

Africa's agricultural productivity conundrum: A daunting paradox

1 Agricultural activity dominates Africa's economies

More than:



60%

of the population of sub-Saharan Africa are smallholder farmers ¹

More than:



60%

of Africa's most active population is engaged in Agriculture ²

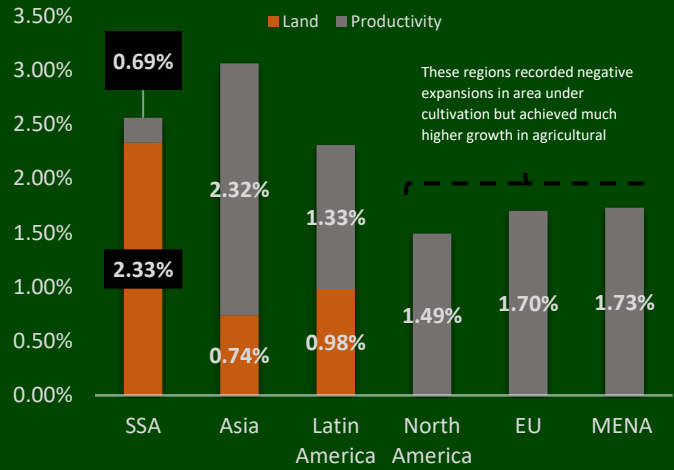
Approximately:



65%

of global arable land is in Africa ³

Over the past 10 years, SSA achieved the highest expansion of area under cultivation but recorded the lowest growth in agricultural productivity



Source: USDA Economic Research Service, IESO Analysis

2 Despite its central role, and due to the sectors **low productivity**, Africa may not eradicate its food security conundrum.



23%

of Africans still lack adequate food to sustain healthy and active life ⁴



Est **550 million**

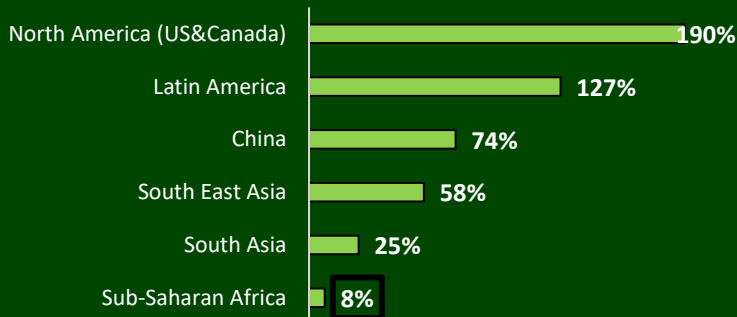
population under extreme poverty by 2025 ⁵



Over **2 billion**

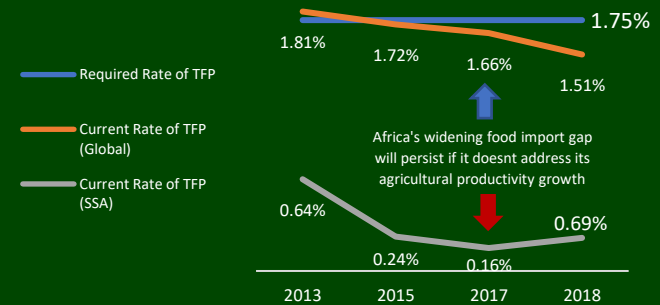
mouths to feed by 2050 ⁶

3 At current rates of agricultural productivity growth, SSA will meet only **8%** of its food demand in 2030



Source: 2017 GAP Report

Africa's agricultural productivity growth is well below the required rate of growth necessary to sustainably meet the continent's expected agricultural output needs by 2050



Source: 2013-2018 GAP Report, IESO analysis

4 Africa could considerably **enhance its productivity** and bridge its food demand gap by mitigating the **bottlenecks** around Infrastructure, Input Intensification, Trade, Mechanization and Talent.



Bridge Agric. Infrastructure Deficit ⁷

\$65 billion in irrigation.

\$8 billion in storage to ensure **70%** of grain production has access to local warehouse



Input Intensification ⁸

10x more fertilizer application.

6x more improved seeds



Expand Intra-African Trade ⁹

In 2016, intra-African exports made up **18%** of total exports compared to 59% and 69% for intra-Asia and intra-Europe exports respectively



Mechanization Intensification ¹⁰

7x increase in mechanization use

Less than **2 tractors** per **1000ha** of cropland.



Attract Talent ¹¹

Africa has the **youngest** population in the world.

therefore adequate resources should be provided to develop the continent's youth with the needed **skills**