

AGCOT - Transitioned from SAGCOT

# AGCOT's Digital Policy Framework

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### **Privacy Policy**

Introduction

We at AGCOT Centre respect your privacy and are committed to protecting it through our compliance with this policy. This policy describes the types of information we may collect from you or that you may provide when you visit our website and our practices for collecting, using, maintaining, protecting, and disclosing that information.

Information Collection and Use

- Personal Information: Detailed explanation of the personal information collected (e.g., names, email addresses, telephone numbers) and its specific use (e.g., communication, updates, service enhancement).
- Non-Personal Information: Description of non-personal data collected (e.g., browser type, time of visit) and its use in improving website performance and user experience.
- Use of Information: Clear outline on how information collected is utilized to benefit users, including service improvement, personalized experiences, and communication of relevant agricultural initiatives.

Data Protection

- Security Measures: Elaboration on the security technologies and procedures used to protect user data from unauthorized access, use, or disclosure.
- Data Retention and Disposal: Information on how long personal data is kept and the measures taken for its secure disposal when no longer needed.

### **Terms of Use**

#### Introduction

These terms of use are entered into by and between You and the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania ("AGCOT"). The following terms and conditions govern your

access to and use of AGCOT.co.tz, including any content, functionality, and services offered on or through AGCOT.co.tz.

Acceptance of the Terms of Use

By using the website, you accept and agree to be bound and abide by these Terms of Use and our Privacy Policy, incorporated herein by reference. If you do not want to agree to these Terms of Use or the Privacy Policy, you must not access or use the website.

Changes to the Terms of Use

We may revise and update these Terms of Use from time to time in our sole discretion. All changes are effective immediately when we post them.

Accessing the Website and Account Security

We reserve the right to withdraw or amend this website, and any service or material we provide on the website, in our sole discretion without notice.

### **Cookie Policy for AGCOT.co.tz**

#### Introduction

Welcome to AGCOT.co.tz. Our website uses cookies to distinguish you from other users of our site. This not only helps us to provide you with a good experience when you browse our website but also enables us to improve our site. By continuing to browse the site, you are agreeing to our use of cookies.

#### What Are Cookies

Cookies are small files of letters and numbers that we store on your browser or the hard drive of your computer if you agree. Cookies contain information that is transferred to your computer's hard drive.

Cookies serve various purposes, including helping us to improve our website and providing a better and more personalized service. They enable us:

- To estimate our audience size and usage pattern.
- To store information about your preferences, allowing us to customize our site according to your individual interests.
- To speed up your searches.
- To recognize you when you return to our site.

# How We Use Cookies

We use cookies to improve the functionality of our website and your experience when using it. Cookies used on our website are grouped into the following categories:

Essential Cookies: These are necessary for the operation of our website. They include, for example, cookies that enable you to log into secure areas of our website.

Analytical/Performance Cookies: They allow us to recognize and count the number of visitors and to see how visitors move around our website when they are using it. This helps us to improve the way our website works, for example, by ensuring that users find what they are looking for easily.

Functionality Cookies: These are used to recognize you when you return to our website. This enables us to personalize our content for you, greet you by name, and remember your preferences (for example, your choice of language or region). Targeting Cookies: These cookies record your visit to our website, the pages you have visited, and the links you have followed. We will use this information to make our website and the advertising displayed on it more relevant to your interests.

### **Examples of Cookie Use**

- Site Navigation: Cookies allow us to remember your preferences and past actions, making your next visit smoother and more tailored to your interests.
- Preferences: Remembering settings you've applied, such as layout, text size, preferences, and colors.
- Enhancement: Cookies help enhance the performance and functionality of our website, making your experience more efficient and personalized.

### **Managing Cookies**

You have the right to decide whether to accept or reject cookies. You can exercise your cookie preferences by setting your browser to accept or reject cookies.

If you choose to reject cookies, you may still use our website though your access to some functionality and areas of our website may be restricted. As the means by which you can refuse cookies through your web browser controls vary from browser to browser, you should visit your browser's help menu for more information.

For further information on how to manage and delete cookies, visit aboutcookies.org.

### **Changes to Our Cookie Policy**

We may update this Cookie Policy from time to time in response to changing legal, technical, or business developments. When we update our Cookie Policy, we will take appropriate measures to inform you, consistent with the significance of the changes we make.

By using our website, you consent to our Cookie Policy and agree to its terms.

# **Accessibility Policy for AGCOT**

#### **Our Commitment to Accessibility**

At the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (AGCOT), we are deeply committed to ensuring digital accessibility for people with disabilities. We understand the importance of creating an inclusive digital environment that accommodates all users, regardless of their physical or cognitive abilities. Our commitment is to continually enhance the user experience for everyone, adhering to the latest accessibility standards and guidelines to ensure we provide equal access to our digital content and services.

#### **Efforts to Support Accessibility**

AGCOT is dedicated to making its website accessible and user-friendly for everyone. To achieve this, we have implemented several measures:

- Accessible Website Design: Our website is designed and developed in accordance with the internationally recognized Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 at the AA level. These guidelines outline how to make web content more accessible to people with a wide array of disabilities, including mobility impairments, visual impairments, hearing impairments, and cognitive disorders.
- Staff Training: We believe that accessibility starts with a knowledgeable team. As such, we provide regular training for our staff on accessibility and inclusive design principles. This ensures that our content is developed and maintained with accessibility in mind from the ground up.
- Feedback Mechanisms: Feedback is crucial to continuous improvement. We offer several ways for users to report accessibility issues or barriers they encounter. User feedback helps us identify areas that need improvement and prioritize accessibility enhancements.

