

Comparative Analysis of Cotton Sector Reforms in SSA

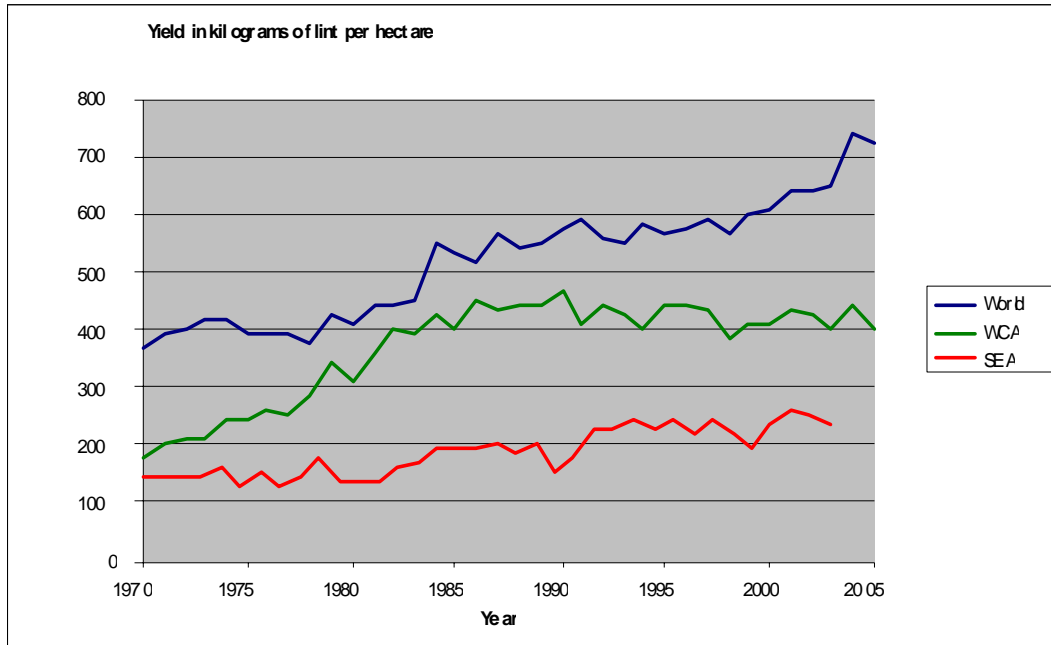
Farm Yields and Returns to Farmers

David Tschirley and Stephen Kabwe
Cotton Sector Stakeholder Meeting
27 November 2007, Lusaka

