



# Africa Leather and Leather Products Institute (ALLPI)

*Leather for Health, Wealth and Luxury!*

## ALLPI Regional Consultative Forum 2020, Hawassa, Ethiopia

“Transitioning Africa’s SMEs to Digital Economy by Skills Portability, Technology Adoption and Diffusion!”



Burundi



Eritrea



Ethiopia



Kenya



Malawi



Rwanda



Sudan



Uganda



Zambia



Zimbabwe





*Leather a gift of nature*

1<sup>st</sup> November 2021, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

**Congress Coordinator**  
**Prof. (Dr<sup>5</sup>) Mwinyikione Mwinyihija**



International Council Of Tanners (ICT)

Host & Organizer



Africa Leather and Leather  
Products Institute - ALLPI

In collaboration with:



Ministry of Trade  
and Industry Ethiopia

TF\*EA

Trade and Fairs  
East Africa Ltd.

<https://wlc2021.allpi.int>

# ALLPI Regional Consultative Forum 2020, Hawassa, Ethiopia



## Welcome Message

Executive Director

Dear esteemed stakeholders, with the year 2020 coming to an end, I feel proud to welcome you once again to years' ALLPI annual Regional Consultative Forum which is being held at Haile Resort, Hawassa, Ethiopia.

The scope of this years' Consultative Forum is guided by specific objectives that are to: Provide a platform to share the national, regional and global leather sector success stories (Promote cross fertilization of success models); Share insights on technology adoption and diffusions to the continent's Stakeholders; Share research undertakings by identified players at regional and global level; Evaluate the interventional strategies for identified challenges reported overtime; Appraise the progress of the tanning industry in the last 5 years; To showcase the RDS and Satellite design studios linked in the transformational agenda of the continent's LVC and Provide the knowledge-based strategy of ALLPI towards the development of LVC. The theme of this years' forum is "Transitioning Africa's SMEs to Digital Economy by Skills Portability, Technology Adoption and Diffusion!" Which is building on the achievements of the 2019 Consultative Forum held at Bingu Wa Mutharika International Convention Centre in Malawi. The Forum promises to bring new practical interactions:

technology transfer – tanning symposium, B2B meetings and showcasing of new products designs from the SMEs platform.

Dear esteemed stakeholders, as the 2020 come to an end, I'm delighted and honoured to report to you that as an Executive Director of ALLPI, I was elected with unanimous consent as the President of the most prestigious global body the International Council of Tanners (ICT) (a position I will serve for the next two) after serving as Vice- President of the last two years. The breaking news was announced during the Council's Annual Executive Committee's meeting which was held through video conferencing on 30th September 2020. I will replace the former president, Ms Lisa Hewlett and her Team that completed their two-year term.

The representation of Africa in the ICT top management will also enhance the visibility of the Africa leather sector potential to the wider global arena.

I'm should point out that ALLPI annual work plan is derived for its 10 years (2016-2025) Strategic Plan, which is aligned to AU Agenda 2063: pillars 1, 2 and 7 (Prosperous Africa, An integrated continent and a strong and influential global player and partner) and SDG goals 5, 8, 9, 12 and 17 (gender equity, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, sustainable industrialization, sustainable production and consumption and global partnership).

Despite of Global COVID-19 Pandemic which restricted global movement and the cash flow challenges due to delayed assessed contributions by the majority of the Member States, ALLPI managed





to accomplish most of its annual planned activities through tele-conferencing (virtually). Some of the achievement to mention a few included: ALLPI successfully completed the QMS/EMS certification from ISO 9001:2008 to ISO 9001:2015 and EMS ISO 14001:2004 to EMS ISO 14001:2015 surveillance audit for the year 2020, shipment process of the Equipment procured under BADEA Technical grant for the satellite design studios for six countries (Burundi, Eritrea, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and Zambia) completed,

organized a 2 days retreat for the IULTCS and WLC 2021 organizing committee members in Kuriftu, Resort, Debre-zeit, Ethiopia. The meeting discussed the activities so far accomplished and the way forward until the actual congresses' dates, Under the auspices of RECAMP Project program ALLPI implemented capacity development activities in Traceability of hides and skins, training on application of standards along leather value chain segments that meet regulatory and safety standards of the markets and part of Certification of eco-friendly leather products. Other major milestone activities accomplished by ALLPI included: winning a bid with International Labor Organization (ILO) to conduct a study on current National, Regional and International Qualifications and Curriculum available for workers in the leather industry in Africa to enable further analysis of the potential for Continental level qualifications for the sector. The agreement was signed and activity started and ALLPI has completed Deliverable 1 of the activity and submitted to ILO that encompass inception report, detailed work plan, occupational framework template, Mapping

of Programs, Learning Pathways and Outcomes Template and Structure of the Final Report. ALLPI also signed a letter of intent with DT Global IDEV Europe SL to provide Technical Assistance to the Implementation of the EPA (Economic Partnership Agreement) Support Programme in Botswana. In case DT Global contract is awarded, (the contract of the Technical Assistance with reference number Europe Aid/140658/DD/SER/BW), ALLPI will enter into a sub-contracting agreement with DT Global, to provide support and technical assistance in areas linked to Leather Value Chain

Last but not the least it's worth mentioning that the Board recommended ALLPI to pursue the establishment of an academy to pool the leather expertise both regionally and globally to enhance the development of skills, research & development and technology transfer to support the transformation of the regional/satellite design studios' capacity to innovate and become productive and competitive.

Along with the above highlighted activities, our social program will provide an afternoon excursion to mixing Business with Pleasure.

As I conclude, let me take this opportunity to wish you a joyous stay in this colourful environment of Hawassa city

Let me take this opportunity to wish you fruitful deliberations during the next three days of your stay in Hawassa

**MAY THE ALMIGHTY LORD BLESS YOU ALL**

Prof. (Dr5.) Mwinyikione Mwinyihija,  
Executive Director

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## WELCOME TO HAILE HOTELS AND RESORTS



Haile Resort-Hawassa is found in the capital city of Southern Nation, Nationalities and Peoples Region, Hawassa. The city is located 275 Km from Addis Ababa; At 1,685 meters above sea level & widely known for its weekend & leisure getaway. Our resort is located on the shores of lake Hawassa with a spectacular view that blends the richest mosaic cultural with southern warm hospitality.



