

Spotlight on partnerships for youth engagement in agribusiness and job creation in Africa



Issue 2, 2017

Incubators Network

Official newsletter of the African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN) Secretariat

Editorial

The African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN) brings you our second issue of the AAIN Digest e-newsletter of the year 2017.

In the midst of growing demand for agribusiness incubation in Africa, this edition is your spotlight on the news, events and updates of the Incubator of Incubators Centre of Excellence.

AAIN embraces the role of effective communication for the growth of the agribusiness sub-sector, highlighting the innovative elements fronted by agribusiness incubation.

Through our social media brand @AAINOnline and organisational publications, we continue to update you on the detailed progress in agribusiness incubation at national, regional and continental level.

The AAIN Digest is our brief from the Incubator of Incubators Centre of Excellence (IICE) that goes out to our subscribers electronically.

We welcome you to secure your seat at the 2017 edition of the flagship event that will be held in Dakar, Senegal with youth participation taking centre stage on the second Africa Youth in Agribusiness Day.

The Africa Agribusiness Incubation Conference & Expo is your gateway to strategic sector partnerships as this e-newsletter highlights.

This edition also explores the news and more from the work with partners at the global level and the African Union Technical Networks of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP).

Together we achieve more in development, building the agribusiness sub-sector that we would like to see through meaningful partnerships.

Thank you for walking with AAIN.

Solomon Kalema Musisi

Communications and Public Relations Manager

African Agribusiness Incubators Network.



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Inside this issue

- Message from the AAIN CEO
- News briefs
- The 2nd Africa Youth in Agribusiness Day Challenge
- Special Features on continental and global engagement
- The 2017 Africa Agribusiness Incubation Conference and Expo
- How to join AAIN as a member



Dr Alex Ariho, AAIN Chief Executive Officer

On behalf of the AAIN technical and management team, I wish to commend the commitment of all who keep in partnership with AAIN both on and offline as well as our partners on the ground in the various African countries.

Together, we are making transformative impact that will go a long way in creating jobs and dependable wealth for the youth in Africa.

To push the agenda of agribusiness incubation even further, I appeal to sector leaders in agribusiness development to harness the creativity of the youth and work towards a more inclusive sector for women.

I also take this opportunity to thank our focal personnel in the regions who have maintained our linkage with the communities and partners who work with us there.

Under the Africa Agribusiness Incubation Programme (AAIP) we continue to support the growing incubators in the regions of East and Central, Southern, Northern and Western Africa.

I wish to recognise the role of the Africa YouthConnekt Summit in bringing partners with similar objectives together to explore means of creating 10 million jobs by 2020 in sustainable job environments in emerging industries and 25 million opportunities through training and enrolment in workplaces.

I welcome you to join our members' network to access tailor-made services and also look forward to seeing you at the 2017 Africa Agribusiness Incubation Conference and Expo in Dakar, Senegal this November.

We have adjusted the dates for the flagship event to run from the 8th to the 10th of November.

Alex Ariho (PhD)



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Book your seat in Dakar, 2017.



AAIN joins FAO, partners in launching new continental youth employment programme

DAKAR, 2017



During a landmark two-day workshop in Ghana, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) launched a Special Youth Employment Programme to step up job creation for the youth in Africa.

The workshop which ran from the 10th to the 11th of May, 2017 in Accra attracted a host of partners including the African Union, the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA), the Food and Agriculture Ministry of Ghana, the African Development Bank, the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa among other strong partners.

Read more

Rwanda Youth in Agribusiness Forum (RYAF) partners with AAIN to enhance job creation in Rwanda



RYAF and AAIN representatives in a group photo after the official signing in Kigali, Rwanda.

With a high demand for the replication of success from agribusiness incubation in Africa, the Rwanda Youth in Agribusiness Forum (RYAF) signed an MoU with the African Agribusiness Incubators Network on Tuesday to enhance job creation in Rwanda.

Dr Alex Ariho, the AAIN CEO and Jean Baptiste Hategekimana, the chairperson of Rwanda Youth in Agribusiness Forum (RYAF) signed the timely MoU on behalf of the respective organisations.

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AUC PACA and partners to reinforce aflatoxin fight in Africa through new strategies

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Participants of the PACA event in Kampala on the 31st of May, 2017.

