# Food First in Africa: promise, potential and progress

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### Content

- Megatrends in agriculture
- Global food security
- Why is Africa lagging behind (IAC study)
- A way forward

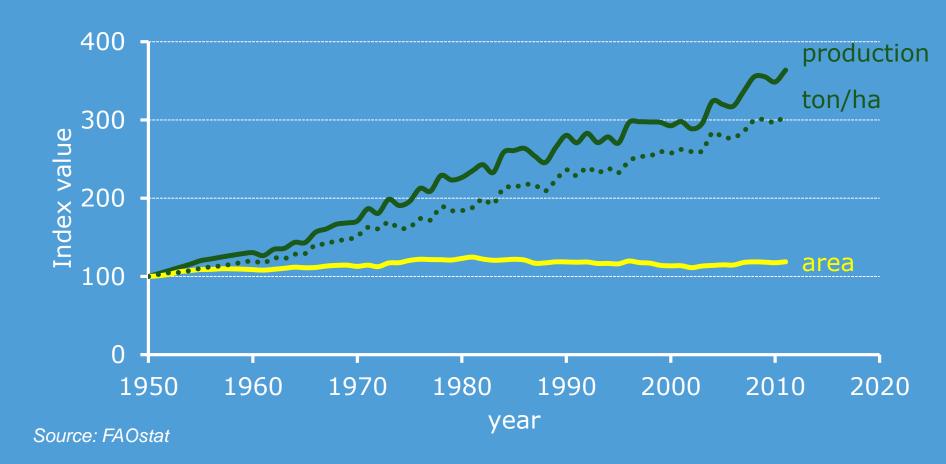


### Megatrends in agriculture



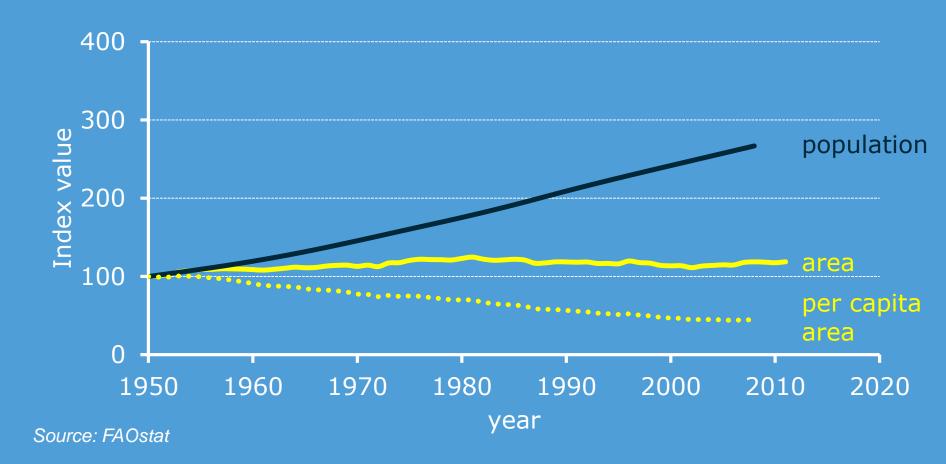


