

## Africa Research/Science community

welcomes AKADEMIYA2063.

**KIGALI, 25 September 2020** – <u>AKADEMIYA2063</u> has been officially launched yesterday during a Virtual SEMINAR themed « **Policies for Rapidly Transforming Agriculture and Food Systems** ». This launch was chaired by Hon. Geraldine Mukeshimana, *Minister of Agriculture of The Republic of Rwanda* with participation from Ambassador Josefa Sacko, *African Union Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture*, Mr. Jim Barnhart, *Assistant to the Administrator of USAID*, and Dr. Jo Swinnen, *Director-General at the International Food Policy Research Institute* (IFPRI).

As an international non-profit organization, AKADEMIYA2063 seeks to build a bridge between the science community and peer organizations around the world to harness the best available knowledge and evidence to advance the African agenda.

With a rich experience of long-standing support to the African Union's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), AKADEMIYA2063 positions itself as a major science contributor to the <u>Agenda 2063</u>, through research implementation, capacity building, and outreach programs to successfully drive Data Analysis and Knowledge Platform, Expertise for Advanced Economic Modeling, as well as Evidence and Dialogue for Policy Innovation.

Many of the <u>AKADEMIYA2063's core programs</u> have been on the ground over the last 10 to 15 years. They are: the Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (<u>ReSAKSS</u>), the African Growth and Development Policy (<u>AGRODEP</u>) Modeling Consortium, and the Malabo Montpellier (<u>MaMo) Panel</u> and Forum.

AKADEMIYA2063's interest in supporting Policies was highlighted by Dr. Ousmane Badiane, the Executive Chairperson who insisted that: « if the trajectory toward better policies is not sustained, the continent may experience a return to the era of economic stagnation. Better data and analytics to support evidence based planning and implementation will help raise policy effectiveness for improved development outcomes.»

As soon as it launched it operations, the organization moved to respond to the current COVID-19 pandemic, through <u>a multi-workstream agenda</u> on the impacts of and responses to the pandemic among African countries.

This includes research work around:

- Vulnerability Hot Spots
- Staple Food Price Tracking
- Production Systems Disruption
- Macro Effects of Trade Disruption

Through this Launch SEMINAR « Policies for Rapidly Transforming Agriculture and Food Systems » AKADEMIYA2063 and its partners examined, among various themes: The opportunities of <u>the UN</u>

<u>Food Systems Summit</u> from Africa's perspective, the needs for infrastructure and services for fast transforming food systems and policies to sustain and deepen the current recovery process.

AKADEMIYA2063 is headquartered in Kigali, Rwanda with a regional office in Dakar, Senegal.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REQUEST AN INTERVIEW, CONTACT:

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