Agro-ecologically conducive policies

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Need for Agro-ecological policies

• About 90 per cent of the world’s 1.5 billion hectares under agriculture is dominated by industrial monocultures that are highly dependent on external inputs and energy
• There are externalities associated with conventional agriculture
• Industrial agriculture focusing on monoculture, with attendant challenges.
• Mechanization and degradation of the fragile tropical soil
• Heavy reliance of agro-chemicals, compromising food quality and environmental pollution.
• Erosion of biodiversity due to industrial agriculture focusing on monoculture.
• Changing food values leading to loss of indigenous crops that are adapted to specific agroecologies.
• Invading pest and diseases accompanying exotic seeds and breeds
• Climate change limiting crops and animals that can be produced.
• Farmers-cattle herders’ clash; battle for suitable lands in the absence of policy on sustainable land use.
Agroecological policies

- Agricultural policies and programmes in Africa have undergone a lot of changes especially in the millennial era
- These changes have been a mere reflection of changes in government or administration
- These policies and programmes vary only in nomenclature and organizational network
- And emphasize almost same objectives
Agroecological policies contd.

Agroecologically conducive policies are those that promote agro-ecological practices and systems:

• Promotes food security
• Involves all stakeholders across the value chain in planning and execution
• Are open, transparent and
• Must be framed within a context that are based on a consensus broad enough
• to guarantee continuity and freedom of expression of stakeholders’ opinions on decisions
Concerns of Note toward Sustainable food production

• Increasing yields, profitability and environmental sustainability simultaneously
• Developing varieties and breeds needed for sustainable food systems
• Decreasing food loss and waste through more efficient distribution systems
• Creating and share resources that serve all populations
• Ensuring inclusive and equitable food systems
• Addressing the dual burdens of under-nutrition and obesity to ensure full human potential
• Ensuring a safe and secure food supply that protects and improves public health