KENYA

AKADEMIYA

Kampala Status Assessment and Profile (SAP) for Kenya

KAMPALA CAADP SERIES

COUNTRY DIAGNOSTICS

Brochure #8

Kampala Status Assessment and Profile (SAP) for Kenya

KAMPALA CAADP SERIES: COUNTRY DIAGNOSTICS

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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 Status Assessment and Profile (SAP) 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's commitments into their national and regional agrifood systems investment plans (NASIPs and RASIPs), while promoting best practices in agrifood systems governance.

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Introduction

The Kampala CAADP Declaration on Building Resilient and Sustainable Agrifood Systems in Africa (2026-2035) was adopted in January 2025. The Declaration outlines six broad commitments to transform Africa's agrifood systems by intensifying sustainable food production, agro-industrialization, and trade; boosting investment and financing for agrifood system transformation; ensuring food and nutrition security; promoting inclusivity and equitable livelihoods; building resilient agrifood systems; and strengthening agrifood system governance, along with 22 target indicators (as shown in Box 1). The Kampala Declaration calls on African Union Member States to integrate these commitments into their national agrifood system investment plans (NASIPs).

Box 1 Kampala CAADP Declaration Targets

1. Increase agrifood output by 45%
2. Reduce postharvest losses by 50%
3. Triple intra-African trade in agrifood products
4. Raise the share of locally processed food to 35% of agrifood GDP
5. Mobilize a total of US$100 billion in public and private sector investments in African agrifood systems by 2035
6. Allocate at least 10% of annual public expenditure to agrifood systems
7. Reinvest 15% of agrifood GDP annually
8. Achieve zero hunger
9. Reduce stunting by 25%
10. Reduce wasting by 25%
11. Reduce overweight by 25%
12. Ensure a minimum of 60% of the population can afford a healthy diet
13. Reduce extreme poverty by 50%
14. Reduce the yield gap between male and female farmers by 50%
15. Empower at least 30% of youth
16. Empower at least 30% of women
17. Empower at least 30% of vulnerable groups
18. Ensure at least 30% of agricultural land is under sustainable land management
19. Protect 40% of households from shocks
20. Integrate the Kampala CAADP Declaration into NAIPs and RAIPs
21. Adopt best practices in governance of agrifood systems
22. Incorporate the CAADP BR process into the national agriculture joint sector review (JSR)

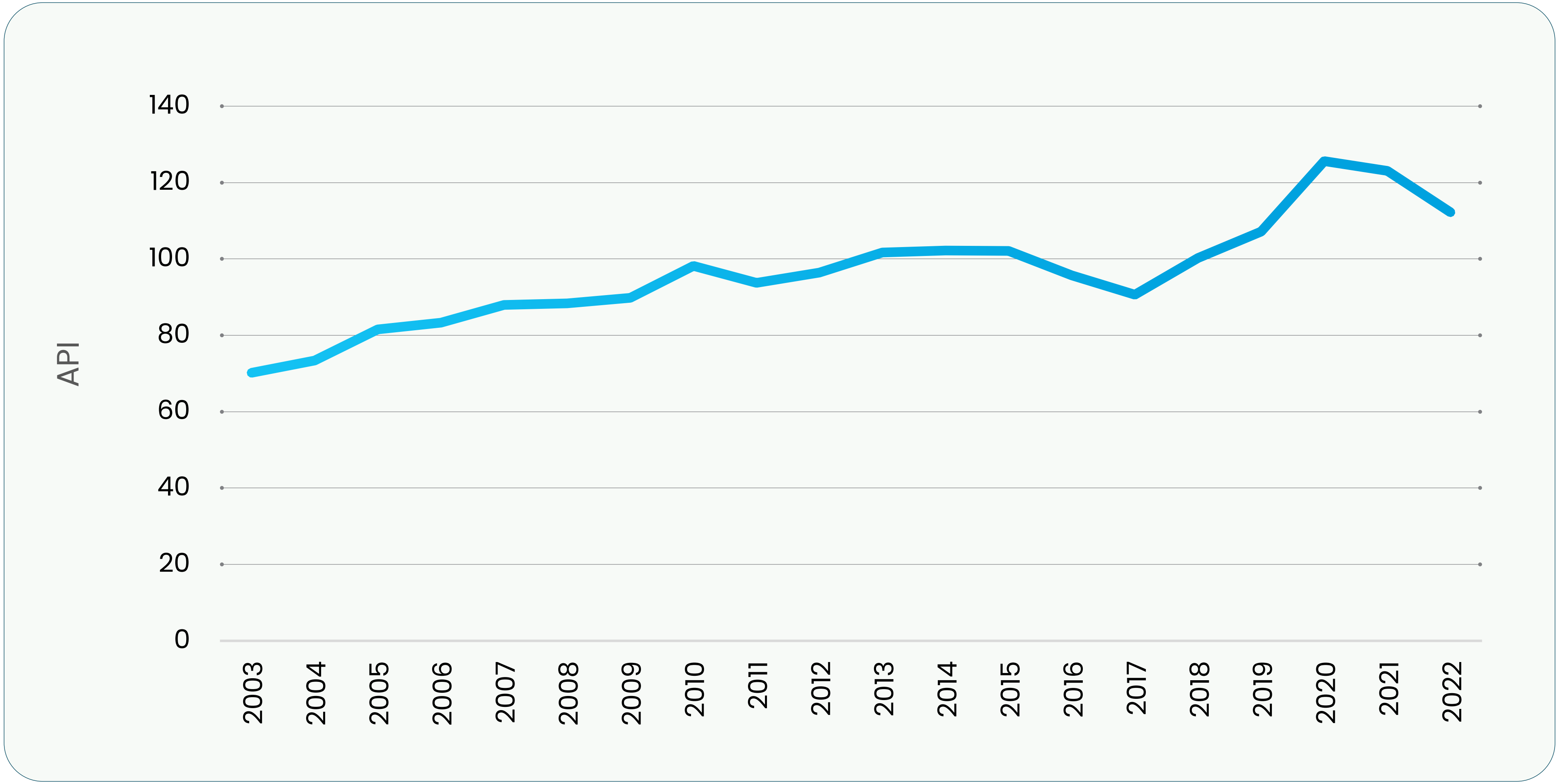
To support Kenya in developing an evidence-based NASIP aligned with the commitments of the Kampala Declaration, AKADEMIYA2063 conducted a set of three diagnostics, including a Kampala Status Assessment and Profile (SAP). The SAP assesses Kenya's performance and alignment with the goals and targets of the Kampala Declaration by evaluating progress across its six commitments and 22 targets. This brief presents key findings from the assessment, highlighting areas of progress, critical gaps, and policy priorities to close these gaps, thereby better aligning Kenya's NASIP (2026-2030) with the CAADP Kampala commitments for sustainable agrifood systems transformation.