In a multi-stakeholder side event at the 13th Partnership Platform of the African Union Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) in Kampala, Uganda from the 31st of May to the 2nd of June 2017, the African Union Partnership for Aflatoxin Control in Africa (PACA) revealed new strategies to control the growing effects of aflatoxins in Africa.

Among the key strategies revealed, the PACA Communications team presented a reinforced Communications Strategy for the 2017-2021 duration. Read more

African Union experts, partners highlight role of the private sector in the CAADP implementation process



The lead panel at the breakout session on "Tools, instruments and mechanisms for private sector involvement in agricultural value chains" for the 13th CAADP PP in Kampala, Uganda.

The 13th Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Partnership Platform of the African Union held in Kampala, Uganda from 31st May to 2nd June, 2017 highlighted the potential of the youth, the private sector and vehicles like agribusiness incubation in transforming African agriculture.

This year's Partnership Platform was preceded by key pre-event meetings including one for the CAADP Non State Actors' Coalition (CNC) whose outputs were presented by among others, Kopep Dabugat the CNC Coordinator and Dr Cris Muyunda the Vice President.

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How enhanced private sector engagement is boosting economic growth in Africa: Lessons from Ethiopia and Uganda



During panel discussions at the 13th CAADP Partnership platform of the African Union in Kampala, Uganda from the 31st of May to 2nd June, two examples of increased private sector participation were explored to inspire the same in the CAADP process.

Ethiopia: Millions to billions

Daniel Gad, who from Omega Farms from Ethiopia recounted the harvest for the private sector that came after government's increase in support towards

Daniel Gad, Omega Farms Ethiopia

creating a favourable environment.

For Alessandro Marini, the Country Programme Manager of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in Uganda, the Public Private Partnership model with shared input has helped redeem livelihoods and incomes of what was formerly one of the country's poorest districts. <u>Read more</u>

AAIN furthers partnership with the African Union on agribusiness incubation in Africa



Participants at the African Union CAADP Platform 2017 in Entebbe, Uganda.

By the 12th CAADP Partnership Platform in Accra Ghana in April of 2016, the campaign for increased investment in Africa's youth-led SMEs was in high gear among partner organizations.

Over 100 youth leaders from across Africa later expressed their views in a historical declaration presented at the 2016 Africa Agribusiness Incubation Conference and Expo in the presence of the then African Union Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture.

This year's platform showed the growing momentum for creating new opportunities.

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AfDB President Dr. Akinwumi Adesina Wins the 2017 World Food Prize

WORLD FORUM 177 RLD OMIC

AfDB President Dr. Akinwumi Adesina at a past event of the World Economic Forum

Dr. Adesina received a US\$250,000 prize from the World Food Prize Foundation for his leading role for the past 25 years 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.

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The Africa Agribusiness Incubation Conference and Expo will be held from 8th to 10th November, 2017 in Dakar, Senegal.



DATE **FION: DAKAR** For more information on boo ings and about the africaain.org or email event please

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AAIN, CTA, AfDB rebranding job creation and youth participation in African agribusiness

outh in gribusiness Wednesday 7th June 14:00 - 15:15

The African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN), Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA), African Development Bank (AfDB), Pan African Farmers' Organisation (PAFO) and European Agricultural Machinery (CEMA) joined the European Commission in yet another edition of the European Development Days (EDD) in Brussels for better development prospects.

Hosted by CTA, the sessions focused on job creation in Africa with specific focus on youth and women stretched into 5 major categories.

Graduate incubatee wins national entrepreneurship award from Ye! Community



Out of thousands of entreprenuers in this year's round of awards for the Uganda chapter, Sam Turyatunga graduate incubatee of AfriBanana Products Limited has emerged winner of the 2017 Young Entrepreneur Award.

The award was given him by the Ye! Community which empowers and connects young entrepreneurs around the world and links them to various tools, resources, and opportunities to support the growth of their start-ups.

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Brussels Briefings 2017: Renewed approach to job creation in Africa with CTA and partners

Briefings sur le beere beere

AAIN's Peter Kuria Githinji Director for Business and Partnerships Development at the 49th Brussels Briefings organised by CTA.

The need to address challenges inhibiting job creation in Africa today, the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (<u>CTA</u>) has rolled out new platforms with partners to forge a way forward.

