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Sustainable African Value Chain Initiative (SAVI)
Members & Stakeholders' Networking Reception

23 July 2026
Nairobi, Kenya

EAGC EASTERN AFRICA GRAIN COUNCIL
Danish Industry East Africa

Introduction

The Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC), in partnership with Danish Industry (DI) and with support from the Government of Denmark, convened the Sustainable African Value Chain Initiative (SAVI) Members and Stakeholders' Networking Reception on 23 July, 2026 at the Emara Ole Sereni Hotel in Nairobi. Held alongside the EAGC Annual General Meeting (AGM) and the Regional Budget Synopsis, the reception brought together representatives from government, development partners, industry associations, financial institutions, and EAGC members to explore the role of sustainability in enhancing the competitiveness, resilience, and market readiness of agricultural value chains. The event also recognized the first cohort of companies participating in the SAVI programme, marking an important milestone in advancing sustainable business practices across the region.

SAVI is a three-year programme (2026–2028) jointly implemented by EAGC and Danish Industry to support agribusinesses in adopting sustainable business practices. The programme focuses on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG), Decarbonization, Water Efficiency, European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) Compliance and Sustainable Value Chain Management (SVCM). It seeks to help businesses respond to evolving market requirements, strengthen sustainability performance and improve readiness for regional and international markets.

The networking reception provided a platform for stakeholders to deliberate on emerging sustainability requirements, evolving market expectations and climate-related risks affecting agricultural value chains. Participants reaffirmed the need for stronger partnerships between government, industry, development partners and the private sector to support the adoption of sustainable practices, strengthen competitiveness and build resilient, inclusive, and market-ready agricultural value chains.

Opening Remarks

EAGC Board Member and Kenya Country Director, Dr. Peter Kaloki, welcomed participants. In his welcome remarks he:

1. **Emphasized** the importance of partnerships in advancing sustainability across agricultural value chains, noting that the Sustainability Networking Reception, held alongside the EAGC Annual General Meeting (AGM) and the Regional Budget Synopsis, reflected EAGC's commitment to fostering collaboration. He expressed appreciation to the Governments of Kenya and Denmark, Danish Industry, development partners, and participating businesses for their continued support of the Sustainable African Value Chain Initiative (SAVI), which is helping strengthen the competitiveness and resilience of agribusinesses.

2. **Underscored** that sustainability is now a business necessity, with businesses expected to strengthen ESG performance, reduce carbon emissions, adopt sustainable value chain practices, and comply with emerging regulations such as the European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) to remain competitive. He emphasized that businesses which proactively embrace these changes will be better positioned to access new markets, attract investment, and remain competitive.

3. **Positioned** the Sustainable African Value Chain Initiative (SAVI) as EAGC's response to supporting agribusinesses in integrating sustainability into their operations, strengthening market readiness, and building long-term business resilience. He welcomed the official onboarding of the first cohort of companies into the programme, noted the successful implementation of introductory ESG and Decarbonization workshops, and encouraged more businesses to participate in future cohorts.

Remarks by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change

Representing the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Mr. Dominic Mumbu, Deputy Director, Environmental Policy, delivered remarks on behalf of Dr. Selly Kimosop, Environment Secretary, State Department for Environment and Climate Change, who represented the Principal Secretary, Dr. Festus Ng'eno. Mr Mumbu:

1. **Emphasized** that sustainability is increasingly becoming a business imperative and encouraged businesses to proactively embrace sustainable practices to meet evolving market requirements, attract investment, and remain competitive.

2. **Underscored** the need to build climate-resilient agricultural value chains, noting that while agriculture remains a key pillar of Kenya's economy, climate-related challenges including droughts, floods, erratic rainfall, land degradation, and post-harvest losses, continue to constrain productivity and increase business costs.

3. **Highlighted** the Government of Kenya's commitment to advancing sustainable development through climate policies and regulatory frameworks, including the Climate Change Act, the National Climate Change Action Plan, the National Adaptation Plan, the Green Economy Strategy and Kenya's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement. He encouraged businesses to proactively prepare for emerging sustainability requirements, including climate reporting, sustainable waste management, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), and Kenya's evolving carbon market framework, to enhance their long-term competitiveness and resilience.

4. **Commended** EAGC for integrating sustainability discussions into the Annual General Meeting and Regional Budget Synopsis, noting that climate-responsive planning and budgeting are essential for building resilience and advancing sustainable agricultural transformation. He also encouraged actors across the grain value chain to embrace climate-smart agriculture, strengthen traceability, improve resource efficiency, and reduce post-harvest losses and adopt responsible environmental management practices.