Kenya's Status on the Kampala Declaration's Targets and Commitments

Agricultural Production, Trade, and Processing

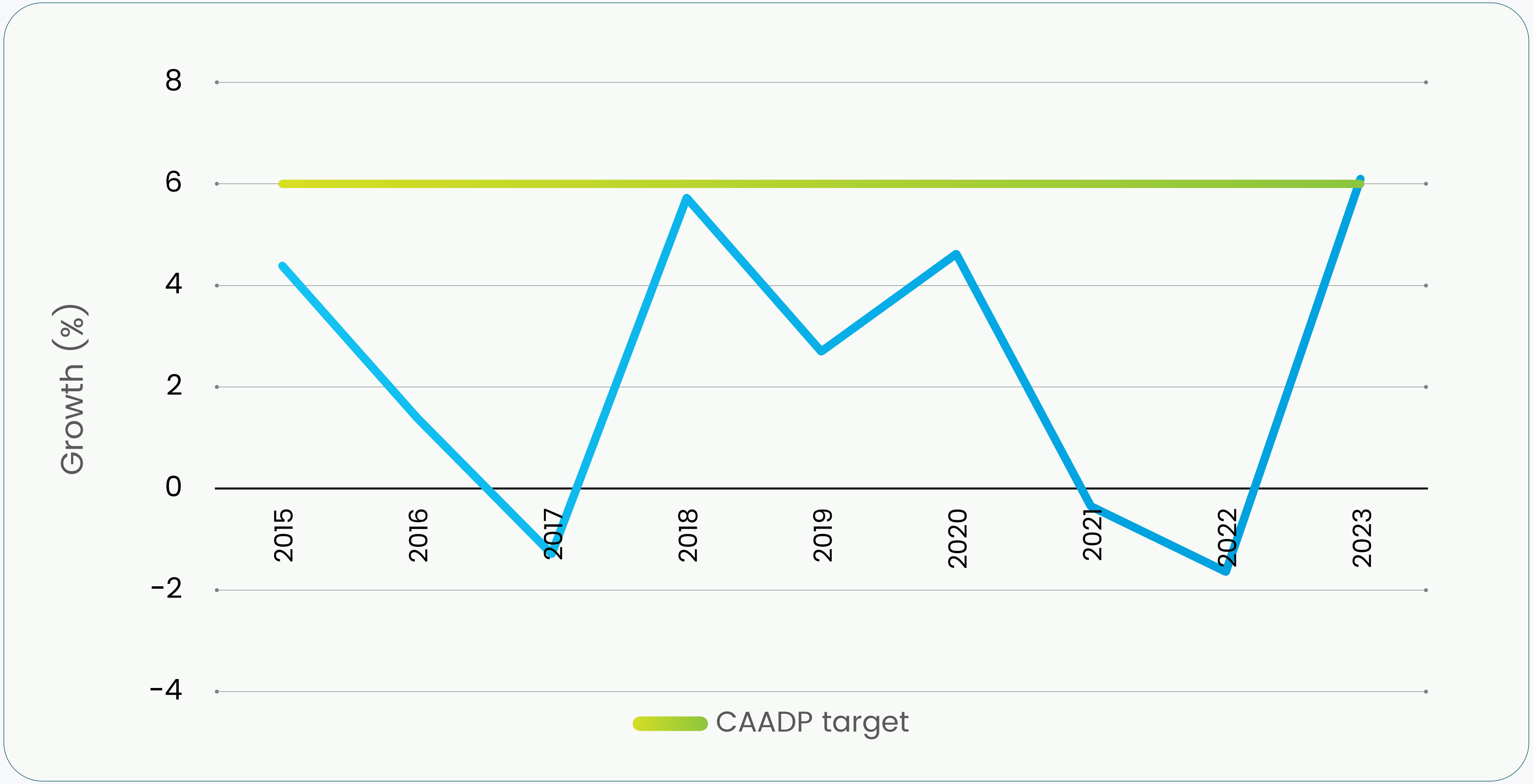
Agricultural output growth rate: Kenya's agricultural production index (API), which measures annual agricultural production relative to the 2014-2016 base period, recorded consistent increases over the past several years, except for a few years (Figure 1). Agricultural production increased by about 30 percentage points during the first phase of the CAADP and continued to grow by another 26 percentage points during the second phase until 2020. More recently, production declined in 2021 and 2022, highlighting the need for urgent action to reverse this downward trajectory. Growth in agriculture value added (see Figure 2) was erratic during the review period and contracted twice, in 2017 and 2022. Between 2015 and 2023, agriculture value added grew by an average of 2.4 percent annually. This growth was documented throughout the review period, except in 2017 and 2022. However, the growth rate was below the 6 percent CAADP target, except in 2023, when a growth rate of 6.1 percent was recorded.