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# ALLPI Activity News

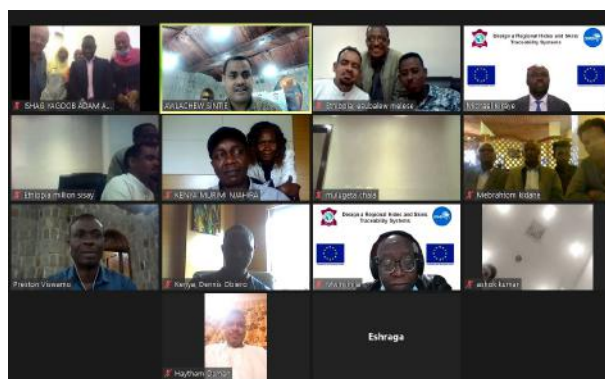
## ALLPI Conducts Virtual Capacity Building Training workshop on the design and implementation of hides and skins traceability systems

A capacity building training workshop in hides and skins traceability systems in line with global developments was held virtually from November 16 to December 4, 2020. The training was organized by Africa Leather and Leather Products Institute under the 11<sup>th</sup> EDF Regional Enterprise competitiveness and Access to Market (RECAMP) Program-through COMESA Secretariat.

The training was conducted in three batches, each batch constituted of participants from 5 countries. A total of 56 participants from 14 countries namely Burundi, DR. Congo, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Sudan, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe took part in the capacity building training workshops.

The purpose of the training program was to enhance the capacity of participating countries for the development and implementation of the traceability system that will in turn result in potential improvements in hide and skins quality.

The summary of the evaluation undertaken at the end of the trainings by the trainees indicated that almost all of the participants were very satisfied with the training contents and delivery. Electronic Certificates of successful completion were generated and sent to all participants.



*Virtual Capacity Building Training workshop on the design and implementation of hides and skins traceability systems*

## ALLPI Conducts Virtual Capacity Building Training workshop on application of standards for leather value chains

Africa Leather and Leather Products Institute, held virtual capacity building training workshops on application of standards for leather value chains, including the designing of leather finishing processes and Leather Products, which meet regulatory and safety standards of the markets. The Training workshops were funded under the 11<sup>th</sup> EDF Regional Enterprise competitiveness and Access to Market (RECAMP) Program-through COMESA Secretariat.

The objective of the trainings was to build the capacity of participating countries on application of harmonized standards for leather value chain segments. Three training workshops with each having 3 days duration were held between November 16 to December 4, 2020. In each training workshop 20 participants from 5 countries took part.

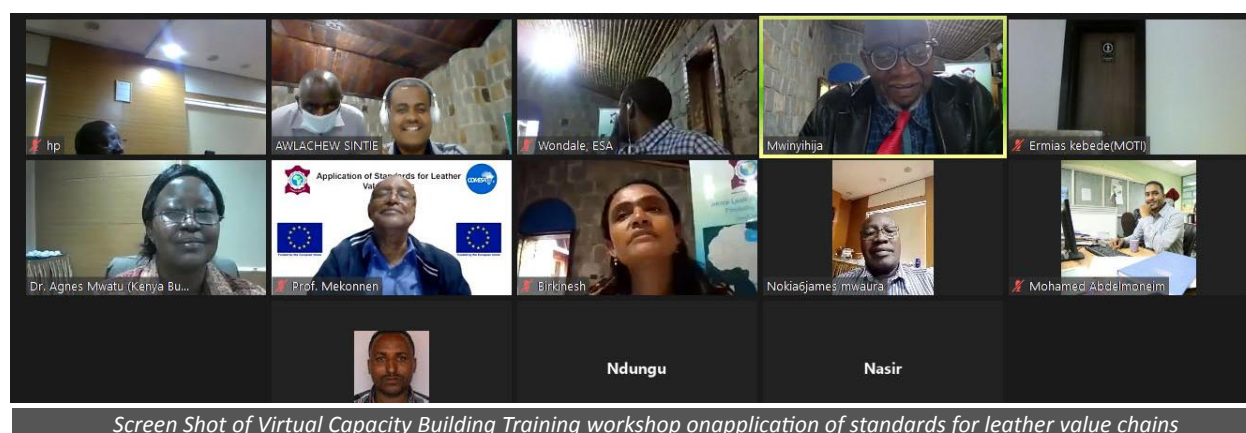
A total of 56 participants from 14 countries (Burundi, DR. Congo, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Sudan, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe) took part



in the capacity building training workshops. ALLPI Experts, together with resource persons from the Ethiopian Standards Agency (ESA) and African Organization for Standardization (ARSO) facilitated the training workshops.

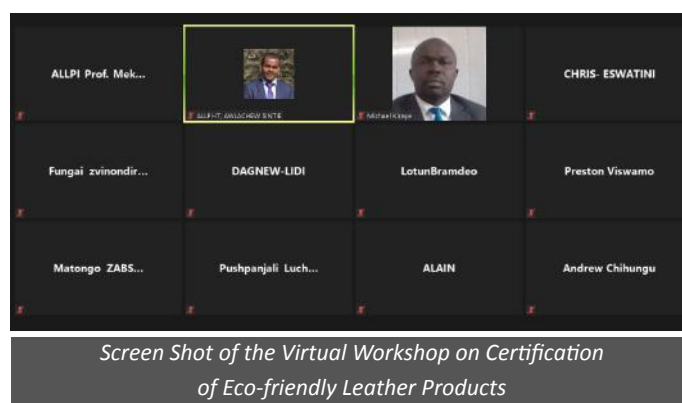
The training workshops were successfully completed with evaluation of the workshop by the participants and issuance of electronic certificates. The participants that took part in this training workshop were 20 in number and were drawn from 5 countries

namely, Eswatini, Madagascar, Mauritius, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The training workshop that had 5 days duration addressed important topics delivered by ALLPI Experts and a resource person from the Ethiopia Leather Industry Development Institute (LIDI). The workshop was successfully completed with evaluation of the workshop by participants and electronic certificates issuance. Similar capacity building two workshops are planned for other 10 countries.



## A Training Workshop on Capacity Building in Certification of Eco-friendly Leather Products in line with global development

A virtual training workshop on Capacity Building in certification of eco-friendly leather products in line with global development was held from December 7 to 11, 2020. The training was organized by Africa Leather and Leather Products Institute under the 11th EDF Regional Enterprise competitiveness and Access to Market (RECAMP) Program financial support through the COMESA Secretariat.



## ALLPI Technical committee retreat for preparing COMESA Strategy review discussion document

Africa Leather and Leather Products Institute (ALLPI) organized a four days Experts meeting (from November 9-12, 2020) in Debreziet, Ethiopia,

to review the COMESA Regional Leather Value Chain Strategy (2012-2016) with the aim of developing the new Strategy'

The Regional leather sector Strategy was developed to define, coordinate and align cross-border and intra-regional trade development activities in the COMESA region.

