# 12th ANAPRI STAKEHOLDERS CONFERENCE

## Driving Africa's Food Systems Transformation: Strategic Investments, Resilient Policies, and Global Partnerships

3rd- 6th November 2025

Ubumwe Grande Hotel, Kigali, Rwanda

Hosted by

The Economic Policy Research Network (EPRN), Rwanda

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## Message from the ANAPRI Board Chair

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Africa Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes (ANAPRI), it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 12th ANAPRI Annual Stakeholders Conference, being held here in Kigali, Rwanda, under the timely and inspiring theme, "Driving Africa's Food Systems Transformation: Strategic Investments, Resilient Policies, and Global Partnerships."

This gathering comes at a defining moment for our continent. Africa's food systems stand at the crossroads of immense opportunity and growing complexity. The world around us is shifting rapidly—through global disruptions, climate change, and evolving trade and investment dynamics. Yet within these challenges lies a unique chance to shape Africa's transformation trajectory in a way that is both sustainable and inclusive.

ANAPRI, through its research network and strategic partnerships, continues to champion evidence-based policymaking that bridges the gap between knowledge and action. The Conference provides a platform for dialogue among policymakers, researchers, private sector actors, and development partners—anchored in the shared conviction that informed policies, coherent investments, and collaborative implementation are central to resilient food systems.

The Board commends the ANAPRI Secretariat and our host institution, the Economic Policy Research Network (EPRN), for their exceptional leadership in organizing this conference. We are also deeply grateful to all our partners whose financial and technical support make this convening possible.

As we deliberate over the next few days, let us challenge ourselves to translate our collective insights into tangible actions that strengthen Africa's capacity to feed itself, trade competitively, and thrive under a changing climate.

I wish you all productive deliberations and a successful conference.

**Dr. Damas Philip**
Chairperson, ANAPRI Board of Directors

## Message from the Executive Director, ANAPRI Secretariat

It is with great enthusiasm that I welcome you to the 12th ANAPRI Annual Stakeholders Conference. This year's theme, "Driving Africa's Food Systems Transformation: Strategic Investments, Resilient Policies, and Global Partnerships" reflects both the urgency and the optimism that define our shared mission to accelerate Africa's agricultural and food systems transformation.

At ANAPRI, we believe that evidence and collaboration are the twin engines of sustainable progress. Our continent faces growing shocks including climate extremes, market volatility, and geopolitical disruptions, yet these also underscore the importance of investing in data, analytics, and forward-looking policy design. Through initiatives such as the Policy Prioritization through Value Chain (PPVC) program, the Farmer Know Your Soil campaign under the Africa Fertilizer and Soil Health Action Plan (AFSH-AP), and our collaborative Modelling Services Center, we are strengthening the analytical and institutional foundations needed for transformation.

This conference provides a vital space for exchange, where governments, private sector leaders, development partners, and researchers can align on priorities and co-create solutions. Over the coming days, we will explore how strategic investments, innovation, and coordinated policy action can unlock Africa's potential for jobs, equity, and climate resilience.

Allow me to express sincere appreciation to the ANAPRI Board for its guidance, to our host, the Economic Policy Research Network (EPRN), for their outstanding partnership, and to our many collaborators across Africa and globally who share our commitment to evidence-informed decision-making.

I invite all participants to engage candidly, learn collectively, and contribute ideas that will shape Africa's next decade of food systems transformation.

**Dr. Antony Chapoto**
Executive Director, ANAPRI Secretariat

## Message from the Host Institution Executive Director

It is with great pride and a deep sense of partnership that the Economic Policy Research Network (EPRN) welcomes you to Kigali—the heart of the Land of a Thousand Hills—for the 12th ANAPRI Annual Stakeholders Conference. Rwanda is honored to host this important gathering of Africa's foremost policy researchers, development practitioners, and leaders committed to transforming our continent's food systems.

This year's theme, "Driving Africa's Food Systems Transformation: Strategic Investments, Resilient Policies, and Global Partnerships", speaks directly to the work we do at EPRN: generating evidence, facilitating policy dialogue, and fostering innovation to support sustainable and inclusive growth. In Rwanda, we have witnessed how research, strategic investment, and policy coherence can work hand in hand to transform agriculture into a dynamic engine of job creation, resilience, and shared prosperity.

Hosting this conference provides an opportunity to share these experiences, while also learning from our peers across Africa. Together, we can deepen collaboration, strengthen regional value chains, and ensure that the continent's policy and investment decisions are grounded in data, science, and the aspirations of African farmers, women, and youth.

I extend heartfelt appreciation to ANAPRI for choosing Rwanda as this year's host, and to our many partners and sponsors for their invaluable support.

As you engage in this important dialogue, I also invite you to take time to explore the beauty and hospitality of Rwanda beyond the conference halls. From the rolling hills and vibrant cultural heritage of Kigali to the breathtaking landscapes of Volcanoes National Park, Lake Kivu, and Nyungwe Forest, our country offers a unique experience that blends nature, culture, and innovation. We hope you will leave not only inspired by the conference, but also touched by the warmth and resilience of the Rwandan people.

Welcome once again to Kigali and enjoy your stay in the Land of a Thousand Hills.

**Seth Kwizera**
Executive Director, Economic Policy Research Network (EPRN), Rwanda

## Concept Note

### Introduction

The 12th ANAPRI Annual Stakeholders Conference convenes at a critical moment marked by escalating global geopolitical disruptions, economic volatility, and increasingly fragmented trade and investment flows. In this emerging multipolar world, where protectionism is rising and international cooperation is increasingly contested, the ripple effects on Africa's food systems are profound. These global headwinds are reshaping supply chains, distorting markets, and pressuring policymakers to act swiftly, often with limited data and under great uncertainty. Simultaneously, African countries face the compounded impacts of man-made shocks, such as conflict and governance disruptions, as well as natural shocks, including climate change, pandemics, and extreme weather events, all of which threaten to undermine progress toward sustainable food systems.

This evolving landscape highlights the growing complexity of Africa's food systems and the urgency for adaptive policy responses. As domestic priorities intersect with global shocks, African policymakers and food system stakeholders must balance short-term pressures with long-term development goals. ANAPRI's role, grounded in evidence generation, decision-making support, and regional policy dialogue is more essential than ever.

At the continental level, the long-term policy trajectory remains guided by the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). Now in its third decade and reaffirmed by the Kampala Declaration, CAADP continues to provide a unified framework for achieving inclusive growth, food security, and climate resilience. However, realizing this vision requires bold policy choices, strategic investments, and stronger engagement across sectors.

In this context, the 12th ANAPRI Conference, themed "*Driving Africa's Food Systems Transformation: Strategic Investments, Resilient Policies, and Global Partnerships* seeks to explore how African countries can unlock the transformative potential of their food systems while navigating global turbulence. The Conference will emphasize how governments, the private sector, and development partners can collaborate to build sustainable, inclusive, and shock-resilient food systems across the continent.

To broaden the scope and impact of the conference, ANAPRI proposes to host a series of side events prior to the main conference programme. These sessions will provide dedicated spaces for dialogue on emerging and cross-cutting topics, such as power relations in food systems, youth employment and equity, innovations in digital extension, and tracking progress on fertilizer and soil health initiatives. Designed to complement the core discussions, the side events aim to generate practical insights, foster collaboration, and support more effective policy and investment outcomes.

## Objectives

### Overall Objective

The 12th ANAPRI Annual Stakeholders' Conference provides a timely platform for strategic dialogue on how African countries can respond to the compounding challenges facing their food systems. The conference is designed to support decision-makers in identifying policy options and investment pathways that balance immediate needs with long-term development goals.

It will also serve as a venue for sharing evidence-based research, validating recommendations through stakeholder engagement, and promoting actionable policy learning. Through its main sessions and targeted side events, the conference will foster deeper exchange on cross-cutting issues, stimulate investment-oriented discussions, and catalyse coordinated action.

### Specific Objectives

i. Analyse global and continental dynamics shaping Africa's food systems, including trade disruptions, climate variability, digital transformation, geopolitical shifts, and financial volatility.
ii. Prioritise strategic investments that respond to local needs and promote sustainable agriculture, inclusive and equitable value chains, and resilient, nutrition-sensitive food systems.
iii. Strengthen collaboration among governments, the private sector, financial institutions, and development partners to scale context-specific, evidence-informed, and impact-driven solutions.

## Thematic Areas

The 12th ANAPRI Annual Stakeholders Conference will revolve around three overarching thematic areas that reflect Africa's pressing priorities in food systems development. These themes are designed to foster integrated dialogue, promote strategic investments, and align local action with continental and global shifts. Each area will frame both the main sessions and curated side events.

### Creating Resilient Food Systems: Jobs, Equity, and Inclusion

This thematic area focuses on building food systems that are capable of withstanding and adapting to both man-made and natural shocks, while generating decent jobs, promoting equity, and ensuring inclusive participation across all levels. It emphasizes a systems approach that addresses structural barriers and advances livelihood opportunities, particularly for youth, women, and smallholder farmers, who are often the most vulnerable yet central to food system transformation.

The discussion will explore how food systems can become vehicles for economic empowerment, social stability, and environmental sustainability by integrating employment strategies into resilience-building efforts. It will also consider how governance structures, territorial approaches, and community-led solutions influence who benefits from policy and investment decisions. Topics for discussion will include:

- Power dynamics and governance structures shaping food systems
- Gender equity, youth employment, and pathways to decent jobs in agriculture and agrifood value chains
- Territorial approaches, indigenous knowledge systems, and community-driven resilience
- Just transitions, social protection, and inclusive development strategies

**Investment, Innovation, and Financing for Transformation**

This thematic area explores how Africa can mobilise and direct strategic investments toward priority areas of food system transformation by aligning public, private, and development finance with coherent policy frameworks. It draws on ANAPRI's work under the Policy and Priority Value Chains Initiative (PPVC II), which supports governments in identifying high-potential value chains and designing integrated policy responses grounded in evidence, modelling, and stakeholder consultation.

The focus will be on building comprehensive policy stacks, where investment incentives, regulatory reforms, institutional coordination, and digital infrastructure work together to deliver transformation at scale. This systems-oriented approach emphasizes that financing alone is not sufficient; it must be underpinned by coherent, layered policy action across input systems, markets, trade, technology, and service delivery. Topics for discussion may include:

- Building investment-ready value chains through targeted policy support under PPVC II
- Institutional alignment and governance reforms to operationalise value chain–driven growth
- Blended and catalytic financing strategies to crowd in private investment
- Strengthening public–private partnerships in infrastructure, logistics, and innovation hubs
- Leveraging digital tools and AI for smarter service delivery and monitoring

**Sustainability, Trade, and Climate Action**

This thematic area explores how the African continent can build more sustainable, climate-resilient, and integrated food systems in response to growing environmental stress, market volatility, and global disruptions. Advancing this agenda requires greater policy coherence and regional coordination to promote climate adaptation, sustainable

land and soil management, and inclusive trade. Frameworks such as the Africa Fertilizer and Soil Health Action Plan (AFSH-AP), the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP 3.0), and the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) provide critical pathways for aligning national priorities with continental goals. As countries roll out AFSH Action Plans, there is a growing emphasis on strengthening data systems, improving policy tracking, and linking agricultural transformation with broader sustainability and resilience objectives.

Since the launch of the Farmer Know Your Soil campaign at the last ANAPRI conference in 2024, efforts have intensified to raise farmer awareness and adoption of sustainable soil management practices through localized soil data, digital advisory tools, and field-level engagement. These initiatives are helping to bridge the gap between policy and practice by equipping farmers with the information needed to restore soil health and improve productivity. At the same time, spatial tools such as the Africa Adaptation Atlas are being tested to guide climate-risk mapping, investment planning, and coordinated adaptation responses across agroecological zones. These innovations underscore the importance of cross-sector collaboration and shared learning in building data-driven, climate-smart food systems across the continent.

Topics for discussion will include:

- Advancing national AFSH Action Plans and their integration into public investment frameworks
- Operationalizing CAADP 3.0 through policy support, data systems, and value chain prioritization
- Scaling the "Farmer Know Your Soil" Initiative for improved soil intelligence and uptake of sustainable practices
- Leveraging the Africa Adaptation Atlas to support spatial planning and regional collaboration on climate adaptation
- Coordinating regional responses to transboundary environmental threats, land degradation, and climate-linked food insecurity

## Conference Structure

The 12th ANAPRI Annual Stakeholders' Conference will be held over two and a half days, from November 4 to 6, 2025, at the Ubumwe Grande Hotel in Kigali, Rwanda, and will accommodate both in-person and virtual participation. The main event will be preceded by a set of curated pre-conference side events on November 3, 2025, designed to provide deep dives into emerging and cross-cutting issues, spark collaboration, and generate early insights to inform the core discussions of the main conference.

The structure of the conference is designed to reflect the overall theme, "*Driving Africa's Food Systems Transformation: Strategic Investments, Resilient Policies, and Global Partnerships*" and to enable substantive engagement around the three thematic pillars:

Jobs, Equity and Inclusion; Investment and Innovation; and Sustainability and Climate Action.

The Conference will feature a blend of high-level dialogues, evidence-based discussions, and interactive formats that promote strategic learning and coordinated action. Sessions will include:

- *Opening Ceremony and VIP High-Level Plenary*

  The Conference will open with a formal ceremony followed by a high-level plenary session involving senior government officials, development partners, and private sector leaders. This session will reflect on Africa's food systems within the context of global realignments and local imperatives.

- *Keynote Presentations*

  Eminent scholars, policymakers, and practitioners will deliver keynote addresses to frame each day's focus, spark thought leadership and encourage visionary yet practical dialogue.

- *Thematic Panel Discussions*

  Each panel will feature multi-stakeholder dialogues designed to surface policy insights, share innovative models, and identify opportunities for strategic investment and systems change.

- *Interactive Café-Style Sessions*

  These small-group, participatory sessions will encourage peer exchange and practical problem-solving. Featuring roundtables, case clinics, and informal dialogues, they will foster a more candid and creative exploration of challenges and solutions.

Throughout the week, participants will also have opportunities to engage with innovation showcases, research exhibitions, and ANAPRI's analytics platforms, including policy tools developed under the Policy and Priority Value Chains (PPVC II) initiative.

## Target Audience

The 12th ANAPRI Annual Stakeholders' Conference will convene a diverse range of participants who are actively engaged in shaping, supporting, or studying Africa's food systems and agricultural transformation. The conference aims to foster dialogue and collaboration across sectors, regions, and disciplines by bringing together:

- *Policymakers and Government Officials:* Ministers, senior civil servants, and technical advisors from ministries of agriculture, finance, trade, planning, environment, and youth.

- *Researchers, Academics, and Think Tanks:* Scholars and experts from African and global research institutions, policy centres, and universities working on agricultural economics, food policy, climate adaptation, and rural development.

- *Farmers' Organizations and Producer Groups:* Representatives of national and regional farmer associations, cooperatives, smallholder networks, and indigenous food producers, including youth and women-led collectives.
- *Private Sector Actors:* Agribusinesses, SMEs, digital agriculture startups, financial institutions, and input suppliers involved in production, processing, logistics, marketing, and innovation across food value chains.
- *Regional and Continental Bodies:* Officials from Regional Economic Communities (RECs), the African Union Commission, and technical agencies engaged in implementing CAADP, AfCFTA, AFSH-AP, and related frameworks.
- *Development Partners and Donor Agencies:* Bilateral and multilateral development organizations, philanthropic foundations, and international financial institutions supporting agriculture, food systems, and climate resilience.
- *Civil Society and Advocacy Organizations:* NGOs, community-based organizations, youth and gender advocacy groups, and institutions working on rights-based approaches, social justice, and food sovereignty.
- *Media and Knowledge Brokers:* Journalists, storytellers, data visualizers, and communicators amplifying food system voices and shaping public discourse across Africa and beyond.
- *Youth Leaders and Agripreneurs:* Emerging leaders, innovators, and entrepreneurs in agriculture and food systems, especially those working on climate-smart solutions, digital tools, and inclusive agribusiness models.

## Expected Outcomes

The overall expected outcome of the 12th ANAPRI Annual Stakeholders' Conference is to deepen policy engagement and foster evidence-based dialogue that strengthens food systems transformation across Africa. The Conference will enhance awareness among policymakers of critical agricultural policy issues, while increasing understanding of ANAPRI's work and contributions across the continent.

Specifically, the Conference aims to achieve the following key outcomes:

i. *Stronger Policy Alignment and Strategic Investment Direction*

   - Participants will gain a clearer understanding of continental frameworks such as CAADP 3.0 and associated African commitments including the AfCFTA and AFSH-AP, and how these inform national policies, investment priorities, and long-term development strategies. Lessons from ongoing reform efforts and value chain–driven approaches will be shared to help guide inclusive, evidence-based policymaking.

ii. *Deeper Engagement with Innovation and Climate Adaptation Tools*

   - Delegates will be exposed to practical applications of emerging technologies, including digital agriculture, policy modeling, and decision-

support tools like the Africa Adaptation Atlas. These tools aim to strengthen governments' capacity for climate risk planning, resource targeting, and responsive service delivery.

*iii. Expanded Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing*

- The Conference will foster multi-stakeholder partnerships by connecting policymakers, researchers, farmers' organizations, development partners, and private sector actors. Through side events, panel discussions, and research showcases, participants will exchange successful models, case studies, and innovations that can inform policy uptake and regional replication.

## Logistics

### Date and Venue

The 12th ANAPRI Annual Stakeholders' Conference will take place from 3-6 November 2025 in Kigali, Rwanda. The event will be hosted at the Ubumwe Grande Hotel, located in the heart of the city.

The programme will begin with pre-conference side event(s) on 3rd November, focused on deep dives into cross-cutting and emerging issues. These will be followed by the main conference sessions from 4-6 November 2025, bringing together policymakers, researchers, development partners, private sector actors, and other stakeholders from across the continent.

### Planning

The planning and organization of the Conference is being coordinated by the ANAPRI Secretariat, in close partnership with the host member institution, the Economic Policy Research Network (EPRN). ANAPRI is also working with a range of strategic partners, including regional and continental institutions, development agencies, knowledge platforms, and private sector actors, to co-create selected sessions, support side events, and contribute to the overall success of the Conference.

### Finance and Technical Support

The Annual Stakeholders' Conference draws both financial and technical support from a wide range of partners who collaborate with the ANAPRI Secretariat and its member Research Centres. These partners contribute not only funding but also critical human and technical resources that enhance the quality, inclusivity, and impact of the event.

Financial support helps to fund core costs associated with venue logistics, interpretation and multimedia services, documentation and visibility, and travel and accommodation for sponsored participants. This ensures meaningful participation from a diverse set of stakeholders, including policymakers, researchers, farmers' organisations, youth leaders, and civil society actors.

Technical support plays an equally important role. ANAPRI welcomes collaboration with organisations that bring expertise, tools, and policy innovations to the table. This includes

contributions to session design, facilitation, research presentations, capacity-building activities, and co-hosting of side events aligned with the Conference's thematic priorities.

Through these partnerships, the Conference creates a platform not only for knowledge exchange, but also for co-creation, joint advocacy, and sustained policy engagement that supports food systems transformation across the continent. ANAPRI and the host institution, EPRN, remain open to structured partnership arrangements, including co-branded sessions, strategic dialogues, and tailored technical collaborations.

