Food Safety in Africa:
Past Endeavors and Future Directions
Project Motivation

- Increasing African focus on food safety
  - Trade and development
  - Public health
- Increasing donor and private sector activity

**QUESTION:** How best to mobilize, target and coordinate public and private investment?
Provide data, analysis and recommendations public and private sectors can use to better target investments, by --

- Documenting and analyzing pattern and trends in recent donor investments
- Providing feedback on current efforts from stakeholders and experts
- Offering recommendations based on broad input
• **Created database** on over 500 projects funded by 31 donor organizations since 2010

• **Gained input from over 200 experts and stakeholders**, including 44 formal interviews

• **Described food safety landscape and governance framework** for food safety capacity building

• **Developed key findings and recommendations**, including implementing ideas, informed by project data, expert opinion, and stakeholder input
Project Advisory Panel

- Renata Clarke, FAO
- Kelley Cormier, USAID
- Melvin Spreij or Marilyn Hopper, STDF
- Steve Jaffee, IBRD and IDA/World Bank Group
- Barry Lee, IFC/World Bank Group
- Paul Mayers or Rolf Schoenert, Canada
- Morag Webb, COLEACP
- Amare Ayalew, AUC/PACA
- Raphael Coly, AU-IBAR
- Ruth Oniang’o, Rural Outreach Africa
- Stephen Muchiri, East Africa Farmers Federation
- Bassirou Bonfoh, CSRS, Cote d’Ivoire
- Olugbenga Ogunmoyela, Bells University of Technology, Nigeria
- Noreen Machila, University of Zambia
- Tony Huggett or John Bee, Nestlé
- Dave Crean or Bob Baker, Mars
- Anne Gerardi, GFSI
- Les Bourquin, Michigan State
- Emanuela Montanari-Stephens, USDA-FAS
Food System and Donor Complexity

INVESTORS
- United Nations
- Development Banks
- Bilaterals
- Foundations
- Private Sector

Governance
- Organizational fragmentation (Agri, Health, Trade, state/local auth)
- Food safety agencies with complex and unsustainable funding
- Misalignment of standards, lack of surveillance, no private liability
- Regional governance and harmonization complexity (RECs, AUC)

Physical Infrastructure
- Clean water
- Safe storage
- Cold chain
- Sanitary facilities
- Effective processing equipment
- Laboratory capacity
- Food service facilities
- Electrical power/transport

Food Systems and Markets
- Smallholder farmers and informal local markets, street vendors
- Formal urban convenience stores and supermarkets, HoReCa
- Formal and informal regional trade
- Formal trade outside the continent

Eco-biological
- Food types and environmental conditions (moisture, temperature)
- Bacterial, viral and parasitic hazards (Salmonella, E. coli, Norovirus)
- Natural chemical hazards (afatoxin, ochratoxin, cyanide)
- Manmade chemical hazards (pesticides, dioxins)

AFRICAN INSTITUTIONS
- African Union Commission
- Regional Economic Communities
- National Governments
- African Development Bank

SAFER FOOD  STRONGER ECONOMIES  HEALTHIER WORLD
• Donor investment since 2010 has risen and totals at least $383 million but impossible to fully quantify

• The EC, US, FAO and WHO play lead roles in terms of number of projects and dollars, with World Bank and AfDB playing increasing roles

• MDTFs and development banks are promising vehicles for donor coordination and alignment but much current investment is fragmented
Broad Findings on Current Efforts (2)

Substantial focus on –
- National control systems
- Exports and other formal markets
- Chemical hazards

Little focus on –
- Public health capacity and risk research
- Informal sector and microbiological hazards
- Consumer awareness and private sector capacity
Donors and national governments should –

1. **Better address the public health burden of foodborne illness** among African consumers who are dependent on informal markets

2. **Build capacity for well governed, evidence- and risk-based food safety systems and prevention strategies**, adapted to local conditions and priorities

3. **Harness marketplace drivers of progress on food safety**, by increasing consumer awareness and empowerment and supporting private sector efforts
• Convene stakeholders at national, regional and local levels to define priorities and strategies to guide donor and national investment

• Invest in risk research and design of locally relevant interventions to reduce risk in informal markets

• Expand donor use of mechanisms for pooling resources and coordinating investment in response to locally defined needs

• Increase consumer awareness and market incentives through education, the media and other channels

• Invest in private sector associations and other vehicles for private sector leadership to improve food safety
Much More Information

- **Report Appendices** – on GFSP website ([https://www.gfsp.org/](https://www.gfsp.org/))
  - Appendix A – Institutional Landscape White Paper
  - Appendix B – Implementing Ideas
  - Appendix C – Food Safety Expert Summary
  - Appendix D – Contributors to Report
  - Appendix E – Supplemental Material

Next Steps & Contacts

• GFSP aspires to apply learnings to specific country and value chain challenges and opportunities

• For more information, contact:

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