

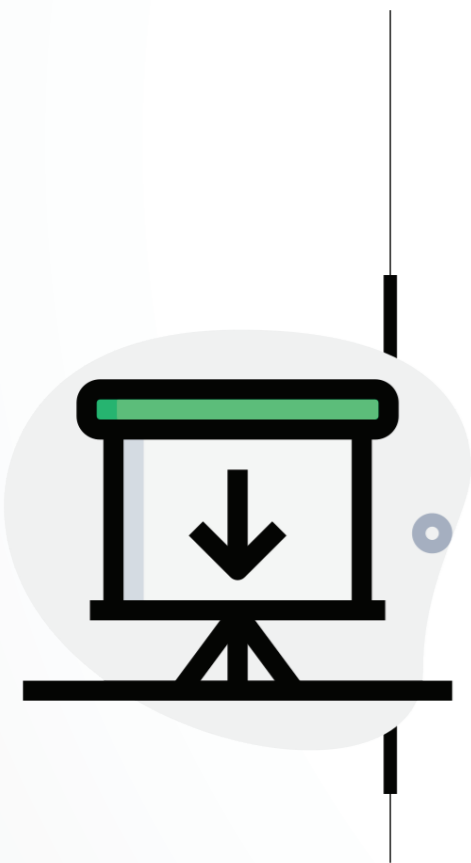


# **PERSPECTIVES ON POLICY ISSUES NEEDED TO STRENGTHEN FOOD SYSTEMS INTERVENTIONS IN ZAMBIA**

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# OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION



1. Introduction
2. Food security and nutrition
3. Approaches to making coherent policies for food systems
4. Policy recommendations for Zambia

# INTRODUCTION



- Globally, food systems are key in ensuring:
  - Food security and nutrition
  - Providing livelihoods to farmers and other value chains
  - Promoting rural development
  - Providing environmental sustainability
  - Reducing greenhouse gas emissions and protection of animal welfare.
- Food systems are currently facing challenges such as ongoing climate change, slow global economic growth, COVID-19 pandemic and prolonged conflict in some countries
- About **2 billion people** do not have regular access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food which has led to food insecurity and malnutrition.
- Therefore, key policy measures as well as reforms are critical in enhancing our food systems

# FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

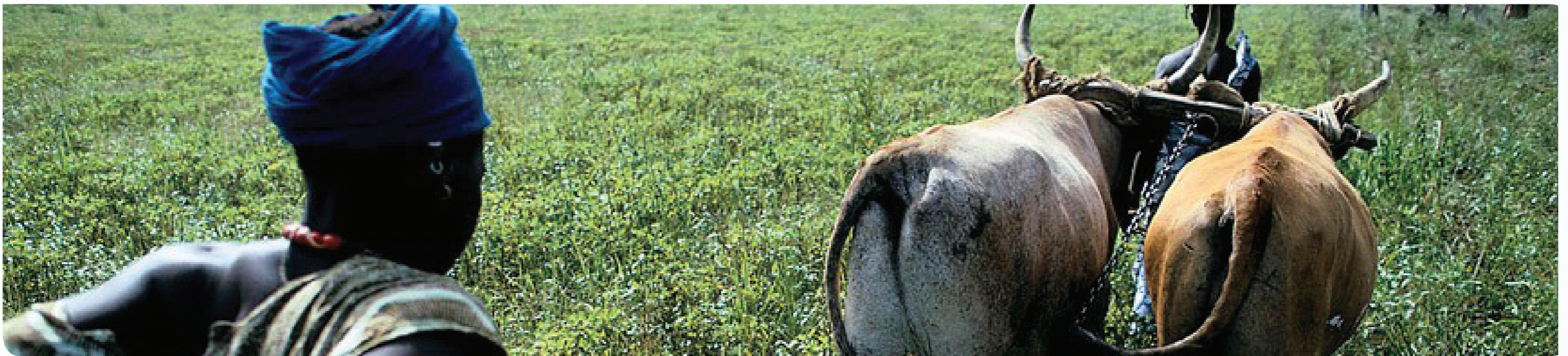


- Food security exists when *“all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life” (FAO, 1996 )*
- For **Zambia increasing food availability** would be achieved via Crop and fisheries and livestock diversification