It was also intended to influence resources allocation, development of new policies and national investment plans. The primary objective of the Strategy was to transform the leather value chain from export of

raw materials towards the production and export of value-added products. This was expected to result in a 5% increase in intra-trade of leather products and in a 15% increase in employment creation.

The review was to evaluate the progress achieved in the leather sector (in reference to "triple helix") in recognition of national, continental and global perspectives. Ten ALLPI Experts took part in the review exercise that involved individual ideation, group work and plenary discussions focused on SWOT Analysis, Vision, Mission, Core Values and Strategic Objectives.

The review results in subsequently, modified the SWOT analysis, the Vision, Mission statements, and Strategic Objectives. As a follow-up to this exercise, the draft review document will be presented to the ALLPI consultative forum 2020 and to the regional workshop which encompass member states, academia and the private sector.



*Partial View of the Regional Leather Value Chain Strategy Review Workshop*



## ALLPI CONDUCTS VIRTUAL WORKSHOP TO DESIGN CURRICULUM FOR LEVEL I, II AND III IN FOOTWEAR, LEATHER GOODS DESIGN AND PRODUCTION FOR DRC

The Office for the Promotion of Small and Medium-Sized Congolese Enterprises (OPEC) in conjunction with The Technical and Professional Institute (ITP) - BUMBU, in fulfillment of the National TVET Qualification Framework (NTQF) that set qualification of TVET Programs in DRC, requested Africa Leather and Leather Products Institute (ALLPI) to facilitate the development of Footwear and Leather goods Design and Production levels I, II and III. The participants of the workshop were drawn from the public sector, comprising of officials from the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Commerce Trade and Industry and the Standards department. From the Private Sector comprising of experienced officials from the Tannery, Shoe factory, Cluster Management and artisans. From the Academia comprising of experienced officials from Technical colleges who are curriculum developers and trainers.



During the official opening of the Virtual Curriculum Workshop from DRC side

The Curriculum development process involved carrying out a needs analysis by public, industry and academia to ascertain the employment opportunities

that demand it, the technological development and activities at workplace or industry and the competency profiles needed to implement the curriculum after it is developed. The needs analysis was then followed by the design and development of Curriculum at levels 1, 2 and 3 in line with the TVET framework and finally the formulation of the Curriculum implementation and evaluation matrix. ALLPI is spearheading the skills portability project in Africa in Collaboration with International labour Organization (ILO) and this Curriculum development exercise for Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) was conducted with the overall vision of fitting in the skills portability and recognition on the Africa continent. The workshop was conducted through a virtual conferencing mechanism due to the travel restrictions caused by the COVID 19 pandemic. The duration of the workshop was 5days. In an effort to increase the uptake of training by students and scaling up on the skills development for the leather sector in DRC, the developed Curriculum is earmarked to be implemented in all the technical colleges in DRC.



Group photo of workshop participants in DRC

## Webinar titled “Withstanding the outbreak of COVID 19 in the African Leather industry” conducted



The Pan African Leather Fair (PALF) in partnership with Africa Leather and Leather Products Institute (ALLPI), Leather Apex Kenya, and the South African Footwear and Leather Export Council (SAFLEC). It created an opportunity to discuss the current escalating global situation and discover what you need to be better equipped to thrive and not only survive during this crisis. Learning more on the current situation of the African leather industry, challenges, and opportunities.

Speakers	Topics
Prof. Mwinyikione Mwinyihija - ALLPI	Africa's Strive Towards Skills Portability to Nurture SME's Leather Development in an Innovative Operational Ecosystem
Beatrice Mwasi - Leather Apex Society of Kenya	Creating, Delivering and Capturing Value in Leather Enterprises in the Midst of Covid-19
Nerisha Jaira - SAFLEC	The Pandemic and its Effect and Propositions on the Footwear and Leather Market in South Africa and Global Analysis
Prof. Mekonnen Hailemariam- ALLPI	Moderator

**WEBINAR SERIES**  
**Transcending Boundaries**  
**Serving the African Leather Industry**

## Prof. Mwinyihija Elected President of ICT



Prof. Mwinyikione Mwinyihija,  
Executive Director of ALLPI  
and President of ICT

Prof. Dr5. Mwinyikione Mwinyihija, Executive Director of Africa Leather and Leather Products Institute (ALLPI), recently became president of the prestigious global body, 'International Council of Tanners' (ICT). The International Council of Tanners is representing producers of leather and its members are the national associations of leather producers, and most of the world's major producing countries. The Executive Committee Members of ICT that held annual meeting through video conferencing on September 30, 2020, elected Prof. Mwinyihija with unanimous consent to replace the former president, Ms Lisa Howlett and her Team that completed their two-year term.

The election of Prof. Mwinyihija as a president of ICT came at the right time, following the recommendation of the Council of Ministers (The 3<sup>rd</sup>

Meeting of the Ministerial Committee on Industry- June 2019, Nairobi, Kenya; 40th Meeting of the Council of Ministers, November 2019, Lusaka, Zambia), for ALLPI to become knowledge-based institution.

ALLPI started to setup a new platform that will enhance interactions between knowledge adoption and dissemination (diffusion) to support the process of innovation which can enhance the productivity, quality and competitiveness of leather industry in ALLPI participating countries and the continent at large.

The representation of Africa in the ICT top management will also enhance the visibility of the Africa leather sector potential to the wider global arena.

<https://leathercouncil.org/>  
<https://wlc2021.allpi.int>



## ALLPI towards hosting three Global Events in 2021

Africa Leather and Leather Products Institute (ALLPI) is proud to host two world unique events- 36<sup>th</sup> International Union of Leather Technologist and Chemists Society (IULTCS), and fifth World Leather Congress (WLC), in conjunction with the Government of Ethiopia, in November 2021. The focus of the two congresses (IULTCS and WLC) will be on the field of the leather sector to discuss and deliberate on pressing global issues challenging the leather sector development. By organizing and hosting the two global events, ALLPI intends to create opportunities for enhanced R&D, technology transfer, innovation, and market linkages to African leather sector. Academia, researchers, manufacturers and business people from the continent will have opportunity to interact and link with globally recognized counterparts.

IULTCS is a world-wide organization of professional societies in the leather sector that has held 35 Congresses in nineteen different countries on five continents. In 2021 the IULTCS will add another new country when the Congress will be held in Ethiopia. The aim of the Union is to foster cooperation between member societies, to further the advancement of leather science and technology, to form commissions for special studies and to establish international methods of samples and testing leather and materials associated with leather manufacture.

