



## **Artificial intelligence and “Big Data” must be put at the service of agricultural production systems in Africa.**

**Kigali, June 14, 2021** – [AKADEMIYA2063](#) launched today its brand-new program, the Africa Agriculture Watch (AAgWa) program, a data platform using artificial intelligence (AI) techniques, such as machine learning, digital technologies and big data, as well as satellite and remote sensing data, to track crop trends and predict agricultural production and yields.

Designed as an interactive online interface, Africa Agriculture Watch (AAgWa) provides access to real-time data to help monitor crop conditions and build capacity to anticipate and respond to disruptions in agricultural production systems.

“With these innovative methods, farmers, policy makers and development practitioners can convert accurate data into actionable knowledge and thus improve decision-making along the value chain” says Dr. Racine Ly, Director of Data Management, Products and Digital Technologies at AKADEMIYA2063.

The platform was officially launched during a virtual event hosted by AKADEMIYA2063. A presentation of the activities of the Organization related to AI was followed by a panel discussion on the role of new technologies in filling data gaps and increasing the productivity and resilience of production systems in Africa.

Dr. Ousmane Badiane, Executive President of AKADEMIYA2063 said that “through its engagement in the development and deployment of these techniques, AKADEMIYA2063 wants to contribute to the efforts to improve availability and quality of data in the agricultural sector in Africa”.

During this virtual event, the participants had the opportunity to discuss the role of AI, technology and big data in increasing productivity, and improving sustainability of agricultural production activities and resilience to climate change.

Leveraging partnerships and initiatives related to AI and big data to improve productivity and sustainability in the agricultural sector.

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### **About AKADEMIYA2063**

AKADEMIYA2063 is an African non-profit organization headquartered in Kigali, Rwanda, with a regional office in Dakar, Senegal. Its mission is to build, from Rwanda, state-of-the-art technical capacity across Africa to support the efforts of African Union member states in achieving the key objectives of Agenda 2063 namely, transform national economies to stimulate growth and prosperity. The main objective of AKADEMIYA2063 is to help African countries meet their data, analysis and mutual learning needs for the effective implementation of Agenda 2063 and the achievement of its outcomes by a critical mass of member states.

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