Figure 1 Agricultural Production Index (2014-2016 = 100)



Source: *ReSAKSS (2024).*

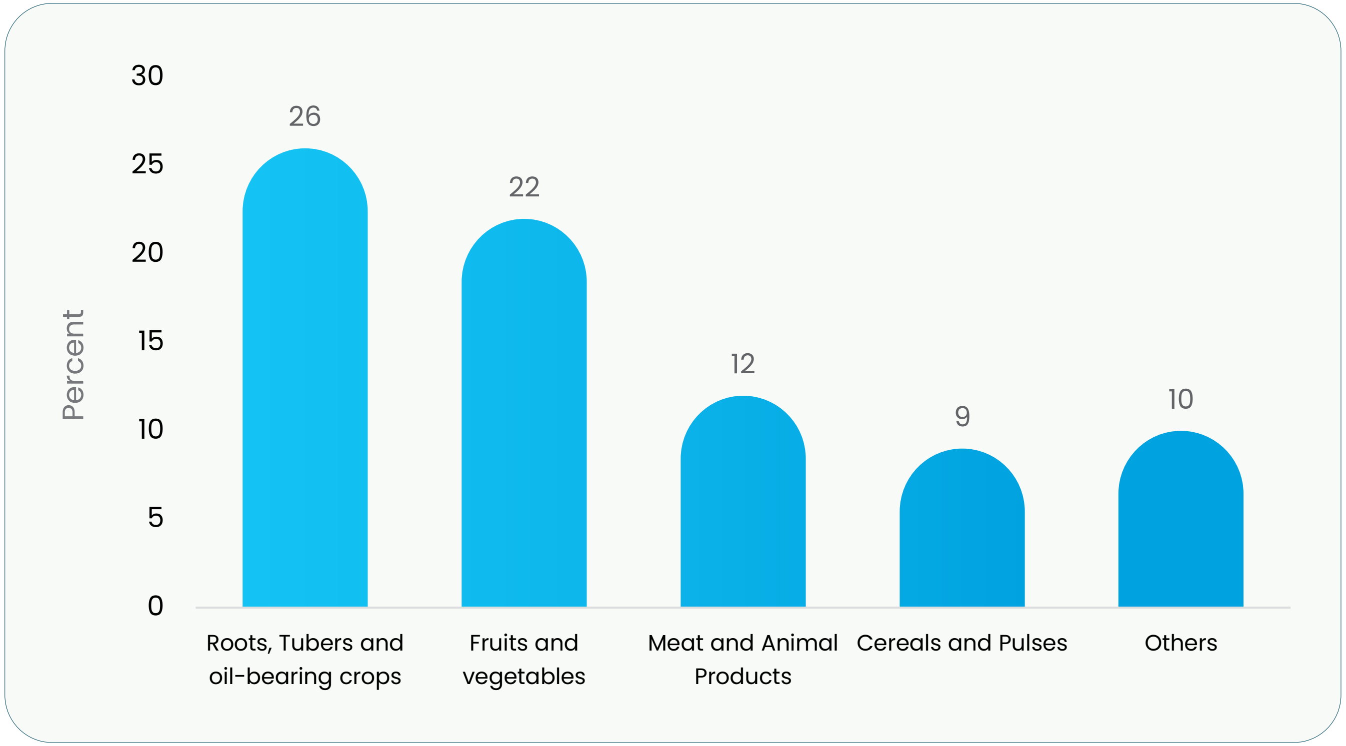
Figure 2 Growth in agriculture value added for Kenya



Source: *ReSAKSS (2024).*

Status of postharvest losses: Postharvest losses (PHL) are a major challenge for Kenya's agrifood system, with the country losing 30-40 percent of total agricultural produce at the postharvest stage. In monetary terms, this amounts to approximately Ksh. 72 billion (US$550 million) per year (Kenya MoALD 2024). The magnitude of PHL varies across commodity groups. Roots, tubers, and oil-bearing crops have the highest PHL, while cereals and pulses have lower losses (Figure 3).

