

Africa Food Systems Forum 2025

Program Synopsis

Overview:

The African continent is a 1.2-billion-person market and will reach 2 billion by 2050. It has the youngest population in the world with more than 400 million young people between the ages of 15 and 35 years. Africa is undeniably a vast land of opportunities with 60% of arable land, abundant water resources, rich ecosystems, 365 days of solar, young vibrant population and cheap labour. However, the continent still faces various challenges (i.e. climate change, low investments in agri-food systems, infrastructure gaps, unskilled youth, land reforms, and fragmented agri-food policy) to create job opportunities for youth and women and ensure food and nutrition security. Hosted under the leadership of H.E. Bassirou Diomaye Diakhar FAYE, President of the Republic of Senegal, the Africa Food Systems Forum 2025 Summit will bring together public and private sector leaders, policymakers, researchers, development partners, and youth champions around the theme: **“Africa’s Youth Leading Collaboration, Innovation, and Implementation of Agri-Food Systems Transformation.”**

This year, the African Union launched the Kampala Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) with the aim to mobilize \$100 billion. The Summit will be a prime moment to meet the escalating challenge of food security in Africa and center African youth by honestly taking stock of our progress and integrating them into our political and financial commitments and innovations towards productive, nutritious, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable food systems.

At the end of the High-Level Summit, it is expected that commitments will be made by Heads of States to:

- **Presidential summit and declaration**
- **Communiqué on food systems from the ministerial**
- Country **Food Systems CAADP implementation with Ministerial declaration**
- MSMs and country Deals closed
- Sharing of best good practices/solutions and technologies to scale up

Young Leaders

To foster peer-to-peer learning and enduring friendships among the younger generation, the AFS Forum will convene events in the Youth Dome, feature youth speakers in all high-level discussions, hold the Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition, and launch platforms to intensify youth exchanges during and beyond the summit.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Teranga – Host Showcase and Facts of the Day

Rooted in Senegalese hospitality, the Teranga moment offers daily showcases of i) national innovation, culture, and food systems leadership ii) highlights of main food systems topic by practitioners. Morning briefings, technical and cultural moments highlight Senegal's and Africa's contributions to the Forum's goals, helping participants start each day with local context and inspiration and link with Africa's and global perspectives.

Plenary Sessions

Plenary sessions are the cornerstone of AFS Forum, bringing together high level distinguished African and global leaders, policymakers, researchers, and youth leaders to unpack critical challenges and opportunities shaping the continent's food systems. From state-of-the-sector vision, policy direction, governance, Investment and finance, nutrition, trade, and youth leadership, reports and strategic dialogues these sessions set the tone for each day, providing a platform for bold ideas, actions announcements, and collective reflection on the Forum's core theme.

Side Events

AFS Forum offers space for in-depth engagement on emerging topics and partners joint work, new partnerships, and sector-specific innovations. Hosted by thematic platforms as well as partners across government, business, academia, and civil society, these sessions enable targeted exchanges that contribute to the broader agenda while offering practical insights, launches, and collaborative opportunities.

Thematic Sessions

Organized around key priority themes, the thematic sessions serve as platforms for knowledge sharing, dialogue, and collaboration on key aspects of Africa's food systems transformation. These sessions create opportunities for actionable learning and idea exchange that feed into high-level deliberations and follow-up on themes such as women and youth in food systems, sustainability and climate, finance and accountability, digital innovation, trade and regional integration. The thematic sessions are integral to fostering continuous stakeholder engagement and driving progress aligned with the Forum's overarching goal of transforming Africa's food systems with a strong focus on youth leadership and collaboration.

Field Visits

To connect discussion with lived realities, AFS Forum will include curated field visits in Senegal. Delegates particularly investors and development partners will explore investable and scalable innovative startups, farmer cooperatives, agro-processing hubs, and innovative agritech projects, gaining firsthand insight into how Senegal is advancing food systems transformation at the grassroots level.

Thematic Forums

AFSF
PARTNERS



Stakeholder-specific forums—including the Researchers Forum, Civil Society Forum, Farmers Ministerial Roundtable, and Parliamentary Forum—allow like-minded groups to deliberate in focused formats. These invite collaboration, policy alignment, and network-building, and are critical for ensuring that all voices, from ministers to scientists, help shape Africa’s food future.

Youth Dome

The Youth Dome is designed to serve as a powerful launchpad for youth-led solutions that drive sustainable and inclusive food systems across Africa. This dynamic, interactive space will empower young voices, foster innovation, and provide crucial pathways for youth employment and the growth of agribusiness. This youth platform will showcase youth-led agribusinesses, startups, and digital solutions, connecting them to resources through youth-focused dialogues, GoGetta Live Pitches, capacity-building mentorships, an innovation showcase, and targeted networking opportunities.

Investment Room: Deal Room, B to B, and Legacy Programs

The Investment Room hosts, throughout the week, a high-impact matchmaking platform linking governments, SMEs, and investors to drive agricultural financing and partnerships. It also includes, Legacy Programs serve as flagship platforms for investment pledges, showcasing scalable national strategies and priority projects.

CEO Chats

CEO Chats are high-level exchanges where African business leaders, Youth leaders and global executives share perspectives on food systems innovation, finance, and inclusive growth. These interactive conversations spotlight leadership lessons, investment strategies, and inclusive practices, giving participants a direct line to influential decision-makers.

Agri-Food Expo

The Agri-Food Expo is the Forum’s vibrant exhibition zone, featuring different pavilions, private sector showcases, innovation pods, and startup booths. It is a space for networking, discovery, and collaboration—where ideas come to life through technology demonstrations, product and solutions launches, and interactive displays. The Expo also hosts the culinary village as well as the stage for the Arbre à Palabres.

L’Arbre à Palabres (Breakthroughs Tree)

This conversational stage brings together thought leaders, chefs, youth, and innovators in a relaxed setting to explore food systems “breakthroughs.” Through storytelling and dialogue, participants examine the cultural, scientific, and policy dimensions of Africa’s food future in a unique, inclusive atmosphere.

Culinary Village

At the Culinary Village, tradition meets innovation. Attendees enjoy live cooking demonstrations, tastings, and chef-led showcases of African ingredients and culinary heritage.

It's a celebration of food culture that highlights the nutritional, economic, and environmental importance of local diets and cuisines and links with sustainable production and consumption.

Knowledge Hub

The Knowledge Hub is a curated learning space offering reports, data dashboards, technical briefs, and research findings from across the continent. Delegates can access the latest intelligence supporting food systems transformation and engage with experts translating data into action. The Knowledge Hub will also host Masterclasses covering various topics that will offer hands-on support for young people, entrepreneurs, startups and governments.

Podcast Pod

The Podcast Pod records and broadcasts live interviews with speakers, youth leaders, and innovators, capturing the energy and insight of AFS Forum in real-time. Episodes will be distributed online to extend the Forum's reach and spark ongoing dialogue beyond Dakar.

TEDx

TEDx at AFS Forum brings the spirit of "ideas worth spreading" to food systems transformation. Featuring powerful talks from African youth, women leaders, and changemakers, this platform inspires bold action through personal stories, breakthrough innovations, and transformative visions for the continent.

AFSF Awards: Africa Food Prize, Gogettaz, WAYA

A key special moment of the week to celebrate African Excellence. The Awards ceremonies comprises the Africa Food Prize, the GoGettaz and Waya all taking place at different moment of the week. A prominent Award recognizing an outstanding individual or institution that is leading the effort to change the reality of farming in Africa with 100,000 USD Prize. The Gogettaz recognize youth entrepreneurs or entrepreneurial solutions, innovations sharing their experiences and driving conversations on the future of food systems from the frontlines. WAYA, an AGRA **prestigious award scheme** that recognizes female agripreneurs demonstrating remarkable Innovation and business excellence in agricultural value chains

Entrepreneurship Training and Master Classes

Designed to build practical skills and business acumen, master classes and training sessions offer hands-on support for young people, entrepreneurs and startups on food systems. Covering various topics, these sessions equip youth with the tools to succeed and grow within Africa's dynamic food sector.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW – MAIN PROGRAM

	Day 0 – 31 August	DAY 1 – 1 September	DAY 2 – 2 September	DAY 3 – 3 September	DAY 4 – 4 September	Day 5
8:00-8:30						
8:30-9:00			Side Events (x5) Oval Room Hall A Hall D Hall B PC Room	Side Events (x5) Oval Room Hall A Hall D Hall B PC Room	Side Events (x5) Oval Room Hall A Hall D Hall B PC Room	
9:00-9:30		Teranga – Host Showcase & Facts of the Day Main Hall				
9:30-10:00						
10:00-10:30		10:00-10:30 Plenary: Opening Ceremony	Teranga – Host Showcase & Facts of the Day Main Hall	Teranga – Host Showcase & Facts of the Day Main Hall	Teranga – Host Showcase & Facts of the Day Main Hall	
10:30-11:00		10:30-11:30 PLENARY: Opening Panel – Youth Town Hall		10:30 – 12:00 PLENARY: Governance of Food Systems Priority Actions and Investments to Implement CAADP Main Hall	10:30 – 12:00 PLENARY: Biodiversity, Climate and Land Making the Conventions work for Africa Main Hall	
11:00-11:30	Special Events	11:30-13:00 PLENARY: Presidential Summit – Delivering the African Food Systems Promise Main Hall	11:00 – 12:30 PLENARY: Empower Women in Agri-Food Systems Advancing Nutrition & Health Main Hall			
11:30-12:00						
12:00-12:30			12:30 – 14:00 Thematic session: Private Sector Forum Oval Room	12:00 – 14:00 Ministerial Roundtable (CAADP) Oval Room	12:30 – 14:00 PLENARY: Healthy & Productive Ecosystems Africa Fertilizer & Soil Health Initiative Main Hall	
13:00-13:30	Field Visits		12:30 – 14:00 Thematic session: Women in Food Systems Hall A	14:00 – 16:00 PLENARY: Food Systems Trade & Markets Connecting food corridors and food supply chains. Council of the Wise Main Hall	12:30 – 14:00 PLENARY: Healthy & Productive Ecosystems Africa Fertilizer & Soil Health Initiative Main Hall	
13:30-14:00		Presidential Lunch (Closed)		14:00 – 16:00 Conversation with Energy Ministers: Green Energy – Powering food systems value chains Oval Room	14:30 – 17:00 PLENARY: Champion and invest in the Future Celebrating the Next-Gen of African Food Systems. Prime Ministers' Panel: Harnessing the youth dividend Closing Ceremony Main Hall	
14:00-14:30		Roundtable: Researchers Forum Oval Room				
14:30-15:00	Side Events		14:30 – 16:00 PLENARY: Digitalisation & AI 4 Next Gen Youth Driven Digital Innovation in African Food Systems Main Hall		14:30 – 16:00 Thematic session: Climate Resilience Hall A	
15:00-15:30		15:00 – 17:00 PLENARY: First Ladies Roundtable			14:30 – 16:00 Roundtable: Farmers Forum Oval Room	
15:30-16:00		PLENARY: African Food Systems Year in Review – Holding ourselves accountable, how much have we progressed? Main Hall				
16:00-16:30	Registration Opening					
16:30-17:00	Agri-Food Expo		16:30 – 18:00 Roundtable: Parliamentarians' Forum Oval Room	16:30 – 18:00 Thematic session: Agri-Tech & Digitalisation Hall A		
17:00-17:30			16:30 – 18:00 Thematic session: Food Systems & Nutrition Hall A	16:30 – 18:00 Thematic session: Regional Trade & Markets Oval Room		
17:30-18:00						
18:00-18:30			Side Events (x5) Oval Room Hall A Hall C Hall B PC Room	Side Events (x5) Oval Room Hall A Hall C Hall B PC Room		
18:30-19:00						
19:00-19:30						
19:30-		19:30 – Partner Social Events (music, art, entertainment / Youth reception etc.)	19:30 – Partner Social Events (music, art, entertainment / Youth reception etc.)	19:30 – Partner Social Events (music, art, entertainment / Youth reception etc.)	19:30 – 22:00 AFSF Gala Dinner & Africa Food Prize Award (by invitation only)	

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW – YOUTH DOME

Time	Sunday, August 31st	Monday, September 1st	Tuesday, September 2nd	Wednesday, September 3rd	Thursday, September 4th
	Day 0	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
Morning		08:30-10:00 Side Event	08:30-10:00 Side Event	08:30-10:00 Side Event	08:30-10:00 Side Event
Mid-Morning		11:30-13:00 Plenary Youth Townhall	10:15-11:15 No One Left Behind Dialogue (Interactive Discussion on Inclusion for Displaced Youth, Persons with Disabilities and Refugees)	10:15-11:15 Youth, Culture, and Agriculture (Showcase of Indigenous Youth in Agri-food Systems and Resilience through Heritage)	10:30-12:30 Honoring African Agripreneurs (Celebration of the African Agripreneurs and GAFP Fellows Graduation)
			11:30-13:00 GoGettaZ Agripreneur Prize Competition Live Final Pitches Show	11:30-13:00 Youth Innovation Showcase	
Lunch Break	Youth Lunch Networking				
Afternoon	14:00-16:00 Youth Welcome Event	14:00-16:00 Youth Agri-food Leadership Dialogue (Leadership Mentorship Session)	14:00-16:00 Making Money from Agribusiness (Entrepreneurship Mentorship Session)	14:00-16:00 Empower Her: Next-gen Women in Agri-food (Cross-Generational Mentorship Session)	14:00-16:00 Youth Prize Winners' Announcement (Award Ceremony of GettaZ Prizes and Impact Awards) <i>- 25mins slot in the plenary)</i>
Evening		16:30-17:30 You are What You Eat (Networking Event)	16:30-17:30 Social Event: DJ + networking session + Poetry Karaoke	16:30-17:30 Food, Culture, and Youth Power (Networking Event)	
Late-Evening		18:00-19:30 Side Event	18:00-19:30 Side Event	18:00-19:30 Side Event	AFP GALA Dinner

AFSF PARTNERS



PROGRAMME OVERVIEW – INVESTMENT ROOM

3	Monday, September 1 st Day 1			Tuesday, September 2 nd Day 2			Wednesday, September 3 rd Day 3			Thursday, September 4 th Day 4				
Room	Investment Main Stage	Deal Room 1	Deal Room 2	Investment Main Stage	Deal Room 1	Deal Room 2	Investment Main Stage	Deal Room 1	Deal Room 2	Investment Main Stage	Deal Room 1	Deal Room 2		
Morning	10:00 – 13:00 Plenary: Opening Ceremony Opening Panel – Youth Town Hall Presidential Summit – Delivering the African Food Systems Promise Main Venue: Hall	9:00–12:00 Briefing Sessions for ALL SMEs	9:00–13:00 Briefing sessions for ALL SMEs , room arrangements and logistical details	9:00–12:30 Special Event: Global Future Foods - UAE/Africa Investment in Food Systems	9:00–13:30 Heifer Ayute SME's Pitching Sessions	9:00–12:00 WHH SME's Zero Hunger Pitching Sessions	8:30–10:00 Uganda Legacy Program	9:00–16:00 AFSF SMEs Pitching Sessions	9:00–12:00 WHH Zero Hunger SMEs Pitching Sessions	9:00–10:00 CEO Chat	9:00–11:00 AFSF SMEs Pitching Sessions	09:00 – 14:00 AFSF/ Gogettaz Pitching Sessions		
Afternoon	14:00–15:30 Investment Room Opening Session	14:00–16:00 AFSF SME Pitching Sessions	13:30 – 19:30 Special Events	12:30–14:00 Private Sector Roundtable Main Venue: Oval Room	14:00 – 16:00 AFSF SME Pitching Sessions	14:00-17:00 CLIC Climate Pitching Sessions	12:30–14:00 CEO Chat	13:00–15:00 AGRA/AFSF GoGettaz SMEs Pitching Sessions	13:00–14:30 Special event: ABC Fund and Capital innovations - Rethinking Solving the Funding Gap	11:00–12:30 Somalia Legacy Program	12:00 – 13:00 Invest Tanzania	14:30 – 15:30 Invest Zambia		
	16:00 - 17:30 Investing in Youth	16:30–17:30 Invest Ghana		14:00–15:30 Senegal Legacy Program	16:30–17:30 Invest Ethiopia	14:30–16:00 Zimbabwe Legacy Program	16:30–17:30 Invest Mali			15:30–17:30 WISHH SMEs Pitching Sessions	15:00 –16:30 Special Event - AECF		16:30–17:30 Invest Cote d' Ivoire(tbc)	16:00–17:00 Deal Room Debriefing
				16:00 – 17:30 Liberia Legacy Program										
Evening				18:00–19:30 SIDE EVENT De-risking Investments			18:00–19:30 SIDE EVENT Unlocking Climate Finance in West Africa.			18:00–19:30 Special Event				

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW – KNOWLEDGE HUB

Day 2 – Tuesday, September 2 nd		Day 3– Wednesday, September 3 rd		Day 4– Thursday, September 4 th	
Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 1	Stage 2
<p>10:30–11:30: NextGen Agri-Food Leaders: Catalyzing Youth-Driven Transformation in Africa</p> <p>AKADEMIYA2063, Icipe</p>	<p>10:30 – 12:30 Masterclass Youth Employment</p>	<p>10:30–11:30: The Role of Biotechnology in Transforming African Food Systems: Best Practices in Africa</p> <p>Hailemariam & Roman Foundation (HRF)</p>	<p>10:30 – 12:30 Masterclass Food System Supply, Trade & Markets</p>	<p>10:30–11:30: From the Ground Up; Scaling Soil Health Solutions for Planet and People TP: Sustainable Production</p>	<p>10:30 – 12:30 Masterclass Investment & Financing for Food Systems</p>
<p>12:00–13:00: Gender, Youth & the Future of Food Systems</p> <p>CGIAR Gender Equality and Inclusion Accelerator & CAYACC</p>		<p>12:00–13:00: Investing in the Red Meat Market: A High-Impact Opportunity for Climate, Nutrition & Economic Growth in Africa</p> <p>Gates Foundation</p>			
<p>13:30–14:30: Poultry and Livestock Value Chain Opportunities for Africa</p> <p>NASDA & USDA</p>	<p>13:00 – 15:00 Masterclass Entrepreneurship</p>	<p>13:30–14:30: #ClimateAction through Food Loss Reduction Climate Resilience</p> <p>Green Climate Fund</p>	<p>13:00 – 15:00 Masterclass Unlocking Technical Assistance in Africa</p> <p>IFAD, SNV, DFCD, CLIC, PARM</p>		<p>13:00 – 15:00 Masterclass Governance & Leadership for Food Systems</p>
<p>15:00–16:00: Indigenous seed systems – insights from Columbia and Africa</p> <p>IDRC; Embassy of Columbia in Senegal</p>	<p>15:30 – 17:30 Masterclass Youth-Led African Local Food Systems</p>	<p>15:00–16:00: Advancing Kampala-CAADP Implementation by Leveraging Local Expertise and Youth-led Initiatives</p>	<p>15:30 – 17:30 Masterclass Risk Analysis & Management for Small</p>	<p>15:00–16:00: Mobilizing Local Leadership for Food Systems Transformation</p> <p>The Hunger Project (THP)</p>	

AFSF PARTNERS



Day 2 - Tuesday, September 2 nd		Day 3- Wednesday, September 3 rd		Day 4- Thursday, September 4 th	
Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 1	Stage 2
		AKADEMIYA2063, AUC, AUDA-NEPAD, CAYACC, and University of Ghana	African Agribusinesses		
16:30-17:30: Green and Low Carbon Transformation of Agrifood Systems in China and Africa Academy of Global Food Economics and Policy (AGFEP) at China Agricultural University (CAU)		16:30-17:30: Public Incentives for Soil Health Outcomes / Strengthening Soil Systems for CAADP GIZ, CIFOR-ICRAF/Coalition of Action 4 Soil Health			

AFSF PARTNERS



PROGRAMME OVERVIEW – SIDE EVENTS

	Oval	Thematic Room	Knowledge Hub		Press Conference	Youth Dome	Investment Room
			Stage 1	Stage 2			
DAY 0 Sunday August 31, 2025	14:30-16:00: Climate and Nutrition session: 'Facing climate change with improved nutrition: policy challenges and opportunities to protect and develop traditional food systems' AFSF Nutrition & Climate Thematic Platform nexus	14:30-16:00: Increasing access to "quality" seeds for sustainable and resilient food systems in West and Central Africa ISRA, CORAF	14:30-16:00: On the road to the 2026 UN Water Conference- Building Water-Resilient Food Systems Ministry of Foreign Affairs - United Arab Emirates Senegal				
DAY 2 Tuesday September 2, 2025	08:30-10:00: Public sector financing in 15 countries AGRA	08:30-10:00: The AfCFTA Agri-Trade Action Plan FCDO; AGRA; IDH; Gates Foundation; AfDB; UPL Ltd; SNV	08:30-10:00: Empowering Smallholder Farmers through Access to Sustainable Inputs: Seeds, Bio-Solutions and Mechanization IFAD, AGRA, UPL, SNV	08:30-10:00: Re-imagine the future of leadership & catalysts for food systems transformation SNV, IFAD, NFP & YEP, UNFS Coordination Hub, and ECE	08:30-10:00: Feeding Futures: How School Meals Drive Nutrition, Markets, and Equity AGRA, AUDA-NEPAD, SNV, Global citizen, GAIN, IDRC	08:30-10:00: Inclusive agri-food business models: Empowering youth and women for sustainable food systems transformation Rikolto	
	18:00-19:30: Fortifying and	18:00-19:30: Future-Proofing	18:00-19:30: Artificial	18:00-19:30: Addressing the			18:00-19:30: Empowering

AFSF PARTNERS



	<p>Cultivating Nourishing Futures: Building nutritious food systems for mother's and children in vulnerable households</p> <p>Helen Keller International</p>	<p>West African Food Systems: Empowering Youth, Fostering Innovation, and Meeting User Needs in CSA & CIS</p> <p>SNV, AGRA, CGIAR, AICCRA, AGRHYMET, CORAF, RUFORUM, WASCAL</p>	<p>Intelligence Driven Agricultural Advisory</p> <p>YARA, IFAD, CABI, AGRA, FAO, Gates Foundation</p>	<p>costs of transition to regenerative agriculture</p> <p>Rockefeller Foundation</p>			<p>Farmers Through Customized Support / Supporting Soil Health Solutions for Sustainable Crop Productivity / Precision Agriculture for Sustainability and Profitability" and "Innovating Insurance for Climate Resilience</p> <p>OCP Africa</p>
<p>DAY 3 Wednesday September 3, 2025</p>	<p>08:30-10:00: Scaling Circular Food Systems: Youth Action</p> <p>WRI, AGRA, GAIN, SDSN, KASA, Regen Organics, FOLU – Food and land Use Coalition</p>	<p>08:30-10:00: Women, Work and Wealth: Driving Inclusive Systems</p> <p>Consortium of African Youth in Agriculture and Climate Change (CAYACC)</p>	<p>08:30-10:00: Launch of the IFPRI's Global Food Policy Report</p> <p>IFPRI</p>	<p>08:30-10:00: POST-DAKAR 2: From Pledges to Plates: Financing Africa's Agriculture Food and Systems</p> <p>AfDB</p>	<p>08:30-10:00: Wired for Impact: Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) Engine for Agri Food Systems Transformation</p> <p>AGRA, BMGF, CABI, FAO, YARA, IFAD, etc.</p>	<p>08:30-10:00: A Seat at the table – Youth-Led African Local Food Systems</p> <p>ACIAR</p>	
	<p>18:00-19:30: Unlocking Africa's Resilience Through Finance and Policies for Agricultural Innovation-Toward COP30 and beyond</p>	<p>18:00-19:30: Scaling soil health and sustainable production in fragile settings, realizing the 3 Rio conventions</p> <p>WHH and IFDC</p>	<p>18:00-19:30: Rooted in Action: The GEF and Youth Building Sustainable Food Systems</p> <p>GEF</p>	<p>18:00-19:30: Accelerating Food System Transformation</p> <p>GAIN, AGRA, Akademiya 2063, GIZ, Netherlands Food Partnership, SUN, Act4Food</p>	<p>18:00-19:30: Unlocking finance</p> <p>FAO, CGIAR, 2 Scale</p>	<p>18:00-19:30: Youth and Innovation as the Architect for Africa's Agricultural Transformation</p> <p>Heifer International</p>	<p>18:00-19:30: Financing Nutrition for Impact: Scaling Investment through Private Sector Innovation?</p> <p>AGRA, GAIN, AUDA-NEPAD, SNV, ATNi</p>

	GIZ, Gates Foundation, Clim-EAT, One Acre Fund, ACRE Africa						
DAY 4, Thursday September 4, 2025	<p>08:30-10:00: Pastoralism - Recognising a Critical Food System for Africa</p> <p>Heifer, GIZ, SNV, ILRI, FAO, GF</p>	<p>08:30-10:00: Empowering Young Women in Agri Food Systems: The Entrepreneurship Pathway</p> <p>AGRA, AWARD, IDRC, CGIAR Gender Impact Platform</p>	<p>08:30-10:00: Powering Agriculture, Accelerating Action for Decentralized Renewable Energy in Food Systems</p> <p>GOGLA, SNV, and IKEA Foundation</p>	<p>08:30-10:00: Regenerating Africa: How young agripreneurs can and are shaping food systems for planet and people.</p> <p>SNV, IKEA, Rockefeller, SDC, FCDO, GIZ, BIOVISION, CIAT, WorldVeg</p>	<p>08:30-10:00: RFBS Production Monitoring: Yield Estimation & Country Implementation</p> <p>UMD, AGRA, COMESA</p>	<p>08:30-10:00: De-risking investments through agri-risk management</p> <p>IFAD</p>	

