

Beira Agricultural Growth Corridor

Keith Palmer, Chairman, InfraCo
World Economic Forum, June 2009

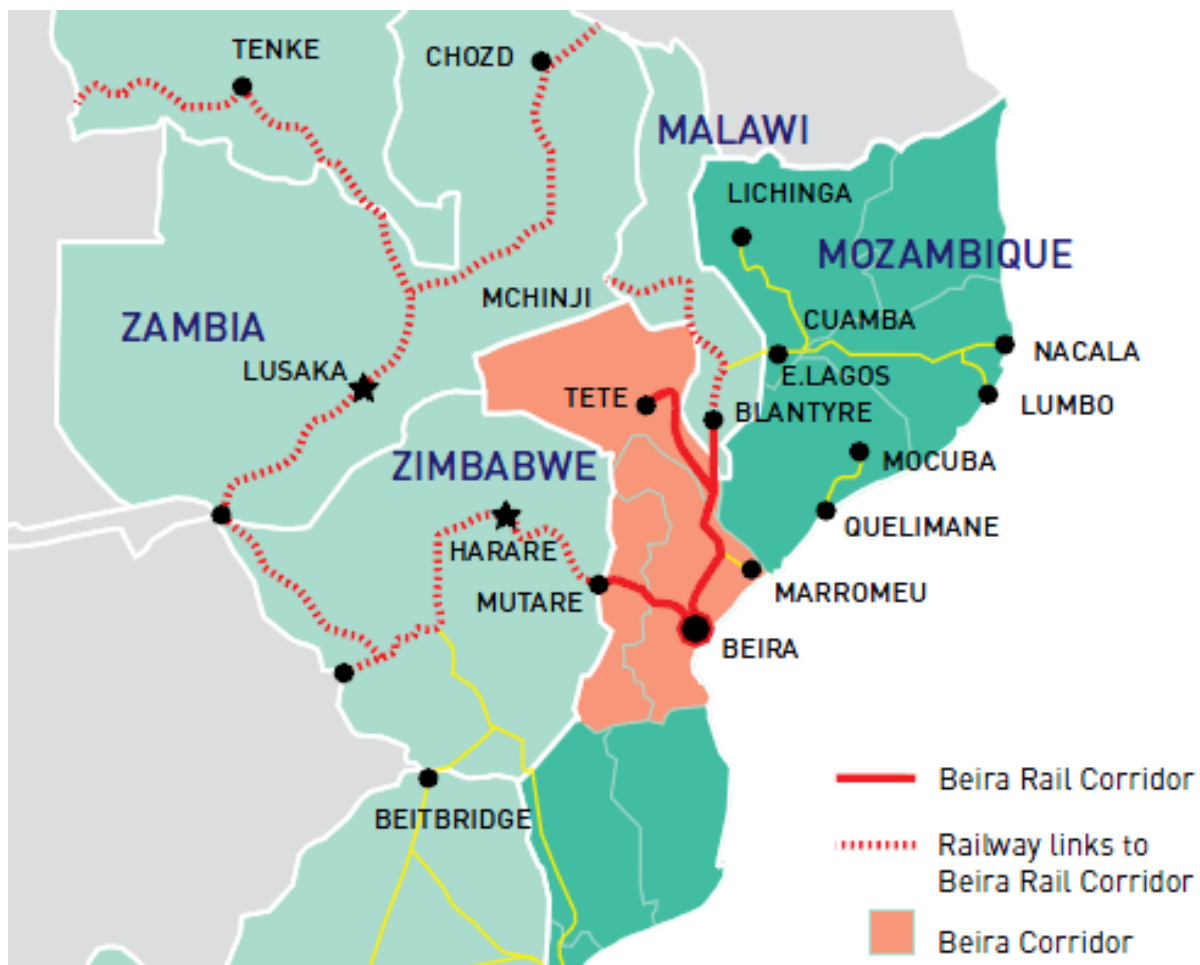


“Developing regional value chains for strategic agricultural commodities . . . is essential for African countries to enhance their agricultural transformation and global competitiveness”

