

# Capacity Development to Support Africa's Agri-Food Systems Transformation

T.S. Jayne and Milu Muyanga

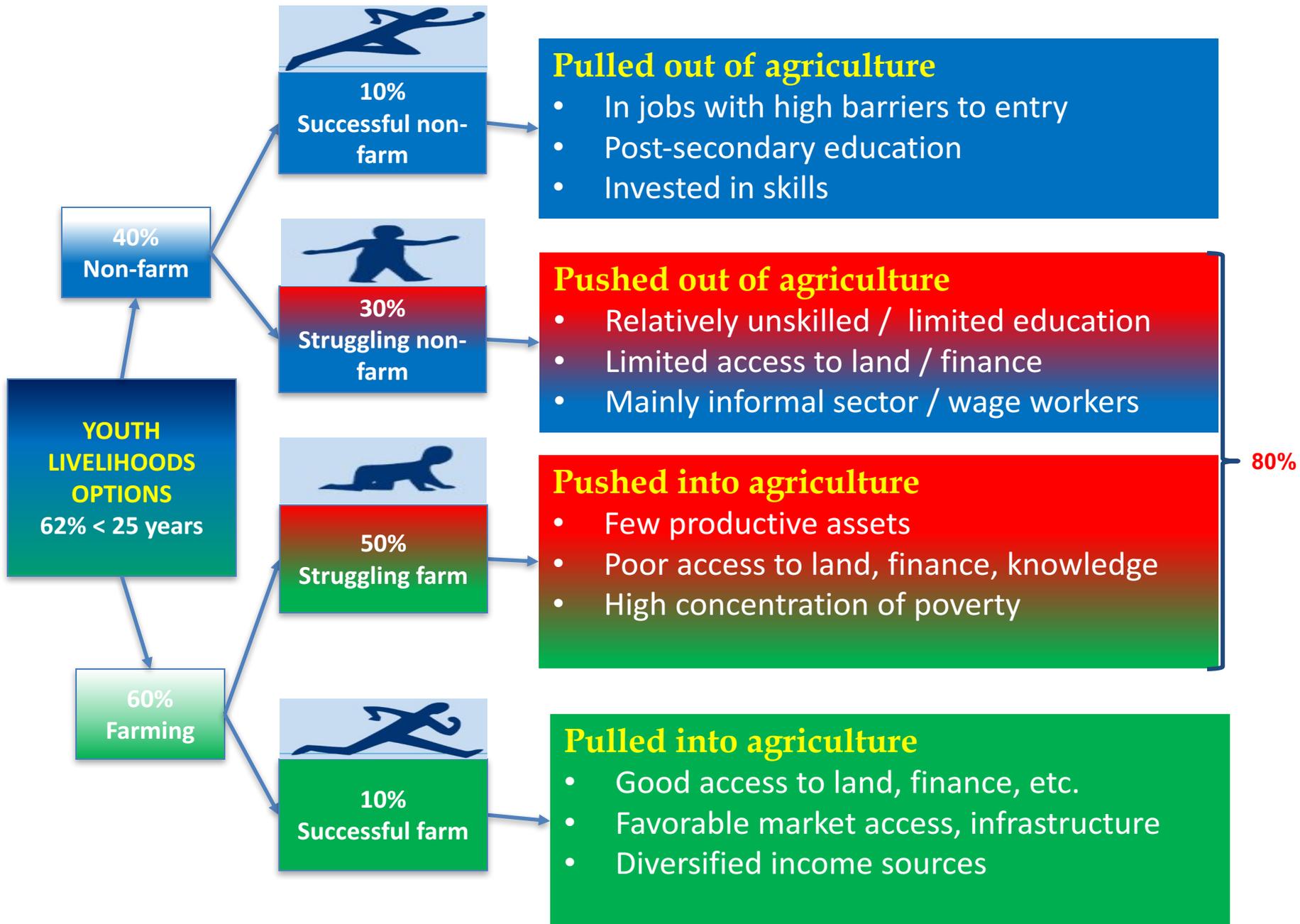
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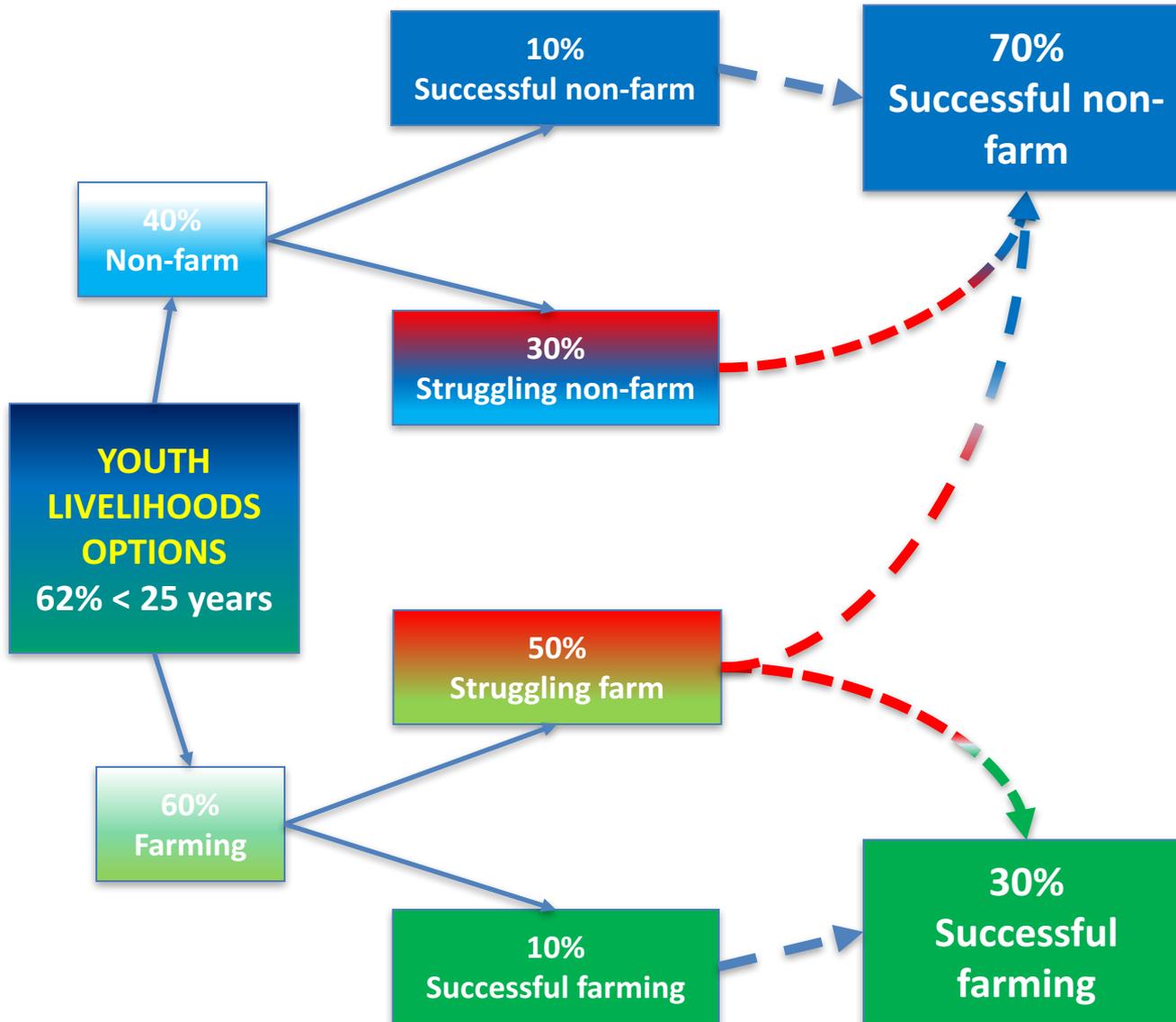
# Outline