The World Leather Congress is an organ of the International Council of Tanners (ICT). ICT acts as a source of information on the global industry, especially on statistics and that plays the fundamental role of protecting and promoting leather and the leather producing industry, on a worldwide basis.

The 5th World Leather Congress is strengthening its global vocation by reaching the African Continent. Africa is recognized not only as the cradle of humankind, but also as a continent with rich and varied natural resources, one of which is the livestock sector that represents 25% of the global livestock population. Hides and skins production which is a function of the livestock size, slaughter rates, meat consumption and economic growth, among other factors, is estimated at 16% of the global production. Hides and skins constitute basis for the production of leather and leather products. Leather and Leather products are among the most widely traded agro-based commodities in the world. The global traded value in 2019 reached over 260 billion USD<sup>1</sup>, and is predicted to grow. Africa, despite its huge resource base, earned only 2.55 billion while its import value for leather and leather products stood at 5.45 billion USD for the same year<sup>2</sup>. This huge disparity between the continent's resource base and low level of earning from the global trade is said to be associated with export of low value-added products like raw hides and skins and or semi processed leather. Given the importance of the leather sector in the global economy and its potential in Africa for job creation, wealth generation and poverty reduction, value addition in the leather sector has been recognized as a driver for development at local, regional and continental levels.

In Africa, all indications are displaying signs of increased wealth and affluence in most parts of Africa. As a rule, changes in demography, economic growth and massification of information and communication will evolve consumer preferences and behaviors (World Bank 1992). In 2019, the

1 Trade map statistics

2 ALLPI computation based on Trade Map Statistics

Africa human population was estimated at 1.3 billion, with 350 million considered middle class. Population is growing at an average rate of 2.2 percent, more than twice that of Asia. Nearly two-thirds of its inhabitants are under the age of 25<sup>3</sup>. Fifty three percent off African income earners are between 16 – 34 years old. This is an age group known for their awareness and eagerness to consume new products. In general, about 65% of leather goes into footwear subsector and the rest into leather upholstery and other leather products. In Africa, per capita shoe consumption was estimated at 0.85pairs of shoe per capita/ annum and based on the above indicated population size, the annual footwear demand is estimated at 1.11 billion pairs. The footwear production in the continent is estimated at less than 200mn pairs. The region imports 23.4 Million pairs of shoes per year. There is inflow of second hand and poor-quality footwear due to the huge gap in demand and supply. Therefore, the leather sector occupies a place of prominence in the continent's economy that needs to turn the comparative advantage is not into a competitive advantage.

ALLPI's vision is to be Africa's premier center of excellence for competitive Leather sector in the global arena. The Institute's activities are informed by its ten-year strategy that is complemented with its annual work plan. In its 10-year strategy, the target is to facilitate the creation of 420 SMEs Clusters, manufacturing 42 million pairs of footwear, thus consuming approximately 105 million square feet of leather. This is set to create directly more than 42,000 jobs and revenue of over US\$ 0.5 billion. The multiplier effect to the rest of the region will generate approximately US\$ 5 billion dollars based

on a marginal propensity to consume of 0.9.

ALLPI's work is delivered through the Triple Helix Approach, whereby the Public, Private and the Academia are involved in the design, review and implementation of its work. The Institute is providing knowledge platforms that are necessary for applying existing knowledge effectively, and creating new knowledge for increasing the effectiveness and efficiency in the value addition processes in the leather sector. These platforms include the Regional Consultative Forum, the Regional Designer Studio Forum, the SMEs Regional Technical Committee and the Academia Platforms.

The Institute is providing a variety of services to leather sector enterprises and SMEs at different levels, of the value chain of the sector, especially those operating in finishing and product development. The services involve capacity building in application of knowledge and innovation to the attainment of the objectives of transforming the sector from commodity dependence to a more knowledge-based value-added products. It is highly envisaged that development of R&D activities could enrich stratum involvement towards innovation in the leather value chain<sup>4</sup>. Knowledgeability is an important input that influence the characteristics of value-added products<sup>5</sup>. This could contribute a lot towards making the Africa's earning forms the global trade, proportionate to its natural resource endowments in terms of livestock population and hides and skins production. For information, registration and abstract submission of the Event, please visit the event website: <https://www.iultcs2021africa.org/home>

3 Deloitte (2013), p.2-3.

4 Mwinyikione Mwinyihija and William Quisenberry, Innovation Responses from the Leather Value Chain Strata Survey in Kenya, International Review of Management and Business Research, Vol. 3 Issue.3, 2014.

5 Mwinyikione Mwinyihija and William Quisenberry, Is Opportunity Management A Precursor To Leather Value Addition Initiatives?, The International Journal Of Business & Management.

## Chingola Leather Cluster in Zambia receives Certification from the Zambia Bureau of Standards(ZABS) to manufacture Smelter and Workmans safety Gloves

Chingola Leather Cluster in Zambia is now set to provide certified eco-friendly industrial gloves to the mines and engineering industry large. This is as the result of the capacity building intervention provided by Africa Leather and Leather Products Institute(ALLPI) in Collaboration with the Government of the Republic of Zambia through Ministry of Commerce , Trade and Industry and Konkola Copper Mines Plc (KCM). In 2018, ALLPI conducted Skills training in design and production of Industrial gloves at Chingola Leather Cluster as part of its deliverables among other things stipulated in the MOU signed with KCM.

The objective of the training was to build the technical capacity of the Cluster members in Industrial glove making for supply to KCM. After delivering the training ALLPI recommended that the Cluster should be formally registered and also be certified by the Zambia Bureau of standards before it can be

given any order to supply gloves to KCM. ALLPI also recommended equipment upgrading to enable the cluster to to produce industrial leather products to the mining sector in Zambia. In addition ALLPI committed to offer the Cluster another training in the Design and Production of Safety Boots and shoes. The recommendations are being implemented and Chingola Cluster is now a registered cooperative Cluster and it has also received certification from ZABS to produce eco-friendly Industrial gloves.

ALLPI remains committed to provide technical support for development of Clusters in all parts of Zambia through the triple-Helix development approach and promotion of relevant stake holders participation in the implementation of the Zambia Leather Value Chain development Strategy. The Chingola Cluster support initiatives are a blue print for the establishment and development of Leather Clusters in Zambia and other ALLPI Member States.