### Global grain productivity (1950 - 2010)



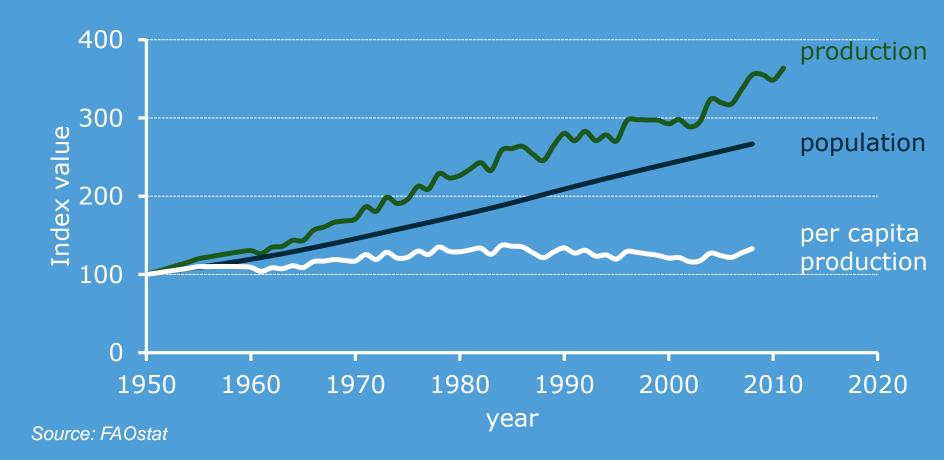


# Global grain acreage (1950 - 2010)



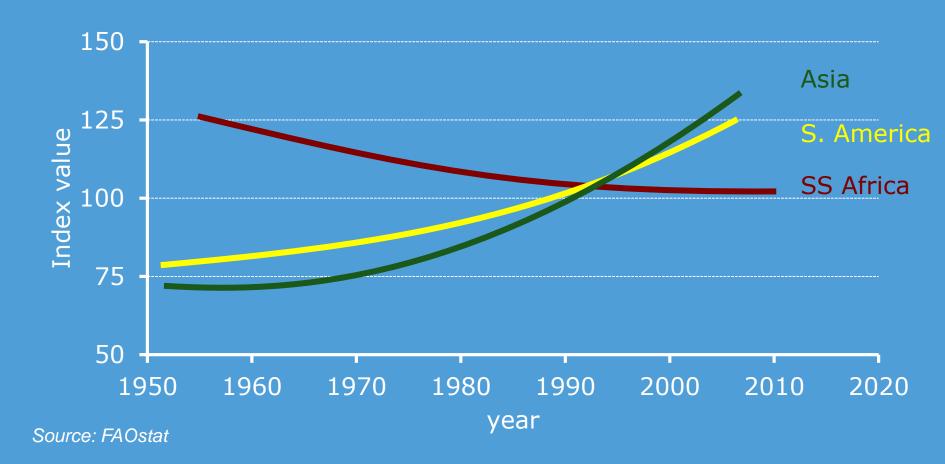


### Global grain production (1950 - 2010)





### Food availability per capita (1960 – 2000)



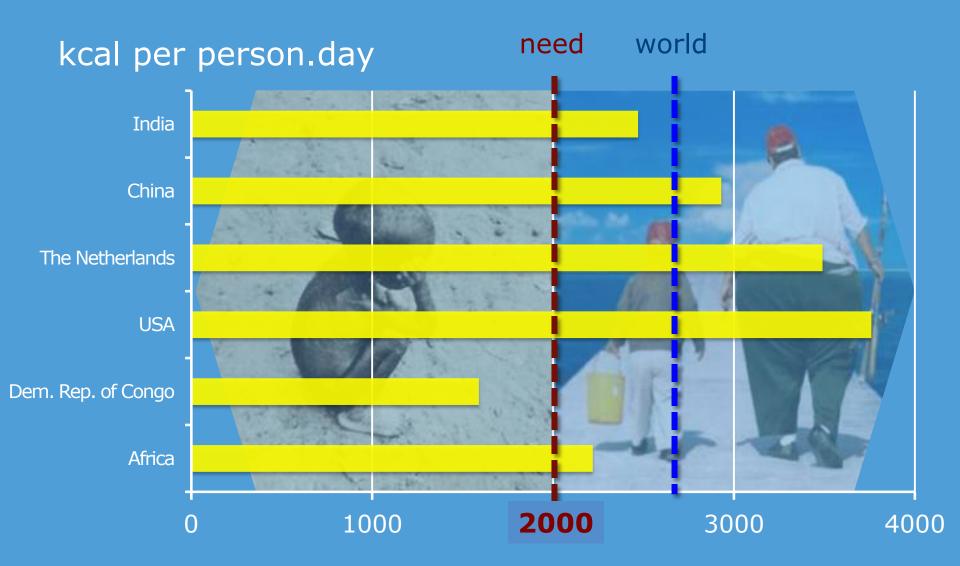


### Global diets

need kcal per person.day 1 billion people 1 billion people underweight overweight 2000 1000 3000 4000