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1. Structural transformation (ST)
2. Why rapid ST will require solid ag policy guidance
3. Implications for RENAPRI



# Structural transformation pathway



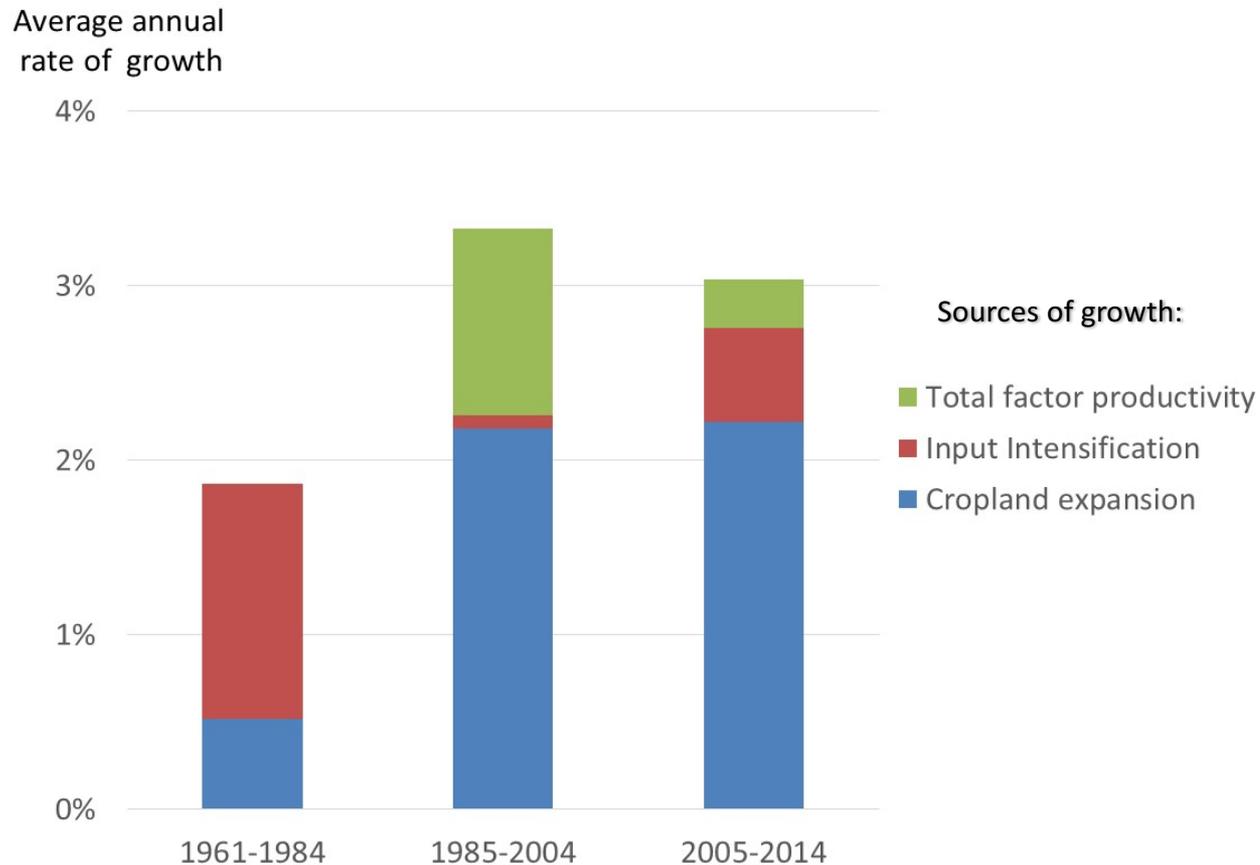
## Policies

- Inclusive economic growth
- Infrastructure
- Education

## Policies

- Ag R&D / extension
- Finance
- Infrastructure and investments along value chain
  - Irrigation
  - Roads
  - Electricity

# What do we know about agricultural growth in Sub-Saharan Africa?



# 3 categories of activities that promote structural transformation

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- 1. Actions that the private sector will undertake on its own**  
e.g., distributing inputs to areas where demand is strong
- 2. Actions that the private sector will undertake if governments create a favorable 'enabling environment'**  
e.g., distributing inputs to areas where demand would be strong with improved road, port, communications infrastructure
- 3. Actions that the private sector will not do under most circumstances and that governments must do**  
e.g., infrastructure, education, R&D, extension services

# Importance of public policy

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Relative expenditures on ag in SSA (billions):

Donors: USD 3.8

FDI: USD 10

African governments: USD 12

private sector: ??

Economic transformation in SSA will require:

- enlightened policies → evidence → research
- strengthen African agricultural policy institutes?

# An African Regional Ag Policy Network – Are we ready to take it to the next level?

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- What's the vision?
- Institutions, like organisms, must adapt to changing environment or die
  - New actors
  - quality of policy analysis today depends on public investments and strategic decisions made 5-10-20 years ago
  - Policy analysis requires solid data (a challenge in many RENAPRI countries)
  - People so busy with their national agenda – forces people to do RENAPRI work in their 'spare time'
  - Free rider problem
  - Undertake SWOT / strategic planning exercise

# Process matters!

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- Partnership is necessary for institutes to develop
- *How* we partner influences the outcome
- Therefore, need to consider our principles for partnership

# Partnership principles (AAP)

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1. Shared vision - mutual benefit, mutual capacity building
2. Based on **trust, mutual respect, transparency, empathy, and accountability** between the partners.
3. Collaboration must be **sustainable** beyond initial grant cycle, with a view toward long-term collaboration
4. Founded on clarity of purpose, with **clear contributions to society**
5. All partners engage from the beginning -- objectives, activities, resource mobilization and resource allocation plans are **developed jointly**.
6. a governance structure that reinforces **accountability**
7. structured work plan and metrics

# Bottom line conclusions

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Economic transformation in SSA will require:

- Enlightened policies → Evidence → Research
- Strengthen African public institutions, including agricultural policy institutes
- Process matters

Governments hold the key!

**Thank You**