AFSF PARTNERS



PROGRAMME OVERVIEW – AGRI-FOOD EXPO: ARBRE A PALABRES, CULINARY VILLAGE & SENEGAL PAVILION (HALL E)

	Monday, September 1 st Day 1		Tuesday, September 2 nd Day 2		Wednesday, September 3 rd Day 3		Thursday, September 4 th Day 4	
Room	Senegal Pavillion	Arbre à Palabres & Culinary Village	Senegal Pavillion	Arbre à Palabres & Culinary Village	Senegal Pavillion	Arbre à Palabres & Culinary Village	Senegal Pavillion	Arbre à Palabres & Culinary Village
Morning			<p>08:30 – 10:00 APIX</p> <p>10:30 – 11:30 Exemples de réussite en matière d'intégration socio-économique des jeunes ruraux au Sénégal IFAD & FIDA</p>		<p>08:30 – 10:00 Agro entrepreneuriat féminin et investissement sensible au genre Gender-Smart Agro business pitch Alliance Bioversity International and CIAT</p> <p>10:30 – 11:00 Café Entre Pros Jeunes Réseau National des clubs de jeunes entrepreneurs du Sénégal (RENCJES)</p>	<p>09:00 – 09:30 Delicious, Nutritious, Culturally-Rooted Food: What does it take to transform Food Systems? Tailored Food</p> <p>10:00 – 10:30 Wildlife & Agriculture AGRA</p>	<p>08:30 – 10:00 De-Risking Food System Resilience through an Institutionalized National Agricultural Insurance Agenda UNDP Senegal, UNDP Insurance and Risk Finance Facility & Ministry of Finance and CNAAS</p> <p>10:30 – 11:30 Agri-Food Jobs for Youth, Women Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale (IPAR)</p>	<p>10:00 – 10:30 Are you listening? CABI & Farm Radio International (FRI)</p> <p>11:00 – 11:30 Can AI Empower Youth Futures? International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) & Farm Radio International (FRI)</p>
Mid-Morning		<p>13 :00 – 16 :00 Culinary Village</p>	<p>12:00 – 13:00 Mettre à l'échelle les potentialités des exploitations agricoles familiales pour garantir des systèmes alimentaires durables en Afrique Dynamique pour une Transition Agroécologique au Sénégal (DyTAES)</p>	<p>12 :00 – 15 :00 Culinary Village</p>	<p>11:30 – 12:00 Jeunes innovateurs pour une transformation durable des systèmes alimentaires : plaidoyer pour les investissements dans les projets « One Health » Jeunesse, innovation et approche One Health : l'expérience des SOHIC pour transformer durablement les systèmes alimentaires en Afrique</p>	<p>12 :00 – 15 :00 Culinary Village</p>	<p>12:00 – 13:00 Pastoralisme, changement climatique et souveraineté alimentaire : Quels rôles pour la jeunesse africaine ? Pôle Pastoralisme et Zones Sèches (PPZS)</p>	<p>12:00 – 12:30 How are Smallholder Innovations Leading Africa's Climate Resilience? ECOBRISTO</p>

AFSF PARTNERS



IFAD

making to save people



IKEA Foundation



Mastercard



AUDA-NEPAD



McKinsey & Company



OCP



PAFD



The Rockefeller Foundation



SACAU



SNU



UK International Development



UPL



USDA



CCA



CCA



CCA



CCA



CCA



CCA



CCA

					<p>Students One Health Innovations Club (SOHIC) 12:30 – 13:00 Cres</p>		
Afternoon	<p>14:00 – 16:00 « Lessons Learnt – How did you do it? » Ministère de l'Agriculture et APIX</p> <p>16:30 – 17:30 APIX</p>		<p>13:30 – 14:30 Céréales sèches et légumineuses : valorisation, innovation et goût au cœur des systèmes alimentaires Villages climato-intelligents : renforcer la résilience locale face au changement climatique Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles (ISRA)</p> <p>15:00 – 16:00 School Meals – Transforming Local Food Systems Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale (IPAR)</p> <p>16:30 – 17:30 Le sol, racine invisible de notre sécurité alimentaire Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD)</p>	<p>15:30 – 16:00 Youth and insects – an unlikely partnership and its transformative impact on agrifood systems ICIPE</p> <p>16:30 – 17:00 China-Africa Agricultural Cooperation for Food Security in Africa Tshwane University of Technology & Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS)</p>	<p>13:30 – 14:30 Données satellites et modélisation hydrologique : anticiper les crises climatiques pour une agriculture irriguée résiliente MEOSS, BWI, la SAED et Geomatica</p> <p>15:00 – 16:00 Transformation des systèmes alimentaires : quel rôle pour les politiques publiques? Jeunesse et femmes Africaines en Agroforesterie : Innover pour transformer les systèmes agroalimentaires au Sénégal Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles (ISRA)</p> <p>16:30 – 17:30 Les bénéfices multiples des espèces sous-utilisées pour la souveraineté alimentaire en Afrique International Society for Horticultural Science</p>	<p>15:30 – 16:00 The Story of Satellites, AI, and the Role of Youth in Ag-tech Agricultural Innovation in Africa University of Maryland & XylemLab-NASA Harvest</p> <p>16:30 – 17:00 Systems-based Policy Tools in Action FAO in collaboration with Governments of Zambia and Rwanda (TBC), University College London</p>	

PROGRAMME SYNOPSIS

DAY 0: Sunday, AUGUST 31st, 2025

TIME	SESSION
10:00 – 16:00	<p>Field Visits</p> <p>To connect discussion with lived realities, AFS Forum will include curated field visits in Senegal. Delegates particularly investors, development partners will explore farmer cooperatives, agro-processing hubs, and innovative agritech projects, gaining firsthand insight into how Senegal is advancing food systems transformation at the grassroots level.</p>
10:00 – 18:00	<p>Registration Opening</p> <p>Agri-Food Expo</p> <p>The Agri-Food Expo is the Forum’s vibrant exhibition zone, featuring different pavilions, private sector showcases, innovation pods, and startup booths. It is a space for networking, discovery, and collaboration—where ideas come to life through technology demonstrations, product launches, and interactive displays.</p>
14:00 – 16:00	<p>Youth Welcome Event (Agri-Youth Connect): Launch of a new Platform to connect all African youth working in Food Systems</p> <p>Venue: Youth Dome</p> <p>Building the momentum to kick off the Africa Food Systems Forum (AFSF) 2025 in Senegal, this ‘Youth Welcome and Networking Event’ is an inaugural event designed and curated to generate excitement and engagement among youth delegates. Hosted by the AFSF Secretariat, the networking event will welcome the youth delegates and high-level stakeholders from around the continent to the forum in Senegal to demonstrate and strengthen the objectives behind the theme of the AFSF 2025 on youth and inclusion, which addresses both gender and youth gaps within food systems.</p> <p>The Welcome Event embodies the forum theme by positioning young people as transformational leaders in the agri-food systems. The session will provide an interactive platform, presenting opportunities for youth engagement and intergenerational collaboration during and beyond the AFS Forum. Youths will have the chance to ask agrifood leaders specific questions during this session. The leaders will then engage in a discussion regarding the youths' enquiries, ideas, innovations, and proposals.</p> <p>AS INVITED</p> <p>Moderators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Nafi Solange Thiam, Managing Partner, Strategis

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Sheila Kayaa, Lead, Agriculture and Agrifood Systems, Pan-African Programs, Mastercard Foundation • Youth Delegate <p>Sequence 4: Call for Youth Platform Sponsors and Collaborations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Amath Pathe Sene, Managing Director, Africa Food Systems Forum <p>Youth Dome Unveiling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Henry Lagat, Lead, Generation Africa, AGRA
--	---

DAY 1: Monday, SEPTEMBER 1st, 2025 – LEADERSHIP

TIME	SESSION
09:30 – 10:00	<p>Teranga – Host Showcase & Facts of the Day</p> <p>Venue: Main Hall</p>
10:00 – 10:30	<p>PLENARY</p> <p>Opening Ceremony</p> <p>Venue: Main Hall</p> <p>AS INVITED</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <p>National Anthem of Senegal</p> <p>Welcome to the 2025 Food Systems Forum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Amath Pathé Sene, Managing Director, Africa Food Systems Forum • Hon. Dr. Mabouba Diagne, Minister of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Livestock, Republic of Senegal <p>Video: Africa’s Youth Food Systems Transformation in Africa</p> <p>Opening Remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Hailemariam Desalegn, Board Chair, AGRA & Former Prime Minister, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia • H.E. Bassirou Diomaye Diakhar Faye, President, Republic of Senegal <p>Senegalese Cultural Performance</p>
10:30 – 11:30	<p>PLENARY</p> <p>Opening Panel – Youth Town Hall</p> <p>Africa’s food systems can only thrive if youth are at the heart of the transformation. The 2025 Africa Food Systems Forum puts this belief into action with a powerful Youth Town Hall, an interactive platform where young Africans engage directly with policymakers, innovators, and industry leaders. Under the leadership of H.E. President Bassirou Diomaye Faye and H.E. Prime Minister Ousmane Sonko, Senegal’s youth-first vision comes to life through bold initiatives like</p>

the Community Agricultural Cooperative (CAC), setting the tone for a continent-wide movement.

Watch as youth leaders in agri food systems from across the continent voice their priorities, pitch groundbreaking ideas, and challenge decision-makers to invest in their vast potential. From demanding inclusive policies to scaling youth-led agribusinesses, the Town Hall is where a new generation of voices meets decisive action. Join this pivotal assembly and witness Africa's youth actively shape a resilient, productive, and collaborative food future for all.

Venue: Main Hall

AS INVITED

Moderator: Mr. Larry Madowo, CNN International Correspondent

Speakers:

- Heads of State
 - **H.E. Bassirou Diomaye Diakhar Faye**, President, Republic of Senegal
- Youth-led/Agri-Food Nutrition, Education
 - **Ms. Siny Samba**, CEO, Le Lionceau
 - **Ms. Claudia Senghor**, Co-Founder, MANSAAH
- Community-Driven/Livestock and Product
 - **Mr. Moustapha Sy Ndiaye**, Founder, Maraz
 - **Ms. Robha Abekeri**, Youth Pastoralist, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
 - **Mr. Alpha Ba**, Secretary of State for Cooperatives and Farmer Support, Senegal
 - Young fisher (Senegal)
 - **Ms. Ruramiso Mashumba**, Farmer & CEO, Mnandi Africa & Africa Lead, Global Farmer
 - **Mr. Femi Adekoya**, Founder & Director, Integrated Aerial Precision
- African youth leaders in Food Distribution
 - **Ms. Riantsoa Mialinarindra**, Co-Founder & CEO, Sakafo
- African youth leaders in Digital
 - **Ms. Déborah Nzarubara Florence**, CEO, Green Community Mind (GRECOM)

11:30 – 13:00

PLENARY

Presidential Summit – Delivering the African Food Systems Promise

Be part of a defining moment for Africa's agricultural future at the Africa Food Systems Forum 2025 - the continent's premier platform for transforming food systems. Hosted by Senegal's dynamic leadership, this Presidential Summit confronts today's critical challenges, declining

aid, climate shocks, and global instability, by shifting the focus to unlocking Africa's vast agri-food potential through domestic resources and bold policy reforms. Anchored in the new CAADP Strategy (2026–2035), the summit galvanizes leaders to reimagine and reinvest in our food systems. Dive into discussions exploring smart financing, from tax reform and local bonds to tapping remittances and pension funds for sustainable transformation. With youth-led innovation pulsing at its core, this forum will elevate African solutions, drive high-level commitments, and decisively position the continent as a global food powerhouse.

Venue: Main Hall

AS INVITED

Moderator: Mr. Larry Madowo, International Correspondent, CNN

Opening Remarks

- **Ms. Alice Ruhweza**, President, AGRA

Setting the Stage

- **Mr. Bill Gates**, Chair, Gates Foundation & Founder, Breakthrough Energy
- **Mr. Ajay Banga**, President, World Bank
- **Mr. António Guterres**, Secretary-General, United Nations (UN)

African institution leaders

- **Mr. Admassu Tadesse**, President, Trade and Development Bank (TDB)
- **Mr. Aliko Dangote**, Founder & CEO, Dangote Group
- **Mr. Serge Ekue**, President, West African Development Bank (BOAD)
- Dr. George Elombi / **Dr. Benedict Oramah**, Former President, African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank)
- **Dr. Sidi Ould Tah**, President, African Development Bank (AfDB)

High-Level Segment: Innovation and Implementation of Agri-Food Systems Transformation

- **Dr. Alvaro Lario**, President, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- **Mr. Makhtar Diop**, Managing Director, International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- **Dr. QU Dongyu**, Director General, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- **Dr. Reeta Roy**, President & CEO, Mastercard Foundation
- **Dr. Ismahane Elouafi**, Executive Managing Director, CGIAR

Presidential Summit – Head of State Summit (As invited)

- **H.E. Bassirou Diomaye Diakhar Faye**, President, Republic of Senegal

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • His Majesty Mohammed VI, King, Kingdom of Morocco • H.E. Adama Barrow, President, Republic of The Gambia • H.E. Bola Ahmed Tinubu, President, Federal Republic of Nigeria • H.E. General Brice Clotaire Oligui Nguema, President, Gabonese Republic • H.E. Army General Assimi Goïta, Interim President, Republic of Mali • H.E. Cyril Ramaphosa, President, Republic of South Africa • H.E. John Dramani Mahama, President, Republic of Ghana • H.E. José Maria Neves, President, Republic of Cabo Verde • H.E. Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, President, Federative Republic of Brazil • H.E. Mohamed Ould Cheikh El Ghazouani, President, Islamic Republic of Mauritania • H.E. Paul Kagame, President, Republic of Rwanda • H.E. Umaro Mokhtar Sissoco Embaló, President, Republic of Guinea-Bissau • H.E. Abiy Ahmed Ali, Prime Minister, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia • H.E. Mohamed Ali Youssouf, Chairperson, African Union Commission (AUC)
<p>13:30 – 15:00</p>	<p>Roundtable: Researchers Forum</p> <p>Education of Young Scientists: Attracting Youth to Research, Science, and Innovation. Recognizing Africa's vibrant youth as the dynamic engine for change, this researcher's forum directly addresses the importance of engaging young people in the research, science, technology, and innovation (RSTI) that underpin a sustainable and food-secure future for the continent. This forum will explore concrete and actionable strategies to effectively draw young talent into the agri-food sector's RSTI landscape. Panellists will explore innovative approaches to foster youth engagement in research-based initiatives across the entire food value chain – from primary production to processing, distribution, and consumption.</p> <p>Venue: Oval Room</p> <p>AS INVITED</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Daouda Sembene, Africa Catalyst</p> <p>Setting the stage: Prof. Jeffrey D. Sachs, University Professor & Director of the Center for Sustainable Development, Columbia University</p> <p>Discussants:</p> <p>Session 1</p>

- **Dr. Wanjiru Kamau-Rutenberg**, Panel Member, Malabo Montpellier & Managing Director, Africa, Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT
- **Dr. Simeon Ehui**, Director General, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) & Regional Director, CGIAR
- **Dr. Sieglinde Snapp**, Sustainable Agrifood Systems Program Director (SAS), International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)
- **Mr. Maram Kaire**, Director, Senegalese Spatial Agency & Former NASA
- IDRC
- ACIAR
- **Dr. Abdou Tenkouano**, Director General & CEO, International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (icipe)

Session 2

- **Ms. Kira Everhart-Valentin**, Alliance Manager for Cowpea, Gates Agricultural Innovations, Gates Ag One
- **Dr. Canisius Kanangire**, Executive Director, African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF)
- **Dr. Jacqueline d'Arros Hughes**, Director General, International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)
- **Dr. Stefan Schmitz**, Executive Director, Global Crop Diversity Trust
- AFDB .
- YARA .
- **Dr. Shenggen Fan**, Chair Professor & Dean of the Academy of Global Food Economics and Policy (AGFEP), China Agricultural University (CAU)
- Ms. Katelyn Runyan-Gless, Strategic Partnerships Manager, AgriCorps

Closing remarks: Hon. El Hadj Abdourahmane Diouf, Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, Republic of Senegal

15:00 – 17:00

PLENARY

First Ladies Roundtable

How far have we come, and who is truly leading the charge? Acting as powerful advocates, the First Ladies will bring the stories of the continent's grassroots champions, the women and local leaders, to the main stage. Explore how leadership is driving investment in nutrition-sensitive farming, empowering women-led enterprises, and securing healthier futures for the next generation. This is a unique opportunity to witness how high-level influence can accelerate action on the ground. Through stories and strategy, we'll unveil the data driving decisions, with tools like the Africa Agriculture Status Report (AASR) lighting the way. Join this

call to action and help put Africa's true changemakers, those closest to the soil, at the very heart of the solution.

Venue: Main Hall

AS INVITED

Moderator:

Fireside Chat – First Ladies & Youth Envoy (as invited)

- **H.E. Marie Khone Faye** – First Lady of the Republic of Senegal
- **Ms. Chido Cleopatra Mpemba**, Youth Envoy, African Union Commission (AUC)
- **H.E. Roman Tesfaye Abneh**, Former First Lady, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
- **Dame Graça Machel**, Founder and Chair, Graça Machel Trust; Former Minister of Education & Culture, Republic of Mozambique; Former First Lady, Republic of Mozambique; Former First Lady, Republic of South Africa

African Food Systems Year in Review

Holding ourselves accountable, how much have we progressed?

How do we measure our progress and hold ourselves accountable? This powerful plenary celebrates the rapid evolution of Africa's food systems while calling for greater investment in the people driving change on the ground. We will champion and support Africa's primary implementers, youth, women, smallholder farmers, and local leaders, who are turning ambition into tangible action. Through compelling personal stories and high-level reflections, this session spotlights real-world progress in scaling digital tools, embedding climate-smart practices, and advancing inclusive business models. Discover how game-changing platforms like the Africa Agriculture Status Report (AASR) are fostering data-driven leadership. Join this rallying call to ensure the people closest to the challenges are placed at the absolute center of the solutions.

Moderator:

Secretariat Highlight on last year commitments / joint presentation with the Food Systems Coordination Hub

- **Mr. Amath Pathé Sene**, Managing Director, Africa Food Systems Forum & Regional Director for West Africa, AGRA
- **Dr. Stefanos Fotiou**, Director, UN Food Systems Coordination Hub & Director, Office of Sustainable Development Goals, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Setting the Stage

- **Dr. Lawrence Haddad, Executive Director, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)**

Infrastructure, Innovations & Industrialization – Meeting Youth Needs

- **Mr. Chen Xi**, Mayor of Sanya, People's Republic of China
- **Mr. Sobel Aziz Ngom**, Directeur Exécutif Consortium Jeunesse Sénégal
- **Dr. Canisius Kanangire**, Executive Director, African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF)
- **Ms. Zoe Karl-Waithaka**, Managing Director and Partner, BCG Consulting
- **Dr. Thomas Kariuki**, CEO, Science for Africa (SFA) Foundation
- **Prof. Appolinaire Djikeng**, Director General, International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)
- **Hon. Michelle Bekkering**, Deputy Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Launch of the Africa Agriculture Status Report (AASR) – Starters and Drivers of Change and Innovations

- Present key highlights – **Dr. John M. Ulimwengu**, Senior Research Fellow, Development Strategies and Governance Unit, IFPRI
- Panelist 2
- Panelist 3
- Panelist 4

Commitments Review – Building a Brighter Future

- **Dr. Tom Thompson**, Global GAP Report, Virginia Tech University
- **Dr. Mostafa Terrab**, Chairman & CEO, OCP Group
- **Dr. Peter Materu**, Chief Program Officer, Mastercard Foundation

Investment Room Launch – Mobilizing Capital for Youth Innovation

- **Ms. Binta Touré Ndoye**, CEO, ORABANK Group & Board Member, AGRA
- **Dr. Chris Kiptoo**, CBS, Principal Secretary, The National Treasury, Republic of Kenya
- **Mr. Saleh Lootah**, CEO, UAE Manufactures Business Group
- **Mr. Sunru Yong**, Partner & Co-Director, Dalberg
- McKinsey
- Minister (pending confirmations)

Closing remarks: H.E. Moses Vilakati, Commissioner, Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy, and Sustainable Environment (ARBE), African Union Commission (AUC)

DAY 2: Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 2nd, 2025 – COLLABORATE

TIME	SESSION
10:00 – 11:00	<p>Teranga – Host Showcase & Facts of the Day Senegalese and international to reflect the Teranga showcase</p> <p>Venue: Main Hall</p>
11:00 – 12:30	<p>PLENARY</p> <p>Empower Women in Agri-Food Systems</p> <p>Advancing Nutrition & Health Unlock the full potential of Africa’s food and nutrition landscape by championing its most vital players: women. While women form the backbone of our agrifood systems, they remain critically underserved and under-resourced. This powerful plenary confronts this disparity head-on, putting a spotlight on women’s leadership and rights as the key to transformative change. Be present for the official launch of "The Status of Women in Agrifood Systems," a groundbreaking report packed with the latest data and regional trends. Esteemed speakers will unpack the report’s key findings on food security, nutrition, and climate resilience, focusing on opportunities for young women. Expect a deep dive into Africa-specific recommendations and actionable strategies designed to forge truly inclusive and equitable agrifood systems.</p> <p>Venue: Main Hall</p> <p>AS INVITED</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <p>Segment 1: Opening Session</p> <p>Opening Remarks: H.E. Marie Khone Faye, First Lady, Republic of Senegal</p> <p>Presentation: Report on Status of Women in Agrifood Systems in Sub-Saharan Africa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Susan Kaaria, Director, African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD) <p>Launch of Report and Family Photo</p> <p>Segment 2: Framing Remarks on Nutrition and Gender</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Former President, Republic of Liberia Hon. Shirley Ayorkor Botchwey, 7th Secretary-General of the Commonwealth

- **Ms. Cindy H. McCain**, Director General, World Food Programme (WFP)
- **Dr. Jemimah Njuki**, Chief of Economic Empowerment, UN Women
- **Ms. Anna Mbabazi**, SUN CSN Youth Coordinator for Uganda, Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement
- **Hon. Dr Ali Haji Abubakar**, Minister of Health and Human Services, Federal Republic of Somalia

Segment 3: Panel Discussion

- **Dr. Roy Steiner**, Senior Vice President, The Food Initiative, Rockefeller Foundation & Board Member, AGRA
- ACIAR
- **Mr. Santiago Alba-Corral**, Vice President of Programs and Partnerships, International Development Research Centre (IDRC)
- **Dr. Gunhild Stordalen**, Founder and Executive Chair, EAT Foundation
- **Ms. Sokayna Bellam**, Founder, Jodoor, Kingdom of Morocco
- **Ms. Surita Sandosham**, President & CEO, Heifer International

Segment 4: Panel Discussion

- **Ms. Siny Samba**, CEO, Le Lionceau
- **Ms. Juliet Laverley**, President, Women’s Farmer Network of Sierra Leone
- **Dr. Lynnette Neufeld**, Director, Food and Nutrition Division, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) (Requested virtual)
- **Ms. Nana Amoah**, Director, Gender Youth & Inclusiveness, AGRA
- **Dr. Mbaye Sene**, Executive Secretary, National Nutrition Development Council (CNDN)

Closing remarks: Hon. Maïmouna Dieye, Minister of Family and Solidarity, Republic of Senegal

12:30 – 14:00

Roundtable: Private Sector Forum

Partnering with the Future: The Private Sector’s Role in Youth-Led Agri-Food Innovation

This session will explore the critical role the private sector must play in actively supporting and collaborating with the youth generation. We will move beyond acknowledging the potential of youth and explore concrete pathways and tools, derisking mechanisms for the private sector to strategically engage and invest in youth-led initiatives supported by public sectors and key reforms needed to achieve tangible progress towards a sustainable and food-secure Africa.

This forum session will focus on the importance for the private sector of moving beyond traditional approaches and embracing innovative strategies for meaningful youth engagement.

