



United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa



The State of Play in Africa's Grain Ecosystem

10th African Grain Trade Summit | 5th October 2023

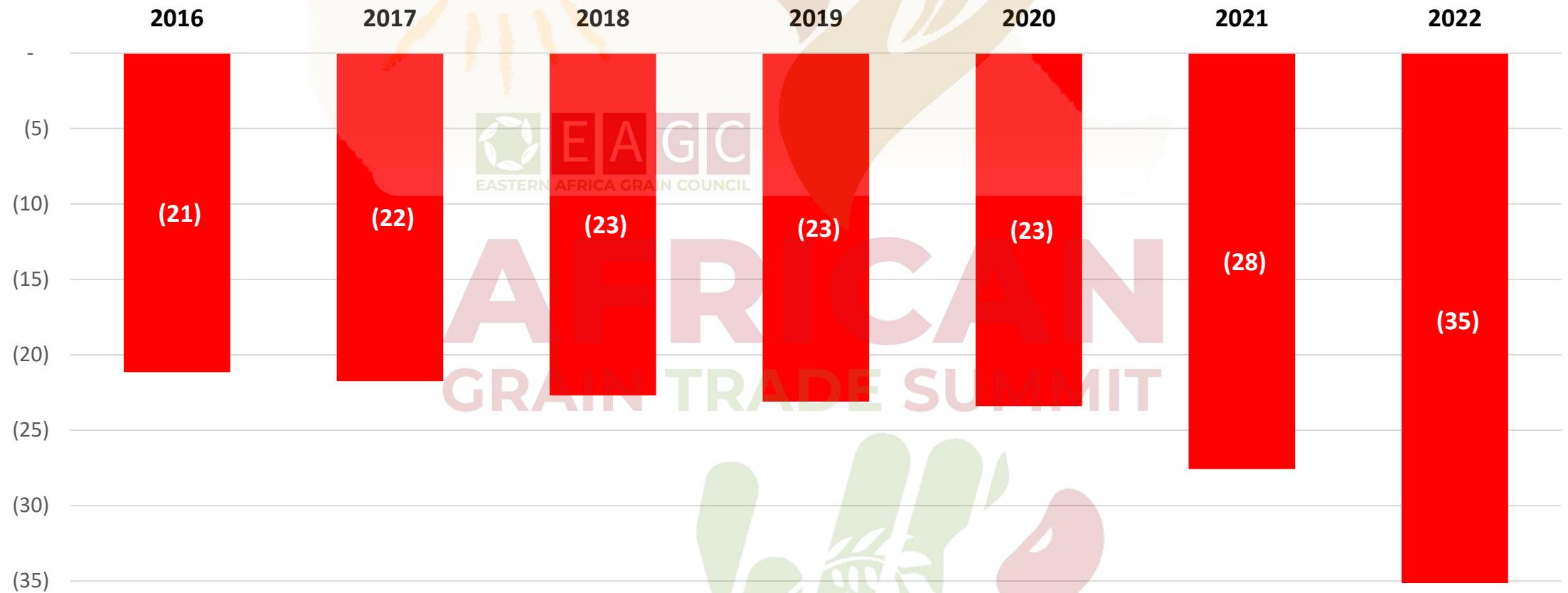


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Regional Integration Trade Centre/Economic Commission for Africa

Africa is a net cereal importer...