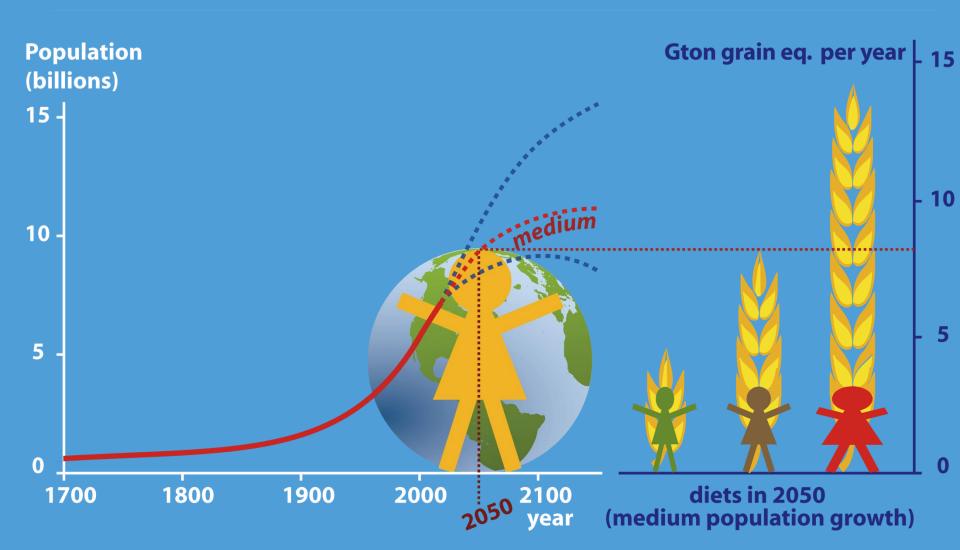


### Global diets



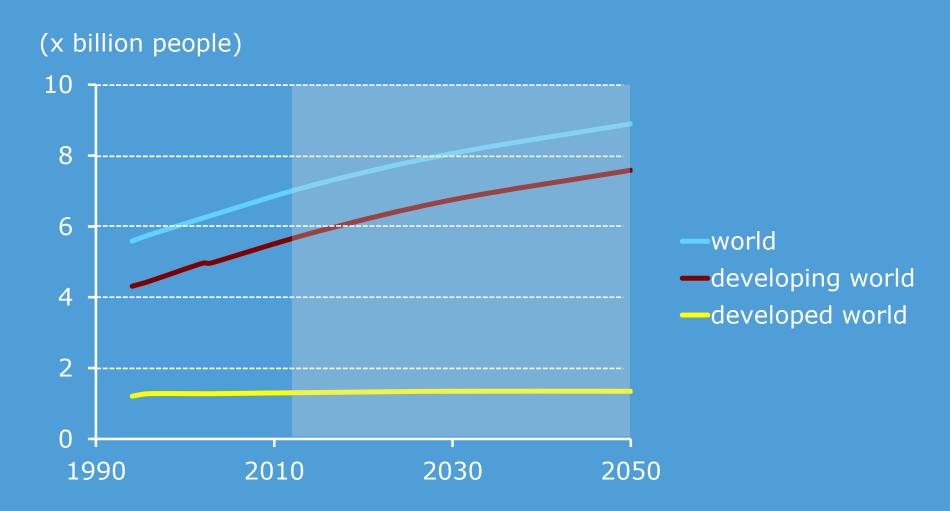


Demand = Population x Diet



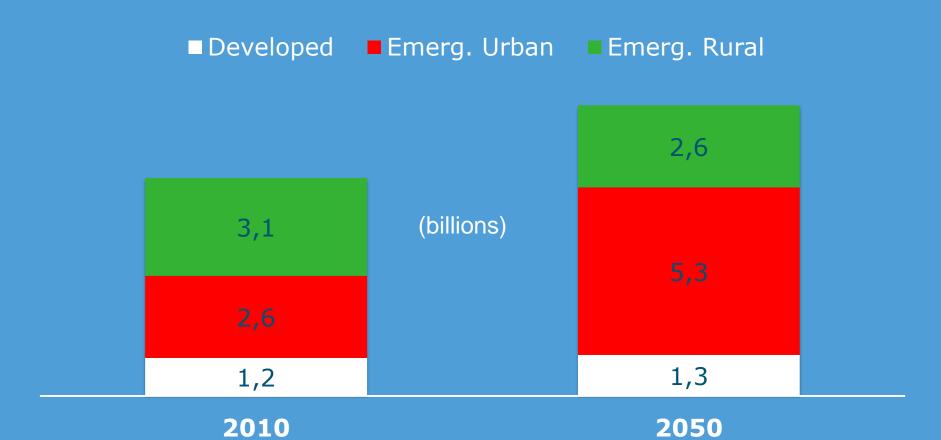


### World population





### Global population





Source: VFRC

### Food demand

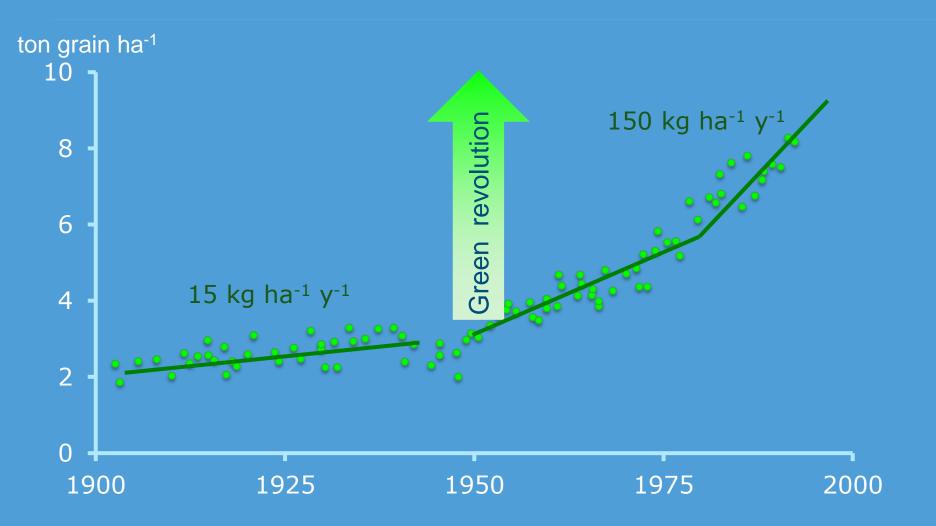






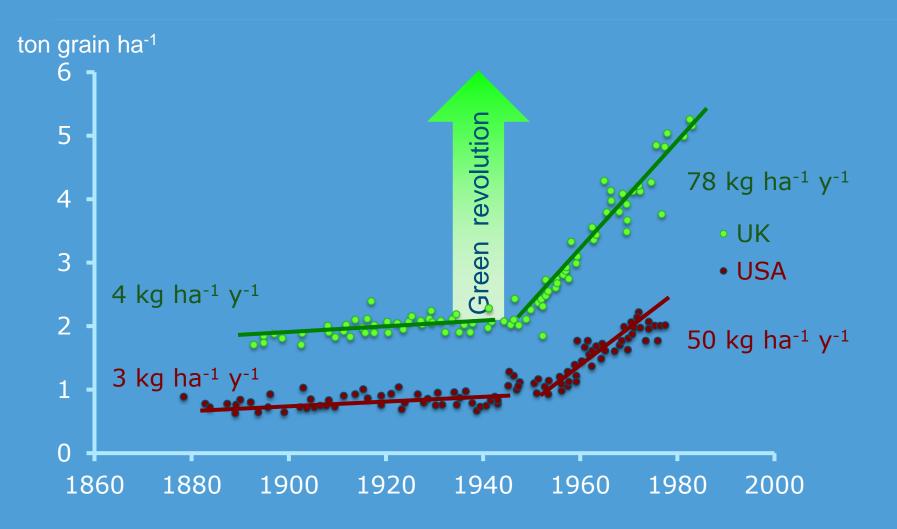
Source: IFDC

### Discontinuities wheat yields (NL)



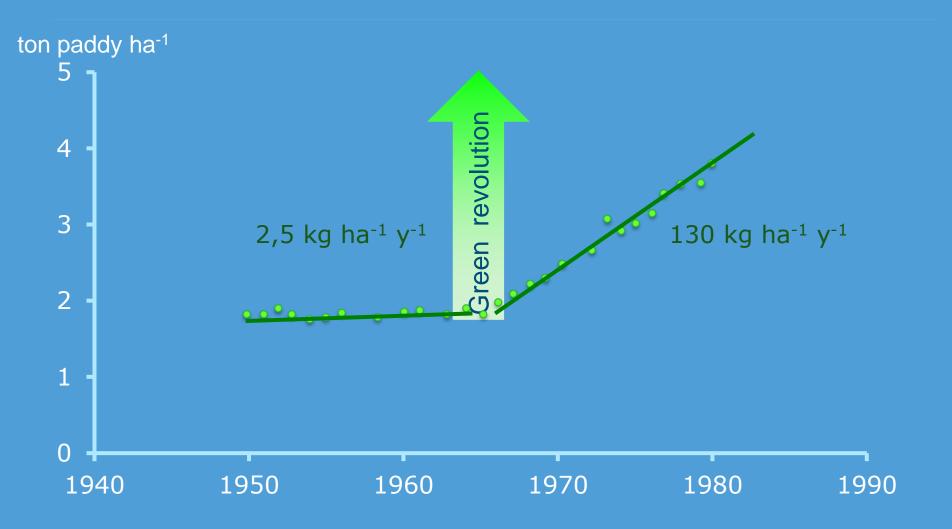


### Discontinuities wheat yields (UK & USA)





### Discontinuities paddy yield (Indonesia)





### Green revolutions

- Production ecological principles → towards potential production
  - integrated soil and water management
  - control of pests, diseases and weeds
- Plant breeding →short straw varieties (harvest index increased) → higher proportion harvestable product
- Presence of functioning institutions
- Political will
- Functioning markets



