

<b>Session title:</b>	SPECIAL AGRO-INDUSTRIAL PROCESSING ZONE (Oil Palm and Cocoa Value Chain Development)
<b>Session number:</b>	18
<b>Type of session:</b>	Zoom Internal Session
<b>Day:</b>	Monday, 6 September 2021
<b>Time:</b>	13:15-14:15 EAT
<b>No. of participants:</b>	30
<b>Session Organizers:</b>	SAO Group
<b>Moderator:</b>	Bamidele Owoola
<b>Rapporteur:</b>	Omotola Agbi
<b>Relevant outcome:</b>	Seek financing opportunities and private sector support
<b>Objectives:</b>	<p>The Special Agro-industrial Processing Zones (oil palm and cocoa value chain) are areas of high agricultural potential located across the south-western states in Nigeria with a focus on the oil palm and cocoa value chain.</p> <p>The objectives of this session include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support the development of climate-resilient enabling infrastructure and management of the agro-industrial zones.</li> <li>• Enhancing climate-smart agricultural production and productivity in the oil palm and cocoa value chain.</li> <li>• Seek investors and potential partners in the SAPZ.</li> <li>• Support enabling institutional capacity, policy, regulatory and business environment for agribusiness project management in the oil palm and cocoa value chain.</li> <li>• Seek long term collaboration between the SAPZ and potential off-takers of product for export.</li> </ul>
<b>Speakers:</b>	<p>(*Name, Title, Organization)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. His Excellency Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Odunayo Akeredolu(SAN), Executive Governor of Ondo State, Nigeria</li> <li>2. Mr Ayodeji Sotinrin - Chief Executive Officer, SAO AGRO SERVICES(SAO GROUP)</li> <li>3. Mr Allan Martin - Chief Operations Officer, SAO Capital</li> </ol>

4. Ms Bamidele Seun Owoola - Chief Executive Officer, Welcome2Africa International
5. Mr Chuka Mordi - Chief Executive Officer ,ELLAH LAKES
6. Mr Richard Mark Mbaram - Technical Adviser , Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
7. **Folusho Adejoro – (Representative of AFEX)**
8. Dr Adebowale Olabintan - Development Finance -Cocoa Value Chain, Central Bank of Nigeria
9. Monde Nyambe (SAPZ executive, AFDB)
10. Njide Nwabukwu
11. Abiodun Adejo

### Main highlights:

(\*For Insights and newsletter. To be based on the theme of the day. Fill in in bullet form)

#### KEY CHALLENGES

- The AFDB has begun raising funds but production needs to be enhanced
- Gender equality| Smart agriculture| Youth jobs along the value chain.
- CBN is currently only supporting the big firms because they do 80% of cultivation hence they benefit more
- Processing for small scale (from palm to oil)
- Ability to access loans
- Transportation

#### INNOVATIONS PROPOSED

- SAPZ is a critical intervention at the heart of the FMSRD. Infrastructure is at the center of the need of this project.
- Government should become an enabler of Infrastructure (Energy, Road, Water, facilities etc)
- 8 states are currently being financed in SAPZ by the Federal government of Nigeria to boost productivity and competitiveness. This should be continued
- To create a vision of Africa's food system across the value chain.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS/ NEXT STEPS

- Ondo state is a ready to arrest the declining productivity of Cocoa though the cultivation in 6 locations across the state.
- Appeals to Central Bank of Nigeria to contribute through the investment in seedlings in Nigeria.
- Ondo state has more than enough small holders
- To provide job creation| Forex opportunities for the country

- Ondo state is bankable so CBN is poised to support as well as the AFD

**Session Summary:**

(\*To go in final report. Max 300 words. Fill in prose)

CBN takers/shares work with commercial banks to provide infrastructure across the value chain to boost production of cocoa and oil palm to the final product.

**Tweetable quotes with timestamp:**

(\*For podcast and to go to AGRF Communication for social media. Minimum 3 per session)

- What we invest in Africa agriculture today will determine the future of food in Africa and the world tomorrow. (H.E Oluwarotimi Odunayo Akeredolu) (11:30am)
- Gone are the days when we didn't perceive agriculture as a way of life. We must be taking Agriculture as a business that creates wealth and guarantees food security. (H.E Oluwarotimi Odunayo Akeredolu)
- We cannot over emphasis the role of our women and youth in transforming Africa's food system. Now more than ever, we must prioritize inclusive Agricultural transformation through proven and smart agriculture. To ensure that technologies and finances respond to the need of Agriculture (H.E Oluwarotimi Odunayo Akeredolu)
- What the government could do is to become an enabler and bring in the infrastructure required to these rural areas of high agriculture potential to attract necessary investment. And these will include energy, water, roads, waste treatment facilities, and ICT amongst others. Monde Nyambe (SAPZ executive, AFDB).
- SAPZ involves everything from input-supply, to the small holder farmers, large commercial farmers, to the medium farmers to improve seeds, fertilizers, farm credit, irrigation, and mechanization... whatever is required to boost productivity. (SAPZ executive, AFDB).
- In 2021, we are financing 8 SAPZs ( with 520 Million) those include basically, Oyo, Ogun, Kano, Kwara, Kaduna, FCT, Imo and Cross River. Subsequently, we are beginning to look at another set of states which Ondo, Ekiti is one of them.

**How has the session contributed to the AGRF outcomes?**

\*(For end of AGRF communique/ Press release. List 3 - 5 top outcomes)

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**COMMITMENTS**

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