Africa's cereals trade deficit (USD billions), 2016-2022

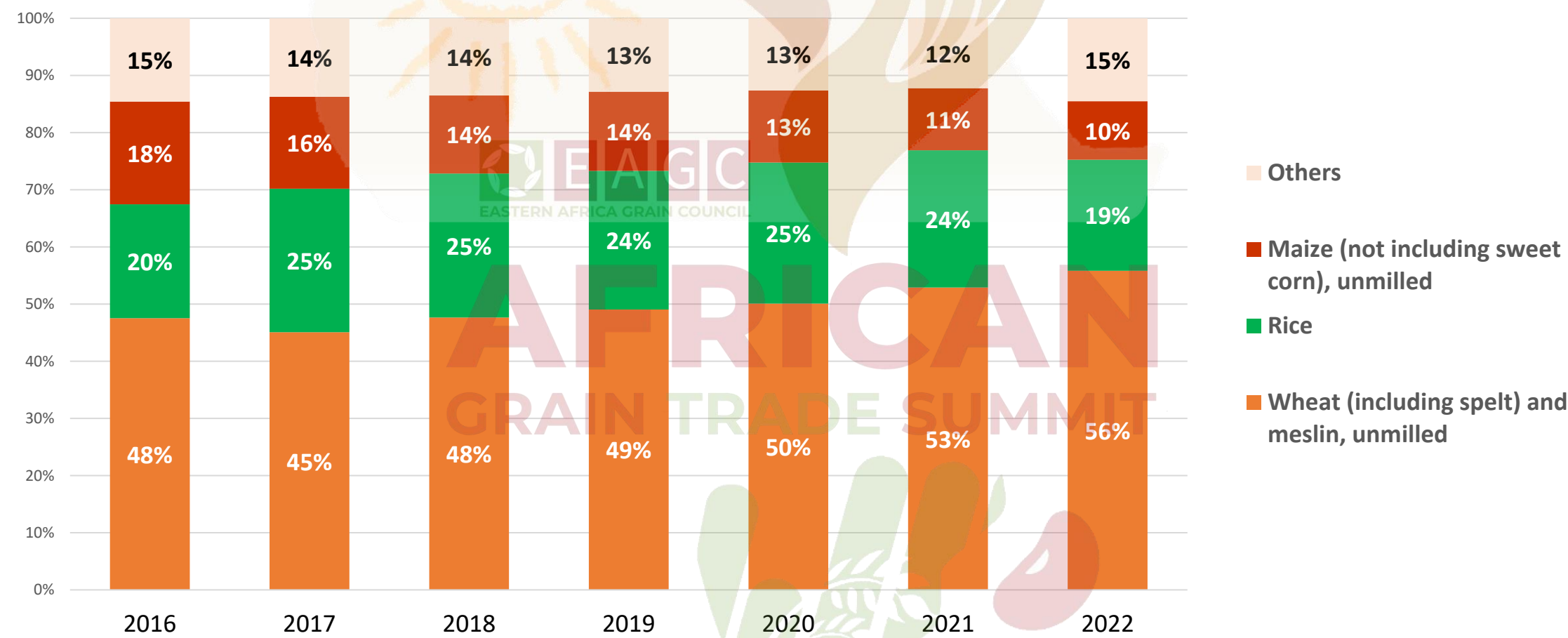


Source: UNCTADSTAT (2023)

Note: Cereals definition is based on SITC 04

Wheat accounts for more than a half of Africa's trade deficit in cereals...

