



# African Organisation For Standardisation



## - Managing Product Quality Environment for Agro-Exports -

**Dr. Hermogene Nsengimana,  
Secretary General, ARSO  
Chairperson, PAQI**





ARSO

# 1. INTRODUCTION





# ARSO MISSION

## Facilitate intra-African and global trade



**ARSO is**  
**intergovernmental**  
**organization established in**  
**1977 by OAU (currently**  
**AU) and UNECA**

through **harmonized standards**  
**and conformity system**

*ARSO*

  
 OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN  
 SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL  
 THE CASTLE  
 OSU, ACCRA  
 REPUBLIC OF GHANA

CONSTITUTION OF THE AFRICAN REGIONAL ORGANISATION FOR STANDARDISATION

INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION

WHEREAS a Constitution of the African Regional Organisation for standardisation was adopted at the Founding Conference held in Accra from 10th - 17th January, 1977.

AND WHEREAS it is provided in the said Constitution that ratification thereto shall be effected by the Chairman of the Supreme Military Council of the Republic of Ghana, acting in accordance with the provisions of the said Constitution, and the Chairman of the Supreme Military Council of the Republic of Ghana, acting in accordance with the provisions of the said Constitution, do hereby certify that the said Constitution of the African Regional Organisation for standardisation has been duly ratified by the Executive Secretary of Economic Commission for Africa.

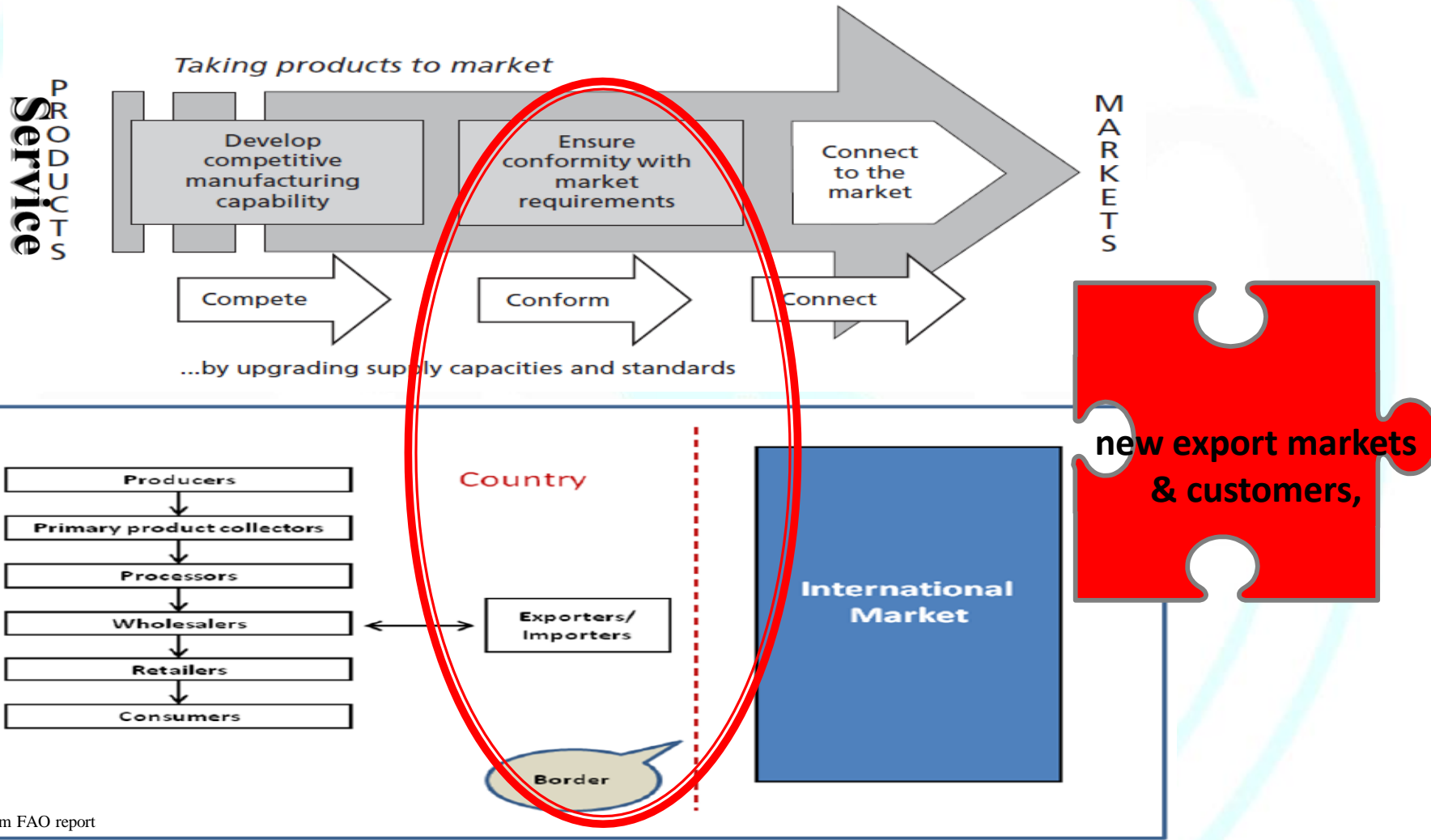
IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Chairman of the Supreme Military Council of the Republic of Ghana, acting in accordance with the provisions of the said Constitution, has hereunto set his hand and seal at Accra this 22nd day of August, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Seven (1977).

