



RESILIENT GRAIN MARKETS: **UNLOCKING AFRICA'S FOOD SECURITY POTENTIAL**

2ND-4TH, OCTOBER 2025 | ZANZIBAR, TANZANIA

Main Session 4

Financing African grain markets:

**Driving access to affordable capital and enabling
local currency trade**

**Session
Sponsors:**



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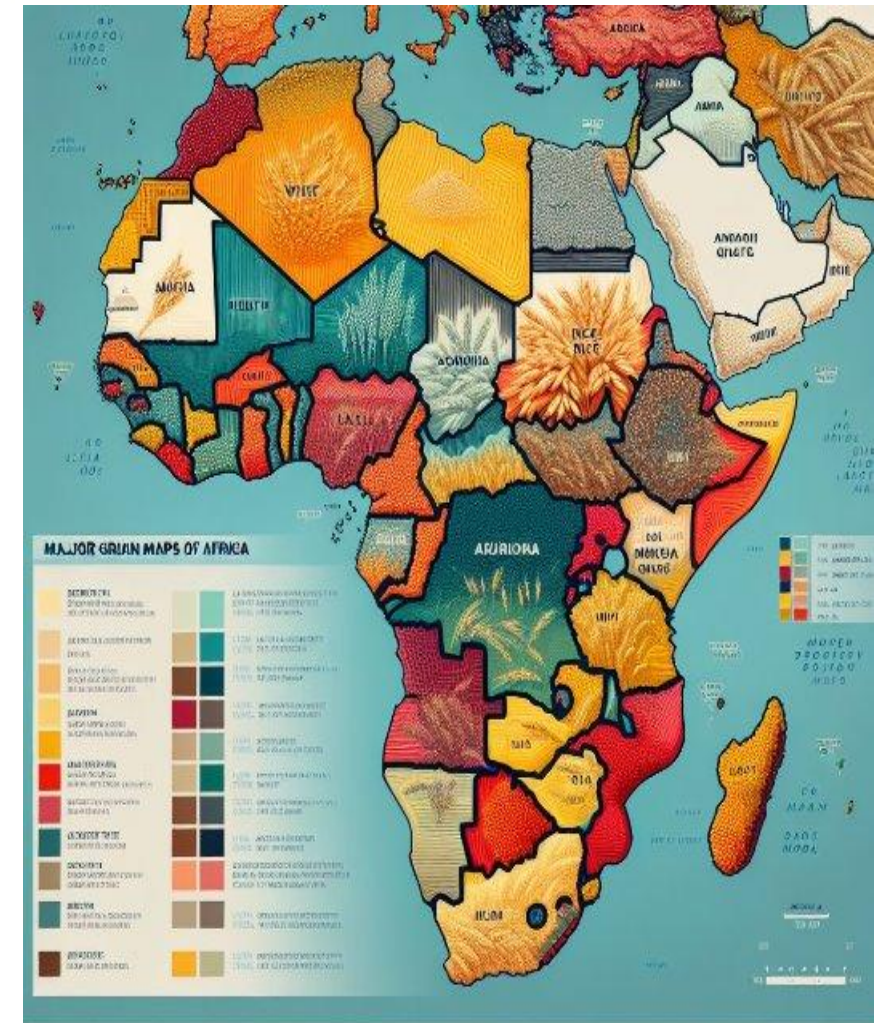
RESILIENT GRAIN MARKETS: UNLOCKING
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DRIVING ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE CAPITAL AND ENABLING LOCAL CURRENCY TRADE



The Problem Statement

**Africa's farmers feed the continent
- Yet the capital flowing to
agriculture barely scratches the
surface of what's needed.**



Overview of Grain Trade Market in Africa 2024



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Staple Grains

- Cereals, Pulses/Legumes, Oilseeds

Volume: 283 Million
MT

Value: \$126.1 Billion

2035: \$ 150.1 Billion

Economic contribution

- Support millions of livelihoods and make significant contribution to national GDPs

Food Security Importance

- Critical for Food security (Rural & Urban)



How many currencies are there in Africa?

