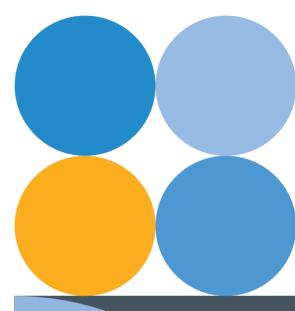


AKADEMIYA2063's Capability Statement





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Introduction

AKADEMIYA2063 is a pan-African non-profit research organization with headquarters in Kigali, Rwanda and a regional office in Dakar, Senegal. Its mission is to provide data, policy analysis, and capacity strengthening support to enable African countries to achieve the African Union's Agenda 2063 goals of inclusive and sustainable development and economic prosperity.

AKADEMIYA2063 houses four Africa-wide programs supporting evidence-based policymaking, agricultural, and economic development across the continent. They are:

(1) the Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS),

(2) the African Growth and Development Policy (AGRODEP) Modeling Consortium,

(3) the Malabo Montpellier Panel (MaMo Panel), and

(4) Africa Agriculture Watch (AAgWa).

With greater proximity to African policymakers, non-state actors, researchers, and other partners, AKADEMIYA2063 is broadening the work of these programs to provide data and analysis and to strengthen capacities for evidence-based policy formulation and implementation in support of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP).

AKADEMIYA2063 is also expanding its program portfolio to leverage science and generate knowledge to help advance the African Union's Agenda 2063, "The Africa We Want."

Staffing

AKADEMIYA2063 currently has 54 staff members, including 25 scientists, 16 of whom hold a PhD. The organization provides expertise in economic modeling, remote sensing, and machine learning, applied to a range of areas, including trade, climate change, and nutrition, as well as monitoring and evaluation, knowledge management, and capacity strengthening. Our expertise also comprises the development of interactive data platforms for dissemination and ease of access to our products and services. Overall, AKADEMIYA2063 staff come from 15 countries, 44% of whom are women.

In carrying out its research, capacity strengthening, and communications and outreach work, AKADEMIYA2063 leverages expertise from its partnership and collaborative networks across Africa and from outside the continent. Notably, AKADEMIYA2063 works collaboratively with trained local experts who are members of the AGRODEP Modeling Consortium.

• Key Partners

AKADEMIYA2063 works closely with the African Union Commission's Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment (AUC–DARBE), the African Union Development Agency–New Partnership for Africa's Development (AUDA– NEPAD), regional economic communities (RECs), African governments, local universities and centers of excellence, and non-state actor organizations, as well as global centers of expertise such as the University of Bonn and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).

• Core Competencies

Research scientists of AKADEMIYA2063 have extensive experience in conducting research across Africa on economic growth and transformation, agricultural development, agricultural trade and markets, agricultural trade and nutrition, and resilience of agrifood systems. The scientists have expertise in applying different types of analytical tools and methodologies including partial and general equilibrium modeling, econometric analysis, machine learning, data mapping, monitoring and evaluation, capacity strengthening, and developing interactive data and knowledge platforms.



AKADEMIYA2063's core competency areas organized by its main programs are outlined below:

- 1. The Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS) provides data and knowledge products to facilitate benchmarking, review, dialogue, mutual learning, and mutual accountability processes of CAADP. Key ReSAKSS activities include:
 - **a.** Tracking Core CAADP Indicators: Using an interactive web-based platform and mapping tool, ReSAKSS tracks over 30 CAADP indicators including those on agricultural sector productivity and growth, economic growth, government agriculture expenditures, food security, nutrition, and poverty across the entire African continent by geographic region, regional economic community, economic category, and stage reached in CAADP implementation.
 - **b.** Mapping and Monitoring Sub-national Level Data Using Country eAtlases: Using a geographic information system (GIS)-data management platform, ReSAKSS analyzes, maps, and monitors highly disaggregated subnational data such as on socio-economic indicators, agricultural productivity, agricultural growing conditions, crop harvest, market information, and nutrition.
 - c. Predicting Agricultural Production and Yields: Using remote sensing, big data, and machine learning techniques, ReSAKSS monitors climate variables and predicts their impact on agricultural sector performance indicators such as production, yields, and harvests at community and national levels.
 - **d.** Promoting Evidence-based National Agriculture Investment Plans (NAIPs): Together with local experts, ReSAKSS provides analysis on options for agricultural growth, food security, nutrition, and poverty reduction to guide the formulation and implementation of NAIPs, that are compliant with the targets of the 2014 Malabo Declaration, across African Union Member States.
 - e. Enhancing Mutual Accountability Processes: In collaboration with country stakeholders, the African Union Commission, and other partners, ReSAKSS helps to strengthen mutual accountability processes across Africa. Specifically, ReSAKSS facilitates the adoption of regular, comprehensive, and inclusive agriculture joint sector reviews (JSRs) at the country and regional levels and provides technical assistance to the CAADP Biennial Review process, which assesses continental progress toward meeting the 2014 Malabo Declaration targets by 2025.