5. **Welcomed** the implementation of the Sustainable African Value Chain Initiative (SAVI), recognizing its potential to support businesses in strengthening ESG performance, advancing decarbonization and preparing for emerging market requirements. He observed initiatives such as SAVI will help businesses translate sustainability commitments into practical action while enhancing resilience, operational efficiency, access to green finance, and long-term competitiveness.

6. **Reaffirmed** the Ministry's commitment to partnerin with EAGC, Danish Industry, development partners and the private sector to advance sustainable agricultural transformation and create an enabling environment for climate-resilient and competitive value chains

Remarks by Agriculture and Food Authority (AFA)

Mr. Ferdinand Masinde, Deputy Director, Compliance and Regulations, on behalf of Mr Calistus Kundu, Ag. Director General and Director Food Crops at the Agriculture and Food Authority (AFA):

1. **Commended** EAGC for its leadership in promoting industry self-regulation and acknowledged the Council's contribution to the development of the Industry Self-Regulation Guide for Kenya's Cereals and Pulses Sector. He noted that the Guide, currently under legal review by the Agriculture and Food Authority (AFA), will strengthen collaboration between regulators and industry, promote compliance, enhance industry standards, and improve the competitiveness of the grain value chain.

2. **Acknowledged** EAGC's longstanding leadership in promoting the grain industry standards through its Code of Practice and active participation in standards development with the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS). He observed that these efforts have strengthened quality assurance, promoted responsible business practices, and enhanced confidence across the grain value chain.

3. **Emphasized** that compliance with emerging sustainability requirements, including ESG reporting, traceability, responsible sourcing, reduced carbon emissions, and the European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR), is becoming increasingly important for accessing international markets. He noted that preparing Kenyan agribusinesses to meet these requirements is critical to strengthening market access, enhancing export competitiveness, and positioning Kenya's food crops sector as a trusted supplier in regional and global markets.

4. **Welcomed** the Sustainable African Value Chain Initiative noting that its focus on ESG, decarbonization, resource efficiency, and responsible business practices complements AFA's mandate of promoting sustainable agricultural production and value chain development. He encouraged grain sector actors to actively participate in the programme to strengthen their sustainability performance and prepare for emerging market requirements.

5. **Underscored** the growing importance of sustainability, traceability, and responsible business practices in enhancing competitiveness in regional and international markets. He emphasized the need for strong partnerships between government, industry, and development partners to promote effective regulation, robust industry standards, and resilient agricultural value chains. He reaffirmed the Agriculture and Food Authority's (AFA) commitment to working with EAGC, Danish Industry, and the Governments of Kenya and Denmark to advance industry self-regulation, sustainability, and market competitiveness within the grain sector.

Progress Update on the Sustainable African Value Chain Initiative

Mr. Vincent Bitok, EAGC SAVI Project Manager, presented an update on the implementation of the Sustainable African Value Chain Initiative (SAVI), highlighting the progress achieved since the programme's launch and outlining the next phase of implementation. He:

1. **Reported** that the first cohort of participating companies had been successfully onboarded, with seven companies enrolled in the ESG Cohort and nine in the Decarbonization Cohort, following the successful delivery of introductory workshops on ESG and Decarbonization.

2. **Noted** that participating companies had already begun responding to increasing customer requests for carbon footprint information and other sustainability disclosures, demonstrating the growing importance of sustainability compliance in accessing regional and international markets.

3. **Confirmed** that additional companies will be enrolled on a rolling basis, with baseline assessments informing tailored training, advisory services, and technical support across the programme's five focus areas: ESG, Decarbonization, Water Efficiency, EUDR compliance, and Sustainable Value Chain Management (SVCM).

4. **Reaffirmed** EAGC's commitment to implementing the programme in partnership with Danish Industry, with support from the Government of Denmark, and in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, the Agriculture and Food Authority (AFA), industry associations, and participating companies to advance sustainable agricultural transformation and strengthen market competitiveness.

5. **Encouraged** agribusinesses to participate in the programme and leverage the available technical support and partnerships to strengthen their sustainability performance, meet emerging market requirements, and enhance their competitiveness in regional and international markets.

Closing Remarks

EAGC Executive Director, Mr. Gerald Masila, in his closing remarks:

1. **Highlighted** SAVI as a practical programme designed to strengthen businesses' sustainability performance, market readiness, and compliance with emerging local and international requirements through five focus areas: Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG), Decarbonization, Water Efficiency, European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) Compliance, and Sustainable Value Chain Management (SVCM). He reaffirmed EAGC's commitment to supporting agribusinesses in adopting sustainable business practices through the programme.

2. **Reported** that the first cohort of participating companies had successfully completed introductory ESG and Decarbonization workshops and that baseline assessments would be undertaken to tailor technical support and advisory services to each business's sustainability needs.