Venue: Oval Room

	<p>AS INVITED</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Amb. David Lane, President, Annenberg Foundation Trust at Sunnylands • Ms. Ada Osakwe, Founding & Managing Director, Agrolay Ventures & Board Member, AGRA <p>Setting the Stage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hon. Dr. Abdourahmane Sarr, Minister of Economy, Planning and Cooperation, Republic of Senegal <p>Segment 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Sanda Ojiambo, Assistant Secretary-General CEO, UN Global Compact • Mr. Bakary Bathily, CEO, APIX SA • Dr. Donal Brown, Associate Vice-President, Programme Management Department, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) • Ms. Victoria Sabula, CEO, Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund (AECF) • Dr. Jean Chrysostome Ngabitsinze, Assistant Secretary General, UN & Director General, African Risk Capacity Group • Mr. Mochesane Albert Mpali, Founder, Lema Agriventures Pty Ltd, Kingdom of Lesotho (Youth representative and private actor) • Ms. Debra Mallowah, Cluster Division Head & Cluster Lead Crop Science Africa, Bayer <p>Segment 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Didier Acouetey, Chairman & Founder, AfricSearch Group • Ms. Sylvia Rotta, President & Founder, Team Creatif Group • Dr. James Mwangi, Group Managing Director & CEO, Equity Bank Group • Ms. Alice Ruhweza, President, AGRA • Mastercard representative • Gates • 2Scale • IDInsight • Mr. Sunny George Verghese, Co-founder & Group CEO, Olam International Limited • Mr. Imungana Malikana, Founder, Cranitech Limited (Zambia -Youth representative and private actor)
<p>12:30 – 14:00</p>	<p>Thematic session: Women in Food Systems</p> <p>While addressing women’s roles in production, processing, trading, and households’ food consumption, we must also consider how the women are positioned in the agri-food systems, their accessibility to innovations, their vulnerability and resilience to climate change, their</p>

	<p>agency and participation in decision making and how the policy environment influences all these. This session will explore how we are meeting the equitable food systems challenge in Africa and how we can accelerate progress.</p> <p>Venue: Hall A</p> <p>AS INVITED</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Dorine Odongo, Senior Communications Manager, African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD)</p> <p>Keynote Speaker: Dr. Susan Kaaria, Director, AWARD</p> <p>Discussants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Noline de Haan, Director, Gender Equality, Youth & Social Inclusion Impact Area Platform, CGIAR • Dr. Edidah Lubega Ampaire, Senior Programme Specialist, Climate Resilient Food Systems, International Development Research Centre (IDRC) • Ms. Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim, Coordinator, Association for Fulani Women and Indigenous Peoples of Chad (AFPAT) & Co-Chair, FSC Indigenous Foundation <p>Fireside chat panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Nana Amoah, Director, Gender Youth & Inclusiveness, AGRA • Ms. Aida Mbodj, CEO, General Delegation for Rapid Entrepreneurship of Women and Youth (DER) • Dr. Clara Mi Young Park, Senior Gender Officer, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) • Dr. Mariame Maiga, Regional Gender and Social Development Adviser, Conseil Ouest et Centre Africain pour la Recherche et le Développement Agricoles (CORAF) • Ms. Opper Maravanyika, Deputy Director of Gender Equality and Social Inclusion, CARE USA • Ms. Oulimata Sarr, President, Our Legacy Foundation • Ms. Sefora Kodjo, President, Foundation Sephis <p>Closing remarks: Hon. Khady Diene Gaye, Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture, Republic of Senegal</p>
<p>12:30 – 13:00</p>	<p>Press Conference</p>
<p>14:30 – 16:00</p>	<p>PLENARY</p> <p>Digitalisation & AI 4 Next Gen</p>

Witness the future of food being coded today by Africa's brilliant youth, who are actively turning agricultural challenges into digital opportunities. This forward-looking session spotlights the raw power of technology fused with the creativity of young minds, transforming our food systems from the ground up. Explore how youth-led solutions, from drone-mapped farms to AI-powered supply chains, are already rewriting the rules of farming, processing, and distribution. Join trailblazing entrepreneurs and tech enablers as they demonstrate how artificial intelligence and digital tools are boosting productivity, building climate resilience, and creating smarter value chains. This session will dive into what it takes to build inclusive digital ecosystems where all farmers and agripreneurs can access the tech they need to thrive.

Venue: Main Hall

AS INVITED

Moderator:

Fireside Chat

- **Dr. Alvaro Lario**, President, International Fund of Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- **Dr. Ismahane Elouafi**, Executive Managing Director, CGIAR
- **Hon. Dr. Mark Cyubahiro Bagabe**, Minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources, Republic of Rwanda
- **Hon. Alioune Sall**, Minister of Communication, Telecommunications and Digital Affairs, Republic of Senegal

Segment 1: Youth & Innovation Panel: Pioneering Digital Agriculture Solutions

- **Ms. Manal Mhad**, Research Fellow, AgroBiosciences Department, Mohammed VI Polytechnic University (UM6P), Kingdom of Morocco
- **Mr. Benjamin Kwasi Addom**, Advisor, Agriculture and Fisheries Trade Policy (Digital), The Commonwealth
- **Mr. Fessou Atasse Tevi**, CEO, Give Smile Solutions
- **Mr. Lahai Makieu**, Amputee Trainer, Farming on Crutches Initiative

Segment 2: Research, Policy & Partnership Panel: Scaling Digital Food Systems

- **Mr. Maram Kaire**, Director, Senegalese Spatial Agency & Former NASA
- **Ms. Beryl Agengo**, Digital Agriculture Specialist, The World Bank
- **Mr. Ken Lohento**, Digital Agriculture Expert, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- **Mr. Bruk Getahun**, Co-founder, Chip Chip Inc, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
- **Mr. Nico Janssen**, Program Manager, Agricultural Livelihoods, IKEA Foundation
- Rockefeller Foundation

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IDInsight • Mr. Jens Hartmann, Head of Europe, Middle East, and Africa Crop Science Division Bayer <p>Closing Remarks: Dr. Maximo Torero Cullen, Chief Economist & Assistant Director General for the Economic and Social Development, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)</p>
<p>16:30 – 18:00</p>	<p>Roundtable: Parliamentarians' Forum</p> <p>After nearly two decades of CAADP implementation, Biennial Review reports indicate that Africa is not on track to meet the Malabo Declaration targets by 2025. As the continent transitions from the Malabo phase, focus shifts to the Kampala CAADP Strategy and Action Plan (2026–2035), which prioritizes agrifood systems transformation as central to Africa's economic agenda. Given the complexity of agrifood systems, an inclusive and coordinated approach is essential to ensure all stakeholders understand the Kampala framework, their roles, and the need for adequate resource allocation.</p> <p>In response, the Africa Food Systems Parliamentary Network (AFSPaN), in partnership with the Parliament of Senegal, will convene a Parliamentarians Forum. This platform will facilitate structured dialogue to develop a Parliamentary Roadmap with actionable commitments, to be reviewed each year. A key focus will be inclusive dialogue aligned with Kampala's Commitment 4, bill approvals that are food systems sensitive by committees, promoting youth-informed policy recommendations and meaningful youth participation in advancing decent work across the agrifood value chain.</p> <p>Venue: Oval Room</p> <p>AS INVITED</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Fadel Diame, Deputy President, AGRA</p> <p>Opening statement: Hon. Jeremy Lissouba, Member of Parliament, Republic of Congo & Secretary General, African Food Systems Parliamentary Network (AFSPaN)</p> <p>Keynote address and chair of the roundtable: Hon. El Malick Ndiaye, President of the National Assembly of Senegal, Republic of Senegal</p> <p>Roundtable dialogue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members of Parliament and representatives (as invited) • Youth representatives (Henry sending list) • Ms. Alice Ruhweza, President, AGRA • Hon. Garry Sakata Moke Tawab, Committee on Rural Economy, Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment; Pan-African Parliament (PAP)

- **Mr. Wang Qiyang**, Member of the Standing Committee, CPC Hainan Provincial Committee & Secretary, Sanya Municipal Committee of the CPC
- Former head of states (as invited)
 - **Rt. Hon. Tony Blair**, Former Prime Minister, United Kingdom & Founder, Tony Blair Institute
 - **H.E. Hailemariam Desalegn**, Former Prime Minister, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia & Chair, AFSF Partners Goup
 - **H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf**, Former President, Republic of Liberia
 - **Dame Graça Machel**, Founder and Chair, Graça Machel Trust & Former Minister of Education & Culture, Republic of Mozambique & Former First Lady, Republic of Mozambique & Former First Lady, Republic of South Africa
 - **H.E. Lionel Zinsou**, Former Prime Minister, Republic of Benin & Founder and Managing Partner, SouthBridge
 - **H.E. Dr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete**, Former President, United Republic of Tanzania & Chair, Africa Food Prize Group
 - **H.E. Dr. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki**, Former Prime Minister, Republic of Niger & African Union Special Envoy for Food Systems (AUDA-NEPAD)
 - **H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat**, Former Chairperson, African Union Commission & Former Prime Minister, Republic of Chad
 - **H.E. Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan**, Former President, Federal Republic of Nigeria
 - **H.E. Olusegun Obasanjo**, Founder and Board Chairman, Olusegun Obasanjo Foundation (OOF) & Former President, Federal Republic of Nigeria
 - **H.E. Patrick Achi**, Former Prime Minister, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire & Senior Fellow, Center for International Development at Harvard University
 - **H.E. Mizengo Pinda**, Former Prime Minister, United Republic of Tanzania
 - **H.E. Mohamed Beavogui**, Former Prime Minister, Republic of Guinea

Closing remarks: Hon. Dr. Godfred Seidu Jasaw, Member of Parliament, Republic of Ghana & Chairperson, African Food Systems Parliamentary Network (AFSPaN)

16:30 – 18:00

Thematic session: Nutrition & Health

Africa's food environments are at a critical time of transformation—shaped by rapid urbanization, market disruptions, climate stress, cultural preferences, and aggressive marketing of unhealthy foods. These factors influence what people eat, how they access food, and contribute to the rise of diet-related non-communicable diseases. With over 60% of Africa's population under 25, it is essential to centre youth in transforming food systems. This session will explore how to redesign food environments to make nutritious diets affordable, accessible, and desirable for all. It will highlight ways youth can drive innovation in agriculture, community food systems, and policy advocacy to foster inclusive and health-promoting food environments across rural and urban Africa.

	<p>Venue: Hall A</p> <p>AS INVITED</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Boitshepo Bibi Giyose, Senior Nutrition Officer for Policy and Programmes in the Nutrition and Food Systems Division, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)</p> <p>Framing remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Lawrence Haddad, Executive Director, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) • Hon. Dr. Ibrahima Sy, Minister of Health and Social Action, Republic of Senegal <p>Session 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Daniel Simeon Kelema, Minister of Agriculture Republic of Mali • Ms. Kefilwe Roba Moalosi, Senior Nutrition and Food Safety Programme Officer, AUDA • Mr. Samson Ogbale, Lead Trainer, Soilless Farm Lab, Nigeria • Ms. Aimée Wallin, Co-director, Ghana Food Movement • Ms. Maïmouna Sidibe Coulibaly, President and Director General, FASO KABA, Mali • Dr. Djibril Bagayoko, Head of Nutrition Coordination Unit, Ministry of Health, Mali • Ms. Mwaka Namukonde, Executive Coordinator, CAYACC • Dr. Amos Laar, Professor, School of Public Health, University of Ghana <p>Session 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Claudia Senghor, Co-Founder, MANSAAH • Ms. Lynn Schneider, Senior Program Officer, Women's Empowerment, Agricultural Development, Gates Foundation • Mr. Joseph Fashola, CEO & Co-Founder, Agrolinking • Mr. Amadou Oury Diallo, National Focal Point of the Coalition on Agroecology, Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles • Mr. Oliver Oliveros, Executive Coordinator, Agroecology Coalition • Dr. James Mwangi, Group Managing Director & CEO, Equity Bank Group • Helen Keller Intl • ACIAR • Ms. Efi Chatzinikolaou, Head of Partnerships, Access to Nutrition initiative (ATNi)
<p>19:30 –</p>	<p>WAYA Gala Dinner (by invitation only)</p>

DAY 3: Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 3rd, 2025 – AWARD

TIME	SESSION
10:00 – 10:30	<p>Teranga – Host Showcase & Facts of the Day</p> <p>Venue: Main Hall</p>
10:30 – 12:00	<p>PLENARY</p> <p>Governance of Food Systems</p> <p>Priority Actions and Investments to Implement CAADP</p> <p>Africa stands at a turning point and CAADP is the engine to drive its food systems transformation. This pivotal session will spotlight the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) and its bold 2026–2035 Strategy and Action Plan, launched alongside the Kampala Declaration. With ambitious goals to mobilize \$100 billion in investments, boost food production by 45%, triple intra-African agri-food trade, and cut post-harvest losses in half, the future starts now. Join policymakers and food system actors to align around CAADP’s six core commitments, from scaling sustainable production to strengthening governance, key indicators to measures the implantation and accountability framework to investment and financing mechanisms needed. Expect a deep dive into game-changing reforms around regional integration, input access, and logistics that are designed to drive real impact. Be part of the movement to turn this ambitious strategy into concrete, on-the-ground results. It is time to act, invest, and deliver Africa’s food future, together.</p> <p>Venue: Main Hall</p> <p>AS INVITED</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <p>Segment 1: Opening Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Moses Vilakati, Commissioner, Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy, and Sustainable Environment (ARBE), African Union Commission (AUC) • Dr. Ousmane Badiane, Executive Chairperson, Akademiya2063, Short presentation on the measurement framework <p>Segment 2: Political Leadership Panel: Charting the Future of African Food Systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hon. Frank K. Tumwebaze, Minister of Agriculture, Animal Industry, and Fisheries, Republic of Uganda • Hon. Mabouba Diagne, Minister of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty, and Livestock, Republic of Senegal

- **Hon. Dr. Mark Cyubahiro Bagabe**, Minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources, Republic of Rwanda
- **Hon. Josephine Lagu**, Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, Republic of South Sudan
- **Hon. Youcef Cherfa**, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
- **Mr. Stefano Fatti**, Director General for Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy (Development Partners)
- **Mr. Michael Kakande**, Founder and Chairperson, Resilient 40 (Youth Representative)
- **Mr. Bond Tihagale**, Secretary General, CAADP Youth Network (Youth Representative)
- **Dr. Khalid Bomba**, CEO and Managing Director, Development Sovereignty Group (DSG)

Segment 3: Investment, Innovation & Inclusivity Panel: Mobilizing Resources and Partnerships for CAADP

- **H.E. Dr. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki**, Former Prime Minister, Republic of Niger & African Union Special Envoy on Food Systems, AUDA-NEPAD
- **Ms. Elizabeth Nsimadala**, President, Eastern African Farmers Association (EAFF)
- **Mrs. Beatrice Gakuba**, Founder, African Women Agribusiness Network Afrika (AWAN-AFRIKA)
- **Dr. George Elombi**, President, African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank)
- **Ms. Arristine Mendes**, Founder, Shaddai Aquaculture, Republic of Senegal & Generation Africa Fellow
- **Dr. Sieglinde Snapp**, Sustainable Agrifood Systems Program Director (SAS), International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)
- **Dr. Donal Brown**, Associate Vice-President, Programme Management Department, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- **Dr. Martin Fregene**, Director, Department of Agriculture and Agro-Industry, African Development Bank (AfDB)
- Trade Investment Bank (As Invited)

Closing Remarks: Dr. Agnes Kalibata, Former President, AGRA

12:00 – 14:00

Ministerial Roundtable (CAADP) (by invite only)

Africa stands at a pivotal moment in its journey toward food security, sustainable development, and resilience against global challenges. The intertwining of agri-food systems, energy, and climate offers a unique opportunity to reinvent the continent's approach to feeding its growing population. These three aspects, when integrated, can serve as transformative forces to enhance productivity, reduce environmental stress, and empower communities.

This High-Level inter-ministerial roundtable is open to Ministers of Agriculture, Energy and Climate as well as Multi- and Bilateral Development Agencies, Heads of International Organizations, Leaders of Private Sector and Investor Organizations to reflect on and share policy and investment insights on how to harness energy solutions and advance food systems transformation in the face of changing climate.

Venue: Oval Room

AS INVITED

Moderator: Mr Ibrahim Cheikh Diong, Executive Director, Fund for responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD)

Keynote Speaker: Ms. Alice Ruhweza, President, AGRA

Co-hosts:

- **H.E. Hailemariam Desalegn**, Former Prime Minister, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia & Chair, AFSF Partners Goup
- **Hon. Mabouba Diagne**, Minister of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty, and Livestock, Republic of Senegal

Special Remarks – The Continental Vision: H.E. Moses Vilakati, Commissioner, Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy, and Sustainable Environment (ARBE), African Union Commission (AUC)

Ministerial Roundtable:

- Prime Ministers
- All confirmed Ministers of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries
- All confirmed Ministers of Trade, Nutrition, Gender, Health
- All confirmed Ministers of Environment and Climate
- All confirmed Ministers of Economy and Finance
- All ministers of Energy
- Senior invited Heads of Development Partner delegations
- Heads and CEOs of Private Sector Partners
- Heads of REC's

Concluding Remarks

- **H.E. Nardos Bekele-Thomas**, CEO, AUDA-NEPAD

Key Takeaways

- **Mr. Arnold Puech d'Alissac**, President, World Farmers' Organisation (WFO)
- **Dr. Simeon Ehui**, Director General, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) & Regional Director, CGIAR
- **Mr. Nico Janssen**, Programme Manager, Agricultural Livelihoods, IKEA Foundation
- **Prof. Jeffrey D. Sachs**, University Professor & Director of the Center for Sustainable Development, Columbia University
- **Dr. Mostafa Terrab**, Chairman & CEO, OCP Group

12:00 – 13:30

Thematic session: Sustainable Production

REGENERATING AFRICA: How Young Agripreneurs are Leading Food Systems Transformation through Agroecology for People and Planet

This thematic session will highlight the role of African youth agripreneurs in advancing agroecology as a transformative pathway for sustainable food systems. Through an interactive dialogue format, real-world case studies, and cross-sectoral engagement, the session will demonstrate how agroecological principles—diversification, soil regeneration, circular economies, and local governance—are being put into action by young innovators. It will also unpack the enabling conditions needed—such as policy alignment, access to finance, and knowledge networks—to mainstream youth-led agroecological solutions across the continent.

Venue: Hall A

AS INVITED

Moderator:

Opening and Keynote: Dr. Marco Wopereis, Director General, WorldVeg

Pitches

- **Ms. Crescentia Mushobozi**, Founder & CEO, MbeguNzuri BiotechFarms
- **Mr. Oliver Oliveros**, Executive Coordinator, Agroecology Coalition

Panelists

- **Hon. Fred Bwino Kyakulaga**, State Minister for Agriculture, Republic of Uganda
- **Mr. Anthony Mugambi**, Team Leader Kenya, Kilimo Trust
- **Ms. Rosinah Mbenya**, Country Coordinator, PELUM Kenya
- **Ms. Eddah Nang'ole**, Senior Manager, Impact and Learning, Aceli Africa
- **Mr. Ajuna Tadeo**, Country Representative, YPARD
- **Mr. Mehdi Filali**, Vice-President West Africa, OCP Africa
- **Mr. Nico Janssen**, Programme Manager, Agricultural Livelihoods, IKEA Foundation

- **Mr. William Asiko**, Vice President, Africa Regional Office, Rockefeller Foundation
- **Ms. Dongxin Feng**, Director, Joint Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)/International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Closing remarks: Mr. Juan Lucas Restrepo, Director General, Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT

12:00 – 13:30 **Thematic session: Agri-food Systems Leadership & Governance**

The CAADP Strategy and Action Plan (2026–2035) and the Kampala Declaration identify weak implementation capacity and coordination as major obstacles to Africa’s agrifood transformation. Strategic Objective 6 emphasizes strengthening agrifood systems governance through improved leadership, coordination, and mutual accountability.

This session co-organized by AGRA’s Centre for African Leaders in Agriculture (CALA) and the African Food Fellowship (AFF) will highlight Food Systems Leadership (FSL) as a practical solution. It will showcase the importance of investing in experienced and emerging leaders across sectors to accelerate progress toward Kampala goals. Using evidence and models like, the session advocates for greater institutional recognition and funding for leadership development as a catalyst for capacity building, inclusion, and systemic change. By fostering collaboration among ministries and partners, the session aims to promote transparent, accountable, and adaptive governance for resilient, inclusive, and nutrition-sensitive food systems in Africa.

Venue: Press Conference Room

AS INVITED

Moderator: Dr. Debisi Araba, Visiting Research Fellow at the Centre for Environmental Policy, Imperial College London

Transformational Stories

- Female youth / alumni from each of CALA and African Food Fellowship
- Female youth / alumni from each of CALA and African Food Fellowship

Building Food Systems Leadership: What is it? Why now? How?

- Minister from the list (pending minister confirmations)
- **Prof. Kingsley Moghalu**, President & Vice-Chancellor, African School of Governance (ASG)
- **Mr. Jonathan Said**, Vice President for Technical Expertise, AGRA
- **Mr. Joost Guijt**, Director, African Food Fellowship

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Abdrahamane Dicko, Director of Programs and Impact, African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) • Ms. Anushka Ratnayake, our CEO and Founder, MyAgro • Dr. Nteranya Sanginga, Emeritus Director General, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) • Mastercard Foundation • African Leadership University (ALU) • Gates Foundation • UNFS Coordination Hub <p>Wrap up and next steps: UNDP</p>
12:30 – 13:00	Press Conference
14:00 – 16:00	<p>Conversation with Energy Ministers: Green Energy</p> <p>Powering food systems value chains</p> <p>Venue: Hall B</p> <p>AS INVITED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hon. Paulin Akponna, Minister of Energy, Water and Mines, Republic of Benin • Hon. Eloundou Essomba Gaston, Minister of Energy and Water, Republic of Cameroon • Hon. Patalet Kanabe Marcelin, Minister of Water and Energy, Republic of Chad • Hon. Aboubacar Camara, Minister of Energy, Hydraulics and Hydrocarbons, Republic of Guinea • Hon. Amadou Keita, Minister of Energy and Water, Republic of Mali • GOGLA • Mr. Nico Janssen, Program Manager, Agricultural Livelihoods, IKEA Foundation • Gates Foundation
14:30 – 16:00	<p>PLENARY</p> <p>Food Systems Trade & Markets</p> <p>Connecting food corridors and food supply chains</p> <p>Let's solve a critical paradox: Africa grows enough food, but inefficient supply chains and siloed policies prevent it from reaching those who need it most. This high-energy plenary gathers bold leaders and youth innovators to shatter these barriers. Together, we will explore how to unlock the full promise of the AfCFTA, modernize logistics and storage, and harness</p>

digital tools to connect producers to markets with speed and fairness. Expect a session brimming with fresh ideas and real-world solutions to get food flowing across borders and onto tables. Discover how we can empower SMEs, youth, and women to transform food trade from farm to fork by aligning policies and forging powerful new partnerships that make our food systems efficient and future ready.

Venue: Main Hall

AS INVITED

Moderator:

Leaders Chat

- **H.E. Wamkele Mene**, Secretary General, Africa Continental Free Trade Area Secretariat
- **H.E. Chileshe Kapwepwe**, Secretary General, COMESA
- **Lord Collins of Highbury**, Minister for Africa, FCDO, United Kingdom
- **Dr. Akinwumi A. Adesina**, Former President, African Development Bank

Ministerial Call to Action

- **Hon. Serigne Guèye Diop**, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Republic of Senegal
- **Hon. Rose Mivedor**, Minister of Trade, Handicraft and Local Consumption, Togolese Republic
- **Hon. Chipoka Mulenga**, Minister of Commerce, Trade and Industry, Republic of Zambia

Accelerating Youth-Led Trade and Integration

- AFCTFA secretariat to select a company – female young
- **Ms. Marie Thiam Soumaré**, Continental President of the African Women Network, AfCFTA and General Secretary, National Union of Autonomous Trade Unions of Senegal.
- **Mr. Baraka Chijenga**, Founder & CEO, Kilimo Fresh Foods
- **Ms. Aisha Ali**, Founder i-Profile Foundation, Uganda & Ye! Advisor to ITC for Uganda
- **Mr. Koffi Amani François Xavier**, Founder, Mon Chips, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire
- **Mr. Vijay Iyengar**, Chairman, Global Pulse Confederation & Chief Executive Officer, AgroCorps
- **Mr. Alan Kessler**, CEO, African Food Security
- **Mr. Pierre Thiam**, CEO, Yolélé

Summary Insights

- **Hon. Claver Gatete**, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) & Former Minister of Infrastructure, Republic of Rwanda

Council of the Wise

Africa's food future requires more than ambition; it demands bold leadership and a shared vision. This unique high-level plenary convenes the Council of the Wise, a powerhouse of seasoned African leaders, to chart a clear path toward unlocking intra-African food trade under the AfCFTA. The discussion will spotlight the urgent need for harmonized standards, smarter customs systems, and data-driven governance to break down barriers and build trust across borders. Leaders will explore how innovative financing, and digital tools can modernize supply chains and improve market access. With a strong focus on empowering youth, women, and SMEs, this session challenges decision-makers to champion a new era of trade that delivers resilience and prosperity for all.