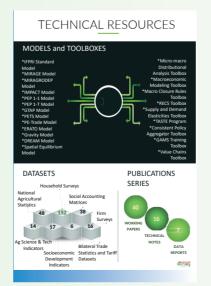




- f. Strengthening Data Systems: ReSAKSS employs innovative approaches to assess and improve country data systems and to strengthen country capacities to access, monitor, report, and use validated, reliable, timely, and high-quality data. It has supported African Union Members States with data collection, filing data gaps, and improving data traceability, consistency, and validity in support of the CAADP Biennial Review process.
- **g.** Establishing Country Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (SAKSS) Platforms. ReSAKSS works with national governments to set up and strengthen country-level SAKSS platforms that support CAADP implementation and provide country-level data and analyses. As part of each country SAKSS, ReSAKSS also sets up a local analytical network that brings together centers of expertise including local research institutions, universities, government planning units, and think tanks, and helps to put in place mechanisms to link the network with knowledge demand.
- h. Publishing a flagship Annual Trends and Outlook Report (ATOR): The ReSAKSS Africawide ATOR, which serves as the official CAADP M&E report, tracks over 30 CAADP indicators and provides an in-depth analysis on a topic of strategic importance to the CAADP agenda. The ATORs have featured a wide range of topics including on the role of trade in promoting resilience, achieving a nutrition revolution in Africa, the contribution of climate smart agriculture to meeting Malabo Declaration goals, the role of social protection in accelerating growth and ending hunger, lessons and actions to enhance gender equality, and the role of policies in transforming agrifood systems. Download previous editions of the Africawide ATORs from the "Publications" page of www.akademiya2063.org.
- i. Organizing the ReSAKSS Annual Conference: In partnership with the African Union Commission, AKADEMIYA2063 organizes the ReSAKSS Annual Conference which brings together over 200 participants to review and exchange on the African Union's agricultural agenda and to deliberate on the key findings and policy recommendations of the latest ReSAKSS ATOR. Conference participants include representatives from African Union Member States at the permanent secretary level, regional economic communities, civil society, farmers' groups, research organizations, and development agencies.



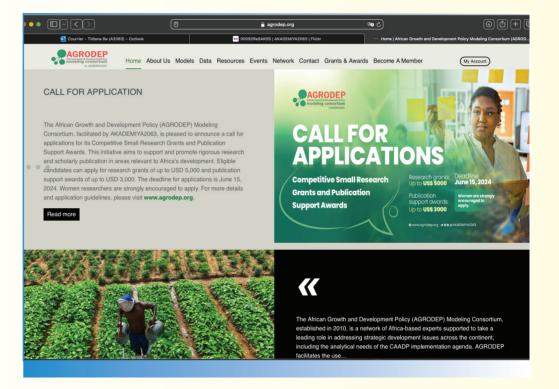
- 2. The African Growth and Development Policy (AGRODEP) Modeling Consortium is a network of Africa-based experts who are equipped with economic modeling tools, access to data sources, training, research grants, and networking opportunities to enable them to take a leading role in addressing strategic development issues facing Africa. Key AGRODEP activities include:
 - a. Establishing a Shared Modeling Infrastructure: AGRODEP provides a platform for sharing existing core economic models dealing with sector, national, and international policy issues as well as long-term projections in areas such as agricultural growth and poverty, trade, nutrition, climate change, natural resources management, and science and technology. The models are organized into: (i) simulation models and toolboxes and (ii) econometric models and toolboxes.
 - **b.** Building a Common Database Platform: AGRODEP brings together dispersed and disparate statistical, economic, and geospatial data in Africa in one central clearinghouse with a web-based data portal. It links existing key data sources, complements them as necessary, and develops shared standards, formats, and exchange protocols that facilitate access by AGRODEP members to high quality and consistent datasets. The datasets in the portal include agricultural statistics, household survey data, social accounting matrices (SAMs), bilateral trade data, and various development indicators.
 - **c.** Facilitating Networking Opportunities: AGRODEP's facilitates collaboration and the exchange of data, modeling techniques, joint analysis, reporting, and strategic debate among the over 230 AGRODEP members. Networking activities will encourage joint research activities, technical meetings and outreach events, training workshops and seminars that promote innovation, and working collaboratively with other leading scientists from around the globe.
 - d. Strengthening Technical Capacities: AGRODEP training program and grants program are at the core of its research capacity building activities. The consortium delivers training courses in data analysis and economic models and tools to its members. The training program includes courses in building and updating SAMs, sampling and processing household survey data, poverty measurement and analysis, impact evaluation, crop modeling, experimental methods, applied micro-econometrics, panel data analysis, productivity and efficiency analysis, and single- and multi-country general equilibrium modeling.
 - e. Establishing and Managing a Community of Practitioners: The Modeling Consortium has established a set of specific, thematically or technically focused interest groups to serve as a forum for scientific exchange, training, and capacity building. The objective is to use the expertise across the Consortium to strengthen policy research and analysis capacities and to use the members' research findings to raise the quality of policy debate.







