



## Tenth Session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

*“Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and  
Agenda 2063 and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the  
effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions”*

23–25 APRIL 2024

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Review of sub-theme of the Regional Forum: Zero  
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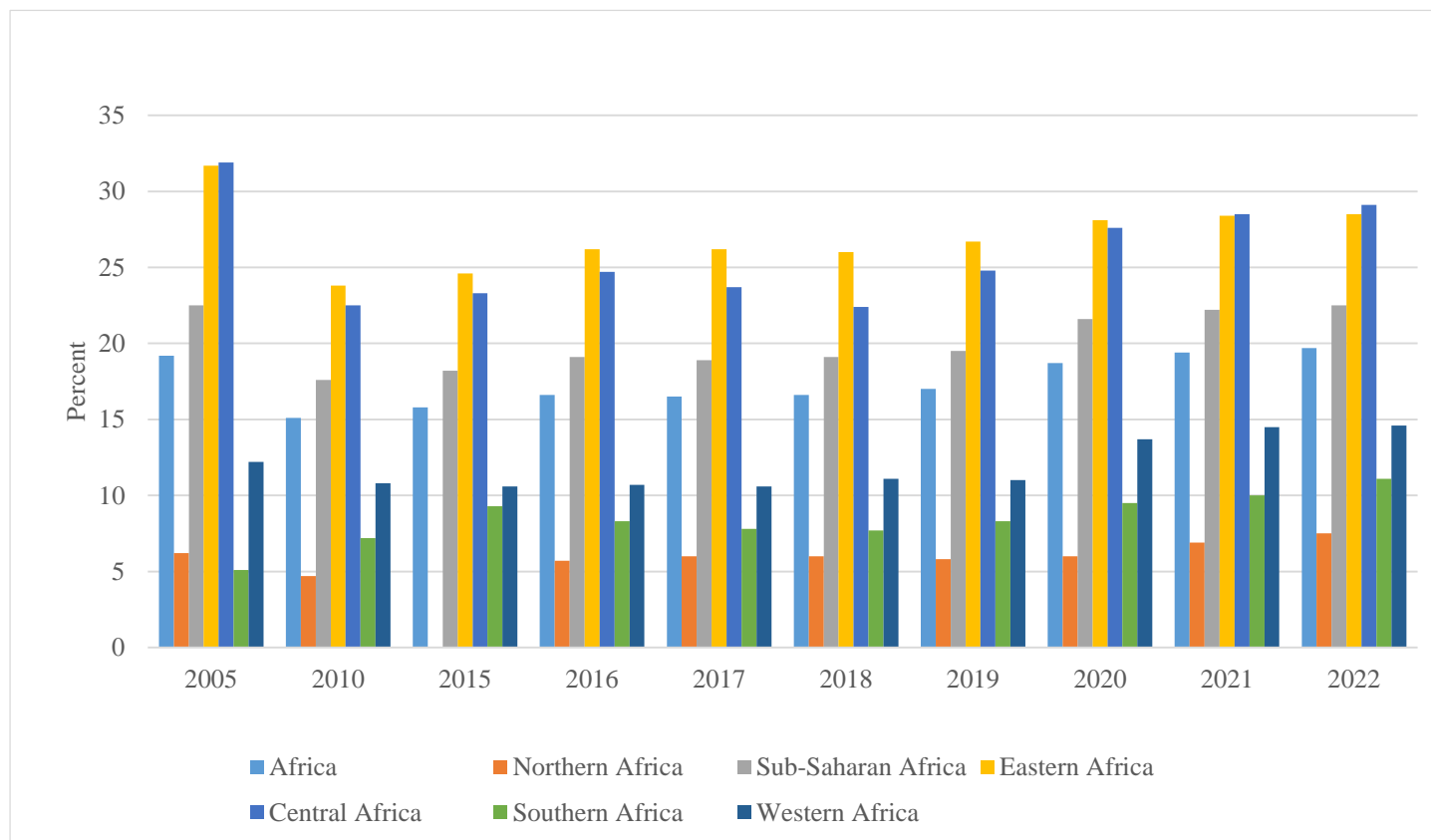
**Medhat El-Helepi**

