COMESA Authority of heads of state &government at a meeting in Lilongwe,Malawi,1994, adopted 5 priority areas of focus for 10 years, that talked about significant &sustained increased productivity in industry,manufacturing, process and agro-industries hence aimed at achieving creation of more wealth,jobs and incomes of the people in the region. Development of transport &communication infrastructure&services,promote to link rural areas with rest of the economy and linking the member states, increase agriculture production,provide programmes of trade, work with private sector to maximize common market.

COMESA Agriculture policy adopted in 2002 recognized the need for a holistic approach that embraces the 3 (I) i.e Incentives, inputs institutions &infrastructure and also agreed to make Agriculture and industrial development to be linked to climate change. True that member countries have indeed invested in infrastructure, call it road that connect towns, regions and nations, that can ease transport, but there is less support for farmers to be update with market information, disease controls, innovations, the direct infrastructure to Agriculture like coolers,vehicle that are cost effective for produce transportation. And also generally to note is that member states have reduced on public spending on Agriculture and has been declining in most countries. Therefore since the farmer survives by available forces of demand and supply, and ends up being cheated on prices, his produce rejected on the market because of poor

packaging , and yet agencies that are public in nature are seeing, the solution therefore should be to use the available strength among the stakeholders we have that can easily maximize the farmers benefit , avoid middle men and keep up stands of the clients, through identifying those gaps that exist on both demand and supply sides , the issue that is lacking is effective management of the food supplies and demand. The COMESA member countries should know that when ever people are working for the public office , there is less effort that if the company is private. Therefore calling for the policy to allow governments recognize that Africa can be a food basket of the world and since the west world know that because of this strength , and the ever increasing demand for African Foods that are organic and delicious , then we solve the problem of poor management of our exports and produce through the use of private company that should be contracted to solely manage Agriculture Exports markets and government Agencies just watch and receive reports about it.

Since 2007-2008, Agriculture has returned back on international agenda after more than 20years of constant decline and critical underdevelopment , that is according to Swiss working paper on sustainable agriculture , food security & nutrition in the post 2015 agenda , dated 1<sup>st</sup>,October,2013. The paper further notes that the effects of climate change on food systems already impact negatively on vulnerable population, mostly in developing countries as well as a present challenge to developed countries. The situation will worsen with possible global warming of 4 degrees by 2050 potentially causing a reduction of 40% in yield of wheat and maize. In the same era the increase in global demand for food for the rapid growing population (from 7 billion today to 9 billion by 2050)and more affluent population is a more global challenge. Looking at the above challenges and opportunities, COMESA and Africa As a block should not sit and again wait for colonization this time food Colonization but use its Strength to bargain its position based on what it can offer, the best we can be is to be the Worlds Food Basket, in that way we will attract investors into Agriculture value chain. So to attain this brand, we must demonstrate through employing our farmers, to get the best prices on the world market , and this will only be possible through creation of Enterprises that can work with focus, commitment and ready to identify the gaps i.e, export and production challenges.

The world is still vibrant about the need to address structure causes of Malnutrition(under nutrition as well as overweight) and obesity. The world therefore calls for special emphasis on people getting a balanced & diversified diet, especially women ,infants and young children.Since COMESA can produce enough food let us change a song of encouraging trade to producing food for export in that way , the incomes will improve , member countries will be competitive since the money is available and the buyers will always see no reason of leaving us to another market. Now days when we talk of trading people think of Chine, in the 80s it was France, in 90<sup>th</sup> Dubai we do know who is next. I wish therefore we could also be branded for feeding the world. Any one hugely should think of an African, Sweet Banana, Organic Maize, Orange, Tomatoes from COMESA-Africa. Otherwise soon or later the colonialists will come again to produce and feed their own people outside Africa, and then The Africans will be Paying more than what we pay for Imports from China and be given second hand food grown in our great grand - parents soils.

According to Aglobalpost2015 framework , recognized in RIO+20 outcome document "The Future We want"it calls for continuing to keep fragmented development goals and true is not an option but a must do .It identifies the need for multi-sector coordination based on right based approach that can deliver Transformational changes and sustain improvements. Calling for interconnected nature of sustainable agriculture ,food security & nutrition. The COMESA should come as a possible supplier of food and nutrition provider, but we keep waiting for the developed world to fund even our gathering debate. Many years ago there would less demand

for food, we cultivated a lot now there is a ready demand locally from COMESA members and the entire world, but less innovations on how best to position our selves as solution providers of food , the basic need. If every COMESA member country had a ability to donate food to our internal displaced people, because of war, conflicts of our great leaders who are fight each other and the ordinary citizen suffers, we would be respected , sustainable and indeed prepared. But on a daily basis Developed countries support to Africa is reported into corruption, mis-use, and we end up not being seen as people that can make a difference, let us start with what we can do better. Putting Government Agencies aside is not Neglect but calling for the best results possible.