AS INVITED

Moderator:

Youth Interrogators: Henry to provide some names

Council of the Wise:

- **H.E. Hailemariam Desalegn**, Chair of the Board of Directors, Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) & Former Prime Minister, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
- **H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf**, Former President, Republic of Liberia
- **Dame Graça Machel**, Founder and Chair, Graça Machel Trust, Former Minister of Education & Culture of the Republic of Mozambique, Former First Lady, Republic of Mozambique & Former First Lady, Republic of South Africa
- **H.E. Lionel Zinsou**, Former Prime Minister, Republic of Benin & Founder and Managing Partner, SouthBridge
- **Rt. Hon. Tony Blair**, Former Prime Minister, United Kingdom & Founder, Tony Blair Institute
- **H.E. Dr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete**, Former President, United Republic of Tanzania & Chair, Africa Food Prize Group
- **H.E. Dr. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki**, Former Prime Minister, Republic of Niger & African Union Special Envoy for Food Systems (AUDA-NEPAD)
- **H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat**, Former Chairperson, African Union Commission & Former Prime Minister, Republic of Chad
- **H.E. Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan**, Former President, Federal Republic of Nigeria
- **H.E. Olusegun Obasanjo**, Founder and Board Chairman, Olusegun Obasanjo Foundation (OOF) & Former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
- **H.E. Patrick Achi**, Former Prime Minister, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire & Senior Fellow, Center for International Development, Harvard University

- **H.E. Mizengo Pinda**, Former Prime Minister, United Republic of Tanzania
- **H.E. Mohamed Beavogui**, Former Prime Minister, Republic of Guinea
- **Mr. Elhadj As Sy**, Board Chair, Kofi Annan Foundation & Former Secretary General, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
- **Dr. Agnes Kalibata**, Former President, AGRA

16:30 – 18:00

Thematic session: Agri-Tech & Digitalisation

This session will explore how digital agriculture services can become more economically viable, scalable, and broadly adopted through robust multistakeholder business models.

Despite exciting innovation across Africa, adoption remains low and many services struggle to scale or remain financially viable. The session will highlight key challenges, including weak business models, and share examples of practical solutions.

A multistakeholder, innovation-driven approach is essential to overcome adoption challenges and unlock the full potential of digital agriculture. By combining technology, inclusive business models, and strong partnerships, the sector can drive productivity, sustainability, and resilience in global food systems.

Venue: Hall A

AS INVITED

Moderator:

Keynote Speaker: Prof. Amb. Muhammadou Kah, Ambassador of the Gambia to Switzerland and the Geneva-based international organizations

Panelists

- **Mr. Charles Gngangassi**, Executive Director, Federation of farmer Unions (FUPRO), Republic of Benin
- **Mr. Jan Willem Van Casteren**, Eprod Solutions, Republic of Kenya
- **Ms. Anne Dioh**, Senior Director of Development, MyAgro, Republic of Senegal
- **Mr. Femi Adekoya**, Founder & Director at Integrated Aerial Precision, Republic of Nigeria
- **Mr. Alexander Zanders**, CEO and Founder, UfarmX, Republic of Nigeria
- **Mr. Talla Kebe**, Coordinator, United Nations System Task Force on Africa - Digital Transformation and Innovation
- **Mr. Alioune Kane**, Director General, Orange Finances Mobiles Senegal
- **Dr. Dennis Rangji**, Director General, Development, CABI
- **Ms. Aisha Hadejia**, Partner, Sahel Consulting

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Dayo Aduroja, Director – Youth & Tech Innovation, Africa, Heifer International • ENABEL
<p>16:30 – 18:00</p>	<p>Thematic session: Regional Trade & Markets</p> <p>Africa’s food systems face mounting challenges from rapid population growth, climate change, urbanization, and global market disruptions. With the population projected to exceed 2.2 billion by 2050 and food demand rising over 50%, the continent must transition from fragmented, import-dependent systems to integrated, self-sustaining regional food economies. Currently, Africa spends \$60–80 billion annually on food imports, despite vast underutilized land and millions of farmers disconnected from formal markets.</p> <p>To tackle this, African leaders have endorsed the Kampala Declaration and revised CAADP Strategy, emphasizing coordinated action through the Food Baskets and Corridors Initiative. This framework aims to leverage regional strengths, boost investments, and connect surplus zones with demand centers via improved infrastructure, harmonized trade policies, and cross-border collaboration. The session will explore how these integrated food baskets and trade corridors can enhance intra-African trade, reduce losses, promote agro-industrial growth, and build climate-resilient value chains, focusing on smallholder farmers, women, youth, and regional bodies. It will also examine financing, governance, and policy models to attract investment and showcase successful value chain examples, fostering inclusive and resilient African food systems.</p> <p>Venue: Oval Room</p> <p>AS INVITED</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Komla Bissi, Senior Advisor to Secretary General, African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) • McKinsey moderator <p>Framing Remarks: Dr. Benedict Oramah, Former President, African Export–Import Bank (Afreximbank)</p> <p>Segment I:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Babafemi Oyewole, CEO, Pan-African Farmers Organisation (PAFO) • Mr. Alain Traore, Director of Agriculture and Rural Development, ECOWAS & Chairman, ECOWAS Rice Observatory • Ms. Beate Weiskopf, Project Lead GIZ, ComCashew

Segment 2:

- **Mr. Ougfaly Badji**, Lead Global Food Security Specialist – Agriculture, Water Resource & Rural Development, Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)
- **Mr. Michael Mundashi**, Chairman, Zambef Products Plc
- **Ms. Susan Tirop**, Fund Manager, ABC Fund, Bamboo Capital Partners
- **Mr. Ablaye Gaye**, President, Comite Local Thies de Racines

Closing Remarks: Mr. Mansoor Ahmad, Deputy Head, Africa Economic Development; and Team Lead, Agribusiness Investment and Food Trade, FCDO

DAY 4: Thursday, SEPTEMBER 4th, 2025 – GOVERN

TIME	SESSION
10:00 – 10:30	<p>Teranga – Host Showcase & Facts of the Day</p> <p>Venue: Main Hall</p>
10:30 – 12:00	<p>PLENARY</p> <p>Biodiversity, Climate and Land</p> <p>Making the Conventions work for Africa</p> <p>Africa stands on the frontline of the world’s climate, biodiversity, and land crises, but it also holds the power to lead the world in solutions. This transformative plenary unites high-level leaders, technical experts, and passionate youth to align actions across the three Rio Conventions. Building on momentum from COP28, the session focuses on translating global commitments into integrated, continent-wide action. Through bold dialogue, speakers will reveal practical pathways for how coordinated governance and community-driven solutions can restore ecosystems and secure resilient food systems. A dedicated youth segment will spotlight the leadership of Africa’s next generation in a compelling fireside chat. Join this urgent call to unite the climate, nature, and land agendas under African leadership to build a sustainable future.</p> <p>Venue: Main Hall</p> <p>AS INVITED</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Ibrahima Cheikh Diong, Executive Director, Fund for responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD)</p> <p>Opening Remarks:</p> <p>Segment 1: Setting Ambition – Panel on the Three Rio Conventions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amb. André Corrêa do Lago, President of COP30, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); Secretary for Climate, Energy and Environment, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Brazil • Ms. Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim, Coordinator, Association for Fulani Women and Indigenous Peoples of Chad (AFPAT) & Co-Chair, FSC Indigenous Foundation • Hon. Bat-Ölziigiin Bat-Erdene, Minister of Environment and Tourism, Mongolia • Hon. Susana Muhamad, President, Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) at COP16

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hon. Daouda Ngom, Minister of Environment and Ecological Transition, Senegal • Hon. Balarabe Abbas Lawal, Minister of Environment, Nigeria <p>Segment 2: Coordinating Implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Astrid Schomaker, Executive Secretary, Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) • Dr. Yasmine Fouad, Executive Secretary, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) • Mr. Harsen Nyambe, Director of Sustainable Environment and Blue Economy (SEBE), African Union Commission • Mr. Carlos Manuel Rodríguez, CEO and Chairperson, Global Environment Facility (GEF) • Mr. Andrew Steer, CEO, Bezos Earth Fund • Dr. Daniel Elger, Chief Executive Officer, CABI • Mr. Paul Garaycochea, Director for Sustainable Supply Chains, Agriculture, and Food Systems, BMZ Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development <p>Segment 3: Interacting with Youth – Fireside Chat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Maguette Ba, CEO, Kéw Gi Agency; Youth Climate Advocate, UNICEF; Cyber Security Student, UNCHK; Member, Youth Volunteers for the Environment (JVE) Senegal • Ms. Salma Zeid, Senior Water Affairs Specialist, Energy and Sustainability Affairs Department, The United Arab Emirates • Dr. Salma Bougarrani, Co-founder & CEO, Green WATECH; Innovator in wastewater-to-food Transformation
<p>11:00 – 11:30</p>	<p>Press Conference</p>
<p>12:00 – 13:30</p>	<p>Roundtable: Civil Society Forum</p> <p>The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) has evolved as a cornerstone of Africa’s strategy to boost agricultural productivity, enhance food security, and foster inclusive economic growth. The Kampala CAADP Strategy and Action Plan (2026–2035) underscores a shift towards systemic transformation of food systems through sustainable practices, inclusive governance, and youth and women’s empowerment. Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) have been pivotal in realizing these objectives through advocacy, accountability mechanisms, and innovative programming at community levels.</p> <p>The session would be run as a Roundtable dialogue that allows CSOs, smallholder representatives, youth groups and other stakeholders in the room to engage in the conversation.</p> <p>Venue: Oval Hall</p>

	<p>AS INVITED</p> <p>Moderator: Sir David Nabarro, Strategic Director of 4SD (Skills, Systems and Synergies for Sustainable Development) Foundation</p> <p>Youth CSO Impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Arame Gueye Sène, Executive Director, Social Change Factory • Ms. Elizabeth M. Namaona, CEO, Civil Society Agriculture Youth Network, Malawi • Mr. Elujulo Opeyemi, Founder, Youth in Agroecology and Restoration Network • Mr. Daniel Amoako Antwi, Executive Director of Africa Skills Hub Foundation <p>Panel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Phelisa Nkomo, Board Chair, OXFAM South Africa • Ms. Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim, Coordinator, Association for Fulani Women and Indigenous Peoples of Chad (AFPAT) & Co-Chair, FSC Indigenous Foundation • Mr. Ibrahim Coulibaly, President, Network of Farmers' Organizations and Agricultural Producers of West Africa (ROPPA) • Ms. Vivian Onano, Founder & Director, Leading Light Initiative • Dr. Gunhild Stordalen, Founder and Executive Chair, EAT • Ms. Annie Wakanyi, Director, One Acre Fund • Ms. Germaine Furaha, Global Operations, Rikolto International • Mr. Michael O. Onchabo, Director Food and Land Use Coalition, Kenya Country Platform • Mr. Daan Wensing, Chief Executive Officer, IDH • Mr. Nico Janssen, Programme Manager, Agricultural Livelihoods, IKEA Foundation • UNDP • FOLU • Mr. Rowlands Kaotcha, President & CEO, The Hunger Project • Mr. Ougfaly Badji, Lead Global Food Security Specialist - Agriculture, Water Resource & Rural Development, Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) • Dr. James Mwangi, Group Managing Director & CEO, Equity Bank Group • Helen Keller Intl • Ms. Maureen Duru-Onweni, Founder & Director, The Food Bridge • Mr. Esubalew Dadi, Africa Regional Director, Food Policy Program • Ms. Madeleen Husselman, Executive Director, AgriCorps • Ms. Esther Cohen, Chair & Faith Based Director, Heifer International
<p>12:30 – 14:00</p>	<p>PLENARY</p> <p>Healthy & Productive Ecosystems</p>

Africa Fertilizer & Soil Health Initiative

How do we turn political promises into practical action to restore Africa's soils and feed its people? This dynamic session rallies African Union leaders and key stakeholders to unlock bold investments in fertilizer and soil health. Participants will dive deep into solutions that move beyond simple fertilizer access to focus on building truly resilient, nutrient-rich soils that can sustain future generations. The conversation will tackle persistent funding gaps, explore ways to de-risk procurement and distribution, and push for repurposing existing financing to better serve farmers. Expect candid reflections and a strong call to action to operationalize the Africa Fertilizer and Soil Health Action Plan. Don't miss this opportunity to shape the future where policy meets investment and ambition meets action.

Venue: Main Hall

AS INVITED

Moderator:

Opening Remarks

- **H.E. Moses Vilakati**, Commissioner, Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy, and Sustainable Environment (ARBE), African Union Commission
- **H.E. Nardos Bekele-Thomas**, CEO, AUDA-NEPAD

Political Leadership Panel: Driving National and Continental Commitment

- **Hon. Dr. Anxious J. Masuka**, Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development, Republic of Zimbabwe
- **Hon. Ahmed El Bouari**, Minister of Agriculture, Maritime Fisheries, Rural Development, and Water and Forests, Kingdom of Morocco
- **Hon. Dr. Girma Amente**, Minister of Agriculture, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
- **Hon. Gabriel Mbairobe**, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Republic of Cameroon
- **Hon. Marième Soda Ndiaye**, Director General of the Food Security and Resilience Commission, Republic of Senegal
- **Hon. Åsmund Grøver Aukrust**, Minister of International Development, Kingdom of Norway

Resource Mobilization Panel: Innovative Financing & Private Sector Engagement

- **Prof. Aggrey Agumya**, Executive Director, FARA
- **Ms. Geeta Sethi**, Advisor and Global Lead, Food Systems, World Bank
- **Mr. Martien van Nieuwkoop**, Director, Agricultural Development, Gates Foundation & AGRA Board Member
- **Dr. Mostafa Terrab**, Chairman & CEO, OCP Group

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Estherine Lisinge-Fotabong, Director of Agriculture, Food Security and Environmental Sustainability, AUDA-NEPAD • Mr. Svein Tore Holsether, President & CEO, Yara International • Dr. Mamadou Moustapha Diokhane, Researcher, International Society for Academic Researchers (ISfAR) • Mr. Amit Lohia, Vice Chairman, Indorama Corporation
12:30 – 13:00	Press Conference

<p>14:30 – 16:00</p>	<p>Roundtable: Farmers Forum</p> <p>Climate change poses an unprecedented and escalating crisis for African farmers, who, despite contributing minimally to its causes, are disproportionately affected by its severe impacts. To combat and mitigate these dire effects, it's not just beneficial but imperative for farmers to rapidly adopt new, climate-resilient agricultural technologies and innovative practices.</p> <p>This dynamic Farmers' Forum dialogue at AFSF 2025 will directly address the critical issue of financial access for farmers and farmer organizations. We'll explore practical strategies and innovative mechanisms to enhance the availability of finance for agricultural development and growth. A key focus will be on unlocking climate finance opportunities, empowering farmers to invest in resilient and sustainable practices.</p> <p>Venue: Oval Room</p> <p>AS INVITED</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IFAD lead the global farmers forum • Ms. Alice Ruhweza, President, AGRA • Dr. Babafemi Oyewole, CEO Pan-African Farmers' Organization (PAFO) • Ms. Louise Baker, Managing Director, Global Mechanism of the UNCCD. • Mr. Ishmael Sunga, CEO, Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU) • Dr. Moussa Baldé, AVSF representative in Senegal (Livestock Focus) • Mrs. Shewit Emmanuel, Country Director, Farm Africa Ethiopia • Mr. Arnold Puech d'Alissac, President, World Farmers' Organisation (WFO) • Mr. Carlos Manuel Rodríguez, CEO and Chairperson Global Environment Facility (GEF) • Ms. Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim, Coordinator, Association for Fulani Women and Indigenous Peoples of Chad (AFPAT) & Co-Chair, FSC Indigenous Foundation • Mr. Ibrahima Coulibaly, President Network of Farmers and Producers Organizations in West Africa (ROPPA) • Funders in Green Energy & Ministers of Energy (Depending on confirmations)
<p>14:30 – 16:00</p>	<p>Thematic session: Climate Resilience</p> <p>Empowering African Youth, Women, and Farmers for Climate Action in Food Systems</p> <p>Increasing global temperature and more frequent, intense, and severe extreme weather events are causing more displacements and disrupting the livelihoods of millions, placing</p>

considerable stress on Africa's agriculture sector. African youth are recognised as both vulnerable to climate change and strong advocates for climate action.

At the upcoming 'Trio convention' in Brazil, youth are expected to present disruptive ideas, business opportunities, and investment plans for climate action. By exchanging policies, financing mechanisms, and innovations that address climate change mitigation and adaption, this session aims to well-equip African youth to negotiate for Africa food systems transformation on the global stage.

Venue: Hall A

AS INVITED

Moderator: Mr. Adam Gerstenmier, Chief of Party, PIATA and Strategic Initiatives, AGRA

Opening Remarks – Trends in Africa: Mr. Kaveh Zahedi, Director, Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

African Keynotes: Empowering African Farmers, Youth and Women for Climate Action in Food Systems

- **Mr. Harsen Nyambe**, Director, Blue Economy and Environment, African Union Commission (AUC)
- **Dr. Robert Zougmore**, Director, Accelerating Impacts of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa (AICCRA), Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT
- **Mr. Amadou Thiam**, Community Actor, Republic of Senegal

Roundtable I: Localized climate finance for food systems, creating youth jobs and building climate resilience

- **Hon. Cheikh Diba**, Minister of Finance and Budget, Republic of Senegal
- **Ms. Mafalda Duarte**, Executive Director Green Climate Fund (GCF)
- **Ms. Jane Baldwin**, Head of Agrifood System, Pan African Programs, Mastercard Foundation
- **Dr. Frank Aswani**, Chief Executive Officer, Africa Venture Philanthropy Alliance (AVFA)
- **Dr. Martin Fregene**, Director, Department of Agriculture and Agro-Industry, African Development Bank (AfDB)
- **Mr. Paul Van de Logt**, Agricultural Councillor, Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands in Brazil
- **Ms. Jennifer J. Sara**, Global Director, Climate Change Global Practice, World Bank
- **Mr. Cheikh Moubarak Wade**, Director General, CAPEO
- **Dr. Ignatius Juma**, Senior Adaptation Advisor, Powershift Africa, Office of the Special Envoy for Climate Change, Republic of Kenya

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Green Growth Institute, GGI <p>Round Table II: Setting Africa climate ambitions in the context of Three Rio Conventions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Dr. Susan Chomba, Director of Vital Landscapes for Africa, World Resources Institute • H.E Claudia Mosquera Rosero, Ambassador of Colombia to Senegal, Republic of Colombia • Ms. Rokiatou Traoré, Founder and Executive Manager, Herou Alliance • Ms. Jean Muthamia-Mwenda, Global Lead – Youth Employment & Entrepreneurship, SNV • Dr. Wanjiru Kamau-Rutenberg, Panel Member, Malabo Montpellier & Managing Director, Africa, Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT • Ms. Nachilala Nkombo, Chairwomen of the Board, Mulonga Water & Sanitation Company and Committee, Africa Food Prize • Dr. Rebbie Harawa, Regional Director–East & Southern Africa, International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) • Dr. Richard Muyungi, Chair, African Group of Negotiators (AGN) <p>Closing Remarks – Highlights and Future Directions: Ms. Alice Ruhweza, President, AGRA</p>
--	---

<p>14:30 – 17:00</p>	<p>PLENARY</p> <p>Closing Ceremony</p> <p>The Africa Food Systems Forum 2025 wraps up on a high note, celebrating youth leadership, bold ideas, and game-changing commitments. The closing ceremony kicks off with a powerful spotlight on Africa’s next generation of agripreneurs and innovators. Experience inspiring moments as we honor the graduating Generation Africa Fellowship Program (GAFFP) fellows and present the Africa Food Systems Impact Awards to true trailblazers. The Prime Ministers’ Panel then takes center stage, with top African leaders sharing concrete policy actions to unleash the full power of youth for food systems transformation. The Forum concludes with a clear and decisive call to action, highlighting headline investments and breakthrough partnerships in the Closing Communique. Let’s celebrate, reflect, and recommit to building a resilient, youth-led food future for Africa.</p> <p>Venue: Main Hall</p> <p>AS INVITED</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <p>Artistic Performance: Mr. George Mpanga, "George the Poet"- Spoken Word Poetry: "Seeds of Change" capturing themes of resilience and innovation</p>
----------------------	---

Champion and Invest in the Future – Celebrating the Next-Gen of African Food Systems

- **Ms. Geneviève Dione**, Researcher, ISRA-BAME, Republic of Senegal
- **Ms. Sara Kate Smith**, Youth Policy Board Member for Canada for World Food Forum & Senior Consultant, Policy and Public Affairs at Clear Strategy Inc.
- **Mr. Wode Maya**, Agri-Influencer, Republic of Ghana
- 2Scale

Celebration of African Agri-preneurs & GAFP Fellows Graduation

Presented by

- **Ms. Alice Ruhweza**, President, AGRA
- **Mr. Svein Tore Holsether**, President & CEO, Yara International
- **Dr. Segenet Kelemu**, Executive Director, Pan-African Programs, Mastercard Foundation
- **Ms. Adesuwa Ifedi**, Africa Senior Vice President, Heifer International; Ayute competitions
- Africa Food Systems Impact Award winners

Communique: Mr. Amath Pathe Sene, Managing Director, The Africa Food Systems Forum

Prime Ministers' Reflections

- **Rt. Hon. Ousmane Sonko**, Prime Minister, Republic of Senegal
- **H.E. Amadou Oury Bah**, Prime Minister, Republic of Guinea
- **H.E. Jean-Emmanuel Ouédraogo**, Prime Minister, People's Republic of Burkina Faso
- **H.E. Ali Lamine Zeine**, Prime Minister, Republic of Niger
- **H.E. Robert Beugré Mambé**, Prime Minister, Republic of Cote d'Ivoire
- **H.E. Robinah Nabbanja**, Prime Minister, Republic of Uganda
- **Rt. Hon. Tony Blair**, Former Prime Minister, United Kingdom & Founder, Tony Blair Institute
- **H.E. Dr. Mohamed Juldeh Jalloh**, Vice President, Republic of Sierra Leone
- **H.E. Alexandre Barro Chambrie**, Vice President, Gabonese Republic
- **H.E. Sen. Kashim Shettima**, Vice President, Federal Republic of Nigeria

Closing Ceremony

- **H.E. Hailemariam Desalegn**, Board Chair, AGRA & Former Prime Minister, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
- **Ms. Chido Cleopatra Mpemba**, Special Envoy for Youth, African Union Commission
- **Hon. Ousmane Sonko**, Prime Minister, Republic of Senegal

Artistic Performance:

- **Contemporary Dance:** "Roots and Wings" by a Senegalese dance troupe symbolizing heritage and future aspirations.

19:30 – 23:00

Africa Food Prize Award Ceremony & AFSF Gala Dinner (by invitation only)

AFSF PARTNERS





AFSF PARTNERS



DAY 5: Friday, SEPTEMBER 5th, 2025 [INVEST]

TIME	SESSION
All day	Explore Senegal

AFSF PARTNERS



YOUTH DOME

The Youth Dome is designed to serve as a powerful launchpad for youth-led solutions that drive sustainable and inclusive food systems across Africa. This dynamic, interactive space will empower young voices, foster innovation, and provide crucial pathways for youth employment and the growth of agribusiness. This youth platform will showcase youth-led agribusinesses, startups, and digital solutions, connecting them to resources through youth-focused dialogues, GoGettaz Live Pitches, capacity-building mentorships, an innovation showcase, and targeted networking opportunities.

DAY 0: Sunday, August 31st, 2025

TIME	SESSION
14:00 – 16:00	<p>Youth Dome: Youth Welcome Event (Agri-Youth Connect): Launch of a new Platform to connect all African youth working in Food Systems</p> <p>Building the momentum to kick off the Africa Food Systems Forum (AFSF) 2025 in Senegal, this ‘Youth Welcome and Networking Event’ is an inaugural event designed and curated to generate excitement and engagement among youth delegates. Hosted by the AFSF Secretariat, the networking event will welcome the youth delegates and high-level stakeholders from around the continent to the forum in Senegal to demonstrate and strengthen the objectives behind the theme of the AFSF 2025 on youth and inclusion, which addresses both gender and youth gaps within food systems.</p> <p>The Welcome Event embodies the forum theme by positioning young people as transformational leaders in the agri-food systems. The session will provide an interactive platform, presenting opportunities for youth engagement and intergenerational collaboration during and beyond the AFS Forum. Youths will have the chance to ask agrifood leaders specific questions during this session. The leaders will then engage in a discussion regarding the youths’ enquiries, ideas, innovations, and proposals.</p> <p>AS INVITED</p> <p>Moderators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Nafi Solange Thiam, Managing Partner, Strategis • Mr. Thione Niang, Founder, JEUFZONE Farm <p>Entertainment: Musical and Cultural Performance</p> <p>Sequence 1: Youth Event Opening</p> <p>Opening Remarks: Hon. Dr Mabouba Diagne, Minister of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Livestock, Republic of Senegal</p>

	<p>Keynote Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Yann Gwet, Executive Director, YouthConnekt Africa • Ms Khady Diène Gaye, Minister of Youth Sport, and Culture, Senegal • HE Moses Vilakati, Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy, and Sustainable Environment (ARBE) at the African Union Commission <p>Sequence 2: Interactive Panel Discussion between Youths and Leaders: Empowering Young Leaders in Agri-food Systems – Lessons from Senegal</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Nafi Solange Thiam, Managing Partner, Strategis</p> <p>Panel Conversations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hon. Dr Mabouba Diagne, Minister of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Livestock, Republic of Senegal • Mr. Amath Pathe Sene, Managing Director, Africa Food Systems Forum • Mr. Elhadji Malick Sagne, Founder of Cactus Innovation, Senegal & Generation Africa Fellow • Ms. Arristine Mendes, Founder, Shaddai Aquaculture, Republic of Senegal & Generation Africa Fellow • Audience Interaction <p>Sequence 3: Panel Discussion Sports and Culture to Foster Youth Inclusion and Engagement in Agri-food Systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Mr. Thione Niang, Founder, JEUFZONE Farm • Mrs. Khady Diene GAYE, Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture, Senegal • Mr. Amadou Gallo Fall, President Basketball Africa League (BAL) • Mastercard Foundation • A Senegalese Youth Delegate <p>Sequence 4 Call for Youth Platform Sponsors and Collaborations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Amath Pathe Sene, Managing Director, Africa Food Systems Forum <p>Youth Dome Unveiling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Henry Lagat, Lead, Generation Africa, AGRA
--	--

DAY 1: Monday, SEPTEMBER 1st, 2025 []

TIME	SESSION
------	---------

AFSF PARTNERS



14:00 – 16:00

Youth Agrifood Leadership Dialogue
(Leadership Mentorship Session)

The youth population is key to Africa's future and the agrifood systems transformation agenda. The food and agriculture industry provide unique opportunities for young people to develop into strong leaders who will go on to lead agricultural transformation and development in Africa. Achieving the much needed food systems transformation on the continent requires harnessing the leadership, bold ideas, innovation and energy of young people. Evident in the youth-centric theme of this year's Africa Food Systems Forum, the development of leadership skills and knowledge remains one of the most powerful instruments for engaging and empowering youth leaders in Africa to become champions of change and is fundamental for sustainable socio-economic development. This session aims to provide landscape insights into youth leadership in agrifood systems and explore how it can contribute to career success for youth-led agribusiness ventures and across the broader agricultural and economic sectors.

