

Joint Actions on Operationalization of the Framework for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization in Africa (F-SAMA)

VIRTUAL WEBINAR No. 4:

Impact of Paradigm Shifts on the Development of Agricultural Mechanization in SSA: A Case Study of Farm Power



Webinar brief

Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization (SAM) in Africa is an urgent matter and an indispensable pillar for attaining the Zero Hunger vision by 2025, as stated in the Malabo Declaration of 2014 – Goal 2 of the Sustainable Development Goals – and the Prosperous Africa We Want of Agenda 2063. Doubling agricultural productivity and eliminating hunger and malnutrition in Africa by 2025 will not be realized unless mechanization is accorded utmost importance. Moreover, mechanization can play an important role in ensuring continuity of the farm operations even during the time of uncommon situations like the COVID-19 pandemic.

Understanding this situation, the African Union Commission (AUC) and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), through an Africa-wide consultative process, developed a Framework for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization in Africa (F-SAMA) that was launched in Rome on 5th October 2018. It aims to inform policy and decision-makers in the Member States, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in Africa, and the wider development community dealing with agricultural development on the significance of mainstreaming SAM in the overall national and regional agricultural development programmes.

This virtual webinar is targeting public and private stakeholders including but not limited to Directors and Heads of Agricultural Mechanization Services, Farmers Organizations, Private Sector, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Researchers and the Academia. This is the fourth Webinar in a series and is organized to provide a better understanding on how paradigm shifts on the development of agricultural mechanization in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) have affected efforts to boost access to farm power. The Webinar will provide a platform to share information and in-depth discussion on the understood and preferred mechanization philosophical frameworks (paradigms) guiding advocacy and actions of policymakers and development partners in Africa. How have changes in such paradigms affected or boosted access to farm power and the development of agricultural mechanization in the continent? The Webinar brings experts in the area to lead the discussions. The Webinar will be held in English and French and participants can engage by posing their questions and answers using the Chat facility provided in the Zoom meeting.

Agenda

Date: Tuesday, 04th May 2021 | Time: 09:00 - 10:30 am (GMT) |

09:00	Opening Remarks • Mr Patrice Talla Takoukam, FAO Subregional Coordinator for Southern Africa (SFS) and FAO Representative in Zimbabwe.
09:05	Overview and objectives of the Webinar • Mark Fynn, Facilitator, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Sub-regional Office for Southern Africa (SFS), Harare, Zimbabwe.
09:10	Impact of Paradigm Shifts on the Development of Agricultural Mechanization in SSA: A Case Study of Farm Power • Prof Geoffrey Mrema, Agricultural Mechanization Expert & Consultant, Sokoine University of Agriculture, Morogoro, Tanzania.
09:30	Facilitated Panel Discussion:
	Panellists: Each panellist will be given 7 minutes to contribute to the presentation: • Prof Linus Opara, Distinguished Professor & South African Research Chair in Postharvest Technology, Stellenbosch University, South Africa. • Prof Lawrence Gumbe, Mechanization Expert, University of Nairobi, Kenya • Dr Alioune Fall, Consultant and Former Director of Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles (ISRA) • Helmut Anschutz, Team Leader of the Agricultural Knowledge Training Centre (AKTC), Zambia
10:00	Questions and Answers – All participants
10:15	Up-coming Webinars in May, June and July 2021 • Joseph Mpagalile and Nomathemba Mhlanga, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
10:20	Closing remarks • Dr Simplicie Nouala Fonkou, Head of Agriculture and Food Security Division, African Union Commission (AUC).

The virtual Webinar series is organized by:



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African Conservation Tillage Network (ACT)
Website: www.act-africa.org

Registration is required to participate in this webinar. Please register in advance using the Africa-Mechanize website at: www.africamechanize.org

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- Mr Joseph Mpagalile, Agricultural Engineer (Sustainable Mechanization), FAO Regional Office for Africa (Email: Joseph.Mpagalile@fao.org)
- Prof Jerome Afeikhena, Special Adviser to the Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. (Email: Jeromea@africa-union.org)