



## Policy Research Seminar

### Future of Smallholder Farming in Malawi

Talking Points for William Chadza, Acting Executive Director for

MwAPATA Institute

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#### Welcome Remarks

#### Salutations

- All Protocols Observed
- Ladies and Gentlemen – those attending virtually

Good morning to you all

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of MwAPATA Institute, I would like to welcome you all to this Policy Research Seminar on the Future of Smallholder Farming in Malawi.

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This event has been a collaborative effort of MwAPATA Institute and NASFAM.

In this event, we will explore transition pathways and strategies for smallholder farmers. As you are all aware, smallholders are diverse and therefore need different combinations of policy strategies to help tackle the challenges that they are facing.

Mr Moderator, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, the specific objectives of this seminar are:

1. To share lessons and experiences in smallholder farming in Malawi
2. To bring to the fore of policymakers and stakeholders the challenges that smallholder farmers are facing in Malawi
3. To discuss strategies and policy thrusts for addressing the challenges facing smallholders.

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Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, smallholder farmers in this country are facing several challenges, many of which are well documented and we are likely to discuss some of them in the technical presentations to follow shortly. While the challenges facing smallholders in the country may seem discouraging, the future of smallholder farming will depend on today's policy actions (or inactions).

Therefore, our focus this morning should be to discuss the strategies and policy interventions that are needed to support smallholder farmers to thrive and achieve a smallholder-led agriculture transformation.

We are so hopeful that Malawi will act on the issues that will emerge from the various presentations and discussions.

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Finally, I would like to thank you all for being part of this conversation and looking forward to your participation in the discussions this morning.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you for your attention.

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