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In cooperation with:
AKADEMIYA2063   PAFO

THE DIGITALLY ENABLED RESILIENCE AND NUTRITION POLICY INNOVATIONS (DERPIn) PROJECT

RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

📅 Thursday, November 30, 2023
📍 Park Inn Hotel Kigali, Rwanda & Online
🕐 9:00 – 13:00 (CAT)

MALABO MONTPELLIER PANEL

Africa Agriculture Watch
By AKADEMIYA2063

Background

Countries in Africa are among the most vulnerable to climate shocks. Increasingly erratic rainfall regimes, droughts, temperature spikes, and more frequent and intense weather phenomena have destructive impacts on food systems, destroy infrastructure assets, and upend livelihoods. High levels of vulnerability and low absorptive capacity compound the disruptive effects of climate change and other shocks, such as COVID-19, the war in Ukraine, and the resulting trade disruptions. However, the real challenge facing African countries is not the level of exposure per se but the lack of capacity to anticipate and respond promptly and effectively to prevent shocks from resulting in large-scale disruption, irreversible damage to livelihoods, and putting at risk recent economic and development gains.

Data, analytics, and platforms for learning, exchange, and innovation at the highest levels of policymaking can help develop game-changing, transformative solutions and accelerate implementation to contribute more effectively and at scale to realizing the food system and resilience ambitions across African countries.

In order to support improved planning and decision-making across food systems, AKADEMIYA2063 is implementing the *Digitally Enabled Resilience and Nutrition Policy Innovations (DERPIn)* project between 2023-2025 in five African countries – Benin, Ghana, Malawi, Uganda, and Senegal – jointly with the PanAfrican Farmers Organization (PAFO) and invited local partners.

The DERPIn project aims to foster the capacity and agility of government planners and private sector operators, including smallholder farmers and their organizations, to craft adapted, gender-sensitive, and impactful policies and programs to advance food systems transformation and enhance resilience to shocks. It does so through a combination of digitally-enabled, customizable tools, data, and analytical products to cater to the needs of a broad range of stakeholders, including government, the private sector, and, most crucially, producers, including smallholder farmers. The project responds directly to the broader African agenda in the Malabo Declaration, the AU Common Position on Food Systems Transformation, the AU Climate Change Strategy, and the African Green Recovery Action Plan.

The project is commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation & Development (BMZ) and is part of the Fund for the Promotion of Innovation in Agriculture (i4Ag). AKADEMIYA2063 is implementing it on behalf of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

Aim of the Event

As part of the activities under DERPIn, AKADEMIYA2063 will host a Research Symposium on November 30, 2023, in partnership with the PanAfrican Farmers' Organization (PAFO). The purpose of the Research Symposium is to convene the DERPIn project partners to present the main activities completed during the project's first year and to share key findings and lessons learned. DERPIn partners will present data analysis carried out to date, platforms and tools for decision-making, and progress in implementing DERPIn activities in project countries. The specific objectives of the symposium are to a) explore the possibility of expanding the scope and reach of the DERPIn project, b) discuss the option of standing innovation partnerships, c) identify areas for further research and activities, and d) provide feedback on possible products and services for key stakeholders including farmers and policymakers as outcomes of the project.

Preliminary Agenda

Moderator: Dr. Seraphin Niyonsenga, Senior Scientist in the Department of Policy Innovation, AKADEMIYA2063

Registration & Coffee	**8:30 CAT**
Welcome	**9:00 CAT**
» **Dr. Ousmane Badiane,** Executive Chairperson, AKADEMIYA2063	
Innovation for sustainable food systems transformation	**9:10 CAT**
» **Mr. Naveen Garg,** Advisor for IT and Data Analytics, GIZ-India	
The DERPIn Project: aims and objectives	**9:20 CAT**
» **Dr. Ousmane Badiane,** Executive Chairperson, AKADEMIYA2063	
Remote-sensing data and machine-learning techniques for informed decision-making and planning: proposed DERPIn products and services	**9:35 CAT**
» **Dr. Jean Paul Faye,** Machine Learning Specialist, AKADEMIYA2063	
Activities and progress on the ground	**10:00 CAT**
» **Mr. Khadim Dia,** Senior Associate Scientist, AKADEMIYA2063 » **Dr. Hervé Comlan Sossou,** Benin - National Institute of Agricultural Research » **Dr. Sadick Mohamed,** Ghana – University of Development Studies » **Dr. Bennett Kankuzi,** Malawi – Malawi University of Science and Technology » **Dr. Isaac Shinyekwa,** Uganda - Economic Policy Research Centre » **Dr. Sadibou Fall,** Senegal - Senegalese Institute of Agricultural Research	
Coffee break	**10:30 CAT**
Mapping vulnerability and nutrient adequacy	**10:50 CAT**
» **Ms. Julie Collins,** Senior Associate Scientist, AKADEMIYA2063 » **Ms. Lea Vicky Magne Domgho,** Senior Associate Scientist, AKADEMIYA2063	
Moving from re-building to withstanding crises: what research is beneficial to farmers?	**11:20 CAT**
» **Mr. Ousseynou KA,** Program Manager, Network of Farmers Organizations and Agricultural Producers of West Africa	
Moderated panel discussion: exploring options for research and innovation partnerships	**11:55 CAT**
» **Dr. Moumini Savadogo,** Managing Director, AKADEMIYA2063 » **Ms. Aïssa Toure,** Country Manager Rwanda, AfDB » **Mr. Alain Sy Traore,** Director of Agriculture, ECOWAS Commission » **Ms. Aminata Ndoye,** Executive Secretary, Conseil National de Développement de la Nutrition Sénégal » **Mr. Wubeneh Nega,** Head of Markets and Trade, Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) » **Dr. Emmanuel Njukwe,** Director of Research and Innovation, West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF)	
Next steps and conclusion	**12:50 CAT**
» **Dr. Ousmane Badiane,** AKADEMIYA2063	
Lunch	**13:00 CAT**

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