## **CROP SUB-SECTOR**

- 1. Increasing the availability and access to diversified seed types** through an effective seed system (review and alignment of seed act, plant breeders act, regulations and alignment to regional and global standards).
- 2. Production of diverse crops and promotion** of value chains for strategic crops.
- 3. Promote consumption/utilization of a variety of food crops and products** with nutritional diversity.

## FISHERIES AND LIVESTOCK SUB-SECTOR



- 1. Increase in aquaculture fish production** by promoting and diversifying production of farmed-fish species; stocking and restocking of water bodies.
2. Promote **access to fish seeds** through the establishment of community fish seed production centres and capacity building.
- 3. Increase livestock population** through enhanced disease control, restocking and breeding of superior stocks and encompassing animal nutrition.

# APPROACHES TO MAKING COHERENT POLICIES FOR FOOD SYSTEMS

Several practical approaches can improve coherence of food system policies such as regulatory impact assessments and stock-taking exercises, multi stakeholder consultative processes and greater coordination between policy actors.

## Regulatory impact assessments (RIAs)

- Regulatory impact assessments (RIAs) can improve coherence by ex-ante evaluation of potential synergies and trade-offs, and by comparing different policy options while taking into account these interaction effects.
- Coherence assessment for existing policies through “**stocktaking**” exercises, such as initiatives which make an inventory of existing policies and their potential synergies and trade-offs.

# APPROACHES TO MAKING COHERENT POLICIES FOR FOOD SYSTEMS..

## Multi-stakeholder consultative approaches

- Multi-stakeholder consultative approaches to improve policy coherence through wide range of perspectives and expertise, to increase important synergies and trade-offs,
- These approaches are particularly useful when stakeholders are asked to reflect on data and evidence gathered during a RIA or a stocktaking exercise, to ensure evidence-based discussions.
- Improved coherence through better coordination between different policy making actors (*e.g. agriculture, environment, public health*) and levels of governments (*provincial/district*).
- International cooperation is also needed to manage trans boundary spill overs and avoid incoherent policies. Several mechanisms exist, ranging from dialogue and the exchange of information.
- However, international cooperation is not always easy to achieve due to differences in interests, preferences and policy-making approaches between different countries.

# POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ZAMBIA



As a way of improving food systems, PMRC recommends the following policy measures:

1. Review of the FRA **(SI) NO. 73 of 2012** in order to broaden the commodities purchased to reflect diversity in the nutritional needs of citizens.
2. The Second National Agricultural Policy focuses on ten strategic objectives. **Objective 7** of the policy which is to improve food and nutrition security should be highly promoted by providing adequate resources for implementation.
3. There is a need to promote the seed industry by adequately funding the source of seed to ensure diversity in various seed types through capacity building, alignment of policies to regional standards and accreditation to international organizations.



# POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ZAMBIA



4. There is need for the review and provision of institutional support to the **Farmer Input Support Programme (FISP)** and the **Food Reserve Agency (FRA)** so as to build farmers' capacity to produce diversified food products which will enhance competition in the market.
5. PMRC urges Government to fully implement the **Blue Economy**, as it has a bearing on climate change in the agriculture sector especially fisheries sub sector.
6. There is need for more **investments in Research and Development as well as technology** and extension services because these have been identified as key factors affecting productivity.

# POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ZAMBIA



7. There is need to promote climate smart agricultural practices to avoid disturbances of ecosystems and reduce green house emissions.
8. Systems need to be put in place that effectively raises awareness on climate change, and its potential impacts on social and economic development, livelihoods and ecosystems and promote resilience in Zambia's food system.

# THANK YOU

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Response to this presentation can be sent to:  
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