  
 GENERAL IGNATIUS KUTU ACHEAMPONG  
 HEAD OF STATE AND CHAIRMAN OF THE SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL



# STANDARDS IMPROVE AGRO-EXPORT

## ...improved value chain–new market



From FAO report



# Areas of SMEs Growth-Using standards





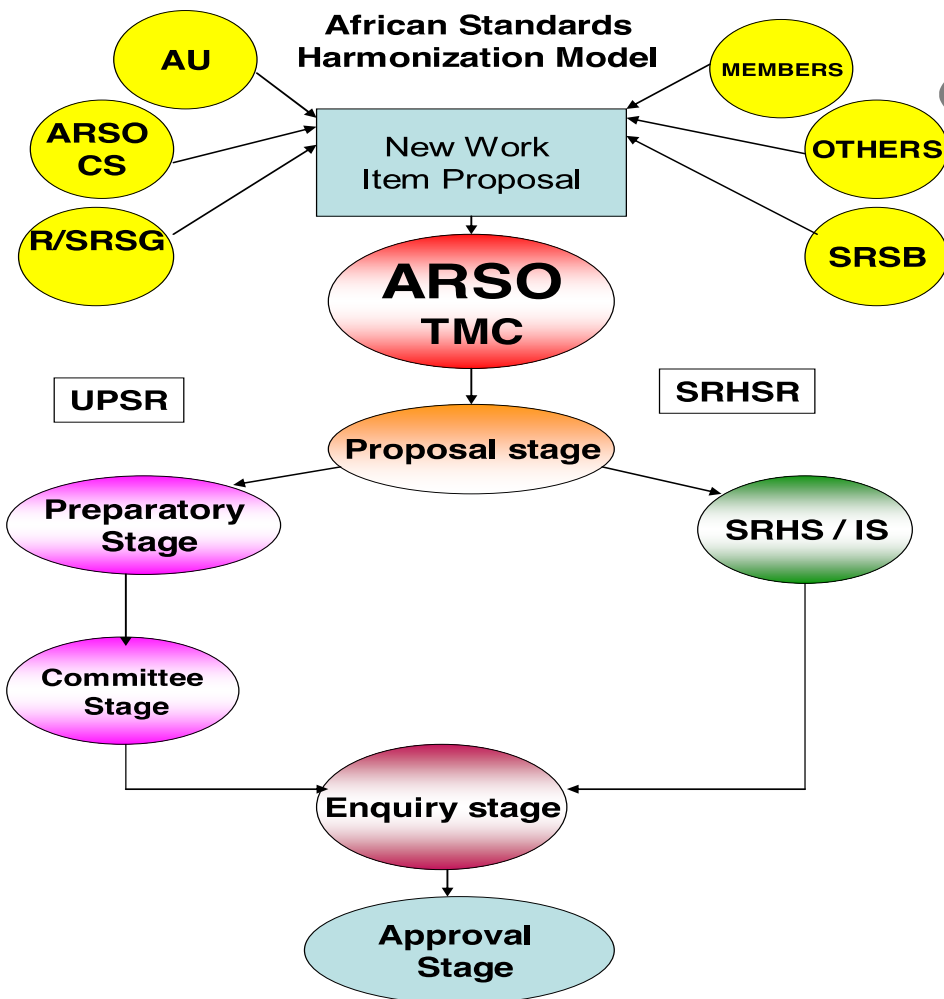
ARSO

## 2. GOOD PRACTICE





# 2.1 PARTICIPATION IN STANDARDS SETTING



Knowledge & know how sharing

1. **ARSO/THC 02, Agriculture and Food Products**
2. **Capacity building – participation in Standards setting**

competitive products and service





# 2.2 Outreach Materials–Standards into use



**ARS GAPM 17:2018**  
**Good Agricultural Practices Outreach Information for African Standards on Fresh Pineapples**



# PINEAPPLE

### SOIL TYPES AND SITE SELECTION

Pineapple varieties can be cultivated in different soil types. The texture of the soils selected for best performance are: clay loam, loam and sandy loam. The chemical and physical properties of selected soils must be analyzed and results interpreted to eliminate risky conditions that could affect future production. Although the nutritional value of the soil is very important, in the selection of the land it is more important to value the physical characteristics of the soil profile and the location of the area for planting.

Soils with high acidity favor the development of the fungus and they should be avoided for planting. The same occurs when soils are alkaline. Ideally soils selected for best production should have a pH that ranges from 5.0 to 6.5. Soils with pH 4 or below and with pH 7 or above should never be considered for planting. The pH should be measured every 3 to 4 years and corrective measures should be taken by using lime if necessary (COLEACP 2013).



