

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

**VIRTUAL WEBINAR No. 7:  
Enhancing social sustainability and the roles of women and youth in  
agricultural mechanization in Africa**



**Webinar brief**

Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization (SAM) in Africa is an urgent imperative and an indispensable pillar for attaining the Malabo Declaration Zero Hunger Vision by 2025, Goal 2 of the Sustainable Development Goals – and Agenda 2063, the Prosperous Africa that We Want. Doubling agricultural productivity and eliminating hunger and malnutrition in Africa by 2025 will not be realized unless mechanization along the food value chain is accorded utmost priority. Moreover, the COVID-19 pandemic has brought to the fore the important role mechanization can play in ensuring continuity of farm operations even during uncommon situations that the world is currently witnessing.

Understanding this situation, the African Union Commission (AUC) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (UNFAO), through an Africa-wide consultative process, developed a **Framework for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization in Africa (F-SAMA)** that was launched in Rome on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2018. The framework which has ten priority elements is geared towards informing 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 using F-SAMA principles in their overall national and regional agricultural development programmes.

This is the seventh Webinar in the series that FAO in collaboration with AUC and African Conservation Tillage Network (ACT) have been holding to disseminate F-SAMA. It focuses on Element No 7 of the F-SAMA to provide a better understanding of social sustainability and the roles of women and youth in agricultural mechanization in Africa. This is germane to ensure that mechanization targets women, who bear the brunt of African agriculture, while also making agriculture more attractive and a choice for employment and entrepreneurship by youth. It brings subject experts to lead the discussions and also provide a platform for stakeholders to share information, experiences and good practices on innovative and inclusive approaches. The Webinar targets public and private stakeholders - including Directors and Heads of Agricultural Mechanization Services, Gender Equality and Women Organizations, Farmers Organizations, Private Sector, Non-Governmental Organizations, Youth Associations and the Academia.

It will be held in English and French and participants can engage by posing their comments using both the Chat and Q&A facilities provided in the Zoom meeting.

## Agenda

**Date:** Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> October 2021

**Time:** 09:00 - 10:50 am (GMT)

09:00	<b>Opening Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Elizabeth Nsimadala</b>, President of the Pan African Farmers Organization (PAFO) and East African Farmers Federation (EAFF).</li></ul>
09:05	<b>Overview and objectives of the Webinar; Facilitator</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Mark Fynn</b>, Agro-food Systems and Investment Specialist, FAO, Sub-regional Office for Southern Africa (SFS), Harare, Zimbabwe. (Facilitator).</li></ul>
09:10	<b>Keynote presentation: Social sustainability - What needs to be done to target women and youth to enhance their roles in agricultural mechanization in Africa?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Miriam Heidtmann</b>, GIZ African Union in collaboration with <b>Caroline Mutepfa</b>, AUDA-NEPAD, Agricultural Technical Vocational Education &amp; Training for Women (ATVET4W) and Skills Initiative for Africa (SIFA).</li></ul>
09:25	<b>Facilitated Panel Discussion:</b> <b>Panellists:</b> Each panellist will contribute to the presentation by sharing their experiences: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Eng. Madrine Nazziwa</b>, Public Mechanization Services, Ministry of Agriculture, Uganda</li><li>• <b>Eng. Samuel Kouamé</b>, young mechanization service provider, Ivory Coast</li><li>• <b>Dr Yamuna Ghale</b>, National Food Security Coordination Committee, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development in Nepal (Asia)</li></ul>
10:05	<b>Questions and Answers – All participants</b>
10:40	<b>Up-coming Webinars in November 2021</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Saidi Mkomwa</b>, Executive Director (ACT).</li></ul>
10:45	<b>Closing remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Brave Ndisale</b>, FAO Country Representative in South Africa.</li></ul>

The virtual Webinar series is organized by:



Food and Agriculture  
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Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)  
Website: [www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org)



The African Union  
Website: <https://au.int/>



African Conservation Tillage Network (ACT)  
Website: [www.act-africa.org](http://www.act-africa.org)

**Registration is required to participate in this webinar. Please register in advance using the Africa-Mechanize website: [www.africamechanize.org](http://www.africamechanize.org)**

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- Prof. Jerome Afeikhena, Special Adviser to the Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. (Email: [Jeromea@africa-union.org](mailto:Jeromea@africa-union.org)).