The same the future we want document recognized the need to maintain natural ecological processes that support agricultural –food systems and resolved to foster agricultural production & productivity globally by increasing public & private investments in sustainable agriculture ,land management and rural development. The private company management of export markets is assumed to be innovative and sustainable because then we will have commercialized exports on the market , and since it is rewarding , the company managing it will report to governments, blocks and be open to the producer on the costs and price offers of the final buyer. Our farmers have suffered this for long, the public egeents work like export promotion board or ministry of trade on getting the information about the export, he channels it to the middle men who decide the price of the farmer. So the farmer must be motivated, when one visits London and see how people buy chocolates you may think that the West Africa that produces them is more developed than UK. Exploitation of farmers end and it can only be if we demonstrate that we can produce , & supply sustainably , then we will have better bargaining power, but our main challenge is how we manage the Food systems, the export and production Centers are not connected there reason is it is no one's business, I work for government when funds come we will create activities for Sensitization of people account for the money and that is it. Customers demand requests are compiled up by onether Government Agency like European Union, a consultant is hired to develop a standard document for exports from Africa and even the contents in the document an African Public officer can not even interpret then, and how will a farmer know about those changes. If we don't maximize our strength on planning how best to feed the world we expect Food re-colonization as it will the hardest world war ever, more than slave trade one.

The future we want document went ahead to note that food insecurity can act as a threat multiplier for conflict , improving food security can easily reduce tensions and contribute to safer and more peaceful live hoods. If DRC- Congo was the most exporting partner to Europe , probably Europeans would be guiding it against such conflicts , but now they only come for Gold and other minerals that are easy to pick and go, the British nationals like the Sweat banana but I never saw any plantation of that nature and they say we import it from the Carriabians islands, no wonder the Caribbean islands have been stable for over 50 years. Still thinking of what can make us a best trading partner to developed world, it must be Agriculture and how we manage our systems needs a re-visit. The reason for this paper.

We must also acknowlge that the future we want , has cross section of society that live in the rural areas and these people especially women and young people ,who play a big role in supporting their economies for social development , and true that globally small holder farmer has a central role to play in increasing agricultural production in a sustainable manner and be able to embrace sustainable resilience aspects and reduce poverty. But there must be serious innovations of Managing the agriculture for food processes , the reason I proposing let the

drive be about producing for export, so that people earn export earning fit for their sweet and be able to produce more.

According to Godfrey Bahigwa , Agricultural trends in COMESA, agriculture is very important in COMESA, its GDP from Agriculture was about us,dollers50 billion in 2003, little over 40% of African agricultural GDP of 3 countries sudan, Egpty&Libya accounting for over 60% of the value of Agricultural production in COMESA. Agriculture is the most important sector , over 60% of its population depend on it for their livelihoods and employment . It contributes to employment range from as low as 5% to the economically active in Libya to high of over 90% in Rwanda. But rembering the COMESA vision of 2025(Madrid) on food security is that Food security and Nutrition for all could be achieved by 2025, but are we on the right track , not at all, there are critical areas that member countries must open up to say and be debated about, the fact is the stakeholder called government and public leaders have not performed well on food security and the market out there is ready to support , not that our countries are barren but systems of management have just frustrated the success.

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

According to John Oucho a professor of population studies, at university of Nairobi, the EastAfrican,June27-july3,2015, page 30. He noted that as per Abuja-Treaty of 1991, that established African Union , it recognizes eight regional economic communities(RECs): that include, The Arab Maghreb union, The Community of sahel-saharan states, the east African community , the economic community of central African states, the economic community of west Africa states, the intergovernmental authority on development, the southern African development community & The Common market for East and East South Africa-COMESA, despite this great together ness, there seems to be a hurry in setting up Regional Economic Communities(RECs) , because people are not aware of the regional integration even after 35 years as they are formed based on geo politics not economic need critia. There is a need for practical economic activities that can easily identify the people together, in Uganda in the 80s, we had regional cooperative unions, we did produce coffee, cotton , tobacco and sugarcanes and all those products were for export, regions were known for their best and local person would easily feel being part of the economic boom because of his produce. The same message for now that, we are still relevant as potentially positioned as COMESA to be a World –Food Basket , then let us provide a regulatory frame work that can enhance this , and for export of food is where we will win, so we need to reduce and eliminate bottlenecks that is failing it, hence allowing private management of Agricultural systems for better service delivery.