### Needs for new green revolutions

- Demographic reasons (population growth)\*
- Changes in diet (more animal proteins)
- Shortage of good agricultural land
- Safeguard biodiversity
- Environmental reasons (degradation/pollution)
- Bio-based economy\*
- Climate change



### **Defining factors**

- •CO<sub>2</sub>
- radiation
- temperature
- crop genetics

### **Limiting factors**

- •water
- nutrients (N,P,K)

### **Reducing factors**

- weeds
- •pests
- diseases
- pollutants

#### **Post-harvest** losses

- microbial
- insects
- rodents
- waste



vield increasing measures



attainable production





production



packing

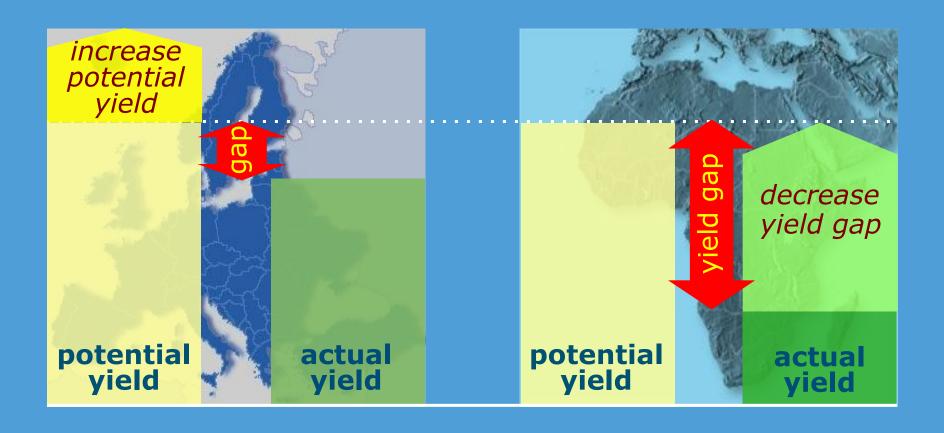
available production

PRODUCTION SITUATIONS



yield leve

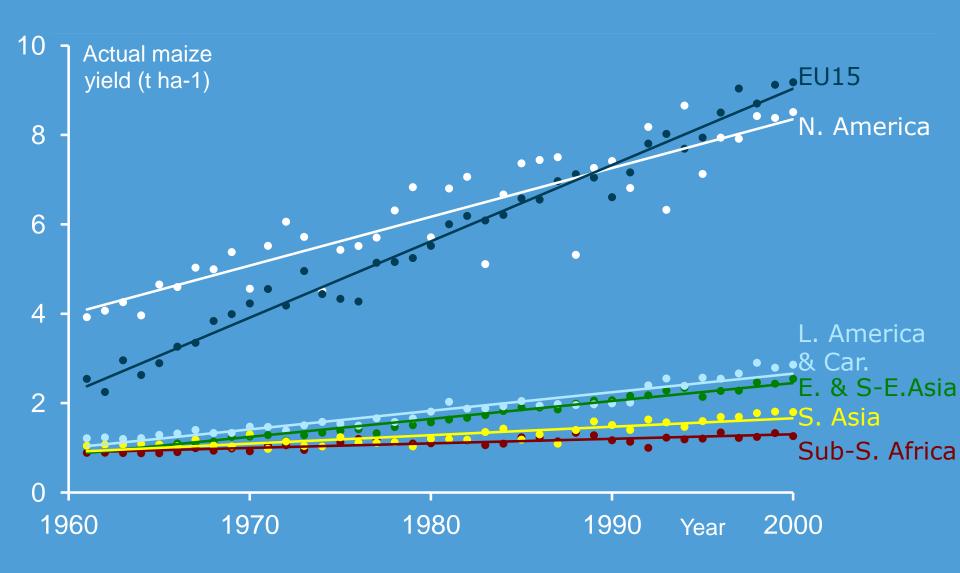
### Two strategies







### Africa: Maize yield/ha stagnates





### Why is Africa lagging behind?

# Study by Inter Academy Council "Realizing the promise and potential of African agriculture"



"I request the IAC a report providing a technological strategic plan to provide substantial increase in agricultural productivity in Africa"

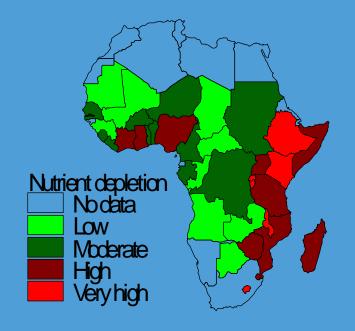
Kofi Annan, March 2002





### Study results (1) Problems of Africa

- Weathered soils
- Erratic rainfall
- Endemic plant and animal diseases
- → Poor resource base,
- → Vulnerable environment
- Absence of dominating food crops
- Multitude of farming systems
- → Need for many different technologies