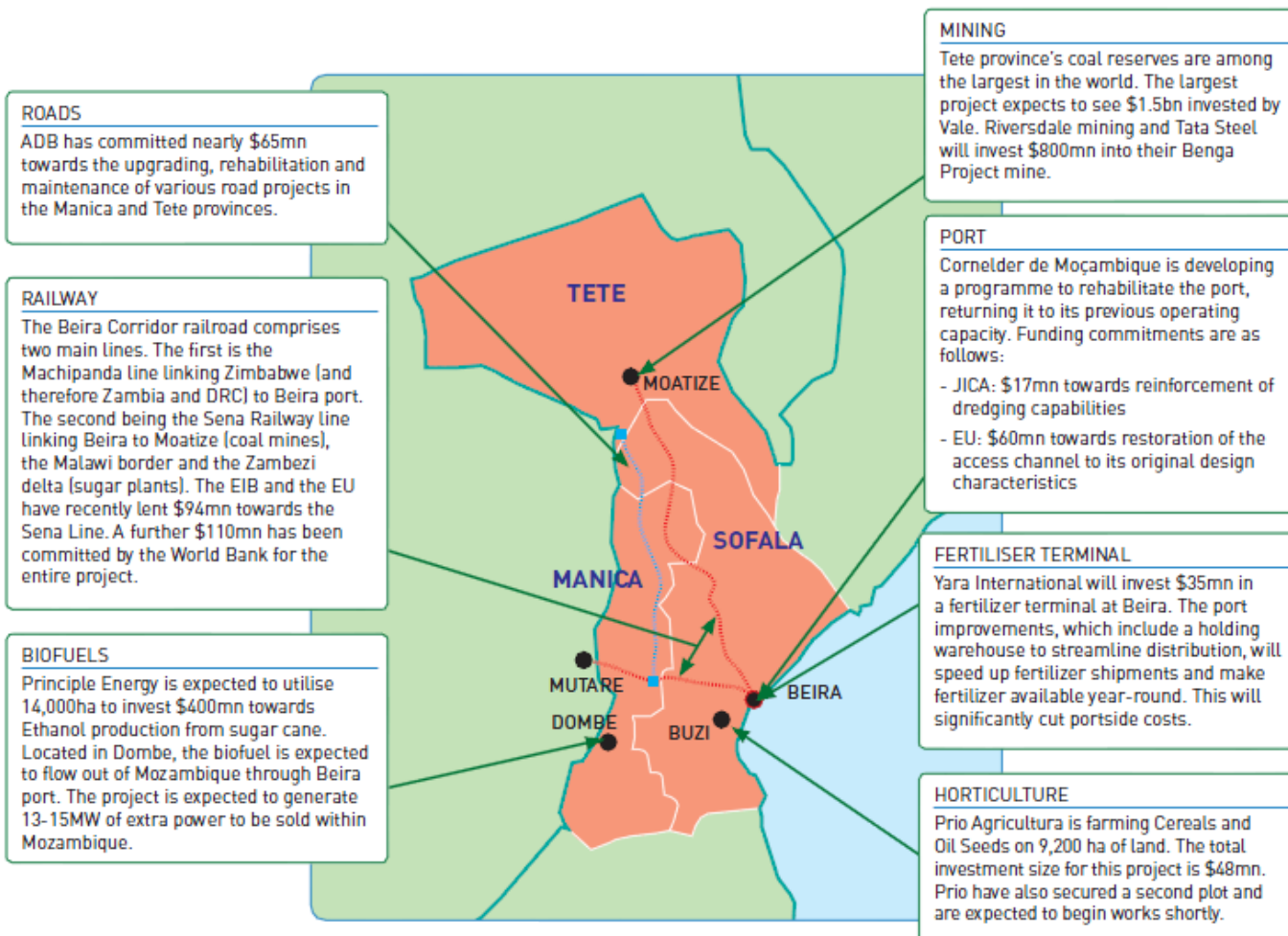
Economic Report on Africa, Africa Union and Economic Commission for Africa (2009)



A major transport route for the South-Eastern Africa region . . .



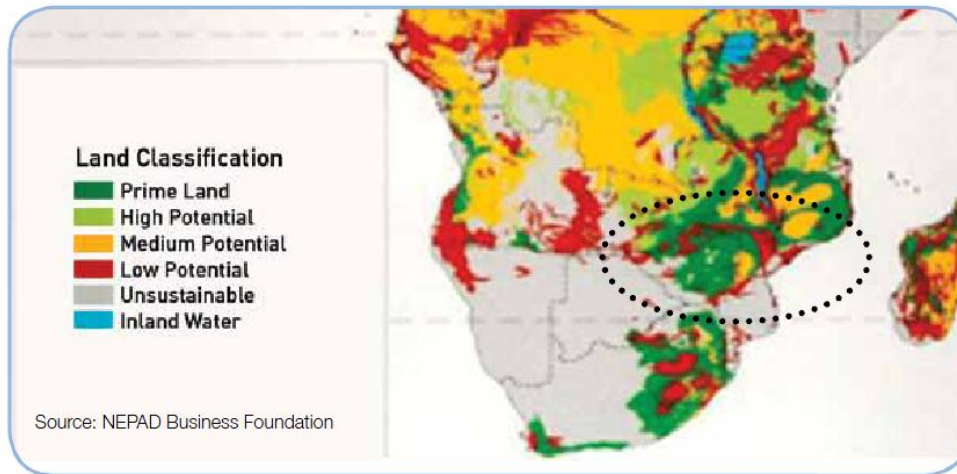
Large “anchor investments” are taking place . . .



ROYAL NORWEGIAN EMBASSY



The area has significant and proven agricultural potential . . .



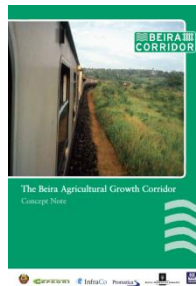
. . . but there are major constraints on profitable agriculture

- Inadequate **infrastructure** (e.g. feeder roads, electricity, dams) driving up costs of production and transport, making agriculture less competitive.
- A lack of access to long-term **finance**, preventing most farmers, especially smallholders, from being able to invest in capital equipment such as irrigation.
- Limited opportunities for **value-addition** through storage or processing.



A proposed way forward

1. Develop a detailed **investment blueprint** for the Beira corridor
2. Establish a **BAGC Partnership** comprising all stakeholders with an interest in promoting commercially-viable agriculture in the corridor.
3. Set up a **Beira Development Company** (Beira DevCo) with a mandate to develop and finance commercially-viable agriculture projects that benefit local communities.



See BAGC Concept Note and interactive map available at www.beiracorridor.com

“We the members of the BAGC Working Group strongly encourage the World Economic Forum to endorse the recommendations in this Concept Note and to provide its support to help ensure they are implemented.”