## Programme at a Glance

**Pre Conference Programme**

**November 3, 2025: Pre-Conference Events 1: Africa Agriculture Adaptation Atlas – User Adoption and Testing Project Learning Workshop**

| | Facilitator: Tinashe Kapuya | |
|---|---|---|
| Time | Segment | Focus & Lead |
| 08h:30 – 09h:00 | Arrival and Registration | SAF-Africa |
| 09h:00 – 09h:30 | Opening and Welcome Remarks | George Njuguna, Sustainable Ag. Foundation- Africa |
| 09h:30-09h:50 | Remarks from the Gates Foundation | Alan Rennison, Gates Foundation |
| 09h:50 -10h:30 | A presentation on the Atlas, the engagement process with partners, and the overall user feedback | Peter Steward, CIAT |
| 10h:30 – 11h:00 | Tea Break | |
| 11h:00 – 13h:00 | Presentation from Partners on feedback and experiences in the use and application of the Atlas by Partners | George Njuguna, SAF-A |
| | • Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development – (RCMRD) | Frankline Rono, RCMRD |
| | • African Group of Negotiators Experts Support (AGNES) | Telvin Denje, AGNES |
| | • Africa Network of Agriculture Policy Research Institutes (ANAPRI) | Prof. Thinah Moyo, ANAPRI/ATPI |
| | • Agricultural Transformation Institute (ATI) | Mulugeta Molla, ATI |
| 13h:00 – 14h:30 | Lunch | |
| 14h:30 – 16h:20 | Breakout discussions<br>• What are the top five issues that would need to be prioritized to improve the Atlas Platform<br>• Next Steps on the development of the Atlas | Facilitator: Peter Steward, CIAT |
| 16h:20 – 16h:30 | Way Forward and Close | George Njuguna, SAF-A |

**November 3, 2025: Pre-Conference Events 2: Jobs and the Agrifood System: Towards Evidence-Based Pathways for Inclusive Transformation**

| Time | Activity | Details |
|---|---|---|
| 08h:30 – 09h:00 | Registration | Participant check-in. |
| 09h:00 – 09h:15 | Opening Remarks | • Antony Chapoto – Executive Director, ANAPRI Secretariat<br>• Luc Christiaensen – Lead Agriculture Economist, World Bank |
| 09h:15 – 09h:40 | Keynote Presentations | Thomas Daum, University of Gothenburg. |
| 09h:40 – 10h:00 | Q&A Session | Luc Christiaensen |
| 10h:00 – 10h:20 | Coffee Break | Networking and informal discussions. |
| Parallel Technical Sessions | | |
| 10h:20 – 12h:20 | A. AFS jobs profile and prospects<br>Session chair: Dr Nancy Laibuni | B. Sustainable intensification and AFS jobs<br>Session chair: Thomas Daum |
| | i. Assessing the role of the food MSMEs in providing employment for women and youth in Ethiopia.<br>**Presenter:** Daniel Mekonnen<br>**Discussant:** Tayan Raj Gurung<br><br>**ii.** Beyond Distance: How Urban Characteristics Shape Livelihood Strategies in Rural Myanmar.<br>**Presenter:** *Linda Steinhuebel-Rasheed*<br>**Discussant:** Olayinka Aremu<br><br>iii. Contract labor, job quality, and turnover intention—Evidence from Nigeria.<br>**Presenter:** Olayinka Aremu<br>**Discussant:** Daniel Mekonnen | i. Jobs! The Labour Implications of Climate Change Adaptation in West Africa<br>**Presenter:** Martin Paul Jr<br>**Discussant:** Kaushik Bora<br><br>ii. Does Sustainable Intensification Pay for Small-Scale Producers? Evidence on returns to family labor from sub-Saharan Africa.<br>**Presenter:** Emanuele Zucchini<br>**Discussant:** Mesay Yami<br><br>iii. Sustainable Intensification and Job Creation through Specialized Agricultural Services: Evidence from Youth-Led Spray Providers in Nigeria.<br>**Presenter:** Mesay Yami<br>**Discussant:** Martin Paul Jr<br><br>iv. Technology Suitability for Women Farmers: Scaling Gender Inclusive Climate Smart Interventions in data-limited Settings.<br>**Presenter:** Kaushik Bora<br>**Discussant:** Emanuele Zucchini |

| Time | Activity | Details |
|---|---|---|
| 12:20 – 13:15 | Lunch Break | • Lunch and networking |
| 13:15 – 14:45 | C. AFS MSMEs and job creation<br>Session Chair: Janvier Rurangwa | D. Inclusion of youth and women<br>Session Chair: Debisi Araba |
| | i. Unlocking Agricultural Transformation through Commercialized Smallholders: Evidence from Rural Kenya<br>**Presenter:** Milu Muyanga<br>**Discussant:** Luc Christiaensen<br><br>ii. Linking the Last Mile Agricultural MSMEs and Bundled Farmer Service Delivery.<br>**Presenter:** Luc Christiaensen<br>**Discussant:** Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse<br><br>iii. The effectiveness of alternative agrifood investments for jobs and inclusive transformation in Ethiopia.<br>**Presenter:** Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse<br>**Discussant:** Milu Muyanga | i. The Landscape of Youth Engagement in Food Systems in Africa: Are the youth driving structural transformation?<br>**Presenter:** Kibrom A. Abay<br>**Discussant:** Mulubrhan Amare<br><br>ii. Empowering Women in Nigeria's Food Sector: Structural Barriers and Opportunities for Women's Participation in Fruit and Seafood SMEs.<br>**Presenter:** Joy Ucheime<br>**Discussant:** Kibrom A. Abay<br><br>iii. Can Boosting Public Expenditure on Agriculture Reduce Youth Out-Migration? Evidence from Nigeria<br>**Presenter:** Mulubrhan Amare<br>**Discussant:** Joy Ucheime |
| 14:45 – 16:15 | E. Skills, Education, and Workforce Readiness<br>Session Chair: Sergiy Zorya | F. Inclusion and equity in agricultural value chain development models<br>Session Chair: Alan Rennison |
| | i. Bridging the skill gap for a climate-smart agrifood future: integrated pathways for on- and off-farm workforce development<br>**Presenter:** Amine AMAR<br>**Discussant:** Destaings Nyongesa<br><br>ii. Building a Future-Ready Agrifood–Hospitality Workforce: Policy Insights from a Dual-Training Model in Kenya<br>**Presenter:** Destaings Nyongesa<br>**Discussant:** Richard Kwabi Ayisi | i. Agricultural production, road rehabilitation and conflicts: evidence Western Growth Poles Development project in Bas-Congo.<br>**Presenter:** Cecilia Nardi<br>**Discussant:** Guillaume Soullierab<br><br>ii. More jobs, same conditions? Evaluating the labour impacts of third-party certification in the global cocoa value chain in Ghana.<br>**Presenter:** Guillaume Soullierab<br>**Discussant:** Castro N. Gichuki |

| Time | Activity | Details |
|---|---|---|
| | iii. Food Processing Development in Ghana's Food Value Chain: The Implications for Job Creation and Macroeconomic Dynamics.<br>**Presenter:** *Richard Kwabi Ayisi*<br>**Discussant:** Amine AMAR | iii. Do different Fish Supply Channels Combinations Increase the Net Profitability of Women-Owned SMEs in Kenya?<br>**Presenter:** *Castro N. Gichuki*<br>**Discussant:** *Cecilia Nardi* |
| 16:15 – 17:15 | High-Level Panel Discussion | Moderator: Luc Christiaensen (World Bank)<br>Panellists:<br>• Nancy Laibuni – Country policy perspective (Kenya)<br>• Debisi Araba – Regional/institutional perspective (Akademiya2063)<br>• Sergiy Zorya – International institution perspective (World Bank)<br>• Thomas Daum – Research perspective (University of Gothenburg)<br>• Alan Rennison – Donor perspective (Gates Foundation) |
| 17:15 – 17:30 | Summary & Next Steps | • Luc Christiaensen – World Bank *Synthesis of insights, identification of evidence gaps, and forward agenda.* |

**Day 1 – Tuesday, 4 November 2025**

| Time | Segment | Focus & Lead |
|---|---|---|
| 08h:30 – 09h:00 | Arrival and Registration | |
| **Session 1: High-Level Plenary – Navigating Global Disruptions and Africa's Food System Futures<br>Facilitator: Salomo Mbai (ATPI, Namibia)** | | |
| 09h:00 – 09h:10 | Welcome & Opening Remarks | Antony Chapoto (Executive Director, ANAPRI Secretariat) |
| 09h:10 – 09h:35 | Keynote Address | Ali Abdi – FAO Representative, Global Food Systems and Resilience. |
| 09h:35 – 10h:20 | High-Level Panel Discussion | Moderator: Salomo Mbai (ATPI)<br>Panellists:<br>• Wandile Sihlobo, Chief Economist, Agricultural Business Chamber of South Africa (Agbiz))<br>• Innnocent Okuku, CEO at Africa Fertilizer Industry Development Association((AFIDA)<br>• Stephen Ruzibiza, CEO Rwanda Private Sector Federation<br>• Nancy Laibuni, Advisor, Associate Member, Council of Economic Advisors<br>• Chris Chibwana, Program Officer in Gender Equity and Governance, William & Flora Hewlett Foundation<br>• Luc Christiaensen – Lead Economist, World Bank |
| 10h:20 – 10h:40 | Q&A Session | Salomo Mbai |
| 10h:40 – 10h:45 | Summary and Next Steps | Zena Mpenda (SUA) |
| 10h:45 – 10h:50 | Photo session | |
| 10h:50 – 11h:15 | Health Break | |
| **Session 2: Policy Coherence and CAADP 3.0 – Translating Continental Commitments into National Transformation<br>Facilitator: Lilian Kirimi (Tegemeo Institute, Kenya)** | | |
| 11h:15 – 11h:35 | Presentation: Overview of the Kampala Declaration, CAADP 3.0 framework, strategic objectives, and expectations for Member States | Mukulia Kennedy Ayason, Policy Officer, Rural Development Division, Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment, African Union Commission |

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| 11h:35 – 12h:35 | Clustered High-Level Panel Discussion | Moderator: Lilian Kirimi (Tegemeo Institute)<br>Panellists: Grouped in four clusters:<br>1. **Institutional Memory:**<br>• Godfrey Bahiigwa, Former Director of Agriculture and Rural Development at African Union Commission<br>• Houssein Mohamed Aden, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)<br>2. **Policy Think Tanks:**<br>• Djiby Dia, ISRA BAME<br>• Frances Hale, FANRPAN<br>3. **Public Sector:**<br>• Epiphanie Mwali Baharanyi, Expert in the Department of Studies and Planning, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, DRC<br>• Desalegn Begna, Policy Studies Institute, Ethiopia<br>• Doshanie Kadokera Chief Economist, Ministry of Agriculture, Malawi<br>4. **Donors & Cooperating Partners:**<br>• Jeffrey Ngari, GIZ<br>• Sergiy Zorya, World Bank |
| 12h:35 – 12h:50 | Interactive Q&A Session | Lilian Kirimi |
| 12h:50 – 13h:00 | Closing and Next Steps | Andrew Agyei-Holmes – ISSER, Ghana |
| 13h:00 – 14h:00 | Lunch Break | |
| **Session 3: Opening Ceremony and Keynote Addresses – Voices from Government, Partners, and ANAPRI Leadership**<br>**Master of Ceremony: Eugene Anagwe** | | |
| 14h:00 – 14h:30 | Arrival of High-Level Dignitaries | |
| 14h:30 – 14h:40 | Preliminaries: Partner recognition and Conference objectives | |
| 14h:40 – 14h:50 | Welcome Remarks | • Seth Kwizera, Executive Director, EPRN Rwanda (Host Institution)<br>• Antony Chapoto, Executive Director, ANAPRI Secretariat |
| 14h:50 – 15h:10 | Remarks | • Damas Philip, ANAPRI Board Chair<br>• Abebe Haile-Gabriel – Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Africa, FAO |
| 15h:10 – 15h:35 | Keynote Address and Official Opening | Hon. Dr. Marc Cyubahiro Bagabe, Minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources, Republic of Rwanda |
| 15h:35 – 15h:50 | Cultural Performance | |
| 16h:00 – 16h:30 | Group Photo Session | |
| 16h:30 – 18h:00 | Networking Cocktail | |

**Day 2 – Wednesday, 5 November 2025**

| Time | Segment | Focus & Lead |
|---|---|---|
| 08h:30 – 09h:00 | Arrival and Registration | |
| **Session 4: Africa Continental Report - Priority Value Chains and Investment Planning<br>Facilitator: Mmatlou Kalaba (BFAP, South Africa)** | | |
| 09h:00 – 09h:05 | Introduction– Session objectives and overview | Mmatlou Kalaba |
| 09h:05 – 09h:15 | Opening Remarks – Overview of the PPVC framework | Alan Rennison, Gates Foundation |
| 09h:15 – 09h:55 | Keynote Presentations: Prioritizing Policies for Driving Inclusive Agricultural Transformation in Ghana and Zambia<br>• *Deep Dive Value Chain Analysis of Beef and Soybean in Zambia*<br>• *Deep Dive Value Chain Analysis of Rice in Ghana* | Brian Mulenga, IAPRI<br><br>Andrew Agyei-Holmes, ISSER |
| 09h:55 – 10h:35 | Panel Discussion – Responses and reflections from panellists | • Opoku Agyemang, M&E Specialist, Ministry of Food & Agriculture, Ghana<br>• Caroline Simushi Chipango, Principal Planner, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Zambia.<br>• Succeed Mubanga, Director, Policy Planning, Ministry of Agriculture, Zambia |
| 10h:35 – 10h:50 | Q & A Session | Mmatlou Kalaba |
| 10h:50 – 11h:00 | Closing and way forward | Tinashe Kapuya (ANAPRI Secretariat) |
| 11h:00 – 11h:15 | **Health Break** | |
| **Session 5: Climate Resilience and the Africa Adaptation Atlas – From Spatial Data to Actionable Policy<br>Facilitator: George Njuguna, SAF-A** | | |
| 11h:15 – 11h:25 | Introduction– Session objectives and overview<br><br>Opening Remarks – Importance of the role of the Atlas in climate change policy planning | • George Njuguna, SAF-A<br><br>• Alan Rennison (Gates Foundation) |
| 11h:25 – 11h:40 | The African Adaptation Atlas – a walkthrough on the platform, navigating the notebooks, and the user feedback on how to improve its usability | Brayden Youngberg (CIAT) |
| 11h:40 – 12h:25 | Panel Discussion – Responses and reflections from Partners: | Facilitator: George Njuguna, SAF-A |

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|---|---|---|
| | • *Case applications of the Atlas by ANAPRI across eight (8) countries*<br><br>• *Increasing the usability of the Africa Agriculture Adaptation Atlas tool among the policymakers, private sector, investors and practitioners*<br><br>• *Enhancing county-level integration of climate adaptation into planning and decision-making: A case of Kenya*<br><br>• *Deploying and customizing the African Adaptation Atlas to enhance climate decision-making in Ethiopia's agriculture sector* | Thinah Moyo, ANAPRI<br><br>Telvin Denje, AGNES<br><br>Josphat Makanga, RCMRD<br><br>Bereket Fitsum, ATI |
| 12h:25 – 12h:45 | **Panel Discussion – Responses and reflections from Government Representatives** | Facilitator: George Njunguna, SAF-A |
| | Government's experience of the Atlas and how the tool can be adopted in Malawi, Tanzania, Kenya, Rwanda and Ghana | • Doshanie Kadokera, Chief Economist, Ministry of Agriculture, Malawi<br><br>• Longino Chrisante, Principal Coordinator: Agricultural Acceleration Program (Ministry of Agriculture, Tanzania<br><br>• Lily Chebet Kiptoo, Deputy Director, Nuts & Oil Crops Directorate, Agriculture and Food Authority (AFA), Kenya<br><br>• Chantal Ingabire**,** Director General Planning-Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources, Rwanda<br><br>• Frank Kwesi Nansam -Aggrey Director, Administration and Climate Finance, Ghana |
| 12h:45 – 13h:10 | Q & A Session | George Njunguna, SAF-A |
| 13h:10 – 13h:15 | Closing and way forward | George Njunguna, SAF-A |
| 13h:15 – 14h:15 | **Lunch Break** | |

| Session 6: Domestication and Status of the Implementation of the African Fertilizer and Soil Health Action Plan.<br>Co-Facilitators: Frances Hale (FANRPAN) and Asseta Dialo (AGRA) | | |
|---|---|---|
| 14h:15 – 14h:40 | Opening Presentation – Introduction to AFSH-AP | Wole Fatunbi (FARA) |
| 14h:40 – 15h:20 | Roundtable Discussion – Coalition Roles and Achievements<br>• Coalition for Policy and Advocacy<br>• Coalition of Implementors for Fertilizers and Soil Health<br>• Coalition of Soil information systems and mapping<br>• Coalition for agricultural extension and advisory services<br>• Coalition for Private sector engagement and partnerships | • Antony Chapoto (ANAPRI)– Policy and advocacy<br>• Larry Umunna (IFDC) – Implementer support and technical deployment<br>• Wole Fatubi (FARA) – Soil information systems and mapping<br>• Lilian Lihasi (AFAAS) – Agricultural extension and advisory services<br>• Sheila Keino – (Sustain Africa) Private sector engagement and partnerships |
| 15h:20 – 16h:00 | Country Panel – National Experiences and Progress in Uganda, Zambia and Senegal | • Bernard Bashaasha (Uganda)<br>• Brian Mulenga (Zambia)<br>• Fatou Ndeye – ISRA BAME (Senegal) |
| 16h:00 – 16h:20 | Regional Hub Panel – Coordinating Cross-Country Implementation | Larry Umunna (IFDC/ECOWAS)<br>Barthlomew Chataika (SADC/CCARDESA) |
| 16h:20 – 16h:30 | Synthesis and Key Takeaways | David Nielsen, NAAN |

**Day 3 – Thursday, 6 November 2025**

| Time | Segment | Focus & Lead |
|---|---|---|
| 08h:00 – 08h:30 | Arrival and Registration | |
| **Session 7: Anticipating Change: Applying Systems Thinking and Foresight for Africa's Agrifood Transformation Facilitator: Mark Fynn, FAO** | | |
| 8h:30 – 8h:35 | Opening & Framing | Mark Fynn (Policy Officer, FAO Regional Office for Africa) |
| 8h:35 – 8h:50 | Presentation 1 – Transforming Food and Agriculture through a Systems Approach | Corinna Hawkes, Director, Agrifood Systems and Food Safety Division (FAO HQ) |
| 8h:50 – 9h:15 | Presentation 2 – Regional Strategic Foresight Report (RSFR) Draft Findings | Pedro Morais de Sousa, Political Economist, Agrifood Economics and Policy Division (FAO, HQ) |
| 9h:15 – 9h:45 | Interactive Plenary – "Mapping the Future" (Mentimeter Challenge) | Moderator-Antony Chapoto (ANAPRI) |
| 9h:45 -10h:35 | Panel Discussion – From Insight to Action: Connecting Systems, Foresight, and Policy Tools | Moderator: Milu Muyanga (Michigan State University)<br><br>**Panellists:**<br>• Marco Sanchez (Deputy-Director, FAO Agrifood Economics and Policy Division): Policy Optimization Tool (PolOpT)<br>• Cecilia Nardi (Economist, FAO Agrifood Economics and Policy Division): FAPDA Policy Tracking, Monitoring & Intelligence Platform<br>• Babafemi Oyewole (CEO, Pan-African Farmers' Organization (PAFO))<br>• Sylvere SIRIKARE, Coordinator Agri Food Systems, MINAGRI<br>• Tinashe Kapuya (Research Director, ANAPRI-Secretariat<br>• Sibusiso Nhlengethwa, Policy Analyst at Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa – Insights from the 2025 Africa Agriculture Status Report on Food Systems |
| 10h:35-10h:50 | Q & A | Moderator: Milu Muyanga |
| 10h:50-11h:00 | Closing Reflections & Next Steps | Mark Fynn and Adama Taoko -FAO |
| 11h:00 – 11h:30 | **Health Break** | |

| Session 8: Partnerships and coalitions on food systems transformation, co-creating and coordination of Interventions on food systems | |
|---|---|
| 11h:30 – 13h:00 | **Partnerships and coalitions on food systems transformation, co-creating and coordination of Interventions on food systems**<br>• FAO<br>• World Bank<br>• IFDC<br>• Sustain Africa (SAF-A)<br>• Akademiya 2063<br>• AFIDA<br>• AGRA<br>• GanzAfrica |
| 13h:00 – 13h:30 | **Closing Session:**<br>• Kigali Commitments and Pathways for Policy and Investment Action<br>• Closing remarks<br>  • Antony Chapoto, Executive Director, ANAPRI<br>  • Seth Kwizera, Executive Director, EPRN<br>  • Damas Phillip, ANAPRI Board Chairperson |
| 13h:30 – 14h:30 | **Lunch Break** |
| 14:30 onwards | Optional Field Visits |

## Programme Details

### Pre Conference Session A: Africa Agriculture Adaptation Atlas – User Adoption and Testing Project Learning Workshop

| | |
|---|---|
| Date | **November 3, 2025** |
| Time | 08h:30 – 16h:30 |
| Facilitator | Tinashe Kapuya |
| Rapporteurs | ▪ Timothy Njagi<br>▪ Chishimba Musonda |

**Facilitator**

**Tinashe Kapuya** is an experienced commodities analyst, agricultural value chain and trade specialist who has worked in this capacity both as a researcher and practitioner in the private sector over the past 10 years. His areas of expertise include agribusiness and value chain development, market and trade analysis, agro-food system analysis, research, and policy advocacy. Tinashe was previously a contributor to the Agbiz Weekly Newsletter, GrainSA magazine, FarmBiz Magazine, and the Landbouweekblad, and Business Day, among others. He earned a Ph.D. Agricultural Economics at the University of Pretoria. He was the inaugural recipient of the Agricultural Economics Association of South Africa's Bax D. Nomvete and a Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation scholar. He is the current ANAPRI research director and project lead for the policy prioritization through value chain analysis project (PPVC).