42

Separate currencies as of
13th October 2022



The Financing Gap



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Sector Segment	Annual Financing Need	Current Annual Funding	Financing Gap	Key Challenges
Agricultural SMEs (130,000 in Sub- Saharan Africa)	\$90 billion	\$15.5 billion	\$74.5 billion (83%)	Average needs ~\$700K per SME; limited collateral
Smallholder Farmers & Farmer Organizations	\$170 billion	Minimal formal coverage	~\$170 billion (Near total gap)	98% of long-term financing needs unmet; average loans only \$13K

How is the current Landscape?



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Financial Deficit

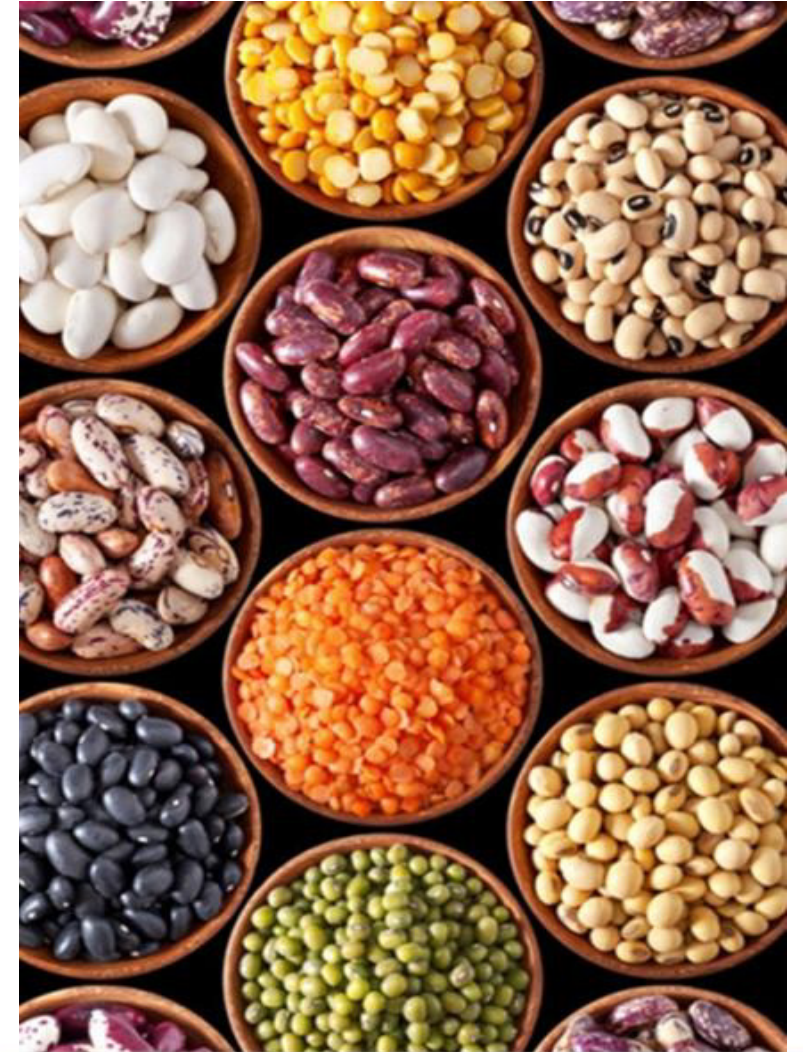
- High Cost of Borrowing – over 20% interest.
- Unsuitable Financial Products
- Price volatility
- Foreign Exchange dependency

Systemic Barriers

- Limited financial history
- Lack of Market information
- Infrastructure deficits

Impact of Financing Gap in Grain Markets

- Restrict Regional Trade
- Limited Value Addition:
- Food Security Implications





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STRATEGIC SOLUTIONS



1. Strengthening Financial Infrastructure & Instruments

Credit Reporting System

- Establish comprehensive credit bureaus
- Leverage alternative data, e.g., mobile data
- Cross-border information sharing

Movable Collateral Registries

- Enable asset-based lending
- Electronic registry platforms
- Legal Reforms, e.g., land ownership