Glove Training Workshop Organized by ALLPI in 2018



## Activities of ALLPI during 1<sup>st</sup> January– 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Activity	Expected Outcome
Two specialized modules were selected through a questionnaire survey. Conversion of the selected modules into the e-learning format is currently in progress.	SMEs will have access to online training at convenient time
ALLPI successfully won a bid with International Labor Organization (ILO) to conduct a study on current national, regional and continental qualifications and curriculum available for workers in the leather industry in Africa to enable further analysis of the potential for continental level qualifications for the sector. The agreement was signed and activity started. ALLPI currently completed Deliverable 1 of the activity and submitted to ILO that encompass Inception report, detailed work plan, occupational framework template, Mapping of Programs, Learning Pathways and Outcomes Template and Structure of the Final Report.	The harmonization of continental admissions, curricula, standards, programmes and qualifications and raising the standards of higher education to enhance the mobility of African youth and talent across the continent.
ALLPI also signed a letter of intent with DT Global IDEV Europe SL to provide Technical Assistance to the Implementation of the EPA (Economic Partnership Agreement) Support Programme in Botswana. In case DT Global contract is awarded, (the contract of the Technical Assistance with reference number EuropeAid/140658/DD/SER/BW), ALLPI will enter into a sub-contracting agreement with DT Global, to provide support and technical assistance in areas linked to Leather Value Chain.	ALLPI, in all its activities and communication is currently operating as a continental Leather Sector specialized Institute
<p>Internal training:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ALLPI staff capacity built in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Smartsheet document uploading and other varied uses in workplan preparation and performance monitoring;</li> <li>- Use of online application for video conferencing</li> <li>- In conformity to the QMS/EMS accreditation, the critical staff are trained on the Smartsheet reporting system;</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>ALLPI, successfully completed 80 percent of the capacity building trainings in the following four areas under the Regional Enterprises Competitiveness and Access to Market Program (RECAMP) -which is EU funded program through the COMESA Secretariat.</p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To strengthen the human and institutional capacity of Member States in certification of eco-friendly leather products in line with global development (60 participants from 15 participating countries).</li> <li>• To strengthen the human and institutional capacity of Member States in hides and skins traceability systems in line with global developments and implementation of the regional hides and skins traceability system, (60 participants from 15 countries).</li> <li>• To build the capacity of participating Member States and regional focal persons on application of standards for leather value chains including the designing of leather finishing processes and Leather Products, which meet regulatory and safety standards of the markets, (60 participants from 15 countries).</li> <li>• Review of the Regional Leather Value Chain Strategy (2012-2016) with the aim of developing the new Strategy.</li> </ul> <p>A total of 14 countries and a minimum of 16 participants from each country attended the capacity building training programs.</p>	<p>Implementation of projects and activities on standards and traceability will be fast-tracked</p>
<p>Vocational Training Curriculum of Level I to III in leather technology was developed through virtual participatory workshop and the finalized curriculum submitted to DR Congo.</p>	<p>Vocational Training Centers will start producing skilled man power in the leather sector</p>
<p>ALLPI Conducted internal audit and management review meeting to ensure effective and continued implementation of the Quality Management and Environmental Management Systems.</p> <p>ALLPI also successfully completed the surveillance audit of QMS ISO 9001-2015 and EMS ISO 14001-2015 certification</p>	<p>ALLPI sustains the Quality Management and Environmental Management System with respect to realizing its mandated objectives.</p>
<p>ALLPI is undertaking M&amp;E for its activities which are being implemented in the region through use of the Smartsheet in which each expert upload planned and implemented activities and the M&amp;E expert makes the necessary review and reporting to the Programs Coordinator (PC).</p>	<p>All the activities of ALLPI will be captured towards developing strong Knowledge Management System</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A blue print on Cluster Management and Governance developed,</li> <li>• A blue print in Harmonization of existing Levels 1-3 curricula to make them evidence based</li> <li>• A framework for the joint procurement, production and marketing of leather products is developed</li> </ul>	<p>Harmonized Cluster Management and Governance, Curriculum and joint Procurement will be adopted by Member States</p>

A model Tannery for vegetable tanning was designed and the draft is currently under review at ALLPI Technical Committee level	Model Tannery for vegetable tanning will be adopted by Member States.
Design of a reverse engineer vegetable tanning drum was developed and awaiting prototyping.	Technology transfer on vegetable tanning drums will be realized
<p>ALLPI Strategic objectives and interventions are aligned to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AU Agenda 2063: pillars 1, 2 and 7 (Prosperous Africa, An integrated continent and a strong and influential global player and partner).</li> <li>• DG goals 5, 8, 9, 12 and 17 (gender equity, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, sustainable industrialization, sustainable production and consumption and global partnership).</li> </ul>	ALLPI's activities towards realizing Continental and Global development goals will be easily tracked;
<p>ALLPI as part of regional awareness workshop on market intelligence made a webinar presentation entitled: "Second hand market, Cheap and Low-Quality Footwear Importation, Informal Trade and Lack of Large Retailers Presence: opportunities and challenges for intra-regional trade of footwear".</p> <p>In collaboration with Makerere University Business School (MUBS) a webinar presentation entitled " The importance of the leather sector and how it can transform African Countries; Preambled through the role of Higher Education " was also presented.</p> <p>A simulation model to estimate the production and demand of footwear and leather products, and its implication to employment creation and contribution to Africa's GDP was developed and the information generated is being shared with Member States (MS).</p>	Member States will re-align their policies related to Second hand market, importation of cheap and low-quality footwear importation, informal trade.
ALLPI sustained the Online Systems (Google Drive, Smartsheet), Subscription for the LeatherBiz.com, Devex, Crossref, Leather Magazine, Membership fee of IULTCS, Web hosting, Software renewal, Broad Band and ITC Membership that improved market intelligence and M&E System	Smooth communication, data storage, information sharing will be sustained.
The ALLPI B2B portal is upgraded with additional e-commerce features with CS-Cart E-Commerce system with more than 30 SMEs details and their products have been showcased (see the link: <a href="https://trade.allpi.int">https://trade.allpi.int</a> ).	SMEs participation in the E-Commerce will be enhanced



