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Green industrialisation investment opportunities and challenges in Africa's agri-food sector

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July 10, 2025

12h30 CEST/13h30 EAT – 14h CEST/15h EAT

Webinar



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CONCEPT NOTE

In January 2026, the African Union (AU) adopted a new 10-year Kampala CAADP Declaration on "Building Resilient and Sustainable Agrifood Systems in Africa" and the associated CAADP Strategy and Action Plan (2026-2035). One of its strategic objectives is to raise locally processed, healthy food to 35% of agrifood GDP by 2035. The recent publication by the Ukåmål network *Catalyzing green industrialization in agrifood processing - Strategic considerations for Africa-Europe collaboration* and the *VALUE-UP report by the Malabo Montpellier Panel* put a spotlight on the agrifood processing sector, which presents a significant transformative opportunity for Africa's economic growth, job creation, nutrition, and sustainable development.

Against this background, the Africa-Europe think tanks network Ukåmål and AKADEMIYA2063 will host a webinar on **"Green Industrialisation Investment Opportunities and Challenges in Africa's Agrifood Sector"** in partnership with the African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS), the European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM), and the Institute for sustainable development and international relations (IDDRI). The webinar will bring together private and public decision makers, as well as experts, for a roundtable discussion and Q&A Session with the audience.

The webinar aims to feed into and propel discussions ahead of the Africa Food Systems Forum and the AU-EU Summit later this year, with the aim of advancing the implementation of the Kampala Declaration goals. Expected outcomes include fostering investment in green agrifood industry value chains and exploring closer collaboration between African and European actors by bringing together private and public companies, investors, policymakers, and experts from Africa and Europe.

Objectives

- Provide a platform for dialogue between African and European stakeholders on opportunities and challenges related to green industrialization in the agrifood sector.
- Initiate identification of concrete opportunities for collaboration in investment and policy alignment.
- Explore challenges such as financing, market access, and inclusivity in green agrifood value chains and how these can be tackled.
- Discuss perspectives from industry, policymakers, and potential investors that translate ideas of EU-AU collaboration into investment-actionable ideas.

Provisional Agenda

12:30 CEST/13:30 EAT

Welcome remarks by **Dr. Sébastien Treyer**, Director IDDRI and Co-chair of Ukāmā, the Africa-Europe think tanks network

Keynote: **H.E. Ibrahim A. Mayaki**, Special Envoy for Food Systems at the African Union

12:45 CEST/13:45 EAT

Panel discussion moderated by **Dr. Catherine Kilelu**, Director of Communication, Outreach, and Partnerships at Africa Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS)

Panelists

- **Dr. Olivier Kamana**, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources, Rwanda
- **Mr. Regis Meritan**, Head of Sector for Sustainable Value Chains Development, European Commission Directorate General for International Partnerships
- **Mr. Thierry Latreille**, Coordinator, Agricultural Public Development Bank Coalition, IFAD (tbc)
- **Dr. Getaw Tadesse**, Interim Managing Director/Director of Policy Intelligence, AKADEMIYA2063
- **Ms. Joyce Gema**, Founder and Managing Director, Trade Care Africa
- **Mr. Mandla Nkomo**, CEO, Partners in Food Solutions
- **Mr. Will Higgins**, Director - Strategy and Partnerships, Barka Fund

13:30 CEST/14:30 EAT

Q&A Session

13:55 CEST/14:55:

Closing remarks by ECDPM





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