

**Private Sector Round Table**

**Key Challenges by private sector**

1. Lack of supporting service industry
  - All equipment and parts are imported
  - Professional services like mechanical, electrical not readily available
  - Leading to processing industry to provide every requirement
2. High labour cost per unit produced
  - Labour efficiency
  - Cost per unit produced is higher than Far East
3. Minimum State Support
  - Governments are slow to act
4. No value for the bi-products
  - CNSL – leading to more refined products for higher value
  - Testa

**State Intervention**

1. Export Levy on RCN
  - It is argued that the introduction of export levy will lower the income for the farmers, this is rather short-sighted.
  - Levy must be transparent and re-invest in the industry.
  - Possible division of levy – equal shares to:
    - Low interest funding for farmers
    - Low interest funding for processors
    - Fund for the Industry regulator
    - Central Government.
2. Export Rebate for processed cashew – the funding can be from the export levy on RCN
3. Percentage of RCN exported must be sold to local processors, failure will attract extra levy
4. To properly license the RCN traders
5. Possibility to set up market days at various locations to facilitate the selling of RCN, traders are not allowed to go directly to farmers to buy. This will help the farmers to get a better and transparent price as well as easier to monitor.

**Private Sector approach**

1. Possibility to work closely with Far East Processors
2. Possibility to act as partial Toll Processing for Far East Processors
3. When large percentage of RCN is processed or partial processed locally, it will create more service industry, value for the by-products etc.