



Financial Sustainability for ANTAM: Ensuring Long Term Support for Mechanization in the Asia-Pacific Region through Sustainable Accreditation Process

Key Role of ANTAM

- ANTAM serves as a unique platform that fosters collaboration among member countries to promote the standardization and harmonization of agricultural machinery testing codes and procedures.
 - Strengthening national testing centers
 - Advancing testing capabilities
 - Promoting safety and quality standards
 - Fostering mutual recognition system
 - strengthened regional trade by creating a shared technical

The Challenge: Dependency on Short-Term Funding

The Dependency: ANTAM's operations are largely dependent on

- Short-term donor funding
- Project-based support

The Challenge: ***Membership expands and regional demands increase the need for continuity becomes more pressing, making it imperative to secure a sustainable and autonomous financial mechanism that enables the ANTAM secretariat to maintain and expand its essential services.***

The Necessity for Sustainability

Technological transformation is critical due to:

- Labor shortages
- Climate change
- Increasing food demand
- Cross-border machinery trade

Sustainability of ANTAM is necessary to:

Ensure that machinery introduced into the region meets high safety, efficiency, and environmental levels while catering equal quality for its all members.

Sustaining ANTAM: Essential Services

- Support national testing centers through expert guidance, technical materials, and capacity development.
- Maintain and update harmonized test procedures, testing codes and digital infrastructures.
- Facilitate regular technical coordination and peer learning among countries.
- Promote mutual recognition of test results to enhance regional trade, improve compliance with safety norms, and reduce duplication of testing efforts and investments.

Proposed Mechanism: The ANTAM Sustainability Fund

Proposal:

Establishment of **ANTAM Sustainability Fund** as a pooled financing mechanism supported by nominal, consistent contributions from participating countries.

Utilization:

- Development of mutual recognition system for test reports.
- Benefit of private sector to engaged in agricultural machinery manufacturing, dealing and importing trade.

Fund Revenue Stream 1: The Public Levy

Feature	Description
Contribution Basis	A 5–10% levy on machinery testing fees for ANTAM-compliant tests, remitted by participating countries.
Remittance Frequency	Annual or quarterly, based on member country preference.
Fund Management	Managed by ANTAM Secretariat under existing governance arrangements of CSAM, following United Nations rules and regulations
Governance	Oversight by a Steering Committee (which could coincide with the Annual Meeting), with transparent reporting

Fund Revenue Stream 2: Certification Label Scheme

Feature	Description
Eligibility	Machinery models that have been successfully certified through testing at accredited laboratories
Certification License	Issued to manufacturers/importers to use the ANTAM logo on machines, manuals, and promotional materials
Fee Structure	Modest fee per certified model paid into the ANTAM Sustainability Fund
Validity	Certification valid for a defined term (3 years), with renewal based on technical compatibility for the latest version of ANTAM code
Benefits for the Trader	Increased market visibility, public recognition, and access to a trusted regional certification system
Enforcement	Clear rules on logo use, with enforcement for misuse or expired certifications

Utilization of ANTAM Sustainability Fund - Detailed

- Development and revision of testing codes procedures and technical manuals (TWG works)
- Capacity building programmes for trainers and technical experts
- Technical working group meetings and regional consultations
- Expert exchange programmes among national centers
- Peer review missions to strengthen the network and credibility of national testing systems
- Travel support to ensure equitable participation of member countries
- Manage and promote the ANTAM Certification Label / Logo system

Benefits for Member Countries -Public Stakeholders

Sustained Support	Gain continuous access to regional technical assistance, capacity building, and peer support.
Enhanced Credibility	Ensure the credibility and international recognition of national test results.
Stronger Infrastructure	Strengthen national testing infrastructure, improving regulatory oversight and public trust.
Financial Resilience	Build resilience against donor uncertainty, ensuring uninterrupted operations and innovation.
Increased Visibility	Enhance the regional visibility of the agricultural machinery sector.
Shared Ecosystem	Contribute to a shared regional ecosystem upholding safety, quality, and environmental performance.
Inclusive Development	Foster inclusive development, enabling all countries to collaborate effectively.

Benefits for Traders/Manufacturers - Private Stakeholders

Cost & Time Savings	Save time and money through mutual recognition, avoiding repetitions of testing.
Branding & Promotion	Gain access to a trusted regional certification logo (ANTAM mark) for branding and promotion.
Market Credibility	Increase market credibility with buyers, governments, and partners.
System Access	Participate in a transparent, structured, and recognized regional testing system.
Regional Contribution	Contribute visibly to regional development in the field of agricultural machinery

Way Forward: Operationalizing the Fund

- **Endorsement:** Seek guidance/formal endorsement at the Annual Meeting.
- **Framework:** Develop/agree on contribution **percentage** and **remittance** method.
- **Launch:** Establish Fund and launch a **Pilot Phase** (voluntary contributions).
- **Review:** Monitor, review, and refine based on lessons learned.

Conclusion

The Fund is a pragmatic, regionally owned solution. It ensures trusted, safe, and high-performing machinery reaches farmers.

- **Preserve Achievements:** Protect past achievements of ANTAM in regional cooperation.
- **Sustain Progress:** Sustain progress in harmonization and testing capacity of member countries.
- **Farmer Benefit:** Enable trusted, safe, and high-performing machinery to reach farmers.
- **Solidarity:** Foster public-private solidarity in pursuit of inclusive and sustainable mechanization.



Any other suggestions?