

CURRENT STRATEGIC ACTIONS & PRIORITIES (2026)

Economics & Advocacy:

- Implementation of the new Plant Breeders Rights Act and implications for SACTA levy;
- Bio-fuels – Ministerial Task Team;
- Focus on maize and soybean exports;
- Lobbying for wheat, groundnut (including peanut butter) and sorghum tariffs i.e. a higher international reference price & an automated publishing system, also lobbying for a reduction in an import tariff of tractor tyres.
- Agro-Chemical derogations – to motivate the importance of certain products to remain available for grain producers, and to promote the safe use thereof.
- Developing with SARS a diesel rebate automated logbook.
- Input into the implementation of the new diesel rebate for April 2026 & implementation of the online rebate system for September / October 2026.
- Import and Export intentions for wheat (**done**). Lobbying the same for Sunflower and soybeans.
- Agro-Chemicals regulation navigation & influence (1A/1B products & restricted use products).
- Pest Control Operator
 - course for Grain SA members only – cost benefit.
 - Re-negotiating regulations regarding use of restricted remedies (court case won by CropLife gives window of opportunity)
 - New: busy negotiating a proposal for members only to write an evaluation for a certain certification to be able to purchase and use Highly Hazardous Pesticides.
- Addressing grading disputes and biosecurity enforcement (GMO, current grading issues).
- Big win – Leaf has been revoked by die Minister of Agriculture
- Presenting trade submissions (JSE contract changes, PRA market access, protect SA market against unfair trade).
- Request to JSE to change soy contract size to 50 ton;
- Barometer data release and crop conditions reporting.
- Alternative differential investigation for soybeans, and winter grains.
- Focus on profitability of wheat and maize industries.
- Fertiliser, lime and diesel price and quality monitoring.
- New wheat varieties on its way – including white wheat varieties – very promising pipeline and some conditional approvals.

Farmer Development (Phahama Grain Phakama - PGP):

- Provide training and capacity building for farmers of all sizes.
- Assist farmers to apply for production loans.
- Pre and Post Investment support services as a Business Development Service provider to funders
- Assist farmers to access markets.
- Manage production finance for various institutions.
- Mentor loan and grant funded farmers.
- Facilitate access to mechanization
- Create opportunities for women and youth to participate in agriculture.
- Supporting over 1,100 farmers with mechanisation and inputs (R10m+).



- Operating 150+ study groups across 6 provinces.
- Rolling out Advanced Farmer Programme and BA expansion (1,600+ ha).
- Enhancing youth, women and entrepreneurship integration in farming.

Research, Agronomy & Innovation:

- Coordinate grain research consortia to deliver impactful, producer-aligned outcomes.
- Implement research projects addressing producer needs and sector sustainability within Plant Health, Climate Resilience, Crop Improvement, Food and Nutrition Security and Human Capital Development consortia.
- Strengthen plant health diagnostics, surveillance and national disease monitoring platforms. Expand climate resilience research, modelling and climate-smart decision-support tools.
- Modernise cultivar evaluation trials to support improved on-farm decision making.
- Lead herbicide resistance monitoring, molecular diagnostics and Herbicide Action and Resistance Platform (HARP)-aligned research.
- Advance soil health, microbiome and agro-biological innovation across grain systems.
- Strengthen partnerships through the National Grain Research Platform and industry bodies.
- Improve research communication, data management and producer-focused information delivery.
- Build departmental and national research capacity through skills development and recruitment.
- Develop a grain research prioritisation process to empirically assess impactful research options.

NAMPO-Tech:

- Establishing a dedicated agricultural skills development academy for the grain sector.