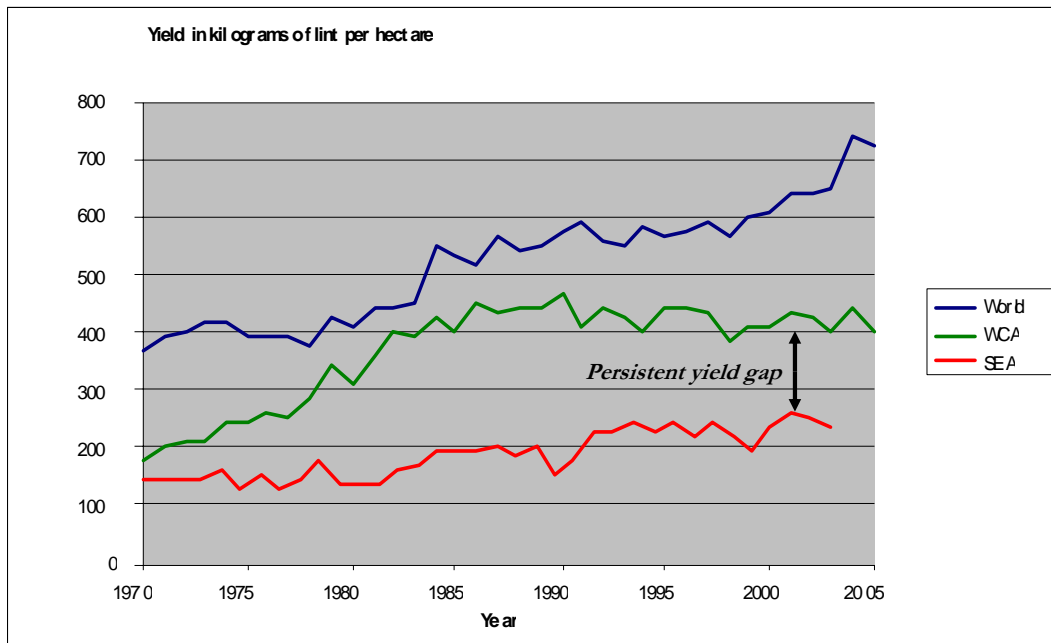
Outline

- Trends
- Comparing across countries
- Questions for Zambia

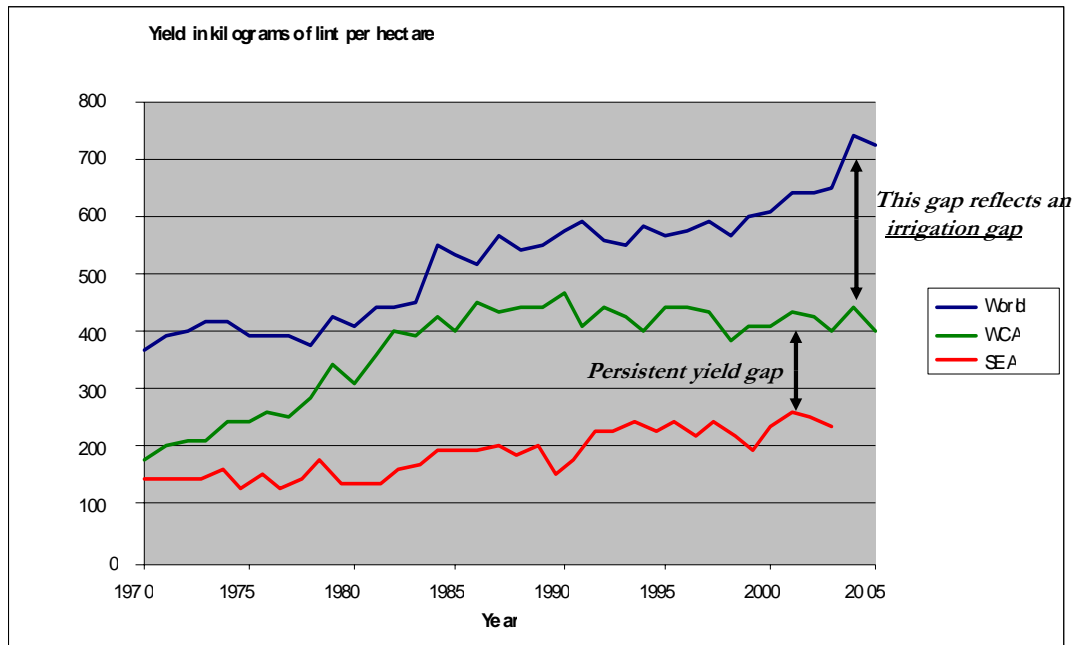
Yield Trends



Yield Trends



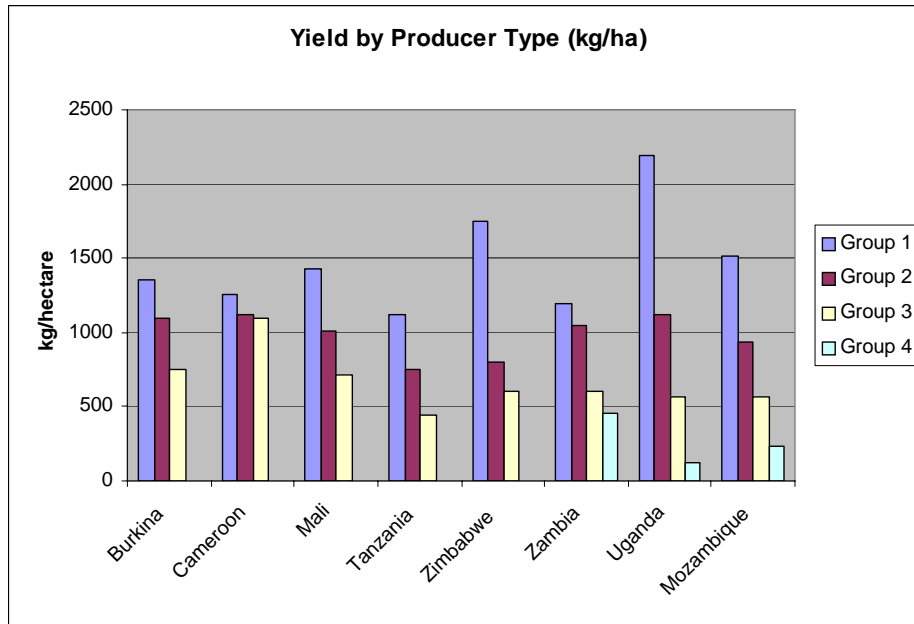
Yield Trends



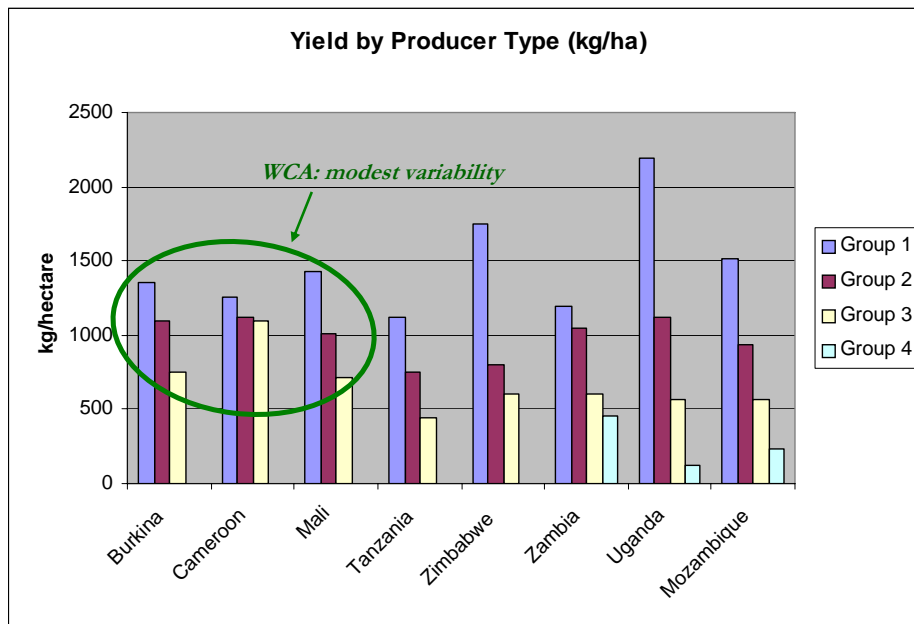
Comparing Across Countries

- ❑ Farm productivity crucial if cotton is to reduce poverty
- ❑ But lack of comparable data across countries
- ❑ Focus Group interviews
- ❑ These were very useful, allowing reasonable cross-country comparisons without farm surveys
- ❑ But better data are needed!
 - Possible focus of continuing work