3. **Encouraged** agribusinesses to participate in the programme to strengthen their sustainability performance, enhance market readiness, and prepare for evolving market requirements, including sustainability reporting, carbon footprint management, traceability, and responsible sourcing.

Way Forward

Participants agreed on the following actions to advance implementation of the Sustainable African Value Chain Initiative:

- **Accelerate** the adoption of Environmental, Social and Governance practices, decarbonization, water efficiency, Sustainable Value Chain Management, and preparedness for the European Union Deforestation Regulation and other emerging sustainability requirements.
- **Strengthen** collaboration between government, industry associations, development partners, and the private sector to build competitive, resilient, and sustainable agricultural value chains.
- **Undertake** baseline assessments for participating companies to inform tailored technical support and capacity-building interventions.
- **Designate** a programme focal person within each participating company to coordinate implementation and engagement under the SAVI programme.

Conclusion

Participants reaffirmed their commitment to advancing sustainable agricultural transformation through the partnership between EAGC, Danish Industry (DI), and the Governments of Denmark and Kenya. They committed to working collaboratively to strengthen sustainability, enhance market competitiveness, build climate-resilient agricultural value chains, and contribute to regional food security and inclusive economic growth.

A group photo of articipants and stakeholders during the Sustainable African Value Chain Initiative (SAVI) Members and Stakeholders' Networking Reception held in Nairobi on 23 July 2026

Existing Cohort

SILO AFRICA

Silo Africa is an agribusiness technology company providing grain storage, drying, monitoring and traceability solutions aimed at reducing post-harvest losses and improving food security. Through innovative technologies and data-driven solutions, the company supports farmers, cooperatives and agribusinesses to preserve grain quality and improve market access through storing their products safely in their silos.

Sustainability is embedded within Silo Africa's business model. The company provides airtight, chemical-free grain storage systems supported by solar-powered monitoring technologies and digital traceability platforms that help preserve grain quality while reducing food losses. The company has also developed mobile grain dryers powered by maize cobs and other agricultural residues, transforming agricultural waste into productive energy while reducing dependence on conventional fuels.

As sustainability expectations continue to evolve, Silo Africa has reported increasing requests from customers, investors and development partners for sustainability disclosures, emissions reporting and evidence of carbon avoidance. These market signals have reinforced the importance of measuring and communicating sustainability impacts while continuing to deliver innovative post-harvest solutions.

BULKSTREAM

Bulkstream is a leading grain handling, storage and logistics company serving regional grain markets through modern bulk handling infrastructure and supply chain solutions. The company plays a critical role in facilitating the efficient movement and storage of grain across Eastern Africa.

Bulkstream has observed growing interest from investors customers and business partners seeking information on ESG performance and sustainability reporting. The company recognizes that sustainability is increasingly becoming an important component of competitiveness within agricultural supply chains.

Through participation in both the ESG and Decarbonization tracks under SAVI, Bulkstream is strengthening its capacity to measure, manage and communicate sustainability performance while supporting long-term resilience, competitiveness and responsible growth.

CAPWELL INDUSTRIES

Capwell Industries is one of Kenya's leading food manufacturing companies, producing a broad range of products for local and regional markets. The company operates within highly competitive value chains where sustainability considerations are becoming increasingly important.

Capwell Industries has reported increasing interest from investors, customers and business partners seeking sustainability disclosures and ESG-related information. This emerging demand has created the need for stronger sustainability measurement systems and more structured reporting processes.

Through SAVI, the company is strengthening its understanding of emissions management and sustainability reporting to meet evolving customer expectations, improve market readiness and support long-term sustainable growth.

Existing Cohort

SPICE WORLD

Spice World is a food processing company committed to supplying quality products while continuously improving efficiency and resource utilization across its operations.

Spice World has embraced circular economy principles by utilizing waste generated from its food processing operations as raw material within its animal feed section. By converting waste streams into productive inputs, the company minimizes waste while maximizing resource efficiency and creating additional business value.

The company's approach demonstrates how sustainability can be integrated into everyday operations while contributing to both environmental stewardship and business competitiveness.

AGRIBORA KENYA

agriBORA Kenya is an agrifintech company that leverages technology, finance and market-based solutions to support farmers and agribusinesses across agricultural value chains. The company works to improve access to markets, financial services and business opportunities while helping producers build more resilient and profitable farming enterprises.

Sustainability is a core component of agriBORA's operations, particularly through its focus on traceability and transparency within agricultural value chains. By enabling the collection and management of production and supply chain data, the company helps farmers and agribusinesses strengthen accountability, improve market confidence and meet emerging sustainability requirements.