- f. Providing Policy Analysis and Advisory Services: AGRODEP has assembled a pool of its highly advanced members who are deployed and backstopped with data and tools to respond to analytical needs for policy planning and implementation by continental and regional organizations, governments, civil society organizations and private sector operators. Areas of expertise of the advanced members include trade and regional integration, value chain analysis, and agricultural transformation and investments.
- g. Publishing a flagship annual Africa Agriculture Trade Monitor (AATM): The AATM tracks trends, progress, and outlook of African agricultural trade in regional and global markets. The AATM, published in partnership with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), is the only annual report dedicated to providing policymakers and development practitioners with access to accurate and reliable data and analysis on intra-African agricultural trade to help advance their efforts to boost the sector. Download previous editions of the AATM from the "Publications" page of www.akademiya2063.org.





- 3. The Malabo Montpellier Panel (MaMo Panel) is a group of international agriculture experts who guide policy choices that accelerate progress toward food security and improved nutrition in Africa. It provides high-quality research to equip decision makers to effectively implement policies and programs that benefit smallholder farmers. Key MaMo Panel activities include:
 - a. Guiding Policy Choices to Accelerate Progress toward Food Security and Improved Nutrition in Africa: Through a high-level group of experts, the MaMo Panel, identifies best performing African countries in various economic development areas, examines the reasons behind their successes and formulates lessons for consideration by other countries. The Panel focuses its work on replicable government actions in terms of institutional innovations, policy reforms and programmatic interventions.
 - b. Publishing Malabo Montpellier Panel Reports: The Panel publishes two reports a year. Each report identifies areas of progress and positive change across the continent and assesses what successful countries have done differently. The reports summarize the most important drivers in terms of institutional innovations, policy reforms and program interventions that can be replicated and scaled up by other countries. Download previous editions of the MaMo Panel Reports from the "Resources" page of mamopanel.org.
 - c. Facilitating Dialogue and Exchange through the Malabo Montpellier Forum: A Ministerial level Forum is convened twice a year to review the Panel's report findings and share experiences regarding what has worked on the ground, how and why, in the respective development areas. The resulting peer learning serves to encourage cross-country imitation and replication of successful development interventions.
 - d. Brokering Partnerships: The MaMo Panel connects countries that intend to adopt innovations identified by the Panel with interested financial and technical partners to explore possible partnerships and modalities for replication and scaling-up of successful innovations.





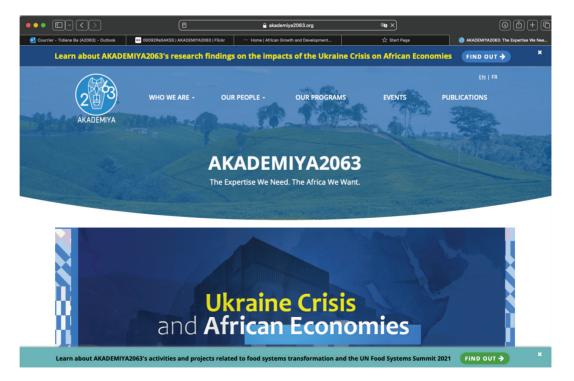
- 4. Launched in 2021, Africa Agriculture Watch (AAgWa) is a web-based platform that employs cuttingedge machine learning techniques and satellite data to predict agricultural production for 10 crops across nearly 50 African countries, to support decision-making, monitoring, crisis management, and effective intervention planning at local community level. Harnessing and deploying AI and remote sensing provides opportunities to leverage innovative tools to fill the data gaps across Africa's agrifood systems in terms of quality, accessibility, and timeliness. The capabilities embedded in AI and remote sensing for tracking and measuring greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and other geo-biophysical parameters are crucial for well-informed mitigation and adaptation policies. Key AAgWa features include:
 - a. Africa Crop Production (AfCP) Model: The AfCP model provides forecasts on food crop production across Africa. The estimations are based on a combination of remotely sensed biophysical parameters retrieved from satellite images, historical production maps, and machine learning techniques.
 - b. Crop Production Forecasts: The crop production forecasts brief series by AAgWa aims to provide more accurate and timely data on crop harvest for 10 major crops across nearly 50 African countries. The timeliness, wide availability, and easy access to this type of data allows stakeholders across the value chain to better plan and execute policy and business decisions more efficiently. The data published in the briefs are generated through the AfCP AI-based model applied to remotely sensed geo-biophysical data to produce estimates at pixel as well as administrative levels as early as the beginning of every growing season.
 - c. Tracking and measuring Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG): AAgWa is currently expanding its work to include the measurement and tracking of GHG emissions and geo-biophysical parameters to support climate mitigation and adaptation goals among African countries.



