KENYA

Are Kenya's Policy and Investment Priorities on Track to Achieve the Kampala Declaration?

KAMPALA CAADP SERIES

COUNTRY DIAGNOSTICS

AKADEMIYA 2063

Brochure #3

Are Kenya's Policy and Investment Priorities on Track to Achieve the Kampala Declaration?

KAMPALA CAADP SERIES: COUNTRY DIAGNOSTICS

Christian Henning, Johannes Ziesmer, Mahamadou Tankari, Henry Okodua, Moustapha Pene, Mouhamadou Hady Diallo, Paul Guthiga, and Julia Collins

Suggested Citation: Henning, C., J. Ziesmer, M. Tankari, H. Okodua, M. Pene, M.H. Diallo, P. Guthiga, and J. Collins. 2026. *Are Kenya's Policy and Investment Priorities on Track to Achieve the Kampala Declaration?* Kampala CAADP Series, Country Diagnostics Brochure #3. Kigali: AKADEMIYA2063.
https://doi.org/10.54067/KCSD/Kenya/No.3

This report was produced under AKADEMIYA2063's **Kampala CAADP Series**, an initiative designed to provide a policy deployment package to support the domestication and implementation of the Kampala CAADP Declaration on Building Resilient and Sustainable Agrifood Systems in Africa, adopted by the African Union (AU). This brochure draws on findings from the **Kampala Goals and Milestones Report for Kenya,** part of a series of diagnostic studies conducted in selected countries to support AU Member States and regional economic communities (RECs) in integrating the Declaration into their national and regional agrifood systems investment plans (NASIPs and RASIPs), while promoting best practices in agrifood systems governance.

Supervision and Project Coordination Support Team at AKADEMIYA2063

- **Overall Supervision:** Ousmane Badiane, Executive Chairperson
- **Managing Director:** Debisi Araba
- **Project Coordination:** Tsitsi Makombe, Director, Knowledge Systems
- **Grants and Budgets:** Mariama Ba, Chief of Staff, Grants & Contracts
- **Financial Management:** Mercy Thairu, Director, Finance & Administration
- **Communications and Media:** Layih Butake, Director, Communications & Outreach

Introduction

Recognizing agriculture's vital role in Africa's development, African leaders adopted the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) in Maputo, Mozambique, as a continent-wide framework to drive economic growth, reduce poverty, and improve food and nutrition security. In 2014, the Malabo Declaration expanded CAADP, with seven commitments to accelerate agricultural transformation. Over the past two decades, CAADP has elevated the profile of African agriculture, increased political commitment to and investment in the agrifood sector, engaged a broad range of stakeholders, and driven progress in agricultural growth, trade, and poverty reduction. However, the 2023 fourth CAADP Biennial Review found that Africa was not on track to meet all Malabo Declaration goals by 2025.

As the Malabo Declaration expired at the end of 2025, the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy, and Sustainable Environment of the African Union Commission and the African Union Development Agency–New Partnership for Africa's Development (AUDA-NEPAD) jointly led the process to develop a post-Malabo CAADP agenda. This work included broad, inclusive regional stakeholder consultations and analysis to guide the development of a robust, evidence-based post-Malabo agenda.

These efforts informed the development of the new CAADP Strategy and Action Plan (2026–2035) and the Kampala CAADP Declaration adopted by African Heads of State and Government in January 2025[1].

Building on its longstanding partnership with the African Union Commission, AKADEMIYA2063 is supporting the domestication and implementation of the CAADP Strategy and Action Plan (2026–2035) and the Kampala CAADP Declaration. The Kampala Declaration calls on all Member States and regional economic communities (RECs) across the continent to integrate it into their national and regional agrifood systems investment plans and to adopt best practices in the governance of their agrifood systems. In anticipation of the intensive work required to update, design, and implement evidence-based, country-level national agrifood systems investment plans aligned with the Declaration, AKADEMIYA2063 is conducting a set of three Kampala Declaration diagnostics in selected countries.

[1] CAADP Strategy and Action Plan: 2026-2035 (Building Resilient and Sustainable Agrifood Systems in Africa).
Kampala CAADP Declaration on Building Resilient and Sustainable Agrifood Systems in Africa.

These diagnostics will result in three reports for each country:

- A Kampala Declaration Status Assessment and Profile Report
- A Kampala Declaration Goals and Milestones Report
- A Kampala Declaration Policy and Program Opportunities and Good Practice Report

