



Market Access Reference Group

On 20 April the NAMC inducted its first Market Access Reference Group. These are individuals from diverse agricultural industries with the knowledge or possession of expertise on the subject of market access for smallholder farmers. In their discussions, it was glaring that a majority of smallholder farming was developed as a result of “separate development”. That meant that conditions for smallholder farmers were never favourable and therefore access to markets was extremely hindered. This gave rise to a multitude of challenges for smallholder farmers.

One of the terms of reference for the Reference Group is assist in compiling a database to track smallholder farmers. According to Professor Victor Mmbengwa “Plans to develop a comprehensive database for the tracking of smallholder market access was on track. The purpose of the database was for government to discern whether those tasked with the solving of the market access problems are succeeding.”

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