



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Virtual webinar

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

Tuesday, 17th November 2020, 09:00 - 11:30 hrs (GMT)

Moderators



Mark Kofi Fynn is an Agro-Food Systems Specialist with FAO's Sub-regional Office for Southern Africa, Harare, Zimbabwe. Before joining FAO, he spent about 5 years as the Agribusiness Advisor at the African Union Commission in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia where he coordinated continental agribusiness-related interventions for the implementation of the 2014 Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation within the CAADP. Mark also worked with the German Agency for International Development) in Ghana for 9 years.



Nomathemba Mhlanga-Akubia has been with FAO since 2008. She was first based in the FAO HQ in Rome, Italy and moved to the sub-regional Office for Eastern Africa (SFE) in 2016. In the sub-region, she leads the organization's normative and field programme on agribusiness/value chain development, that touches on youth in agriculture, post-harvest management, agro-processing and agricultural finance/investment. Before joining FAO, she worked as a Research Officer at ICRISAT's Socio-Economics and Policy Programme. Noma was the FAO lead technical officer for the development of the SAMA Framework



Karim Houmy is an Agricultural Engineer and works as an international consultant. He has worked for more than 30 years as a Professor in the Department of Agricultural Engineering at the Hassan II Institute of Agronomy and Veterinary Medicine, Rabat, Morocco. He has been involved in several FAO projects, particularly in formulating agricultural mechanization strategies for African countries and has participated in events related to the operationalization of the Framework for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization in Africa (F-SAMA).

Presenters



Josef Kienzle is currently leading the sustainable agricultural mechanization group in the Plant Production and Protection Division of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), based in Rome. Mr Kienzle's work emphasizes the crucial role of farm power and of innovative and efficient mechanization solutions and the importance of appropriating them to the context of smallholder farmers in developing countries. His work also highlights the important role that the public and private sectors play in mechanization input supply chains and capacity building for mechanization service providers.



Joseph Mpagalile is an Agricultural Engineer at the FAO Regional Office for Africa (RAF) in Accra. His areas of work include mechanization along the value chain including production, post-harvest handling, value addition, agro-processing and logistics. Before joining RAF, he worked as an Agro-Industry Officer at the FAO headquarters in Rome. Prior to that, he worked as an Associate Professor of Agro-food Processing Engineering and Technology Transfer Coordinator at the Sokoine University of Agriculture and as the Southern Africa Regional Representative of the US-based McKnight Foundation's Collaborative Crop Research Program.



Professor Afeikhena Jerome has over two decades' experience working on policy issues in Africa. He is currently Special Advisor to the Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia as well as Visiting Professor of Economics at Igbinedion University, Okada, Nigeria. He has held several distinguished positions including Visiting Scholar, International Monetary Fund; Visiting Fellow, the World Bank; and Senior Associate Member, St. Anthony's College, Oxford University. He has consulted extensively for the World Bank, African Development Bank, FAO, UNIDO, Brookings Institute and ACBF.



Saidi Mkomwa is the Executive Director of the African Conservation Tillage Network (ACT). As CEO of ACT, Saidi has efficiently managed development projects supporting smallholders in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Kenya, Niger, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe with development partners including AGRA, CFGB, COMESA, European Union, FAO, IFAD and NORAD. Previously, Saidi worked with the Ministry of Agriculture in Tanzania as Senior Agricultural Engineering Researcher.



Geoffrey Mrema is a Professor of Agricultural Engineering at the Sokoine University of Agriculture in Morogoro, Tanzania. He retired from the FAO in April 2011 where he had been working as the Director of the Rural Infrastructure and Agro-industries Division at its headquarters in Rome Italy from 2001-2011 with two years [2005-06] serving as the FAO Representative in Eastern and Southern Africa based in Harare, Zimbabwe. Prior to joining FAO in 2001, he had served as the first CEO of ASARECA [1995-2001]. During 2016/18 he served as a senior adviser to FAO and AUC on developing the Framework for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization in Africa [SAMA].



Anna G. Mwangamilo is an Agricultural Engineer, working at the Ministry of Agriculture in Tanzania as an Acting Director for Mechanization and Irrigation Division. Prior to that, she worked as an Assistant Director for Agro processing and Renewable Energy in the same Division. Among many responsibilities, she is involved in providing expertise and leads the efforts to modernize agricultural production in the country, formulation, implementation and review of the National Agricultural Mechanization and Irrigation Policy, Strategy, Programs and Laws.



Amatus K. B. Deyang is an Agricultural Engineer, Director of Agricultural Engineering Services Directorate (AESD) of Ministry of Food and Agriculture in Ghana. He served as a subject matter specialist (Engineering) in the Volta region from 1994 to 2003. He was later posted to the Agricultural Engineering Services Directorate (AESD) Head Office and headed the Postharvest Unit. Mr Deyang was transferred to Local Government Service as a Head of Department for Agriculture in 2015. In August 2017, he was posted back to AESD to head the Directorate.



Eng. Okanya Boniface is an Assistant Commissioner for Engineering & Mechanization and Project Coordinator for Agriculture Mechanization Project in the Ministry of Agricultural Animal Industry and Fisheries in Uganda. Previously, he worked as the Project Engineer for the Labour Saving Technologies for Agricultural Mechanization in the same Ministry. He also worked as District Mechanical Engineer in Kumi District Local Government in Uganda. As a certified and professional engineer, he provides technical support in areas such as energy and construction.