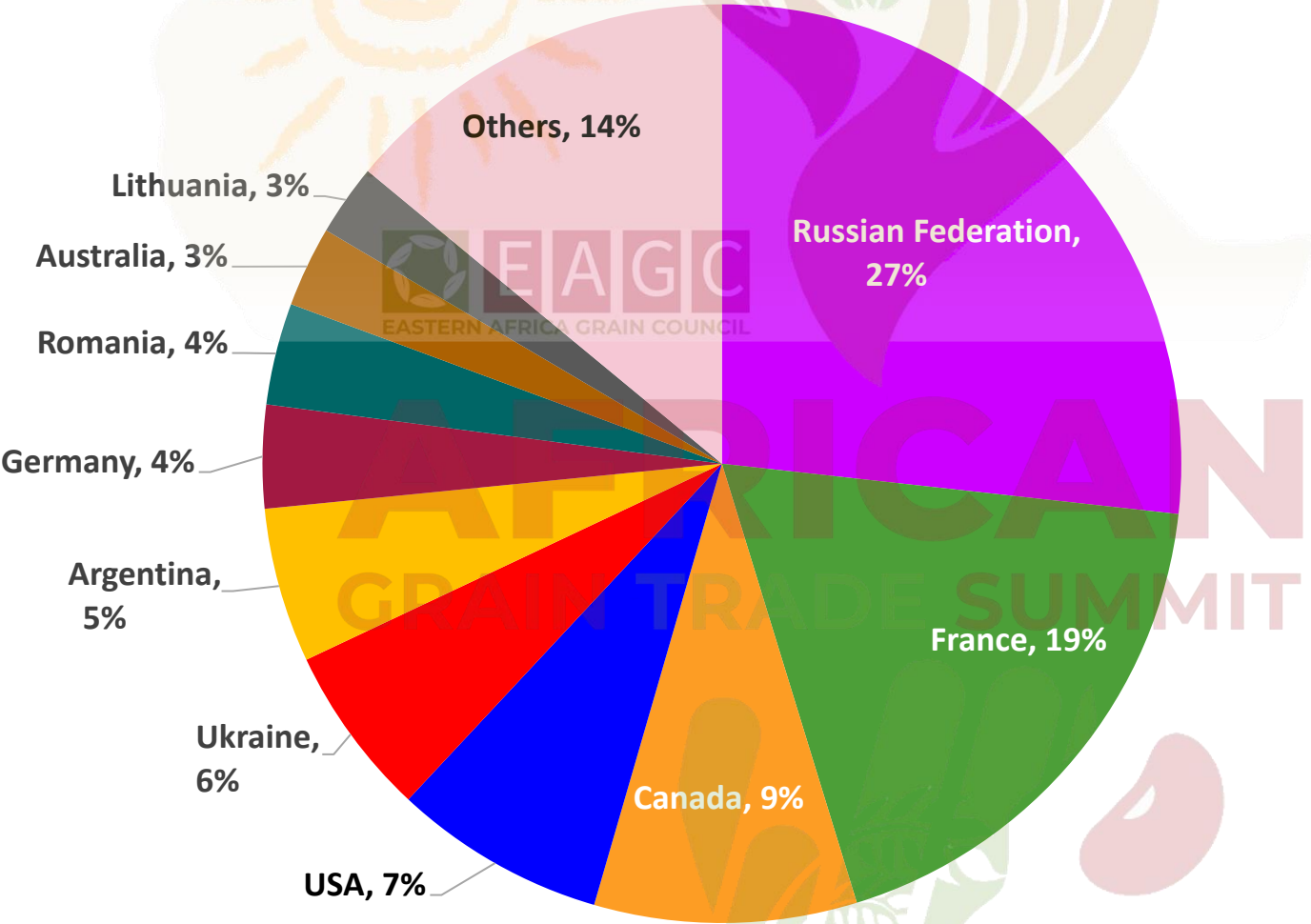
Breakdown of Africa's cereal trade deficit by product, 2016-2022



Source: UNCTADSTAT (2023)

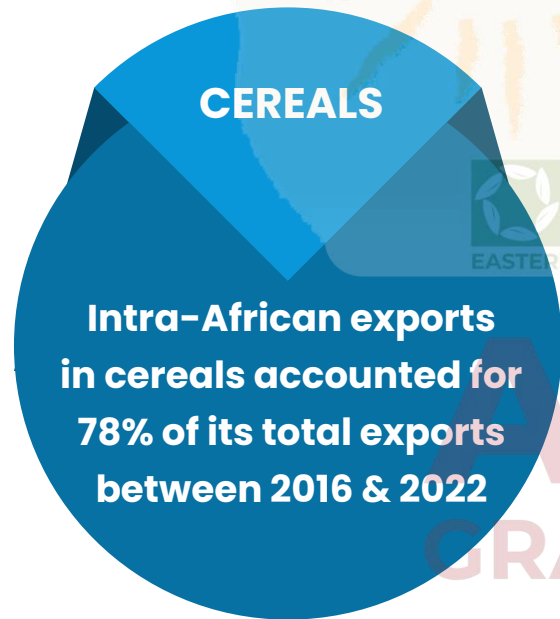
Main sources of Africa's wheat imports...

Africa's top 10 sources of wheat imports, 2022



Source: UNCTADSTAT (2023)

Why is Africa a net cereal importer?



Intra-African exports –\$2.6 billion
Imports from outside Africa – \$36 billion



Intra-African exports –\$289 million
Imports from outside Africa – \$20 billion

Source: UNCTADSTAT (2023)

What ails Africa's agricultural ecosystem?



Low productivity and yields

Poor infrastructure

Limited resources

Climate change issues



What ails Africa's agricultural ecosystem?

Africa utilizes significantly less fertilizer than other regions.

In 2020, on average, global use for Nitrogen based fertilizers was 72.88kg/ha; for Africa it was an average of 16.31kg/ha

Global average for phosphate-based fertilizers was 30.9 kg/ha; Africa's was 6.45 kg/ha (FAO data)

EASTERN AFRICA GRAIN COUNCIL

Post harvest losses due to poor infrastructure, limited access to markets etc.

