

THE ACT NETWORK

The African Conservation Tillage Network (ACT) is a rapidly growing pan-African not-for-profit organization whose membership is voluntary and aims at bringing together stakeholders and players who are:

- Dedicated to improving agricultural productivity through sustainable utilization of natural resources of land and water in Africa's farming systems
- Committed to the principle of mutual collaboration, partnership and sharing of information/knowledge on sustainable natural resource management and drawing on synergies and complementarities

OUR VISION

Africa is able to deploy its natural resources to support attainment of basic livelihood needs for its people and provide sustainable foundation for industrialization and socio-economic growth

OUR MISSION

Promote and facilitate information, knowledge exchange and partnerships to enhance support for the adaptation and adoption of Conservation Agriculture principles and practices in Africa

ACT's CURRENT THRUST

1. Update and broaden ACT role and membership, farmer networks, etc.
2. Synthesize and "bank" CA Knowledge and disseminate /share readily with stakeholders

3. Emphasis on building-up local human capital. Empower farmers in own on-farm experimentation, monitoring, evaluation and learning.
4. Lobby Governments, Institutions and Donor support for CA
5. Forge strategic partnerships (with NEPAD, National GVTs, NGOs) for Interventions that will elevate farmers beyond crop productivity to diversifying to better income generation enterprises, and commercial farming.
6. Network and assist farmers with CA incentive schemes, cost sharing of risks and access to CA inputs/equipment
7. Make visible and strike supportive links of CA to niche sectors (energy and hydro power watershed management, environment, climate change)

CURRENT PROJECTS

- ACT is the co-ordinating and managing agency for conservation agriculture for sustainable agriculture and rural development project being piloted in Kenya and Tanzania. The project targets to empower 4,000 households attain sustainable food and self sufficiency by 2010 funded by German Trust Fund
- ACT offers international training on conservation agriculture to extension workers. The training has been taking place annually in Harare Zimbabwe for the past 5 years with support from SADC and other development partners
- ACT is has just embarked in co-ordination of the IFAD financed small holder conservation agriculture project (SCAP) in west and central Africa (Burkina Faso, Guinea & Niger)

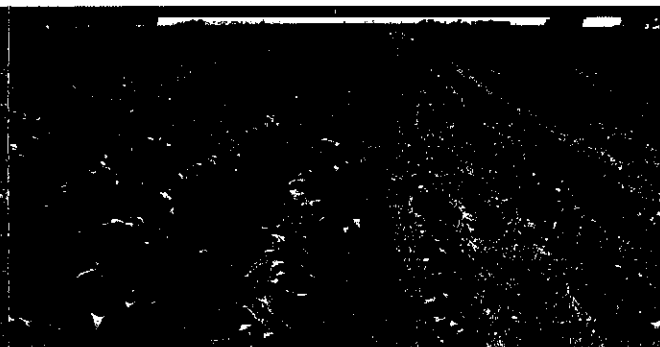
- SCAP envisage to kick-start an agricultural revolution based on behavioral change that enhances a dialogue between farmers and service providers

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to any individual or organization interested in sharing information and experiences on development and promotion of conservation agriculture in Africa. Interested persons/ institutions can apply for membership by completing and sending an application form to the ACT secretariat. Application forms can be obtained from the Secretariat or found on the ACT website. Membership is free for individuals. Institutions are expected to pay a voluntary membership fee. Currently ACT has registered members across 32 countries in Africa.

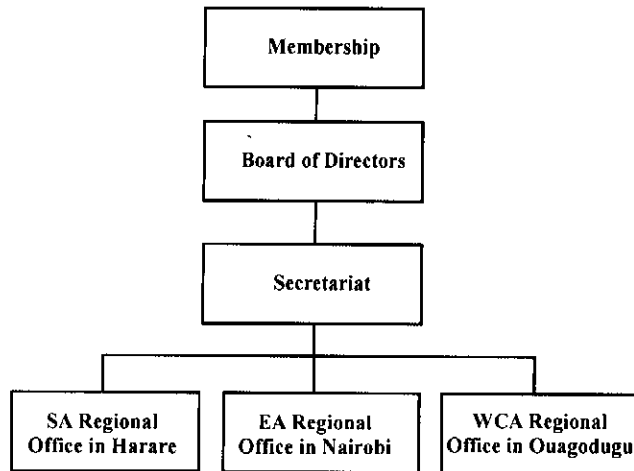
WHY JOIN ACT?

1. Access to the latest developments in Conservation Agriculture
2. Forum for individuals to contribute, to be heard in the movement for environmental conservation, food safety and climate change issues.
3. Collect individual members' views and resources into giant co-operative or larger movements to lobby and coerce government to this win-win technology.



ACT OPERATIONAL AND MANAGEMENT SETUP

The membership of the network is the final decision making organ in the operational structure of ACT. Board of Directors has been put in place to play an oversight role in guiding the management of the secretariat which handles the day to day running of the Network. Three regional offices have been established to ensure that the network responds to specific issues raised by farmers and stakeholders



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(Conservation Agriculture for improved livelihood and better environment)