SOIL TYPES AND SITE SELECTION – Avoid soils with high acidity

**MATURITY**

The pineapples must have reached an appropriate degree of maturity and ripeness in accordance with criteria proper to the variety and to the area in which they are grown. The skin color can be green, provided the minimum maturity requirements are met.

ARS GAPM 17:2018 PINEAPPLES

**MATURITY REQUIREMENTS**

The pineapples must have reached an appropriate degree of maturity and ripeness.

ARS GAPM 17:2018 PINEAPPLES

### TEMPERATURE

Effective precooling before loading is essential for reliable transport of pineapple.

- A truck or container should not be used to cool pineapple down. At best, it can only reliably maintain pineapple at the loading temperature.
- During loading and unloading, the load should spend as little time as possible in non-refrigerated conditions.

### AIR FLOW

Good air flow during transport is essential to prevent the vehicle/ container warming the pineapple.



Never use trucks that were previously used to transport animals or other contaminated materials. **NOT ALLOWED**



For food safety measures, avoid body contact with Pineapple. **NOT ALLOWED**

ARS GAPM 17:2018 PINEAPPLES



**RUBBER SHOES** Rubber shoes should always be worn when entering the production area.



**RUBBER BOOTS AND DISINFECT FOOTWEAR** Care workers must wash their boots to avoid contamination before entering the production area.