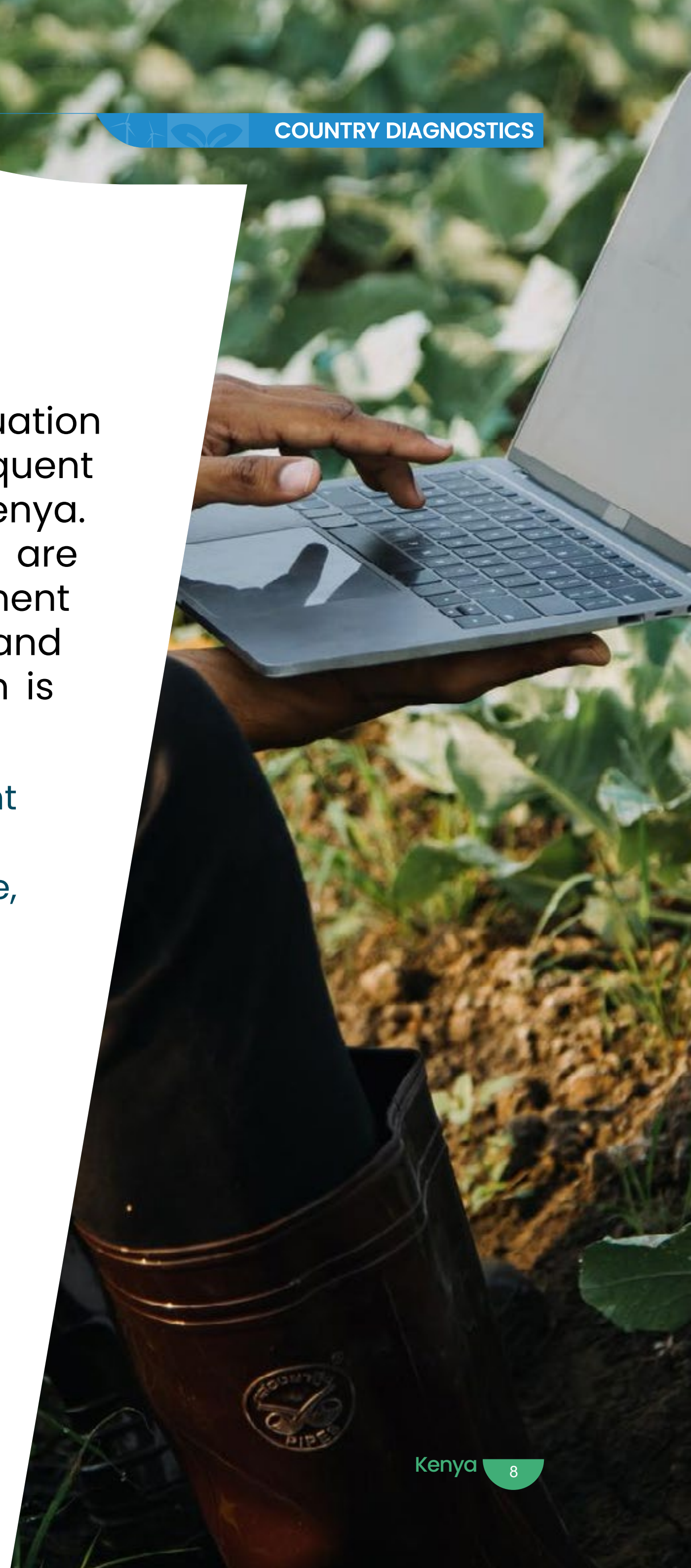
Under the Kampala Declaration Goals and Milestones Report, AKADEMIYA2063 conducts an ex-ante analysis of progress toward intermediate targets necessary for a country to achieve the Kampala Declaration commitments on agrifood system transformation. Different scenarios—including a continuation of current trends and reallocation of public expenditure priorities consistent with the Kampala Declaration—are formulated, and their prospects are examined with regard to achieving the national and continental development goals and milestones under the Kampala Declaration. Such analyses will serve as important input for investment planning and for identifying intermediate milestones that a country must meet and actions it must take to achieve the Kampala Declaration's agrifood systems transformation goals and targets.

This brochure assesses whether Kenya's current policy and investment priorities are on track to achieve the Kampala Declaration, drawing on findings from the Kampala Goals and Milestones Report for Kenya.

Are Kenya's Current Policy and Investment Priorities on Track to Achieve the Kampala Declaration Goals and Targets?

In this issue, we examine whether a continuation over the next decade of the above policy and investment priorities pursued by the Kenyan government during the first two decades of CAADP under the 2003 Maputo and 2014 Malabo Declarations would allow the country to achieve the 2025 Kampala Declaration ambitions, targets, and goals. For that purpose, a mathematical model replicating the entire agrifood system and overall economy of Kenya was developed and used to project the future impact of the policy and investment options that the Kenyan government has pursued in recent years on:

- Technology innovation, productivity growth, and land and labor use in the agrifood system
- Capital investment and employment in the non-agrifood part of the economy
- Incomes of the poorest to the richest quintiles of urban and rural households
- Poverty and nutrition status among the same categories of households
- Greenhouse gas emissions
- Food waste along the agrifood system chain.

