



## Time for Africa to Mechanize

### Accelerating the Uptake of Agricultural Mechanization in Africa

Africa must mechanize agriculture not because **machines are fashionable**—but because the **continent's food, jobs, and future** depend on **it**. The need to feed a **rapidly growing population, raise farm productivity, and transform farming** from labor-intensive subsistence into a competitive, climate-resilient agribusiness sector is **indispensable with appropriate and inclusive mechanization**. It is now time for Africa to **mechanize, but sustainably**.

## Why Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization (SAM)?

**SAM** is the **appropriate, inclusive, and environmentally responsible use of machinery, tools, and digital technologies** across agricultural value chains to improve productivity, profitability, and resilience—**without degrading natural resources or excluding smallholders**.

## Why SAM Matters for Africa

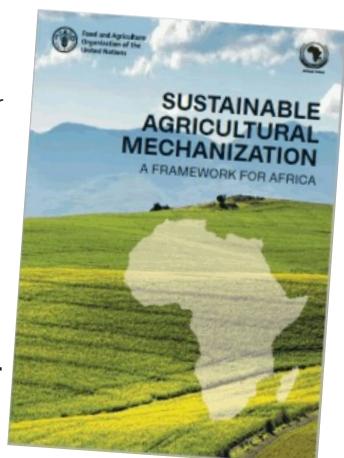
- Boosts agricultural productivity and food security
- Reduces labor burden, especially for women and youth
- Protects soils and ecosystems
- Creates jobs in machinery manufacturing, services, and repair
- Attracts sustainable agricultural finance and investment

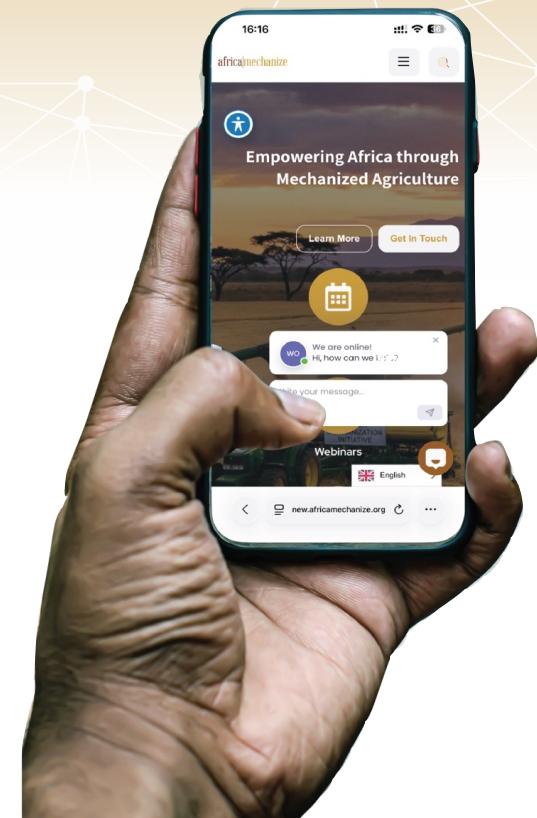


## Framework for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization in Africa (F-SAMA)

The **F-SAMA** is a **systems-based approach/strategy** that integrates appropriate technologies, service delivery models, finance, skills development, and enabling policies to ensure mechanization is inclusive, climate-smart, and economically viable. It was developed by the **African Union Commission (AUC)** together with the **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)** through a continent-wide consultative process and launched in **October 2018** to guide governments, regional bodies, and partners on planning, implementing, and scaling mechanization in agriculture across African countries. It outlines ten priority elements for scaling mechanization sustainably — including policy, financing, service delivery, technology adoption, and institutional coordination.

F-SAMA prioritizes access over ownership, supports smallholder farming systems, and aligns mechanization with broader food systems, climate, and development objectives. It guides countries and partners to develop mechanization that is **productive, inclusive, climate-smart, and economically viable**, while supporting **smallholder-dominated farming systems**. At its core, the framework answers three questions: *i) What type of mechanization is needed? ii) For whom and at what scale? and iii) Under which enabling conditions?*





## AfricaMechanize Platform

**AfricaMechanize** is a **continental digital platform** dedicated to advancing **SAM** across Africa by **connecting stakeholders, sharing knowledge, and supporting implementation of mechanization strategies**. It serves as a **central digital hub** designed to **accelerate and scale SAM** by addressing long-standing gaps in data, coordination, access, adoption, and knowledge across the continent. It brings together farmers, mechanization service providers, governments, the private sector, development partners, and innovators in agriculture.

It was created as part of efforts to support implementation of the F-SAMA and is currently hosted with secretariat support from the **African Conservation Tillage Network (ACT)**, technical backing from FAO, and leadership from AUC.

