



Charting the Way Forward

We have consensus on the following:

- 1. SSA has an aging population of farmers; youths are migrating** in urban areas and beyond and therefore sustainable agricultural mechanization (SAM) has a clear role to play in making agriculture attractive.
- 2. Skills and capacity development** is essential and there is a need for public sector investment even with the involvement of the private sector (example from the training offered by UNIDO with support from Volvo and Scania)
- 3. SAM should make business sense.** The demand aspect needs to be addressed i.e. do the farmers have information to make choices. We need to address factors which hinder demand being expressed.
- 4. Technical service backup** is a challenge that needs to be eliminated. Possible ways to eliminate it.

5. There is a need to take a value chain approach to mechanization requirements i.e. not to focus exclusively on crop production
6. SAM should not be presented alone but packaged with other relevant agricultural sector value chain inputs (specially finance)

The way forward

1. **Social sector development** (food security, improved nutrition, assured livelihoods, etc.)
2. Potential focus areas: for sustainable mechanization to **address the pressing issue of climate change**. Mitigating and adapting to climate change threats and conserving the natural environment
3. **Identify and deliver new models** for public-private and private-private partnerships (regional and global)
4. A **comprehensive framework** informing National SAM strategies with clear guidelines of action
5. Need for **establishment of the network** on sustainable mechanization (potentially Africa)
6. Establishment of a **knowledge and technology exchange platform**