**ECA**

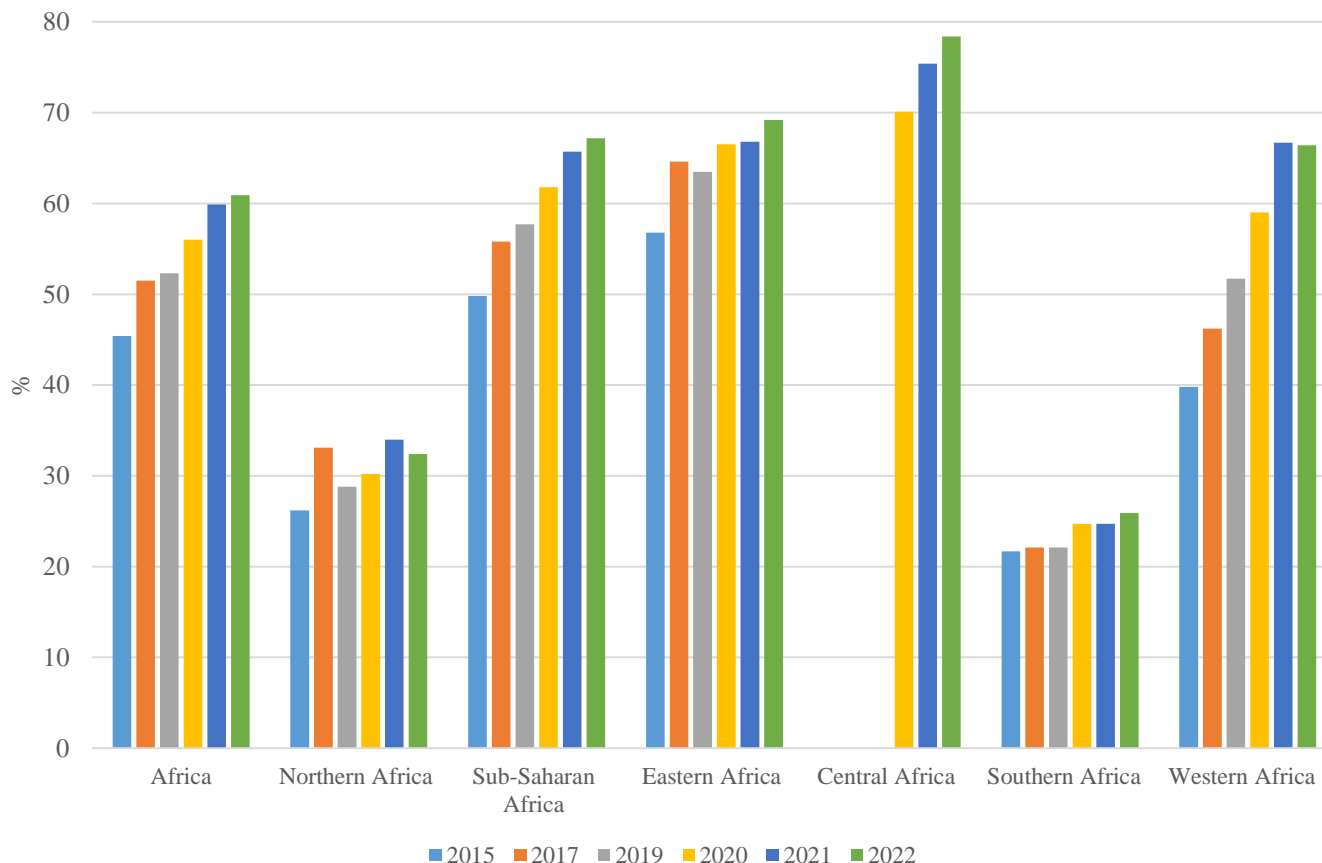
**[24 April 2024]**



# Undernourishment prevalence: Totally off track



# Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in Africa: Prevalence is rather increasing



# Share of government expenditure on the agriculture sector: Steadily declining



# **Nutrition: Weak performance despite slight improvement**



## **Stunting:**

- **A decrease in the prevalence of stunting among children under 5 years of age in Africa, declining from 34.4 per cent in 2012 to 30.0% in 2022.**
- **Africa still falls short of achieving the nutrition goals of Sustainable Development Goal 2 by 2030.**
- **Absolute number of children affected by stunting in Africa has increased, from 61 million in 2012 to 63 million in 2022.**
- **The pace of progress in reducing stunting is insufficient, mere 1.3% in 2022.**
- **The overall decline in the prevalence of stunting conceals subregional disparities.**
- **The prevalence of stunting in Africa remains the highest compared with other regions**

# Several challenges, including



- 1. Inadequate implementations of development policies, programs, regulations etc**
- 2. Vulnerability to climate shocks and other extreme weather events**
- 3. Increasing debt levels; and lack of quality investment in agric sector/rural development**
- 4. Insufficient breadth and depth of partnerships**
- 5. Gaps in data, info and technology needed to monitor progress and inform decisions**
- 6. Transboundary pests and diseases, high post-harvest losses and low value addition**
- 7. Conflict, civil insecurity and political instability**

- 1. Population dividend and increasing middle income**
- 2. Reaffirmed political commitment and strengthened calls for reform including the re-design of the post Malabo agenda**
- 3. Renewed calls for climate financing for agriculture and food security**
- 3. Movement from silos to systems with active participation of the private sector**
- 4. Leveraging interregional trade, South-South Cooperation, regional initiatives and food systems pathways**
- 5. Innovations and increased access to technologies especially by the youth in agriculture**

# Key Policy Options



- **A. Unleash the power of policies, regulations and institutions**
- **B. Scale up physical and digital infrastructure**
- **C. Build resilience to climate shocks**
- **D. Mobilize adequate resources including through domestic financing and PP partnership**
- **E. Enhance data-related capacity and infrastructure**
- **F. Seize opportunities emerging from technology, innovation, regional integration**
- **G. Secure political, institutional and financial commitment and national leadership**
- **H. Unleash the power of smallholder farmers, youth and women groups**



# Key message: Lay the groundwork for agricultural transformation from within



Africa needs to build on existing success stories, including by:

- (a) Implementing and continuously refining policies and institutions to create a business and public service environment conducive to the realization of the right to food for all;
- (b) Investing in infrastructure development;
- (c) Building resilience to shocks, including the long-term effects of climate change, and adopting sustainable farming practices;
- (d) Tapping into opportunities unleashed by technological advancement, innovative solutions and partnerships;
- (e) Adopting a holistic, multisectoral approach to advancing agrifood system transformation and the other five transitions that are required to ensure food and nutrition security for all; and
- (f) Boosting enablers within the African context, including peace building, securing land rights, women's empowerment, agricultural mechanization, implementation of the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area, agri-entrepreneurship, regional value chains and agro-industrialization through agro-parks.



**THANK  
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Ideas  
to  
Action