**Rapporteurs**

**Timothy Njagi** is a seasoned Development Economist with a wealth of experience in the fields of development planning, policy implementation and research. He has undertaken policy research and analysis in agriculture, rural and food systems in Kenya. He has published in peer reviewed journals and is a regular commentator on policy issues on agriculture and food systems in Sub Saharan Africa. He is the Partial Equilibrium Specialist at Modelling Services Centre at the African Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes (ANAPRI). He was previously a senior researcher at Tegemeo Institute of Agricultural Policy and Development, where he led several research studies in Kenya and the region. Tim holds a PhD in Development Economics and Master's Degree in International Development from the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS), Japan.

**Chishimba Musonda** is a results-driven operations and project support professional with over a decade of experience in administration, project management, and operations within local and international NGOs in Zambia. She holds a Master's degree in Development Studies and a Postgraduate Diploma in Project Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation. Skilled in people coordination, data collection, research support, budget tracking and coordination, she is known for improving efficiency and supporting impactful project outcomes. Currently, Chishimba serves as the Program Assistant at the Africa Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes (ANAPRI), where she supports program delivery under the Africa Agriculture Adaptation (AAA) Atlas project.

**Background**

Climate change continues to threaten food systems, livelihoods, and economic stability across Africa. The agricultural sector, largely dominated by smallholder farmers, is particularly vulnerable to shifting climate patterns, recurrent extreme weather events, and environmental degradation. As such, there is a growing demand for robust, data-driven tools to support evidence-based decision-making in climate adaptation and mitigation.

In response to this need, the Africa Agriculture Adaptation Atlas (the Atlas) was developed as an innovative online platform that brings together spatially explicit datasets, analytical tools, and interactive visualizations. Designed for long-term policy and investment planning, the Atlas supports users in exploring and understanding climate risks, smallholder exposure, and the effectiveness of adaptation interventions across the continent.

The Gates Foundation (BMGF), through its Agricultural Development (AgDev) team, supported the development of the Atlas and launched a user testing initiative to promote adoption and enhance usability. As part of this effort, the African Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes (ANAPRI) was engaged to implement real-world case studies and evaluate the practical application of the Atlas in diverse country contexts.

**What is the Africa Agriculture Adaptation Atlas?**

The Atlas is an online dynamic and interactive climate adaptation investments and policies decision-support tool tailored to African stakeholders. Its core function is to integrate various sources of climate-related and socioeconomic data and provide insights for use in climate-smart agricultural planning. The Atlas consolidates and harmonizes data on:

- The evolving nature of climate hazards, such as droughts and floods.

- The exposure and vulnerability of smallholder farmers, crops, and livestock systems.
- The adaptive capacity of farming communities and the effectiveness of a range of climate adaptation solutions.

In addition to its analytical capabilities, the Atlas is envisioned as a foundational tool to guide national and regional adaptation strategies, investment prioritization, and policy reforms. It offers three levels of user engagement:

- Interactive data exploration through thematic "spotlight" stories and dashboards.
- Data extraction and integration with local GIS systems for deeper analysis.
- Full platform customization, allowing institutions to build their own tailored versions of the Atlas.

**Scope of User Testing and Adoption by Partners**

**African Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes (ANAPRI)**

Since September 2024, ANAPRI has played a central role in promoting the uptake of the Atlas in eight African countries: Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda. Each country developed a specific test case aligned with national priorities, value chain development, and climate policy needs. These cases address key questions on climate risk mitigation, gender responsiveness, and investment strategies.

The User Testing and Adoption of the ATLAS has four key specific and cross-cutting objectives. These are as follows:

- **Capacity building**: In collaboration with CIAT, ANAPRI facilitated comprehensive training workshops for its member research centers. The goal was to develop the technical capacity needed to independently use and apply the Atlas beyond the scope of the current project.
- **Policy and investment prioritization and planning**: The Atlas was integrated into ongoing ANAPRI projects, such as the Policy Prioritization through Value Chain Analysis (PPVC), enabling more robust climate-sensitive decision-making.
- **Broader application**: Beyond existing initiatives, the Atlas were tested as a cross-cutting tool applicable to diverse climate adaptation and mitigation policy environments.
- **Gender inclusion**: A deliberate effort was made to mainstream gender in both participation and analysis. At least 40% female participation was targeted in training and capacity-building workshops. In addition, test cases included gender-disaggregated data and gender-focused indicators to deepen the understanding of how climate risks and responses vary by gender.

The objectives outlined above find expression in the various use case applications, which varied across the different ANAPRI countries. Table 1 outlines the list of use case scenarios that were implemented across the various countries.

**Summary of ANAPRI's User Test Cases**

| ANAPRI Centre & Country | Title of test case |
|---|---|
| Institute of Social Science and Economic Research (ISSER), Ghana | Localization of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Nationally Determined Contributions in Ghana: The Case of Wa West and Elembele Districts |
| Tegemeo Institute of Agricultural Policy and Development, Kenya | Evaluation of Decision-Making Ecosystem in The Context of Climate Change - An Integration of Insights in African Adaptation Atlas on The Outcomes of Priority Value Chains Among Farmers in Kenya |
| MwAPATA Institute, Malawi | A cost-benefit analysis of interventions that support banana value chain development in Malawi |
| The Centre of Excellence for Agro-Food Systems and Nutrition (CE-AFSN), Mozambique | Evaluating the Impacts of a Bundled Technology for Adaptation to Droughts on Maize Yields and Production Areas: A Case Study of Central Mozambique |
| The Innovation Lab for Policy Leadership in Agriculture and Food Security (PiLAF), Nigeria | Building Capacity for Climate Resilience Among Stakeholders in the Agricultural Sector in Nigeria: Leveraging Africa Agriculture Adaptation (AAA) Atlas |
| Economic Policy Research Network (EPRN), Rwanda | Promoting Smallholder Climate Change Adaptation Strategies in Rwanda: Implications on agricultural productivity and Incomes |
| College of Economics and Business Studies - Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), Tanzania | Integrating Climate Adaptation and Resilience Strategies in the Agri-Food Systems Policy Landscape of Tanzania: A case of the Sunflower Acceleration and Incubation Programme in Chamwino District |
| Agricultural Policy Research Center (APRC), Uganda | Utilizing the African Adaptation Atlas to analyze climate Change Mitigation Strategies for Uganda's Livestock production systems |

**Agricultural Transformation Institute (ATI)**

The Agricultural Transformation Institute (ATI) is deploying and customizing the African Adaptation Atlas to strengthen climate-informed decision-making in Ethiopia's agriculture sector. This initiative emphasizes localized adaptation, gender inclusion, and active stakeholder engagement to ensure the Atlas reflects Ethiopia's unique agricultural and climatic realities.

ATI has successfully cloned the main Atlas website and its associated Sanity CMS content, both of which are now fully hosted and operational on ATI's own servers. This infrastructure provides ATI with complete flexibility to introduce updates, enhancements, and new features tailored to national and regional needs. Additionally, ATI has cloned all

notebooks to its institutional account, enabling the integration and analysis of new, context-specific datasets relevant to Ethiopian agriculture and climate.

As part of the Atlas adaptation process, ATI is conducting comprehensive data collection from multiple sources, including regional agricultural offices, research institutions, and development partners. The team is also gathering feedback through workshops and consultations with key stakeholders—such as policymakers, researchers, and practitioners—to guide feature prioritization and ensure that the Atlas responds effectively to user needs. Furthermore, gender-disaggregated data and perspectives are being incorporated to ensure the platform supports inclusive climate adaptation planning that benefits both men and women farmers.

ATI is expanding the Atlas to include data and visualizations covering all regions and extending down to the Zone and woreda level. This includes integrating local crop data, contextualizing climate information for regional realities, and adapting both the interface and content into local languages.

Once the Atlas is fully customized, ATI plans to identify and implement priority use cases that demonstrate the Atlas's practical value in supporting climate adaptation planning and agricultural transformation efforts across Ethiopia.

Through these enhancements, the Atlas will evolve into a practical, inclusive, and accessible decision-support tool for policymakers, researchers, and development practitioners nationwide.

**African Group of Negotiators Expert Support (AGNES)**

The **African Group of Negotiators Experts Support (AGNES)** is a not-for-profit think tank that brings together African experts, scientists, and practitioners dedicated to strengthening Africa's voice and participation in global climate policy and action. Established in 2015, AGNES provides **evidence-based technical support** to African governments and the African Group of Negotiators (AGN), enabling more effective engagement in both international and national climate policy formulation and implementation.

Through its strategic programs, AGNES plays a central role in developing **common African positions** and ensuring that Africa's priorities are well-represented in global climate dialogues. Its work bridges **science, policy, and practice** by translating complex scientific insights into actionable policy options, and by facilitating the translation of climate policy ambition into tangible local action. AGNES delivers its mandate through five interlinked core programs:

i. **Consolidation of Evidence** – synthesizing science and policy data to inform climate decisions.
ii. **NDC Delivery Lab** – supporting the implementation and tracking of national climate commitments.
iii. **Strengthening of African National Parliaments** – enhancing legislative oversight and climate governance.

iv. **Gender, Equality, and Social Inclusion (GESI)** – promoting inclusive, gender-responsive climate action; and
v. **Capacity Building and Training** – empowering negotiators, policymakers, and practitioners to participate effectively in climate processes.

Under the **Africa Adaptation Atlas User Adoption and Testing Project**, AGNES led a **14-month engagement and capacity-building program** that aimed to enhance the usability, accessibility, and policy relevance of the Atlas for African stakeholders. The initiative was implemented in **two structured phases** designed to test and promote uptake of the Atlas across scientific and policy communities.

- **Phase One - Scientific Engagement:** AGNES convened scientists and research communities from across Africa to assess, test, and refine the Atlas. Participants included climate and ecosystem scientists, crop and livestock experts, socio-economists, and researchers at different career stages. The objective was to improve the Atlas's functionality, relevance, and integration into research and data-driven decision-making processes.
- **Phase Two - Policy and Practice Engagement:** AGNES facilitated **four sub-regional convenings** bringing together policymakers, civil society organizations (CSOs), private sector actors, and practitioners from **43 African countries**. These sessions provided **hands-on training** on how to navigate and apply the Atlas notebooks, while demonstrating its utility for **agricultural adaptation planning, policy design, and programming**.

Through these targeted engagements, AGNES successfully bridged the gap between **scientific research and policy application**, ensuring that the Africa Adaptation Atlas becomes a practical and trusted tool for guiding **climate-resilient agricultural development and adaptation planning** across the continent.

**Regional Center for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD)**

Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD), is an intergovernmental institution that utilizes Earth Observation data and geo-information tools and technologies for sustainable development in the Member States (Botswana, Burundi, Comoros, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe) and other stakeholders in East and Southern Africa. Upon review of the Kenya's county climate smart strategies, the CIDP and Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), RCMRD has established that the laid-out plans for transforming Kenya's economy and inclusive growth through a value-chain approach are ideal for the country and that the Atlas can play an important role in their actualization. RCMRD engaged the counties to support the goal of BETA and the specific County Integrated Development plans in conjunction with the County Government through geospatial data from the Africa Agriculture Adaptation Atlas (https://adaptationatlas.cgiar.org/). The Africa Agriculture Adaptation Atlas is an interactive platform that provides geospatial data, analytical tools, and resources to

support climate-resilient agricultural practices and informed decision-making across Africa. Through this initiative, RCMRD is empowering counties to generate insights on climate risks, impacts, vulnerabilities, and adaptation strategies. This enables counties to plan and implement climate adaptation measures in priority value chains, strengthen policy alignment with national and regional strategies, and identify women-led value chains while assessing their recovery and resilience to climate risks.

RCMRD has implemented the Africa Agriculture Adaptation Atlas project across 38 counties in Kenya, working closely with key county personnel in the agriculture sector. County engagements are coordinated through the County Directors of Agriculture (CDAs), who serve as focal points in each county. Each engagement integrates gender inclusivity and monitoring and evaluation components to ensure equitable participation and accountability. To enhance awareness and utilization of the Atlas, RCMRD is producing a range of knowledge products, including bulletins, fact sheets, feasibility reports, and gender-sensitive enterprise selection criteria. The overarching goal of RCMRD's use-case testing is to build the capacity of counties to independently generate their own range of knowledge products, thereby informing both seasonal and long-term agricultural planning and policy decisions.

**Sustainable Agriculture Foundation - Africa (SAF-A)**

Sustainable Agriculture Foundation - Africa (SAF-A) is a non-profit organization formed out of the legacy of the Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture (SFSA). SAF-A improves farmer incomes, resilience and food security by providing smallholder-relevant innovations, helping farmers access them through markets, and addressing barriers in the enabling environment. Additionally, SAF-A scales up the adoption of climate-smart agricultural practices and the empowerment of women, youth, and disadvantaged groups.

SAF-A plays a pivotal role in coordinating the Adaptation Atlas user testing project, ensuring effective management and alignment of all components to meet the objectives of evaluating the usability and adoption potential of the Africa Adaptation Atlas among African users engaged in climate decision-making and prioritization.

**Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT**

The Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT led Atlas user-testing to assess how its data and notebooks can inform practical planning, finance, and policy decisions. Between 2023 and 2025, the team delivered twelve training and demonstration activities reaching around 184 participants across Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Mozambique, Togo, and regional African platforms. Participants included policymakers, technical staff, financial institutions, and researchers engaged in adaptation planning and climate-finance processes.

Testing focused on capacity building, integration of Atlas datasets into real workflows, and structured feedback for future improvements. In Kenya and Uganda, AFRACA sessions demonstrated how hazard and vulnerability layers can inform credit-risk diagnostics and climate-credit scoring. The ASARECA–GGGI training in Nairobi and CHEFS co-learning workshop showed applications for foresight, adaptation planning, and policy analysis. At the LDC regional NAP workshops and the Zambia NAP Expo, national focal points used Atlas layers to develop climate rationale and prioritize adaptation options. In Mozambique, Atlas hazard and exposure data were embedded into the national Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Portal, enabling evidence-based targeting of investments.

Across events, users reported significant gains in confidence to interpret climate-risk data and apply it to proposals, policies, and finance instruments. Financial institutions began piloting Atlas-linked indicators, and policymakers requested collaboration to align Atlas workflows with nationally approved datasets. These outcomes confirm the Atlas's potential as a science-based digital public good that bridges climate data and decision-making across Africa. CIAT is seeking continued support from the CGIAR science programs to respond to feedback and deliver new and improved content that responds to user demand and feedback.

**Objective of the Learning Workshop**

Overall, the learning workshop is a platform for sharing experiences and diverse applications of the Atlas as a foundational tool in providing critical climate change information, such as risk information, mitigation, and adaptation variables. The developers and users of the platform will share expert knowledge on how the Atlas has been applied as input into experimental design frameworks, cost benefit analyses, or index calculations that serve to support government in climate-smart policy and investment planning. In that sense, the learning event will provide partners with deep perspectives of the expanded potential uses of the tool across different country situations and policy contexts.

The learning workshop will have the following specific objectives

- **To present the user feedback -** Share the findings and key insights gathered from the test case analysis reports across all participating Partners.
- **Provide a platform for Partner responses -** Allow each Partner to react to the feedback presented, clarify findings, and provide additional reflections or lessons learned from their engagement with the Atlas.
- **Facilitate knowledge sharing and peer learning -** Create space for Partners to highlight new or emerging lessons from their test case work that may not have been captured in the initial analysis report.

**Expected Outcomes**

The main outcome of the learning workshop will be an improved understanding of the diverse use case scenarios under which the ATLAS can be applied. To add, the partner-

specific feedback will facilitate cross-partner learning, and clarifications and improvements in the application of different workbooks, and recommendations on how ANAPRI, ATI, AGNES, RCMRD, CIAT and SAF-A can collaborate further to expand the usage and application of the ATLAS among policy makers. A **Roadmap towards the Atlas II** will be drafted and submitted as part of the exercise of collating feedback and learnings and defining future work and engagements for the broader and wider applications of the Atlas, to support the growing community of users.

The specific outcomes of the learning workshop will be for partners to have a deeper understanding of the various use case applications of the Atlas, from the perspective of:

- **Capacity of stakeholders** to use the Atlas platform for decision-making.
- Data collection and analysis to **develop concrete policy recommendations** that can be used by policy makers
- **Increased engagement and collaboration** among stakeholders using the Atlas platform.

Emphasis of the event is placed on peer learning and collaboration among the various Partners. Promoting the use of the Atlas has broader implications for climate resilience and policy alignment as the Atlas drives cross-learning and scaling successful adaptation solutions. Insights gathered will inform future policy influence and regional activities.

| Time | Segment | Focus & Lead |
|---|---|---|
| 08h:30 – 09h:00 | Arrival and Registration | SAF-Africa |
| 09h:00 – 09h:30 | Opening and Welcome Remarks | George Njuguna, Sustainable Ag. Foundation-Africa |
| 09h:30-09h:50 | Remarks from the Gates Foundation | Alan Rennison, Gates Foundation |
| 09h:50 -10h:30 | A presentation on the Atlas, the engagement process with partners, and the overall user feedback | Peter Steward, CIAT |
| 10h:30 – 11h:00 | Tea Break | |
| 11h:00 – 13h:00 | Presentation from Partners on feedback and experiences in the use and application of the Atlas by Partners | George Njuguna, SAF-A |
| | • Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development – (RCMRD) | Frankline Rono, RCMRD |
| | • African Group of Negotiators Experts Support (AGNES) | Telvin Denje, AGNES |
| | • Africa Network of Agriculture Policy Research Institutes (ANAPRI) | Thinah Moyo, ANAPRI/ATPI |
| | • Agricultural Transformation Institute (ATI) | Mulugeta Molla, ATI |
| 13h:00 – 14h:30 | Lunch | |
| 14h:30 – 16h:20 | Breakout discussions<br>• What are the top five issues that would need to be prioritized to improve the Atlas Platform | Facilitator: Peter Steward, CIAT |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | • Next Steps on the development of the Atlas | |
| 16h:20 – 16h:30 | Way Forward and Close | George Njuguna, SAF-A |

**Speakers**

**George Njuguna** is a development finance professional with more than 14 years' experience advancing agri-food systems, seed systems, and access to finance across Sub-Saharan Africa. As Lead of the ATLAS Project and Seeds2B team at the Sustainable Agriculture Foundation – Africa, he oversees program strategy, financial management, and partnerships. His work promotes market innovation, inclusion of women and youth, and sustainable agricultural growth. Having held senior leadership roles across the region, George has delivered evidence-based initiatives that strengthen regional development, expand smallholder opportunities, and foster resilient, inclusive food systems.

**Alan Rennison** manages agricultural policy and analytics portfolios at the Gates Foundation, supporting partners such as ANAPRI, FAO, AGRA, IFPRI, and the World Bank. He drives the use of evidence and investment tracking tools for inclusive food-system transformation. Formerly with Cambridge Economic Policy Associates, he advised WHO, GAIN, and UK government departments on economic policy. Alan holds an MSc in Development Economics from Oxford University and a BA in Economics from Glasgow University. His work bridges economic analysis, policymaking, and strategic partnerships to advance agricultural innovation and sustainability across Africa.

**Dr. Peter Steward** is an agricultural scientist specializing in climate-change adaptation, data synthesis, and sustainable transitions in smallholder systems. With over 12 years' experience across Sub-Saharan Africa, he leads research enhancing resilience, biodiversity, and ecosystem services. He earned his PhD in Ecology from the University of Leeds, MSc in Applied Ecology and Conservation, and BSc in Ecology from the University of East Anglia. His interdisciplinary work supports evidence-based decisions and innovative solutions for climate-resilient agriculture.

**Josphat Makanga** is a seasoned GIS and remote-sensing professional with nearly 30 years' experience in natural-resource mapping and capacity building across 15 African countries. Holding a Master's in Geoinformation Science from ITC Netherlands, he manages RCMRD's Photogrammetry Unit and leads wetlands-monitoring initiatives under GMES & Africa. He has trained thousands of professionals in land and electoral mapping and co-authored the SDG #12 chapter in *Geospatial Information to Support the UN's Sustainable Development Goals*. His leadership advances Africa's geospatial capacity for sustainable development.