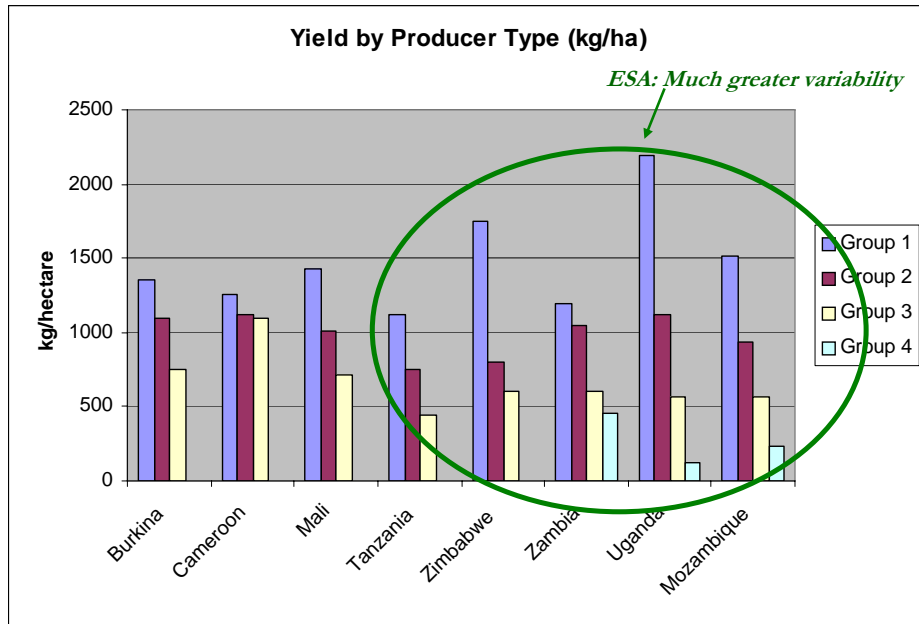
Yields by Group



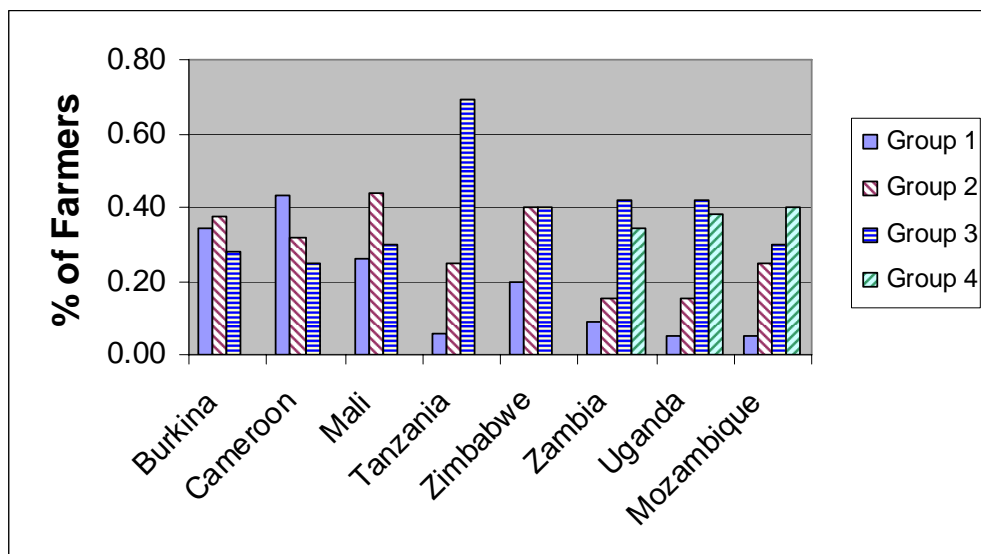
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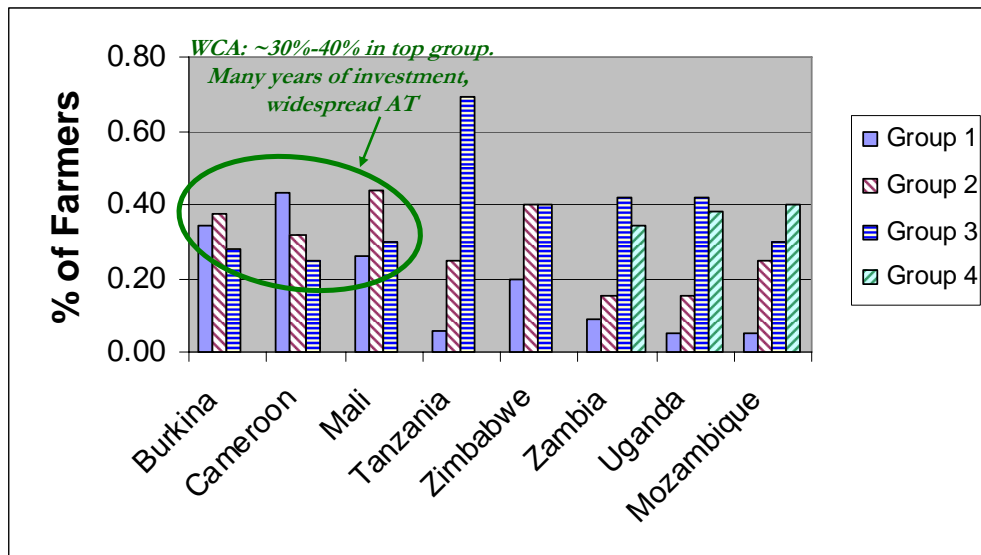
Yields by Group