ALLPI through technical team retreat finalized the preparations of the draft document on the review of the Regional Leather Value Chain Strategy (2012-2016) with the aim of developing the new Strategy, under RECAMP program financial support. A virtual workshop in which Sixty (60) participants from 15 countries will be organized to discuss and validate the draft review document.	Experience gained from this workshop will further strengthen Member States Capacity for Implementation of their respective LVCS.
ALLPI developed and shared a draft legislation framework for Mauritius hides and skins trade. ALLPI developed and shared list of equipment needed for leather goods making in Mauritius. ALLPI shared a draft Hides and skins grading criteria for possible use by the Mauritius leather sector.	The gained experience from Mauritius will be replicated to other Member countries
The 2020 Core Team, Triple Helix and SME Committee, Academia, RDS meeting preparations are finalized. The forum will take place following the 38th Board meeting in Awassa in the same venue.	platform to share the national, regional and global leather sector success stories will be strengthened
ALLPI has now engaged RDS project manager who is linked with satellite design studios to strengthen SMEs capacity to respond to formal domestic and international orders.	Regional Design Studio and Satellite design Studios will create capacity of SMEs towards export readiness.
The pan African E-commerce platform that was expected to be launched in 2020 was delayed due to COVID 19 related constraints.	Leather-based SMEs will have an option of selling products through electronic means while reducing marketing challenges to regional and international market.
Equipment procured under BADEA grant are currently arrived to 6 beneficiary countries to strengthen the respective countries Satellite design studios.	Productivity of SMEs will be improved. Technology transfer will be enhanced
ALLPI conducted an online survey to determine impact of COVID- 19 in leather enterprises and shared the results and produced two documents, namely, ALLPI health and safety advisory manual on 2020 Covid-19 crisis and Corona Virus (COVID-19) Pandemics Situation Impact on Leather Sector Survey Results, that are shared to all units of the Institute and other stakeholders. The road map on occupational health and standards is in progress.	Assist stakeholders to devise alternative mechanisms to reverse the negative impacts of COVID-19 pandemic.

<p>ALLPI experts participated in regional &amp; global forums by being panelists and moderators at webinar conferences facilitated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pan Africa Trade Fair-Egypt,</li> <li>• South Africa Footwear and Leather Export Council,</li> <li>• Rotary Club-Zimbabwe,</li> <li>• Ege University, Turkey</li> <li>• Commonwealth SMEs Platform.</li> </ul>	<p>The visibility of ALLPI on regional and international arena with respect to leather sector development will be enhanced.</p>
<p>ALLPI prepared project proposals and submitted to development partners”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal entitled “Supporting SMEs and tanners in the leather value chain to respond to the challenges that COVID-19 presents” prepared and submitted to COVID-19 Vulnerable Supply Chains Facility, UK.</li> <li>• Proposal entitled Capacity Development of Four Selected Tanneries of East Africa Region to the Compliance to Leather Working Group (LWG) Standards and Possible Accreditation (SOLIDARIDAD).</li> <li>• ALLPI also successfully won two bids as indicated above under activity (ILO &amp; RECAMP)</li> </ul>	<p>Leather enterprises in Member states will be supported to respond to the negative effects of Covid-19 pandemic.</p>
<p>A blue print document entitled:</p> <p>“Global Trade and investment dynamics and ALLPI’s interventions” is developed and to be shared with member countries soon.</p>	<p>Member States will align its activities in the leather sector with respect to the global dynamics so as to promote trade and investment and to enable compete in the regional and international market.</p>
<p>ALLPI has created linkages and good relationships with different export promotion institutions like south African Footwear and Leather Export council, ITC, Informa markets, Trade and Fairs Consulting GmbH, Africa E-Trade Group, etc.</p>	<p>Trade and Investment will be promoted at each Member State</p>
<p>Intra and Inter trade assessment was done based on Trade Map statistics for the period 2015 to 2019.</p>	<p>It will assist Member States to bench mark themselves based on the assessment towards aligning its leather related activities.</p>

In collaboration with Africa E-Trade Group an online training course is ready to be conducted soon to strengthen the capacity of SMEs to participate in regional, continental and international markets through the pan African E-commerce platform.	SMEs will be acquainted with basics principles of E-Commerce and E-Trade
ALLPI will be conducting a virtual regional capacity building training workshop on the application of standards for leather value chains including the designing of leather finishing processes and Leather Products, which meet regulatory and safety standards of the markets, (60 participants from 15 participating countries attend the training workshop).	Standards on leather and leather products will be applied towards competing in the regional and international markets.
ALLPI is currently a member of African Organization for Standardization (ARSO) - Technical Harmonization Committee (THC) and leather committee 120 of ISO. ARSO Experts are participating as resource person in the ALLPI regional capacity building training workshop on application of standards for leather value chains including the designing of leather finishing processes and Leather Products, which meet regulatory and safety standards of the markets	National Standards will be harmonized with regional standards to promote the mutual acceptability of Standards by various countries.
Through ALLPI facilitation selected tanneries from Ethiopia, Uganda and Zimbabwe took part in Brazil leather fair through sponsorship of ASSINTECAL-Brazil.	Knowledge and experiences obtained from Brazil will be implemented in Africa.
ALLPI is conducting periodic assessment of the participation of women, youth based on data generated through QMS/EMS form (ALLPI-OF-045) which capture the participation of youth and women. The form is now revised to include physical challenged person's too.	Youth, women and physically challenged people's participation in ALLPI interventions will be tracked
ALLPI is closely collaborating with the Africa E-Trade Group that will launch the Pan African E-commerce platform by 2021.	Leather-based SMEs participation in E-Commerce will be promoted





Lake Malawi, Malawi

# Review of the ALLPI 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Stakeholders Consultative Forum

## Introduction

The 13<sup>th</sup> Regional Leather Sector Core Team (RLSCT) and the 7<sup>th</sup> Stakeholder's Consultative Forum was held from 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 at BICC; Lilongwe, Malawi. The Workshop was attended by the Regional Leather Sector Core Team Members, SMEs Technical Committee Members, the Representatives of focal Ministries, Academia, Private Sector and Partner Institutions, namely: Ege University, CLRI, UV Enterprises and Trade and Fairs Consulting GmbH-Germany.

The Forum was officially opened by Honorable Salim Ibrahim Bagus, Minister of Industry Trade and Tourism of Malawi.

The Theme of the Workshop was ***“Develop Africa’s leather value chain through research, business linkages and technology transfer!”*** The following objectives guided the attainment of the referred to theme:

- Create opportunity to share the national and regional leather sector success stories (Promote cross fertilization of success models);
- Build consensus towards innovation, quality assurance and their importance for export readiness in reference to recent events;
- Share research undertakings by identified players at regional and global level
- Identify the key challenges and interventions towards achieving sustainable regional leather sector development;
- Enhance the leather tanning industry sustainable production processes, consumption and eco-entrepreneurship;
- Design potential pathway to capacity building and technology transfer from national, regional and global perspectives;
- Discuss the new Strategic Direction of ALLPI being Knowledge based Institution.

The regional leather sector workshop/forum was attended by more than 90 participants representing National, Regional and International Partners in the leather sector from 12 Eastern and Southern African countries, (Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe,) and Partner Organizations representatives from India, South Africa, Turkey and Germany.