It is further identified by John Ouch(2015), that the idea of free-movement of persons is derived logically from the universal declaration of human rights of 1948, which in article 13, states that any one is free to leave his /her country of birth, for another country and be accorded the kind of treatment that their host enjoys and while it provides for emigration, it does not guarantee the right of immigration to enter another country. Thus Regional economic communities echo the long cherished rights but fall short of recognizing the limitations associated with it. People are not keep going around trading Chinese products into the region but our own COMESA innovations like how best to feed our cows and get a lot of milk , process the milk and make butter to export in the region, and beyond. But if implementing Agencies like National Governments are autocratic like a case of Uganda where the Government had to suspend National Agriculture & Animal Advisory Service (NAADS) , a national agency for poor performance and replace it with operation wealth creation – an arm of the Army to run similar services, in such a case you won't be sustaining Agriculture but just surviving, and yet in the same economy there are experts that if hired on private basis would make things move. The reason I propose to start with Agricultural exports is because of export earning COMESA we

gain and it will be a driving force to all other players and also the demand in obvious for support as long as we are organized. Upon South Sudan establishment as a state, Uganda would supply Agricultural products to the level of almost what- ever is produced in to be in a Uganda like market called Konyokonyo, and Ugandans produced more for this market, progressed until the South Sudan Economy fall again in 2015. Equally with Rwanda, Ugandan Produce was on demand until Uganda standards failed to compile. But Uganda has Ministry of trade, Export Promotion Board, Investment Authority, Private Sector Foundation, and I never saw them in South Sudan, or Rwanda to make attempts to sustain such a great markets. What was in South -Sudan , I mean the demand can be in Europe , America , Arabic World , but I don't see our Member Countries Agencies prepared to grab that opportunity , so why not use the strength of private management the government only to monitor & control the fairness and forward planning. The system that eliminate middle men, declare prices and costs in the value chain and we get out of poverty trap of our people in that way the COMESA people will be economically empowered, together since they are main suppliers of food to the world and will practically move within the region for an economic reasons not just because of COMESA pass port that one will keep for 5 years before he crosses to the neighboring countries, right now those that travel are either government workers that go to talk about free trade they don't even demonstrate and may be drug traffickers that are being used because they can easily travel since governments are member countries of COMESA as well as our young unemployed youth that are being exported to Arab world for pity jobs, while there they can't even enjoy a meal they love because food is scarce there, I wish government officers that go to sign contracts of such would rather ask for the market for food in steady of pity jobs and we engage our young people here in real cultivation that earns a foreign currency while you are still home.

The Ultimate Mission of COMESA is to endeavor to achieve over the long term sustainable economy & social progress in member states through increased integration & cooperation and investment and have borne fruits in arrange of areas from trade liberation, customs management , transport & trade facilitation to project finance , institutional development , technical cooperation and capacity development . But never accepted and positioned itself for being a food basket, and this what I am calling for to enhance the exports as a priority in trade and how it is management should be effective.

COMESA must put in place measures to call for foreign direct investment, to contribute to economic growth, so there must be friendly institutions, committed to drive the economy towards market oriented and open economy, through implement this proposal we will be going towards that , and agriculture production and export sector need such .

There is need for increasing of market efficiency from external as well as domestic markets, particularly for agricultural exports. But there are always levies or delays , that we should therefore identify why we are not doing well on such, hence the poor service delivery of our exports. And this can only be done through better management systems of private hands.

## CONCLUSIONS

COMESA members countries are happy with the agreements , that in this generation people are civilized to partner and as they say united we stand ,divide we fall, let us have what can easily make us stand for long with other continents , call it a brand , many years ago a country that never addressed industrialization was a laughing stock but now in the era of high demand for good food that we can easily on market as a region-COMESA, let us make Agriculture export as a main priority and a business through eliminating all forms of its declining status of its

existence to be able to Maximize the best of our African soils that our leaders died in trying to defend during the independence times . And now that would be oppressors , are willing to give us a window of market for export , let our governments accept that the service delivery for Agricultural Production and exports is wanting and any ways to make it shine again are welcome . The only way therefore of making Africa take back its position of being a worlds food basket is to Implement the Export led strategy to our foreign markets and management of such as well as the whole agriculture food systems be through Private hands not governments.

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