

11th GERMAN- AFRICAN AGRIBUSINESS FORUM

**Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development
through Regional Adaptation and Innovation**

Draft Program

(as of January 2025)

Under the Patronage of the



Federal Ministry
of Food
and Agriculture

January 20th, 2025

Venue: Hotel Novotel Berlin Am Tiergarten

(Straße des 17. Juni 106-108, 10623 Berlin)

#GAAF25 / www.agribusiness-africa.de

11th

GERMAN-AFRICAN AGRIBUSINESS FORUM

We would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous support
of the 11th German-African Agribusiness Forum 2025:

Premium Sponsor

The logo for GRIMME, featuring the word "GRIMME" in a bold, red, italicized sans-serif font. Above the letters "I" and "M" are two horizontal red bars, with a small red circle positioned between them.

Sponsors



SIEMENS



GERMAN-AFRICAN AGRIBUSINESS FORUM

Monday, January 20th

09.00 – 10.00

Registration & Welcome Coffee

10.00 – 10.05

Welcome & Opening

Room A

Frank Nordmann

Chairman, German Agribusiness Alliance
Deputy Chairman, Afrika-Verein der deutschen Wirtschaft (AV),
Germany

10.05 – 10.25

Keynotes

Room A

Hon. Cem Özdemir

Federal Minister
Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) & Federal
Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany

H.E. Josefa Sacko

Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue
Economy, and Sustainable Environment
African Union Commission, Ethiopia

10.25 – 11.00

Project Inauguration

Room A

**African-German Centre of Excellence for Sustainable and
Resilient Food Systems and Applied Agricultural and Food
Data Science (UKUDLA)**

AN INITIATIVE OF THE



Federal Ministry
of Education
and Research

Starting in 2025, UKUDLA represents a significant, innovative
African-German collaboration initiative combining
transdisciplinary research, capacity development and practice
transfer with a regional focus on sustainable, resilient food
systems and applied data science in southern Africa.



Federal Ministry
of Food
and Agriculture

Hon. Cem Özdemir

Federal Minister
Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) & Federal
Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany

Hon. John Steenhuisen (tbc)

Minister of Agriculture of South Africa

Prof. Christine Wieck

Director of the Chair of Agricultural and Food Policy and co-
convenor of UKUDLA
University of Hohenheim, Germany

Mologadi Ngoetjana (tbc)



GERMAN-AFRICAN AGRIBUSINESS FORUM

Managing Director
AgriSeptember Farming, South Africa

11.00 – 11.30

Expert Dialogue

Room A

Ending Hunger is possible: An income-generating approach through value addition

**Panel hosted by
UNIDO**

733 million people face hunger – that's 1 in 11 people worldwide. But ending hunger is possible! This high-level expert dialogue will present the main results of a new UNIDO-FAO study. It will explore how we can achieve SDG2 (Zero Hunger) within the next decade and discuss the structural challenges hindering economic transformation in Africa. The panelists will talk about the significant economic costs of inaction in the fight against hunger and show key areas for investment and intervention to unlock the global agri-food sector. UNIDO will emphasize how important it is to act now by presenting the Addis Ababa Call to Action, to which the audience will be invited to join. The statements will also focus on the private sector, presenting examples of how the public and the private sector can work together and emphasizing the need for more joint efforts.

Mali Eber-Rose

Research and Policy Analyst
Shamba Centre for Food and Climate, UK

Gunther Beger

Managing Director, Vienna
UNIDO

tbd

Moderator: **Dr Olaf Deutschbein**, ITPO Berlin, UNIDO

11.30 – 12.00

Impulse

Room A

Kampala Agenda: What to expect from the new continental policy?

Mid-January 2024, Ministers of Agriculture from all AU-member states are meeting in Kampala to set the cornerstones for the next ten years of agricultural policy on the African continent. In this outlook, we want to give them the opportunity to provide an overview of how the agenda is expected to influence agricultural policy in their respective country.

tbd

12.00 – 01.30

Networking Lunch Break



GERMAN-AFRICAN AGRIBUSINESS FORUM

01.30 – 02.30

Parallel Sessions

Room A

Parallel Session 1:

Regenerative agriculture, agroecological approaches, and food security

Agroecological and regenerative approaches can enhance food security in Africa by promoting diverse, resilient, and sustainable farming systems that are less dependent on external inputs and more adaptable to local environments. Opportunities lie in integrating agroecological approaches with agribusiness by developing value chains that support sustainable products and attract consumers interested in healthy and environmentally friendly foods. In this session we want to discuss how Africa can build agri-food systems that combine ecological practices with commercial viability by fostering multistakeholder partnerships.