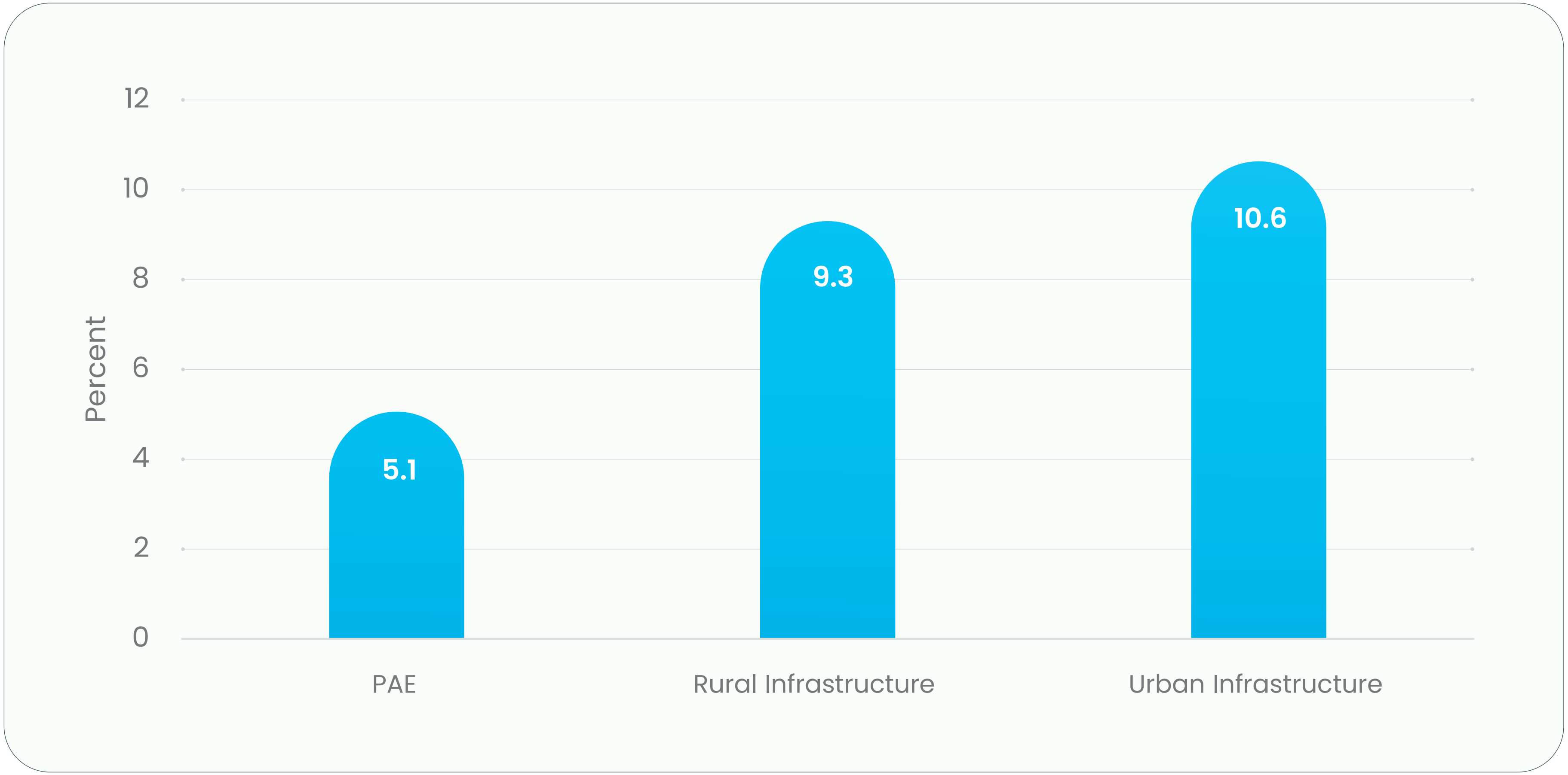


The assessment of future outcomes under current trends projects a continuation of policy and expenditure priorities through 2018 and incorporates subsequent adjustments under the 2019 national agricultural investment plan for Kenya. Figure 1 presents historical trends in public expenditure allocation, which are projected to persist over the next 10 years in the absence of a new investment plan to implement the Kampala Declaration. To track agrifood policy and investment priorities, total public spending to promote economic growth is divided into:

- Direct investments in the agricultural sector (PAE), amounting to 5.1 percent of the total government budget
- Investments in rural infrastructure (9.3 %), including technical infrastructure, such as roads, energy, and internet connectivity, and social infrastructure, including education and health facilities in rural communities
- Investments in urban infrastructure (10.6 %), which constitute the largest component of growth-promoting public investment.

The outcomes at the end of the Kampala Declaration implementation period in 2035 serve as a baseline for the diagnostic used here to evaluate future options for more effective implementation of the Kampala Declaration agenda by Kenya.

Figure 1 Allocation of CAADP-related public expenditures in Kenya during the Maputo (2003 to 2014) and Malabo (2014 to 2025) periods of CAADP implementation, percent of total government budget