Figure 3 Postharvest losses by commodity group

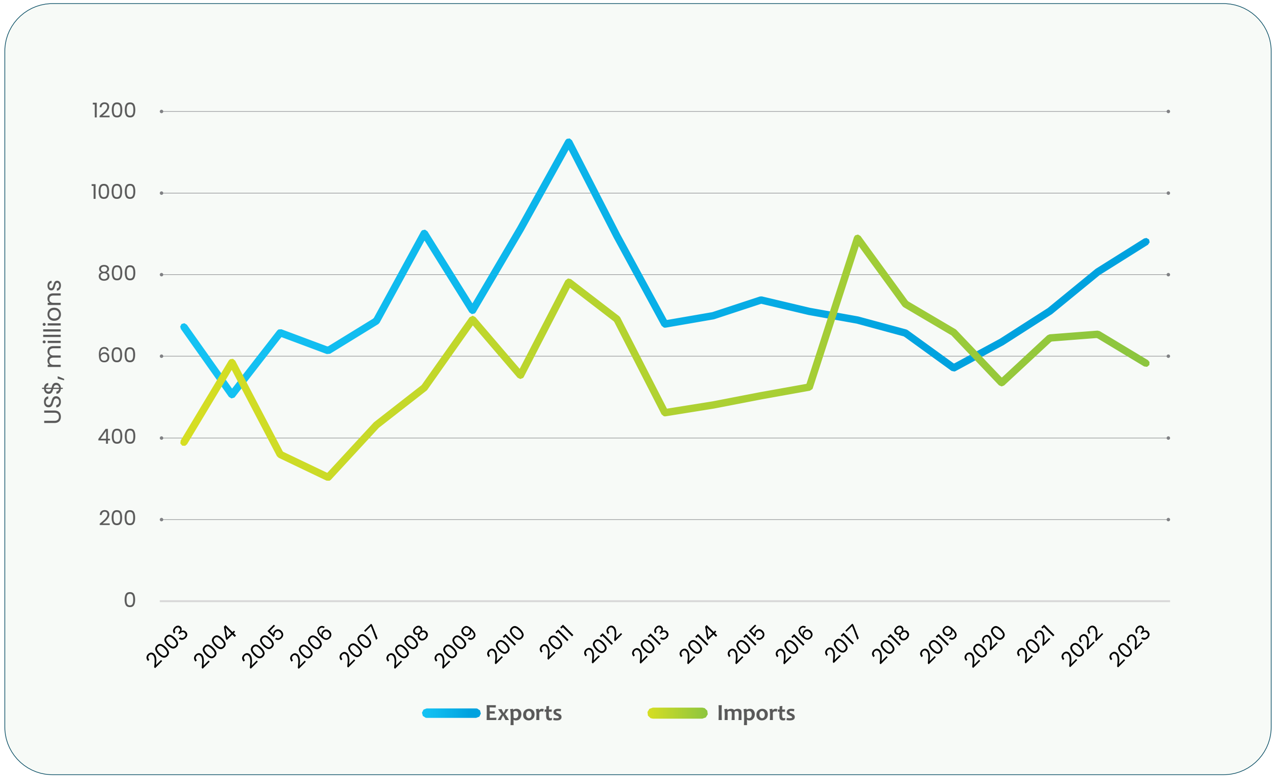


Source: *Kenya MoALD (2024).*

According to the 2024 CAADP Biennial Review (BR) data, postharvest losses for maize, one of Kenya's staple foods, amounted to 21 percent of total production and remained stable throughout the review period.

Intra-African agrifood trade: Over the past decade, Kenya did not achieve the CAADP target of tripling intra-African agricultural trade, with growth in its intra-African agrifood trade remaining below the targeted 200 percent increase. Kenya's exports generally increased during the early CAADP period, exceeding US$1 billion in 2011. Thereafter, exports generally declined until 2019 and have steadily risen since then, reaching US$881 million in 2023. Except for a few years, intra-African agricultural imports into Kenya have generally been lower than exports for most of the CAADP period (Figure 4). However, as Figure 4 shows, Kenya has not achieved the Malabo target of tripling intra-African trade and is unlikely to do so under a business-as-usual scenario.

Figure 4 Kenya's intra-African agrifood trade (US$, millions)



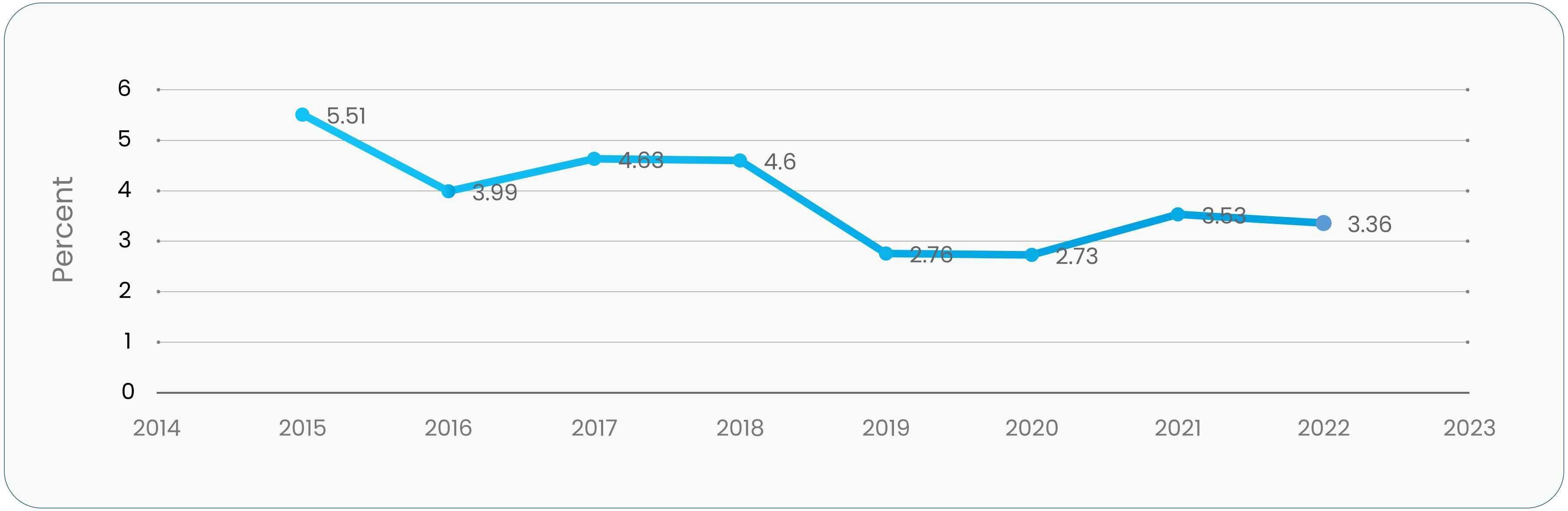
Source: *Kenya MoALD (2024).*

Agrifood processing: The agro-processing sector contributes about 4 percent to national GDP and accounts for about 5 percent of the manufacturing sector (KNBS 2025). According to the Economic Survey 2024, the highest growth in volume of output was recorded in the following agro-processing subsectors: prepared animal feeds (17.0 percent), dairy products (16.4 percent), prepared and preserved fruits and vegetables (11.6 percent), and meat and meat products (10.1 percent).

