



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

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

VIRTUAL WEBINAR No. 10

*Reflecting on the ongoing efforts to increase availability and access
of farm power in Africa*

Date: Thursday, 7th July 2022 | Time: 09:00 - 10:30 am (GMT)



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) and Academia. This is the tenth Webinar in a series, and is organized to provide an opportunity to create a participatory environment for the establishment of a regional implementation mechanism of F-SAMA. The Webinar will provide a platform to reflecting on the ongoing efforts to increase availability and access of farm power in Africa. Updates on the efforts being made in spearheading mechanization as an important pillar for agricultural transformation in Ethiopia, Zimbabwe and Togo will be provided. The Webinar will present some insights on how putting down concrete action plans is helping countries to attain their goals of developing and increasing the use of mechanization. In addition to the presentations, facilitated discussion and a questions and answers session will generate more insights into the issues being discussed. Participants will also discuss and share experience on how to expedite the operationalization of the F-SAMA.

Agenda	
Date: Thursday, 7 th July 2022	
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09:00	Opening Remarks Permanent Secretary. <i>Ministry of Agriculture, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (TBC)</i>
09:05	Overview and objectives of the Webinar <i>Mark Fynn, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Sub-regional Office for Southern Africa (SFS), Harare, Zimbabwe</i>
09:10	Reflecting on the ongoing efforts to increase availability and access of farm power in Ethiopia, Zimbabwe and Togo: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Eng. Bereket Forsido, Director of Agricultural Mechanization, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia</i> • <i>Eng. Edwin Zimunga, Chief Director, Department of Agricultural Engineering, Mechanization and Soil Conservation (MLAFWRD), Government of Zimbabwe</i> • <i>Eng. Daouda Salif, Director of Agricultural Mechanization, Government of Togo</i>
09:55	Questions and answers followed by discussion – All participants
10:20	Up-coming Webinars in 2021 <i>Joseph Mpagalile, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)</i>
10:25	Closing remarks Permanent Secretary. <i>Ministry of Agriculture, Lomé, Togo (TBC)</i>

The virtual Webinar series is organized in collaboration with the African Union Commission [Website: <https://au.int/>] and the 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 provided below:

www.africamechanize.org

For more information, contact:

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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)