AS INVITED

Moderator: Ms. Vivian Onano, Founder & Director, Leading Light Initiative

Sequence 1: Agripreneurs On-the-Mic (The Youth Perspectives)

- **Dr. Akpem Terese Shadrach**, Founder Vet Konect, Nigeria & Generation Africa Fellow
- **Ms. Phumzile Happy Thwala**, Founder, Phumlani Innovation Farm Pty Ltd & Director of Youth Affairs, SACAU
- Young Agripreneur – East or central

Sequence 2: Dialogue Session

Founder Fuel

Dame Graça Machel, Founder and Chair, Graça Machel Trust, Former Minister of Education & Culture of the Republic of Mozambique, Former First Lady, Republic of Mozambique & Former First Lady, Republic of South Africa

Disruptive Conversations

- **Mr. Abdrahamane Dicko**, Director of Programs and Impact, African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF)
- **Mr. Edson Mpyisi**, Chief Financial Economist and the Coordinator of the ENABLE Youth Program, African Development Bank Group
- **Mr. Donal Brown**, Associate Vice President, IFAD
- **Ms. Rica Rwigamba**, Ghana Country Director, Mastercard Foundation

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Agripreneurs <p>Sequence 3: Audience Interactive Dialogue</p> <p>An interactive session where the audience can ask questions directly to the speakers, and the youth stakeholders in the room can also share their perspectives.</p>
16:30–17:30	<p>You are What You Eat (Networking Event)</p> <p>Join this interactive youth networking session where youth delegates will explore the powerful connection between food, choices, and well-being. Through expert insights, engaging discussions, fun activities, food tasting and peer-to-peer sharing, the session will explore how our food choices impact health, carbon footprints, and the prosperity of farmers and communities. This networking session is curated for individuals passionate about nutrition, curious about food systems, or simply seeking to connect with like-minded peers. At the end of this session, delegates will have the opportunity to learn, reflect, and explore how their food choices can influence the food system.</p> <p>AS INVITED</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Victor Mugo, Youth Strategy Lead, One Acre Fund</p> <p>Sequence 1: Nutrition Deep Dive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Pacifique Ishimwe, Act4Food Rwanda Youth Leader, Act4Food and the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition Other partners <p>Sequence 2: Nutrition Interactive Quiz</p> <p>Sequence 3: Networking and Interaction</p>

DAY 2: Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 2nd, 2025 [EMPOWER]

TIME	SESSION
10:15–11:15	<p>No One Left Behind Dialogue (Interactive Discussion on Inclusion for Displaced Youth, Persons with Disabilities and Refugees)</p>

Africa is home to a substantial number of the world's displaced populations, including millions of refugees, youth and individuals with disabilities who are systemically excluded from economic opportunities. An unprecedented number of individuals are being forcibly displaced as a result of numerous crises and unresolved conflicts. This is generating a critical need for enhanced coordination and collaboration across different stakeholders. Despite agriculture being the continent's largest employer and a critical conduit to food security and rural development, these vulnerable groups remain underrepresented in agrifood systems due to barriers such as limited access to production resources, finance, education, and training, as well as inclusive technologies. The resilience and productivity of agrifood systems are also weakened by the exclusion of these populations, which also undermines their dignity and potential. A priority sustainable solution to support these populations is the inclusion of displaced youth, persons with disabilities, and refugees. This session will facilitate inclusive action by bringing together youth-led stakeholders and private sector actors to collaborate on developing programs, policies, and solutions that enable displaced youth, persons with disabilities, and refugees to engage meaningfully in agrifood systems, ensuring that no one is left behind.

11:30-13:00 **Generation Africa Prize Competition Live Final Pitches Show**

The GoGettaz Agripreneur Prize Competition, a flagship initiative of Generation Africa, is the premier platform in Africa for recognizing and supporting youth Agrifood entrepreneurs and innovators who are creating solutions and products addressing challenges across the Agrifood systems in Africa. Focusing on key thematic including innovation, sustainability, and real impact, the Gogettaz Agripreneurs Competition recognizes and empowers youth-led ventures that are revolutionizing Agrifood systems, awarding more than \$160,000 in prizes. This dedicated Live Final Pitch session at the Youth Dome will feature top finalists of young Agripreneurs and innovators from across the continent presenting their startups, ideas, innovations, and ventures to expert judges and a global audience. The pitch session will culminate in the selection of the two Grand Prize Winners (one male and one female) and recipients of the Impact Awards, who will be announced at the closing ceremony on Day 4 of the Forum.

AS INVITED

Moderator: Ms. Sherri Silver, IFAD Ambassador for Rural Youth

Sequence 1: Opening Remarks

- Mr. Strive Masiyiwa, Chairman and Founder, Econet
- Mr. Svein Tore Holsether, President and CEO, Yara International

Sequence 2: Gogettaz Live Final Pitch

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 Young Agripreneurs • Judges: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ms. Jean Muthamia-Mwenda, Global Lead, Youth Employment & Entrepreneurship, SNV Netherlands Development Organization ○ Ms. Jane Baldwin, Head of Agrifood System, Pan African Programs, Mastercard Foundation ○ Dr. Tolbert Mucheri, Head of Impact Measurement and IT, HigherLife Foundation ○ Ms. Nana Amoah, Director of Gender, Youth & Inclusiveness, AGRA
<p>14:00-16:00</p>	<p>Making Money from Agribusiness (Entrepreneurship Mentorship Session)</p> <p>One common paradox is that young people don't see a career, business or future in agriculture. To create dignified and fulfilling work opportunities and wealth for African youth, there is a need to empower and invest in upskilling young people in business opportunities across the agricultural value chains. Hence, this engagement will explore how they can identify profitable agribusinesses, transform their innovative ideas into thriving ventures, overcome the major hurdles of access to finance and market and importantly, manage successful agribusiness operations. This session aims to address the crucial question of how young people can be profitable in agribusiness. This session aims to address the crucial question of how young people can be profitable in agribusiness and in next-gen term "making money from agribusiness". The discussion will focus on enhancing the profitability of young Agripreneurs to contribute to Africa's food systems transformation and economic growth. The session is curated to facilitate interaction, youth-focused conversations, share inspirational youth perspectives, motivate and prepare young people to gain insights into the landscape of Agri-entrepreneurship opportunities across the agribusiness value chains.</p> <p>AS INVITED</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Atsuko Toda, Senior Director, Entrepreneurship Development, Pan-African Programs, Mastercard Foundation</p> <p>Sequence 1: Agripreneurs On-the-Mic (The Youth Perspectives)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Arristine Mendes, Founder, Shaddai Aquaculture, Republic of Senegal & Generation Africa Fellow • Ms. Toh Salimata, Founder of Agri Banana, Ivory Coast & Generation Africa Fellow • Young Agripreneur <p>Sequence 2: Dialogue Session</p>

	<p>Founder Fuel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Thione Niang, Founder, ZEUFZONE Farm <p>Disruptive Conversations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Mads Krogsgaard Thomsen, CEO, Novo Nordisk Foundation • Ms. Affiong Williams, CEO & Founder, ReelFruit • HE. Patrick Achi, Former Prime Minister, Center for International Development Senior Fellow, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, Harvard University • Dr. Nomathemba Mhlanga, Rwanda Country Representative, FAO • Youth Agripreneurs <p>Sequence 3: Audience Interactive Dialogue</p> <p>An interactive, high-impact learning dialogue where youth gain real-world knowledge through practical tools, success frameworks, and personal insights. The audience can ask questions directly to the speakers, and the youth stakeholders in the room can also share their perspectives and build on different opinions from others.</p>
16:30-17:30	<p>Social Event: DJ + networking session + Poetry Karaoke</p> <p>Filling the Youth Dome with youthful energy, this networking session is curated as an evening of rhythm, connection, creative expression, and a lively atmosphere. This Vibes and Voices brings together the energy of a live DJ set, the power of spoken word, and the fun of poetry karaoke in one unforgettable networking experience for the youth delegates. The Youth Dome is a space where you can be bold, be heard, and be inspired. In addition to the Vibes and Voices, the networking session will also feature knowledge sharing and technical insights from stakeholders in the agrifood sector.</p>

DAY 3: Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 3rd, 2025 [DELIVER]

TIME	SESSION
10:15-11:15	<p>Youth, Culture, and Agriculture (Showcase of Indigenous Youth in Agri-food Systems and Resilience through Heritage)</p> <p>Indigenous peoples in Africa possess rich intellectual rights and agricultural knowledge systems that are rooted in their community-led approach, cultural heritage, sustainability, and biodiversity. Nevertheless, these systems are becoming more vulnerable to the effects of climate change, land degradation, and socio-economic marginalization. Indigenous youth, in particular, face the dual challenge of preserving ancestral practices while navigating contemporary agrifood economies and practices. In addition, indigenous youth and women have limited development and opportunities in rural settings.</p>

	<p>This dedicated session aims to emphasize the significance of indigenous youth as innovators in sustainable agriculture and their fundamental role in strengthening indigenous peoples' food and knowledge systems. The session will converge discussions on the potential of heritage-based practices, including agroecology, seed preservation and indigenous food systems, to support climate adaptation, food sovereignty, and resilience.</p> <p>AS INVITED</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Marieme Esther Dassanou, Director Gender, Programs, Mastercard Foundation</p> <p>Opening Remarks:</p> <p>Ms. Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim, Coordinator, Association for Fulani Women and Indigenous Peoples of Chad (AFPAT) & Co-Chair, FSC Indigenous Foundation</p> <p>Sequence 1: Voices from the Ground</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Fatimatou Rabidine Hiyar, African Indigenous Youth • Mr. Mahamat Oumarou Malloum, African Indigenous Youth • Ms. Sanago Litya, African Indigenous Youth • Mr. Jeffrey Tsam, African Indigenous Youth <p>Sequence 2: Open Discussion</p>
<p>11:30-13:00</p>	<p>Youth Ag Innovation Showcase</p> <p>Africa's agrifood systems' future is in the hands of its young people, who are innovators, bold thinkers, entrepreneurs, and innovative problem solvers, redesigning the continent's agrifood systems. The growing concerns about food insecurity remain a serious challenge on the continent. However, embracing bold innovation can play a significant role in achieving food security by boosting agricultural productivity, creating and facilitating market-driven products and linkages, improving holistic food systems, and offering value and business opportunities across the value chains. The key question is how stakeholders can lead systemic change by engaging and supporting youth-led innovations in agrifood systems. This session is not just a conversation; it is a call to action that builds on this year's theme of the Africa Food Systems Summit - "Africa's Youth: Leading Collaboration, Innovation, and Implementation of Africa's Food Systems Transformation". This Youth Dome innovation showcase, jointly organized with key partners, aims to provide a dynamic platform for young Agripreneurs and innovators to showcase and pitch their groundbreaking ideas and startups, ranging from farmer-focused projects to climate-smart agricultural and agritech solutions, among other innovative solutions. The innovation showcase will be a learning platform that demonstrates</p>

how youth-led innovations are addressing real problems and driving Africa's transformation of its agrifood systems.

AS INVITED

Moderator: Mr. Victor Mugo, Youth Strategy Lead, One Acre Fund

Sequence 1: Dialogue Session

Keynote Remarks:

- **Dr. Claus Felby**, Senior Vice President, Novo Nordisk Foundation
- **Ms. Sheila Kayaa**, Lead, Agriculture and Agrifood Systems, Pan-African Programs, Mastercard Foundation

Panel Discussion: Supporting youth to build and scale innovations past the 'valley of death' and disrupt global agri-value chains

Moderator: Ms. Jean Muthamia-Mwenda, Global Lead, Youth Employment & Entrepreneurship, SNV Netherlands Development Organization

- **Mr. Maram Kaire**, Director of Senegalese Spatial Agency- Former NASA
- **Mr. Deogratius Magero**, Youth Manager, CABI
- **Ms. Janetta Carlucci**, Social Policy Officer, FAO
- Heifer International
- CGIAR Gender & Social Inclusion Accelerator
- GAIN/A4F

Sequence 2: Showcase – Youth Ag Innovators

Youth innovators shaping the future of agriculture will showcase and pitch their agrifood innovations, projects and startups. Youth innovators from across: Smart Agriculture, Last-mile Solution, Digital Solutions, Livestock, Market Linkage, Agri-Fintech, Post-Harvest and Value Addition.

Moderator: Mr. Victor Mugo, Youth Strategy Lead, One Acre Fund

- 6-8 Youth Ag-innovators from Africa

14:00-16:00

EmpowerHer: Next-gen Women in Agri-food
(Cross-Generational Mentorship Session)

Evidence-based data and studies highlight the significant and growing role of women, particularly young women, in agriculture and across its value chains in Africa. The often-overlooked yet crucial role of young women in Africa's agricultural sector remains a significant concern, underpinned by several factors, including socio-cultural and ideological barriers, limited access to and control over productive resources, low capacity building, institutional and financial constraints, among other limiting factors.

A new generation of young women in African agrifood systems is emerging with innovative ideas, increased control over decision-making, and breaking down barriers to accelerate gender equality and youth participation in agrifood systems. The new generation of young women looks up to older women who have set a precedent as role models in their agribusiness ventures, leadership, family, personal development and growth. This intergenerational engagement and knowledge transfer are helping to drive the transformation of food systems and shape a sustainable future.

Building on the momentum of the global goals to enhance gender equality and youth empowerment in agriculture, this session will provide a platform for intergenerational dialogue, enabling delegates to challenge the status quo, share their experiences, and exchange insights on the role of Africa's young women in transforming Africa's agrifood systems.

AS INVITED

Moderator:

Sequence 1: Live Opinion Poll

- All Delegates

Sequence 2: Agripreneurs On-the-Mic (The Youth Perspectives)

- Young Agripreneurs

Sequence 3: Dialogue Session

Founder Fuel

- **Ms. Ada Osakwe**, Founding & Managing Director, Agrolay Ventures & Board Member, AGRA

Disruptive Conversations

- **Ms. Sylvia Rotta**, President & Founder, Team Creatif Group
- **Ms. Wambui Chege**, Director of Agriculture, Pan African Programs, MasterCard Foundation
- **Ms. Adesuwa Ifedi**, Africa Senior Vice President, Heifer International
- **Ms. Phyllis Ombonyo**, Global Director, Strategy & Engagement, CABI

Sequence 4: Audience Interactive Dialogue

	An interactive session where the audience can ask questions directly to the speakers, and the youth stakeholders in the room can also share their perspectives.
16:30-17:30	<p>Food, Culture, and Youth Power (Networking Event)</p> <p>The session is curated to immerse delegates in the vibrant culture of Senegal. This dynamic networking session offers young and other delegates a unique experience of Senegalese arts, culture and tradition. Through the rhythms of sabar drumming and the voices of youth, discover how Senegalese heritage and culture inspire young people to shape a more connected and resilient future. In addition, the networking session will also feature knowledge sharing and technical insights from agrifood stakeholders.</p>

DAY 4: Thursday, SEPTEMBER 4th, 2025 [GOVERN]

TIME	SESSION
10:30-12:30	<p>Honouring African Agripreneurs (Celebration of the African Agripreneurs and GAFP Fellows Graduation)</p> <p>The Generation Africa Fellowship Program (GAFP) continues to build on the vision to strengthen the ecosystem for youth entrepreneurs in the agri-food sector across Africa. Since its launch, GAFP has remained a signature program, empowering young people with the skills and knowledge, as well as tailored coaching and mentoring, vital to succeeding in agribusiness and enhancing their leadership as catalysts for change and innovation. GAFP has successfully graduated two cohorts of youth fellows at previous editions of the Africa Food Systems Forum (AFSF) since 2023. Through this forum, the youth fellows are provided with a networking opportunity, learn from a diverse range of perspectives, and establish investor linkage. The session is curated to honour and celebrate the dedication, commitment and hard work of the youth fellows who have completed the GAFP fellowship. The session will feature transformational stories from the fellows and industry partners, youth-centric conversations and the certificate award ceremony.</p> <p>AS INVITED</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Sophie Nabuliri, Youth Entrepreneurship Growth Coordinator, Generation Africa, AGRA</p> <p>Sequence 1: Session Opening</p>

	<p>Opening Remarks: H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Former Chairperson, African Union Commission & Former Prime Minister, Republic of Chad</p> <p>Keynote Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Mildred Nadah Pita, Head of Public Affairs, Science and Sustainability, Bayer • Ms. Surita Sandosham, CEO, Heifer international <p>Sequence 2: Developing a Pipeline for Impact - Insights into Generation Africa Fellowship Program</p> <p>Generation Africa Fellowship Program Presentation: Mr. Henry Lagat, Lead, Generation Africa, AGRA</p> <p>Generation Africa Fellowship Program 2025 Fellow Testimonials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Irene Simon Ivambi, Founder, Mrembo naturals Limited & Generation Africa Fellow • Mr. Elhadji Malick Sagne, Founder of Cactus Innovation, Republic of Senegal & Generation Africa Fellow <p>Sequence 3: Panel Discussion – Transforming Agrifood Systems through Youth Empowerment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Nteranya Sanginga, Immediate Past Director General of IITA and President of the Africa Agricultural Leadership Institute (AALI) • Mr. Deogratius Magero, Youth Manager, CABI • Partners • <p>Sequence 4: Graduation Ceremony and Awards of Certificates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GAFFP 2025 Fellows
<p>14:00-16:00</p>	<p>Youth Prize Winners' Announcement (Award Ceremony of GettaZ Prizes and Impact Awards)</p> <p>During the Youth Governance plenary, a segment will be dedicated to celebrating the GoGettaZ Award Ceremony, where the two winners of this year's GoGettaZ Agripreneur Prize - one woman and one man will be announced, awarding more than \$160,000 in prizes. The GoGettaZ Award Ceremony will also spotlight and celebrate the Impact Award winners for the impact made by young Agripreneurs in Africa in transforming the continent's food systems.</p>

INVESTMENT ROOM

The Investment Room hosts, throughout the week, the high-impact Deal Room, a matchmaking platform linking governments, SMEs, and investors to drive agricultural financing and partnerships. In parallel, Legacy Programs serve as flagship platforms for investment pledges, showcasing scalable national strategies and priority projects.

DAY 2: Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 2nd, 2025 [EMPOWER]

TIME	SESSION
10:00 – 13:00	<p>Investment Room: Opening Session</p> <p>AS INVITED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Amadou Gallo Fall, President, Basketball Africa League (BAL) • Mr., Bagore Bathily, Managing Director, La Laiterie Du Berger • Mr. Carlos Manuel Rodríguez CEO and Chairperson, Global Environment Facility (GEF) • Mr. Didier Acouetey, Chairman & Founder, AfricSearch Group • Ms. Sefora Kodjo, CEO Foundation, Sephis • Ms. Surita Sandosham, President & CEO, Heifer International • Mr. Thione Niang, Founder, JEUFZONE Farm
14:00 – 15:30	<p>Investment Room Opening Session</p> <p>AS INVITED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Andrew Steer President and CEO Bezos Earth Fund • Dr. Benedict Oramah, Former President, African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) • Dr. James Mwangi Group Managing Director and CEO Equity Bank Group • Mr. Jules Ngankam CEO Africa Guarantee Fund • Mr. Partheeban Theodore President, Regional Head Olam Agri • Mr. Paulo Gomes Chairman Orango Investment Corporation • Mr. William Asiko Vice President, Africa Regional Office Rockefeller Foundation • Dr. Agnes Kalibata Former President Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)
16:00 – 17:30	<p>Investment Room: Somalia Legacy Program</p>

DAY 3: Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 3rd, 2025 [DELIVER]

AFSF PARTNERS



TIME	SESSION
14:00 – 15:30	Investment Room: Zimbabwe Legacy Program
16:00 – 17:30	Investment Room: Ghana Legacy Program

DAY 4: Thursday, SEPTEMBER 4th, 2025 [GOVERN]

TIME	SESSION
14:00 – 15:30	Investment Room: Nigeria Legacy Program
16:00 – 17:30	Investment Room: Uganda Legacy Program

KNOWLEDGE HUB

The Knowledge Hub at AGRF 2025 is a curated learning space providing delegates with access to the latest reports, data dashboards, technical briefs, and research findings from across Africa and beyond. It serves as a dynamic platform where experts translate data into actionable insights to support food systems transformation. Central to the Hub are masterclasses and training sessions designed to build practical skills for young people, entrepreneurs, startups, and governments. Each masterclass features 2 to 4 workshop leaders, live assignments, interactive Q&A, and screen-sharing, creating an engaging, hands-on learning environment.

Participants are encouraged to come prepared with laptops and enthusiasm to fully benefit from a blend of sessions, workshops, and networking opportunities focused on agri-food system transformation. Reflection pages allow attendees to share key takeaways, which are compiled into a word cloud presented at the following year's Forum. The Knowledge Hub also offers opportunities for future training and follow-up sessions, fostering continuous learning beyond the Africa Food Systems Forum.

Join us at the Knowledge Hub and take your learning to the next level!