**Telvin Denje** is an environmental researcher focusing on agriculture, climate-change adaptation, and land-use management. Working with AGNES, he strengthens Africa's role in global climate negotiations and promotes evidence-based advocacy. He holds a BSc in Environmental Science from Egerton University and is pursuing an MSc in GIS and Remote Sensing at JKUAT. Telvin integrates policy, science, and data-driven research to support climate resilience, sustainable development, and SDG implementation across the continent.

**Prof. Thinah Moyo** is an agricultural economist and Co-Director of the Agriculture Trade Policy Institute at NUST. Her research focuses on smallholder market participation, value-chain development, and rural livelihoods within the context of climate change and food-system resilience. She has authored numerous publications and collaborates widely across Southern Africa on evidence-based policy and capacity building. Her expertise spans trade policy, the Water-Energy-Food nexus, and inclusive agricultural growth.

**Frankline Rono** specialises in managing and implementing projects in crop modelling, data analysis, and climate risk assessment, including the modelling of crop pest distribution. He developed a machine learning species distribution model for crop pests and diseases as part of the Risk Management System for Plant Pests and Diseases under the Plant Protection and Food Safety Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development in Kenya. He has served as a geospatial modeller for the Rangelands Decision

Support Tool in Kenya and Ethiopia, and as a modelling expert on the ESA HeyRelief project.

**Mulugeta Molla** is an experienced application software developer with a strong background in web application and web GIS development. With over seven years of practical experience, he has built a solid track record of delivering high-quality software solutions and guiding technical teams to successful outcomes. He has contributed to a range of impactful projects, including the development of a Digital Addressing System, smart customs border control systems, and geospatial support services. His expertise spans modern JavaScript frameworks, HTML5, JavaScript, and CSS3, alongside geospatial technologies such as GeoServer, PostgreSQL, PostGIS, and pgRouting, as well as web mapping libraries like OpenLayers. These combined capabilities enable him to design and implement user-focused geospatial applications that are both reliable and intuitive.

## Pre Conference Session B: ANAPRI-World Bank Conference: High-Level Plenary – Navigating Global Disruptions and Africa's Food System Futures

| | |
|---|---|
| Date | **November 3, 2025** |
| Time | 08h:30 – 10h:30 |
| Facilitator | ▪ Luc Christiaensen<br>▪ Antony Chapoto |
| Rapporteurs | ▪ Emmanuel Leeta<br>▪ Othalia Moukilou |

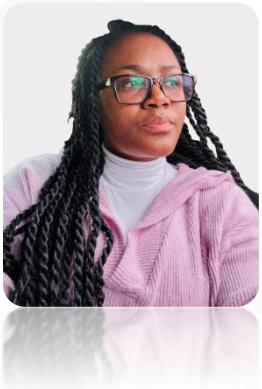
**Facilitators**

**Luc Christiaensen** is Lead Agricultural Economist in the Eastern and Southern Africa Unit of the World Bank and heads the Agricultural Policy Action Lab in Paris. He specializes in agriculture, poverty, jobs, structural change, and risk management, contributing extensively to global policy dialogues. Formerly Head of the World Bank Jobs and Labor Mobility Center in Rome, he has worked across Africa, East Asia, and Europe on inclusive development and the green transition. Luc holds a PhD in Agricultural Economics from Cornell University. His research bridges empirical insight and policy practice to shape jobs and growth strategies in agri-food systems.

**Antony Chapoto** is an agricultural and development economist with broad experience across Sub-Saharan Africa. His research spans agricultural productivity, technology adoption, commercialization, and policy reform, emphasizing inclusive and climate-smart growth. He has published widely in peer-reviewed journals and contributed to influential policy briefs and books. As Executive Director of the Africa Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes (ANAPRI), he leads collaborative research, capacity building, and policy engagement that promote evidence-based decision-making. Dr. Chapoto's leadership strengthens agricultural innovation systems, smallholder market linkages, and knowledge exchange toward Africa's sustainable economic transformation.

**Rapporteurs**

**Emmanuel Letaa** is an Agricultural Economist at the Agricultural Policy Research Centre (APRC), Makerere University. His work focuses on strengthening agricultural policy formulation, enhancing the relevance and timeliness of Agri-food systems research, and promoting the effective communication and use of evidence in policymaking processes. Previously, he served as an Impact Assessment Researcher at the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) and with the CGIAR Standing Panel on Impact Assessment (SPIA), where he contributed to evaluating the outcomes and impacts of agricultural research for development. Emmanuel holds an MSc in Agricultural and Applied Economics from Makerere University and has a strong interest in evidence-based policy, agricultural transformation, and the economics of technology adoption in smallholder farming systems.



**Othalia Allegra** is a bilingual communications professional with a background in Business Management and a keen interest in bridging linguistic and cultural gaps in professional environments. Currently supporting ANAPRI's strategic communications and documentation processes, she applies a detail-oriented and context-aware approach to translating and curating formal materials in both English and French.

**Session Background**

The agrifood system (AFS) is at the center of Africa's employment challenge and opportunity. Globally, one in three workers work in the AFS, with the share rising to over half in Sub-Saharan Africa. Despite this, the employment dimension of the AFS has often been overlooked in research and policy debates. Yet, how the agrifood system evolves will decisively shape Africa's capacity to create jobs, particularly for its rapidly growing youth population.

As economies transform, the share of on-farm employment typically declines while jobs expand in off-farm activities, including in agrifood processing, trading, and food services. In Africa, demographic trends mean that the number of people employed in farming will also continue to grow in the near term. The key challenge is increasing the agricultural labour productivity of smallholder farmers and ensuring that transitions within the AFS generate more and better-quality jobs.

The AFS has been leveraged successfully for jobs in the past. Yet, the need for climate-smart and resource-efficient farming practices and the burst of disruptive technologies,

including automation and digital innovations, are rapidly reshaping the employment landscape. These shifts create new opportunities for job creation in agribusiness and service provision, but also raise concerns about inclusivity, particularly for women and young people who often face barriers to entering and advancing in the sector. Sustainable farming practices may further demand more labour, slowing the structural transformation. The lessons from past successes may no longer apply, or not apply in the same form, while the distinctive features of AFS jobs, such as seasonality and uncertainty, largely persist.

This session will convene leading experts, policymakers, and researchers to explore evidence-based pathways for harnessing the AFS to drive inclusive transformation. Through keynote presentations, technical panels, and synthesis discussions, participants will present and interrogate the latest research, identify critical evidence gaps, and articulate practical policy recommendations that can guide governments, donors, and the private sector in leveraging the AFS for job creation. By contributing to the World Bank's forthcoming flagship report on Jobs and the Agrifood System, the workshop will also directly help inform both African and global policy agendas.

**Expected Outcomes**

By the end of this session, participants will:

1. Gain insights from cutting-edge research on how Africa's agrifood system can generate more and better-quality jobs, including for youth and women.
2. Shape policy discourse by providing evidence and perspectives to feed into the World Bank's flagship report on Jobs and the Agrifood System.
3. Build stronger networks and partnerships among African researchers, policymakers, and development partners committed to employment-focused food systems transformation.
4. Define a forward-looking research and policy agenda that identifies evidence gaps and practical pathways for inclusive and sustainable job creation in the agrifood system.

| Time | Activity | Details |
|---|---|---|
| 08h:30 – 09h:00 | Registration | Participant check-in. |
| 09h:00 – 09h:15 | Opening Remarks | • Antony Chapoto – Executive Director, ANAPRI Secretariat<br>• Luc Christiaensen – Lead Agriculture Economist, World Bank |
| 09h:15 – 09h:40 | Keynote Presentations | Thomas Daum, University of Gothenburg. |
| 09h:40 – 10h:00 | Q&A Session | Luc Christiaensen |
| 10h:00 – 10h:20 | Coffee Break | Networking and informal discussions. |
| Parallel Technical Sessions | | |

| Time | Activity | Details |
|---|---|---|
| 10h:20 – 12h:20 | A. AFS jobs profile and prospects<br>Session chair: Dr Nancy Laibuni | B. Sustainable intensification and AFS jobs<br>Session chair: Thomas Daum |
| | iv. Assessing the role of the food MSMEs in providing employment for women and youth in Ethiopia.<br>**Presenter:** Daniel Mekonnen<br>**Discussant:** Tayan Raj Gurung<br><br>**v.** Beyond Distance: How Urban Characteristics Shape Livelihood Strategies in Rural Myanmar.<br>**Presenter:** *Linda Steinhuebel-Rasheed*<br>**Discussant:** Olayinka Aremu<br><br>vi. Contract labor, job quality, and turnover intention—Evidence from Nigeria.<br>**Presenter:** Olayinka Aremu<br>**Discussant:** Daniel Mekonnen | v. Jobs! The Labour Implications of Climate Change Adaptation in West Africa<br>**Presenter:** Martin Paul Jr<br>**Discussant:** Kaushik Bora<br><br>vi. Does Sustainable Intensification Pay for Small-Scale Producers? Evidence on returns to family labor from sub-Saharan Africa.<br>**Presenter:** Emanuele Zucchini<br>**Discussant:** Mesay Yami<br><br>vii. Sustainable Intensification and Job Creation through Specialized Agricultural Services: Evidence from Youth-Led Spray Providers in Nigeria.<br>**Presenter:** Mesay Yami<br>**Discussant:** Martin Paul Jr<br><br>viii. Technology Suitability for Women Farmers: Scaling Gender Inclusive Climate Smart Interventions in data-limited Settings.<br>**Presenter:** Kaushik Bora<br>**Discussant:** Emanuele Zucchini |
| 12:20 – 13:15 | Lunch Break | • Lunch and networking |
| 13:15 – 14:45 | C. AFS MSMEs and job creation<br>Session Chair: Janvier Rurangwa | D. Inclusion of youth and women<br>Session Chair: Debisi Araba |
| | iv. Unlocking Agricultural Transformation through Commercialized Smallholders: Evidence from Rural Kenya<br>**Presenter:** Milu Muyanga<br>**Discussant:** Luc Christiaensen<br><br>v. Linking the Last Mile Agricultural MSMEs and Bundled Farmer Service Delivery.<br>**Presenter:** Luc Christiaensen<br>**Discussant:** Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse<br><br>vi. The effectiveness of alternative agrifood investments for jobs and inclusive transformation in Ethiopia. | iv. The Landscape of Youth Engagement in Food Systems in Africa: Are the youth driving structural transformation?<br>**Presenter:** Kibrom A. Abay<br>**Discussant:** Mulubrhan Amare<br><br>v. Empowering Women in Nigeria's Food Sector: Structural Barriers and Opportunities for Women's Participation in Fruit and Seafood SMEs.<br>**Presenter:** Joy Ucheime<br>**Discussant:** Kibrom A. Abay<br><br>vi. Can Boosting Public Expenditure on Agriculture Reduce Youth Out-Migration? Evidence from Nigeria<br>**Presenter:** Mulubrhan Amare |

| Time | Activity | Details |
|---|---|---|
| | **Presenter:** Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse<br>**Discussant:** Milu Muyanga | **Discussant:** Joy Ucheime |
| 14:45 – 16:15 | E. Skills, Education, and Workforce Readiness<br>Session Chair: Sergiy Zorya | F. Inclusion and equity in agricultural value chain development models<br>Session Chair: Alan Rennison |
| | iv. Bridging the skill gap for a climate-smart agrifood future: integrated pathways for on- and off-farm workforce development<br>**Presenter:** Amine AMAR<br>**Discussant:** Destaings Nyongesa<br><br>v. Building a Future-Ready Agrifood–Hospitality Workforce: Policy Insights from a Dual-Training Model in Kenya<br>**Presenter:** Destaings Nyongesa<br>**Discussant:** Richard Kwabi Ayisi<br><br>vi. Food Processing Development in Ghana's Food Value Chain: The Implications for Job Creation and Macroeconomic Dynamics.<br>**Presenter:** *Richard Kwabi Ayisi*<br>**Discussant:** Amine AMAR | iv. Agricultural production, road rehabilitation and conflicts: evidence Western Growth Poles Development project in Bas-Congo.<br>**Presenter:** Cecilia Nardi<br>**Discussant:** Guillaume Soullierab<br><br>v. More jobs, same conditions? Evaluating the labour impacts of third-party certification in the global cocoa value chain in Ghana.<br>**Presenter:** Guillaume Soullierab<br>**Discussant:** Castro N. Gichuki<br><br>vi. Do different Fish Supply Channels Combinations Increase the Net Profitability of Women-Owned SMEs in Kenya?<br>**Presenter:** *Castro N. Gichuki*<br>**Discussant:** *Cecilia Nardi* |
| 16:15 – 17:15 | High-Level Panel Discussion | Moderator: Luc Christiaensen (World Bank)<br>Panellists:<br>• Nancy Laibuni – Country policy perspective (Kenya)<br>• Debisi Araba – Regional/institutional perspective (Akademiya2063)<br>• Sergiy Zorya – International institution perspective (World Bank)<br>• Thomas Daum – Research perspective (University of Gothenburg)<br>• Alan Rennison – Donor perspective (Gates Foundation) |
| 17:15 – 17:30 | Summary & Next Steps | • Luc Christiaensen – World Bank *Synthesis of insights, identification of evidence gaps, and forward agenda.* |

**Speakers/Panellists**

**Dr. Thomas Daum** is an Associate Professor at the School of Global Studies specializing in sustainable food systems and agricultural transformation. His work explores the social and institutional dimensions of development and natural resource management in Africa and Asia. He earned his PhD and habilitation from the University of Hohenheim, Germany, and has consulted for FAO, CIMMYT, and the World Bank. Dr. Daum investigates how innovation and governance shapes sustainability transitions in the Global South, contributing research that links academic insight with practical pathways toward resilient and inclusive agrifood systems.

**Nancy Laibuni** is an Advisor in Kenya's Office of the President and a member of the President's Council of Economic Advisors. With over 20 years' experience in agricultural policy and value-chain analysis, she is a champion for evidence-based decision-making. Previously with KIPPRA and KARI, she has led numerous research projects on public expenditure and food security. Nancy holds a PhD in Agricultural Economics from Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, an MSc from Leibniz Universität Hannover, and a BSc from Egerton University.

**Dr. Debisi Araba** is a public policy and strategy expert focused on Africa's agricultural transformation. Former Managing Director of the African Green Revolution Forum (AGRF), he has also served as Africa Region Director at CIAT and Senior Manager for African Policy Engagement under CGIAR's CCAFS Program. Earlier, he advised Nigeria's Minister of Agriculture, co-authoring the National Agricultural Resilience Framework. A 2019 Archbishop Tutu Fellow, Dr. Araba holds a PhD in Environmental Policy (Imperial College London), MPA (Harvard Kennedy School), MSc in Clean Technology (Newcastle), and BSc in Physical Geography (Ibadan). His work bridges science, policy, and innovation for sustainable food-system development.

**Dr. Sergiy Zorya** is Lead Agricultural Economist for the World Bank's Europe and Central Asia region and Global Lead for Public Policy and Expenditures in the Agriculture and Food Department. He directs programs on repurposing agricultural support toward sustainable and equitable food systems. Since joining the Bank in 2005, he has worked across Africa, Asia, and Europe on agricultural policy reform and sector transformation. He holds a PhD in Agricultural Economics from Georg-August University of Göttingen and a Master's from the Agricultural University of Zhytomyr. His leadership advances policy innovation for resilient food systems globally.

**Alan Rennison** manages agricultural policy and analytics portfolios at the Gates Foundation, supporting partners such as ANAPRI, FAO, AGRA, IFPRI, and the World Bank. He drives the use of evidence and investment tracking tools for inclusive food-system transformation. Formerly with Cambridge Economic Policy Associates, he advised WHO, GAIN, and UK government departments on economic policy. Alan holds an MSc in Development Economics from Oxford University and a BA in Economics from Glasgow University. His work bridges economic analysis, policymaking, and strategic partnerships to advance agricultural innovation and sustainability across Africa.

## Session 1: High-Level Plenary – Navigating Global Disruptions and Africa's Food System Futures

| | |
|---|---|
| Date | **November 4, 2025** |
| Time | 08h:30 – 10h:30 |
| Facilitator | Salomo Mbai |
| Rapporteurs | ▪ Zena Mpenda<br>▪ Benjamin Oyelami |

### Facilitator

**Salomo Mbai** is an agricultural economist in the Department of Agricultural Sciences and Agribusiness (DASA) at the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST). He began working at NUST, previously the Polytechnic of Namibia, in April 1998. From September 2009 to December 2021, he served as Head of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Since June 2022, he has been the Director of the Agricultural Trade Policy Institute (ATPI) at NUST. He has presented more than twenty papers at national and international conferences. As a consultant for institutions such as the Agricultural Bank of Namibia, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Red Cross Namibia, the Namibia Agricultural Union (NAU), the Namibia National Farmers Union (NNFU), and the Livestock and Livestock Products Board of Namibia (formerly known as the Meat Board), he has co-authored several technical reports. Mbai has published more than ten peer-reviewed journal articles. He served on the NUST Council from 2016 to 2019. He has been a member of the Board of the African Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes (ANAPRI) since March 2022, and he was appointed to the Namibian Agronomic Board (NAB) in June 2023.

### Rapporteurs

**Zena Mpenda** is Head of the Department of Trade and Investment and Deputy Principal of the College of Economics and Business Studies at Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA). With over 20 years' experience, she leads ANAPRI-supported research on policy responses to global price shocks and value-chain reforms. Her expertise spans trade, agribusiness, and economic resilience. Dr. Mpenda's work strengthens evidence-based policymaking and inclusive strategies for managing agricultural transformation and food-system sustainability in Tanzania and beyond.

**Benjamin Olusegun Oyelami** is a Communication Manager and Researcher at the Innovation Lab for Policy Leadership in Agriculture and Food Security (PiLAF), University of Ibadan, Nigeria, the country's only Centre for Policy Leadership. His work focuses on agricultural policy, resilience, climate-smart and digital agriculture, value chain extension, and rural development. He has collaborated with IITA, USAID, and TCN on technology transfer and training for rural farmers, particularly in cassava, soybean, and maize. A STAARS+ Fellow (2022/23), he is also a member of RuSAN, AESON, and CEIDS, and has presented and published widely in academic and professional forums.

**Session Background**

The African food system is increasingly shaped by global disruptions whose ripple effects transcend borders, policies, and markets. The tit-for-tat tariff war between the United States and China has destabilized trade flows and commodity prices, while the unilateral withdrawal of USAID funding and broader cuts to development financing for international agencies, such as the World Food Programme, have weakened global safety nets for vulnerable populations. At the same time, the protracted crisis in the Middle East has driven up energy prices, increasing production and transportation costs and fueling food inflation worldwide.

These dynamics converge to place Africa's food systems at a crossroads. While the continent is highly vulnerable to external shocks due to its dependence on imports, limited fiscal space, and structural market inefficiencies, there are also opportunities to leverage regional integration, strengthen intra-African trade, and advance the transformation of climate-smart, resilient, and inclusive food systems.

This plenary will critically examine the interplay between global shocks and Africa's food futures. It will set the scene with keynote presentations that trace global disruptions against the continent's food system trajectories, including progress in monitoring key indicators of resilience and transformation. Building on this framing, a panel of policymakers, experts, and leaders in agricultural policy, trade, and markets will share perspectives and country experiences on how African food systems are adapting and co-evolving in response to these disruptions.

The session is intended to stimulate forward-looking reflection and provide strategic insights on how Africa can not only withstand sustained global turbulence but also seize the moment to build robust, competitive, and inclusive food systems that drive transformative growth.

**Objectives**

1. Examine how current and emerging global shocks—including trade conflicts, funding withdrawals, and energy crises—are reshaping global and regional food systems.
2. Provide insights on the implications of these disruptions for Africa's food security, trade, and agricultural transformation, highlighting both vulnerabilities and opportunities.
3. Share examples of how African countries and regional bodies are navigating these shocks, including innovations, policy responses, and institutional adjustments.
4. Engage policymakers, researchers, private sector actors, and development partners in a high-level dialogue on resilience strategies that balance immediate crisis response with long-term food system transformation.
5. Identify priority actions and policy directions for strengthening Africa's food system resilience and positioning the continent to drive inclusive growth under sustained global uncertainty.