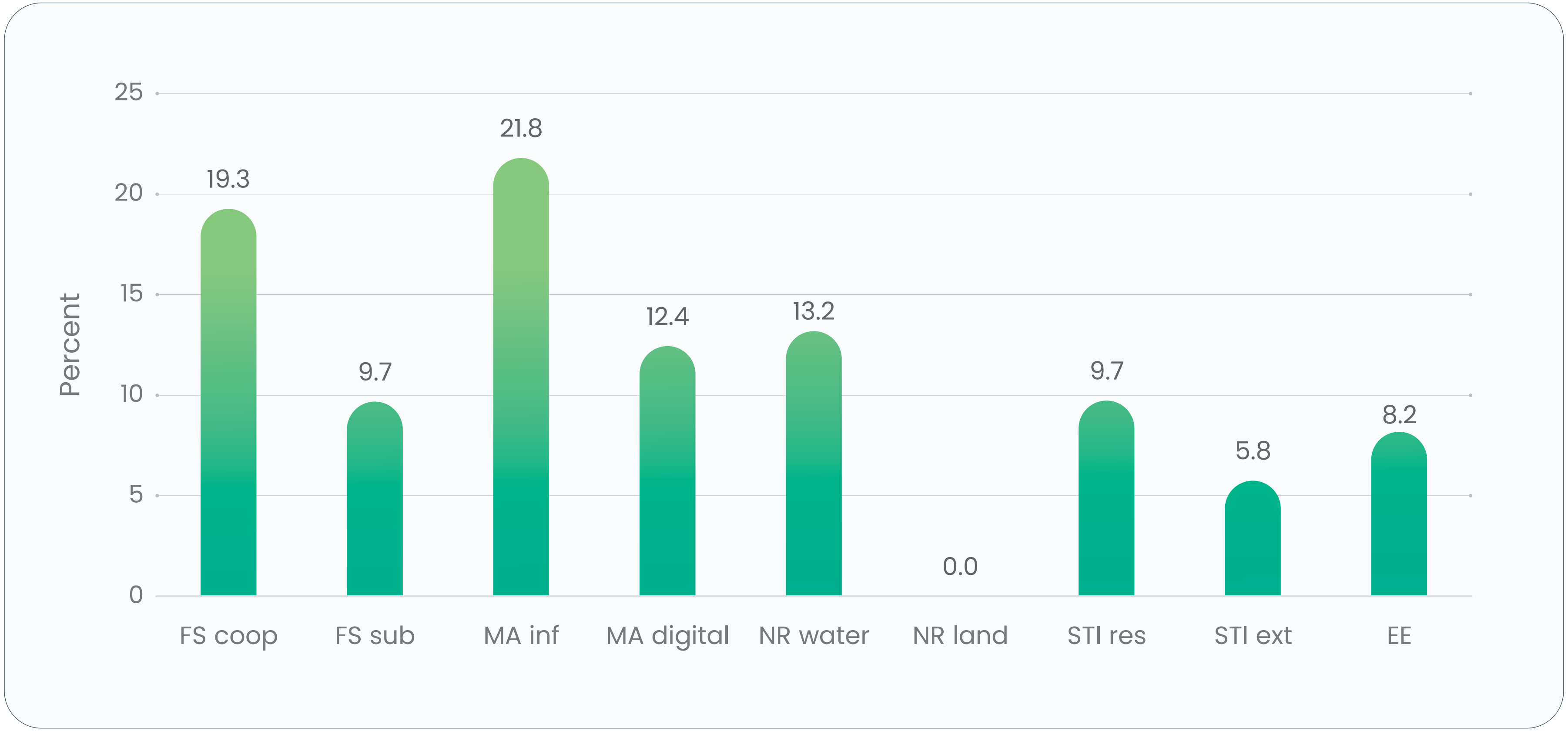


Source: *2021 Social Accounting Matrix (SAM) for Kenya*
Note: *PAE = "Public agricultural expenditure."*

In terms of the type of expenditure, currently, the largest share of PAE is allocated to market access (MA; 34 percent) and farm support (FS; 29 percent), followed by science and technology innovation (STI; 15 percent) and natural resource management (NR; 13 percent), respectively (Figure 2). Expenditures to strengthen the enabling environment (EE) amount to 8 percent of total PAE.

- Within market access, most resources are directed to physical infrastructure for agriculture (MA inf), which accounts for 21.8 percent of total PAE, while 12.4 percent supports digital infrastructure for agriculture (MA digital).
- Within farm support, resources are split between strengthening farm organization (FS coop), accounting for 19.3 percent of PAE, and subsidy programs (FS sub), accounting for 9.7 percent of PAE.
- Natural resource management focuses mainly on water management—particularly public investment in irrigation systems (NR water), which accounts for 13.2 percent of PAE—while public investments in land improvements (NR land) are negligible.

Figure 2 Allocation of public agriculture expenditure (PAE) in Kenya by CAADP commitment area during the Maputo and Malabo periods of CAADP implementation, percent of PAE



Source: *2021 Social Accounting Matrix (SAM) for Kenya.*
Note: *FS coop = "support to farmers' organizations." FS sub = "support to farmers through subsidies." MA inf = "infrastructure investments for improving market access." MA digital = "digital investments for improving market access." NR water = "investments in water management, particularly irrigation." NR land = "investments in sustainable land improvements." STI res = "investments in research under science and technology innovation." STI ext = "investments in extension services under science and technology innovation." EE = "enabling environment."*

Kenya's Progress Toward Kampala Declaration Commitments Under Current Trends

The results of the diagnosis to determine whether Kenya's current policy and investment priorities will enable the country to achieve the 2025 Kampala Declaration ambitions, targets, and goals by 2035 are shown in the figures below.

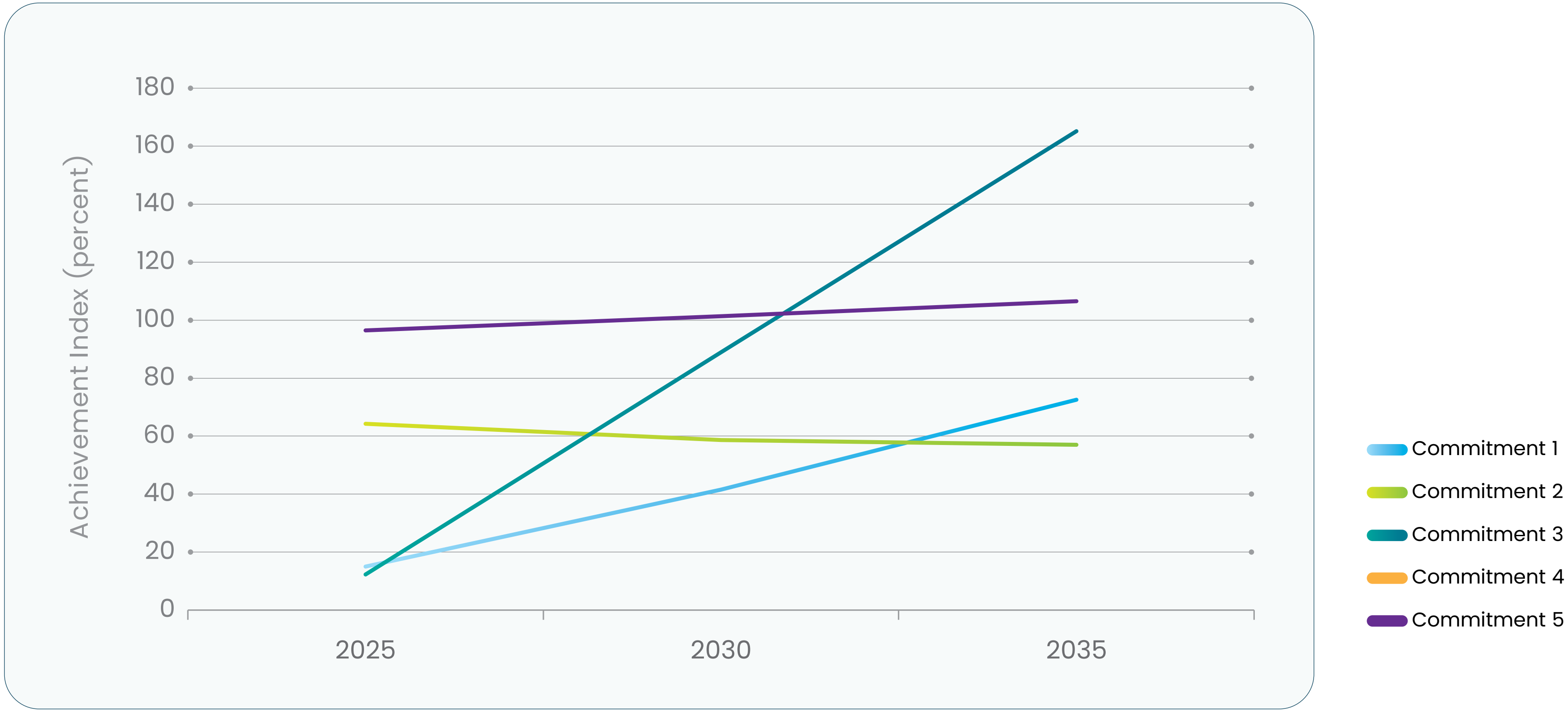
For ease of representation and the sake of comparability, the values of each Kampala Declaration goal or target that would result from Kenya continuing its pre-Kampala Declaration policy and investment options over the next 10 years are expressed in the form of an achievement index ranging from 0 to 100.