# **Continuous Improvement**

Recognizing the dynamic nature of digital accessibility standards and the diversity of our user base, AGCOT is committed to a process of continuous improvement. We regularly review our website and digital platforms against the latest accessibility standards and guidelines to identify areas for enhancement. Our goal is to make our digital content usable by as wide an audience as possible, including those with disabilities.

- Regular Reviews and Updates: Our accessibility practices, including website design and content creation processes, are reviewed and updated on a regular basis. This ensures our digital platforms remain accessible, incorporating the latest technologies and methodologies in accessible design.
- Engagement with Accessibility Experts: To ensure our efforts are as effective as possible, we engage with accessibility experts for regular audits and consultations. This helps us stay abreast of best practices in accessibility and implement necessary changes efficiently.
- Community Engagement: We actively seek input from our community, including people with disabilities, on how to improve our accessibility. This engagement is vital to understanding the diverse needs of our users and making meaningful enhancements to our services.

### **Contact Information**

We are always looking to improve the accessibility of our digital platforms. If you encounter any accessibility barriers or have suggestions on how we can improve, please contact us at:

- Email: webmaster@AGCOT.co.tz
- Feedback Form: [Google Form]

Your feedback is invaluable to us as we strive to accommodate all our users and ensure a positive, inclusive experience for everyone

# **Data Protection and Security Policy**

Our Approach to Data Protection and Security AGCOT is fully committed to protecting the security and privacy of your data. This section outlines our approach to data protection, including how we implement data security measures and comply with applicable data protection regulations.

Incident Response and Notification

Procedure for responding to data breaches or security incidents, including timely notification to affected individuals and relevant authorities in line with legal requirements and best practices.

Detailed measures are taken to protect the data of newsletter subscribers, including secure storage, encryption, and restricted access. This subsection reassures subscribers of their data's security and the organization's commitment to privacy.

# **Content and Social Media Policy for AGCOT**

#### Introduction

The Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (AGCOT) is committed to providing valuable, accurate, and respectful content through its digital platforms, including websites and social media channels. Our Content and Social Media Policy outlines our approach to content creation, moderation, and user engagement on social media platforms. This policy ensures our communications are beneficial to our audience and reflect AGCOT's values and mission. Note we follow AGCOT Centre Ltd. Internal Policy for Media Document Publication.

### **Content Creation, Moderation, and Use**

#### **Content Creation**

- Accuracy and Integrity: All content created for AGCOT's digital platforms is researched and developed with accuracy and integrity. We strive to provide up-to-date and factual information that supports our mission and serves the interests of our stakeholders.
- Respect and Inclusivity: Content will be respectful, inclusive, and devoid of any discrimination, harassment, or offensive material. We aim to foster a positive and supportive community.

#### **Content Moderation**

- Monitoring: AGCOT monitors content posted to its digital platforms, including user-generated content such as comments and forum posts, to ensure it aligns with our policies.
- Removal of Inappropriate Content: We reserve the right to remove any content that is deemed inappropriate, offensive, or in violation of our guidelines. This includes, but is not limited to, hate speech, spam, promotional material, and content that infringes on intellectual property rights.

#### Use of Content

• Sharing and Reproduction: Content published by AGCOT on its digital platforms can be shared by users, provided that it is attributed correctly and not used for commercial purposes. Reproduction of content for other uses requires explicit permission from AGCOT.

#### **Engagement on Social Media**

#### Approach to Engagement

• AGCOT actively engages with users on social media platforms to share information, respond to inquiries, and participate in conversations relevant to our mission. We encourage positive and constructive dialogue.

User Conduct

- Expectations: Users are expected to engage in respectful and constructive communication. We encourage open discussions and diverse opinions, provided they are expressed courteously.
- Feedback and Criticism: AGCOT is open to feedback and constructive criticism and will engage in dialogue with users to address concerns and improve our operations.

# **Responsibility for Content**

- AGCOT's Content: AGCOT takes full responsibility for the content it publishes across its digital platforms. We commit to accuracy, relevance, and respectfulness in all our communications.
- User-Generated Content: While we encourage user engagement and participation, AGCOT is not liable for content generated by users. Such content does not necessarily reflect the views or values of AGCOT.

### **Engagement and Conduct**

- Moderation Rights: AGCOT reserves the right to moderate, edit, or remove any content that violates our policies or is deemed harmful to our community.
- Reporting Inappropriate Content: Users are encouraged to report any content that they believe violates this policy. AGCOT will review all reports and take appropriate action.

#### **Newsletter Subscription:**

Users have the option to subscribe to our newsletter for regular updates on agricultural practices, sustainability initiatives, and news from AGCOT. To subscribe, users must provide an email address. This section details how we use that information solely to deliver the newsletter, the frequency of newsletters, and how users can unsubscribe at any time, thereby ensuring transparency and user control over personal information.

#### **Standard Practice Disclaimers**

Content Accuracy and Timeliness: AGCOT strives to ensure the accuracy and timeliness of the information provided on its website; however, the organization cannot guarantee that all information is always complete, accurate, or up-to-date. Users are advised to verify critical information directly with AGCOT before making decisions based on the content found on the site.

External Links: The AGCOT website may contain links to external sites not operated by AGCOT. These links are provided for convenience and informational purposes only. AGCOT is not responsible for the content or privacy practices of these external sites.

No Warranty: The website and its content are provided "as is" without any warranties of any kind, either express or implied, including but not limited to, implied warranties of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, or non-infringement.

Limitation of Liability: AGCOT shall not be liable for any damages whatsoever arising out of or related to the use of its website or the information contained within it, including direct, indirect, incidental, consequential, or punitive damages.

User Responsibility: By accessing the website, users agree to bear all risks associated with the use of any content, including reliance on the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of such content.