DAY 2: Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 2nd, 2025 [EMPOWER]

TIME	SESSION
10:30–11:30	<p>Knowledge Hub Event: Location: Stage 1</p> <p>Title: NextGen Agri-Food Leaders: Catalyzing Youth-Driven Transformation in Africa Organizer: AKADEMIYA2063, icipe & African Development Bank (AfDB)</p> <p>This side event will showcase and accelerate youth-led transformation in Africa’s agri-food systems. Drawing on the 2024 YOUTH AHEAD report by the Malabo Montpellier Panel, it will feature innovative policy recommendations and real-world successes empowering young Africans. Proven models like AGRODEP and the Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund will be spotlighted for equipping youth with cutting-edge skills. Bringing together youth innovators, policymakers, and development partners, the event will co-create strategies to scale youth engagement and catalyze investment in education, entrepreneurship, and digital infrastructure thus promoting inclusive policy processes that position youth as planners, decision-makers, and investors in resilient agri-food systems.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dr. Katrin Glatzel, Director of Global Strategy and Programs, AKADEMIYA2063

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Prof. Dorothy Okello, Dean School of Engineering, Makerere University; Africa Food Prize Committee Member & Member Malabo Montpellier Panel ○ Dr. Julius Ecuru, Principal Scientist and Manager, Research Innovation Coordination Units at icipe ○ Prof. Amb. Muhammadou Kah, Ambassador of the Gambia to Switzerland and the Geneva-based international organizations & Member Malabo Montpellier Panel ○ Dr. Augustin Wambo Yamdjeu, Director Knowledge Systems and AGRODEP coordinator, AKADEMIYA2063 ○ Dr. Rose Omari, Science, Technology and Policy Research Institute/CSIR, Ghana ○ Dr. Frejus Ariel Sodedji, Universite d'Abome Calavi, Benin ○ Prof. Aminata Sall Diallo, Cheikh Anta Diop University and Chair PASET Executive Board ○ Dr. Damian Ihedioha, Manager of the Agribusiness Development Division, AfDB
<p>10:30-12:30</p>	<p>Masterclass Location: Stage 2</p> <p>Title: Empowering Youth Leaders to Unlock Africa's Potential</p> <p>Organizer: Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), Act4Food, AGRA in partnership with Wageningen University & Research (WUL) and Africa Leadership University (ALU), Africa Food Fellowship</p> <p>For young leaders committed to unlocking Africa's potential through food system transformation, this masterclass is your next strategic step. It's carefully curated to provide you with the skills, knowledge, and confidence necessary to lead impactful efforts. Informed by the GAIN Youth Leadership Initiative and the Africa Food Fellowship, the session offers a rich and practical learning environment, connecting robust theory with actionable insights.</p> <p>If you are a young person aiming to create significant change on the continent, this session is for you. Equally, if you are an organization or experienced individual looking to foster meaningful youth engagement, you'll find this session invaluable.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stephanie Sargeant, GAIN ○ Tatenda Tsorai, GAIN ○ Innocent Cosmas Msoka, GAIN
<p>12:00-13:00</p>	<p>Knowledge Hub Event Location: Stage 1</p> <p>Title: Gender, Youth & the Future of Food Systems</p>

	<p>Organizer: CGIAR Gender Equality and Inclusion Accelerator & Consortium of African Youth in Agriculture and Climate Change (CAYACC)</p> <p>As we build momentum toward the 2026 Year of the Woman Farmer, this dialogue aims to make a strong case for increased and sustained investment in young women and youth as catalysts for equitable, resilient, and sustainable food, land and water systems. Through showcasing successful gender-responsive, youth-led innovations, participants will explore actionable models and pathways for impact. The event also provides a platform for fostering inclusive dialogue on financing, policy, and research approaches that prioritize equity and representation. By amplifying young women’s voices in agricultural research for development (AR4D), this convening will generate concrete outcomes to inform and influence agendas at national, regional, and global levels.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nicoline de Haan, Director CGIAR GENDER Equality and Inclusion Accelerator ○ Malama Malama, Membership Coordinator, Consortium of African Youth in Agriculture and Climate Change, CAYACC ○ Fatoumata Camara, Farm Manager, Sahel Agribusiness ○ Gentile Colotta, Lorenzo, World Food Forum , Head of Operations (Office of Youth and Women) ○ Francine Picard Mukazi- Co, founder and Director of Partnerships, Shamba Centre for Food and Climate ○ Vivian Atakos, Global Engagement and Policy Lead, CGIAR (Moderator)
<p>13:00-15:00</p>	<p>Masterclass</p> <p>Location: Stage 2</p> <p>Title: The Business Case for Nutrition - An Entrepreneurship Masterclass</p> <p>Organizer: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) & Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)</p> <p>The session will sensitize young people on the business case for tackling Africa’s nutrition challenges. It will equip youth agripreneurs with practical insights and guide them through key steps to start or scale nutrition-sensitive enterprises. Participants will engage in at least one hands-on activity or assignment, ensuring real-time application of concepts. The Masterclass will inspire and empower youth to drive change across food systems by integrating nutrition into their business models for improved health and economic impact.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Aime Kwizera, Programme Lead, Nutrition Enterprise Development

<p>13:30–14:30</p>	<p>Knowledge Hub Event Location: Stage 1</p> <p>Title: Poultry and Livestock Value Chain Opportunities for Africa</p> <p>Organizer: National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) and/or USDA</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>15:00–16:00</p>	<p>Knowledge Hub Event Location: Stage 1</p> <p>Title: Indigenous seed systems – insights from Columbia and Africa</p> <p>Organizer: IDRC & Embassy of Columbia in Senegal</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>15:30–17:30</p>	<p>Masterclass Location: Stage 2</p> <p>Title: Youth-Led African Local Food Systems</p> <p>Organizer: AeTrade; Ghana Food Movement, AGRA, FAO, Ghana Ministry of Food and Agriculture, CGIAR Urban Food Systems program, Senegalese food movement partners</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>16:30–17:30</p>	<p>Knowledge Hub Event Location: Stage 1</p> <p>Title: Green and Low Carbon Transformation of Agrifood Systems in China and Africa</p>

	<p>opportunities to scale its use across the continent in line with Agenda 2063. It will bring together policymakers, researchers, development partners, and farmer representatives to foster dialogue on enabling regulatory frameworks and promote inclusive engagement—particularly of youth.</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Anne Obize MacAnne, Founder & Executive Director, Teens Connect Africa</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ H.E. Hailemariam Desalegn, Board Chair, AGRA; Former Prime Minister, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia; Board Chair, Hailemariam & Roman Foundation (HRF) ○ Dr. Canisius Kanangire, Executive Director, African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF) ○ Dr. Ismahane Elouafi, Executive Managing Director, CGIAR ○ Ms. Onyaole Patience Koku, CEO, Hectarefamily Limited & Regional Lead, Africa Global Farmer Network ○ Dr. Birama Sidibé, Founder, Agrobiotech ○ Dr. Ijeoma Akaogu, Program Officer-COWPEA, African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF)
<p>10:30-12:30</p>	<p>Masterclass Location: Stage 2</p> <p>Title: Food System Supply Chains & Trade Organizer: SNV; AGRA; Wageningen University & Research (WUL) and Africa Leadership University (ALU)</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○
<p>12:00-13:00</p>	<p>Knowledge Hub Event Location: Stage 1</p> <p>Title: Investing in the Red Meat Market: A High-Impact Opportunity for Climate, Nutrition & Economic Growth in Africa Organizer: Gates Foundation</p> <p>This session will spotlight the untapped potential of Africa’s pastoral red meat value chains to drive climate-smart, gender-transformative, and economically viable food systems. Through case studies from different countries, speakers will showcase how strategic investments—across breeding, feed, traceability, and market access for pastoralists—can reduce emissions intensity, enhance pastoral livelihoods, and boost GDP. The panel will also</p>

	<p>explore pathways to crowd in private and blended finance, whilst making the case for scaling formal offtake and integrating pastoral systems into regional food agendas.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dr. Huyam Salih –Director, Keynote Speaker, AU-IBAR ○ Chloe Stull Lane – Livestock, Gatsby Africa ○ Prof. Ruth Kiraka – Associate Professor of Management (Strategy and Entrepreneurship) Strathmore Business School ○ Doreen Gacheri – CEO, GENCO ○ Felisters Gitau Mutugu – CEO, Farmer’s Choice
<p>13:00–15:00</p>	<p>Masterclass Location: Stage 2</p> <p>Title: Unlocking Technical Assistance in Africa Organizer: IFAD, SNV, DFCD, CLIC, PARM</p> <p>Join us for a dynamic masterclass designed to demystify <i>Technical Assistance (TA)</i> and its power to unlock growth for African agribusinesses!</p> <p>Tailored for SMEs and youth and delivered by investors and development actors grounded in practice, this interactive session will explore how TA supports investment readiness, drives inclusive business growth, and de-risks finance in climate-resilient value chains.</p> <p>Through real-world case studies, funding insights, and practical guidance, participants will discover how to access TA, what it involves, and how to equip businesses with the tools they need to effectively access and leverage technical assistance. Participants will also gain insight into the roles and responsibilities of participating in Technical Assistance.</p> <p>If you're aiming to scale your business impact in agri-food systems, this is your roadmap to smarter, more sustainable investment. Don't miss it!</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ms. Sara Mbago-Bhunu, Director – Eastern and Southern Africa, International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) ○ Ms. Diane Potey, Regional Lead for West Africa, Dutch Fund for Climate & Development (DFCD) ○ Ms. Vandana Thottoli, Business Origination Advisor – East Africa, DFCD & SNV ○ Dr. Jean Claude Bidogeza, Technical Specialist, Platform for Agriculture Risk management (PARM), IFAD ○ Ms. Wen E Chin, Manager, ClimateShot Investors Coalition (CLIC) ○ Representative of La Banque Agricole (LBA - Senegal) TBC ○ Ms. Nadine Manzi Umunyana, Senior Global Technical Specialist – Private Sector,

	<p>IFAD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ms. Dorcas Mayala Ntumba, Knowledge Management, Communication and Partnership, PARM
<p>13:30-14:30</p>	<p>Knowledge Hub Event Location: Stage 1</p> <p>Title: #ClimateAction through Food Loss Reduction Organizer: Green Climate Fund</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>15:00-16:00</p>	<p>Knowledge Hub Event Location: Stage 1</p> <p>Title: Advancing Kampala-CAADP Implementation by Leveraging Local Expertise and Youth-led Initiatives Organizer: AKADEMIYA2063, African Union Commission (AUC), African Union Development Agency, NEPAD (AUDA-NEPAD), Consortium of African Youth in Agriculture and Climate Change (CAYACC)</p> <p>Africa's agrifood systems are undergoing profound changes, driven by the effects of climate change, a fast growing youthful and urbanizing population, and evolving food demand. In response, African leaders recently adopted the Kampala CAADP Declaration to accelerate efforts to transform Africa's agrifood systems. To be successful, the transformation requires inclusive approaches that center youth as innovators and leverage local expertise with deep contextual understanding. As countries move to implement the Kampala Declaration, this side event will convene diverse stakeholders to identify concrete pathways for harnessing local expertise and youth-led initiatives to support a successful CAADP implementation and agrifood system transformation.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ H.E. Moses Vilakati, Commissioner, AUC-DARBE (TBC) ○ Ms. Nardos Bekele-Thomas, Chief Executive Officer, AUDA-NEPAD (TBC) ○ Hon. Dr. Dora Siliya, Former Minister of Agriculture, Zambia and Project Promoter, Greenville Agro Park Development Company ○ Dr. Nteranya Sanginga, Emeritus Director General, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), and Board Member, Africa Food Prize (TBC) ○ Dr. Debisi Araba, Visiting Research Fellow, Imperial College London ○ Dr. Nana Amodah, Director, Gender, Youth & Inclusiveness, AGRA

- Dr. Mwaka Namukonde, Executive Coordinator, CAYACC
- Mr. Tadeo Ajuna, Program Coordinator and Co-country Representative for Uganda, Young Professionals for Agricultural Development (YPARD)
- Mr. Odd Eirik Arnesen, Senior Adviser, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation and Co-Chair, CAADP Development Partner Coordination Group (DPCG) (TBC)
- Ms. Tsitsi Makombe, Director, External Relations, AKADEMIYA2063
-

15:30-17:30

Masterclass
Location: Stage 2

Title: Behavioral Risk Analysis & Management for Small African Agribusinesses
Organizer: Alliance of Bioversity and CIAT & Accelerating Impact of CGIAR Climate Research of Africa (AICCRA)

The CGIAR Food Systems Accelerator (CFSA) is a science-driven initiative that supports agribusinesses in scaling climate-smart innovations to strengthen the sustainability and resilience of food systems in Eastern and Southern Africa. Through technical assistance, investment readiness support, and market linkages, CFSA helps early-stage enterprises become commercially viable and impact-driven.

Aligned with the broader Accelerating Impacts of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa (AICCRA) initiative, CFSA contributes to scaling climate-smart agriculture and climate information services to reach millions of smallholder farmers. Leveraging CGIAR’s research expertise, it promotes solutions that address food security, environmental sustainability, and inclusive economic growth.

Complementing this, the Enabling Market Intelligence and Building Engagement (EMBE) project—led by the Alliance of Bioversity and CIAT, a CGIAR Centre and funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation—addresses last-mile distribution challenges, particularly in managing agent networks, to help agribusinesses expand their reach and boost sales.

Targeted at Small and Medium Enterprises with annual revenues of up to USD 500,000, this session supports the AFS knowledge function by offering science-based skills. It combines insights from CFSA, AICCRA’s Accelerator Best Practices for Derisking Agribusinesses as Investments, and EMBE to equip participants with practical knowledge for scaling climate-smart solutions.

The expected output is that participants understand:

- Internal Risk Management
- Last Mile Distribution and Agent Risk Management
- Customer & Market Behavior - Risk and Management

- From Risk to Resilience: Accessing Finance for Agribusinesses and SMEs

Speakers

- Facilitator: **Ms. Liz Ogutu**, Policy Manger and Lead East and Southern Africa, Climate Action, Alliance Bioversity-CIAT
- Lead Scientist/Masterclass Trainer: **Dr. Nathaniel (Nate) Peterson**, Senior Scientist, Behavioral Economist & Private Sector Support, Alliance of Bioversity-CIAT
- Co-trainer/Scientist: **Dr. Millicent Omala**, Climate Finance specialist, Alliance of Bioversity-CIAT
- Researcher/Rapporteur: **Ms. Diane Ombasyi**, Associate, Climate Action, Alliance of Bioversity-CIAT

16:30-17:30

Knowledge Hub Event

Location: Stage 1

Title: Public Incentives and Information Systems for Africa’s Soil Health

Organizer: GIZ, CIFOR-ICRAF/Coalition of Action 4 Soil Health, World Bank, AUDA-NEPAD, NORAD, AICCRA, YPARD

This session will spotlight the central role of soil health and the need to provide appropriate incentives through public policy and support programs in advancing Africa’s food systems transformation. Framed within the CAADP Kampala Strategy and Action Plan, the event will explore how enhanced soil health information systems can support African Union Members in integrating soil health into national planning processes.

Robust soil data systems are essential for designing and implementing effective public support programs that deliver inclusive and sustainable outcomes. Central to this is the repurposing of fertilizer subsidies to increase long-term agricultural productivity and improve soil health in the fiscally constrained environment. This includes better targeting, providing soil specific recommendations, and providing incentives for adoption of site-specific integrated soil management practices.

This session will highlight global issues around soil health, with a focus on regional (continental) processes with specific country examples. Stakeholders leading soil policy reform at each of these levels will share their experiences. The session will facilitate dialogue on aligning national and continental frameworks, strengthening institutional and technical capacities, enhancing soil information systems, and enabling the uptake of incentive mechanisms that promote sustainable and equitable food systems.

Speakers

- Dr. Sophia Baumert, Project Manager, GIZ
- Dr. Leigh Winowiecki, Soil and Land Health Global Research Lead, CIFOR-ICRAF, Co-lead of the Coalition of Action 4 Soil Health and Daan Schuttenbelt, Impact Evaluation Specialist, Clim-Eat
- Manyewu Mutamba, Head of Agriculture, AUDA-NEPAD

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jenice Achieng, YPARD Kenya Country Representative • Simon Muchigiri – Head of Farm-Input, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development (MoALD), Government of Kenya • Zambia government • Tanzania government • Malawi government • Ingvild Langhus, Senior Advisor, Department for Climate, Nature and the private, Norad
	○

DAY 4: Thursday, SEPTEMBER 4th, 2025 [GOVERN]

TIME	SESSION
10:30-11:30	<p>Knowledge Hub Event Location: Stage 1</p> <p>Title: From the Ground Up; Scaling Soil Health Solutions for Planet and People. Organizer: TP: Sustainable Production</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
10:30-12:30	<p>Masterclass Location: Stage 2</p> <p>Title: Investment & Financing for Resilient Food Systems Organizer: AGRA; Wageningen University & Research (WUL) and Africa Leadership University (ALU); Alliance of Bioversity and CIAT & Accelerating Impact of CGIAR Climate Research of Africa (AICCRA); ClimateShot Investor Coalition (CLIC)</p> <p>Governments are increasingly prioritizing climate-smart and climate-resilient agriculture by integrating it into Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Agriculture Investment Plans (NAIPs). However, translating these commitments into bankable investments and business cases that attract public and private finance requires strategic planning, innovative financial instruments, and coordinated action among key stakeholders. Programs such as the Food System Resilience Program (FSRP) and the CGIAR Food Systems Accelerator (CFSA) have demonstrated the potential of private sector engagement and financial innovation in driving transformation, yet more needs to be done to scale these efforts.</p>

	<p>This Master Class aims to bridge the gap between policy commitments, investment planning, and implementation by leveraging practical tools and methodologies such as Climate-Smart Agriculture Investment Plans (CSAIPs). It will equip participants with the knowledge and skills needed to identify investment opportunities, align them with climate finance mechanisms, and facilitate multi-stakeholder collaboration to drive food system resilience.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Facilitator: Ms. Liz Ogutu, Policy Manager and Lead Eastern & Southern Africa, Climate Action, Alliance of Bioversity – CIAT ○ Trainer/co-lead scientist: Dorcas Jalango, Research and Programs Specialist – Finance and Investments, Alliance of Bioversity – CIAT ○ Co-lead/Scientist: Dr. Issa Ouedrago, Senior Scientist and Country Manager, Senegal, Alliance of Bioversity-CIAT ○ Researcher/rappoteur: Mr. Siagbé Golli, Senior Research Associate, Alliance
<p>12:00-13:00</p>	<p>Knowledge Hub Event Location: Stage 1</p> <p>Title: Powering Africa's Food and Nutrition Goals: Introducing Off-Grid Solar technologies and solutions Organizer: GOGLA, GIZ, GAIN</p> <p>The agriculture sector consumes 30% of global energy, yet in sub-Saharan Africa, many farmers lack reliable electricity, limiting productivity and resilience. Decentralized Renewable Energy (DRE), such as off-grid solar, can meet up to 80% of off-grid agricultural needs but is often overlooked in favor of large-scale grid projects. DRE can power irrigation, refrigeration, and processing, supporting nutrition and smallholder livelihoods. Integrated energy planning that aligns centralized and decentralized solutions with agricultural needs is essential. This session introduces off-grid solar in agriculture, showcasing real-world cases and exploring how DRE can improve food systems, incomes, and nutrition in rural communities.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ms. Brenda Marbaniang, Policy Manager, GOGLA ○ Ms. Sowrya Kilaru, Programme Manager, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) ○ Mr. Samwel Naimasia, Project Manager, EnDev & Regional Project Coordinator, GIZ ○ Ms. Sarah Alexander, Global Technical Advisor, Off Grid Electrification, SNV ○ REEEP (TBC) ○ Mr. Hack Stiernblad, Chief Growth Officer, SunCulture ○ Agsol (Private sector company) TBC ○ Ecofrost (Private sector company) TBC

<p>13:00–15:00</p>	<p>Masterclass Location: Stage 2</p> <p>Title: Governance & Leadership for Food Systems</p> <p>Organizer: GAIN/A4F; AGRA; Wageningen University & Research (WUL) and Africa Leadership University (ALU)</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mr. Abdrahamane Dicko, Director of Programs and Impact, African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) ○ Stephanie Sargeant, Global Youth Campaigns Coordinator, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition ○ Tatenda Tsorai, Zimbabwe Youth Leader, Act4Food ○ Innocent Cosmas Msoka, Tanzania Youth Leader, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition
<p>13:30–14:30</p>	<p>Knowledge Hub Event Location: Stage 1</p> <p>Title:</p> <p>Organizer:</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>15:00–16:00</p>	<p>Knowledge Hub Event Location: Stage 1</p> <p>Title: Mobilizing Local Leadership for Food Systems Transformation Organizer: The Hunger Project (THP)</p> <p>Strong local civil society organizations are driving the transformation of Africa’s food systems from the ground up. This session will spotlight community-led solutions—particularly those led by women and youth—that place nutrition, WASH, and citizen accountability at the heart of food policy and practice. Drawing on the expertise of the Right2Grow consortium and the Global Alliance for Sustainable Nutrition, participants will engage with scalable strategies</p>

	<p>and participate in an interactive role-play that introduces a locally developed budget monitoring tool. Attendees will leave with actionable insights, tools, and examples to advocate for essential services, influence investment decisions, and ensure that food systems transformation is inclusive, locally led, and equity-driven.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mr. Rowlands Kaotcha, President & CEO, The Hunger Project ○ Ms. Ramata Sy, Farmer & Community Partner from Guédé-Village, Republic of Senegal ○ Ms. Adam Dicko, Malian activist & Executive Director, Association des Jeunes pour la Citoyenneté Active et la Démocratie (AJCAD) ○ Mr. Dieudonné Lankoandé, National Coordinator, Réseau de la Société Civile pour la Nutrition (RESONUT)
<p>15:30-16:30</p>	<p>Knowledge Hub Event Location: Stage 2</p> <p>Title: Organizer:</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>16:30-17:30</p>	<p>Knowledge Hub Event Location: Stage 1</p> <p>Title: Organizer:</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>17:00-18:00</p>	<p>Knowledge Hub Event Location: Stage 2</p> <p>Title: Organizer:</p>

	<p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
--	---

AGRI-FOOD EXPO

The Agri-Food Expo is the Forum’s vibrant exhibition zone, featuring the Senegal Pavillion, private sector showcases, innovation pods, and startup booths. It is a space for networking, discovery, and collaboration—where ideas come to life through technology demonstrations, product launches, and interactive displays. In the center, the Expo also hosts a stage for the Culinary Village and Arbre à Palabres.

DAY I: Monday, SEPTEMBER 1st, 2025 – LEADERSHIP

TIME	SESSION
13:00 – 16:00	<p>Culinary Village Location: Arbre Stage</p> <p>Title: Organizer: GAIN</p> <p>At the Culinary Village, tradition meets innovation. Attendees enjoy live cooking demonstrations, tastings, and chef-led showcases of African ingredients and culinary heritage. It’s a celebration of food culture that highlights the nutritional, economic, and environmental importance of local diets and cuisines and links with sustainable production and consumption.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
14:00 – 16:00	<p>Senegal Pavillion Session Location: Senegal Pavillion</p> <p>Title: « Lessons Learnt – How did you do it? » Organizer: Ministère de l’Agriculture et APIX</p> <p>This event highlights the agricultural successes of 15 countries that have excelled in specific sectors from Brazil’s large-scale production and agro-environmental innovations to Ireland’s dairy production. Rapid-fire showcases will highlight examples from China, Brazil, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, India, Ireland, Italy, Morocco, the Netherlands, Rwanda, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, and Vietnam.</p> <p>Each country will have 10 minutes to share its experiences, challenges, and the strategies that have enabled it to achieve significant results. This event aims to promote South-South cooperation and strengthen shared knowledge for sustainable agriculture.</p> <p>Speakers</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
16:30 – 17:30	<p>Senegal Pavillion Session Location: Senegal Pavillion</p> <p>Title: Organizer: APIX</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [Title, Name, Position, Organization]

DAY 2: Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 2nd, 2025 – COLLABORATE

TIME	SESSION
08:30 – 10:00	<p>Senegal Pavillion Session Location: Senegal Pavillion</p> <p>Title: Organizer: APIX</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
10:30 – 11:30	<p>Senegal Pavillion Session Location: Senegal Pavillion</p> <p>Title: Exemples de réussite en matière d'intégration socio-économique des jeunes ruraux au Sénégal Organizer: IFAD & FIDA</p> <p>This session demonstrates how rural youth can improve their socioeconomic conditions through well-designed programs that have a long-term impact on the lives of young boys and girls living in rural areas of Senegal.</p> <p>By sharing the experiences of beneficiaries of AGRIFEUNES and other successful programs, the session emphasizes the importance of involving communities, investing in training, and providing start-up capital so that young people can launch activities that generate monthly</p>

	<p>income. The session will also highlight the impact of such initiatives on the well-being of communities, including keeping young people in rural communities (combating rural exodus), thanks to the new employment opportunities offered.</p> <p>Young people will be the main speakers at this interactive session. Videos of the project will be shown during the event. The audience will have the opportunity to ask questions. The session will be moderated by an IFAD representative or an IFAD partner.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>12:00 – 15:00</p>	<p>Senegal Pavillion Session Location: Senegal Pavillion</p> <p>Title: Mettre à l'échelle les potentialités des exploitations agricoles familiales pour garantir des systèmes alimentaires durables en Afrique Organizer: Dynamique pour une Transition Agroécologique au Sénégal (DyTAES)</p> <p>This session explores partnership models that promote local knowledge, agroecological practices, and the central role of family farms in building sustainable food systems. Through the combined perspectives of farmers, policymakers, researchers, and private sector actors, it will highlight the political, economic, and institutional conditions conducive to scaling up these partnerships. The panel will also examine the levers that support these agricultural models and emphasize the importance of multi-stakeholder approaches for a just and inclusive transition. The goal is to identify concrete courses of action to make family farms a pillar of food and climate policies on the continent.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>12:00 – 15:00</p>	<p>Culinary Village Location: Arbre Stage</p> <p>Title: Organizer: GAIN</p> <p>At the Culinary Village, tradition meets innovation. Attendees enjoy live cooking demonstrations, tastings, and chef-led showcases of African ingredients and culinary heritage. It's a celebration of food culture that highlights the nutritional, economic, and environmental importance of local diets and cuisines and links with sustainable production and consumption.</p> <p>Speakers</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>13:30 – 14:30</p>	<p>Senegal Pavillion Session Location: Senegal Pavillion</p> <p>Title: Céréales sèches et légumineuses : valorisation, innovation et goût au cœur des systèmes alimentaires Villages climato-intelligents : renforcer la résilience locale face au changement climatique Organizer: Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles (ISRA)</p> <p>This cross-disciplinary activity led by CERAAS will highlight dry cereals and legumes through a series of highlights: discussions with researchers and innovators, live cooking demonstrations, and tastings of processed products. It aims to bring together science, nutrition, and food culture to illustrate the central role of these crops in sustainable, resilient, and inclusive food systems. By combining scientific approaches, local knowledge, and culinary creativity, this session will offer an immersive and sensory experience accessible to all audiences.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>15:00 – 16:00</p>	<p>Senegal Pavillion Session Location: Senegal Pavillion</p> <p>Title: School Meals – Transforming Local Food Systems Organizer: Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale (IPAR)</p> <p>Co-organized by IPAR, IFPRI, and IDRC, this side event explores how school meal programs can serve as powerful levers for building resilient and inclusive agrifood systems in Africa. By creating demand for indigenous, climate-resilient crops and promoting regenerative agriculture, school meals offer a unique opportunity to improve both nutrition and environmental outcomes. The session will showcase evidence and case studies from multiple African countries, demonstrating how school feeding initiatives are being used to advance gender equality, youth empowerment, and local procurement at national scale. It will also provide a platform for dialogue among stakeholders from research, policy, civil society, and the private sector to identify concrete pathways for scaling up sustainable school meals across the continent. Ultimately, the event aims to foster collective action and policy innovation to transform food systems from the ground up—starting with schools.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>15:30 – 16:00</p>	<p>Arbre à Palabres Session</p>