- For Kampala Declaration goals and targets expressed in terms of percentage increase (e.g., raising agrifood output by 45 percent) or decrease (e.g., reducing wasting or stunting by 25 percent) from the base year 2025, the value of the index starts with zero, and its trajectory represents the progress over the 10-year period ending in 2035. When the index reaches the value of 100, it indicates that the target has been fully achieved.
- For targets expressed as specific values (e.g., mobilizing US$100 billion), the starting value of the index represents the level of realization of that specific indicator in 2025. For instance, a country that has been able to mobilize US$50 billion in 2025 will have an index starting with a value of 50, and the trajectory of the line depicts future progress toward 2035.

The rescaling of achievement indexes between 0 and 100 makes it possible to compare progress across the different goals and targets. It also allows the computation of cumulative achievement across targets within a given commitment area or across several commitment areas without loss of interpretability.

Figure 3 presents an overview of Kenya's expected progress toward the Kampala Declaration commitment areas by 2035 under current trends. If current policy priorities and expenditure patterns are maintained, Kenya is expected to achieve and even exceed the overarching goals under commitment 3 on food security and nutrition and commitment 5 on building resilient agrifood systems. Commitment 1 on intensifying sustainable food production, agro-industrialization, and trade is expected to be around 70 percent realized by 2035. Commitment 2 on boosting finance and investment, and commitment 4 on halving poverty and advancing inclusivity and equitable livelihoods have the largest gaps between the 2035 targets and what will be achieved by then.

Figure 3 Overview of progress in Kenya toward the Kampala Declaration commitments under current trends

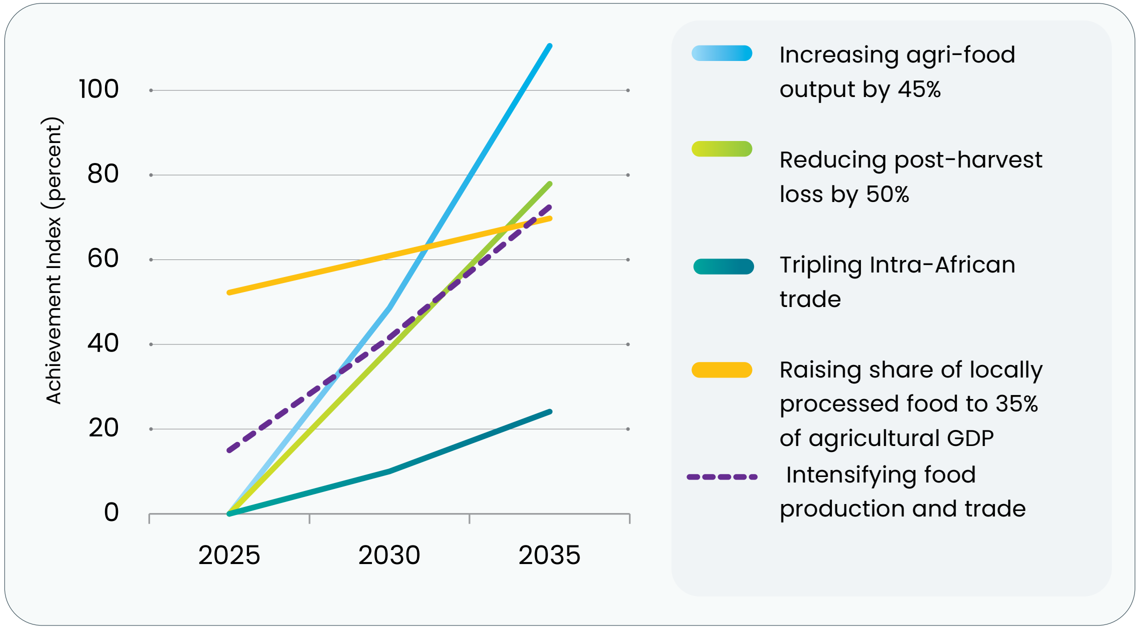


Source: *Analysis by authors.*
Note: *The Kampala Declaration commitments are 1) Intensify sustainable food production, agro-industrialization, and trade; 2) Boost investment and financing for accelerated agrifood systems transformation; 3) Ensure food and nutrition security; 4) Advance inclusivity and equitable livelihoods; and 5) Build resilient agrifood systems.*

Commitment 1: Intensify sustainable food production, agro-industrialization, and trade

Commitment 1 includes targets to increase agri-food output by 45 percent, reduce post-harvest losses by 50 percent, triple intra-African agricultural trade, and raise the share of locally processed food to 35 percent of agricultural GDP. Under current trends, the target to increase output by 45 percent is expected to be fully achieved by 2035. Good progress has been made in reducing post-harvest loss, reaching around 78 percent of the target (Figure 4).

Figure 4 Progress in Kenya under current trends toward achieving Kampala Declaration commitment 1 on intensifying sustainable food production, agro-industrialization, and trade



Source: *Analysis by authors.*

However, progress toward the target to increase local production is more modest, with around 70 percent of the target achieved. The intra-African trade target shows the least progress under current trends, with only 24 percent of the target expected to be achieved by 2035.