Financing of Agrifood Systems

The share of public spending on agrifood systems: Public spending on agriculture changed slightly from USD 1.04 billion per year in 2015 to about US$0.96 billion in 2022. On average, 48.3 percent of spending between 2015 and 2022 went to the crop subsector, while spending on agrifood system research averaged 8.2 percent over the same period (AUC and AUDA-NEPAD 2024). Despite this steady increase, Kenya's public expenditure on the agrifood sector has remained below the key CAADP target of allocating at least 10 percent of the national budget to the agricultural sector. In fact, the share declined from 5.5 percent in 2015 to 3.4 percent in 2022 (Figure 5).

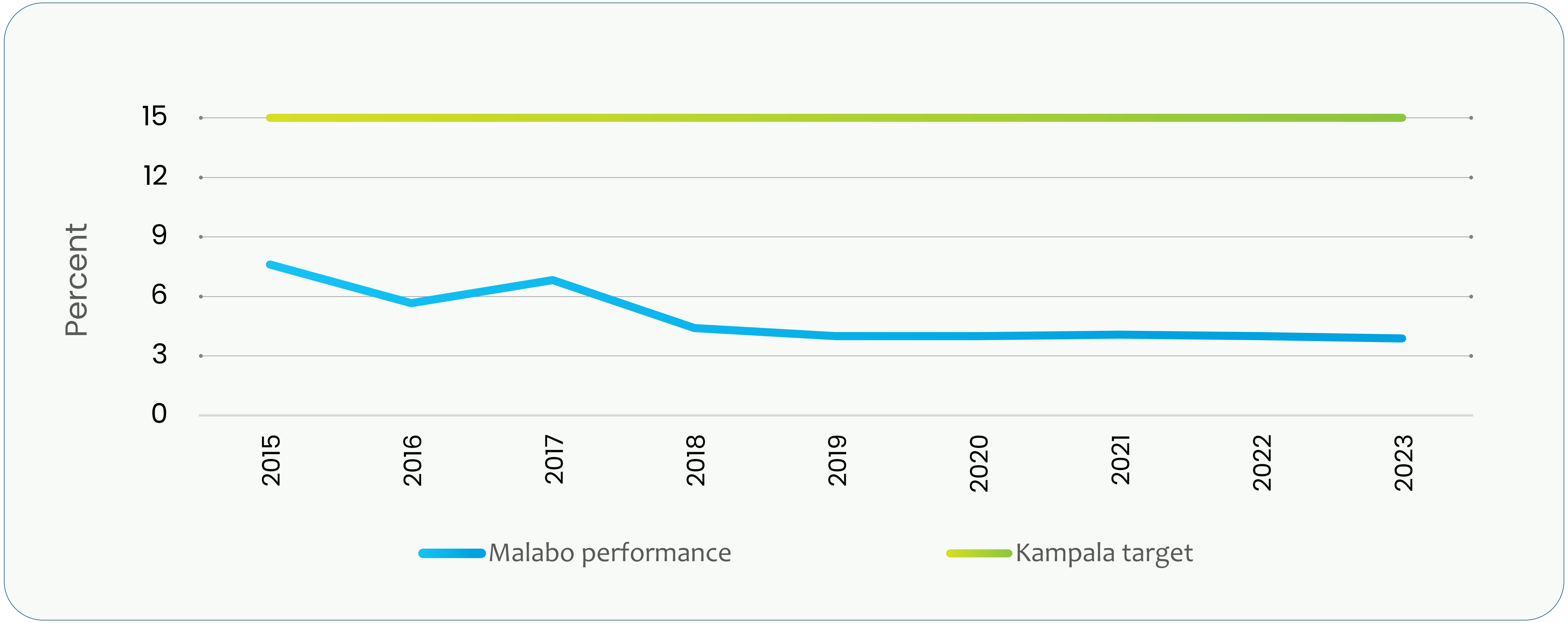
Figure 5 Public agrifood system expenditure in Kenya (%)



Source: *AUC and AUDA-NEPAD (2024).*

***Share of agricultural investment in agrifood GDP*:** The share of public expenditure in agrifood GDP was 4.9 percent on average during the Malabo period, peaking at 7.6 percent in 2015 (Figure 6). The Kampala Declaration calls for countries to reinvest at least 15 percent of agrifood GDP into the sector annually, from both public and private sources.

Figure 6 Government agricultural expenditure (% of agrifood value added)



***Source*:** *ReSAKSS (2024).*

Food and Nutrition Security

Zero hunger: The Global Hunger Index (GHI) report shows that Kenya reduced its hunger score from a high point of 36.7 in 2000 to 29.5 in 2008, and even further to 22.5 in 2015. This enabled Kenya to move from the 'alarming hunger' category to 'serious hunger'. By 2025, Kenya's position in the GHI[1] had increased to 25.9, indicating stalled progress during the Malabo period. A reduction of at least 6 points is required for Kenya to advance into the 'moderate hunger' category.

Reducing malnutrition by 25 percent: Kenya has reduced malnutrition levels over the past two decades. As Figure 7 shows, the prevalence of stunting, underweight, and wasting among children aged 6-23 months declined from 5.6 percent to about 4 percent in 2022. Between 2014 and 2022, it increased from 4 percent to 5 percent.