For grains alone, the value of post-harvest losses are estimated to equate to ~USD 4 billion/year which could meet the annual food requirements of about 48 million people (AUC, 2018)

***AUC Post Harvest Loss Management Strategy – attainment of the Malabo Declaration Commitment to halve the current levels of post harvest losses by 2025**

What ails Africa's agricultural ecosystem?



Minimal allocation of budgetary resources to the agricultural sector

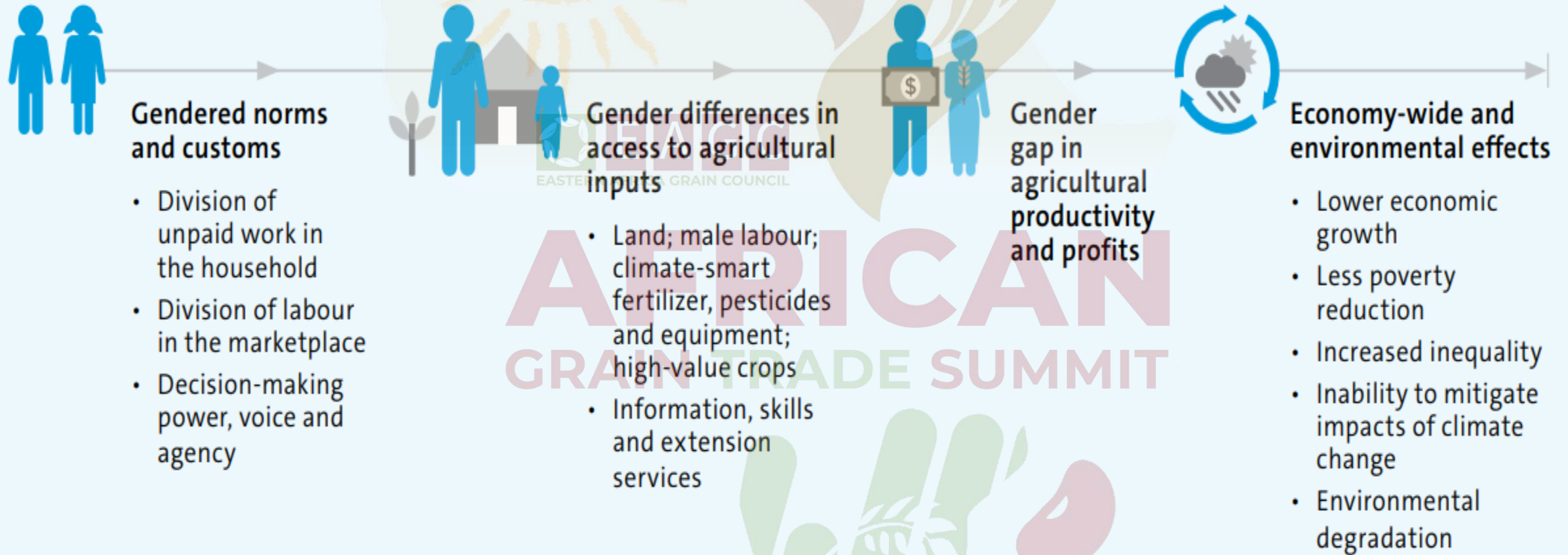
Many countries have not yet met the targets under the Maputo declaration, in which African countries are expected to allocate at least 10% of their national budget to food and agriculture under the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)



Climate change and extreme weather conditions are posing severe threats to farmers across the continent

What ails Africa trade in cereals?