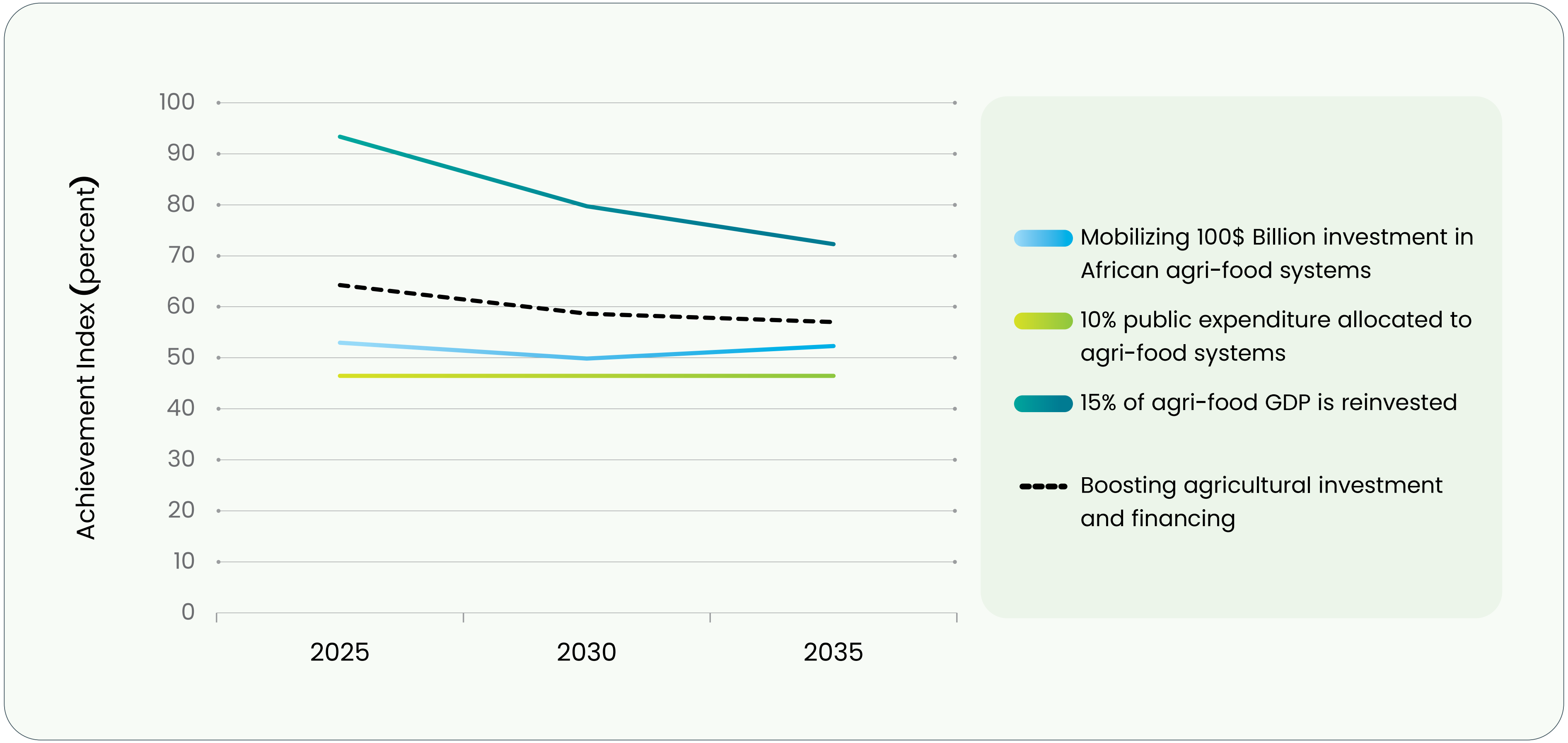
Commitment 2:

Boost investment and financing for accelerated agrifood systems transformation

Commitment 2 includes targets to mobilize US$ 100 billion in investments in agrifood systems at the continental level, allocate 10 percent of public expenditures to agrifood systems, and reinvest 15 percent of agrifood GDP into the sector. To measure progress toward the first target, we first define Kenya's expected contribution to the continental target of US$ 100 billion in agrifood investments. We assume an equal distribution of the 100 billion over the 10-year period from 2025 to 2035, or 10 billion in investments annually, with contributions from each country in proportion to the size of their agricultural sectors. As of 2023, an investment amount of US$ 10 billion corresponded to 2.4 percent of Africa's total continental agricultural GDP of 414 billion. We therefore adopt raising annual agrifood investments to 2.4 percent of national agricultural GDP as Kenya's target.

Under current trends, Kenya will not meet the investment and financing commitment by 2035. Although the 15 percent reinvestment target is already over 90 percent achieved in 2025, the indicator subsequently moves in the wrong direction, while the indicators for mobilizing agrifood investments and achieving a 10 percent budget share for agricultural investments stagnate at around 50 percent (Figure 5).

