

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

VIRTUAL WEBINAR No. 3

Tuesday, 30th March 2021, 09:00 - 10:30 hrs (GMT)

Moderator



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.

Presenters



Abdullahi Abubakar is an experienced Agricultural Engineer and Director (Engineering & Mechanization) at the Department of Agriculture, Federal Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development in Nigeria. Prior to that, he was the Principal Agricultural Engineer and Deputy Director of the Youth in Agriculture, Federal Department of Agriculture. Also, he was an Assistant Director of the NEPAD Nigeria Office. He also worked in academia and he is a member of the Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN), Nigeria Institute of Agricultural Engineers (NIAE), Nigeria Institute of Management (NIM) and the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE) to mention just a few.



Mr. Fombin Valentine Aziawung is a Cameroonian. He is a Senior Agricultural Engineer currently working as a Government Official under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, with work experience of about 22 years. He is the Deputy Director in-charge of Agricultural Mechanization, a position he has occupied since July 2019. He started work with field Agricultural Extension Services (8 years), later was in charge of Fertilizer quality control in his country (7 years) and further nominated by the government to follow up activities on an Obsolete Pesticide Project piloted by the FAO in his country.



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.



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.

Members of the organizing committee



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.



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].



Karim Houmy works as an international consultant. He worked for over 30 years as a professor in the Department of Energy and Agro-equipment at the Hassan II Agronomic and Veterinary Institute, Rabat, Morocco. He has been involved in several FAO projects, in particular in the formulation of agricultural mechanization strategies in several African countries in Mali, Niger, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Algeria, Chad and Benin. He also participated in events related to the operationalization of the Framework for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization in Africa (F-SAMA).