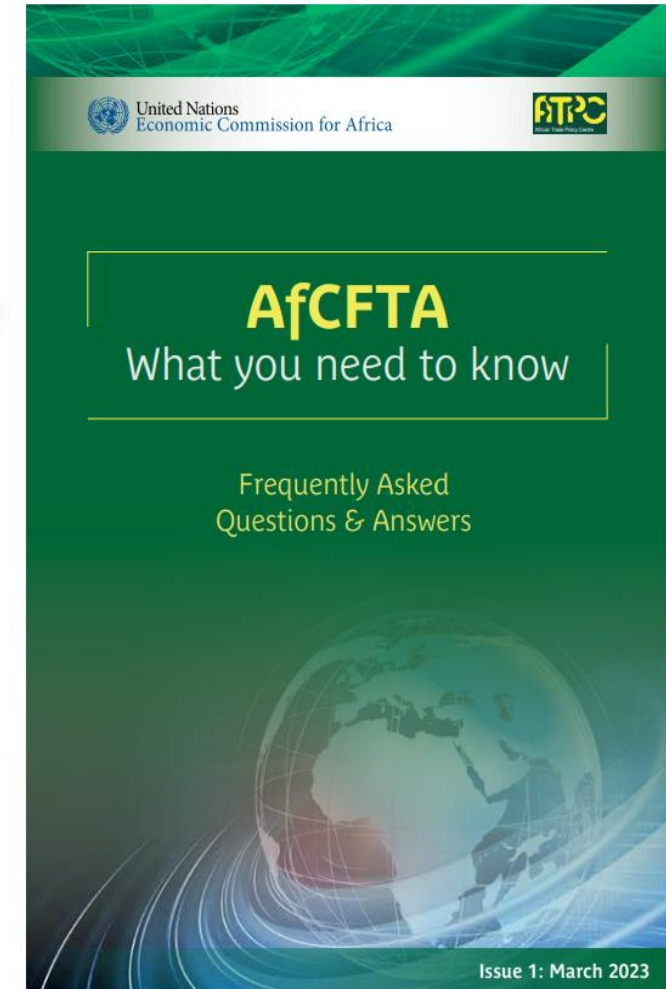
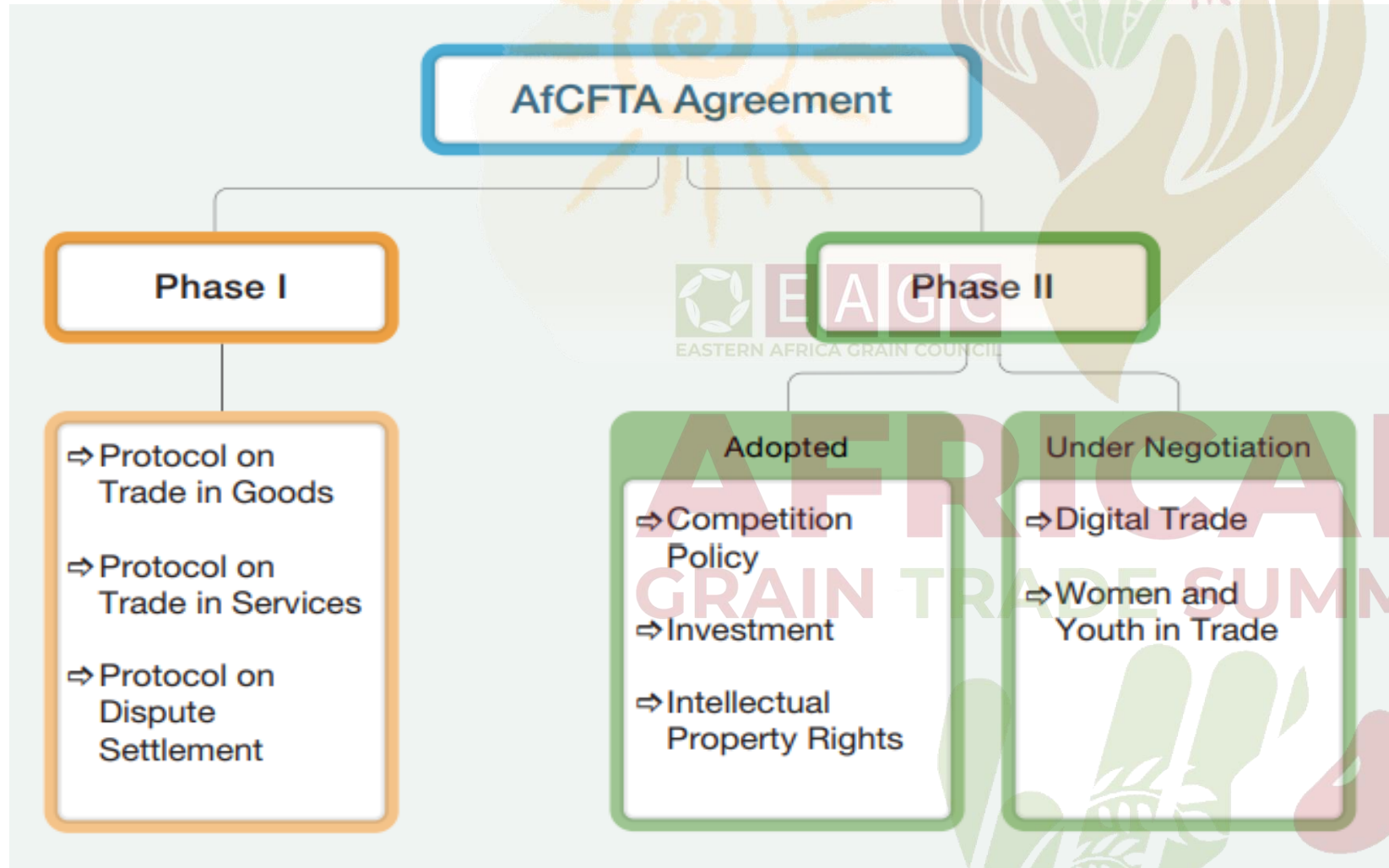
Path model of gender gaps in agricultural productivity