Reasons for contravention	Number	%
Food additives	2	1%
Pesticide residues	0	0%
Heavy metals	1	0%
<b>Mould</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>Microbiological contamination</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>41%</b>
<b>Decomposition</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>Filth</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>18%</b>
Low acid canned foods	4	1%
<b>Labelling</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>13%</b>
Other	51	17%
Total	303	100%

**Value addition products & services**

**product safety**

# Rejection of Agri-product

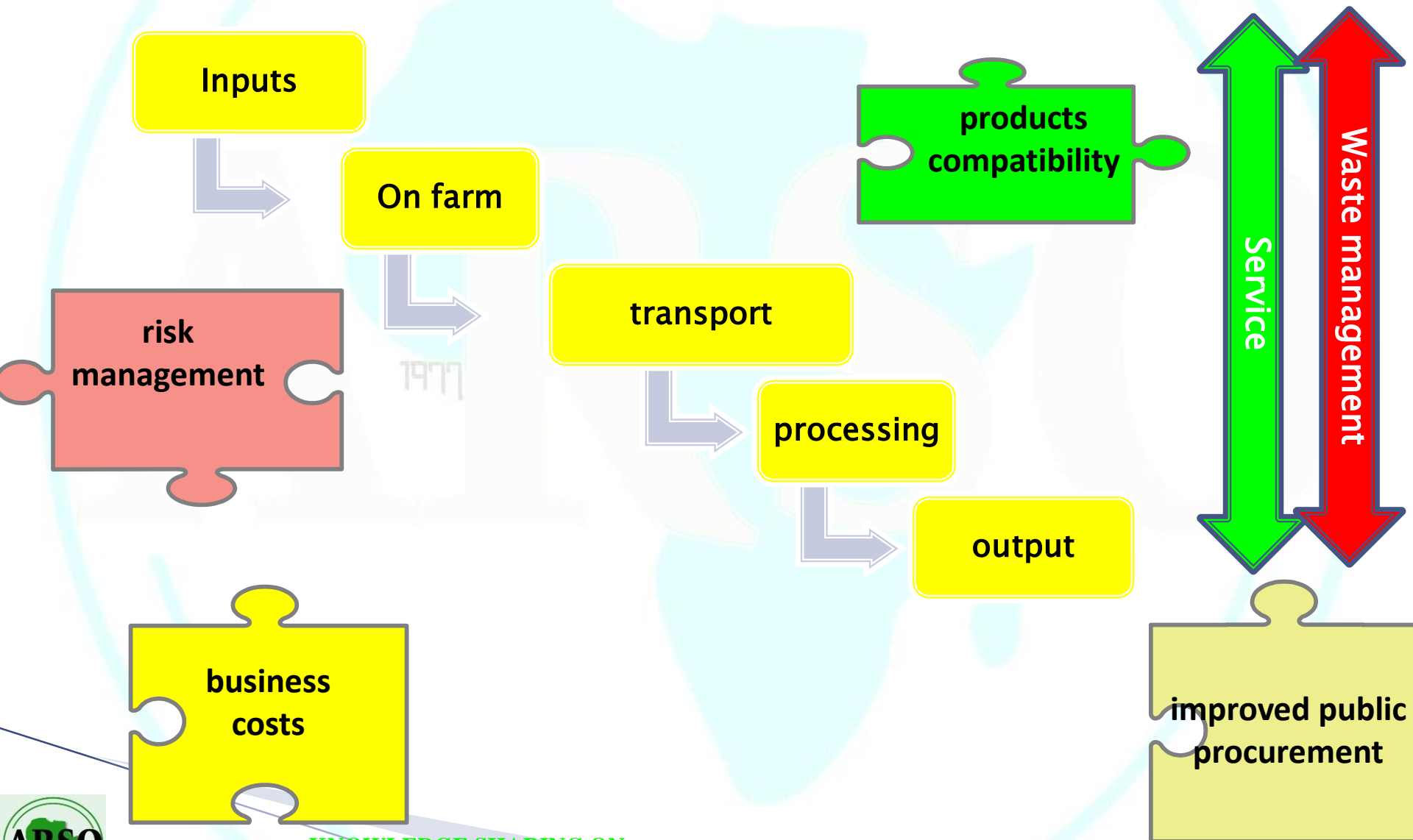
**68% non compliance to relatively less costly -safety standards like food hygiene-**

**compliance with regulations**



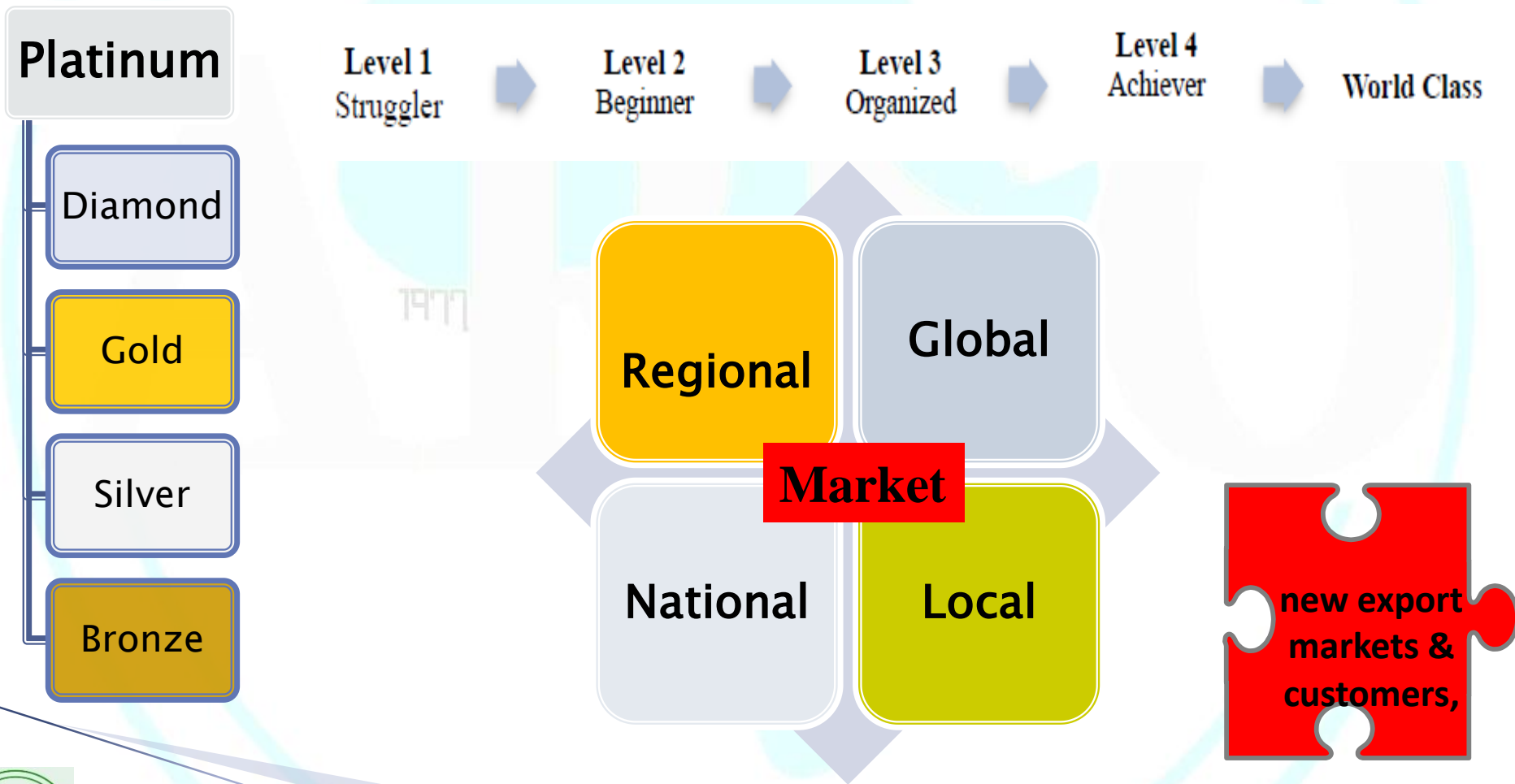


# 2.3 Maturity model - act on value chain



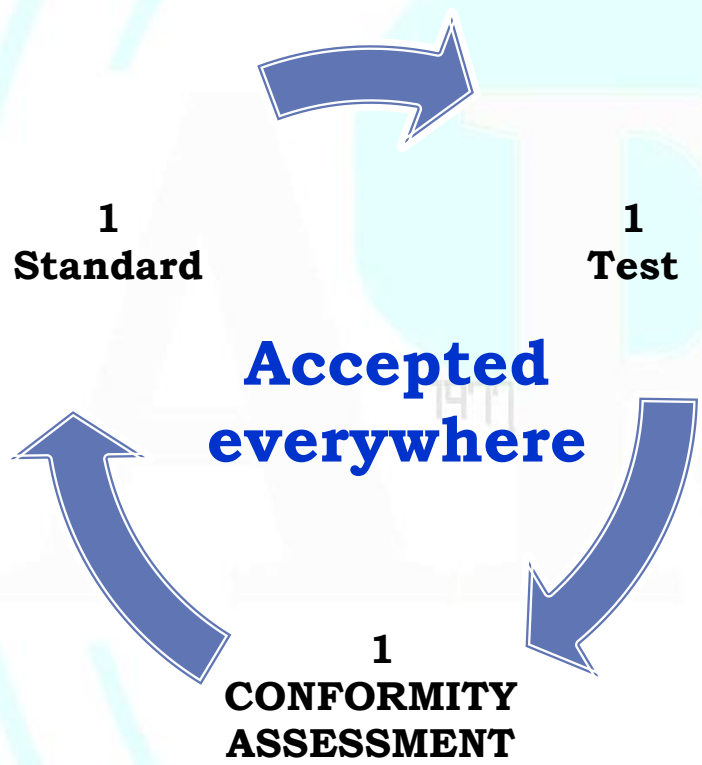


# ...supporting SMEs-maturity model





# Mutual recognition – ARSO CACO



**1-1-1 principle**





# 2.4.Rebranding our products – ECOMARK



AFRICAN ECO-LABELLING ARS/AES  
STANDARD 01  
First Edition 2014

Agriculture — Sustainability and eco-labelling — Requirements



Reference No. ARS/AES 01:2014(E)  
ICS 67.040  
© ARSO 2014

AFRICAN ECO-LABELLING ARS/AES  
STANDARD 02  
First Edition 2014

Fisheries — Sustainability and eco-labelling — Requirements



Reference No. ARS/AES 02:2014(E)  
ICS 67.040  
© ARSO 2014



ARS GAPM 08:2018  
Good Agricultural Practices Outreach Information for  
African Standards on Sustainable Agriculture



## SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

## EMA Certification

IP: Registered in EUIPO and WIPO

1. Agriculture
2. Fisheries
3. Tourism
4. Forestry





# 2.5. Mobilisation and awareness creation

- 1. Private sectors – Cost and financial benefits
- 2. Decision makers – Benefits of standards

Country	Revenue generated/ USD	Sales revenue %
Egypt	12 M (2010)	3.3
Cameroun	1.96 M	5.2

Benefits of standards in agri-business-source ISO



# Conclusion

- ▶ **Engage and be involved** in standardisation work – Capacity building of SMEs
- ▶ **Make it usable** – Outreach materials
- ▶ **Respond to current issues – Rebranding** – sustainability standards
- ▶ **Don't frustrate – Help to grow** – Maturity Model
- ▶ **Don't stop talking** – Mobilisation and awareness creation



**Learn, Unlearn And Relearn: How To Stay Current And Get Ahead, by Margie Warrell**



*Me daa si*

*Asante*

*Merci beaucoup!*

*Thank you!*

شكرا

*Muito obrigado!*