The forum was graced by the presence of the Hon, Salim Ibrahim Bagusi, Minister, Ministry of Industry Trade and Tourism; the Director Finance and Administration, Dr. Joseph Mkandawire, Ministry of Industry Trade and Tourism, and ALLPI Board of Directors, Namely Mr. Dagnachew Shiferaw-Ethiopia, Mr. Gebreigzeabher Gebremedhin-Eritrea, Mr. Silas Sindi-Malawi and Mr. Abdul Hakiim Sekandi-Uganda.

### Opening remarks by the Executive Director of ALLPI



Prof. Mwinyihija recognized the presence of the Honorable Minister of Industry Trade and Tourism of Malawi- Hon, Salim Ibrahim Bagusi and the Director Finance and Administration, Dr. Joseph MKandawire, Ministry of Industry Trade and Tourism.

Prof. Mwinyihija registered his deep appreciation for the warm welcome and exemplary hospitality extended to all participants that arrived outside Malawi.

He then introduced the sponsors of the forum that include Government of Malawi through the Ministry of Industry Trade and Tourism, Ethiopian Airlines, Malawi Bureau of Standards, ZAMM Investment and UV Enterprises and expressed his appreciation.

### Remarks by the Director Finance and administration, Ministry of Industry Trade and Tourism of Malawi

Gave special thanks to ALLPI for bringing the conference to Malawi.

Malawi government recognizes to impotence of the leather sector due its enormous potential in employment and wealth creation.

Reiterated the government support in implementation of the leather value chain strategy.

Enumerated activities supported by the government; namely the leather design studio, training of leather association, machine operators and access to market.

Thanked the Minister of industry trade and Tourism (MoITT) and there after welcomed the minister to officially open the conference.

## Welcome Address and Official Opening by Host Country (Malawi)



Guest of Honour Hon. Minister for Industry Trade and Tourism, Hon, Salim Ibrahim Bagusi Welcomed the guests from all countries on behalf of the president for coming to Malawi, the warm heart of Africa. Thanked the Executive Director of ALLPI and sponsors of the event for bringing the forum to Malawi. Appreciated the sharing of experiences on key issues geared at accelerating development of the leather sector.

He stated that Malawi government has identified the leather sector as the priority area for development. He highlighted the activities that the government of Malawi is implementing/ facilitating for the development of the leather sector through the implementation of the Malawi Leather value chain strategy developed with the support of ALLPI.

Hon, Salim Ibrahim Bagusi then declared the consultative forum officially open.

Prof. Mwinyihija Mwinyikione, Executive Director of ALLPI, gave a climate setting presentation. He stressed the importance of interactive meeting and promoting cross fertilization of success models. In this respect he briefed forum participants on ALLPI facilitated academia experience sharing and benchmarking mission to Ege University Turkey and the lessons learned from that mission.

Other important points discussed as part of achieving sustainable regional leather sector development as well as challenges were:

- The concept of grading hides and skins using smart phones;
- Emphasis on vegetable tanning techniques to lower environmental impact and recovery of post-harvest losses;
- The management structures for clusters in Uganda using the EIFCCOS Cluster- Ethiopia model;
- Engagement with African standards Organization (ARSO) for development of standards in the leather sector;
- ALLPI's joint research activities with universities (Bahidar university-Ethiopia, Dedan Kimathi University of technology-Kenya, Makerere university-Uganda, SUST-Sudan, NUST-Zimbabwe);
- Importance of governments good will in the transformation of the leather sector- the Mauritius Government example;
- Tanning clinics-tanners to discuss with and benefit from the presence of Prof. Bahri Basaran and Dr. John Sundar to gain experience on cleaner production technologies;
- ALLPI's assistance in common effluent treatment plant design and consultation for Rwanda Sudan, Uganda, Eritrea;



- Importance of collaborating with Leather Working group (LWG) as they play a key role in access to market for leather products and influence the global standards;
- ALLPI has become knowledge-based institution through Council decision;
- ALLPI scientific journal “Journal for African Leather and Leather Products Advances” regular publication and invitation to members to contribute articles;
- Leather design studio funding mechanism and supports obtained from Arab Bank for the Development of Africa (BADEA) and the COMESA-RISM Program- Eg. Burundi, Eritrea, Kenya, Malawi, Uganda, Sudan, Rwanda, Zambia, Zimbabwe;
- IULTCS, WLC, 2021 Congress in Ethiopia.

Prof. Mwinyihija also raised technical and technological issues with respect to skills development, design and intellectual property, curriculum harmonization, standards harmonization and local content. He hailed Kyambogo university for organizing “Academic and Practical Skills Inter-University Conference (APSIC 2019) in collaboration with ALLPI; a conference targeting SMEs.

## Leather Sector Core Team Presentation

The Chairperson of the Regional Leather Sector Core Team (RLSCT), Mrs. Nalina Rupani (R.I.P) gave a progress report based on the 12<sup>th</sup> regional consultative meeting recommendations. She first discussed matters that were rose during the 2018 consultative forum but needing further follow-up. This was followed by the report of the progress made to address the recommendations of the 2018 RLSCT/ Consultative forum.

## SMEs Technical Committee Presentations

The Secretary of the SMEs Technical Committee, Ms. Stabile Mlilo, after giving brief highlight on the background of SME’s committee, reported on the achievements and challenges of the SME technical committee. She gave a report on two countries; Zimbabwe and Zambia. She stressed the need to have the chairperson of the SME technical committee which fell vacant following the demise of the late Mr. Simon Nganga’. It was agreed that the election of the chairperson be done by SMES during the focus group meeting on 12/12/2019.

## Mini Exhibition

ALLPI facilitated and sponsored the participation of SMEs drawn from the following 11 countries: Burundi, DR Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Sudan, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Zambia in 2019 Consultative forum and showcase their products during the three-day duration of the event.

The general objective of the mini exhibition was to bring together the leather and leather product producers to share experiences and present new developments of their products along the leather value chain. The event was also meant to get feedback from the technocrats who were participating in the forum with respect to their

level of competitiveness in the national, regional and global markets.

The Guest of Honour, Hon. Salim Ibrahim Bagus, Minister for Industry, trade and Tourism toured the stands of the mini exhibition and appreciated the products in the display. During the visit, the Executive Director of ALLPI, Prof. Mwinyikione Mwinyihija indicated that SMEs should be innovative and strive to develop new products to increase their

competitiveness regionally and globally.

Products displayed in the mini-exhibition included, footwear, leather articles and finished leather. The qualities of the products were appreciated by the forum participants and a number of products were also sold during the event. Enterprises/SMEs also took the opportunity to exchange experience between them and establish linkages for sourcing inputs like finished leather.