Source: UNWomen (2019)



Can AfCFTA be the panacea to the challenges facing Africa's grain trade?

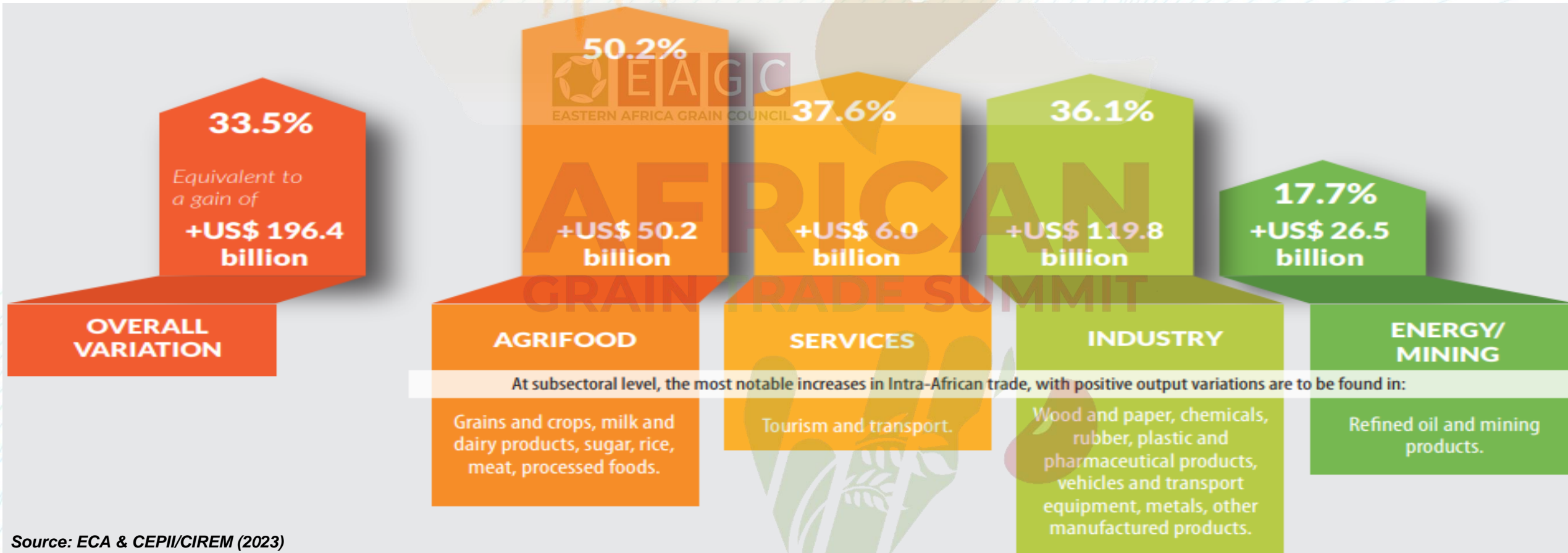


Implementing the AfCFTA Agreement to boost intra-African trade



The AfCFTA is expected to have positive impact on Africa's global GDP, trade and output with benefits largely concentrated in intra-African trade

*% change in intra-African trade, overall and by main sectors
with AfCFTA implemented in 2045 as compared to baseline (i.e., without AfCFTA)*



Source: ECA & CEPII/CIREM (2023)



ideas
for a
prosperous
Africa



THANK YOU!

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Ideas
to
Action