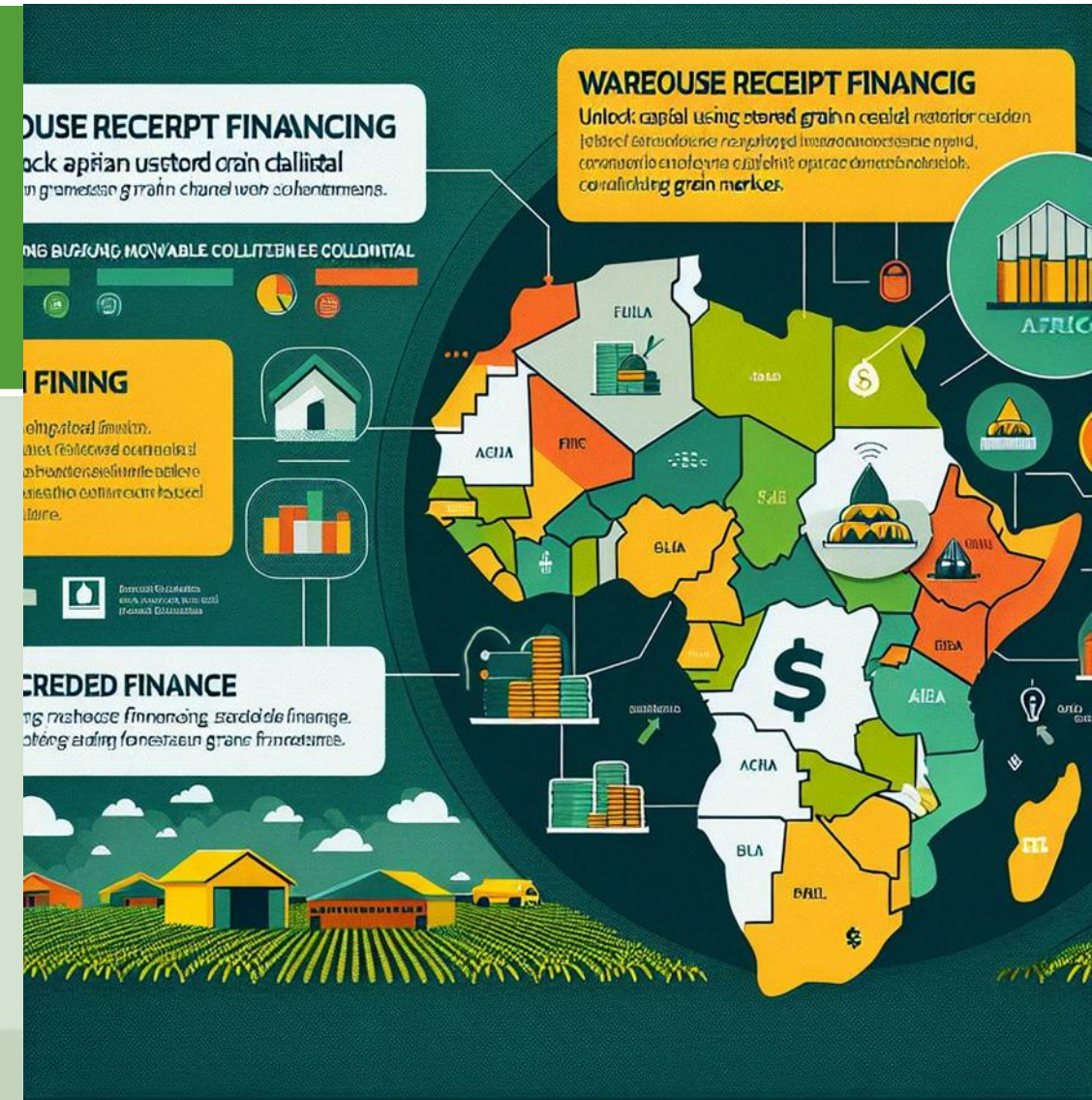
Strengthening Financial Infrastructure and Instruments

Innovative Financing Model

- Warehouse Receipt Finance
- Blended Finance, e.g., Guarantees and First Loss capital
- Leverage Supply Chain Finance



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2. Advancing Local Currency Trade & Payment Systems

Pan-African Payment & Settlement System (PAPSS)

- Direct Local Currency Settlement
- Substantial cost reduction
- Current Reach – 15 countries, 150 commercial banks & 14 national switches

PAPSS African Currency Market Place (PACM)