Prof. Dr Joachim von Braun

Distinguished Professor Economics and Technical Change
Center for Development Research, Bonn University, Germany

Ibrahim Coulibali

President
Pan African Farmers Organization, Mali

Johannes Buschmeier

Managing Director
GOPA AFC GmbH, Germany

Nancy Rapando

Food Leader Africa
WWF, Kenya

Moderation: tbd

Room B

Parallel Session 2:

Sustainable livestock farming and value creation

Livestock provide a critical source of nutrition, income, and livelihoods for millions of African households. Therefore, sustainable livestock farming in Africa can play a vital role for promoting both sustainable development and food security across the continent. By adopting practices that enhance animal health, minimize environmental impact, and optimize the use of local resources, farmers can increase the productivity and resilience of their livestock systems. In this session, we will focus on how promoting sustainable livestock farming is key to meeting the growing demand for protein sources, while supporting rural development by creating local value chains.



GERMAN-AFRICAN AGRIBUSINESS FORUM

Christoph von Spreti

Area Sales Director Africa
Minitube International AG, Germany

Nyaradzo Mutande

Young Agripreneur
Zimbabwe Farmers Union (ZFU), Zimbabwe

Dr Ferdinand Schmitt

Managing Director
Caisley International GmbH

02.45 – 03.45

Parallel Sessions

Room A

Parallel Session 3: Innovative solutions to make equipment and inputs accessible for farmers

Making agricultural equipment and inputs like quality seeds, fertilizers, and plant protection accessible to farmers is essential for ensuring food security. This will increase their productivity, reduce crop losses, and enhance resilience to climate challenges. Additionally, access to these resources helps small-scale farmers become more competitive, reducing poverty and strengthening local economies. In this session we want to discuss innovative solutions and provide an overview of ongoing efforts to make those resources available for farmers.

Lena-Maria Russ

Managing Director
Maschinenring Foundation gGmbH, Germany

Rosely Kasunda

Board Member and Agripreneur
Farmers Union of Malawi (FUM), Malawi

Sergii Aksonov

CEO
AgSet GmbH

tbd

Room B

**Parallel Session 4:
EU-African agri-food trade**

Current issues in EU-African agri-food trade revolve around market access, regulatory standards, and the balance of trade benefits. African countries often face challenges in meeting the strict sanitary and phytosanitary standards set by the EU, which



GERMAN-AFRICAN AGRIBUSINESS FORUM

restricts their access to European markets. At the same time, many African countries seek fairer trade terms and greater investment in local agri-food industries to add value to their exports rather than just supplying raw materials. These issues highlight the need for more equitable trade relations that support sustainable agricultural development in Africa.

Markus von Busse

Director Global Product Safety
Worlée, Germany

Roland Oroh

Project Director
EU-Nigeria Agribusiness Platform, Nigeria

Britta Muellender (tbc)

Team Leader Capacity Building
Global G.A.P.

tbd

03.45 – 04.45

Networking Coffee Break

04.45 – 05.45

Expert Outlook

Room A

Investing in agricultural value chains for rural development

Establishing agricultural value chains is essential for rural development in Africa as it creates opportunities for farmers and rural communities to increase their income and improve their livelihoods. Value chains connect farmers to markets, enabling them to sell their produce at fair prices and gain access to new buyers. This process promotes the development of local agribusinesses, from processing and packaging to transportation and retail, generating jobs and stimulating economic growth. In this session, we want to showcase what is needed to build sustainable value chains.

Mildred Nadah Pita

Head Public Affairs Science Sustainability Africa
Bayer AG, Kenya

Max Sturm

CEO
Amatheon Agri Holding N.V., Germany

tbd

Moderation: **Giselle Llanes**, Agribusiness Sector Expert, Africa Business Network, Angola

11th

GERMAN-AFRICAN AGRIBUSINESS FORUM

from 05.45

Networking and End of Conference Drink

Supporting Partners



Media Partner

RURAL21

The International Journal for Rural Development