Other core competencies of AKADEMIYA2063 include:

- 1. Monitoring and Evaluation: AKADEMIYA2063 scientists have experience in systematically assessing the performance of projects, programs, and institutions and measuring their effectiveness, efficiency, and impact in light of specified objectives. AKADEMIYA2063 recently conducted an evaluation of the African Development Bank's *Feed Africa: Strategy for Agricultural Transformation in Africa*, 2016-2025.
- 2. Conducting Research on Emerging and Time-Sensitive Topics: AKADEMIYA2063 conducts strategic analysis to address emerging and time-sensitive topics and to fill knowledge gaps on priority issues faced by Africa. For example, in 2020 AKADEMIYA2063 conducted research to analyze the effects of COVID-19 on food and nutrition security, vulnerable communities, and economies of African countries. The analysis was organized along four workstreams: (1) Mapping community vulnerability to identify potential major hot spots, (2) Tracking staples foods price changes and their impact on food and nutrition security, (3) Food production systems disruption and effects on communities and the national economy, and (4) Global trade disruption and the effects on economic growth and livelihoods.

In 2022, AKADEMIYA2063 responded swiftly to the Russia-Ukraine conflict by conducting research to analyze the ramifications of the crisis on African economies. Hinged upon data, analytics, and past crisis patterns, the Ukraine Crisis Brief Series explores the economic and socio-economic impacts of global market disruptions induced by the Russia-Ukraine conflict. The in-depth analysis primarily tackles (1) the effects of global market disruptions on country terms of trade, the resulting impacts on economic growth and employment, as well as the poverty and food security effects, (2) the sectoral effects of the crisis, covering disruptions in the wheat, vegetable oils, and fertilizer sectors and their effects on incomes, inflation, and food security, and (3) the transmission of global commodity price shocks to domestic markets, underscoring opportunities to expand regional trade. These research findings are published on AKADEMIYA2063's Ukraine Crisis Portal. For more information on the COVID-19 and Ukraine research outputs, please visit the portals on *www.akademiya2063.org.*



•Organizational Structure and Leadership

AKADEMIYA2063 is governed by a Board of Trustees made up of distinguished African and international thought leaders, academics, and practitioners. The Board is responsible for setting policies and monitoring and evaluating the actions of management. It is responsible for approving AKADEMIYA2063's long-term strategic plan, annual plans, and budgets, and monitoring its progress toward the achievement of its mission and strategic objectives. The Board of Trustees safeguards the organization's cost effectiveness, financial integrity, and accountability, exercises oversight of its investments, and ensures compliance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements.

The management of AKADEMIYA2063 is led by the Executive Office which oversees the organization's financial management, establishes and implements the corporate policy, and hires its senior directors. The Executive Office also ensures that the organization is managed efficiently and is well focused on achieving its missions and goals. A distinguished Fellow of the African Association of Agricultural Economists and recipient of the Africa Food Prize in 2015, Dr. Ousmane Badiane serves as the Executive Chairperson of AKADEMIYA2063. He has over 30 years of experience in international development both as an academic and a practitioner.

AKADEMIYA2063 is organized around eight departments for: (1) Capacity and Deployment, (2) Knowledge Systems, (3) Policy Innovation, (4) Operational Support, (5) Data Management, Digital Products, and Technology, (6) Communication and Outreach, (7) Finance and Administration, and (8) External Relations. Each department is headed by a Director who oversees the implementation of AKADEMIYA2063's mission within their respective department. For more information on AKADEMIYA2063's programs, staff, and organizational structure, please visit: www.akademiya2063.org.

• Key Donors

AKADEMIYA2063 is supported financially by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), the Global Center on Adaptation (GCA), and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the funders.

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