



AKADEMIYA

ReSAKSS
Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System
by AKADEMIYA2063

African Union

ReSAKSS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Moving the Technology Frontiers in African Agrifood Systems



January 20-22, 2026



Virtual Event



12:00 – 15:30 GMT

AGENDA

Day 2 – January 21, 2026

Technological Pathways to Productivity and Resilience

3 hours

Time (GMT)	Session	Duration	Invited Speakers
12:00 – 12:05	Day 1 Recap and Day 2 Overview	5 min	Dr. Seraphin Niyonsenga , Head of AGRODEP Unit, AKADEMIYA2063
12:05 – 12:50	Cluster 1: <i>Digitalization, AI, and Biotechnology</i>	45 min	<p>Moderator: Dr. Benjamin Kwasi Addom, Adviser, Agriculture & Fisheries Trade Policy, Commonwealth Secretariat</p> <p>8-minute Presentations on Chapters 3, 4, 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Untapped Potential of Artificial Intelligence and Geospatial Technology in African Agrifood Systems</i> – Dr. Jean Paul L. Faye, Head of AI Innovation and Modeling Unit, Department of Data Intelligence and Governance, AKADEMIYA2063 & Physics Department, Faculty of Science and Technology, Cheikh Anta Diop University • <i>Optimizing Biotechnology Paradigms and their Application for Agrifood Systems Transformation in Africa</i> – Dr. Emmanuel Okogbenin, Director, Program Development & Commercialization, African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF) • <i>Digitalization in African agrifood systems: from e-learning to e-markets</i> – Mr. Benjamin Graeub, Co-Founder, farmbetter, Germany <p>Invited Reactions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussant 1: Ms. Priscilla Wakarera, Rhea Soil Health, Co-Founder and CEO • Discussant 2: Dr. Julius Ecuru, Principal Scientist and Manager, Research Innovation Coordination Units, icipe • Discussant 3: Mr. Ken Lohento, Digital Innovation Strategy Specialist, FAO, Regional Office for Africa

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12:50 – 13:05	Q&A	15 min	Audience interaction
13:05 – 13:15	Break: 10 min		
13:15 – 14:00	Cluster 2: <i>Mechanization, Irrigation, Processing, and Value Addition</i>	45 min	<p>Moderator: Dr. Antony Chapoto, Executive Director, Africa Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes (ANAPRI)</p> <p>8-minute Presentations on Chapters 6, 7, and 8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Advancing Mechanization in African Agrifood Systems: Unlocking Productivity and Resilience</i> – Dr. Oliver Kirui, Research Fellow & Nigeria Country Program Leader, IFPRI • <i>Processing and Value Addition Technologies in African Agrifood Systems</i> – Dr. Ramadhani Omari Majubwa, Senior Lecturer, Sokoine University of Agriculture • <i>Integrating Emerging Irrigation Technologies to Advance Agricultural Production and Resilience in Africa</i> – Dr. Greenwell Matchaya, Senior Researcher, Economics, ReSAKSS Coordinator, and Deputy Country Representative, South Africa, International Water Management Institute (IWMI) <p>Invited Reactions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussant 1: Mr. Mark Fynn, Regional Policy Officer, FAO, Regional Office for Africa • Discussant 2: Ms. Yemisi Iranloye, Psaltry Farms, Nigeria • Discussant 3: Ms. Charity Gathambiri, Post-Harvest and Food Science Expert, KALRO, Kenya

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14:00 – 14:45	Cluster 3: <i>Emerging Production Technologies</i>	45 min	<p>Moderator: Dr. Aisha Musaazi Nakitto, Head, Policy Innovation Unit, AKADEMIYA2063</p> <p>8-minute Presentations on Chapters 9, 10, and 11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Emerging Technologies for Resilient and Competitive Livestock Systems</i> – Dr. Abdrahmane Wane, Principal Scientist, Regional Director, West and Central Africa, International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) • <i>Insect farming innovation: A Pathway to self-reliance in agrifood systems in Africa</i> – Dr. Zewdu Ayalew Abro, Impact Assessment Economist, icipe • <i>Aquaponic systems for small-scale farming in Africa: Potentials and Challenges</i> – Dr. Bernd Ueberschär, Senior Scientist, BioServe GbR and Association for Marine Aquaculture (GMA Büsum) <p>Invited reactions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussant 1: Dr. Adebayo Abass, TAAT Cassava Value Chain Leader • Discussant 3: Mrs. Francesca Brenda Opoku, Founder, Beauty Secrets, Ghana • Discussant 2: Mr. Nche Nwadike, CEO, Victory Farms Kenya
14:45 – 14:55	Reflections and Synthesis	10 min	Key takeaways
14:55 – 15:00	Day 2 Wrap-Up	5 min	Dr. Racine Ly , Director, Data Intelligence and Governance, AKADEMIYA2063; 2025 ATOR Co-Editor