2019 Consultative forum and showcase their products during the three-day duration of the event.

## Country Reports

All member countries made presentations gave highlights on their respective leather sector strategic objectives activities, achievements, challenges and way forwards as summarized here below country by country.

### Group Discussions SMEs Group

The SME group discussion started with election of new SME committee members with the Chairperson Ms. Stabile Mulilo (Zimbabwe) and Secretary Mr. Yoram Atuhamize (Uganda).

The members the SMEs group also had made intensive discussions and highlighted the following recommendations:

- Have regular committee meetings for strategic planning;
- Have separate meetings independent of the consultative forums;
- Make the training and learning manuals accessible to the MSMES;
- Have representations on the committee from all the Member States;
- Internalize our MSME mandate to come up with Strategic objectives;
- Identify funding opportunities for MSMES – Loans with single digit rates, Grants etc.;
- Establish Physical Market Points in the Member States;
- Create Physical Sales points for leather products – Case study Kenya;
- The e-commerce platform being pursued be actualized to cater for even the micro business through clusters like Kariokor;
- Build entrepreneurs capacity in the management and leadership of the MSMES;
- Negotiate with respective member states to bring Police, Army and Prisons footwear orders to clusters for production.





## Tannery Group

The tannery group meeting had deliberations and came up with the following recommendations:

- Extension services to be put into place in collaboration with concerned departments for livestock upkeep targeting the nurturing of high-quality hides and skins yield at the time of slaughtering.
- Digital grading application as suggested by Solidaridad to be fully explored so as to ensure function ability and compatibility.
- Government certification of slaughterhouses need to be initiated/enforced so as to ensure accountability which would register any animal slaughtered and subsequently enable hide and skin tracking for; farmer incentive rewards and app initiatives (ref Solidaridad).
- Proper training of flayers be carried out and receive certificate for ensuring that only those gained appropriate skills are permitted to carry out the slaughterhouse chores in quest to:
  - ✓ Yield high standard quality hides and skins.
  - ✓ Carry out immediate cleaning and preservation for long-term storage
- All beam house, tan yard and finishing yards must carry out all processes ensuring total in - house cleaner production compatibility in tandem with Leather Working Group (LWG) stipulation at all times.
- It is finally proposed that African tanneries must put in place full-fledged waste water pretreatment plant working at allowable minimum town council discharge levels (originating from stringent in-house green technological application).
- Proper volumetric capacity with up to date stage by stage calibrated dosages must be instituted with the assistance of renowned experts accordingly (ref UV Enterprise).
- They proposed that a supplier like Gruppo Biokimica could be engaged to supply ingredients for African uniformity purpose ensuring well tested results are achieved for high standard Wet blue, Crust and Finished leather.



## Academia Group

The following are the recommendations of the Academia group after thorough discussion:

- Clusters of SMEs and associations involve Academia in their respective countries or region.
- ALLPI to facilitate the research results/findings coming out from Academia to be translated in to policy briefs and or some tangible interventions that could be trickled down to SMEs.
- Creation of research database to minimize unnecessary duplication.
- Joint development of project proposals that could be submitted to potential development partners.
- Sharing of experiences by visitation among institutions.
- Universities share their programs this will help to know which institutions is doing what.
- Creation of whatsapp group to enhance linkages between members.
- Twinning programs between Universities.
- Students exchange programs be it under joint training programs (sandwich programs) or experience sharing activities.
- Technology transfer be focused on those tested and approved for impact
- Set a sub committee composed of Prof. Sitwala Mundia and Mrs. Diana Nitamu to lead the resource mobilization effort.
- Resource mobilized under such initiative be managed under ALLPI.
- Joint development of project proposals to be submitted for calls like Erasmus.



## Public Sector Group

The Public Sector Group discussed and deliberated on a number of issues and came with the following recommendations:

- Review the national leather value chain strategies.
- Capacity building at all stages of the leather value chain.
- Curriculum alignment.
- Improve the quality of design through Satellite design studios and regional design studio.
- Create ToT pool at all leather value chain segments.
- Facilitate the awareness creation on Leather Working Group.
- The internal supply chain of raw hides and skins.
- Investment promotion.
- Implementation of effluent waste treatment system.
- Support the Industrial development Centers.
- Support R&D, quality assurance bodies and reference centers.



## New Strategic Direction of ALLPI

The 39th Meeting of the COMESA Council of Ministers (Lusaka, Zambia, 2018) recommended that ALLPI Pursues a specialized Institution status under CFTA and tripartite structure.

Forum participants were also informed that the 3rd Meeting of the Ministerial Committee on Industry discussed the report of ALLPI, and made decisions as follows: The Ministers urged ALLPI to:

- become a knowledge and innovation-based institution to support SMEs and to enhance their competitiveness;
- adopt E-commerce and to strengthen the trade portal currently in use by linking it with other regional platforms.



## E-Commerce

ALLPI, as part of the COMESA Council of Ministers decision for it to adopt E-commerce and Strengthen its Trade Portal by linking with other Regional Platforms, is establishing collaboration with a Canada based company called Africa E Trade Group. Mr. Muluaem Syoum, CEO of the AeTrade Group made presentation to the Forum participants through Skype. He took the participants through the details of the contents of an E-Commerce platform. The discussion and interaction between the participants and the CEO of The AeTrade Group on the introduction of E-commerce platform in Africa created a lot of interest among the participants. It was proposed that the platform will be launched in

February 2020. The Platform will play a pivot role by providing and facilitating the market access to SMEs in Africa. A number of issues ranging from quality of products, internet connectivity, mode of payments and logistics were discussed. The AeTrade Group promised to give a report to ALLPI for onward transmission to member countries on acceptance of the platform.

The vote of thanks was given by Ms. Beatrice Mwasi. She thanked all the participants for their commitments. Thanked ALLPI for facilitating the forum and providing the leadership in developing the leather sector in the member states.



### The 11<sup>th</sup> EDF Regional Enterprise Competitiveness and Access to Market (RECAMP) Program-through COMESA Secretariat





Funny Moments of the ALLPI Annual Consultative Forum 2019, Lilongwe, Malawi



# Greening the Leather Value chain



**IULTCS Congress**  
**XXXVI**  
**2021 - Africa**

**3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> November, 2021**

**Congress President:**  
**Prof. (Dr<sup>5</sup>) Mwinyikione Mwinyihija**



**International Union of Leather  
Technologists and Chemists Societies**

**Host & Organizer**



**Africa Leather and Leather  
Products Institute - ALLPI**  
Leather for Health, Wealth and Luxury!

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**Trade and Fairs  
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**Ministry of Trade  
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**Ethiopian Leather  
Industry Development  
Institute**

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World Heritage Sites in Ethiopia