- Offers currency convertibility solutions
- Addresses trapped capital – solving over \$2+ billion in trapped capital.
- Unlocks exchange restrictions

Benefits of local currency trade

- Reduced FX Risk
- Enhanced Regional Integration – supports AfCFTA
- Financial Sovereignty



3. High-level Capacity Building & Enhancing Inclusion

Sensitisation on International commodity trade processes and financing instruments

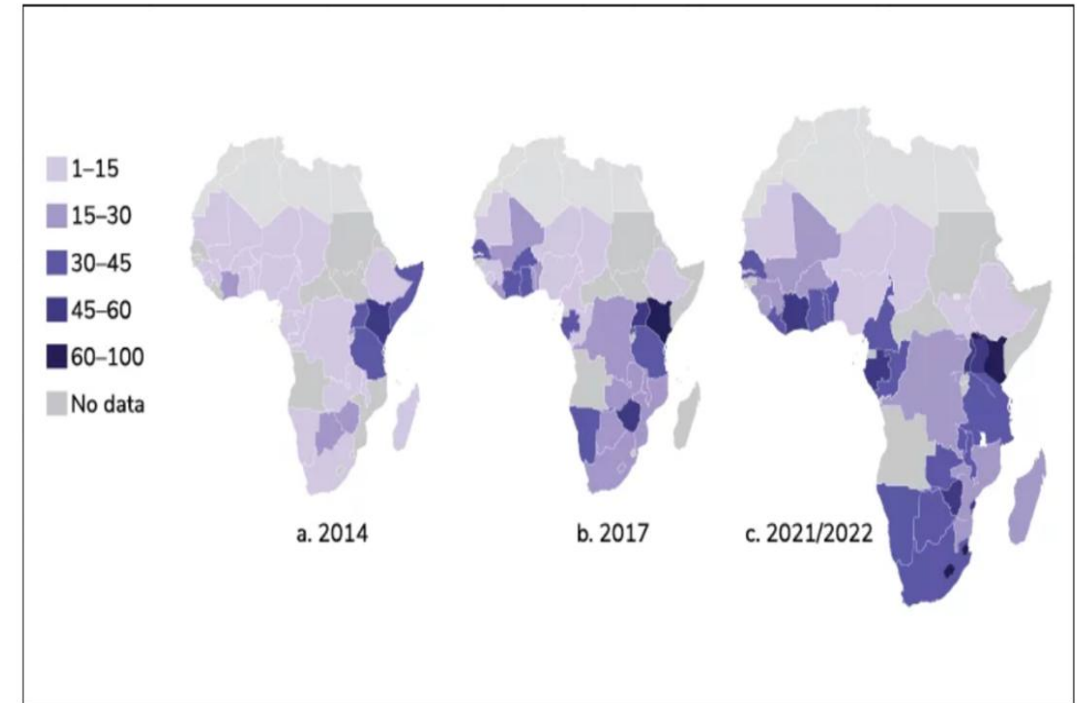
Gender Inclusive Approaches

- Gender sensitive financial products
- Legal and Leadership reforms



Digital Transformation

- Mobile Banking Platforms - PESALINK, SWIFT
- Digital Tools for Agriculture – Trading, Price monitoring, weather and soil testing
- Digital Payment Systems – MPESA



Mobile money account ownership in Africa, 2014 (left) vs 2017 (middle) vs 2021/22 (right). By 2021 most



4. Foster Strategic Partnerships and Supportive Policies

Multistakeholder Collaborations

- Public Private Partnerships (PPP)
- Development Finance Institutions
- Value Chain alignment

Supportive Policy Frameworks

- Promote the establishment of specialised agriculture development banks
- Risk Sharing facilities
- Regional Trade Policies –e.g., standards, regulations and harmonisations

Strategic Investment and Capacity Building



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Infrastructure Investment

Market Information Services

Training and Capacity Building

Scaling Innovative Financial Products



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Microfinance Expansion

Warehouse Receipts Financing

Digital Credit Products

POLICY ACTION FOR SUSTAINABLE GRAIN MARKET DEVELOPMENT



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Regulatory Reforms

Support Local currency Trade

Public Private Collaboration

THANK YOU.

