



SACAU

SOUTHERN AFRICAN CONFEDERATION OF AGRICULTURAL UNIONS



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Capacity building and institutional development for more effective trade

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SACAU's Vision and Mission

- **Vision:** A vibrant, prosperous and sustainable farming sector that ensures food security and contributes to economic growth in southern Africa
- **Mission:** To be the main voice of farmers on regional, continental and global matters, and to promote and ensure strong and effective farmers' organisations in all countries in southern Africa.

Strategic Pillars

- policy advocacy regional, global and continental matters
- strengthening of capacity of farmers' organisations
- provision of agriculture-related information

Membership

= **14** SACAU Members
in **10** Countries in Southern Africa

+ Application from **SNAU** in Swaziland

+ **UNAC** of Mozambique as an **observer**

SACAU Membership

- Botswana Agricultural Union (**BAU**)
- Lesotho National Farmers Union (**LENAFU**)
- Coalition Paysanne de Madagascar (**CPM**)
- Confederation des Agriculteurs Malagasy (**FEKRITAMA**)
- Farmers Union of Malawi (**FUM**)
- National Smallholder Farmers Association of Malawi (**NASFAM**)
- Namibia Agricultural Union (**NAU**)
- Seychelles Farmers Association (**SeyFA**)
- Agri South Africa (**Agri SA**)
- National African Farmers Unions (**NAFU-SA**)
- Agricultural Council of Tanzania (**ACT**)
- Zambia National Farmers Union (**ZNFU**)
- Commercial Farmers Union of Zimbabwe (**CFU**)
- Zimbabwe Farmers Union (**ZFU**)

A4T Priorities (1/2)

- Infrastructure (feeder roads, irrigation, storage, ports, transport, communication, banking, commodity broking)
- Standards (Private standards, Global GAP, ISO, certification and accreditation)
- Capacity Building (Trade negotiations, Implement WTO Agreements)
- Information and Education
- Policy (investment, trade, data modelling, macro economy, interest rates, exchange rates)
- Inputs (finance, insurance against natural disasters, seed quality and fertiliser)

A4T Priorities (2/2)

- Value Addition.
- Value Chain Analysis
- Negotiations on trade
- Land Policy (Security of Tenure)
- Technology R&D and Transfer
- Monitoring and Evaluation of A4T programmes
- Health (HIV/AIDS)
- Participation of farmers in the value chain
- Sustainable natural resource management.

Policy position/Key messages (1/2)

- Aid for Trade funds must constitute additional aid, not a repackaging of existing aid
- Opposes the imposition of conditionalities on Aid for Trade grants
- Countries providing trade distorting subsidies should be making a concomitantly greater contribution to Aid for Trade funds
- Enforcement of existing rights under trade agreements, if necessary through dispute settlement mechanisms

Policy position/Key messages (2/2)

- Support national A4T Committees in southern African countries
- Prioritization of agricultural issues in national A4T structures
- A4T flows directly to private sector operators
- Need for SACAU's functional structures on A4T engagement in regional A4T
- Acting as a forum where farmers' inputs into national structures can be synchronised, dovetailed, harmonised for regional efficiency.
- Better sequencing and coordination of A4T
- A value chain approach – market opportunities and developing synergies in A4T activities.

Examples of A4T initiatives

- Trade capacity building of the leadership of national farmers' organisations (FOs) in southern Africa
 - Increasing awareness and understanding of trade matters in the leadership of FOs in southern Africa
 - Funded by the French Government
- Participation in international standards setting processes
 - Incl. in Codex, IPPC, OIE and WTO SPS committee meetings
 - Strengthening the participation of FOs in standards setting processes
 - Supporting in-country consultations on SPS matters
 - Funded by DFID/ComMark Trust

Conclusion

- The starting point should be the issues/constraints
- Need for a broader view to trade - national and regional contexts are critical
- Need for greater appreciation of the importance of policy by FOs
- Investment in policy research & analysis capacity in FOs
- Need for structured consultation mechanisms on policy at national and regional levels
- Importance of a regional approach
- Commodities associations are the engines of FOs
- Importance of regional commodity associations
- Protracted nature of policy processes and demanding on resources

Conclusion

- Key functions of SACAU in A4T:
 - Monitoring global developments on the subject and bringing it to the attention of national FOs
 - Facilitating stakeholder consultations at the regional level
 - Policy advocacy at regional and global levels
 - Implementing regional projects
 - Technical backstopping support to national FOs (including project development)
 - Information support.



Thank You

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