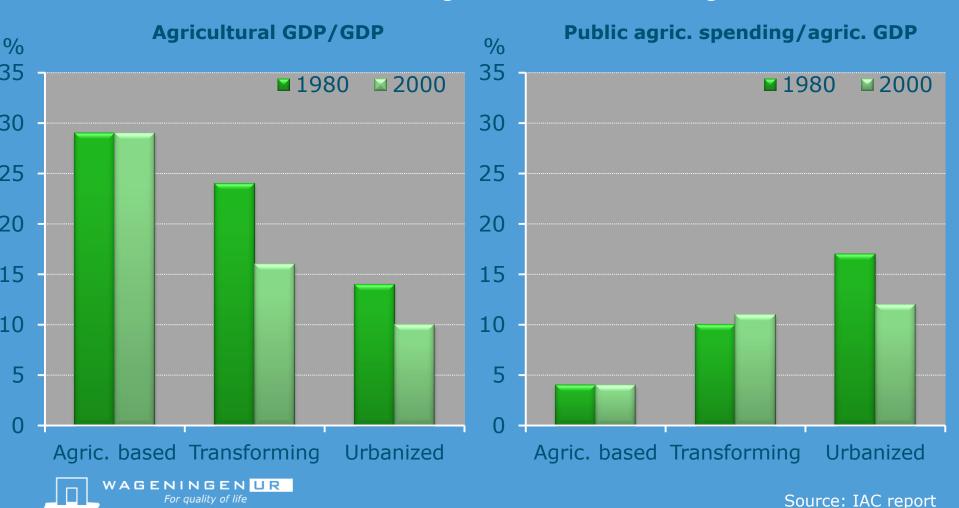
### Study results (2) Problems of Africa

- Dominant role for women limited access to resources
- Land and Labor productivity low
- → How to become competitive?
- Lack of investment in agricultural research
- Lack of knowledge infrastructure
- Lack of functioning academic institutions
- Brain drain
- Need for investment in research and education



### GDP & Investments in agriculture

Public spending on agriculture lowest in agriculture based countries while their share of agriculture in GDP is highest



### Study results (3) Problems of Africa

- Not functioning local and regional markets
- Land entitlement inappropriate
- No stimulating political and economic environment
- Inadequate capacity to impact global policy formulation
- Lack of good governance
- → Need for renewal of institutional arrangements





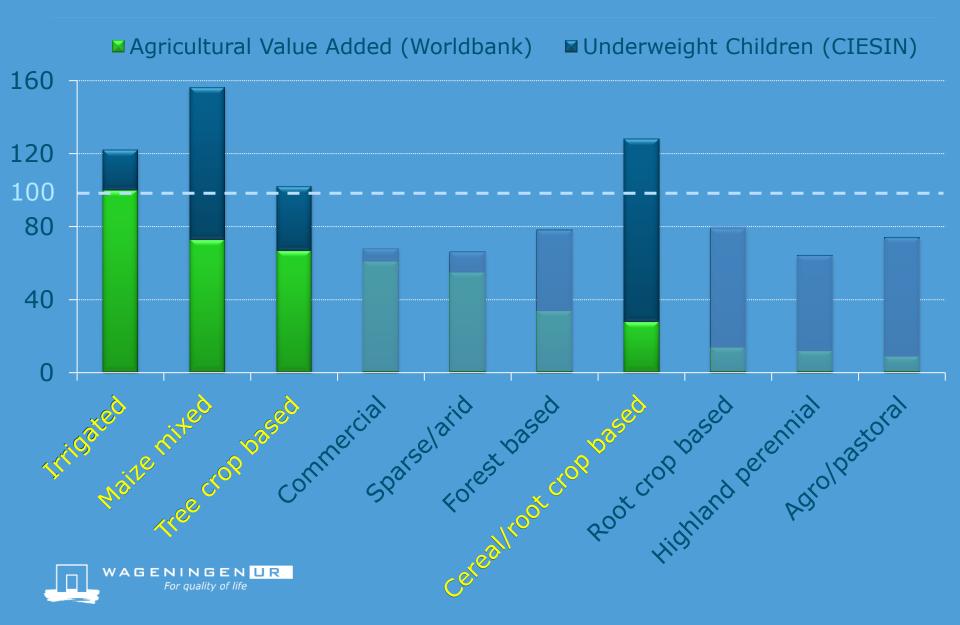
### IAC report: Strategic Recommendations

- Technology options that can make a difference (11)
- Building impact-oriented research, knowledge and development institutions (5)
- Creating and retaining a new generation of agricultural scientists (5)
- Markets and policies to make the poor prosperous and food secure (5)
- Increase investments in agriculture and infrastructure

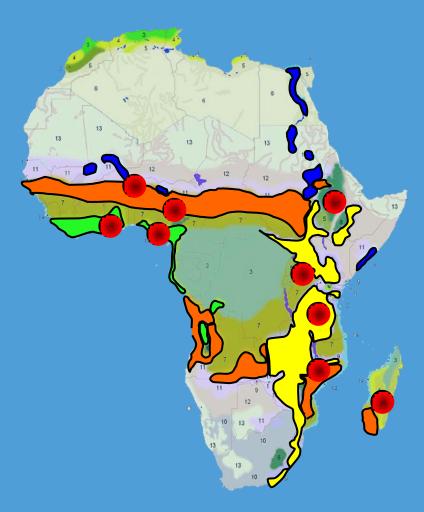




### IAC report: Priorities on 4 farming systems



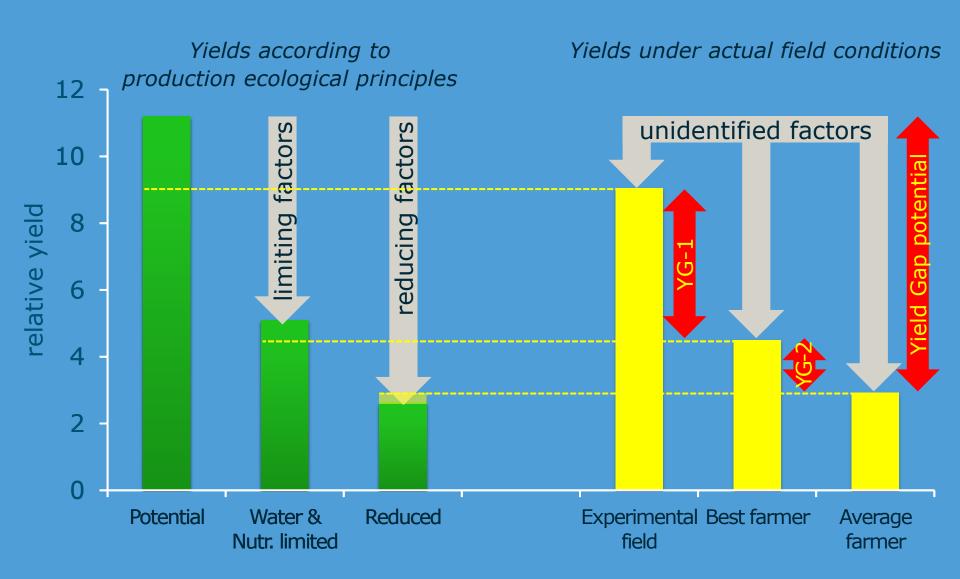
# Priority Farming Systems



- Irrigated system
- Maize mixed system
- Tree crop based system
- Cereal root crop mixed system
  - Hunger Hotspot (CIESIN)



### IAC report: A Production Ecological Approach





### IAC report: Invest in institutions

- Design and invest in national agricultural science systems that involve farmers in education, research and extension.
- Encourage institutions to articulate science and technology strategies and policies
- Increase agricultural research investment on average to at least 1.5 percent of agricultural gdp in African nations in 2015
- Cultivate African centres of agricultural research excellence.
- Strengthen CGIAR



### IAC report: Create new scientists

- Broaden and deepen political support for agricultural science.
- Mobilize increased and sustainable funding for higher education in science and technology, minimizing dependence on donor support.
- Focus on current and future generations of agricultural scientists.
- Reform university curricula
- Strengthen science education at primary and secondary school levels.



### IAC report: Interventions related to marketing

- Increase investments in rural infrastructure
- Strengthen capacity to expand market opportunities
- Reduce barriers to increased African trade with OECD countries
- Improve data generation and analysis related to agriculture, food, and nutrition security and vulnerability
- Institute effective intellectual property rights regimes to encourage the private sector and facilitate publicprivate partnerships.



### Impact of IAC-report: Alignment in studies

- World Development Report 2008
- International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD)
- MDG: Halving the Hunger: it can be done
- Multi-country agricultural productivity programme for Africa (MAPP)
- OECD Promoting Pro-Poor Growth: Agriculture (POVNET)

FAO The State of Food and Agriculture (2005): Agricultural Trade and Poverty



### A New Green Revolution



AGRA programs develop practical solutions to significantly boost farm productivity and incomes for the poor while safeguarding the environment.



