

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

**VIRTUAL WEBINAR No. 5 - Element 2 of F-SAMA:  
Promoting innovative financing mechanisms for sustainable agricultural  
mechanization**

*Thursday, 27 May 2021, 09:00 - 11:00 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.

## Speakers



**Dr. Christiane Ströh de Martínez** is the co-founder and managing partner of Joyn-Coop. She is passionate about truly participatory approaches and creating spaces for deep listening and energetic co-creation. Throughout her 15 years in development cooperation, Christiane has evaluated, designed and accompanied development projects across Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America – and loves to engage in inclusive agri-business and sustainable small-scale farming. Christiane enjoys spending time in nature – and bringing home fresh leaves for her guinea pigs from her outings.



**Corinna Strohbach** is a Senior Consultant at Joyn-Coop. Her professional focus lies on financial sector development including agricultural finances. Corinna is experienced in data analysis and adept at breaking down complex facts into clear visualizations. Moreover, she enjoys moderating workshops and facilitating processes in diverse cultural settings. Since 2018, Corinna is also a certified trainer for microfinance action learning games. Corinna is enthusiastic about sustainable living and travelling by trains. In the past year, she has become a passionate home gardener.



**Dr. Jonathan Agwe** is the Lead Regional Technical Specialist in Rural Finance, Markets and Enterprises in the Sustainable Production, Markets and Institutions Division of the Strategy and Knowledge Department in IFAD. He provides cutting-edge technical advice to improve the capacity of IFAD and its partners to manage programmes, policies and strategies to promote access and use of sustainable inclusive rural financial services. He promotes active partnerships in inclusive rural finance and agricultural risk management. Before joining IFAD, he worked for the World Bank for 13 years. Also, he worked for over 12 years developing private and public sector programs for smallholder commercial agriculture in Cameroon. Jonathan has over 34 years of work experience and holds a Doctor of Management degree in development management and finance from the University of Maryland USA.



**Hedwig Siewertsen** is the Head of Inclusive Finance at the Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA). She is responsible for designing and implementing AGRA's Inclusive Finance strategy and is involved in designing and deploying blended finance instruments, value chain finance and digital finance products. She also works on technical assistance funds and acceleration funds to make financial services accessible and affordable to agricultural SMEs and smallholder farmers in food crops in 11 African countries. Prior to joining AGRA, she served for 4 years as CEO of a USD 100 million single-family office impact fund, DOB equity, which invests in SMEs in East Africa. Also, she was Deputy Director and Senior Consultant for 12 years in Triodos Facet (now Palladium), a consulting firm that specialised in entrepreneurship development and financial services delivery to MSMEs in emerging markets. She has also worked with the UN in Madagascar and Tanzania. She has a BSc. in Tropical Agriculture and a Masters' degree in Econometrics.



**Jeremiah Mhada** is a Zonal Manager – Eastern Zone at the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB) in Dar es Salaam. He is involved in designing products for financing agricultural mechanization beneficial to farmers, especially smallholders. Also, he supports and designing of projects to link the value chains. He is a Banker with experiences in Agriculture Finance and Corporate Banking. Before joining TADB he was a Corporate Banker at the First National Bank (FNB), and before that he worked at the Commercial Bank of Africa.



**Massaer Diop** is an Agricultural Engineer specializing in rural economy and the Head of the North Network at La Banque Agricole (LBA) in Senegal. He supports the Bank's mission of financing of rural activities including agriculture, fishing, animal husbandry, agroforestry covering production, marketing, processing and agricultural mechanization. He supervises eight agencies which are located in the north of Senegal with a financing volume of more than 30 billion CFA per year. He has more than 12 years of experience in rural finance, especially in financing mechanization and agricultural value chains, such as rice, tomatoes, onions and potatoes. He participates in financing marketing and processing through a system of contracts between producers and agro-industrialists. In his work, he uses different financing models to facilitate access to financing for agricultural equipment. He is a graduate of the Paris Banking Profession Training Center (CFPB).

## Webinar 5 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, 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.



**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



**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. He is the coordinator of the Africa-Mechanize Platform Secretariat supporting knowledge management, capacity building and Networking in operationalization of the Framework for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization in Africa (F-SAMA).



**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). He has a PhD in Agricultural Engineering, from Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech, Belgium.