



MALABO  
MONTPELLIER  
PANEL

# Harnessing Bioeconomy to Catalyze Resilient Food Systems Transformation in Africa: Experience from the Continent

📅 September 15, 2022 | 🕒 14.00-16.00 PM (CAT)  
📍 AKADEMIYA2063 Offices, Kigali

## Workshop Concept Note and Agenda

*The Malabo Montpellier Panel is jointly facilitated by*



Imperial College  
London

## 1. BACKGROUND

Current global events provide an urgent reason to maintain our focus on the strategic orientation of food systems, agricultural transformation, and innovation. Supply chain disruptions, war, the critical global economic situation, and rapidly rising inflation have prompted a global effort to develop and mainstream innovative solutions.

Innovations in developing a sustainable bioeconomy in Africa offer real opportunities to address multiple challenges simultaneously. Bioeconomy refers to the application of science, technology, and innovation to the sustainable production and use of biological resources to create innovative products, processes, and services for all economic sectors.

A bioeconomy can help Africa progress to more sustainable production and consumption practices, in addition to accelerating progress toward its continental and global development commitments. It can also increase agricultural productivity and support agro-industry expansion, both of which are vital for sustainable economic growth, employment generation, and enhancing economic competitiveness. The use of renewable biological resources, primarily from the agricultural sector, provides a platform from which to accelerate a global transition toward greater sustainability.

Key issues hindering the growth of the bioeconomy on the African continent include challenges in research and development, financing, entrepreneurship, and infrastructure. The latest report by the Malabo Montpellier Panel on developing a bioeconomy in Africa comes at a strategic time as African governments implement their post-UNFSS agendas and gear up for COP27 and beyond.

## 2. OBJECTIVES

The objective of the workshop is to present the outcomes of the Panel's report and to discuss the opportunities presented by the bioeconomy in accelerating sustainable food systems transformation while drawing attention to fields of innovations that are rapidly evolving worldwide, and where Africa is well-positioned to create its own unique approach, despite starting from a comparatively low base. Specifically, the workshop aims at:

- Creating necessary awareness to support African countries in designing their national bioeconomy strategies by providing insights from five African countries at the forefront of bioeconomy development.
- Sharing lessons learned from successful government actions taken across the continent in transforming their bioeconomy

## 3. ORGANIZATION

The workshop will be jointly organized by AKADEMIYA2063 and The National Industrial Research and Development Agency (NIRDA) in Rwanda.

## AGENDA

CAT	
13:45	Registration and coffee
14:00	<p><b>Dr. Seraphin Niyonsenga (MC)</b> Senior Scientist, Malabo Montpellier Panel, AKADEMIYA2063</p> <p>Welcome Remarks</p> <p><b>Dr. Ousmane Badiane</b> Executive Chairperson AKADEMIYA2063 Co-Chair Malabo Montpellier Panel</p>
	<p>Guest of Honor</p> <p><b>Hon. Dr. Gerardine Mukeshimana</b> Minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources, Rwanda</p>
14:30	<p>Moderated Panel Discussion</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <p><b>Dr. Ousmane Badiane</b> Executive Chairperson, AKADEMIYA2063 Co-Chair, Malabo Montpellier Panel</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p><b>Dr. Julius Ecuru</b>, Head BioInnovate Africa</p> <p><b>Dr. Muyambi Fortunate</b>, Deputy Executive Secretary (Head of Programme Development) East African Science &amp; Technology Commission (EASTECO) East African</p> <p><b>Dr. Maneshree Jugmohan-Naidu</b>, Director Agricultural Biotechnology, Department of Science and Innovation, South Africa</p> <p><b>Dr. Olivier Kamana</b>, Head of Applied Research and Development and Foresight Incubation Department, National Industrial Research and Development Agency, Rwanda</p> <p><b>Dr. Esperance Munganyinka</b>, Head of Department, National Research and Innovation Fund (NRIF), National Council for Science and Technology</p> <p><b>Ms. Hilde Amputu</b>, Senior Biosafety Inspector, National Commission on Research, Science, and Technology, Namibia</p>
	<p>Round-up and global context</p> <p><b>Prof. Joachim von Braun</b> Distinguished Professor, University of Bonn; Co-Chair, Malabo Montpellier Panel</p>
15:30	Q&A
15:50	<p>Concluding Remarks</p> <p><b>Dr. Ousmane Badiane</b> Executive Chairperson, AKADEMIYA2063 Co-Chair, Malabo Montpellier Panel</p>

## 5. ABOUT

### **AKADEMIYA2063**

AKADEMIYA2063 is an international Africa-based non-profit research organization with headquarters in Kigali, Rwanda and a regional office in Dakar, Senegal. Inspired by the ambitions of the African Union's Agenda 2063 and grounded in the recognition of the central importance of strong knowledge and evidence-based systems, the vision of AKADEMIYA2063 is an Africa with the expertise we need for the Africa we want. This expertise must be responsive to the continent's needs for data and analysis to ensure high-quality policy design and execution. Inclusive, evidence-informed policymaking is key to meeting the continent's development aspirations, creating wealth, and changing livelihoods for the better.

AKADEMIYA2063's overall mission is to create, across Africa and led from its headquarters in Rwanda, state-of-the-art technical capacities to support the efforts by the Member States of the African Union to achieve the key goals of Agenda 2063 of transforming national economies to boost economic growth and prosperity.

Following from its vision and mission, the main goal of AKADEMIYA2063 is to help meet Africa's needs at the continental, regional and national levels in terms of data, analytics, and mutual learning for the effective implementation of Agenda 2063 and the realization of its outcomes by a critical mass of countries. AKADEMIYA2063 strives to meet its goals through programs organized under five strategic areas—policy innovation, knowledge systems, capacity creation and deployment, operational support, and data management, digital products, and technology—as well as innovative partnerships and outreach activities. For more information, visit [www.akademiya2063.org](http://www.akademiya2063.org).

### **The Malabo Montpellier Panel**

The Malabo Montpellier Panel convenes 18 leading experts in agriculture, engineering, ecology, nutrition, and food security. Its aim is to facilitate policy choices by African governments in order to accelerate progress toward food security and improved nutrition. The Panel identifies areas of progress and positive change across the continent and assesses the things that successful countries have done differently. It identifies the institutional and policy innovations and program interventions that can best be replicated and scaled by other countries. The related Malabo Montpellier Forum provides a platform to promote policy innovation; it uses the evidence produced by the Panel to facilitate dialogue among high-level decision-makers on African agriculture, nutrition, and food security.

The next meeting of the Forum taking place in December 2022 will focus on climate finance for sustainable and resilient food systems in Africa. For more information please visit: [www.mamopanel.org](http://www.mamopanel.org).



**AKADEMIYA**

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