**Expected Outcomes**

1. Clarity on the nature and scale of global disruptions affecting food, energy, and finance systems, and how these are cascading into Africa's agrifood sector.
2. A synthesized set of insights from keynote speakers and panelists on practical strategies for resilience, including trade diversification, regional integration, and food systems monitoring.
3. Documented country and regional experiences that illustrate how African governments, private sector actors, and regional bodies are responding to global shocks.
4. A short list of priority policy directions emerging from the discussion that can feed into CAADP 3.0 domestication and other continental initiatives.
5. Enhanced networking and shared commitments among policymakers, researchers, development partners, and private sector representatives to collaborate on strengthening Africa's food system resilience.

| Time | Segment | Focus & Lead |
|---|---|---|
| 09h:00 – 09h:10 | Welcome & Opening Remarks | Antony Chapoto (Executive Director, ANAPRI Secretariat) |
| 09h:10 – 09h:35 | Keynote Address | Ali Abdi – FAO Representative, Global Food Systems and Resilience.<br>*Topic:* Global disruptions and their implications for Africa's food systems. |
| 09h:35 – 10h:20 | High-Level Panel Discussion | Moderator: Salomo Mbai (ATPI)<br>Panellists:<br>• Wandile Sihlobo, Chief Economist, Agricultural Business Chamber of South Africa (Agbiz)) |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | • Innnocent Okuku, CEO at Africa Fertilizer Industry Development Association((AFIDA)<br>• Stephen Ruzibiza, CEO Rwanda Private Sector Federation<br>• Nancy Laibuni, Advisor, Associate Member, Council of Economic Advisors<br>• Chris Chibwana, Program Officer in Gender Equity and Governance, William & Flora Hewlett Foundation<br>• Luc Christiaensen – Lead Economist, World Bank |
| 10h:20 – 10h:40 | Q&A Session | Salomo Mbai |
| 10h:40 – 10h:45 | Summary and Next Steps | Zena Mpenda (SUA) |

**Speakers/Panellists**

**Antony Chapoto** is an agricultural and development economist with broad experience across Sub-Saharan Africa. His research spans agricultural productivity, technology adoption, commercialization, and policy reform, emphasizing inclusive and climate-smart growth. He has published widely in peer-reviewed journals and contributed to influential policy briefs and books. As Executive Director of the Africa Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes (ANAPRI), he leads collaborative research, capacity building, and policy engagement that promote evidence-based decision-making. Dr. Chapoto's leadership strengthens agricultural innovation systems, smallholder market linkages, and knowledge exchange toward Africa's sustainable economic transformation.

**Abdi Ali** is an economist in the Markets and Trade Division of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). With over a decade of experience analyzing agricultural and environmental policy issues and trends at both national and international levels, he brings a comprehensive understanding of the challenges and opportunities shaping agrifood systems. Prior to joining FAO, Abdi served as Senior Economist at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, contributed as a Visiting Expert at the OECD's Trade and Agriculture Directorate, and worked as an Environmental Policy Analyst at Canada's Department of Transport. He is a national of Somalia and Canada.

**Wandile Sihlobo** is the Chief Economist of the Agricultural Business Chamber of South Africa (Agbiz) and a leading voice in agricultural economics and policy. Beyond Agbiz, he serves as a Senior Lecturer Extraordinary at Stellenbosch University, Visiting Research Fellow at the Wits School of Governance, and Research Associate at Rhodes University's ISER. Sihlobo is a member of President Cyril Ramaphosa's Presidential Economic Advisory Council, the Council of Statistics South Africa, and a Commissioner at ITAC. A widely published columnist and host of the podcast Agricultural Market Viewpoint, he provides critical insights on food systems and economic reform. He holds a BSc in Agricultural Economics from the University of Fort Hare and an MSc from Stellenbosch University. He is the author of three influential books, including The Uncomfortable Truth About South Africa's Agriculture (2025), A Country of Two Agricultures (2023), and Finding Common Ground (2020)

**Innocent Okuku** is the Director General & CEO of Africa Fertiliser Industry Development Association (AFIDA), a body that brings together all fertiliser industry actors including manufacturers, traders, distributors, retailers as well as national and regional fertiliser industry associations across Africa. He has over 35 years' experience in the agricultural industry spanning research, development and commercial positions in both public and private organisations, including the last 15 years in the fertiliser industry. Some of his previous roles includes Vice President of the West African Fertiliser Association (WAFA), Executive Secretary of WAFA, and Group Head of Commercial Services at Notore Chemical Industries PLC, where he was responsible for all the functions related to business Development, marketing and sales globally. He has great capacity and experience in developing and running Public-Private-Partnerships towards deploying appropriate farm inputs and technologies to help increase farm yields across Africa. Innocent is an alumnus of the prestigious London Business School and also holds a Doctorate degree in Crop Production.

**Stephen Ruzibiza** is the Chief Executive Officer of Rwanda Private Sector Federation (PSF) with over 15 years of working experience and demonstrated achievements tied to private sector growth, business environment reforms and promotion of trade and investment in Rwanda.

Stephen holds a Master's degree in International Business Law from the University of Tilburg, Netherlands, a Bachelor's degree in Law from Makerere University as well as, Diploma in Legal Practice from the Law Development Centre, Kampala, Uganda.

Stephen has undertaken a series of business reform initiatives by working closely with key development partners such as, Trademark East Africa to advocate for Rwanda business climate improvements, disseminated information on regional integration, and conducted research to support evidence-based advocacy.

**Nancy Laibuni** is an Advisor in Kenya's Office of the President and a member of the President's Council of Economic Advisors. With over 20 years' experience in agricultural policy and value-chain analysis, she is a champion for evidence-based decision-making. Previously with KIPPRA and KARI, she has led numerous research projects on public expenditure and food security. Nancy holds a PhD in Agricultural Economics from Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, an MSc from Leibniz Universität Hannover, and a BSc from Egerton University.

**Chris Chibwana** is Program Officer for Gender Equity and Governance at the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, managing grants that advance government effectiveness and inclusive development in Africa. With 15 years' experience, he previously led AGRA's Hub for Agricultural Policy Action and served as Partner and Head of Africa at IDinsight. Earlier, he worked with USAID in Malawi and Bangladesh on agriculture and nutrition programs. Chris holds a Master's in Agricultural Economics from Purdue University and a Bachelor's in Agribusiness Management from the University of Malawi. He is a strong advocate for data-driven policy reform.

**Luc Christiaensen** is Lead Agricultural Economist in the Eastern and Southern Africa Unit of the World Bank and heads the Agricultural Policy Action Lab in Paris. He specializes in agriculture, poverty, jobs, structural change, and risk management, contributing extensively to global policy dialogues. Formerly Head of the World Bank Jobs and Labor Mobility Center in Rome, he has worked across Africa, East Asia, and Europe on inclusive development and the green transition. Luc holds a PhD in Agricultural Economics from Cornell University. His research bridges empirical insight and policy practice to shape jobs and growth strategies in agri-food systems.

## Session 2: Policy Coherence and CAADP 3.0 – Translating Continental Commitments into National Transformation

| | |
|---|---|
| Date | **November 4, 2025** |
| Time | 11h:00 – 13h:00 |
| Facilitator | Lilian Kirimi |
| Rapporteurs | ▪ Thinah Moyo<br>▪ Benjamin Oyelami |

### Facilitator

**Lilian Kirimi** is a Senior Research Fellow and Research Coordinator at Tegemeo Institute of Agricultural Policy and Development, Egerton University, and Research Director for Tegemeo under ANAPRI. She holds a PhD in Agricultural Economics (Michigan State University) and is an AWARD fellow. With 16 years of experience, she has led research on food security, gender, climate change, and value-chain development in Kenya and beyond. Her policy leadership has enhanced institutional capacity and evidence-based decision-making at national and county levels, promoting inclusive agricultural transformation and climate-resilient growth. Dr. Lilian Kirimi, Senior Research Fellow and Research Coordinator, Tegemeo Institute of Agricultural Policy and Development, Egerton University

### Rapporteurs

**Prof. Thinah Moyo** is an agricultural economist and Co-Director of the Agriculture Trade Policy Institute at NUST. Her research focuses on smallholder market participation, value-chain development, and rural livelihoods within the context of climate change and food-system resilience. She has authored numerous publications and collaborates widely across Southern Africa on evidence-based policy and capacity building. Her expertise spans trade policy, the Water-Energy-Food nexus, and inclusive agricultural growth.

**Benjamin Olusegun Oyelami** is a Communication Manager and Researcher at the Innovation Lab for Policy Leadership in Agriculture and Food Security (PiLAF), University of Ibadan, Nigeria, the country's only Centre for Policy Leadership. His work focuses on agricultural policy, resilience, climate-smart and digital agriculture, value chain extension, and rural development. He has collaborated with IITA, USAID, and TCN on technology transfer and training for rural farmers, particularly in cassava, soybean, and maize. A STAARS+ Fellow (2022/23), he is also a member of RuSAN, AESON, and CEIDS, and has presented and published widely in academic and professional forums.

**Session Background**

The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) has been the continental framework guiding agricultural transformation in Africa for over 15 years. The launch of CAADP 3.0 under the Kampala Declaration marks a significant evolution, emphasizing not only agricultural productivity but also policy coherence, results-oriented implementation, and alignment with national and regional development agendas. CAADP 3.0 builds on lessons from the Malabo Declaration, incorporating six strategic objectives aimed at driving inclusive growth, resilience, trade integration, climate adaptation, and accountability in food systems.

Despite these continental commitments, translating CAADP 3.0 objectives into actionable national policies and strategies remains a challenge. Countries face varying capacities, institutional arrangements, and policy environments, which influence their ability to implement continental frameworks effectively. Policy coherence across ministries, alignment with regional economic communities, and integration of evidence-based approaches are essential to ensure that commitments at the continental level translate into tangible national outcomes.

This plenary session will explore how CAADP 3.0 commitments can be operationalized at the country level. Through a keynote presentation and a high-level panel of policymakers, regional experts, academics, and development partners, the session will examine practical approaches for aligning national policies with continental priorities. Participants will hear country experiences, identify bottlenecks and enablers of effective policy implementation, and discuss strategies for strengthening institutional coordination, stakeholder engagement, and monitoring systems.

Ultimately, the session seeks to provide participants with a clear understanding of how Africa's continental commitments can be translated into national transformation, ensuring that CAADP 3.0 achieves its intended impact of inclusive, resilient, and sustainable agrifood systems across the continent.

**Objectives**

1. Examine the Kampala Declaration, its strategic objectives, and the associated Strategy and Action Plan, highlighting the evolution from CAADP 2.0 and the differences from the Malabo Declaration.
2. Identify practical approaches for aligning national agricultural policies, strategies, and programmes with continental commitments, emphasizing cross-ministerial coordination and integration with regional frameworks.
2. Facilitate discussions among policymakers, regional institutions, development partners, private sector actors, and research institutions on strengthening collaboration, monitoring, and accountability for CAADP 3.0 objectives.
3. Generate a set of concrete recommendations for governments, RECs, and development partners to accelerate the operationalization of CAADP 3.0, enhance food system resilience, and promote inclusive and sustainable agrifood transformation.

**Expected Outcomes**

1. Participants will have a clear grasp of the Kampala Declaration, its six strategic objectives, and the Strategy and Action Plan, including how CAADP 3.0 builds on lessons from previous frameworks.
2. The session will generate concrete recommendations and priority actions for policymakers, RECs, development partners, and research institutions to strengthen policy coherence and translate continental commitments into effective national-level transformations.
3. Strengthened stakeholder collaboration: Participants will identify opportunities for coordinated engagement among governments, regional bodies, development partners, and research institutions to support the operationalization of CAADP 3.0 and promote inclusive, resilient agrifood systems

| Time | Segment | Focus & Lead |
|---|---|---|
| 11h:15 – 11h:35 | Presentation: Overview of the Kampala Declaration, CAADP 3.0 framework, strategic objectives, and expectations for Member States | Mukulia Kennedy Ayason, Policy Officer, Rural Development Division, Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment, African Union Commission |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 11h:35 – 12h:35 | Clustered High-Level Panel Discussion | Moderator: Lilian Kirimi (Tegemeo Institute)<br>Panellists: Grouped in four clusters:<br>5. **Institutional Memory:**<br>• Godfrey Bahiigwa, Former Director of Agriculture and Rural Development at African Union Commission<br>• Houssein Mohamed Aden, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)<br>6. **Policy Think Tanks:**<br>• Djiby Dia, ISRA BAME<br>• Frances Hale, FANRPAN<br>7. **Public Sector:**<br>• Epiphanie Mwali Baharanyi, Expert in the Department of Studies and Planning, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, DRC<br>• Desalegn Begna, Policy Studies Institute, Ethiopia<br>• Doshanie Kadokera Chief Economist, Ministry of Agriculture, Malawi<br>8. **Donors & Cooperating Partners:**<br>• Jeffrey Ngari, GIZ<br>• Sergiy Zorya, World Bank |
| 12h:35 – 12h:50 | Interactive Q&A Session | Lilian Kirimi |
| 12h:50 – 13h:00 | Closing and Next Steps | Andrew Agyei-Holmes – ISSER, Ghana |
| 13h:00 – 14h:00 | Lunch Break | |

**Speakers/Panellists**

**Ayason** holds a pivotal role as he oversees the activities of the Rural Development Division at the African Union Commission. He is charged with the monumental task of developing policies and frameworks for the continent's rural population. Mr Ayason's journey embodies a relentless pursuit of excellence, fueled by a passion for driving positive change and empowering communities. With his visionary leadership and unwavering dedication, he continues to leave an indelible legacy, shaping a brighter future for generations to come.

**Dr. Godfrey Bahiigwa** serves as Director for Agriculture and Rural Development at the African Union Commission, leading programs that advance agricultural transformation under Agenda 2063. With over 20 years of experience, he has worked with national and international research organizations, shaping policy as both researcher and practitioner. His leadership drives development of continental frameworks that strengthen food systems and rural prosperity. Dr. Bahiigwa holds a PhD in Agricultural Economics from the University of Missouri-Columbia and a Master's from the University of Minnesota. He is a strong advocate for coherent, country-driven agricultural policy across Africa.

**Dr. Barthlomew Chataika** is an agricultural scientist with over 15 years of experience in research for development, specializing in plant breeding, genetics, and agronomy. He has worked with leading CGIAR centers (IITA and CIAT), driving climate-smart agriculture and institutional capacity building across SADC. Holding a PhD in Plant Breeding and Genetics and advanced certifications in project management and data analysis, Dr. Chataika has published widely on nutraceutical breeding of indigenous vegetables. His multidisciplinary work integrates innovation, resource mobilization, and farmer engagement to strengthen regional agricultural systems and promote sustainable crop improvement.

**Dr. Djiby Dia** is a Geographer and Senior Researcher at the Bureau of Macroeconomic Analysis (BAME) within ISRA, Senegal. Formerly Director of ISRA-BAME (2011–2021), he has led research on rural transformation, market geography, and spatial planning. His expertise covers GIS, environmental management, and urban-rural dynamics in West Africa. A Doctor of Geography, Dr. Dia's applied research supports sustainable land use, agricultural planning, and institutional development. Through his leadership and geographic insight, he strengthens the integration of spatial data and policy for improved decision-making and rural development.

**Frances Hale** is Director for Policy Advocacy and Communications at FANRPAN. A seasoned development and communications expert, he designs and implements advocacy and knowledge-management strategies that bridge research and policy communities. With regional experience across Africa, Francis has worked with governments, private sector and civil society actors to strengthen agri-food policy dialogue. He holds qualifications in communications, knowledge management and business, and champions collaborative approaches to evidence-based agricultural transformation and capacity building for inclusive growth.

**Mwali B. Epiphanie** serves as an Environmental and Social Safeguard Expert at the Secretariat General of Agriculture and Food Security in the Democratic Republic of Congo. With a degree in Human Resources Management, she supports the integration of environmental and social standards into national agricultural programs. Her work includes environmental screening, monitoring, and reporting on project compliance and impacts. A bilingual professional, she also facilitates communication between national and international partners. Epiphanie's interests focus on institutional capacity building, sustainable development, and public sector efficiency. Her research explored training as a strategic tool for competence development within the Secretariat General of Agriculture

**Dr. Desalegn Begna,** Lead researcher and ass. professor of animal genetics and breeding Agriculture & Rural Development Policy Research Center (ARD-PRC), Policy Study Institute (PSI), Ethiopia

**Doshanie Kadokera** is the Chief Economist in the Department of Agricultural Planning Services under Malawi's Ministry of Agriculture. He also serves as the Government Coordinator for the African Risk Capacity (ARC) and National Project Coordinator for the African Disaster Risk Financing Programme Phase II (ADRiFi II). An Agricultural Economist and Policy Analyst, he has extensive experience in food security, disaster risk financing, and resilience building. Mr. Kadokera has led initiatives such as operationalizing Malawi's sovereign drought insurance and integrating early warning systems into policy planning. He holds a Master's in Agricultural and Applied Economics and collaborates with ARC, SADC, and AfDB.

**Jeffrey Ngari** is a Policy and Technical Advisor with over eight years of experience in international development cooperation, supporting public policy design and implementation in the agri-food sector at national and sub-national levels. He currently serves with the GIZ Global Programme Sustainable Agricultural Systems and Policies (AgSys), implemented in partnership with Kenya's Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development. His expertise spans agriculture, environment, sustainability, policy engagement, and youth employment in agri-food systems. Jeffrey holds an M.Sc. in Sustainability Science and Policy from Maastricht University and a B.Sc. in Management of Agroecosystems and Environment from the University of Nairobi.

**Dr. Sergiy Zorya** is Lead Agricultural Economist for the World Bank's Europe and Central Asia region and Global Lead for Public Policy and Expenditures in the Agriculture and Food Department. He directs programs on repurposing agricultural support toward sustainable and equitable food systems. Since joining the Bank in 2005, he has worked across Africa, Asia, and Europe on agricultural policy reform and sector transformation. He holds a PhD in Agricultural Economics from Georg-August University of Göttingen and a Master's from the Agricultural University of Zhytomyr. His leadership advances policy innovation for resilient food systems globally.

**Dr. Andrew Agyei-Holmes** is a Senior Research Fellow at ISSER, University of Ghana, and Research Director for ISSER under ANAPRI. He has led studies on food security, climate change, and value-chain policy prioritization across Africa. Formerly with the World Bank's Africa Chief Economist's Office, he has worked in the UK, Tanzania, and the US. He holds a PhD in International Development Economics from The Open University (UK), an MPhil in Agricultural Economics (University of Ghana), and a BSc from KNUST. His research promotes data-driven policy solutions for economic and agricultural resilience in Africa.

## Session 3: Official Opening Ceremony of the 12th ANAPRI Annual Stakeholders Conference

**Theme: Driving Africa's Food Systems Transformation: Strategic Investments, Resilient Policies, and Global Partnerships**

| | |
|---|---|
| Date | **November 4, 2025** |
| Time | 14h:00 – 16h:00 |
| Facilitator | Eugene Anagwe |
| Rapporteurs | ▪ Florence Lwiza<br>▪ Birasa Nyamulinda |

**Facilitator**

**Eugene Anangwe** is a prominent media professional in Eastern and Central Africa, with nearly three decades of influential experience. He formerly served as Country Manager for CNBC Africa and Forbes Africa, and is now the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of East Africa Media Group, a full-service communications company specialising in digital media broadcasting, audio-visual production, events management, and professional training.

**Rapporteurs**

**Florence Lwiza** is an agricultural and development economist with more than ten years of experience as an educator, researcher, and facilitator for rural development projects in Uganda. Currently, she is employed as a Lecturer in the Department of agribusiness and natural resource economics of Makerere University in Uganda and has previously worked as a policy engagement officer, trainer, technical officer, and independent consultant for various national and international organizations, notably the Uganda Cooperative Alliance, World Bank, GIZ Uganda, Uganda National NGO Forum and District Farmers Associations. Her research interests are broad-based and in areas of climate change, renewable energy, technology adoption, impact evaluation, and value chain analyses.

**Dr. Birasa** holds a BSc in Development Economics, MSc in Applied Economics both obtained from the University of Rwanda and PhD in Economics from the University College Dublin, Ireland. He has nearly 20 years of blended experience of teaching at university, research, advisory and consulting services. He has ample experience in Policy analysis, Macroeconomic analysis, Agribusiness, Financial analysis, Strategic Plan, design of business plan, writing project proposals, Value chain analysis, impact assessment, entrepreneurship and project evaluation. He has been working as a Lecturer at the University level for over 16 years now and worked with International Organizations such as Crown Agents, USAID, FAO, AGRA, WACDEP, GWP, BRAC, FARA and others in different capacities.