Figure 5 Progress in Kenya under current trends toward achieving Kampala Declaration commitment 2 on boosting investment and financing for agrifood systems

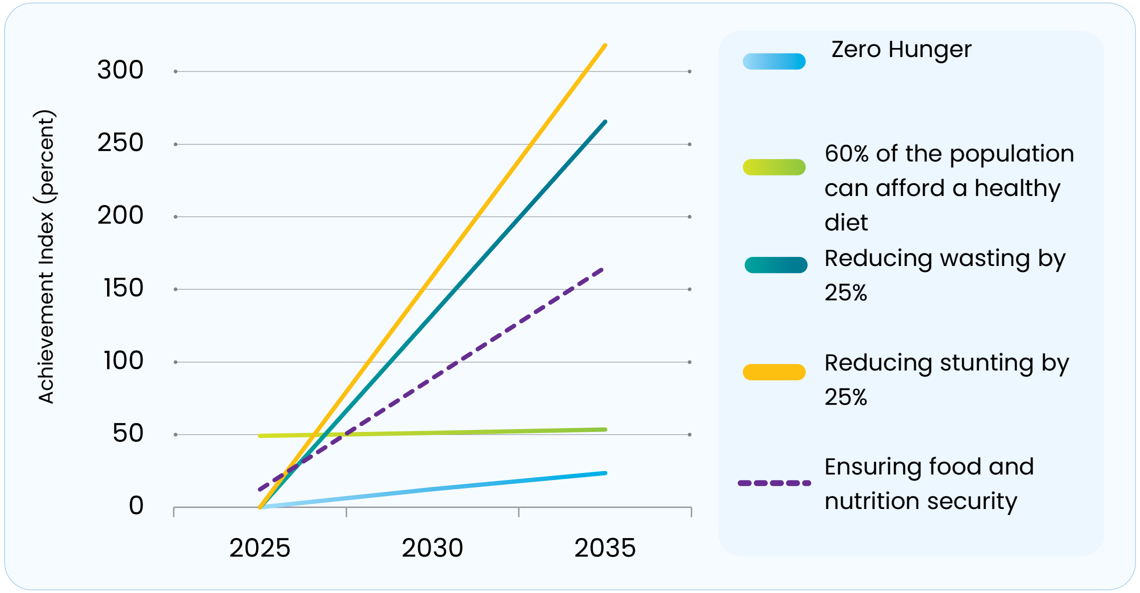


Source: *Analysis by authors.*

Commitment 3:
Ensure food and nutrition security

Commitment 3 includes targets to achieve zero hunger, to reduce child stunting and wasting by 25 percent, and to ensure that 60 percent of the population can afford a healthy diet. Under current trends, the least progress is made toward the target to eliminate hunger, represented in our analysis by the prevalence of undernourishment—only 24 percent of the target of reducing undernourishment to zero is expected to be achieved (Figure 6). Similarly, the target for improved access to healthy diets is only half achieved. However, progress on reducing child malnutrition is much more significant, with both the stunting and wasting targets exceeded by large margins.

Figure 6 Progress in Kenya under current trends toward achieving Kampala Declaration commitment 3 on ensuring food and nutrition security

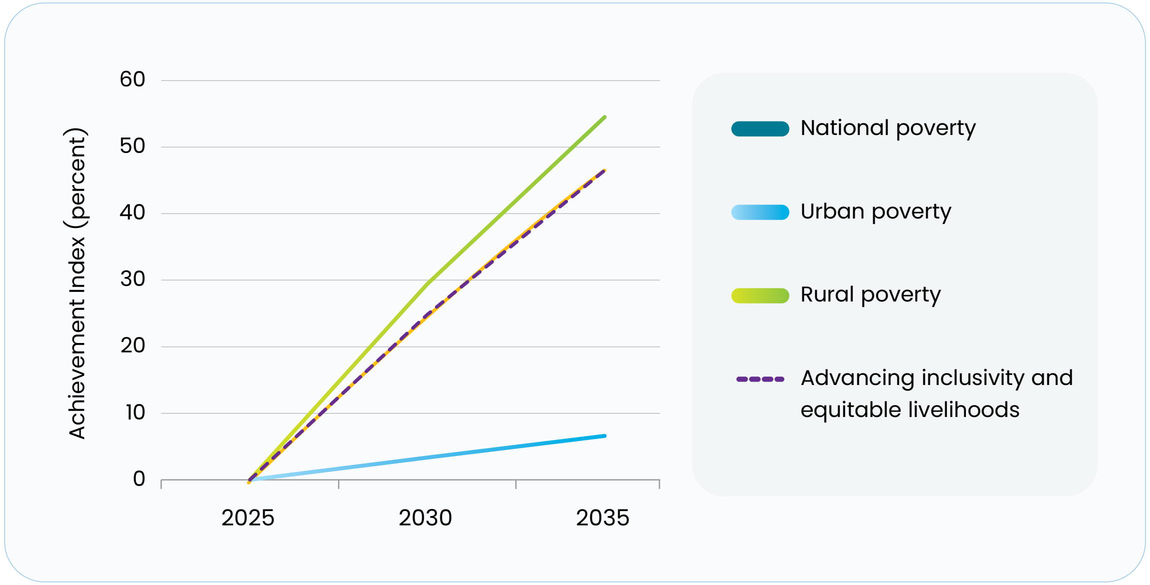


Source: *Analysis by authors.*

Commitment 4: Advance inclusivity and equitable livelihoods

For commitment 4, we examine the target to halve the number of people living in poverty. Under current policy and investment trends, the poverty target is expected to be achieved at 47 percent, corresponding to a reduction in poverty of slightly less than one quarter. The pace of poverty reduction in rural areas, where poverty is concentrated, is faster than progress at the national level.

Figure 7 Progress in Kenya under current trends toward achieving Kampala Declaration commitment 4 on advancing inclusivity and equitable livelihoods