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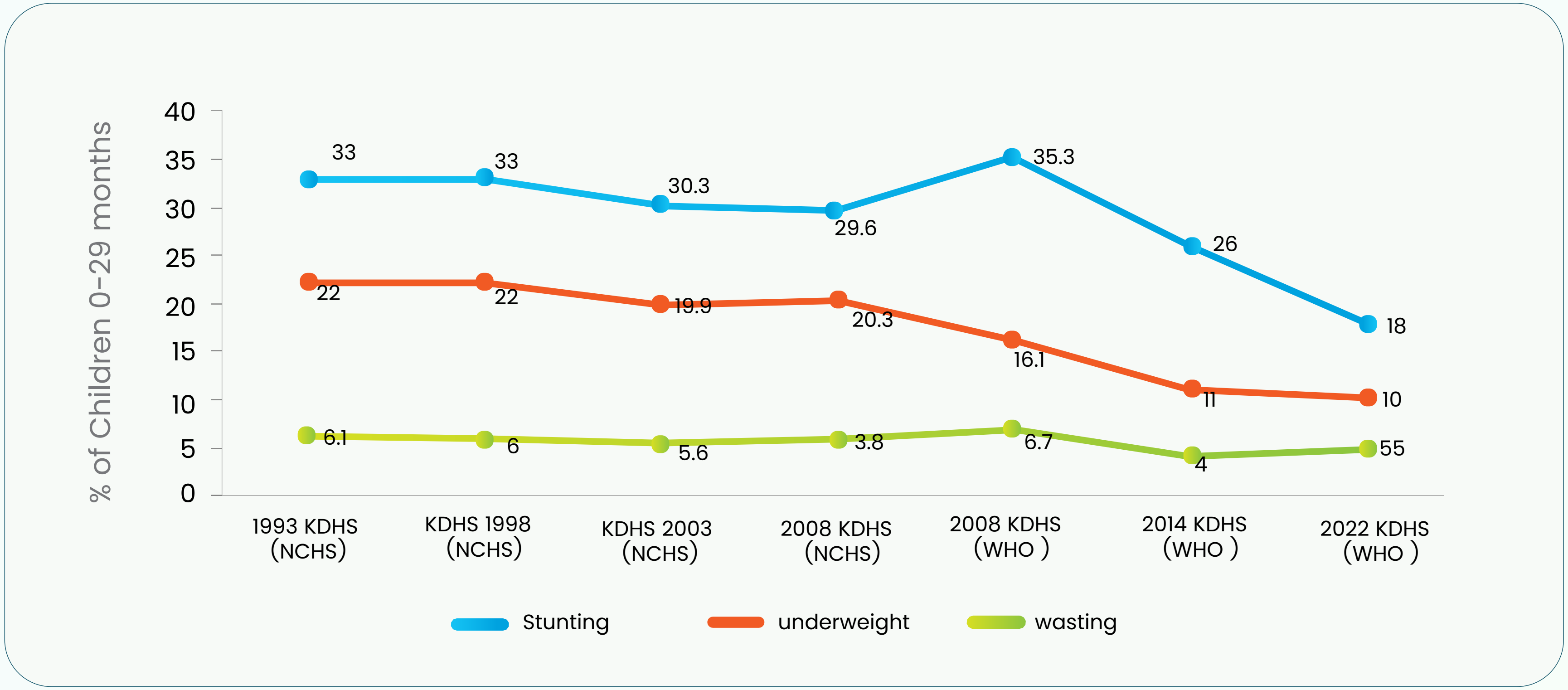
[1]In the 2025 Global Hunger Index, Kenya ranks 103rd out of 123 countries with sufficient data for calculating GHI scores. With a score of 25.9, Kenya's level of hunger is classified as serious.

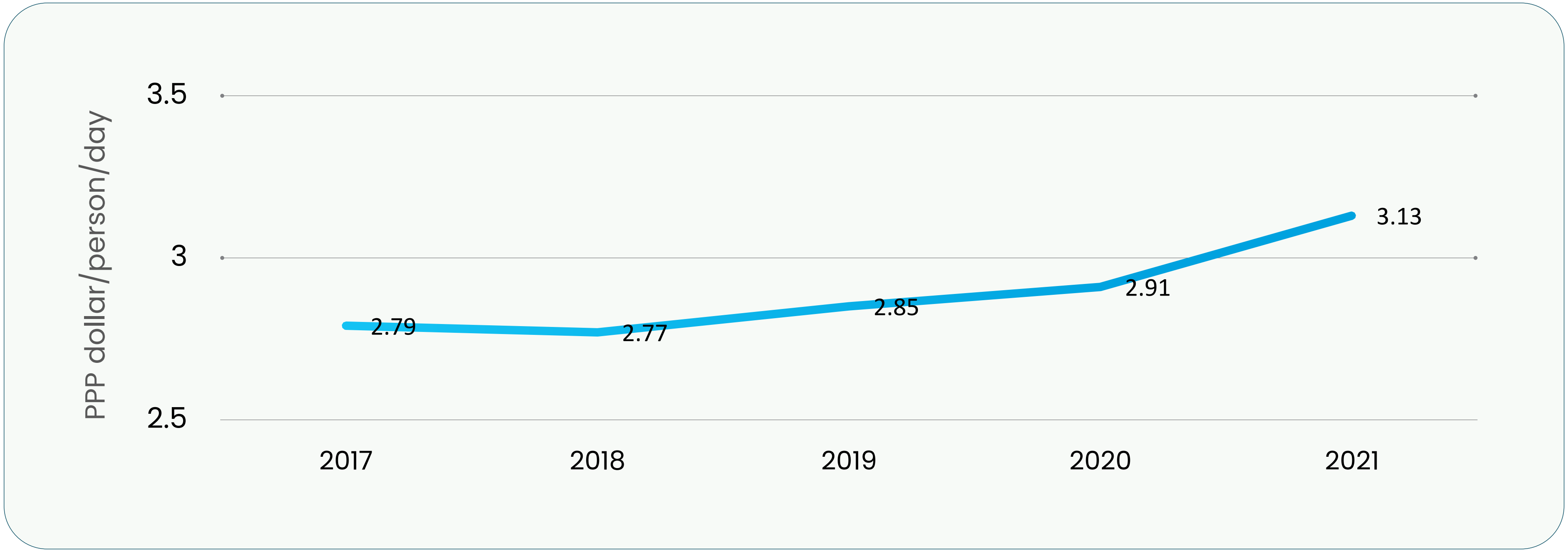
Figure 7 Trends in the prevalence of stunting, underweight, and wasting



Source: *Kenya Demographic and Health Survey (2014, 2022, 2019); Kenya Population and Housing Census Reports (2010, 2019).*

Affordability of healthy diets: According to World Bank data, the daily cost of a healthy diet in Kenya is high and has been rising over time (Figure 8). In 2017, Kenyans had to spend US$2.79 per person per day to afford a healthy diet. This figure increased by 12.2 percent to reach US$3.13 per person per day by 2021. The trend indicates that affording healthy diets has become increasingly difficult for most Kenyans. According to the World Bank, per capita income for Kenya in 2024 stood at US$2,123, translating to an average daily income of US$5.8. Therefore, on average, the cost of a healthy diet would account for about 54 percent of the average daily income.

