

F-SAMA WEBINAR No 3

Tuesday, 30th March 2021, 09:00 - 11:30 am (GMT)

Zoom Link: [Click Here to Join](#)

Passcode: 18137600

OPENING REMARKS

by

Mr Ade Freeman, Regional Programme Leader (RPL), RAF

- Mr Saidi Mkomwa, Executive Director of the African Conservation Tillage Network (ACT)
- Mr Abdullahi G. Abubakar, Director of Agricultural Mechanization, Federal Government of Nigeria, Abuja
- Mr Valentine Fombin, Deputy Director of the Agricultural Engineering Directorate, Republic of Cameroon, Yaoundé
- Distinguished Participants
- Ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning, good afternoon and good evening, wherever you are.

1. It is my greatest pleasure to welcome you all to the third Webinar in a series of Webinars on “Joint Actions on Operationalization of the Framework for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization (F-SAMA)”. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Africa Union Commission (AUC) and the African Conservation Tillage Network (ACT) have jointly organized this webinar.
2. It is highly encouraging to see that you are all able to participate. I am glad to note that we have an array of participants from the public and private sector, farmers and farmer organizations, development partners, NGOs, researchers and the academia, CGIARs etc. This is important as it helps create a participatory environment for the development and promotion of mechanization in SSA.
3. First, let me start by thanking the Organizing Committee for inviting me to give the opening remarks.
4. In this third Webinar, we are privileged to have contributions on efforts to promote and develop sustainable agricultural mechanization (SAM) in Cameroon and Nigeria, presented by their Directors of Mechanization recognized earlier.

Ladies and gentlemen,

1. This Webinar is timely considering that the Thirty First Session of the FAO Regional Conference for Africa (ARC) emphasized the need for increased production and productivity in agriculture, by accelerating the access and use of mechanization, digitalization, and other appropriate technologies.
6. I believe that the Webinar will enhance the sharing of experiences and networking, and will awaken the realization on the need to address challenges and opportunities related to the promotion and development of sustainable agricultural mechanization along the food value chain.
7. It is very important that the challenges are tackled, and good practices are shared and scaled-up to fully unlock the potential of the agricultural sector on the continent.
8. I call on you all of you to actively participate in the discussions. Let us all commit to playing our part in ensuring coordinated and sustainable mechanization in our spheres of influence.
9. On behalf of the organizing committee, I would like to once again thank all of you for participating, and I look forward to the fruitful deliberations and recommendations that will follow. With these remarks, it is now my pleasure to declare this Webinar officially open.
