



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Global Center for Food Systems Innovation Activity Brief/SER-# July 2022

# THE FERTILIZER SECTOR DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

#### **Key Message:**

The availability, accessibility, utilization, and stability of fertilizer supply can be enhanced by positioning Tanzania as a regional hub for fertilizer trade and domestic manufacturing, taking advantage of the country's geographical position

#### **Partners:**

Prime Contractor: Michigan State University (MSU) Sub-Contractor: ASPIRES Tanzania

#### **Other Partners:**

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (MALF)

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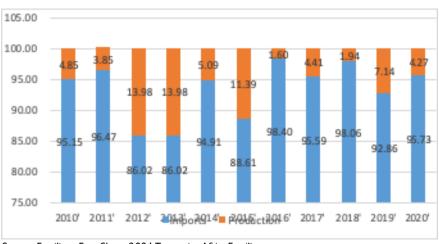
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#### Introduction

Tanzania's population is projected to increase from the current 60 million people to 100 million people by 2034. To meet the food demand of the projected 100 million people (partly contributed by increase in income and urbanization), food production must double by 2030. Currently, food self-sufficiency ratio is 118% coupled with low agriculture production due to underutilization of key agricultural inputs including improved seeds, fertilizers, crop protection products, etc. Fertilizer application in the country is still low, averaging 19 kg/ha. This is far below the SSA average of 37kg/ha and the Abuja declaration target of 50kg/ha by 2025. And it is one of the key factors for increasing agricultural productivity. Over 90% of the fertilizer available in the country is imported and therefore access to many smallholder farmers is a challenge.



# Figure 1 Shares of Fertilizer Imports and Domestic Production 2010-2020

Source: Fertilizer Fact Sheet 2021 Tanzania\_AfricaFertilizer.org



## **About the Fertilizer Strategy**

The Fertilizer Strategy comes to strengthen the 2006 strategy and key milestones in this sector which include fertilizer subsidies, bulk procurement, bulk handling and processing, quality assurance, fiscal measures, reforms, and increment of key players. It aims at increasing fertilizer availability, access, utilization, and trade for sustainable agricultural productivity, increased incomes, and environmental protection. The strategy is divided into four chapters, i.e., introduction, background and rationale; the fertilizer sector in Tanzania; Fertilizer Sector Development Strategy (rationale, vision, mission, and objectives); and implementation plan.

### **The Process**

The Fertilizer Strategy was developed based on the lessons learnt from the 2006 strategy and evidence from the analytical and review of national, regional, and global reports and research work. Stakeholders were interviewed including importers, traders, medium and large-scale farmers, fertilizer manufacturers and blenders of fertilizer, in addition to visiting some strategic regions that are high in fertilizer use and border points. Under the leadership of the Tanzania Fertilizer Regulatory Authority (TFRA), the drafting of the document was done by Prof. David Nyange and the Consultant (Prof. Esther Ishengoma), hired by ASPIRES. The draft was then presented to TFRA and stakeholders in a series of meetings for their inputs and validation. The final document was submitted to TFRA for further action.

#### SERA BORA's Support on Fertilizer Strategy Development

- ✓ Drafting the program document led by Prof. David Nyange, with support from the Consultant (Prof Esther Ishengoma) and Claire Ijumba
- ✓ Organizing, hosting and presenting the Strategy document at various technical meetings including TFRA

**Potential Impact:** A competitive, profitable and sustainable fertilizer sector contributing to economic transformation through enhanced agricultural productivity while sustaining soil health and the environment.

# **Expected Outcomes:**

- Increased utilization of fertilizers
- Increased crop productivity
- Stabilized supply of fertilizer in the country
- · Reduced fertilizer prices resulting from increased supply from both imports and local manufacturing