Figure 8 Cost of a healthy diet in Kenya (Purchasing Power Parity [PPP]) dollar/person/day



Source: *World Bank Group Data 360 (2025).*

The national mean monthly food expenditure per adult equivalent for Kenya in 2021 was reported to be US$37, accounting for 56.3 percent of total household expenditure. According to World Bank data, the average per capita income in Kenya was US$2,061 in 2021, translating to about US$5.4/day. This implies that, on average, a Kenyan would spend 58 percent of their income to purchase a healthy diet.

Inclusivity and Equitable Livelihoods

Halving extreme poverty: Kenya was not on track to reduce poverty by half by 2025. The poverty level, based on the national poverty line, increased marginally from 36.1 percent in 2015 to 38.6 percent in 2022 (KNBS 2018, 2022).

Reducing the yield gap between female and male farmers by 50 percent: While national-level data on this indicator does not exist, several studies have revealed a notable yield gap between male and female farmers in Kenya. For instance, a study conducted in Busia County (Andele et al. 2024) showed that plots of land farmed by female farmers were significantly less productive than those farmed by male farmers, by at least 43 percent. A study conducted by FAO (2011) found a 16 percent yield gap among women maize producers in western Kenya, which was attributed to the use of less fertilizer.

Addressing these yield disparities is crucial to improving overall agricultural productivity and tackling food security issues in the agricultural sector.

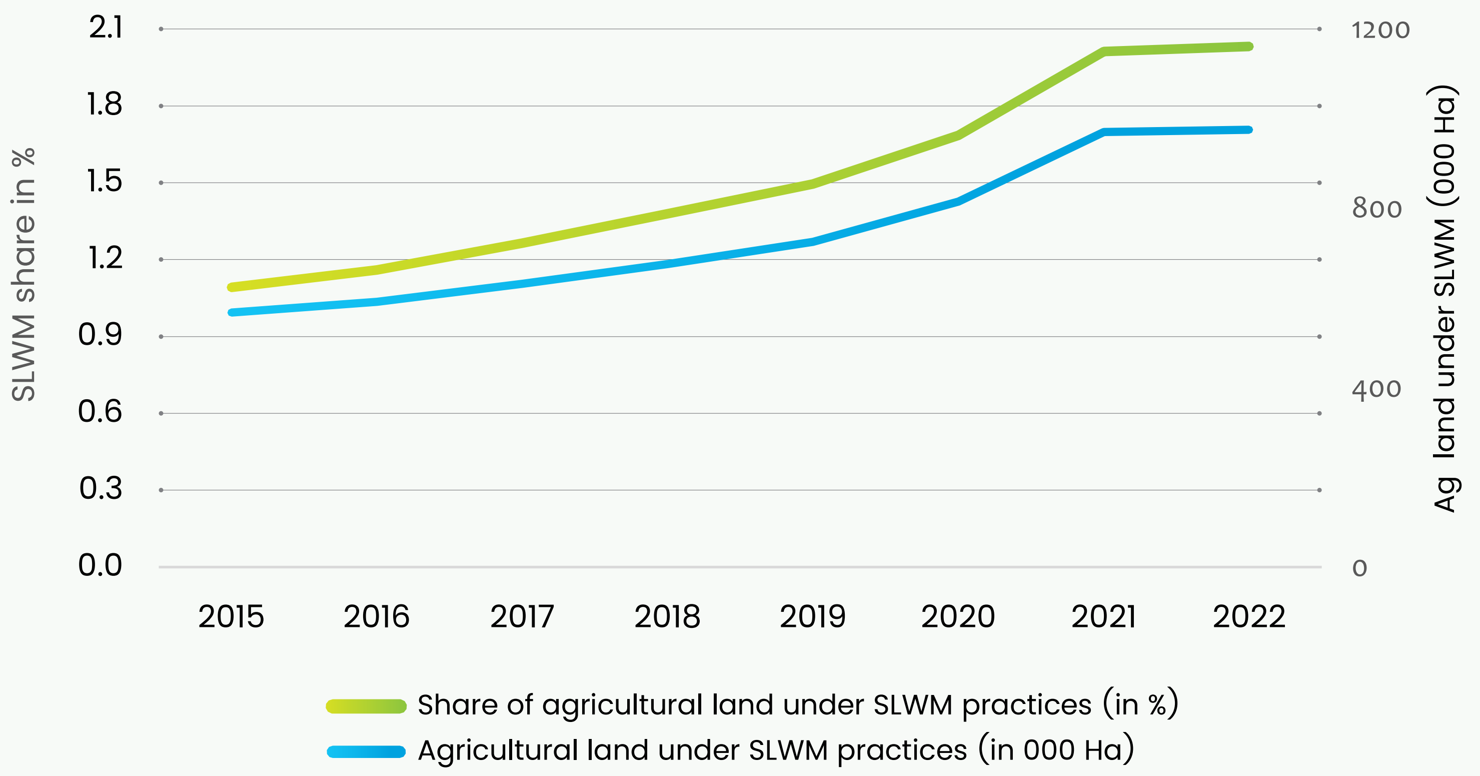
Empowering 30 percent of youth, women, and vulnerable groups: Empowering youth, women, and vulnerable groups in the agrifood sector is critical for Kenya to achieve a wide range of benefits, including food security and equitable livelihoods. These groups often face significant barriers to participation in decision-making and productivity, yet their inclusion is vital to transforming agrifood systems. For instance, the earlier subsection emphasized that addressing women's challenges in accessing resources can increase agricultural yields and contribute to food security.