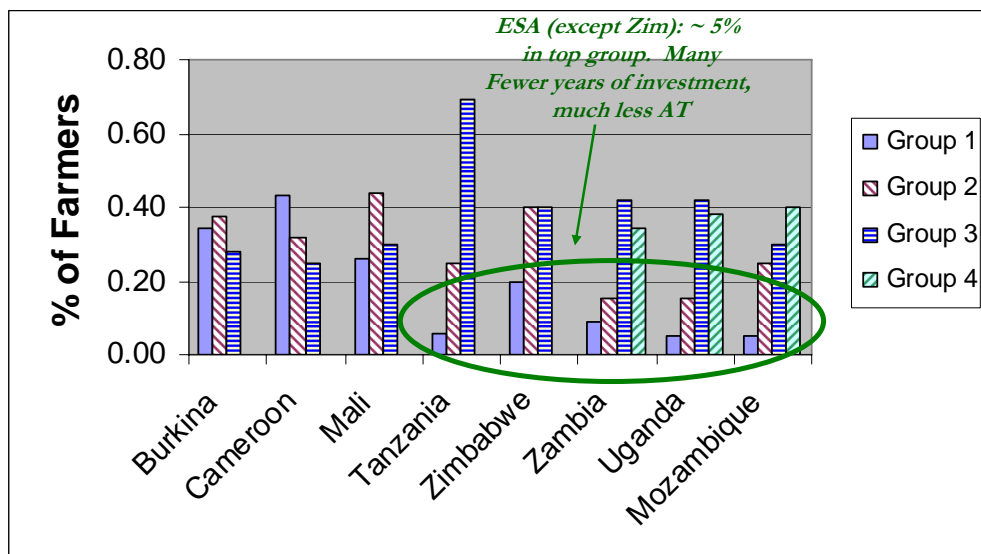
Distribution of Farmers Across Groups



Distribution of Farmers Across Groups

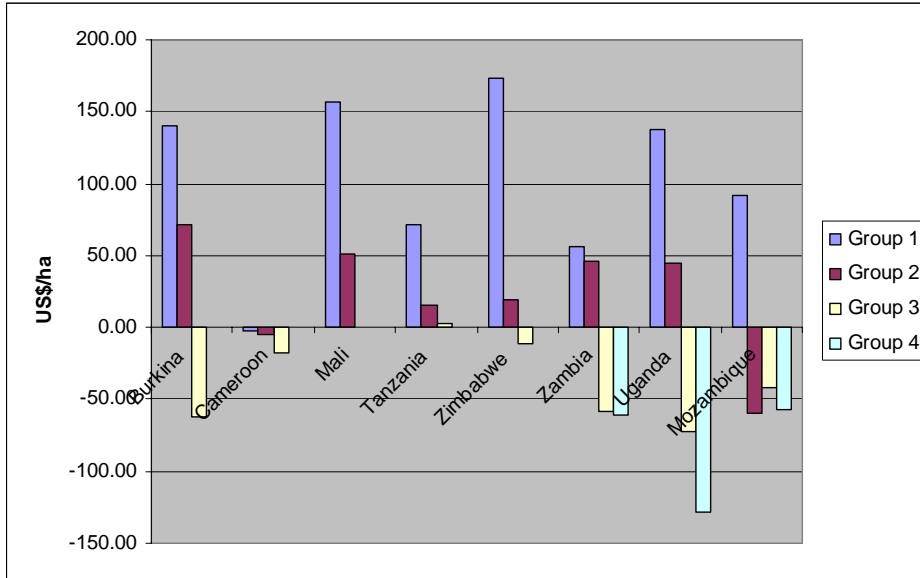


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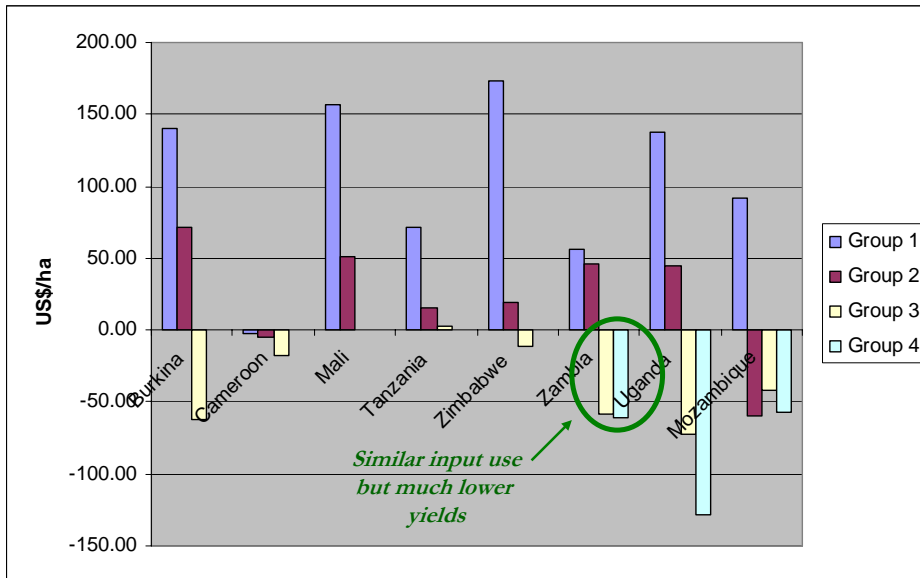
Returns to Farmers

Net earnings per ha after deducting value of all labor



Returns to Farmers

Net earnings per ha after deducting value of all labor



Questions for Zambia

- Slow yield growth partly a result of rapid sectoral growth
 - New farmers every year
- As sector matures, mean yields could increase as learning becomes broader
 - **IF** input distribution is maintained!
- But we think the lack of widespread AT puts a cap on average yield that Zambia can attain
 - Inability to conduct all activities in timely fashion

Questions for Zambia (2)

- How many farmers will be able to sustain the “five non-negotiables” without AT or ability to hire labor?
- How many will choose to do so if prices are depressed due to the Kwacha overvaluation?