**Session Objectives**

The official opening of the 12th ANAPRI annual conference will provide continental and international leaders who support African institutions to drive Africa's food systems transformation with an opportunity to deliver statements and share their perspectives and experiences on how local institutions can catalyse African food systems transformation. This will set the stage for the official opening of the conference by the Minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources in Rwanda.

| Time | Segment | Focus & Lead |
|---|---|---|
| 14h:00 – 14h:30 | Arrival of High-Level Dignitaries | |
| 14h:30 – 14h:40 | Preliminaries: Partner recognition and Conference objectives | |
| 14h:40 – 14h:50 | Welcome Remarks | • Seth Kwizera, Executive Director, EPRN Rwanda (Host Institution)<br>• Antony Chapoto, Executive Director, ANAPRI Secretariat |
| 14h:50 – 15h:10 | Remarks | • Damas Philip, ANAPRI Board Chair<br>• Abebe Haile-Gabriel – Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Africa, FAO |
| 15h:10 – 15h:35 | Keynote Address and Official Opening | Hon. Dr. Marc Cyubahiro Bagabe, Minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources, Republic of Rwanda |
| 15h:35 – 15h:50 | Cultural Performance | |
| 15h:50 – 16h:00 | Closing Remarks | |

**Seth Kwizera** has been the Executive Director of the Economic Policy Research Network (EPRN) since 2016. He has an MSc in Intellectual Property from Africa University-Zimbabwe, MBA from Kigali Independent University and a BSc in Economics from University of Rwanda with more than 25 years' experience in agricultural policy and agribusiness management and analysis. He is one of Rwanda's leading agribusiness practitioners and professionals. Seth also has more than 20 years' experience in projects/programs management focusing on strategic planning and leadership, trade and industrial development policies, value chains analysis and trade policy analysis, financial inclusion and projects management.

**Antony Chapoto** is an agricultural and development economist with broad experience across Sub-Saharan Africa. His research spans agricultural productivity, technology adoption, commercialization, and policy reform, emphasizing inclusive and climate-smart growth. He has published widely in peer-reviewed journals and contributed to influential policy briefs and books. As Executive Director of the Africa Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes (ANAPRI), he leads collaborative research, capacity building, and policy engagement that promote evidence-based decision-making. Dr. Chapoto's leadership strengthens agricultural innovation systems, smallholder market linkages, and knowledge exchange toward Africa's sustainable economic transformation.

**Dr. Damas Philip** is the Dean at the School of Agricultural Economics and Business Studies (SAEBS) at the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA). The School has close to 1000 students, a quarter of which are postgraduate students pursuing MSc, MBA (Agribusiness and PhD studies. Bachelor of Business Management (BBM) and PhD (Agribusiness). Prior to joining the Sokoine University of Agriculture, Dr. Philip worked as a Scientific Officer at the Tanzanian Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH). Dr. Philip holds a Bachelor of Science in General Agriculture and a Master of Science in Agricultural Economics from the Sokoine University of Agriculture. He also holds a PhD in Agricultural Economics from Bonn University.

**Dr. Abebe Haile-Gabriel,** an Ethiopian national, is the Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Africa at the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). With over 30 years of experience, he has provided strategic leadership in agricultural and rural development across national, sub-regional, and regional levels in Africa. Throughout his career, Haile-Gabriel has championed sustainable development through strengthened food systems, institutional capacity, and inclusive growth. His

expertise spans policy formulation, program management, and stakeholder engagement, particularly within complex development environments. He holds a Doctorate and Master's degree in Agricultural and Rural Development from the International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) in The Hague, Netherlands, and a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Economics from Alemaya University (now Haramaya University) in Ethiopia.

**Hon. Dr. Mark Cyubahiro Bagabe** is the Minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources for the Republic of Rwanda. He has been the Director General of the Rwanda Inspectorate, Competition and Consumer Protection Authority since March 2024. His general leadership experience includes key roles at various government institutions, such as the Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Resources Development Board and the Rwanda Standards Board (RSB). He holds a PhD in Plant Health and an MSc in Technology of Crop Protection from the University of Reading.

## Session 4: Africa Continental Report - Priority Value Chains and Investment Planning

| | |
|---|---|
| Date | **November 5, 2025** |
| Time | 14h:00 – 16h:00 |
| Facilitator | Mmatlou Kalaba |
| Rapporteurs | ▪ Timothy Njagi<br>▪ Tinashe Kapuya |

**Facilitator**

Mmatlou is a senior analyst and executive director at the Bureau for Food and Agricultural Policy (BFAP) in South Africa. He is also a research fellow at Stellenbosch University, in South Africa. He was previously with the University of Pretoria as a Senior Lecturer. Mmatlou completed a PhD in Agricultural Economics at the University of Pretoria and MSc from Oklahoma State University, USA. His research areas include international trade, agricultural policy analysis and climate change issues affecting agriculture. He has contributed to several national policy plans, programmes and studies; worked widely on African and continental regional programmes including, the Southern African Development Community (SADC), economic partnership agreements (EPA) with the European Union (EU), African Union Commission (AUC) and others.

**Rapporteurs**

**Tinashe Kapuya** is an experienced commodities analyst, agricultural value chain and trade specialist who has worked in this capacity both as a researcher and practitioner in the private sector over the past 10 years. His areas of expertise include agribusiness and value chain development, market and trade analysis, agro-food system analysis, research, and policy advocacy. Tinashe was previously a contributor to the Agbiz Weekly Newsletter, GrainSA magazine, FarmBiz Magazine, and the Landbouweekblad, and Business Day, among others. He earned a Ph.D. Agricultural Economics at the University of Pretoria. He was the inaugural recipient of the Agricultural Economics Association of South Africa's Bax D. Nomvete and a Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation scholar. He is the current ANAPRI research director and project lead for the policy prioritization through value chain analysis project (PPVC).

**Timothy Njagi** is a seasoned Development Economist with a wealth of experience in the fields of development planning, policy implementation and research. He has undertaken policy research and analysis in agriculture, rural and food systems in Kenya. He has published in peer reviewed journals and is a regular commentator on policy issues on agriculture and food systems in Sub Saharan Africa. He is the Partial Equilibrium Specialist at Modelling Services Centre at the African Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes (ANAPRI). He was previously a senior researcher at Tegemeo Institute of Agricultural Policy and Development, where he led several research studies in Kenya and the region. Tim holds a PhD in Development Economics and Master's Degree in International Development from the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS), Japan.

**Session Background**

Inclusive agricultural transformation is critical to food security, poverty reduction, and broad-based growth across Africa. Yet governments often struggle to identify which policy reforms and investments yield the greatest, most equitable impact. The Policy Prioritization through Value Chain Analysis (PPVC) framework addresses this gap by combining rigorous analytics with practical decision tools to help prioritize value chains and policy measures that deliver high returns, while attaining equity, resilience, and environmental sustainability.

This session showcases findings from value chain "deep dives" in Zambia and Ghana, highlighting how specific reforms influence rural incomes, competitiveness, and economy-wide spillovers. Participants will also learn how PPVC findings help guide deeper engagement on policy implementation, and how markets respond to incentives shaped by adopted reforms. A critical component of the PPVC framework is in its monitoring and evaluation, where impacts of adopted reforms are tracked over time, to determine the effectiveness of recommended reforms. The Session will illustrate principles of the approach that can be applied across various value chains in different countries.

**Objectives of the Session**

- Present findings and evidence from PPVC applications in Zambia and Ghana, emphasizing reform impacts and cross-value-chain spillovers.
- Demonstrate use cases of PPVC across countries and value chains to inform prioritization and sequencing of reforms and investments.
- Equip policymakers with practical tools and decision rules to target cost-effective, inclusive interventions.
- Foster peer learning by sharing experiences and good practices to strengthen regional collaboration and scale PPVC adoption.

**Expected Outcomes**

- Enhanced understanding of the PPVC framework—its analytics, governance pathways, and monitoring functions for evidence-based policymaking.
- Actionable guidance on prioritizing value chains and public investments that advance inclusion, resilience, and fiscal efficiency.
- Peer-to-peer insights: documented lessons and practical tips from Zambia and Ghana to inform adaptation in other contexts.
- Improved capability among government and stakeholder teams to track, steer, and evaluate policy reforms for equitable and sustainable outcomes.

| Time | Segment | Focus & Lead |
|---|---|---|
| 09h:00 – 09h:05 | Introduction– Session objectives and overview | Mmatlou Kalaba |
| 09h:05 – 09h:15 | Opening Remarks – Overview of the PPVC framework | Alan Rennison, Gates Foundation |
| 09h:15 – 09h:55 | Keynote Presentations: Prioritizing Policies for Driving Inclusive Agricultural Transformation in Ghana and Zambia<br>• *Deep Dive Value Chain Analysis of Beef and Soybean in Zambia*<br>• *Deep Dive Value Chain Analysis of Rice in Ghana* | Brian Mulenga, IAPRI<br><br>Andrew Agyei-Holmes, ISSER |
| 09h:55 – 10h:35 | Panel Discussion – Responses and reflections from panellists | • Opoku Agyemang, M&E Specialist, Ministry of Food & Agriculture, Ghana<br>• Caroline Simushi Chipango, Principal Planner, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Zambia.<br>• Succeed Mubanga, Director, Policy Planning, Ministry of Agriculture, Zambia |
| 10h:35 – 10h:50 | Q & A Session | Mmatlou Kalaba |
| 10h:50 – 11h:00 | Closing and way forward | Tinashe Kapuya (ANAPRI Secretariat) |

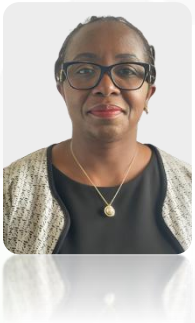
**Speakers/Panellists**

**Alan Rennison** manages agricultural policy and analytics portfolios at the Gates Foundation, supporting partners such as ANAPRI, FAO, AGRA, IFPRI, and the World Bank. He drives the use of evidence and investment tracking tools for inclusive food-system transformation. Formerly with Cambridge Economic Policy Associates, he advised WHO, GAIN, and UK government departments on economic policy. Alan holds an MSc in Development Economics from Oxford University and a BA in Economics from Glasgow University. His work bridges economic analysis, policymaking, and strategic partnerships to advance agricultural innovation and sustainability across Africa.

**Brian P. Mulenga** holds a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics, from Oklahoma State University, U.S.A. Brian has nearly 10 years of experience in socio-economic research, most of it in the agricultural, environmental and natural resources policy space. Brian's work focuses on Markets and Trade Development as well as Climate Change and Natural Resources Management, and involves evidence generation to feed into policy engagements with public and private sector stakeholders, cooperating partners, and aid agencies helping them effectively respond to changing agricultural trade, natural resources and climate risk management needs.

**Dr. Andrew Agyei-Holmes** is a Senior Research Fellow at ISSER, University of Ghana, and Research Director for ISSER under ANAPRI. He has led studies on food security, climate change, and value-chain policy prioritization across Africa. Formerly with the World Bank's Africa Chief Economist's Office, he has worked in the UK, Tanzania, and the US. He holds a PhD in International Development Economics from The Open University (UK), an MPhil in Agricultural Economics (University of Ghana), and a BSc from KNUST. His research promotes data-driven policy solutions for economic and agricultural resilience in Africa.

**Opoku Agyemang -** Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA), Ghana, working as an agricultural economist and monitoring-and-evaluation specialist**.** Opuku has a decade of experience in government, as part of the technocratic class focusing on agriculture policy analysis, programme design, and results tracking across public-sector and donor-supported initiatives. At MoFA, he contributes to evidence-based planning, performance monitoring, and stakeholder coordination to strengthen smallholder productivity, market linkages, and food-systems resilience – and his analytical skills in data collection, indicator design, and engagement with regional and district actors will help give the panel e critical lens just how much evidence is being used by government.



**Ms. Caroline Simushi Chipango** serves as a Principal Planner responsible for budgeting and budget management in the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Zambia. She holds a MSc in Development Studies, a BA in Development Studies from Cavendish University Zambia, a BSc in Computing and Information Systems from the University of Greenwich, and a Higher National Diploma in Management Information Systems (IMIS) from the UK. With over 10 years of experience in budget development and management, Caroline has contributed immensely to various ministerial budgets, strategic plans and policies across sector ministries in Zambia. In her current position at the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, she is leading the development of output-based budgets, revising the Ministry's Strategic Plan, as well as coordinating bilateral and multilateral cooperations to align fisheries and livestock initiatives with national priorities.

**Succeed Mubanga,** Director - Policy and Planning, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock

## Session 5: Climate Resilience and the Africa Adaptation Atlas – From Spatial Data to Actionable Policy

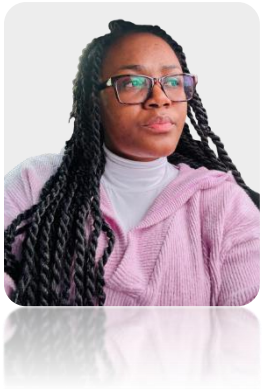
| | |
|---|---|
| Date | **November 5, 2025** |
| Time | 11h:15 – 13h:15 |
| Facilitators | George Njuguna |
| Rapporteurs | ▪ Chishimba Musonda<br>▪ Othalia Moukilou |

**Facilitator**

**George Njuguna** is a development finance professional with more than 14 years' experience advancing agri-food systems, seed systems, and access to finance across Sub-Saharan Africa. As Lead of the ATLAS Project and Seeds2B team at the Sustainable Agriculture Foundation – Africa, he oversees program strategy, financial management, and partnerships. His work promotes market innovation, inclusion of women and youth, and sustainable agricultural growth. Having held senior leadership roles across the region, George has delivered evidence-based initiatives that strengthen regional development, expand smallholder opportunities, and foster resilient, inclusive food systems.

**Rapporteurs**

**Chishimba Musonda** is a results-driven operations and project support professional with over a decade of experience in administration, project management, and operations within local and international NGOs in Zambia. She holds a Master's degree in Development Studies and a Postgraduate Diploma in Project Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation. Skilled in people coordination, data collection, research support, budget tracking and coordination, she is known for improving efficiency and supporting impactful project outcomes. Currently, Chishimba serves as the Program Assistant at the Africa Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes (ANAPRI), where she supports program delivery under the Africa Agriculture Adaptation (AAA) Atlas project.



**Othalia Allegra** is a bilingual communications professional with a background in Business Management and a keen interest in bridging linguistic and cultural gaps in professional environments. Currently supporting ANAPRI's strategic communications and documentation processes, she applies a detail-oriented and context-aware approach to translating and curating formal materials in both English and French.

**Background**

The African Agriculture Adaptation Atlas ("the Atlas") is an online analytical platform designed to support long-term policy formulation and investment planning in the areas of climate change adaptation and mitigation. The Atlas was developed with the support of the Agriculture Development (AgDev) team at the Gates Foundation (BMGF) and is publicly accessible, at https://adaptationatlas.cgiar.org/.

The Atlas consolidates and harmonizes diverse, spatially explicit datasets for sub-Saharan Africa, focusing on:

a. the **nature and evolving patterns of climate hazards**,

b. the **exposure of smallholder populations, farms, and crop and livestock enterprises**, and

c. the **adaptive capacity** of these populations, including evidence on the **effectiveness of various climate adaptation interventions** ("solutions").

By integrating these data, the Atlas enables users to explore and assess the scale and pace of climate risks and identify feasible adaptation options across and within countries. It provides national and regional stakeholders with a unique, evidence-based tool for improving long-term adaptation planning, priority setting, and investment decision-making.

The Atlas offers multiple levels of engagement, each suited to different user needs and capacities:

a. **Web-based exploration** – Users can view data layers, extract insights from "spotlight" topics such as risk characterization and economic analyses, and access insights developed by the platform team.

b. **Local integration** – Users can download data layers for use in local GIS analyses and integrate them into existing decision-making processes.

c. **Full customization** – Advanced users can replicate the entire backend to develop a custom version of the platform for tailored applications.

As part of the platform development process, the AgDev team - in collaboration with the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) - initiated a user-testing program to evaluate the Atlas with African stakeholders and decision-makers. This effort aims to ensure that the tool is responsive to real-world policy and planning contexts.

The Atlas is envisioned as a foundational resource for generating critical climate-related information, including risk assessments, mitigation and adaptation indicators, and policy-relevant datasets. These outputs can inform experimental design frameworks, cost-benefit analyses, and index calculations that support governments in climate-smart policy formulation and investment planning. Consequently, the scope of application is expected to vary widely across different countries and policy settings.

To further enhance the practical relevance of the Atlas, the **African Group of Negotiators Expert Support (AGNES)**, the **Agricultural Transformation Institute (ATI)**, the **Africa Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes (ANAPRI)**, and the **Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD)** have been engaged to develop **well-defined use cases** to test the platform's usability and utility.

Use cases have been developed in eight countries, namely, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda, to address specific national priorities, policy reforms, and gender-related issues across various agricultural value chains and programs. Each case demonstrates how the Atlas has been applied within a particular problem context, highlighting the policy issues analysed, analytical tools and indicators employed, and complementary data sources integrated to inform evidence-based decision-making.

**Session Objectives**

The session aims to showcase the African Agriculture Adaptation Atlas to a diverse audience of African policymakers, researchers, academics, and development practitioners. Specifically, it seeks to:

a. **Present the results** of recent testing and refinement of the Atlas, highlighting improvements in the platform's **functionality, usability, and policy relevance**.

b. **Demonstrate the application** of the Atlas as a practical tool to **inform and guide climate change policy and investment decisions** across Africa.

c. **Promote wider adoption** of the platform among African stakeholders to strengthen **evidence-based adaptation and mitigation planning**.

d. **Advance gender-responsive use** of the Atlas by showcasing how it can **broaden understanding of climate risks, investment needs, and policy interventions** that improve the **livelihoods and resilience of women**.

e. **Share partner experiences** on how the Atlas has been applied to **address gender-specific challenges** in implementing climate-smart agricultural strategies.

**Expected outcome**

a. **Enhanced understanding** of the Atlas and its broader applications in **climate change policy and investment planning**.

b. **Insights from policymakers** on the **use and integration of the Atlas** in decision-making, including opportunities to strengthen its role in supporting **evidence-based policy processes**.

c. **Shared experiences and lessons** on promoting the **use of the Atlas among women researchers, policymakers, and stakeholders**, to foster more **inclusive and gender-responsive climate action**.

| Time | Segment | Focus & Lead |
|---|---|---|
| 11h:15 – 11h:25 | Introduction– Session objectives and overview<br><br>Opening Remarks – Importance of the role of the Atlas in climate change policy planning | • George Njuguna, SAF-A<br>• Alan Rennison (Gates Foundation) |
| 11h:25 – 11h:40 | The African Adaptation Atlas – a walkthrough on the platform, navigating the notebooks, and the user feedback on how to improve its usability | Brayden Youngberg (CIAT) |
| 11h:40 – 12h:25 | Panel Discussion – Responses and reflections from Partners: | Facilitator: George Njuguna, SAF-A |
| | • *Case applications of the Atlas by ANAPRI across eight (8) countries*<br><br>• *Increasing the usability of the Africa Agriculture Adaptation Atlas tool among the policymakers, private sector, investors and practitioners*<br><br>• *Enhancing county-level integration of climate adaptation into planning and decision-making: A case of Kenya* | Thinah Moyo, ANAPRI<br><br>Telvin Denje, AGNES<br><br>Josphat Makanga, RCMRD<br><br>Bereket Fitsum, ATI |

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| | • *Deploying and customizing the African Adaptation Atlas to enhance climate decision-making in Ethiopia's agriculture sector* | |
| 12h:25 – 12h:45 | **Panel Discussion – Responses and reflections from Government Representatives** | Facilitator: George Njunguna, SAF-A |
| | Government's experience of the Atlas and how the tool can be adopted in Malawi, Tanzania, Kenya, Rwanda and Ghana | • Doshanie Kadokera, Chief Economist, Ministry of Agriculture, Malawi<br>• Longino Chrisante, Principal Coordinator: Agricultural Acceleration Program (Ministry of Agriculture, Tanzania<br>• Lily Chebet Kiptoo, Deputy Director, Nuts & Oil Crops Directorate, Agriculture and Food Authority (AFA), Kenya<br>• Chantal Ingabire, Director General Planning-Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources, Rwanda<br>• Frank Kwesi Nansam -Aggrey Director, Administration and Climate Finance, Ghana |
| 12h:45 – 13h:10 | Q & A Session | George Njunguna, SAF-A |
| 13h:10 – 13h:15 | Closing and way forward | George Njunguna, SAF-A |

**Speakers/Panellists**

**Alan Rennison** manages agricultural policy and analytics portfolios at the Gates Foundation, supporting partners such as ANAPRI, FAO, AGRA, IFPRI, and the World Bank. He drives the use of evidence and investment tracking tools for inclusive food-system transformation. Formerly with Cambridge Economic Policy Associates, he advised WHO, GAIN, and UK government departments on economic policy. Alan holds an MSc in Development Economics from Oxford University and a BA in Economics from Glasgow University. His work bridges economic analysis, policymaking, and strategic partnerships to advance agricultural innovation and sustainability across Africa.

