

/	MODULE 1:	Structure of Agriculture and Agricultural Policies	
	LESSON 5:	Maximizing Benefits from and influencing Agricultural Policies	
	TIME:	96 minutes	
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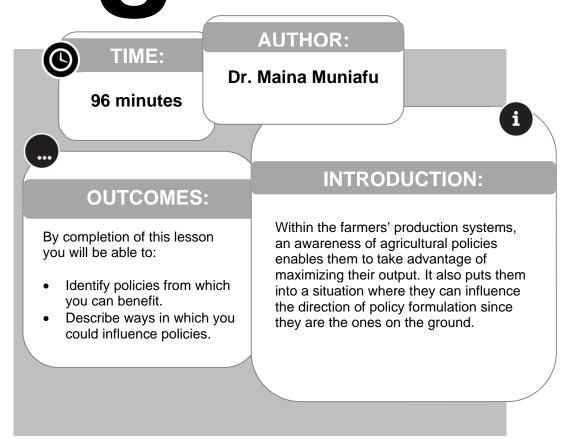




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INFLUENCING AGRICULTURAL POLICIES



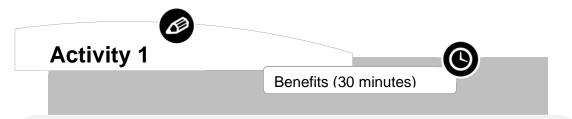
LESSON

IDENTIFICATION OF BENEFICIAL POLICIES

Once again we will study the two case study videos to assist in the identification of policies that the two farmers, Simon and Beatrice, could have taken advantage of. We need to identify the limitations or barriers to success that they are facing and then consider how they could have surmounted them through a proper application of the policies.



Access the case study video from the course CD ROM under Resources Index | Module 1 | Lesson 5 | Case Study

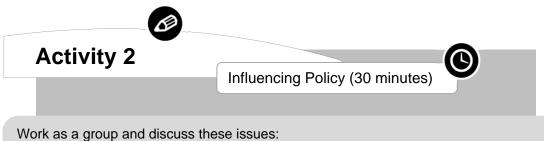


Review the case study video and also consider the policy documents you have already discussed in Lesson 4 and then:

- 1. Identify possible beneficial policies for farmers Simon and Beatrice.
- 2. Point out ways in which ways the policies might either enhance or limit production.

INFLUENCING OF AGRICULTURAL POLICIES

Agricultural policy development is not done in a vacuum. Policy writers within the various ministries need information, ideas and strategies that reflect the reality of the sector and then consider how these strategies might support national priorities. They get this data from sector stakeholders of which one group, farmers, is of considerable significance. Consequently, farmers who gain prominence through their excellence in farming activities have a chance to influence agricultural policies.



- 1. In what ways might Simon and Beatrice influence policies in their regions?
- 2. How might the members of the group put themselves in a position to influence policy?

Conclusion

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Perhaps you can now see that policy development is dynamic and ever changing according to the needs of the country and particularly the needs of agricultural stakeholders. However, there are always competing interests in the sector, so it is important that farmers act proactively to ensure that their voice is heard. The methods mentioned here should give you some ideas of how this might be achieved in your region.