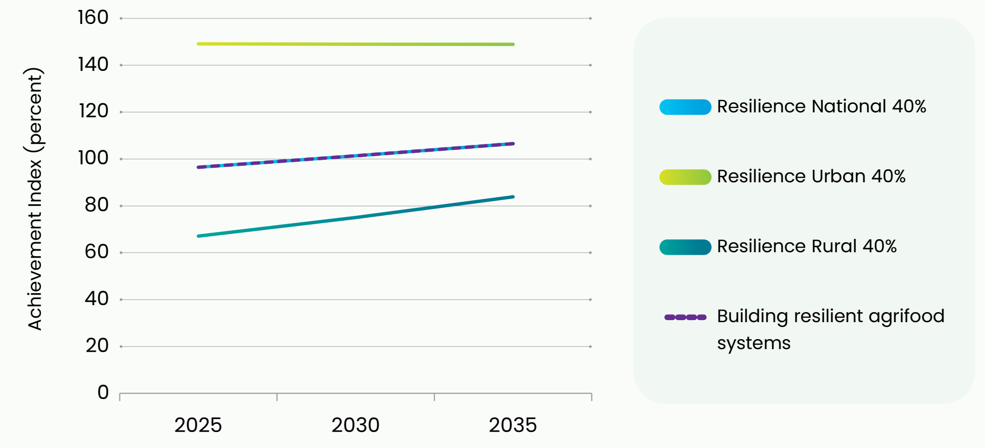


Source: *Analysis by authors.*
Note*: The Achievement Index values for the overall commitment—advancing inclusivity and equitable livelihoods—are the same as those for the halving national poverty target.*

Commitment 5:
Build resilient agrifood systems

Commitment 5 calls for 40 percent of households to be protected from shocks. We measure this indicator as the share of households with per capita income at least 40 percent above the food poverty line, which represents the income required to meet the dietary energy needed for a sufficient diet. As of 2025, the target had already been achieved for urban households, and national resilience was very close to the target (Figure 8). However, in Kenya as of 2025, a much lower share of rural households is resilient to shocks; rural improvements are expected to reach only about 84 percent of the Commitment 5 target by 2035.

Figure 8 Progress in Kenya under current trends toward achieving Kampala Declaration commitment 5 on building resilient agrifood systems



Source: *Analysis by authors.*
Note: *The Achievement Index values for the overall commitment—building resilient agrifood systems—are the same as those for the national resilience target.*

Overview of Kenya’s Progress Toward Kampala Declaration Commitments Under Current Policy and Investment Trends

The figures in Table 1 suggest that under current policy and investment choices, **Kenya’s progress toward the Kampala Declaration goals will be largely positive but insufficient to meet the Declaration’s ambitions.**

Table 1 Target achievement indices for Kenya across the five Kampala Declaration commitments under current policy and investment trends, rescaled 0–100

Commitment area	Target Indicator	Achievement Index (2035)
1. Intensify food production and trade	Increase agri-food output by 45%	~110
	Reduce post-harvest losses by 50%	~86
	Triple intra-African trade	~24
	Share of locally processed food = 35% of agrifood GDP	~70
2. Boost investment and financing	Mobilize $100bn in additional investment	52
	10% of public expenditure to agrifood	~47
	Reinvest 15% of agrifood GDP	~72

Table 1 Continued

Commitment area	Target Indicator	Achievement Index (2035)
3. Food and nutrition security	Zero hunger (undernourishment = 0%)	~23
	60% of population can afford healthy diet	~53
	Reduce wasting by 25%	265
	Reduce stunting by 25%	318
4. Inclusive livelihoods	Halve poverty	~47
5. Resilient agrifood systems	National share of shock-resilient households = 40%	~106
	Urban share of shock-resilient households = 40%	~148
	Rural share of shock-resilient households = 40%	~84

Source: *Analysis by authors.*
Note: *The achievement index is scaled so that achieving the specific target corresponds to 100.*

Conclusion

- Progress toward most targets is moving in the right direction, but achievements are generally moderate. Core Kampala Declaration goal outcomes—poverty, undernourishment, and healthy diet affordability—do not reach target levels by 2035. Rural prevalence of undernourishment and poverty will remain high.
- Child malnutrition under commitment 3 improves markedly, and national resilience under commitment 5 meets the 40 percent benchmark, although rural resilience lags.
- Commitment 1 targets on output growth and post-harvest losses are achieved or show good progress, but targets under this commitment on local processing shares and intra-African trade lag.
- Any progress made toward Commitment 2 investment targets in the past is expected to deteriorate between 2025 and 2035.

The next brochure in the series focuses on opportunities for Kenya to advance the Kampala Declaration ambitions through economic growth and social transfer policies.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Kampala diagnostics work conducted in Kenya was generously supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ). The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the funders.

ABOUT AKADEMIYA2063

AKADEMIYA2063 is a pan-African non-profit research organization with headquarters in Kigali, Rwanda, and a regional office in Dakar, Senegal. Inspired by the ambitions of Agenda 2063 and grounded in the recognition of the central importance of strong knowledge and evidence systems, the vision of AKADEMIYA2063 is an Africa with the expertise we need for the Africa we want. This expertise must be responsive to the continent's needs for data and analysis to ensure high-quality policy design and execution. Inclusive, evidence-informed policymaking is key to meeting the continent's development aspirations, creating wealth, and changing livelihoods for the better. AKADEMIYA2063's overall mission is to create, across Africa and led from its headquarters in Rwanda, state-of-the-art technical capacities to support the efforts of the Member States of the African Union to achieve the key goals of the African Union's Agenda 2063 – transforming national economies to boost growth and prosperity. Following from its vision and mission, the main goal of AKADEMIYA2063 is to help meet Africa's needs at the continental, regional, and national levels in terms of data, analytics, and mutual learning for the effective implementation of Agenda 2063 and the realization of its outcomes by a critical mass of countries. AKADEMIYA2063 strives to meet its goals through programs organized into five strategic areas—policy intelligence, knowledge systems, data intelligence, and governance—as well as partnerships and communications and outreach activities. For more information, visit www.akademiya2063.org.

GET IN TOUCH

AKADEMIYA2063 Headquarters
Kicukiro/Niboye KK 341 St 22 | P.O. Box 1855 | Kigali-Rwanda
+250 788 318 315
kigali-contact@akademiya2063.org

AKADEMIYA2063 Regional Office
Lot N*3 Almadies | P.O. Box 24 933 | Dakar-Senegal
+221 338 652 881
dakar-contact@akademiya2063.org

www.akademiya2063.org

@AKADEMIYA2063