**Brayden Youngberg** is a Climate Data Research Specialist at CIAT, where he applies remote sensing, geographic information systems and environmental data science to support climate-smart agricultural interventions. With a MSc in Environmental Protection and Management from University of Edinburgh, he focuses on translating spatial-temporal climate-yield responses into actionable insights across crop and agro-ecological systems. His published work explores digital-enabled monitoring of yield trends in rainfed-maize systems in Sub-Saharan Africa. Committed to evidence-based decision-making, Brayden contributes to strengthening data transparency, resilience planning and sustainable productivity in agricultural research.

**Prof. Thinah Moyo** is an agricultural economist and Co-Director of the Agriculture Trade Policy Institute at NUST. Her research focuses on smallholder market participation, value-chain development, and rural livelihoods within the context of climate change and food-system resilience. She has authored numerous publications and collaborates widely across Southern Africa on evidence-based policy and capacity building. Her expertise spans trade policy, the Water-Energy-Food nexus, and inclusive agricultural growth.

**Telvin Denje** is an environmental researcher focusing on agriculture, climate-change adaptation, and land-use management. Working with AGNES, he strengthens Africa's role in global climate negotiations and promotes evidence-based advocacy. He holds a BSc in Environmental Science from Egerton University and is pursuing an MSc in GIS and Remote Sensing at JKUAT. Telvin integrates policy, science, and data-driven research to support climate resilience, sustainable development, and SDG implementation across the continent.

**Josphat Makanga** is a seasoned GIS and remote-sensing professional with nearly 30 years' experience in natural-resource mapping and capacity building across 15 African countries. Holding a Master's in Geoinformation Science from ITC Netherlands, he manages RCMRD's Photogrammetry Unit and leads wetlands-monitoring initiatives under GMES & Africa. He has trained thousands of professionals in land and electoral mapping and co-authored the SDG #12 chapter in *Geospatial Information to Support the UN's Sustainable Development Goals*. His leadership advances Africa's geospatial capacity for sustainable development.

**Bereket Fitsum** is the Data Management Team Lead at the Agricultural Transformation Institute (ATI) in Ethiopia. He oversees the design and implementation of data systems that enhance the quality, accessibility, and interoperability of agricultural information. With expertise in Data Science and Big Data Analytics, Bereket leads efforts to facilitate secure data sharing among government, research, and development partners, enabling evidence-based decision-making and sectoral planning. He holds a Master's and BSC in Computer Science and is passionate about leveraging technology and data to drive sustainable agricultural transformation and measurable impact across Ethiopia's agricultural sector.

**Doshanie Kadokera** is a Malawian economist working in the agricultural policy and food-security space. He holds a role as Chief Economist within the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, where he contributes to national food-systems assessment, early-warning and climate-resilience efforts. His work spans statistics, modelling and policy-analysis applied to Malawi's agriculture sector. He has participated in forums on food-system transformation in Malawi and has been listed as a contact for the Ministry's agriculture cluster.

**Longino Bitesigirwe Chrisant** is a Senior Economist at the Ministry of Agriculture, in Tanzania, specializing in project planning, budgeting, and management. He contributes to strategic policy formulation, agricultural project implementation, and the integration of modern economic tools in sector development. His expertise spans project design, monitoring and evaluation, and economic analysis. Holding a MSc in Project Planning and Management, Longino has published research on Agriculture 4.0 and coffee production, emphasizing digital innovation for productivity and sustainability. He is committed to promoting evidence-based planning and strengthening agriculture's role in national growth and food security.

**Lily Chebet Kiptoo** is the Deputy Director at Kenya's Agriculture and Food Authority (AFA), Nuts and Oil Crops Directorate. She leads initiatives that promote the edible oil crops value chain, focusing on agribusiness development, value addition, and farmer empowerment. She coordinates the Edible Oil Crops Promotion Project, which aims to reduce Kenya's reliance on imported oils by boosting local production and processing of crops like coconut, canola, soya, and sunflower. Lily holds degrees in Horticulture, Strategic Management, and Environmental Studies, and is a member of the Horticulture Association of Kenya and the Kenya Institute of Management.

**Dr Chantal Ingabire** serves as Director General of Planning at Rwanda's Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI), where she leads national agriculture-sector strategy, budgeting, and performance monitoring. She brings deep expertise in agri-food systems, policy development and project management, guiding evidence-based planning and coordination across Rwanda's agriculture, livestock and food-security programmes. A seasoned researcher and development specialist, Dr Ingabire has published on gender-responsive agriculture, value-chains and rural transformation. In her role she drives alignment of MINAGRI's planning frameworks with national development priorities and supports institutional capacity in data-driven decision-making.

**Frank Kwesi Nansam-Aggrey** serves as Director, Administration and Climate Finance in Ghana, where he leads institutional management and steers mobilization and deployment of climate finance across sectors. With deep expertise in disaster risk management, climate adaptation and finance, he plays a pivotal role in strengthening Ghana's resilience and unlocking resources to meet its Nationally Determined Contributions. His work spans policy, administration, oversight of climate fund flows and mainstreaming climate considerations into development planning. Passionate about sustainable development, Frank is dedicated to leveraging innovative finance instruments and administrative reforms to drive low-carbon, climate-resilient growth.

## Session 6: Domestication and Status of the Implementation of the African Fertilizer and Soil Health Action Plan.

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| Date | **November 5, 2025** |
| Time | 14h:15 – 16h:30 |
| Facilitator | ▪ Frances Hale |
| Rapporteurs | ▪ Birasa Nyamulinda<br>▪ Florence Lwiza |

### Facilitators

**Frances Hale** is Director for Policy Advocacy and Communications at FANRPAN. A seasoned development and communications expert, he designs and implements advocacy and knowledge-management strategies that bridge research and policy communities. With regional experience across Africa, Francis has worked with governments, private sector and civil society actors to strengthen agri-food policy dialogue. He holds qualifications in communications, knowledge management and business, and champions collaborative approaches to evidence-based agricultural transformation and capacity building for inclusive growth.

### Rapporteurs

**Dr. Birasa** holds a BSc in Development Economics, MSc in Applied Economics both obtained from the University of Rwanda and PhD in Economics from the University College Dublin, Ireland. He has nearly 20 years of blended experience of teaching at university, research, advisory and consulting services. He has ample experience in Policy analysis, Macroeconomic analysis, Agribusiness, Financial analysis, Strategic Plan, design of business plan, writing project proposals, Value chain analysis, impact assessment, entrepreneurship and project evaluation. He has been working as a Lecturer at the University level for over 16 years now and worked with International Organizations such as Crown Agents, USAID, FAO, AGRA, WACDEP, GWP, BRAC, FARA and others in different capacities.

**Florence Lwiza** is an agricultural and development economist with more than ten years of experience as an educator, researcher, and facilitator for rural development projects in Uganda. Currently, she is employed as a Lecturer in the Department of agribusiness and natural resource economics of Makerere University in Uganda and has previously worked as a policy engagement officer, trainer, technical officer, and independent consultant for various national and international organizations, notably the Uganda Cooperative Alliance, World Bank, GIZ Uganda, Uganda National NGO Forum and District Farmers Associations. Her research interests are broad-based and in areas of climate change, renewable energy, technology adoption, impact evaluation, and value chain analyses.

**Session Background**

The African Fertilizer and Soil Health Action Plan (AFSH-AP) represents a continental initiative aimed at enhancing soil fertility, increasing agricultural productivity, and promoting investment in sustainable soil health management across Africa. Since the Nairobi Declaration, various coalitions of implementers—including national governments, regional organizations, research institutions, and private sector actors—have been mobilized to operationalize the Action Plan. Despite these efforts, progress in domestication at the country level remains uneven. Some countries have demonstrated significant achievements, while others face challenges due to limited institutional capacity, coordination gaps, and resource constraints. Integrating farmer-focused initiatives such as "*Know Your Soil*" into national strategies remains critical for success. An equally important dimension is financing. Effective domestication and scaling of the AFSH-AP require sustainable funding models that leverage domestic budgets, private sector investment, and development partner support. This session will explore how countries and implementing coalitions can mobilize resources, prioritize investments, and overcome financial bottlenecks to accelerate implementation.

This session provides a platform to:

- Share early achievements and progress from coalition implementers and national governments.
- Discuss challenges and bottlenecks in translating continental commitments into actionable national strategies.
- Highlight lessons and best practices that can inform regional and cross-country learning.
- Explore accountability, monitoring frameworks, and innovative funding strategies that support effective implementation, track progress, and enhance coalition-building.

By convening governments, technical institutions, implementing partners, and financiers, the session aims to strengthen collaboration, facilitate policy convergence, accelerate domestication, and ensure sustainable funding of the AFSH-AP, contributing to Africa's broader agricultural transformation agenda under CAADP.

**Objectives**

The session aims to provide a platform for knowledge sharing, policy dialogue, and coalition building to accelerate the domestication and implementation of the African Fertilizer and Soil Health Action Plan (AFSH-AP). Specifically, the objectives are to:

1. Present progress made by various coalitions and national governments in operationalizing the AFSH-AP, highlighting successful initiatives, innovations, and lessons learned.
2. Discuss institutional, technical, and financial constraints that limit effective domestication and scaling of the AFSH-AP at national and regional levels.
3. Explore practical approaches for improving policy coherence, coordination among ministries and agencies, and alignment with national agricultural strategies.
4. Examine sustainable financing strategies, including domestic budget allocation, subsidy repurposing, private sector engagement, and development partner support, to accelerate implementation and ensure long-term sustainability.

**Expected Outcomes**

1. Participants leave with a clear picture of the progress and gaps in domesticating the AFSH-AP, including early-stage initiatives such as "Know Your Soil" and other pilot efforts.
2. Practical recommendations are developed to fast-track country-level implementation, strengthen institutional coordination, and build stronger accountability frameworks.
3. Consensus is built on priority actions for mobilizing domestic and external financing, and for enhancing partnerships to support long-term implementation of the AFSH-AP.

| Time | Segment | Focus & Lead |
|---|---|---|
| 14h:15 – 14h:40 | Opening Presentation – Introduction to AFSH-AP | Wole Fatunbi (FARA) |
| 14h:40 – 15h:20 | Roundtable Discussion – Coalition Roles and Achievements<br>• Coalition for Policy and Advocacy | • Antony Chapoto (ANAPRI)– Policy and advocacy |

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| | • Coalition of Implementors for Fertilizers and Soil Health<br>• Coalition of Soil information systems and mapping<br>• Coalition for agricultural extension and advisory services<br>• Coalition for Private sector engagement and partnerships | • Larry Umunna (IFDC) – Implementer support and technical deployment<br>• Wole Fatubi (FARA) – Soil information systems and mapping<br>• Lilian Lihasi (AFAAS) – Agricultural extension and advisory services<br>• Sheila Keino – (Sustain Africa) Private sector engagement and partnerships |
| 15h:20 – 16h:00 | Country Panel – National Experiences and Progress in Uganda, Zambia and Senegal | • Florence Lwiza (Uganda)<br>• Brian Mulenga (Zambia)<br>• Fatou Ndeye – ISRA BAME (Senegal) |
| 16h:00 – 16h:20 | Regional Hub Panel – Coordinating Cross-Country Implementation | • Larry Umunna (IFDC/ECOWAS)<br>• Barthlomew Chataika (SADC/CCARDESA) |
| 16h:20 – 16h:30 | Synthesis and Key Takeaways | David Nielsen, NAAN |

**Panellists/Speakers**

**Dr. Oluwole Fatunbi** is Acting Director of Research and Innovation at the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA). He holds a PhD in Farming Systems Agronomy and Soil Fertility from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. He leads strategic research and development initiatives across Africa and previously coordinated the Sub-Saharan Africa Challenge Program (SSA CP), known for pioneering the Innovation Platform approach to accelerate research impact. Before joining FARA, he held roles at the University of Fort Hare, TODEV, ARATI Environmental Ltd, Savannah Sugar Company, and IITA, focusing on soil fertility, agronomy, and agricultural systems development.

**Antony Chapoto** is an agricultural and development economist with broad experience across Sub-Saharan Africa. His research spans agricultural productivity, technology adoption, commercialization, and policy reform, emphasizing inclusive and climate-smart growth. He has published widely in peer-reviewed journals and contributed to influential policy briefs and books. As Executive Director of the Africa Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes (ANAPRI), he leads collaborative research, capacity building, and policy engagement that promote evidence-based decision-making. Dr. Chapoto's

leadership strengthens agricultural innovation systems, smallholder market linkages, and knowledge exchange toward Africa's sustainable economic transformation.

**Larry Umunna** leads and coordinates efforts to position his organization as a key catalyst for transformative, market-based solutions to poverty, while mobilizing public and private investments in agriculture, food processing, nutrition, entrepreneurship, and sustainable livelihoods. He previously served as the first Regional Representative for Africa and Country Director for Nigeria at the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN). With over two decades of experience, Larry has championed food fortification and infant nutrition initiatives, including during his tenure at Roche Vitamins (now DSM), where he oversaw sales, marketing, and new business development across Sub-Saharan Africa.

**Lillian Lihasi** is an agricultural development practitioner with over 20 years of experience in agricultural research, policy, and development. She is passionate about transforming agriculture through inclusive, resilient, and sustainable food systems. Her expertise spans multi-stakeholder engagement, partnership building, project design, and integrating gender and climate-smart innovations into programs. Skilled in analysis, communication, and facilitation, she supports organizations in strategy development and impactful implementation. A strong team player and mentor, Lillian is dedicated to capacity building, fostering creativity, and driving sustainable livelihoods and organizational growth in Africa's agricultural landscape.

**Sheila Keino** is Executive Director of Sustain Africa, an IFDC initiative promoting sustainable fertilizer access and agricultural productivity. With over 20 years' experience, she has led agricultural programs in 18 African countries, combining field experience with executive leadership. Sheila has held senior roles with AGRA, IOM, UNHCR, and the World Agroforestry Centre. A practicing farmer, she grows coffee, macadamia, wheat, and beans, bringing firsthand insight into farmer realities. Her work champions smallholder empowerment, sustainable livelihoods, and gender-inclusive agricultural development.

**Bernard Bashaasha** is a Professor of Agricultural Economics and Principal, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Makerere University, Uganda. He holds a Ph.D. in Agricultural and Development Economics and an MA degree in Economics both from the Ohio State University, USA. He also holds an MSc in Agricultural Economics from Seoul National University, South Korea and a BSc. Agriculture (Hons) degree from Makerere University, Uganda. He also serves as the Interim Director of the Agricultural Policy Research Centre in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. He is a member of University Senate and chair of various College Boards and Committees.

**Brian P. Mulenga** holds a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics, from Oklahoma State University, U.S.A. Brian has nearly 10 years of experience in socio-economic research, most of it in the agricultural, environmental and natural resources policy space. Brian's work focuses on Markets and Trade Development as well as Climate Change and Natural Resources Management, and involves evidence generation to feed into policy engagements with public and private sector stakeholders, cooperating partners, and aid agencies helping them effectively respond to changing agricultural trade, natural resources and climate risk management needs.

**Dr. Fatou Ndèye Faye** Mané is a Research Fellow at ISRA's Bureau of Macroeconomic Analysis in Senegal. She holds a PhD in Economics (Cheikh Anta Diop University), an MSc in Public Policy and Development (Paris School of Economics), and a BA in Economics (University of Toulouse 1 Capitole). Her research focuses on technology adoption, value-chain studies, and impact assessment. Dr. Mané's work informs agricultural transformation strategies through rigorous analysis of rural economies and innovation systems, strengthening evidence-based policy and institutional development across West Africa.

**Dr. Barthlomew Chataika** is an agricultural scientist with over 15 years of experience in research for development, specializing in plant breeding, genetics, and agronomy. He has worked with leading CGIAR centers (IITA and CIAT), driving climate-smart agriculture and institutional capacity building across SADC. Holding a PhD in Plant Breeding and Genetics and advanced certifications in project management and data analysis, Dr. Chataika has published widely on nutraceutical breeding of indigenous vegetables. His multidisciplinary work integrates innovation, resource mobilization, and farmer engagement to strengthen regional agricultural systems and promote sustainable crop improvement.

**Dr. David Nielson** is a Development Economist with over 30 years of experience in agriculture and rural development. He served as Lead Agriculture Economist in the World Bank's Agriculture Global Practice, working globally with a primary focus on Africa and Latin America. Before joining the Bank, he held academic positions at the University of California, Berkeley, and California State University, Hayward, and served as Agribusiness Advisor at Kraft, Inc. Dr. Nielson holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Chicago and an MSc in Agricultural Economics from the University of Minnesota.

## Session 7: Anticipating Change: Applying Systems Thinking and Foresight for Africa's Agrifood Transformation

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|---|---|
| Date | **November 6, 2025** |
| Time | 8h:30 – 11h:00 |
| Facilitator | Mark Fynn, FAO |
| Rapporteurs | ▪ Adama Taoko, Policy Officer, FAO Subregional Office for Central Africa;<br>▪ Benjamin Oyelami |

**Facilitator**

**Mark Fynn** is a Policy Officer with FAO's Regional Office for Africa, Accra, Ghana. He has over 20 years of experience in rural development, agribusiness and value chain development policy. Before joining FAO, Mark was an Agribusiness Advisor at the African Union Commission in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia where he coordinated continental interventions in support of African Union Member States for the implementation of agribusiness-related policies and programmes within the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). Mark also worked with GIZ (German Agency for International Development) in Ghana as an Agricultural Policy Advisor at the Ghana Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

**Rapporteurs**

**Adama Taoko**, Policy Officer and Agriculture Economist, FAO Regional Office for Africa

**Benjamin Olusegun Oyelami** is a Communication Manager and Researcher at the Innovation Lab for Policy Leadership in Agriculture and Food Security (PiLAF), University of Ibadan, Nigeria, the country's only Centre for Policy Leadership. His work focuses on agricultural policy, resilience, climate-smart and digital agriculture, value chain extension, and rural development. He has collaborated with IITA, USAID, and TCN on technology transfer and training for rural farmers, particularly in cassava, soybean, and maize. A STAARS+ Fellow (2022/23), he is also a member of RuSAN, AESON, and CEIDS, and has presented and published widely in academic and professional forums.

**Session Background**

Africa's agrifood systems are at a critical juncture. Accelerating transformation requires not only investment and innovation but also a deeper understanding of the systems that underpin change. The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the African Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes (ANAPRI) are collaborating to demonstrate how systems thinking, foresight, and practical policy tools can help countries design more coherent and future-ready interventions.

FAO's Transforming Food and Agriculture through a Systems Approach highlights how integrated governance, investment, and learning frameworks can unlock synergies across sectors, moving beyond fragmented interventions toward systemic transformation. Complementing this, the draft Regional Strategic Foresight Report for Sub-Saharan Africa (RSFR) explores plausible futures and "triggers for transformation," offering a forward-looking lens on how African food systems might evolve. The session will engage participants in providing structured feedback on the RSFR through an interactive exercise designed to surface regional priorities, opportunities, and emerging signals.

To link theory to practice, the session will also feature FAO's Policy Optimization Tool, PolOpT—a framework that demonstrates how optimizing public agricultural expenditure can deliver systemic, multi-dimensional gains in productivity, jobs, and environmental outcomes—alongside insights from the Food and Agriculture Policy Decision Analysis (FAPDA) - a policy tracking and monitoring platform and related tools. Together, these tools demonstrate how systems thinking and foresight can be operationalised, and how ANAPRI's network can help expand their use across Africa through collaborative analysis, data validation, and policy engagement in support of the implementation of the CAADP Strategy and Action Plan (2026–2035).

**Objectives**

1. Showcase how systems thinking, foresight, and policy tools such as FAO's Policy Optimization Tool (PolOpT) and FAPDA can guide Africa's agrifood system transformation.
2. Gather structured stakeholder feedback on the draft *Regional Strategic Foresight Report (RSFR)* to enhance its regional relevance and policy utility, in particular on

- key drivers, leverage points, and early signals for four regional scenarios, regional challenges and their origin, regional triggers for transformation and related strategic policy options.

