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Press Release

Monday 30th August 2021

AKADEMIYA2063 and the University of Pretoria Sign MOU to Support Evidence-based Policymaking and Implementation in Africa

Kigali, Rwanda, August 30, 2021 –AKADEMIYA2063 and the University of Pretoria have expanded their partnership by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on June 7, 2021 to support evidence-based policymaking and implementation in Africa.

Under the agreement, AKADEMIYA2063 and the University of Pretoria will join forces to strengthen capacities for policy analysis and institutional innovation to drive Africa’s economic transformation, agricultural development, food security, and nutrition. The two organizations will leverage opportunities for joint research, publications, communications, and outreach on topics of mutual interest, as well as, for internships and practical work experience for students of the University of Pretoria.

“The signing of this MOU formalizes our longstanding partnership with the University of Pretoria and will allow our two organizations to effectively collaborate in building local capacities and conducting strategic policy analysis to help transform African food systems in support of the African Union’s Agenda 2063,” said Dr. Ousmane Badiane, Executive Chairperson of AKADEMIYA2063.

The MOU will facilitate data and knowledge exchanges between the staff of AKADEMIYA2063 and the staff and students of the University of Pretoria and will enable both organizations to jointly carry out high-level policy engagements to promote dialogue and action around achieving Africa’s economic growth and development goals.

Professor Sheryl Hendriks, Head of the University of Pretoria’s Department of Agricultural Economics, Extension and Rural Development adds that: “We are delighted to formalize the partnership with AKADEMIYA2063 to further the commitment of both institutions to conduct evidence-based research that supports Africa’s development aspirations”.

About AKADEMIYA2063: AKADEMIYA2063 is an Africa-based non-profit organization with headquarters in Kigali, Rwanda, and a regional office in Dakar, Senegal. AKADEMIYA2063’s mission is to provide data, policy analysis, and capacity-strengthening support to enable the AU Member States to achieve economic transformation and shared prosperity. More broadly, AKADEMIYA2063 leverages science, generates knowledge, and strengthens capacities to help advance the African Union’s Agenda 2063.

AKADEMIYA2063 is home to three longstanding Africa wide programs— (1) the Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS), (2) the African Growth and Development Policy (AGRODEP) Modeling Consortium, and (3) the Malabo Montpellier Panel (MaMo Panel)—that provide data and analysis in support of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). For more information, please visit: www.akademiya2063.org

About the University of Pretoria: Founded in 1908, the University of Pretoria is a higher education and research-based institution established in terms of the South African Higher Education Act 101 of 1997. With the largest contact in South Africa, the University of Pretoria stands among the top 1.9 percent of universities worldwide and as one of Africa’s top universities.

The University of Pretoria produces socially impactful research – using quality, relevance, diversity, and sustainability as their navigational markers – to find solutions for the world’s most pressing issues, envisioning the transformation of the corporate and research landscape through innovative thinking and the high caliber of their graduates. For more information, please visit: www.up.ac.za

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