	<p>Location: Arbre Stage</p> <p>Title: Youth and insects – an unlikely partnership and its transformative impact on agrifood systems</p> <p>Organizer: ICIPE</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>16:30 – 17:30</p>	<p>Senegal Pavillion Session</p> <p>Location: Senegal Pavillion</p> <p>Title: Le sol, racine invisible de notre sécurité alimentaire</p> <p>Organizer: Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD)</p> <p>This panel will discuss the often invisible but essential role of soil health in African food sovereignty. It will bring together researchers, farmers, processors, entrepreneurs, and public decision-makers to discuss the links between soil, agricultural practices, processing, and access to sustainable food. Moderated by a student, it will be introduced by a short video filmed in the field. The aim is to highlight a key issue for food security, climate, and economic resilience, while illustrating the concrete contribution of young scientists and South-South collaborations.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>16:30 – 17:00</p>	<p>Arbre à Palabres Session</p> <p>Location: Arbre Stage</p> <p>Title: China-Africa Agricultural Cooperation for Food Security in Africa</p> <p>Organizer: Tshwane University of Technology & Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS)</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]

DAY 3: Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 3rd, 2025 – AWARD

AFSF PARTNERS



TIME	SESSION
08:30 – 10:00	<p>Senegal Pavillion Session Location: Senegal Pavillion</p> <p>Title: Agro entrepreneuriat féminin et investissement sensible au genre Gender-Smart Agro business pitch Organizer: Alliance Bioversity International and CIAT</p> <p>This pitch session will give entrepreneurs the opportunity to present their projects, their financing needs, and their expected financial results and impacts in five minutes, followed by a five-minute question-and-answer session with a panel of judges composed of impact investors and local banks. Participants will have been prepared in advance through a boot camp on climate-smart agriculture and sustainable practices and will have received support in integrating these elements into their business plans. With the help of a presentation template and targeted coaching, they will be ready to capture the attention of the jury and partners in attendance. The goal: to promote solid, inclusive projects and create concrete opportunities for financing and collaboration around sustainable agricultural solutions.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
09:00 – 09:30	<p>Arbre à Palabres Session Location: Arbre Stage</p> <p>Title: Delicious, Nutritious, Culturally-Rooted Food: What does it take to transform Food Systems? Organizer: Tailored Food</p> <p>This session will dive into the lessons learned when researching, developing, and scaling nutritious low-cost culturally-relevant food products across Africa, scaling these innovations with the world's largest food aid organizations.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
10:00 – 10:30	<p>Arbre à Palabres Session Location: Arbre Stage</p> <p>Title: Wildlife & Agriculture Organizer: AGRA</p> <p>[Event Description]</p>

	<p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>10:30 – 11:00</p>	<p>Senegal Pavillion Session Location: Senegal Pavillion</p> <p>Title: Café Entre Pros Jeunes Organizer: Réseau National des clubs de jeunes entrepreneurs du Sénégal (RENCJES)</p> <p>Organized in the form of open discussions, inspiring experience sharing, and meetings, it will bring together 50 young entrepreneurs from the region brought together by RENCJES. It will take place in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Youth, CONFEJES, and several economic actors already identified. By creating a stimulating and structured space, the Entre Pros Jeunes café complements the forum's technical and institutional panels by giving actors in the field the opportunity to discuss business opportunities (young entrepreneurs, investors, start-ups, etc.). It thus promotes the co-construction of concrete responses to the challenges of agri-food and sovereignty. This activity contributes to strengthening the local agricultural entrepreneurial ecosystem by facilitating connections between entrepreneurs, project leaders, and support actors (investors, institutions, etc.).</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>11:30 – 12:00</p>	<p>Senegal Pavillion Session Location: Senegal Pavillion</p> <p>Title: Jeunes innovateurs pour une transformation durable des systèmes alimentaires : plaidoyer pour les investissements dans les projets « One Health » Jeunesse, innovation et approche One Health : l'expérience des SOHIC pour transformer durablement les systèmes alimentaires en Afrique Organizer: Students One Health Innovations Club (SOHIC)</p> <p>This event, scheduled to take place in the Senegal Pavilion, aims to strengthen advocacy for the mobilization of domestic resources, in line with Strategic Objective 2 of the Malabo Declaration of the CAADP 2026–2035: “Stimulate investment and financing to accelerate the transformation of agri-food systems.” It will highlight three multisectoral projects focused on food safety, which offer decent employment opportunities for women and young people, but are also attractive to investors. These projects illustrate the impact of funding gaps in the dairy sector and inadequate production, storage, processing, and marketing practices. The proposed multisectoral and integrated solutions require greater commitment from the national private sector. The aim is to initiate a strong partnership to support the government in mobilizing local resources to achieve the food sovereignty ambitions set out in Senegal 2050.</p>

	<p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>12:00 – 15:00</p>	<p>Culinary Village Location: Arbre Stage</p> <p>Title: Organizer: GAIN</p> <p>At the Culinary Village, tradition meets innovation. Attendees enjoy live cooking demonstrations, tastings, and chef-led showcases of African ingredients and culinary heritage. It's a celebration of food culture that highlights the nutritional, economic, and environmental importance of local diets and cuisines and links with sustainable production and consumption.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>12:30 – 13:00</p>	<p>Senegal Pavillion Session Location: Senegal Pavillion</p> <p>Title: Organizer: Cres</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>13:30 – 14:30</p>	<p>Senegal Pavillion Session Location: Senegal Pavillion</p> <p>Title: Données satellites et modélisation hydrologique : anticiper les crises climatiques pour une agriculture irriguée résiliente Villages climato-intelligents : renforcer la résilience locale face au changement climatique Organizer: MEOSS, BWI, la SAED et Geomatica</p> <p>This workshop will highlight a joint initiative between MEOSS, BWI, GEOMATICA, and SAED aimed at improving water management for irrigated agriculture in Senegal through the use of satellite data, climate models, and artificial intelligence. The project enables the monitoring of water resources, the forecasting of river flows, and the anticipation of droughts and floods in order to optimize agricultural planning. The event will give a voice to young professionals</p>

	<p>involved in the initiative, highlight the contributions of satellite technologies to climate resilience, and pave the way for regional replication.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>15:00 – 16:00</p>	<p>Senegal Pavillion Session Location: Senegal Pavillion</p> <p>Title: Transformation des systèmes alimentaires : quel rôle pour les politiques publiques? Jeunesse et femmes Africaines en Agroforesterie : Innover pour transformer les systèmes agroalimentaires au Sénégal Organizer: Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles (ISRA)</p> <p>This event will highlight the decisive role of African youth and women in transforming agri-food systems in Senegal, with a focus on agroforestry and climate resilience. Co-organized by ISRA and Tree Aid, it will showcase innovative initiatives led by young people as part of the PROMUVER-SL project and other local actions. Through an interactive panel bringing together young leaders, experts, and community representatives, the session will promote a dynamic exchange on the challenges and opportunities related to youth engagement in agroecology and food security. The event will also emphasize gender inclusion, ensuring balanced representation. This platform will aim to inspire concrete actions to mobilize youth and strengthen their role in the sustainable development of rural areas in Africa.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>15:30 – 16:00</p>	<p>Arbre à Palabres Session Location: Arbre Stage</p> <p>Title: Crop Production Estimation Using Satellite Data and Machine Learning for Regional Food Balance and Security Monitoring Organizer: University of Maryland & XylemLab-NASA Harvest</p> <p>Join Dr. Catherine Nakalembe for an inspiring conversation around the Arbre about how satellites and artificial intelligence are revolutionizing African agriculture, with youth at the center of this transformation. This session complements the technical discussions by focusing on the human stories behind the technology - from young farmers using satellite data to predict harvests, to innovators developing AI solutions that feed into AGRA's regional food balance sheets for better food security planning. Through engaging presentation and interactive dialogue, we'll explore how ag-tech is democratizing agricultural knowledge and empowering a new generation of African agricultural leaders to build food-secure communities.</p>

	<p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dr. Catherine Nakalembe, Director, XylemLab-NASA Harvest & Assistant Professor, University of Maryland
<p>16:30 – 17:30</p>	<p>Senegal Pavillion Session Location: Senegal Pavillion</p> <p>Title: Les bénéfices multiples des espèces sous-utilisées pour la souveraineté alimentaire en Afrique Organizer: International Society for Horticultural Science</p> <p>Local and traditional species are at the heart of African countries' sovereignty: seed, food, and nutritional sovereignty. The collapse of biodiversity makes access to these forms of sovereignty even more difficult, because it mainly affects local species that are deeply rooted in dietary, social, and cultural habits and traditions. Horticultural species, fruits, vegetables, spices, aromatic and medicinal plants are among the most useful and most affected. Beyond genetic heritage, it is intangible heritage, knowledge, and know-how that are disappearing: the knowledge, experience, cultivation, association, conservation, and preparation practices that promote soil and climate adaptation and socio-economic roles. The round table provides an opportunity for various stakeholders in research, development, and higher education to illustrate the benefits for younger generations of good material and intangible management of these traditional species.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>16:30 – 17:00</p>	<p>Arbre à Palabres Session Location: Arbre Stage</p> <p>Title: Systems-based Policy Tools in Action Organizer: FAO in collaboration with Governments of Zambia and Rwanda (TBC), University College London</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]

DAY 4: Thursday, SEPTEMBER 4th, 2025 – GOVERN

TIME	SESSION
------	---------

AFSF PARTNERS



<p>08:30 – 10:00</p>	<p>Senegal Pavillion Session Location: Senegal Pavillion</p> <p>Title: De-Risking Food System Resilience through an Institutionalized National Agricultural Insurance Agenda Organizer: UNDP Senegal, UNDP Insurance and Risk Finance Facility & Ministry of Finance and CNAAS</p> <p>Translating Africa commitments into national impact goes beyond ambition- it requires structured strategies, robust institutional coordination, and practical frameworks to manage complex agricultural and financial ecosystems. A whole-of-government approach is critical to effectively de-risk investments, promote market-driven insurance solutions, and build integrated agri-finance systems that drive resilient food system transformation.</p> <p>The panel session will feature senior government officials from Senegal, Ethiopia, Uganda, and Zambia who are leading efforts to de-risk food systems through agricultural insurance fully institutionalized and embedded in national policies and regulations, alongside a global case from India to share valuable lessons and best practices.</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Enock Sing'oei, Agricultural Insurance Specialist, UNDP</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Government of Senegal ○ UNDP ○ India ○ H.E. Dr. Sofia Kassa, State Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia ○ Mr. Moustapha Fall, Director General, Compagnie Nationale d'Assurance Agricole du Sénégal (CNAAS) ○ Mr. Musa Lukwago, Senior Economist, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Republic of Uganda ○ Mr. Zandonda Tembo, Senior Agricultural Economist & Assistant National Coordinator, Administration of the Farmer Input Support Program (FISP), Republic of Zambia ○ Mr. Ajay K. Singh, National Program Director, UNDP, Republic of India or Ms. Kamna Sharma, Additional Commissioner (Crop Insurance), Pradhan Mantri fasal bima yojana (PMFBY), Republic of India ○ Aceli Africa
<p>10:00 – 10:30</p>	<p>Arbre à Palabres Session Location: Arbre Stage</p> <p>Title: Are you listening?</p>

	<p>Organizer: CABI & Farm Radio International (FRI)</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>10:30 – 11:00</p>	<p>Senegal Pavillion Session</p> <p>Location: Senegal Pavillion</p> <p>Title: Agri-Food Jobs for Youth, Women</p> <p>Organizer: Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale (IPAR)</p> <p>Co-organized by IPAR, IFAD, Senegal’s State Secretariat for SMEs and MSMEs and DER/FJ this side event explores concrete pathways to boost youth and women’s employment in agri-food value chains in Senegal. It will highlight barriers such as access to land, finance, and markets, and showcase innovative initiatives and partnerships that support entrepreneurship, green jobs, and inclusive growth. Bringing together young entrepreneurs, policymakers, and development partners, the event aims to share solutions, foster collaboration, and lay the groundwork for a flagship initiative to scale decent and sustainable agri-food employment.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>11:00 – 11:30</p>	<p>Arbre à Palabres Session</p> <p>Location: Arbre Stage</p> <p>Title: Can AI Empower Youth Futures?</p> <p>Organizer: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) & Farm Radio International (FRI)</p> <p>How can new advances in artificial intelligence—especially voice technologies—amplify youth voices and create more inclusive food systems? This side event brings together researchers, digital innovators, and young leaders to explore the intersections of AI, language, and livelihoods. Drawing on recent research from IFPRI and implementation experience from Farm Radio International, the session will spotlight both emerging opportunities and unresolved tensions in using AI to support youth in agriculture. From speech recognition tools for low-resource languages to participatory design methods in radio-based advisory systems, we ask what it will take to ensure these technologies are truly empowering.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mr. Nelson Mganga, Technical Lead & Data Scientist, IFPRI ○ Dr. Eliot Jones-Garcia, Senior Research Analyst, IFPRI and / or Dr. Jawoo Koo, Senior

	<p>Research Fellow & AI Lead, IFPRI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mr. Benjamin Fiafor, Senior Country Representative – Ghana & Nigeria, FRI ○ Ms. Julie Langelier, Head of Projects, FRI
<p>12:00 – 13:00</p>	<p>Senegal Pavillion Session Location: Senegal Pavillion</p> <p>Title: Pastoralisme, changement climatique et souveraineté alimentaire : Quels rôles pour la jeunesse africaine ? Organizer: Pôle Pastoralisme et Zones Sèches (PPZS)</p> <p>This event will bring together researchers, young pastoralists, civil society representatives, and decision-makers to discuss the key role of pastoralism in African food sovereignty in the face of climate change. Led by PPZS in partnership with CNCR, Enda Pronat, and IED Afrique, it will highlight the experiences of young pastoralists in arid areas and their ability to innovate despite constraints. Through testimonials, field exchanges, and forward-looking discussions, the panel will aim to identify levers for action to support inclusive, sustainable pastoralism that creates jobs for rural youth.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>12:00 – 12:30</p>	<p>Arbre à Palabres Session Location: Arbre Stage</p> <p>Title: How are Smallholder Innovations Leading Africa’s Climate Resilience? Organizer: ECOBRISTO</p> <p>African farmers grapple with soil degradation, pesticide resistance, and export market rejections due to residue levels, the need for clean, scalable, and local solutions is urgent. This session explores how farmer-led innovations—like solar-powered insect traps and biochar and other biofertilizers—are enhancing climate resilience, reducing input costs, and improving market access. By grounding innovation in farmer realities, we ask: Can small, locally engineered technologies help African farmers thrive ecologically and economically?</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Amanda Namayi, Co-Founder, State of the Farms</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mr. Mutuma Muriuki, Founder & CEO, Eco Bristo Limited ○ Ms. Mary Kagendo Kaliunga, Partnerships Lead & Farmer, Eco Bristo Limited ○ Mr. Royford Mutegi, Co-Founder & Managing Director, Vermi-Farm Initiative ○ Ms. Jannifer Muthike, CEO, Dudu Masters ○ Ms. Elizabeth Oladepo, Founder, 07 Foods

- **Ms. Betty Kibaara**, Director – Food Initiative, Rockefeller Foundation

AFSF PARTNERS



PODCAST POD

	Sunday, August 31st, 2025	Monday, September 1st, 2025	Tuesday, September 2nd, 2025	Wednesday, September 3rd, 2025	Thursday, September 4th, 2025
Moderator		Wode Maya	José Herbert Ahodode	Jeff Koinange	Femi Oke
09:00-9:30					
09:30-10:00					
10:00-10:30					
10:30-11:00					
11:00-11:30					
11:30-12:00					
12:00-12:30					
12:30-13:00					
13:00-13:30					
Moderator	Georgie Ndirangu	Claudia Senghor	Claudia Senghor	Femi Oke	Jeff Koinange
14:30- 14:00					
14:00-14:30					
14:30-15:00					
15:00-15:30					
15:30-16:00					
16:00-16:30					
16:30-17:00					
17:00-17:30					

AFSF PARTNERS



SIDE EVENTS

AFS Forum offers space for in-depth engagement on emerging topics, new partnerships, and sector-specific innovations. Hosted by thematic platforms as well as partners across government, business, academia, and civil society, these sessions enable targeted exchanges that contribute to the broader agenda while offering practical insights, launches, and collaborative opportunities.

DAY 0: SUNDAY, AUGUST 31st, 2025

TIME	SESSION
14:30 – 16:00	<p>Side Event</p> <p>Title: Climate and Nutrition session: '<i>Facing climate change with improved nutrition: policy challenges and opportunities to protect and develop traditional food systems</i>'</p> <p>Organizer: AGRA, SNV, Global Citizens, CGIAR, HKI, Kick-Start, Tufts and Cornell University, SDC</p> <p>Location: Oval Room</p> <p>This session explores the investment challenges and opportunities for transformation while protecting indigenous and traditional food systems under climate change to support optimal nutrition. As climate impacts intensify, these systems, rich in biodiversity and local knowledge, face disruption, threatening both nutrition and cultural heritage. The discussion will highlight the critical need for localized climate information and understanding of the interconnections of climate and nutrition for adaptation of food practices to conditions never seen before, and the risks of scaling solutions without grounding them in local realities. Participants will examine how locally derived knowledge can inform resilient, nutrition-sensitive adaptation strategies and how policy, program and finance frameworks must evolve to support bottom-up approaches. The session will foster cross-sectoral dialogue to bridge local action with national and global processes, ensuring nutrition is recognized as a climate imperative.</p> <p>Moderator: Mrs. Annemieke Beekmans, Managing Director Technical Expertise, SNV</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Namukolo Covic, ILRI – Keynote speaker

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Elizabeth Nsimadala, EAFF or Claude Arsène Sawadogo, Bioprotect ○ Vivian Maduekeh, FHS Africa ○ Dr. Fabio Cresto Aleina, for Global Citizens ○ Evans Ochuto, Community seed bank Vihiga county, Kenya ○ Kindie Fantaye, AGRA RE-GAIN ○ Maureen Mutheka – Tule Vyema, Youth leader
	<p>Side Event</p> <p>Title: Increasing access to "quality" seeds for sustainable and resilient food systems in West and Central Africa</p> <p>Organizer: ISRA, CORAF</p> <p>Location: Thematic Room</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
	<p>Side Event</p> <p>Title: On the road to the 2026 UN Water Conference- Building Water-Resilient Food Systems</p> <p>Organizer: Ministry of Foreign Affairs - United Arab Emirates & Senegal</p> <p>Location: Knowledge Hub Stage 1</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
	<p>Side Event</p> <p>Title: [Title]</p> <p>Organizer: [Organization]</p> <p>Location: Press Conference Room</p> <p>[Event Description]</p>

	<p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
	<p>Side Event</p> <p>Title:</p> <p>Organizer:</p> <p>Location: Investment Room</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]

DAY 2: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd, 2025

TIME	SESSION
08:30 – 10:00	<p>Side Event</p> <p>Title: Public sector financing in 15 countries (based on AGRA report)</p> <p>Organizer: AGRA</p> <p>Location: Oval Room</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
	<p>Side Event</p> <p>Title: The AfCFTA Agri-Trade Action Plan</p> <p>Organizer: FCDO; AGRA; IDH; Gates Foundation; AfDB; UPL Ltd; SNV</p> <p>Location: Thematic Room</p> <p>[Event Description]</p>

	<p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
	<p>Side Event</p> <p>Title: Empowering Smallholder Farmers through Access to Sustainable Inputs: Seeds, Bio-Solutions and Mechanization</p> <p>Organizer: IFAD, AGRA, UPL, SNV</p> <p>Location: Knowledge Hub Stage 1</p> <p>Join key policymakers, industry leaders, and agricultural experts for a dynamic session on advancing access to quality seeds, bio-solutions and farm mechanization in Africa. This side event will spotlight innovative technologies and approaches to sustainable agricultural inputs as a driver of youth employment and rural transformation in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). This high-impact discussion will explore innovative bio-solutions to boost productivity, mechanization coalition to enhance smallholder farmer access to machinery, and scalable solutions to strengthen local production of quality seeds. It will bring together development partners, private sector actors, and youth representatives to share lessons, explore scalable models—such as youth-led mechanization hubs—and identify investment and partnership opportunities. The session will also provide a platform to validate and launch a call to action for inclusive policies and programs that promote access to agro-inputs services, skills, and entrepreneurship for Sub-Saharan Africa.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ms. Mbago-Bhunu Sara, Regional Director East and Southern Africa Division, IFAD ○ George Marechera, Head Digital Systems and Solutions for Agriculture AGRA ○ Florent Clair, Global Sustainability Manager UPL Corp - AgriSolutions ○ Sétchoga Sanhouekoua Sahgui, ○ Youth-led seed/agribusiness ventures in Benin ○ Moctar Ndiaye, Director of Agriculture, Government of Senegal
	<p>Side Event</p> <p>Title: Re-Imagine the Future of Leadership and Catalysts for Food Systems Transformation</p>

Organizer: SNV (Session Lead); IFAD; Netherlands Food Partnership (NFP) and Young Expert Program (YEP); UN Food Systems (UNFS) Coordination Hub, and Erasmus Centre for Entrepreneurship (ECE)

Location: Knowledge Hub Stage 2

Join us on **Thursday 2nd September 2025 from 8:30– 10:00 a.m. (EST)** at the margins of the Africa Food Systems Forum (AFSF) for a riveting session entitled **re-imagine the future of leadership and catalysts for food systems transformation** where youth leaders and multi stakeholders will unpack the four critical catalysts for food Systems Transformation: Ecosystem Coordination, Economic Opportunities for Youth, Intergenerational Dialogue and Youth Leadership.

Through this interactive speed dating, panel discussion and strategic foresight workshop featuring youth partners and experts from SNV, IFAD, UN Food Systems (UNFS) Coordination Hub, Netherlands Food Partnership (NFP), the Government of Senegal, the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Erasmus Centre for Entrepreneurship (ECE); youth leaders, experts and more experienced experts (investors, policymakers, corporates, private sector, academia, development partners) will come together to **re-imagine the future of leadership in food systems, facilitate dialogue and create the connections needed to foster sustainable systems transformation.**

Moderator: Ms. Jean Muthamia-Mwenda, Global Lead – Youth Employment & Entrepreneurship, SNV

- Bernard Hien, Regional Director for West and Central Africa (WCA), IFAD (tbc).
- Lena Savelli, Deputy Director, UN Food Systems Coordination Hub.
- Wampie Libon- Director, Inclusive Green Growth, Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Netherlands (tbc).
- Marjan Riepma, Project Manager, Young Expert Programmes (YEP Agrofood), Netherlands Food Partnership.
- Jip Dresia, Education and Partnerships Lead, Erasmus Centre for Entrepreneurship (ECE).
- Martin Bwalaya, Senior Food Systems Specialist (Africa), UN Food Systems Coordination Hub.
- Youth Entrepreneur - SNV (tbc).
- Government of Senegal representative (tbc).
- IKEA Foundation representative (tbc).

Side Event

Title: Feeding Futures: How School Meals Drive Nutrition, Markets, and Equity

Organizer: SNV, AUDA-NEPAD, AGRA, Rockefeller, Food 4 Education, AUDAD / NEPAD, Regional SMC, Welthungerhilfe (WHH)

Location: Press Conference Room

School feeding programs play a crucial role in advancing nutrition, while simultaneously strengthening local agricultural markets and promoting equity. By sourcing food from local farmers, these programs not only ensure that children receive nutritious meals but also support the agricultural community. This approach fosters sustainable farming practices, boosts local economies, and creates a more equitable food system. Through school feeding initiatives, we can build a healthier future for our children, creating demand for underutilized nutritious foods, and a more resilient agricultural sector.

Speakers

- o Pierre Kadet - Director, Climate-Resilient Food Systems
- o Minister of Agriculture and animal resources Rwanda - Pending
- o Bibi Giyose, NEPAD
- o **Dr. David Ojwang, Agri-Food Sector Leader, SNV**
- o Stella Kimani
- o **Ms. Betty Kibaara**, Director – Food Initiative, Rockefeller Foundation

Side Event

Title: Inclusive agri-food business models: Empowering youth and women for sustainable food systems transformation

Organizer: Rikolto

Location: Youth Dome

Africa faces challenges in achieving sustainable food systems, with youth unemployment and gender inequality as key barriers. In the face of population growth, urbanization, and climate change, youth and women are eager to contribute to agri-food transformation, but limited access to resources and business development services hinders their potential. This session will highlight Rikolto's Generation Food approach, a roadmap that

has supported development of inclusive agri-food business models in East Africa for youth and the Franchise model for women parboilers in West Africa, and demonstrate evidence on how inclusive business models are empowering youth and women in ensuring sustainable food systems transformation.

Speakers

- Margreth Antony Magubila, Young Horticulture Entrepreneur, Tanzania
- Ms Ouedrago Alimatou – Secretary of UNIREZ
- Josephine Ecklu – Global Inclusive Business Manager, Rikolto
- Kebba Colley – Global Director,
- Dr. Birungi Korutaro – CEO, Kilimo Trust
- Hildagard Okoth – Programme Coordinator, Rikolto East Africa
-

18:00 – 19:30

Side Event

Title: Fortifying and Cultivating Nourishing Futures: Building nutritious food systems for mothers and children in vulnerable households.

Organizer: Helen Keller International

Location: Oval Room

This dynamic panel will explore how nutrition-focused innovations, standards, and policies can transform African food systems to better serve women and young children in vulnerable populations. It will highlight strategies across large-scale food fortification (LSFF), SME-led complementary food production, nutrition-sensitive agricultural interventions, and regulatory frameworks. Speakers and panelists from government, private sector, and civil society will share challenges, successes and evidence that are helping scale impact and catalyze investment. Emphasis will be placed on inclusive, gender-sensitive, climate-resilient solutions that align with the N4G Commitments, CAADP 2026–2035, and Senegal’s National Nutrition Strategy.

Speakers

- Dr Tom van Mourik, Global advisor Food Systems – Helen Keller Intl.
- Shawn Baker, Chief of Programs – Helen Keller Intl.
- Ndeye Yaga Sy Moderator, Nutrition Policy & Advocacy Advisor, – Helen Keller Intl. Sénégal.

- Dr Ndèye Fatou NDIAYE, COSFAM Coordinator – Institute de Transformation Alimentaire, Sénégal.
- Habib Ndaw, Directeur Général des Ventas et des Opérations – OLAM. Public-Private Partnerships for Scalable Fortified Products.
- Mr. Assane Pam, Chef de Projet Normalisation et Certification – Association Sénégalaise de Normalisation, Sénégal.
- Mariama Diallo, SME director, Maria Distribution.

Side Event

Title: Future-Proofing West African Food Systems: Unlocking the Potential of Climate Adaptation for Empowering Africa’s Youth

Organizer: SNV, AGRA, CGIAR, ILRI, AICCRA

Location: Thematic Room

Responding to climate change challenges in African agriculture and food systems requires a paradigm shift from business-as-usual to a transformative approach that yields actionable solutions and outcomes. This session will present a transformative approach illustrated with cases of gender and youth inclusion in the scaling of climate-smart agriculture and climate information services across scales in West and Central Africa. It will present how science-based solutions and innovative partnerships have been conducive to successful development outcomes and discuss lessons learned for scaling across Africa. The ultimate goal is to inform the wider AR4D communities, development practitioners, and funders of agricultural research in Africa.

Empowering Africa’s youth with digital tools is key for food system transformation. This dynamic side event explores how cutting-edge digital climate adaptation services revolutionize African agriculture. Discover how farmers, especially youth, leverage weather forecasts, climate insights, and bundled services delivered via digital platforms to manage risks, adapt to climate change, and build resilient livelihoods. Hear from experts, innovators, and practitioners from across the continent, showcasing real-world examples of how these tools boost yields, create jobs, and foster a new generation of climate-smart agricultural leaders. Don't miss this opportunity to learn how digital innovation shapes a more secure and sustainable food future for Africa.

Speakers

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Pierre C. Sibiry Traore (Moderator) b. Hon./Prof. Doua Ngom, Senegal Minister of Environment and Ecological Transition c. Dr. Aditi Mukerji, Principal Scientist, Climate Action ILRI d. Dr. Robert Zougmore, Director, AICCRA e. Ms. Nadine Kone, Deputy Country Director & Agri-Food Sector Leader, SNV Burkina Faso f. Ms. Ndeye Amy Kébé, Founder & CEO of Jokalante g. Dr Kindie Tesfaye, Head Climate and Resilience, AGRA h. Dr. Segenet Kelemu / Dir Climate Adaptation, Master Card Foundation i. Safoura Ousmane Cissé speaker on Green Jobs j. James Kinyangi, Coordinator for the Climate and Development Special Fund, AfdB k. Bas Evers, Rabo Bank foundation l. Wilma van Esch, Head Food Security DGIS, Government of The Netherlands
--	--

	<p>Side Event</p> <p>Title: Artificial Intelligence Driven Agricultural Advisory</p> <p>Organizer: YARA, IFAD, CABI, AGRA, FAO, Gates Foundation</p> <p>Location: Knowledge Hub – Stage 1</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
--	---

	<p>Side Event</p> <p>Title: Addressing the costs of transition to regenerative agriculture</p> <p>Organizer: Rockefeller Foundation</p> <p>Location: Knowledge Hub – Stage 2</p> <p>This side event explores the often-overlooked economic realities of transitioning to regenerative, agroecological, and climate-smart agriculture in East Africa. Drawing on empirical data analysis from smallholder farmers who already in medium or deep transition, In Kenya, Tanzania, and Rwanda,</p>
--	--

	<p>the session presents evidence on the financial costs, trade-offs, and long-term benefits of regenerative practices for smallholder farmers.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Prof Alex Awiti ○ Mr. Simon Kimenju ○ Tim Mwangi ○ Manei Naanyu
	<p>Side Event</p> <p>Title: Empowering Farmers Through Customized Support / Supporting Soil Health Solutions for Sustainable Crop Productivity / Precision Agriculture for Sustainability and Profitability” and “Innovating Insurance for Climate Resilience</p> <p>Organizer: OCP Africa Location: Investment Room</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]

DAY 3: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3rd, 2025

TIME	SESSION
08:30 – 10:00	<p>Side Event</p> <p>Title: Scaling Circular Food Systems: Youth Action</p> <p>Organizer: WRI, AGRA, GAIN, SDSN, KASA, Regen Organics, CIRF Rwanda</p> <p>Location: Oval Room</p> <p>This event will be highlighting the transformative impact of the role of youth and showcase circular solutions led by youth and MSMEs circular agrifood practices in regenerative agriculture, food loss and waste reduction, health diets and productive use of waste and general resource use efficiency. Through interactive dialogue and case presentations, the event will</p>

promote inclusive partnerships and policy alignment to scale circular food system innovations across Africa, especially among the youth. It will centre on gender-inclusive FLW solutions and strengthen youth agency in transforming agri-food systems, policy, and sustainability in Africa.

Speakers

- Dr. Robert Mbeche – Director Food Program, WRI Africa
- Ms. Annette Muindi – Project Officer Influencing and Advocacy, GAIN
- Mr. Amani Twagirayezu– Managing Director, Triumvirate Food
- Ms. Melody Mukami – Finance and Partnerships, Regen Organics
- Prof. Tilahun Amede – Director, Sustainable farming, Climate adaptation and Resilience, AGRA
- Moderator: Susan Onyango – Director for Communications and Engagement, WRI

Side Event

Title: Women, Work and Wealth: Driving Inclusive Systems

Organizer: Consortium of African Youth in Agriculture and Climate Change (CAYACC)

Location: Thematic Room

[Event Description]

Speakers

- [Title, Name, Position, Organization]

Side Event

Title: Launch of the IFPRI’s Global Food Policy Report

Organizer: IFPRI

Location: Knowledge Hub Stage 1

This high-level side event at the 2025 African Food Systems Forum will launch IFPRI’s 2025 Global Food Policy Report and convene African ministers, policymakers, researchers, and food systems leaders to explore lessons from past policy choices and priorities for the future. Anchored in the 2025 Kampala Declaration’s call for resilient and inclusive agrifood systems, the event will focus on advancing equitable livelihoods—

particularly for youth, women, and vulnerable groups—while also addressing broader challenges around sustainability, governance, and investment. Through keynote speeches, report presentations, and a ministerial panel, the session will spotlight emerging approaches, cross-sector coordination, and the strategic pivot to a food systems approach across the continent.

Moderator: Dr. Ousmane Badiane, Executive Chairperson, Akademiya2063

Speakers

- **H.E. Moses Vilakati**, Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy & Sustainable Environment (ARBE), African Union Commission
- **Ms. Alice Ruhweza**, President, AGRA
- **Hon. Samuel Kawale**, Minister of Agriculture, Republic of Malawi
- **Hon. Frank K. Tumwebaze**, Minister of Agriculture, Animal Industry, and Fisheries, Republic of Uganda
- **Hon. Dr. Henry Musa Kpaka**, Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, Republic of Sierra Leone
- **Prof. Jo Swinnen**, Director General, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) & co-editor of the 2025 GFPR
- **Prof. Chris Barrett**, Stephen B. & Janice G. Ashley Professor of Applied Economics and Management International Professor of Agriculture, Cornell University & co-editor of the 2025 GFPR
- **Dr. Steven Were Omamo**, Director for Africa and Director of Development Strategies and Governance, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) & coauthor of the GFPR regional chapter on Africa

Side Event

Title: POST-DAKAR 2: From Pledges to Plates: Financing Africa's Agriculture Food and Systems

Organizer: AfDB

Location: Knowledge Hub Stage 2

This high-level side event will showcase tangible achievements in implementing Dakar 2 Delivery Compacts, identify mechanisms to sustain momentum and mobilize further investment, and highlight innovations in financing smallholder agriculture. The session will facilitate public-private dialogue on policy alignment and strengthen institutional delivery

platforms such as Presidential Delivery Councils to accelerate Africa's food systems transformation.

Speakers

- H.E. Mabouba Diagne, Minister of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty & Livestock of Senegal
- H.E. Prosper Dodiko, Minister of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock of Burundi
- H.E. Dr. Henry Musa Kpaka, Minister of Agriculture and Food Security of Sierra Leone
- H.E. Dr. Girma Amente, Minister of Agriculture of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
- H.E. Dr. Cyubahiro Marc Bagabe, Minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources of Rwanda
- Mr. Vinay Kumar Vutukuru, Program Leader, Sustainable Development, World Bank
- OPEC Fund
- Ms. Sara Mbago-Bhunu, Director of East and Southern Africa Division, International Fund for Agriculture Development
- Dr. Ougfaly Badji, Lead Global Food Security Specialist
- Dr. Godwin Atser, Country Director Kenya, Sasakawa Africa Association
- Mr. Cedrick Montetcho, Chief of Business Development, Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA)
- Ms. Gwen Mwaba, Director and Global Head, Trade Finance, Afreximbank

Side Event

Title: Wired for Impact: Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) Engine for Agri Food Systems Transformation

Organizer: AGRA, BMGF, CABI, FAO, YARA, IFAD

Location: Press Conference Room

[Event Description]

Speakers

- [Title, Name, Position, Organization]

Side Event

	<p>Title: A Seat at the table - Youth-Led African Local Food Systems</p> <p>Organizer: ACIAR</p> <p>Location: Youth Dome</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
<p>18:00 – 19:30</p>	<p>Side Event</p> <p>Title: Unlocking Africa’s Resilience Through Finance and Policies for Agricultural Innovation –Toward COP30 and beyond</p> <p>Organizer: GIZ, Gates Foundation, Clim-EAT, One Acre Fund, ACRE Africa</p> <p>Location: Oval Room</p> <p>In preparation for COP30, countries and funders are collaborating on deployment pathways to take food/agricultural innovations to scale that maximize development, resilience, growth, and gender equality. This event will feature initial views on innovations from around the world to promote at COP30, as well as outline early policy and financial support, with a view to youth-and-gender-sensitization and skilling. Given the increasing climate challenges on Africa’s agricultural sector, this session will include a deep dive into current financial tools to strengthen farmer climate-resilience, including agricultural insurance, a tool with great potential but currently underutilised in most African countries. The session will present how innovations, policies and finance can contribute to building a resilient next generation of African farmers.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mr. Wiebe Smit, Policy & Impact Innovator, Clim-Eat ○ Dr. Stella Kimani, Chief Operations Officer, ACRE Africa ○ Mr. Kennedy Anahinga, Assistant Director, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Republic of Kenya
	<p>Side Event</p>

Title: Scaling soil health and sustainable production in fragile settings, realizing the 3 Rio conventions

Organizer: WHH and IFDC

Location: Thematic Room

The collapse of Overseas Development Assistance will lead to a sharp spike in hunger, malnutrition and livelihood impoverishment on the African continent. At the same time, soil degradation and the climate crisis increasingly risk derailing African food systems. Political, social, economic and environmental fragility will rise, particularly in critical nutrition security, land degradation, climate and biodiversity hotspots such as the Congo Basin, the Sahel zone and other regions in SSA.

Given that far less funds are available, humanitarian assistance should only be sustained where it is inevitable (e.g. war, disasters) and be replaced by effective long-term development strategies that promote zero hunger and a healthy planet synergistically. Such a paradigm shift is urgently needed toward strengthening the resilience and the ability of local food systems to deliver food and nutrition security for all at all times in a way that benefits both people and the planet.

In this session, we will showcase how organizations such as IFDC, WHH and partners scale soil health, sustainable agricultural production and seed system development as a way to boost the resilience and ability of African food systems to deliver on the Rio conventions synergistically (biodiversity, climate change and desertification) which improve livelihoods and support zero hunger.

Speakers

- Henk van Duijn (International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC))
- Bettina Iseli (Chief Program Officer, Welthungerhilfe (WHH))
- Dr. [Moumini Savadogo](#), Executive Director from_ (Conseil Ouest et Centre Africain pour la Recherche et le Développement Agricoles (CORAF))
- Priscilla Wakarera, CEO of Rhea
- Zeinaba Narabene, President, Network of Young Sahelians for Climate
- Prof. Joachim von Braun (President of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, former head of Center for Development Research at the University of Bonn)
- Prof. Alain Sy Traoré, Director of the agricultural department at

	<p>ECOWAS ()</p>
	<p>Side Event</p> <p>Title: Rooted in Action: The GEF and Youth Building Sustainable Food Systems Organizer: GEF Location: Knowledge Hub Stage 1</p> <p>Africa has the world’s largest youth population, yet young people remain underrepresented in agrifood systems. This session highlights how the Global Environment Facility’s investments, across Small Grants, Integrated Programs, and private sector initiatives, empower youth as innovators, leaders, and negotiators. Through first-hand stories and interactive dialogue, participants will learn how the GEF’s bottom-up, whole-of-society approach is unlocking youth potential, advancing climate-smart agriculture, and making food systems more innovative, equitable, and sustainable across the continent.</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Peter Umunay, GEF Secretariat, Senior Environment Specialist ○ Genna Tesdall, Director of Young Professionals for Agricultural Development (YPARD), TBC ○ Young Entrepreneur Grantee from Small Grants Program, TBC ○ IFAD / FAO Rural Youth Representative, TBC ○ Youth delegate from AGRA Innovation Window Program, TBC ○ FOLUR Global Coordination Platform, TBC
	<p>Side Event</p> <p>Title: Accelerating Food System Transformation Organizer: GAIN, AGRA, Akademiya 2063, GIZ, Netherlands Food Partnership, SUN, Act4Food Location: Knowledge Hub Stage 2</p> <p>Food System Transformation (FST) is happening, but not quickly enough. It faces new headwinds in the shrinking of aid, disruptions to trade and threats to multilateralism. This session will explore the enablers and barriers to faster FST and will introduce a multiparter initiative—the Accelerator—designed to accelerate FST by (a) partnering with governments to quickly turn their policy priorities into investible actions that leverage the private sector and (b) mobilising and connecting DFIs to FST policy and capacity to help finance these actions to accelerate food</p>

system transformation. The Accelerator aims to partner with 50 countries globally by 2030.

Chair: H.E. Dr. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, Former Prime Minister, Republic of Niger & African Union Special Envoy for Food Systems (AUDA-NEPAD) – TBC

Moderator: Dr. Lawrence Haddad, Executive Director, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)

Speakers

- Country Governments of Benin (TBC)
- Country Governments of Ethiopia (TBC)
- Country Governments of Rwanda (TBC)
- Country Governments of Senegal (TBC)
- Country Governments of Somalia (TBC)
- Country Governments of Zambia (TBC)
- **Mr. Boaz Keizire**, Head of Policy & Advocacy, AGRA
- **Ms. Stephanie Sargeant**, Global Youth Campaigns Coordinator, GAIN & Youth Leader Alumni and Mentor, Act4Food
- **Ms. Maren Lieberum**, Team Lead – Global Programme on Food Systems Transformation, GIZ
- **Dr. Ousmane Badiane**, Executive Chairperson, Netherlands Food Partnership (tbc)
- AfDB (tbc)

Side Event

Title: Scaling Inclusive Finance for Youth-led Agribusinesses

Organizer: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), CGIAR Gender Equality and Inclusion Accelerator, 2SCALE

Location: Press Conference Room

Despite the rising number of innovative young men and women agripreneurs, access to finance remains a critical bottleneck, particularly among the "missing middle"– SMEs too large for microfinance but unable to access loans from commercial banks. The session will examine innovative financing mechanisms to boost youth-led agribusiness development including value chain financing, market linkages, private equity, and venture capital. It will also explore the role of a conducive business environment, including PPPs, for delivery of inclusive finance.

The session will bring together youth, private and financial sector players, and other stakeholders to unpack gaps and opportunities in fostering a more youth-inclusive, sustainable agribusiness sector.

Speakers

- **Mark Fynn**, Policy Offer, FAO
- **Siobhan Kelly**, Agribusiness Officer, FAO
- **Maria Ena DerenonCourt**, Gender-Smart Investment Specialist, CGIAR Hub for Sustainable Finance
- **Angela Brefo**, 2SCALE youth champion
- **Theophile Mudenge**, Youth Program Lead, 2SCALE
- **David Saunders**, Agbase Programme Lead, Briter Bridges
- **Nicoline de Haan, Senior Researcher**, CGIAR Gender Equality and Inclusion Accelerator

Side Event

Title: Youth and Innovation as the Architect for Africa's Agricultural Transformation

Organizer: Heifer International

Location: Youth Dome

[Event Description]

Speakers

- [Title, Name, Position, Organization]

Side Event

Title: Financing Nutrition for Impact: Scaling Investment through Private Sector Innovation?

Organizer: AGRA, GAIN, AUDA-NEPAD, SNV, ATNi

Location: Investment Room

[Event Description]

Speakers

- [Title, Name, Position, Organization]

DAY 4: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4th, 2025

TIME	SESSION
08:30 – 10:00	<p>Side Event</p> <p>Title: Pastoralism - Recognising a Critical Food System for Africa</p> <p>Organizer: Heifer, GIZ, SNV, ILRI, FAO, GF</p> <p>Location: Oval Room</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
	<p>Side Event</p> <p>Title: Empowering Young Women in Agri Food Systems: The Entrepreneurship Pathway</p> <p>Organizer: AGRA, AWARD, IDRC, CGIAR Gender Impact Platform</p> <p>Location: Thematic Room</p> <p>Entrepreneurship has become a proven route for young African women to generate income, build assets and influence decisions that shape food-system priorities. The next frontier is scale. Digital input marketplaces, gender-smart supply contracts and shared-value off-take agreements are already delivering larger and more consistent pay-outs to thousands of female founders. Replicating these models continent-wide could unlock billions in productivity gains. This side event is meant to spotlight this momentum. We intend to use data, lived experiences and demonstrations to ensure the session presents a curated portfolio of scalable solutions. Participants will leave with a clear picture of what works, why it works and how to plug in, whether as investors, policymakers, ecosystem builders or next generation agripreneurs. This will not be just another ‘talk-shop’ but a conversation that will make one clear point: when entrepreneurship is treated as a systemic lever rather than a side project, it builds an empowered generation of women</p>

who can (and are) driving Africa's inclusive food-system transformation.

Speakers

- **Ms. Nana Amoah**, Director, Gender Youth & Inclusiveness, AGRA
- **Ms. Wambui Chege**, Director, Agrifood Systems, Mastercard Foundation
- **Ms. Adesuwa Ifedi**, Africa Senior Vice President, Heifer International
- **Ms. Aisha Raheem**, CEO, Farmz2U
- **Ms. Claudia Senghor**, Co-Founder, MANSAAH
- **Ms. Karine Kouacou**, Economist, World Bank Gender Innovation Lab

Side Event

Title: Powering Agriculture, Accelerating Action for Decentralized Renewable Energy in Food Systems

Organizer: GOGLA, SNV, and IKEA Foundation

Location: Knowledge Hub Stage 1

As per the recent Kampala Declaration by the CAADP, agriculture requires a complementary approach that integrates energy, market access, among others. This session explores the potential of Renewable Energy (RE), particularly the decentralized renewable energy (DRE) solutions, to power transformative change in African food systems. With climate risks intensifying and energy access still limited, particularly in rural areas, integrating solar and other DRE solutions into food systems offers a path to sustainability, resilience, and inclusive growth.

For this to happen, multi-stakeholder coordination and collaboration efforts by ministries need to align with international and local development and financial actors, which equally need to embed their energy efforts into their programmatic agricultural interventions, hence de-risking their interventions and increasing investment into the DRE sector. This is only possible when championing countries and institutions take the lead and showcase avenues, mechanisms, good practices, and learnings.

The HOW turns therefore crucial to sustainably boost the deployment of DRE solutions into the food systems transformation agenda.

Drawing on insights and experiences from leading countries, the event will spotlight innovative financing mechanisms, cross-sector partnership models, and coordinated strategies that align (D)RE

solutions with food system transformation. Rather than treating energy and agriculture in isolation, the session will emphasize the importance of joint planning, investment, and implementation to scale equitable energy access and drive resilient, inclusive, and climate-smart food systems.

Speakers

- Hon. Birame Soulèye Diop, Minister of Energy, Petroleum, and Mines, Republic of Senegal(TBC)
- **Mr. Patrick Tonui**, Head of Policy and Regional Strategy, GOGLA
- **Mr. Jakob Vrka**, Senior Research Lead – Energy Access, Energy Saving Trust
- **Ms. Judith Jacobs**, Multi-Country Project Manager – Power of Food, SNV
- **Dr. Christopher Emmot**, Associate Director, Investing in Energy Access, Acumen
- **Mr. Richard Midikira**, Senior Manager, Innovation & Partnerships, Aceli Africa
- **Mr. Nico Janssen**, Programme Manager, Agricultural Livelihoods, IKEA Foundation
- **Mr. Boaz Blackie**, Director for Policy and State Capability, AGRA
- **Mr. Hilary Murwisi**, Research Engineer, Ministry of Lands and Agriculture, Republic of Zimbabwe
- **Mr. Wilson Kariuki**, Senior Superintending Engineer, State Department for Energy, Ministry of Energy & Petroleum, Republic of Kenya
- Private sector company 1 - TBC
- Private sector company 2 – TBC
- World Bank ESMAP – TBC

Side Event

	<p>Title: Regenerating Africa: How young agriprenuers can and are shaping food systems for planet and people.</p> <p>Organizer: SNV, IKEA, Rockefeller, SDC, FCDO, GIZ, BIOVISION, CIAT, WorldVeg</p> <p>Location: Knowledge Hub Stage 2</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
	<p>Side Event</p> <p>Title: RFBS Production Monitoring: Yield Estimation & Country Implementation</p> <p>Organizer: UMD, AGRA, COMESA</p> <p>Location: Press Conference Room</p> <p>[Event Description]</p> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [Title, Name, Position, Organization]
	<p>Side Event</p> <p>Title: De-risking investments through agri-risk management</p> <p>Organizer: IFAD, Platform for Agricultural Risk Management (PARM), INSURED, Université Cheikh-Anta-Diop (UCAD), Coopérative d'Épargne et de Crédit du RESOPP (COOPEC/RESOPP), Centre National de Formation des Techniciens de l'Élevage et des Industries Animales (CNFTEIA)</p> <p>Location: Youth Dome</p> <p>The dynamic session will explore how strategic agri-risk management can unlock investments in Africa's agri-food systems, with a focus on youth-led enterprises. We will spotlight innovative tools and partnerships that reduce exposure to climate, market, and financial risks, while also emphasizing the importance of building</p>

long-term capacity. The session will also advocate for the institutionalization of agri-risk management in university curricula and private sector practices to ensure sustainability, innovation, and resilience in food systems, particularly targeting youth preparing to enter the market and investment landscape.

Moderator: Ms. Dorcas Mayala Ntumba, Knowledge Management, Communication and Partnership, PARM

Speakers

- Nadine Ngbossa, IFAD (Opening remarks) - TBC
- Jean-Claude Bidogeza, PARM (Speaker)
- Manzi Nadine Umunyana, IFAD (Speaker)
- Tara James, INSURED (Speaker) – TBC
- Assane Faye, COOPEC/RESOPP (Speaker)
- Dr Fatou Ka, CNFTEIA (Speaker)
- Dr Ablaye Ngom, ISAE-UCAD (Speaker)

PARTNER SOCIAL EVENTS

[Description]

DAY 1: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1st, 2025

TIME	SESSION
19:30 – 23:00	[Title] Organizer: [Organization (Closed Meeting)] Venue: [Venue]

DAY 2: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd, 2025

TIME	SESSION
19:30 – 23:00	WAYA Gala Dinner Organizer: [Organization (Closed Meeting)] Venue: [Venue]

DAY 3: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3rd, 2025

TIME	SESSION
19:30 – 23:00	[Title] Organizer: [Organization (Closed Meeting)] Venue: [Venue]