3. Strengthen collaboration between FAO and ANAPRI member centres to scale foresight and policy analytics across the continent.

**Expected Outcomes**

- Consolidated stakeholder feedback on the draft *Regional Strategic Foresight Report* to inform its revision and regional policy uptake.
- Clear entry points for applying FAO's Policy Optimization Tool (PolOpT) and strengthening the use of systems approaches in country planning processes.
- Identified policy intelligence and data gaps in FAO's FAPDA platform, with proposed roles for ANAPRI centres in expanding coverage and validation.
- Shared understanding of how systems thinking, foresight, and policy analytics can jointly accelerate Africa's agrifood transformation agenda.

| Time | Segment | Focus & Lead |
|---|---|---|
| 8h:30 – 8h:35 | Opening & Framing | Mark Fynn (Policy Officer, FAO Regional Office for Africa) |
| 8h:35 – 8h:50 | Presentation 1 – Transforming Food and Agriculture through a Systems Approach | Corinna Hawkes, Director, Agrifood Systems and Food Safety Division (FAO HQ) |
| 8h:50 – 9h:15 | Presentation 2 – Regional Strategic Foresight Report (RSFR) Draft Findings | Pedro Morais de Sousa, Political Economist, Agrifood Economics and Policy Division (FAO, HQ) |
| 9h:15 – 9h:45 | Interactive Plenary – "Mapping the Future" (Mentimeter Challenge) | Moderator: Antony Chapoto (ANAPRI) |
| 9h:45 -10h:35 | Panel Discussion – From Insight to Action: Connecting Systems, Foresight, and Policy Tools | Moderator: Milu Muyanga (Michigan State University)<br><br>**Panellists:**<br>• Marco Sanchez (Deputy-Director, FAO Agrifood Economics and Policy Division): Policy Optimization Tool (PolOpT)<br>• Cecilia Nardi (Economist, FAO Agrifood Economics and Policy Division): FAPDA Policy Tracking, Monitoring & Intelligence Platform<br>• Babafemi Oyewole (CEO, Pan-African Farmers' Organization (PAFO))<br>• Sylvere SIRIKARE, Coordinator Agri Food Systems, MINAGRI<br>• Tinashe Kapuya (Research Director, ANAPRI- Secretariat<br>• Sibusiso Nhlengethwa, Policy Analyst at Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa – Insights from |

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|---|---|---|
| | | the 2025 Africa Agriculture Status Report on Food Systems |
| 10h:35-10h:50 | Q & A | Moderator: Milu Muyanga |
| 10h:50-11h:00 | Closing Reflections & Next Steps | Mark Fynn and Adama Taoko -FAO |

**Speakers/Panellists**

**Dr. Corinna Hawkes** is Director of the Division of Agrifood Systems and Food Safety at FAO, where she leads global efforts to transform agrifood systems through a systems-based approach. Formerly Professor of Food Policy and Director of the Centre for Food Policy at City, University of London, she has held leadership and research roles at IFPRI, the University of São Paulo, WHO, and the Global Nutrition Report. A co-founder of the Next Gen(d)eration Leadership Collective, Dr. Hawkes is a recognized authority on nutrition and food systems. She holds a PhD in Geography from King's College London.

**Dr. Marco V. Sánchez** is the Deputy Director of the Agrifood Economics and Policy Division of FAO and oversees FAO's Monitoring and Analysing Food and Agricultural Policies (MAFAP) programme (2017 to present). Previously, he was Senior Economist at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2006–17) and Economist at the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (2004-06). He has been consultant to UNDP, IFPRI and IADB (2000-04) and supported lecturing and research at the International Institute of Social Studies of Erasmus University in The Netherlands (2000-04), National University of Costa Rica (1995-99), and Tilburg University in The Netherlands (1995-96). He has been the lead editor of books and global development reports. For FAO, he has directed The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World and The State of Food and Agriculture. His work features also in journals including The Developing Economies, World Development, Journal of Environment and Development, Food Policy, Journal of Applied Economics and Journal of Policy Modelling.

**Pedro A. M. Sousa** is a political economist and strategic foresight expert with over 16 years of experience, including 12 years at FAO, where he leads the strategic foresight pillar in the Agrifood Economics and Policy Division. He coordinates FAO's global foresight exercises and oversees The Future of Food and Agriculture series, which provides long-term analysis and policy options for agrifood transformation. Pedro also serves as FAO's focal point for the UN Futures Lab and UN Foresight Community of Practice. He holds a Master's in International Relations and a Bachelor's in Economics from the University of Minho.

**Dr. Cecilia Nardi** is an Economist and Policy Analyst at FAO. At FAO, she contributes to analytical work on agrifood system resilience and policy responses to environmental and socio-economic shocks. Her expertise bridge academic research (she holds a PhD in Economics from Sapienza University of Rome) and applied policy fo inclusive, climate-resilient agrifood system transformation.

**Dr. Milu Muyanga** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics at Michigan State University (MSU). A leading scholar on agriculture and rural transformation in Africa, he has built and managed a globally recognized research program focused on agricultural productivity, policy, and development. Before joining MSU, he served as a Research Fellow at Tegemeo Institute, Egerton University, and as an Economist in Kenya's Ministry of Planning and National Development. Dr. Muyanga is a Global Development Network award recipient and an influential voice in shaping agricultural policy and inclusive growth across Africa.

**Tinashe Kapuya** is an experienced commodities analyst, agricultural value chain and trade specialist who has worked in this capacity both as a researcher and practitioner in the private sector over the past 10 years. His areas of expertise include agribusiness and value chain development, market and trade analysis, agro-food system analysis, research, and policy advocacy. Tinashe was previously a contributor to the Agbiz Weekly Newsletter, GrainSA magazine, FarmBiz Magazine, and the Landbouweekblad, and Business Day, among others. He earned a Ph.D. Agricultural Economics at the University of Pretoria. He was the inaugural recipient of the Agricultural Economics Association of South Africa's Bax D. Nomvete and a Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation scholar. He is the current ANAPRI research director and project lead for the policy prioritization through value chain analysis project (PPVC).

**Dr. Babafemi Oyewole** is a tri-sector international executive with extensive experience across public, private, and non-governmental organizations in financial services, energy, oil and gas, and agribusiness. A proven leader in business development, strategic management, and resource mobilization, he is recognized for building effective teams, launching new ventures, and turning around underperforming enterprises. With deep multicultural experience and a passion for institutional excellence, Dr. Oyewole serves as Africa Regional Consultant for UNCTAD on natural resources and local economic development and is a regular speaker at national, regional, and international policy forums.

**Sibusiso Nhlengethwa** is an experienced Agricultural Economist with extensive expertise in research for development and a strong understanding of the African Union's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). He is skilled in Monitoring and Evaluation, project planning and management, resource mobilization, and partnership development. Sibusiso has worked collaboratively with multidisciplinary research teams to deliver impactful results and strengthen institutional capacity. His work focuses on evidence-based agricultural policy, program coordination, and promoting sustainable growth and resilience across Africa's agricultural and food systems.

## Session 8: Anticipating Change: Applying Systems Thinking and Foresight for Africa's Agrifood Transformation

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| Date | **November 6, 2025** |
| Time | 11h:30 – 13h:00 |
| Facilitator | ▪ Dr. Zena Mpenda<br>▪ Dr Antony Chapoto |
| Rapporteurs | ▪ Lusungu Matemanga<br>▪ Othalia Moukilou |

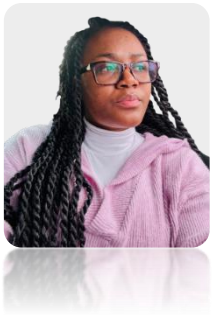
### Facilitators

**Zena Mpenda** is Head of the Department of Trade and Investment and Deputy Principal of the College of Economics and Business Studies at Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA). With over 20 years' experience, she leads ANAPRI-supported research on policy responses to global price shocks and value-chain reforms. Her expertise spans trade, agribusiness, and economic resilience. Dr. Mpenda's work strengthens evidence-based policymaking and inclusive strategies for managing agricultural transformation and food-system sustainability in Tanzania and beyond.

**Antony Chapoto** is an agricultural and development economist with broad experience across Sub-Saharan Africa. His research spans agricultural productivity, technology adoption, commercialization, and policy reform, emphasizing inclusive and climate-smart growth. He has published widely in peer-reviewed journals and contributed to influential policy briefs and books. As Executive Director of the Africa Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes (ANAPRI), he leads collaborative research, capacity building, and policy engagement that promote evidence-based decision-making. Dr. Chapoto's leadership strengthens agricultural innovation systems, smallholder market linkages, and knowledge exchange toward Africa's sustainable economic transformation.

### Rapporteurs

**Lusungu Matemanga** is a Development Economist passionate about driving agricultural transformation and youth empowerment in Africa. She is pursuing a Master's degree in Agricultural and Applied Economics at the Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR). She has worked with leading institutions including the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), and First Capital Bank.



**Othalia Allegra** is a bilingual communications professional with a background in Business Management and a keen interest in bridging linguistic and cultural gaps in professional environments. Currently supporting ANAPRI's strategic communications and documentation processes, she applies a detail-oriented and context-aware approach to translating and curating formal materials in both English and French.

**Session Background**

Africa's food systems are operating in an increasingly complex environment. Global financing for public-good research is declining as donors consolidate portfolios and redirect resources toward crisis response, climate finance, and geopolitically strategic priorities. The era of considerable, flexible funding for national think tanks and research centres to support foundational research is fading. Yet the demand for credible, locally generated evidence to inform national and continental decision-making continues to grow.

This tension brings both urgency and opportunity. For African think tanks, relevance now depends on co-creating solutions and aligning with partners that can connect research to implementation, policy, and investment. The focus is shifting from isolated studies to joint delivery platforms that integrate data, analytics, and policy action across borders.

ANAPRI's network of autonomous policy research institutes provides the convening infrastructure to make this possible. By linking national expertise with regional and global actors, ANAPRI serves as a coordination mechanism ensuring that African priorities drive the evidence, investments, and interventions shaping the continent's food systems transformation.

This session is therefore a strategic alignment platform—a forward-looking space where ANAPRI and its partners will outline where, how, and with whom they will collaborate in 2026 and beyond. It will culminate in the signing of Letters of Cooperation, signalling a shared commitment to coordinated, evidence-based action for Africa's food systems.

The session has been carefully designed to strengthen collaboration with the private sector, recognizing its pivotal role in innovation, investment, and delivery. Going forward, ANAPRI will intensify efforts to create value for the private sector within its programs and co-develop public–private partnerships that demonstrate both commercial and social returns. This will be a key focus in 2026, with the aim of showcasing impactful PPP models at the next conference, illustrating how private investments can create value for shareholders while advancing the public good.

**Objectives**

1. Position ANAPRI and its partners for 2026 – 2028 through clearly articulated joint commitments and collaboration areas.
2. Showcase ongoing and emerging partnerships that will anchor food systems transformation initiatives in Africa.
3. Affirm ANAPRI's role as a coordination and delivery platform linking research, policy, and investment.
4. Formalize collaboration through the signing of a collaborative letter of Cooperation that defines the principles of partnership and coordination going forward

**Expected Outcomes**

1. A shared roadmap of partnerships outlining where ANAPRI and its collaborators will engage in 2026 and beyond.
2. Renewed and clearly defined commitments for co-delivery in priority thematic areas and regions.
3. Strengthened understanding of ANAPRI's coordinating and implementation role.
4. Momentum toward an integrated continental partnership platform for evidence-driven food systems transformation.

| Time | Segment |
|---|---|
| 11h:30 – 13h:00 | **Partnerships and coalitions on food systems transformation, co-creating and coordination of Interventions on food systems**<br>• FAO<br>• World Bank<br>• IFDC<br>• Sustain Africa (SAF-A)<br>• Akademiya 2063<br>• AFIDA<br>• AGRA<br>• GanzAfrica |
| 13h:00 – 13h:30 | **Closing Session:**<br>• Kigali Commitments and Pathways for Policy and Investment Action<br>• Closing remarks<br>  • Antony Chapoto, Executive Director, ANAPRI<br>  • Seth Kwizera, Executive Director, EPRN<br>  • Damas Phillip, ANAPRI Board Chairperson |
| 13h:30 – 14h:30 | **Lunch Break** |
| 14:30 onwards | Optional Field Visits |

**Speakers/Panelllists**

**Dr. Debisi Araba** is a public policy and strategy expert focused on Africa's agricultural transformation. Former Managing Director of the African Green Revolution Forum (AGRF), he has also served as Africa Region Director at CIAT and Senior Manager for African Policy Engagement under CGIAR's CCAFS Program. Earlier, he advised Nigeria's Minister of Agriculture, co-authoring the National Agricultural Resilience Framework. A 2019 Archbishop Tutu Fellow, Dr. Araba holds a PhD in Environmental Policy (Imperial College London), MPA (Harvard Kennedy School), MSc in Clean Technology (Newcastle), and BSc in Physical Geography (Ibadan). His work bridges science, policy, and innovation for sustainable food-system development.

**Sibusiso Nhlengethwa** is an experienced Agricultural Economist with extensive expertise in research for development and a strong understanding of the African Union's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). He is skilled in Monitoring and Evaluation, project planning and management, resource mobilization, and partnership development. Sibusiso has worked collaboratively with multidisciplinary research teams to deliver impactful results and strengthen institutional capacity. His work focuses on evidence-based agricultural policy, program coordination, and promoting sustainable growth and resilience across Africa's agricultural and food systems.

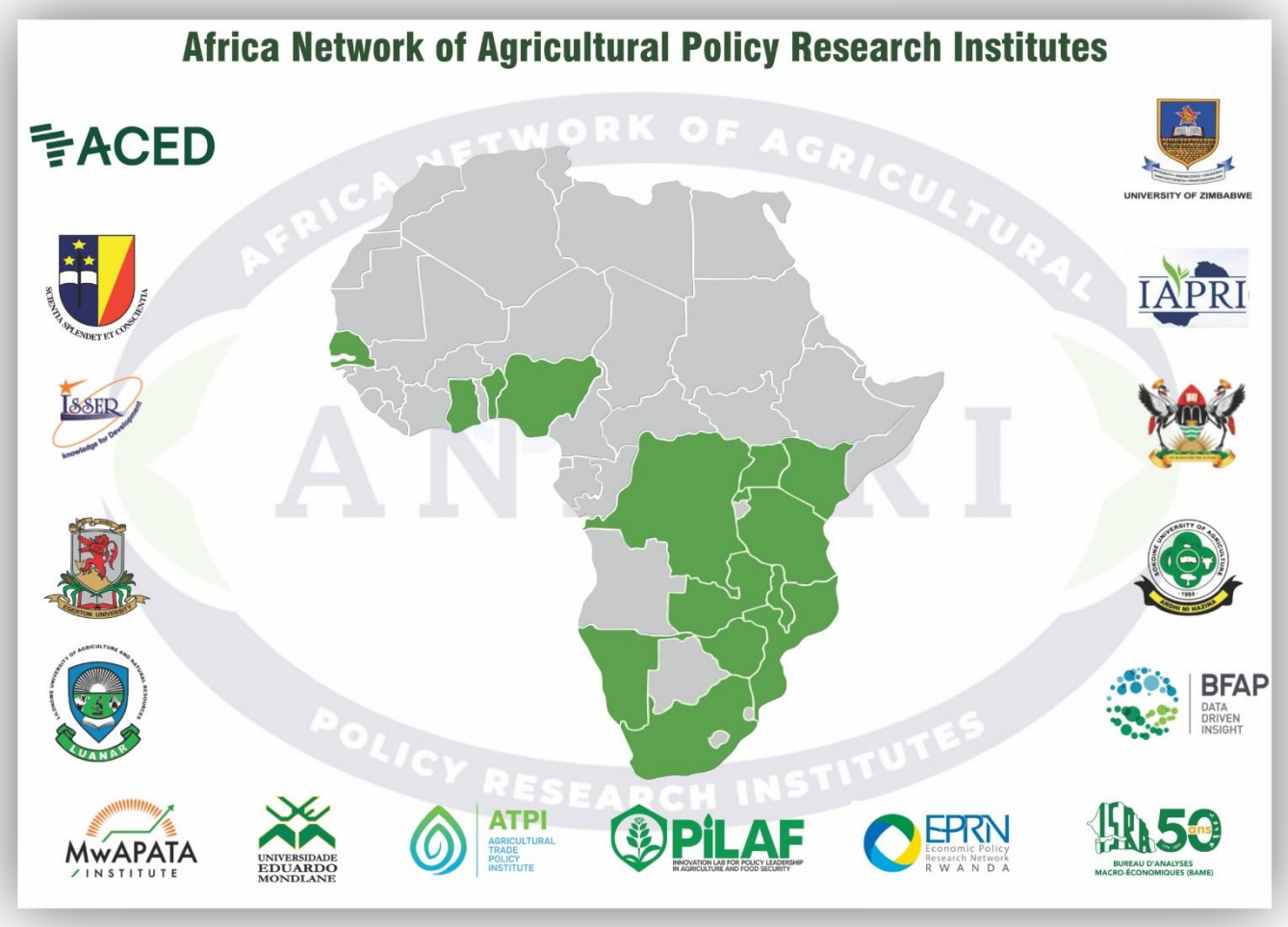
**Linda Akinyi** is Head of Finance and Operations at the Sustainable Agriculture Foundation (SAF). With over a decade of experience in financial strategy, compliance, and risk management, she ensures fiscal efficiency and donor accountability. Linda holds an MBA in Accounting and Finance (JKUAT), a Bachelor's in Business Management (Masinde Muliro University), and CPA certification (Strathmore). She is recognized for strengthening operational systems and aligning financial planning with organizational growth in support of sustainable agricultural initiatives across Africa.

**Dr. Sergiy Zorya** is Lead Agricultural Economist for the World Bank's Europe and Central Asia region and Global Lead for Public Policy and Expenditures in the Agriculture and Food Department. He directs programs on repurposing agricultural support toward sustainable and equitable food systems. Since joining the Bank in 2005, he has worked across Africa, Asia, and Europe on agricultural policy reform and sector transformation. He holds a PhD in Agricultural Economics from Georg-August University of Göttingen and a Master's from the Agricultural University of Zhytomyr. His leadership advances policy innovation for resilient food systems globally.

**Dr. Cheickh Sadibou Fall** is an economist at IFDC, leading the Fertilizer Policy Expert team. Previously Senior Economist at ISRA, Senegal, he taught at Cheikh Anta Diop University and ENSAE. He holds a PhD in Economics (University of Pau), MSc in Economics and Statistics (Université libre de Bruxelles), and BA in Economics (University of Reims). Dr. Fall contributes to policy research and regional collaborations that strengthen Africa's fertilizer systems and agricultural productivity.

**Innocent Okuku** is the Director General & CEO of Africa Fertiliser Industry Development Association (AFIDA), a body that brings together all fertiliser industry actors including manufacturers, traders, distributors, retailers as well as national and regional fertiliser industry associations across Africa. He has over 35 years' experience in the agricultural industry spanning research, development and commercial positions in both public and private organisations, including the last 15 years in the fertiliser industry. Some of his previous roles includes Vice President of the West African Fertiliser Association (WAFA), Executive Secretary of WAFA, and Group Head of Commercial Services at Notore Chemical Industries PLC, where he was responsible for all the functions related to business Development, marketing and sales globally. He has great capacity and experience in developing and running Public-Private-Partnerships towards deploying appropriate farm inputs and technologies to help increase farm yields across Africa. Innocent is an alumnus of the prestigious London Business School and also holds a Doctorate degree in Crop Production.

**Thierry Hoza Ngoga** is the Founding Director of GanzAfrica, a community of interest dedicated to developing human capital for system building to meet Africa's market needs. His work centers on empowering youth through practical, on-the-job experiences that address pressing challenges in land management, agri-food systems, and environmental sustainability. Prior to founding GanzAfrica, Thierry served as Head of State Capability at the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), where he led efforts across 11 countries to strengthen government delivery systems for agricultural transformation. With over 17 years of experience providing strategic and operational leadership to governments and development partners, he has been at the forefront of land and agricultural reform initiatives across the continent. Passionate about nurturing Africa's next generation of problem-solvers, Thierry champions locally grounded, sustainable solutions to systemic challenges.




## Contact us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*Africa Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes*