Chapter 19

AFRICA

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Africa's food systems have undergone significant transformations over the past four decades, with notable improvements in agricultural productivity and food security, but persistent challenges remain (Table 19.1). Across the continent, agricultural productivity, measured as value added per worker in agriculture, forestry, and fishing, increased from US$1,657 in the mid-1980s to $3,315 in recent years, likely driven by technology adoption, investment, and policy reforms that have improved efficiency in the sector. However, Africa's reliance on imported foods has increased, with the share of cereals that are imported (the dependency ratio) up from 39 percent in the 1985–2000 period to 46.6 percent for 2016–2023. While the overall per capita food supply has become more stable, this progress remains fragile in the face of climate change, economic shocks, and political instability.

Poverty and undernutrition remain pressing concerns. Although at the continental level, poverty has fallen from 49.3 percent to 31.3 percent of the population, regional disparities mean that rates of poverty and undernutrition are substantially higher in some places (Table 19.1). In comparison, South Asia also faces notable poverty and undernutrition challenges but has made more rapid progress than Africa; between the 1990s and early 2020s, the extreme poverty rate in South Asia fell from nearly 47 percent to around 12 percent (World Bank 2023). Within Africa, Central Africa still struggles with high poverty rates and slow reduction in child stunting. Eastern Africa has made steady improvements in food production, yet food insecurity and undernutrition remain high in rural areas. In Southern Africa, the situation is relatively better, with higher agricultural productivity and lower stunting and wasting rates. However, recurrent climate shocks, rapid urbanization,

and changing diets, which have increased demand for cereals like wheat and rice that are not widely produced locally, mean that Southern Africa is highly dependent on cereal imports even as it remains vulnerable to climate-induced shocks to food production. Northern Africa also benefits from high agricultural productivity but has the highest dependency on cereal imports, making it particularly vulnerable to global market fluctuations. Western Africa has seen moderate progress in reducing poverty and food insecurity but continues to face volatility in food availability because of fluctuations in agricultural yields and political instability.

Child malnutrition remains a major concern across Africa. Stunting among children under age five has declined from 38.7 percent to 30.2 percent, but rates remain unacceptably high, particularly in Central Africa (34.9 percent) and parts of Eastern Africa. Wasting has also decreased, from 9.0 percent to 6.7 percent, reflecting some progress in addressing acute malnutrition, but regional disparities persist.

Over the past decades, IFPRI as well as other international organizations have offered research-based solutions to Africa's development challenges. IFPRI's contributions to policy research for agriculture and food systems on the continent have evolved from an initial focus on food security, agricultural productivity, and rural development to include the effective design and implementation of safety net programs (see Chapter 11), agro-parks (see Chapter 16), and national development strategies, as well as linkages between agriculture and broader development outcomes, including sustainability, equity, and health (see Chapter 3) (Diao et al 2007; Hazell et al. 2010).

Policy evolution in response to agrifood systems challenges

Africa's agrifood policy landscape has evolved in response to complex challenges, including food insecurity, climate change, and socioeconomic disparities (Figure 19.1). Three major phases define these shifts in policy frameworks: the post-independence era, structural adjustment programs, and the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) framework.

In the post-independence era of the 1960s and 1970s, African countries prioritized industrialization as the key driver of economic development, at the expense of developing the agriculture sector (see Chapters 3 and 18). To support industrial growth, governments implemented import-substitution policies that heavily taxed agricultural exports and controlled agricultural markets through state marketing boards. These strategies generated revenue for

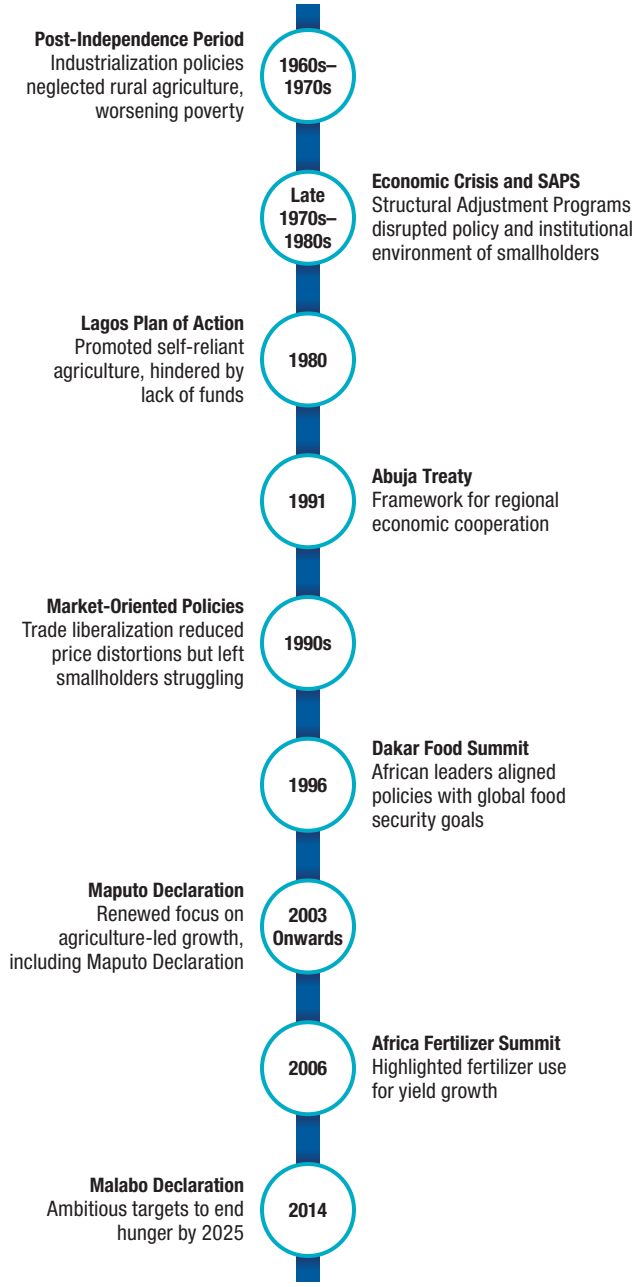
TABLE 19.1 Continental and regional food systems variables, 1985–2023

	Period	Agrifood systems greenhouse gas emissions per person (kT CO^2eq)	Agriculture, forestry, and fishing value added per worker (constant 2015 US$)	Cereal import dependency ratio (%)	Food supply variability per capita (kcal/person/day)	Poverty headcount ratio (%)	Stunting in children under 5 years (%)	Wasting in children under 5 years (%)
Africa	1985–2000	3775.6	1657.2	39.0	47.5	49.3	38.7	9.0
	2001–2015	2958.0	2214.7	42.7	44.6	38.7	34.4	8.0
	2016–2023	2583.1	3315.6	46.6	37.4	31.3	30.2	6.7
Central Africa	1985–2000	6945.2	1447.7	51.1	48.7	43.6	39.8	8.4
	2001–2015	4849.2	1420.8	51.5	48.4	40.6	34.9	8.1
	2016–2023	4339.1	1730.6	47.4	40.3	34.8	30.5	8.2
Eastern Africa	1985–2000	2282.4	1200.2	28.3	43.5	61.1	46.2	8.6
	2001–2015	1921.0	1481.1	33.8	44.5	47.7	40.3	6.9
	2016–2023	1815.6	3184.3	37.5	41.0	44.2	36.9	4.4
Northern Africa	1985–2000	1048.4	3380.0	59.2	44.0	5.8	25.8	4.9
	2001–2015	1319.3	5944.4	56.7	37.9	4.0	23.4	8.0
	2016–2023	1472.4	8507.1	63.0	32.7	1.4	11.9	2.4
Southern Africa	1985–2000	10256.2	2773.2	52.2	52.8	50.5	33.5	8.2
	2001–2015	8298.8	3280.7	60.6	47.4	28.5	30.9	4.2
	2016–2023	6631.1	3550.6	67.2	43.9	34.3	27.8	2.8
Western Africa	1985–2000	2260.7	1159.8	33.0	49.3	59.5	36.6	12.1
	2001–2015	1812.1	1497.8	36.1	44.2	43.0	32.1	9.5
	2016–2023	1545.6	2234.0	40.9	31.9	23.6	27.6	8.5

Source: The Food Systems Dashboard. https://www.foodsystemsdashboard.org

Note: Methodological notes on how the indicators were computed are provided in the Dashboard.

FIGURE 19.1 Africa food policy timeline



Source: Authors' compilation from various sources.

industrial projects by promoting the growth of export-oriented cash cropping within relatively small geographic areas but failed to boost overall agricultural productivity, thus deepening rural poverty and increasing socioeconomic inequalities (Badiane and Makombe 2014). These policies weakened the main source of livelihoods and growth for most of the population. Agricultural productivity stagnated, rural incomes declined, and food production suffered. As a result, poverty and food insecurity worsened, especially in rural areas, and overall economic growth slowed due to underinvestment in the agriculture sector, which was critical for broad-based development. The competitiveness of African agriculture was further eroded by exchange rate distortions and trade restrictions, leaving the sector under-resourced and vulnerable to external shocks (Krueger et al. 1988).

The economic crises of the 1970s and 1980s triggered the introduction of structural adjustment programs (SAPs), driven by the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, and major bilateral donors. Economic and sectoral reforms under these programs sought to liberalize markets, reduce subsidies, and enhance private sector participation in a shift away from import substitution and government intervention in agricultural markets (see Chapters 3 and 18).

Although SAPs did improve macroeconomic stability and laid the groundwork for long-term recovery (Badiane et al. 2020), they had mixed results across Africa in the short and medium term. While export-oriented farmers benefited from improved prices and exchange rate devaluations, the removal of agricultural subsidies and public investments disproportionately harmed smallholders (IMF 1987; World Bank 2004). Moreover, weak markets, physical and institutional infrastructure, and capacity gaps hindered the private sector's ability to fill the void left by state withdrawal. In Ghana, currency devaluation under SAPs boosted earnings for cocoa farmers by making exports more competitive, but producer price increases did not keep pace with devaluation, reducing real incomes for farmers (Green 1998). In Zambia, the removal of fertilizer and maize subsidies severely impacted small-scale farmers, leading to declining yields and worsening food insecurity (MacKenzie 1993). Similarly, in Tanzania, market liberalization led to the collapse of cooperative unions that had previously supported smallholders, leaving them vulnerable to price fluctuations and exploitation by private traders (Taube 1993). Despite these challenges, SAPs contributed to macroeconomic stability in some countries, such as Uganda, where liberalization attracted investment and spurred growth in cash crop production (Green 1998). IFPRI's report on the impacts of these policies in sub-Saharan Africa, *The Road Half Travelled* (Kherallah et al. 2002), highlighted the mixed outcomes of liberalization and advocated for

more balanced reforms that would support vulnerable populations while fostering economic efficiency.

The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), launched by the African Union in 2003, brought a new focus on agriculture, positioning the sector as a key driver of development and sustainability and highlighted the need for evidence-based policymaking. Two main targets for the CAADP member states were set by the 2003 Maputo Declaration—achieving 6 percent annual agricultural growth and allocation of 10 percent of national budgets to agriculture—with the aim of halving poverty by 2015. The Maputo Declaration was directly aligned with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), particularly MDG 1, which likewise aimed to halve extreme poverty and hunger by 2015. By prioritizing agriculture, a sector central to livelihoods and food security in Africa, the Declaration sought to make meaningful progress toward that goal. However, most African countries will fail to meet the CAADP targets by 2025. Few have consistently allocated 10 percent of national budgets to agriculture, and agricultural growth has often fallen short of the 6 percent target. Weak implementation capacity, limited political commitment, underinvestment, and broader governance and macroeconomic challenges contributed to their poor performance.

The 2014 Malabo Declaration added more ambitious goals, including tripling intra-African trade in agricultural goods and services, building resilience to climate and other shocks, and eliminating hunger. Major accompanying policies included regional trade facilitation through the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), promotion of climate-smart agriculture practices, and enhanced accountability through the mechanisms of the Biennial Review and Malabo Scorecard. While Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Comoros, Ethiopia, Malawi, Niger, and Zimbabwe have achieved some of the targets, especially those related to policymaking processes, most African governments have not met their budget commitments, and no country will achieve all the goals of this Declaration by 2025. According to the 4th CAADP Biennial Review Report, while no country remained on track across all commitment areas throughout the four review cycles, several countries, including Rwanda, Morocco, and Uganda, demonstrated substantial progress in their agricultural growth rates and policy coordination efforts over the course of CAADP (AUC 2024). Some nations have shown incremental progress in areas such as evidence-based policymaking, institutional reforms, and agricultural productivity. The report highlights that 13 countries were actively implementing recommendations from previous Biennial Review cycles, indicating a growing culture of accountability and learning.

At the Extraordinary Summit of the African Union held in Kampala in January 2025, African leaders prepared a new 10-year CAADP Strategy and Action Plan (2026–2035) that lays out another ambitious framework for achieving sustainable, inclusive, and resilient agrifood systems. The Kampala Declaration emphasizes stronger governance, institutional capacity development, and improved accountability mechanisms through enhanced monitoring, evaluation, and reporting systems. Especially critical is a focus on bridging persistent implementation gaps that impeded progress during the Maputo and Malabo Rounds, with effective implementation through National Agrifood Systems Investment Plans prioritized in the Declaration, Strategy, and Action Plan.

IFPRI's contributions to policy research

IFPRI, along with other CGIAR Centers, has contributed to Africa's agrifood policy landscape through research on policy reforms and innovation and through capacity development. National research institutions, development agencies, and private sector stakeholders have also played vital roles in assessing, implementing, and scaling up innovations in agrifood systems across the continent. IFPRI's early research has been instrumental in shaping understanding of market dynamics, pricing policies, input subsidies, and the effects of trade liberalization conducted around 2010. A notable example is IFPRI's analysis of domestic agricultural marketing and pricing policies. By examining the impacts of various government interventions—including marketing boards, buffer stocks, and pricing mechanisms—researchers highlighted the trade-offs between stabilization and efficiency and provided evidence-based recommendations for policy reforms to balance efficiency with inclusivity (Christiaensen 2017). IFPRI's work on social protection and safety nets has also informed policies. For example, research on Ethiopia's Productive Safety Net Programme provided evidence-based insights to refine program mechanisms for targeting, improve program efficiency, and increase impacts on poverty reduction and agricultural productivity (see Chapter 11) (Gilligan et al. 2008; Hoddinott et al. 2012).

The IFPRI 2020 Vision Initiative, launched in the 1990s, helped cement the Institute's influence in the region. Through a series of forward-looking conferences and research programs across Africa that addressed food security, nutrition, health, rural poverty, and sustainable agriculture, the Initiative shaped national and regional agendas. This work facilitated dialogue among policymakers, researchers, and stakeholders, fostering a shared commitment to evidence-based solutions (von Braun et al. 2005).

IFPRI's regional and country offices in Africa have played a foundational role in localizing policy research and facilitating country-led food systems transformation through direct engagement with policymakers, stakeholders, and regional institutions. By providing evidence-based research tailored to local contexts, IFPRI has strengthened national capacities for informed policy decisions, increasing the likelihood that governments will adopt evidence-based policies (IFPRI 2024). Following the launch of CAADP, IFPRI and other CGIAR Centers, in partnership with the African Union and several of Africa's regional economic communities, established the Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS).[1] ReSAKSS supports African policymakers in evidence-based planning, implementation, and mutual review of progress toward CAADP goals. In 2020, the ReSAKSS system and other related programs, along with many staff working on them, were transferred to AKADEMIYA2063, a new African institution based in Kigali, Rwanda, thus expanding locally driven agrifood policy analysis and capacity strengthening activities (Makombe et al. 2024). IFPRI continues to provide technical support to CAADP, including data and analysis for the program's Biennial Review reports and the development of the New Strategy and Action Plan (2026–2035).

Transforming Africa's agrifood systems requires sustained collective action. Research breakthroughs—such as CGIAR and national center efforts to develop disease-resistant, high-yield rice; drought-tolerant maize; and biofortified crops rich in essential micronutrients—are vital. National research institutions, private agribusinesses, and international donors play crucial roles in scaling these innovations. In addition, official development assistance has supported capacity-development programs, extension services, and market infrastructure, ensuring that improved technologies and practices reach farmers and increase agricultural productivity. By identifying binding constraints and high-potential opportunities to overcome these constraints, as well as highlighting critical spatial and temporal trade-offs, policy research can play a critical role in ensuring that these innovations are effectively scaled up and adopted by farmers (see Chapter 17).

1 CGIAR Centers involved include the International Livestock Research Institute and the International Water Management Institute, as well as IFPRI. Regional economic communities involved include the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Economic Community for West African States (ECOWAS), and Southern Africa Development Community (SACD).

Anticipated challenges and opportunities through 2050

Africa's agrifood systems will continue to face profound challenges over the next 25 years, including further demographic shifts and urbanization, inequality, and climate change. But there are also promising opportunities to be found in technological advancements and developing value chains, markets, and trade.

Africa's population is projected to nearly double to 2.5 billion by 2050, of whom more than 60 percent will be under age 25. This will make it the youngest continent, significantly increasing food demand and straining agrifood systems (AUC 2024). Urbanization will continue to transform dietary patterns, increasing demand for processed and convenience foods and disrupting traditional production and marketing practices. At the same time, climate change, rising temperatures, and resource degradation will increasingly threaten agricultural productivity unless adaptive measures are scaled up. These include climate-smart agriculture practices such as drought-tolerant crop varieties, improved water management (for example, drip irrigation and rainwater harvesting), agroforestry, conservation agriculture, index-based weather insurance, and the use of climate information services to guide planting and harvesting decisions (see Chapters 4, 5, and 10). Strengthening extension services and investing in research and innovation tailored to local agroecological conditions are also essential to support farmers in adapting to changing climatic conditions (see Chapters 8 and 9). The social and political pressures and disruptions generated by these trends are likely to persist (Reardon et al. 2021; FAO 2019).

Smallholder farmers, women, and youth face systemic inequities that limit their productivity and participation in agrifood value chains (see Chapter 6). These groups often lack access to financing, information and new technology, and markets. Addressing these inequities will require targeted investments in infrastructure, innovation, and above all, inclusive policies to bridge rural–urban disparities (IFPRI 2007).

Current trends also offer promising opportunities. Urbanization and economic growth can support agro-industrialization and growth in intra-Africa trade. The AfCFTA, which entered into effect in 2021, is expected to enhance intra-African trade, support development of regional value chains, and expand market access. By 2050, a well-integrated regional market could improve access to affordable and diverse diets as well as fostering sustainable agrifood systems (Reardon et al. 2021; AUC 2024) by reducing food waste, improving diet diversity, strengthening climate

resilience, and reducing carbon footprints (AfDB 2017). However, agrifood systems transformation must balance growth and efficiency with food security, sustainability, and inclusivity, especially for small-scale farmers and traders.

Technological innovation can play a central role in overcoming productivity bottlenecks in Africa's agrifood systems. Innovations in digital tools, biotechnology, and precision farming can enhance efficiency and sustainability. For example, mobile platforms like M-Pesa (Kenya) and Esoko (Ghana) already improve smallholders' access to markets, credit, and weather data. Climate-smart practices, such as drought-resistant crops and integrated pest management, can mitigate climate risks (FAO 2019) (see Chapters 4 and 5). Additionally, adoption of improved plant and animal genetic materials, such as stress-tolerant cassava in Nigeria or heat-resistant cattle breeds in the Sahel that are tailored to withstand climate stress, degraded soils, and evolving pest and pathogen pressures, will be crucial for sustainable agricultural intensification and for building resilient agrifood systems (Jain et al. 2023) (see also Chapter 9). Restoring soil health and mitigating desertification are critical to ensuring long-term agricultural viability in arid and semi-arid regions. This includes the Sahel, one of the world's most climate-vulnerable regions, where Africa's Great Green Wall initiative aims to ensure long-term agricultural viability (Partey et al. 2018).

Policy and research needs: A roadmap for the next 25 years

The new CAADP Strategy and Action Plan (2026–2035) provides a framework for achieving sustainable, inclusive, and resilient agrifood systems in Africa. It outlines key policy and research priorities, with an emphasis on actionable strategies and collaborative opportunities for the coming decade.

Actionable policy and research priorities

Achieving CAADP's vision will require a systemic approach that integrates policy research for production, processing, trade, and consumption. Targeted research on key components of Africa's agrifood systems can address pressing food and nutrition challenges. This includes developing and scaling climate-smart innovations not only in crops—such as drought-tolerant maize, biofortified cassava, and high-yield, disease-resistant rice—but also in livestock and fisheries, including improved animal health systems, heat-tolerant

cattle breeds, and sustainable aquaculture practices. Research by CGIAR Centers, national agricultural institutions, and other partners plays a vital role in both technological innovation and policy analysis. IFPRI's work, in particular, can guide the design of policies and programs that acknowledge the potential trade-offs among climate-smart agriculture goals: reducing emissions and environmental degradation, increasing productivity, and strengthening resilience.

Capacity development also remains a critical priority. IFPRI's portfolio of research initiatives in Africa features significant capacity development activities at individual, organizational, and institutional levels, which will continue in coming years. At the continental level, IFPRI played a vital role in conceiving, funding, and championing the Collaborative Masters Programme in Agricultural and Applied Economics, which was launched in 2005. With strong leadership from the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC), this program has produced successive cohorts of African researchers and policymakers who have shaped food policy on the continent. Continued investments in human, organizational, and institutional capacity, including the use of digital tools, advanced analytics, and sustainable practices, can empower stakeholders to implement innovative food systems strategies and policies effectively.

Inclusive policies promoting engagement of women and youth in food value chains are vital to Africa's agrifood transformation. Targeted interventions to integrate these groups can foster equitable growth (see Chapter 14). For smallholder farmers, appropriate financing mechanisms, such as blended finance and de-risking instruments, are needed to catalyze investments in agribusiness (see Chapters 17 and 18). Especially critical will be laws and regulations promoting inclusion, public–private collaborations, and farmer and trader collective action in commercializing agrifood value chains.

Strengthening governance and accountability frameworks is equally important. Effective policies, investments, and interventions in Africa's agrifood transformation depend on transparent, well-functioning institutions (see Chapter 15). Without good governance, even well-designed inclusion-promoting policies and financial mechanisms may fail due to corruption, misallocation of resources, weak enforcement, and/or lack of monitoring. The CAADP Biennial Review Process and mutual accountability mechanisms exemplify Africa's embrace of evidence-based policymaking. Its advanced monitoring and evaluation tools can enhance transparency, align stakeholders, and track progress against CAADP's goals.

Collaborative research opportunities and IFPRI's role

Collaboration across and among stakeholders is at the heart of CAADP's approach. Partnerships with entities including the African Union Commission, national governments, and development partners can align resources and priorities across organizations. The rise of national and regional research institutions highlights Africa's capacity to develop locally tailored solutions. Institutions such as AKADEMIYA2063 and AERC and regional initiatives such as the African Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes are well equipped to provide localized research capacity and generate context-specific insights.

IFPRI's research priorities align closely with CAADP's strategic objectives and broader African priorities:

- **Climate resilience:** IFPRI's work on climate-smart technologies and sustainable practices addresses the dual challenge of productivity and environmental protection, supporting CAADP's goals for climate-resilient agrifood systems.
- **Nutrition security:** IFPRI's research on biofortification (HarvestPlus), nutrient-rich crops, and nutrition-sensitive policies aligns with CAADP's emphasis on reducing malnutrition and improving public health.
- **Inclusive markets and trade:** IFPRI's work on market efficiency and trade systems is reflected in CAADP's support for the AfCFTA agreement. Policies to reduce trade barriers and enhance regional value chains can improve market access and affordability.
- **Rural transformation:** IFPRI's focus on fostering rural economic development through capacity development, infrastructure, and inclusive growth strategies is congruent with CAADP's commitment to integrating smallholder farmers into value chains.
- **Governance and accountability:** IFPRI's focus on institutional development and evidence-based frameworks helps strengthen governance systems and supports CAADP's mutual accountability processes by providing a platform for transparent monitoring and policy dialogue.

As Africa looks ahead to 2050, research must expand into underexplored areas. These include circular economy approaches, which can reduce food waste and optimize resource use (Abe-Inge et al. 2024); and water-energy-food nexus approaches, which can support integrated management of essential resources—water for irrigation, renewable energy for farming, and sustainable food production—helping to mitigate climate impacts and enhance food

security (see Chapter 5) (Mperejekumana 2024). The integration of innovative technologies, including artificial intelligence (AI), digital platforms, and precision agriculture, is increasingly transforming African agriculture. For example, AI-powered tools are now being used for real-time crop health assessments and early detection of livestock diseases in parts of Kenya and Nigeria, offering promising solutions to productivity and climate-related challenges. However, these advances also present challenges, such as access to data, gaps in infrastructure, and capacity constraints. Collaborative research by CGIAR Centers is instrumental in overcoming these barriers. A notable example is the International Livestock Research Institute's pioneering work in gene editing to boost livestock productivity and resistance to diseases such as East Coast fever (ILRI 2024). Strengthening partnerships with regional initiatives such as AfCFTA and the Common Africa Agro-Parks can help ensure that research translates into actionable strategies that foster resilient and inclusive food systems.

The path forward for Africa's agrifood policy

The forward-looking perspective of the CAADP 2026–2035 Strategy and Action Plan reflects Africa's determination to harness agriculture as a driver of economic growth, food and nutrition security, and climate resilience. It underscores the necessity of systemic, inclusive, and evidence-based approaches to agrifood transformation. Investments in climate-resilient technologies, inclusive value chains, and robust governance frameworks are essential to address the demographic, sustainability, and climate challenges projected for 2050. The integration of emerging technologies with evidence-based policies offers a pathway to enhance productivity and sustainability. Collaborative efforts remain central to achieving these goals.

IFPRI's ongoing research is already contributing significantly to these strategic areas. For example, its work on climate-resilient food systems in Ethiopia (Murgatroyd et al. 2025), gender-inclusive extension in Kenya (Timu et al. 2024), and seed systems governance in Nigeria (Takeshima et al. 2025) informs both national policies and regional platforms with rigorous, context-sensitive evidence. In the area of nutrition, IFPRI's biofortification monitoring across sub-Saharan Africa (Friesen et al. 2024) and its empowerment metrics tailored to African contexts (Lentz 2025) are shaping how policymakers integrate food security with health and gender objectives.

Looking ahead, IFPRI is well positioned to help African Union member states and regional economic communities translate the CAADP 2026–2035

Strategy into actionable, country-specific pathways. Through foresight modeling, integrated food system diagnostics, and inclusive policy design, IFPRI's future research can help reconcile trade-offs across CAADP's priorities—such as balancing productivity with environmental sustainability or expanding market access while safeguarding vulnerable populations. Moreover, IFPRI's engagement in platforms such as the CAADP Biennial Review and the AfCFTA provides opportunities to further institutionalize the use of data and evidence in agricultural planning and accountability processes. By continuing to support African stakeholders in navigating complex policy choices with robust, locally grounded analysis, IFPRI's research and engagement can help shape a more resilient, equitable, and food-secure future for the continent.

By learning from past experiences, fostering innovation, and promoting accountability, Africa can achieve its vision of a sustainable, resilient, and food-secure region. The next 25 years present a pivotal opportunity to reimagine Africa's agrifood systems as engines of inclusive growth and resilience. Research institutions including IFPRI, international partners, and African institutions will play a vital role in supporting this transformation through research, capacity development, and policy analysis.

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