



African Association of Agricultural Economists Association Africaine des Agroéconomistes

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Allow me to express my very best wishes and sincere thanks to all of you our members, as we wrap up the year 2017 and shift our energy into the next calendar year 2018. The past 12 months have been marked by significant achievement. As we reflect on 2017, I believe that we have many reasons to have pride in association and look forward with enthusiasm to next years ahead, as we continue to make our association a shining example in Africa.

Just a few outstanding examples: This year, our own founding member and Fellow (FAAAE), and 2nd President of AAAE, and current President of the African Development Bank, Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, won the World Food Prize Laureate 2017. This is an equivalent of the Nobel Prize in Agriculture. We all salute Dr. Adesina for flying our flag high in our continent.

In our quest to have more national associations regroup to work with us, we saw the reactivation of Ghana Association of Agricultural Economists (GAEE), under the leadership of Prof. Saa Dittoh, FAAA, of the University of Development Studies, Ghana. This culminated to a 2017 GAEE Conference on 27-29 September 2017, a decade since they co-hosted the 2nd AAAE Conference in 2007. Similarly, the Cameroonian Association of Agricultural Economists (CAAE) was established under the leadership of Dr. Kamdem Cyrille, of the University of Yaounde. They hosted their first ever event on 23-24 November 2017. With these new national associations coming up, and with our continued working relations with the more established, such as the Nigeria Association of Agricultural Economists (NAAE) and the Agricultural Economics Association of South Africa (AEASA), we believe that our profession is taking roots around Africa, with a transformative agenda of Feed Africa.

Recently, we re-launched the AAAE website, developed using more modern technology, with social media integrations. Also, we are present on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn. I urge you to follow us on all our social media and stay informed with the most recent updates.

In 2018, we are heading to Vancouver, BC, Canada for the 30th International Conference of Agricultural Economists. AAAE will organize a symposium during this event. For those of you who will be present, keep checking for further details through all our communication channels. In 2019, AAAE will hold its 6th AAAE Conference in the city of Abuja, Nigeria. More details can be found within this newsletter and our website. More detailed communication will be out sometime next year.

Thanks for being part of this association and thanks so much for helping to make this year so memorable. I invite you to join me in anticipating what we will accomplish together in the years ahead. With very best wishes I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Prosperous 2018.

Edward Mabaya, Ph.D.

DR. AKINWUMI ADESINA WIN WORLD FOOD PRIZE



Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, President of the African Development Bank, was announced as the 2017 World Food Prize Laureate at a ceremony at the U.S. Department of Agriculture on 26 June 2017. Dr Adesina, a Past-President of the AAAE was awarded this prize for his leading role over the past two decades in: significantly expanding food production in Nigeria; introducing initiatives to exponentially increase the availability of credit for smallholder farmers across the African continent; and galvanizing the political will to transform African agriculture.

AAAE 2019 CONFERENCE

Date: 23 – 26 September 2019
Theme: Rising to Meet Evolving
Challenges: Africa's Agricultural
Development Beyond 2020 Vision
Venue: Abuja, Nigeria

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DR. EVELYN NAMUBIRU-MWAURA AT THE 9TH AU GENDER PRES SUMMIT



Dr. Evelyn Namubiru-Mwaura and other panelists during the Investing in Young People 's economic empowerment through innovation panel

The vice president of the AAAE, Dr. Evelyn Namubiru-Mwaura represented the Association at the 9th AU Gender Pre-Summit; "Harnessing the Demographic Dividend through Investments in Youth: Empowering Young People". The Presummit took place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 22nd to 30th January 2017 and was attended by over 200 people including various ministers and youth representatives from 54 countries on the continent. The Summit focused on Harnessing the Demographic Dividend through the Investment in Youth. It explored the gender equality issues related to the theme as well as the women's rights and empowerment dimension. Discussions placed emphasis on empowerment and rights of young women and girls while recognizing that addressing inequalities especially those based on gender demands all stakeholders' engagement.

During a panel discussion "Investing in Young People's Economic Empowerment through Innovation" Dr. Namubiru-Mwaura, made a presentation entitled Rethinking Agriculture to Attract the Youth". In her presentation, she highlighted that transforming Agriculture could enable the continent not only address its developmental challenges but also tap into the great resource-youth dividend. Empowering the youth with the necessary tools and new knowledge would help the continent leapfrog its developmental challenges. She also highlighted opportunities that are available under AAAE and encouraged the youth to register for the upcoming AAAE annual conference in Nigeria.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Agrekon will publish a special issue on Agri-Food Trade and Non-Tariff Measures. The volume of non-tariff measures (NTMs) impacting on agricultural trade has increased considerably during the last decades. In particular, a large volume of NTMs has been established (and has potential trade effects) between North-South and even between countries in the Global South. Understanding how NTMs influence agri-food trade has become a issue of utmost importance in the international debate and among scholars and policymakers. The special issue of Agrekon will be dedicated to topics related to the relationship between agri-food trade and NTMs, with particular emphasis on how NTMs influence trade between African countries.

Agrekon welcome and encourage submission of proposals on the following topics:

- On the evolution of trade of agrifood products in Africa
- On trade frictions and their implications for trade of African countries
- How NTMs affect trade of agricultural products between African countries
- How Technical Barriers to Trade (TBTs) and Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards (SPSs) impact the agri-food exports from African countries to the North

The deadline has been extended till 15 December 2017. Please contact the Guest Editor, Prof Fabio G. Santeramo, University of Foggia (fabio.santeramo@unifg.it).

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Dr Germaine Furaha Mirindi, the AAAE Executive Committee member for Central Africa, who obtained her Doctoral Degree in agronomics sciences and biological engineering from the University of Liège on 23 October 2017. She specialised in economy and rural development

CAMEROON

The Cameroonian Association of Agricultural Economists will hold a workshop from 23 – 24 November 2017. Please contact Dr Furaha Germaine at furaha.germaine@yahoo.fr for more information.

AEASA 2018

The 56th Conference of the Agricultural Economics Association of South Africa (AEASA) will take place from 25 – 27 September 2017 at the Lord Charles Hotel near Cape Town, South Africa. The theme of the Conference is "Practising agricultural economics in an uncertain neighbourhood. Papers must be submitted by 15 June 2018. Feel free to visit the website at <https://centeqevents.wixsite.com/aeasa2018> for more information.