

## ITGA - ZICFU Input

Tobacco production in Zimbabwe is the largest foreign currency earner and contributes about 12 % of the National GDP. Zimbabwe produced 265 million kilograms in 2023-2024 season from the previous record breaking total of 297 million kilograms.

Most Zimbabwean farmers, irregardless of the land size are producing the best quality compared to any other tobacco producing countries in the world.

Zimbabwe heavily relies on tobacco production and tobacco industry which employs a significant number of people. Most families in the farms rely on tobacco production as an export crop and source of income.

ZICFU and other tobacco producers are facing economic, social and environmental challenges in the tobacco industry ie Price distortion, Climate change, High cost of production, Shortage of electricity. The farmers, ITGA together with governments and the population at large is engaged in the tree planting programs to mitigate on sustainable production of tobacco in the world, with ITGA providing the tobacco industry's voice.

It is of paramount importance to engage on more mitigatory measures to ensure tobacco production continuity through an international organization where ITGA plays an important role to lobby and advocate for sustainable continuity of the tobacco fraternity in the world.

HAPPY ITGA 40th ANNIVERSARY