Resilience of Agrifood Systems

Share of households protected from shocks: Data from 2022 show that the government allocated 1.2 percent of total public expenditure to resilience-building initiatives, specifically early warning and response systems, social safety nets, and weather-based index insurance. About two-thirds (68.9 percent) of vulnerable households at risk are covered by weather-based index insurance and/or a social protection scheme.

Share of land under sustainable land and water management: Between 2015 and 2022, the size of Kenya's agricultural land area under sustainable land and water management (SLWM) nearly doubled, rising from 567,600 Ha to 975,300 Ha. This increased the share of agricultural land under SLWM from 1.1 percent to 2.0 percent over the same period (Figure 9).

Figure 9 Land area under Sustainable Land and Water Management (SLWM) in Kenya



Source: *AUC and AUDA-NEPAD (2024).*

Percentage of households resilient to climate shocks: The target set in the Malabo Declaration aims to ensure that at least 30 percent of farm, pastoral, and fisher households strengthen their resilience to shocks and weather-related risks by 2025. In 2023, Kenya's performance exceeded the Malabo target by more than 100 percent, with 61.9 percent of the targeted households improving their resilience capacity to climate variability and related risks.

Governance of Agrifood Systems

Integration of CAADP into NASIP: At the time of writing[2], Kenya was in the process of developing a new NASIP following the expiration of its NAIP in 2024. The recently expired NAIP (2019-2024) was adopted in 2019 as the investment vehicle for the first 5-year phase of the 10-year Agricultural Sector Transformation and Growth Strategy (2019-2029), which domesticated the Malabo CAADP Declaration.

Adoption of best practices in agrifood systems governance in the country: The new agrifood system approach adopted under the Kampala CAADP Declaration requires expanded governance systems that incorporate stakeholders in the food system who have hitherto not been considered. In Kenya, the two levels of government (national and county) have established governance systems underpinned by a legal framework. Other non-state actors, such as farmers and development partners, have mechanisms for engagement, but some nodes of the agrifood system are not represented or are underrepresented.

[2] Kenya's NASIP (2026-2030) was validated in June 2026 and was officially launched on June 30.

Incorporation of the BR into the JSR: In 2024, Kenya completed the development of a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system for the agricultural sector. However, this system has not yet been implemented. The absence of a comprehensive M&E system has hindered coordinated monitoring of the sector's performance. Collection of CAADP Biennial Review data is coordinated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development through multi-stakeholder data clusters organized around the CAADP Malabo Commitments, as well as by the institutions responsible for collecting and collating thematic data. Joint sector reviews (JSRs) have not been well institutionalized and are undertaken only on an ad hoc basis. Implementation of the Kampala CAADP Declaration will need to institutionalize a regular and comprehensive agriculture JSR in Kenya, integrate the CAADP BR into the JSR, expand the range of key agrifood system stakeholders included, and entrench mutual accountability processes.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Although Kenya made significant progress toward the goals and targets of the Malabo CAADP Declaration, it did not meet the targets by 2025. The assessment shows mixed performance across indicators. Kenya made positive progress in agricultural output growth, food and nutrition security, and resilience building, but progress was slow or negative on postharvest loss, poverty reduction, and inclusion.

Policy Recommendations for Aligning Kenya's NASIP (2026-2030) with the Kampala CAADP Commitments

Enhancing sustainable food production, agro-processing, and trade

- Accelerate efforts to sustainably increase food production by implementing strategies that boost yields (access to quality inputs and extension) and by promoting climate-smart agricultural practices.
- Scale up investments in post-harvest practices and technologies, as well as in storage facilities and transportation infrastructure, to reduce post-harvest losses.

Boosting financing and investments for agrifood systems

- Increase public expenditure on the agrifood system to at least 10 percent of the government budget to meet the Kampala CAADP target.
- Create incentives to attract both domestic and foreign private investment, such as tax exemptions for agrifood investments.

Enhancing food and nutrition security

- Improve access to affordable, nutritious food, raise awareness of dietary diversity, and provide prenatal and postnatal healthcare.
- Enhance access to nutritious foods for vulnerable segments of the population through targeted social safety net interventions, such as food-for-work programs.

Fostering inclusivity and equitable livelihoods

- Strengthen programs for youth engagement in agrifood systems by providing skill development, easing financial access, and creating market opportunities for youth in agricultural value chains.
- Enhance efforts that promote women's empowerment by increasing access to productive resources such as land, finance, capacity building, and decision-making authority.

Strengthening the resilience of agrifood systems

- Increase social protection coverage by substantially raising budget allocations for social protection programs to adequately protect vulnerable households against various shocks, including climate, market, and health crises.
- Promote the adoption of sustainable land and water management (SLM) by providing targeted agricultural advisory services for SLM practices, establishing demonstration sites, and training farmers on SLM.

Improving governance of agrifood systems

- Implement the agricultural sector M&E framework and establish linkages between M&E reports, the JSR, and the CAADP BR reports.
- Expand and strengthen multi-stakeholder coordination to reflect the vision of the Kampala CAADP Declaration to foster an inclusive approach to agrifood systems growth and transformation.

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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, communication, and outreach activities. For more information, visit www.akademiya2063.org.

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