As sustainability expectations continue to grow across agricultural markets, agriBORA recognizes the increasing importance of emissions management, responsible sourcing and verifiable supply chains. Through participation in the SAVI Decarbonization Programme, the company is strengthening its understanding of sustainability performance measurement while supporting more transparent, resilient and competitive agricultural value chains

IRRIHUB KE

Irri-Hub KE is a climate-smart agriculture company that provides solar-powered irrigation systems, drip irrigation technologies and smart farming solutions to smallholder farmers. Through innovative agricultural technologies, the company helps farmers transition from unpredictable rain-fed agriculture to more reliable, productive and resilient farming systems.

Sustainability is at the core of Irri-Hub KE's business model. Through solar-powered irrigation and water-efficient farming technologies, the company enables farmers to increase productivity while reducing dependence on fossil fuels and making more efficient use of water resources. Its solutions help farmers adapt to climate variability, improve crop performance and strengthen resilience against changing weather patterns.

By supporting year-round agricultural production and promoting climate-smart farming practices, Irri-Hub KE contributes to sustainable resource management, food security and improved farmer livelihoods. Through participation in both the ESG and Decarbonization tracks under SAVI, the company is strengthening its sustainability systems while expanding its contribution to more resilient, efficient and sustainable agricultural value chains.

Existing Cohort

GRAINPRO

GrainPro is a provider of hermetic storage, drying and transportation technologies designed to improve the preservation of agricultural commodities and enhance food security.

GrainPro promotes chemical-free storage technologies that help reduce post-harvest losses while preserving grain quality. Through its hermetic storage solutions, the company supports more sustainable management of agricultural commodities, reduces food losses and contributes to improved food security. Its focus on protecting agricultural products while minimizing waste aligns closely with broader sustainability objectives across agricultural value chains.

KIBWEZI EAST FARMERS COOPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD

Kibwezi East Farmers Cooperative Society Limited is in Kambu Town and serves as an aggregation and marketing platform for farmers across the region. The cooperative deals in green grams, pigeon peas, cowpeas, sorghum, maize, improved and indigenous chicken, eggs and organic chicken manure.
The cooperative's sustainability journey is rooted in promoting diversified agricultural production and strengthening farmer resilience. By supporting drought-tolerant crops such as green grams, pigeon peas, cowpeas and sorghum alongside maize production, the cooperative contributes to food security and income diversification among its members.
Its integrated crop and livestock model also promotes resource efficiency through the productive use of poultry manure to improve soil health and crop productivity. Through participation in the SAVI ESG Programme, the cooperative is strengthening governance systems while helping members respond to growing sustainability expectations within agricultural markets.

KOLMAN GRAINS

Kolman Agriculture™ Grains is a specialized post-harvest engineering and grain quality management company providing grain storage, drying, monitoring and quality assurance solutions. The company designs and equips grain handling systems that help preserve grain quality while meeting local and international market standards.
Kolman Grains addresses one of agriculture's greatest sustainability challenges; post-harvest losses. Through modern storage infrastructure, grain drying technologies, digital monitoring systems and quality testing solutions, the company helps farmers, processors and traders reduce losses and improve grain quality.
The company also promotes eco-friendly pest control techniques including nitrogen-based storage systems that reduce reliance on conventional chemical treatments. Its focus on food loss reduction, quality preservation and responsible grain management contributes to improved food security and more sustainable grain value chains

Existing Cohort

MOMBASA MAIZE MILLERS

Mombasa Maize Millers is a grain milling company involved in the processing of maize and wheat products for Kenyan consumers and regional markets.
The company places strong emphasis on quality control and food safety compliance within its operations. As sustainability considerations become increasingly important within food value chains, Mombasa Maize Millers is exploring opportunities to strengthen sustainability management systems that support responsible sourcing, efficient resource use and improved operational performance.

KUKUCHIC

KukuChic is a registered poultry breeding company operating across East Africa through the production and distribution of day-old chicks and quality animal feeds. The company operates four breeder farms, a modern hatchery and a feed mill, serving poultry farmers throughout the region.
KukuChic's sustainability journey is anchored in its commitment to empowering farmers through access to quality poultry genetics and nutritious animal feeds. Through continuous investment in research, technology and innovation, the company seeks to improve efficiency, strengthen quality assurance and support sustainable poultry production systems. By enhancing farmer productivity and supporting food security through reliable poultry production, KukuChic contributes to stronger and more resilient livestock value chains while positioning itself as a trusted leader within the regional poultry sector.

MAGNASTAR

Magnastar is a grain sourcing and supply company working with producers and grain markets across Eastern Africa. The company sources cereals from different parts of the region and plays an important role in linking farmers, traders, processors and markets through regional grain supply chains.
As a regional grain supplier, Magnastar recognizes the growing importance of sustainability, traceability and responsible sourcing in agricultural markets. The company is participating in the SAVI ESG Programme to strengthen its sustainability systems, improve market readiness and support more sustainable grain trade across the region

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