## Key Functions of the AfricaMechanize Platform

<b>Knowledge Management &amp; Information Sharing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provides access to technical information, case studies, and best practices on mechanization.</li><li>Hosts newsletters, insights, and updates on policy, technologies, and country progress.</li></ul>
<b>Networking &amp; Partnership Building</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Connects diverse stakeholders across Africa — including governments, private sector actors, researchers, financiers, and service providers — to collaborate on mechanization initiatives and investment opportunities.</li></ul>
<b>Capacity Development &amp; Learning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Offers courses, webinars, events, and resources aimed at strengthening skills and capabilities related to SAM.</li></ul>
<b>Technical Assistance Services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provides expert support to help stakeholders adapt and operationalize SAM strategies, business models, and climate-smart practices.</li></ul>
<b>Supporting F-SAMA Operationalization</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The platform plays a strategic role in implementing the <b>F-SAMA</b> by sharing information and tools that help align national policies and programmes with continental mechanization goals.</li></ul>



## How does the the AfricaMechanize platform relate to the F-SAMA?

1

**Operational Support Tool for F-SAMA**

AfricaMechanize acts as a **practical digital asset/mechanism to help operationalize the F-SAMA framework**:

- It disseminates information, tools, and resources that help countries and stakeholders apply F-SAMA's elements.
- It supports the **networking and coordination** needed to implement F-SAMA across multiple countries and sectors.

2

**Knowledge & Networking Hub**

F-SAMA stresses the importance of information sharing and stakeholder collaboration as part of sustainable mechanization and AfricaMechanize fulfils this by enabling:

- Webinars, virtual dialogues, newsletters, country case studies
- Access to mechanization data, policy updates, and technical guidance
- Platforms for interaction among government agencies, private sector, researchers, and service providers

3

**Steering and Governance Linkages**

Activities conducted through the AfricaMechanize platform - like webinars with Directors/Heads of Mechanization Services (HAMES) - have been part of the **joint actions to implement and advance F-SAMA** across Africa.

- These virtual dialogues and interaction platforms help build consensus, share best practices, and mobilize stakeholders in line with F-SAMA goals

4

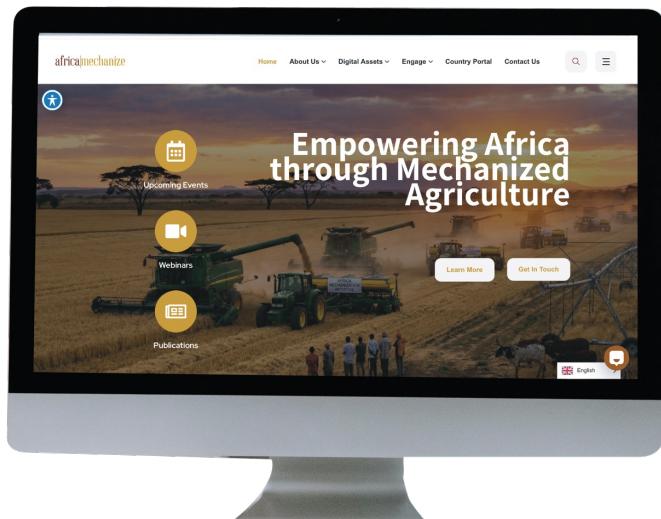
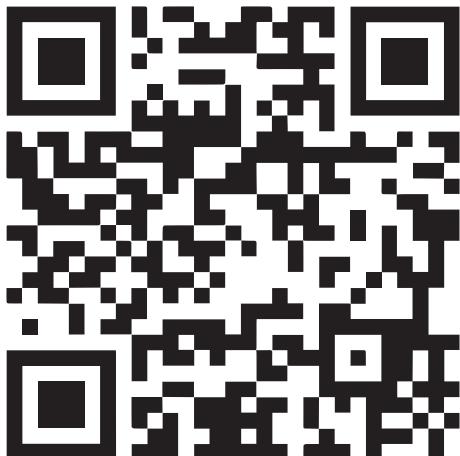
**Partnership and Technical Assistance**

AfricaMechanize not only shares knowledge but also offers **technical assistance services** aimed at helping governments, organizations, and private players align mechanization strategies with the F-SAMA priorities.

This includes support for national mechanization planning, business models, policy guidance, and sustainability practices.

## Join the platform: Discover services, partners, and tools

- **Align with FSAMA:** Design projects and policies that last
- **Partner with us:** Scale sustainable mechanization across Africa



## Current Partnerships driving the Platform



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



# africa|mechanize

ALL ABOUT THE FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL MECHANIZATION IN AFRICA - F-SAMA

[www.africamechanize.org](http://www.africamechanize.org)

**Contact:**

[secretariat@africamechanize.org](mailto:secretariat@africamechanize.org)