### Implementation IAC report

- Technology options that make a difference
  - PASS program AGRA
  - Soil health program AGRA and other programs
  - Integrated programs, leapfrogging to new technologies (production ecology)
  - Improved ecological literacy, no ecological dogmatism





### Implementation IAC report

- Building impact oriented research, knowledge and development institutions
  - Strengthening FARA and national programs
  - Many private-public institutions
  - Global Challenge program Sub Sahara Africa





### Implementation IAC report

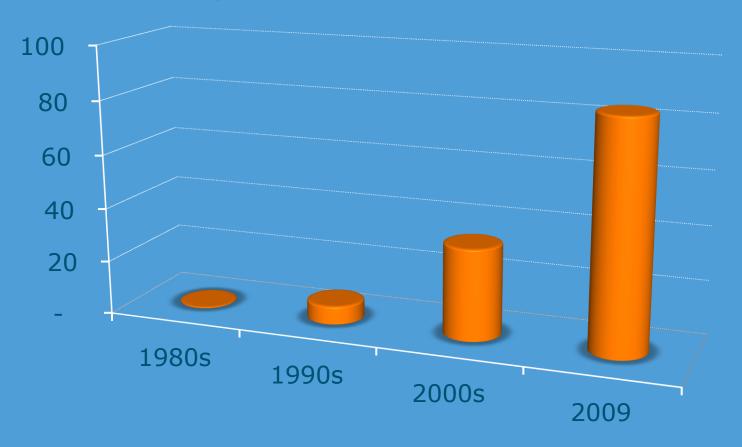
- Markets to make the poor prosperous and food
  - SecureCommitment African Union
  - Strengthening regional and local markets
  - Markets oriented programs AGRA





### Progress in Ethiopia - investments

Trends in agri. investment capital (billion Birr)

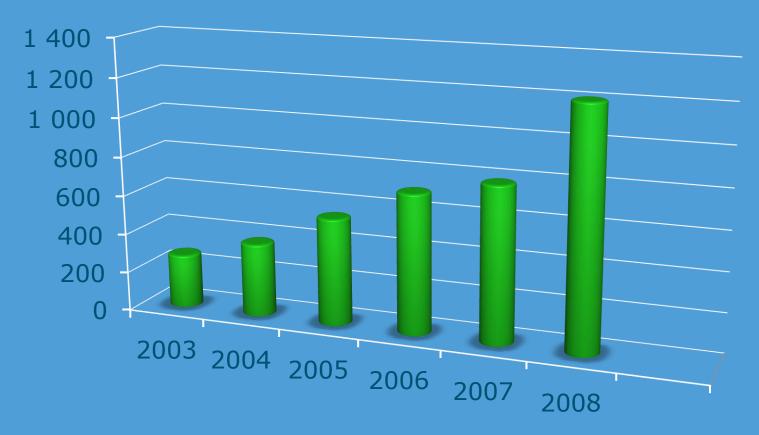


Source: Dr. A. Tsegaye, 2012



### Progress in Ethiopia - returns

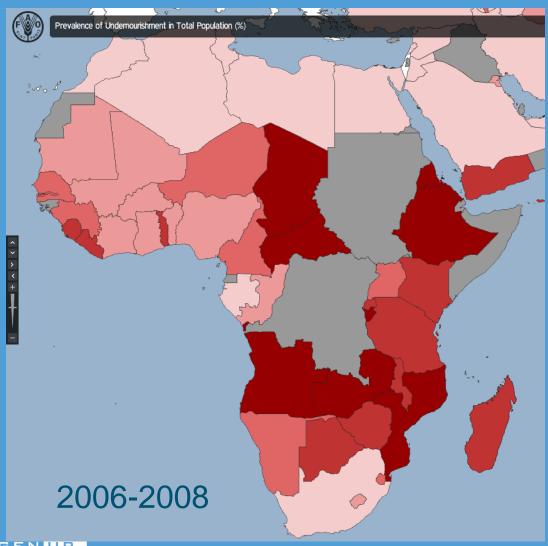
Trends in agricultural export value (x1000 USD)



Source: Dr. A. Tsegaye, 2012



# Undernourishment (% of total population)



> 35%
30%
20%
10%
< 5%

WAGENINGEN UR
For quality of life

Source: FAO

### Follow-up activities

- IFDC programs on integrated soil fertility management including market development for input provision and sale of produce
- CAADP political commitment of African governments: African-led and African-owned initiative focus on
  - soil fertility
  - marketing
  - agricultural research
  - food supply and hunger
- AAA stimulation of entrepreneurship
- Strenghtening food security programs in various countries: USA, DFID, The Netherlands