The Brussels-based intercontinental establishment was joined by the African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN) represented by Peter Kuria Githinji at this year's May Brussels Briefings. <u>Read more</u>

AAIN, World Bank, Kenya County Governments explore new frontiers for agribusiness incubation



Left to right: AAIN Board Chairperson Prof Henry Bwisa, Dr. Manu Chandaria and Dr. Meena Munshi, Senior Economist with the World Bank.

As countries strive to achieve the projected global economic growth rate of 3.4% in 2017, experts from the World Bank and the African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN) have explored opportunities for the creation of dependable wealth and jobs.

With the youth as major target beneficiaries, the experts are looking to expand the coverage for agribusiness incubation in Kenya, one of the fastest growing economies in Africa today. <u>Read more</u>

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CIAT-AAIN Partnership to boost more innovation in East and Central Africa through agribusiness

DAKAR, 2017



Dr. Alex Ariho the CEO and Dr. James Aucha at the Nairobi-based CIAT offices where they were joined by Boaz Waswa, Solomon Mwendia, Uwe Ohmstedt and Anne Ruhiu from CIAT.

The key outputs of this historical partnership are covered by the CIAT blog a thematic platform on Big Data, Climate-Smart Agriculture, Ecosystem Action, Sustainable Food Systems, Research Areas, Agro biodiversity, Decision and Policy Analysis as well as Soils and Landscapes for Sustainability.

Read more

AAIN joins AU, EU leadership and partners in forging way forward for job creation



During the African Union–European Union Agriculture Ministerial Conference that was held in Rome, Italy on the 2nd of July, more commitment was made to bettering the future for youth in Africa.

Guided by the theme, **"Making Sustainable Agriculture a future for youth in Africa"** leaders and experts agreed to major approaches to developing agriculture to influence structural transformation in Africa.

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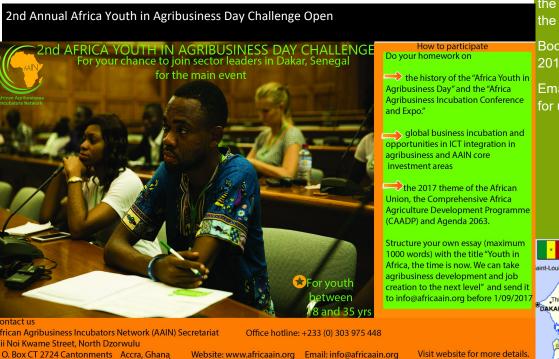
AU-IBAR strategy, AAIN-model agribusiness incubation to uplift African livestock sub-sector

A selection of participants and the historical climax in Dakar, Senegal.

A representative group out of over 500 youth is set to take Africa's livestock sub sector to the next level.

This new hope is the outcome of a convention by the <u>African Union Inter-African</u> <u>Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)</u> in partnership with the African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN) in Dakar, Senegal.

Read more



Are you a young African between the ages of 18 and 35? Do you have a passion for youth participation in the transformation of agribusiness in Africa?

Here is your chance to win sponsorship from the African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN) and partners to represent the youth from your country at the 2017 edition of the "Africa Youth in Agribusiness Day" during the forthcoming 2017 Africa Agribusiness Incubation Conference and Expo that will run from the 8th to the 10th of November of November in Dakar, Senegal.

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What AAIN-CTA partnership means for ICT integration in African agribusiness

DAKAR, 2017



<u>Giacomo Rambaldi</u>, Senior Programme Coordinator with the CTA's ICT4D initiative took participants at the conference through basics of drone technology and a field test with partner companies on the same in Ghana back in 2016.

The African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN) joined the <u>Technical Centre for Agricultural</u> and <u>Rural Cooperation (CTA)</u> in rolling out a partnership to promote ICT integration in agriculture. This partnership involves, among other items, the Pitch AgriHack competition.

Read more

Seed business incubation in Africa. Survey indicates growing impact of incubation



The African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN) has finalised a field survey in a bid to assess the strategic support incubatees need in order to play a stronger role in the seed sub-sector and evaluate delivery of incubation services to the same group.

The survey was carried out in the regions of Northern Ghana, Brong Ahafo, Ashanti and Greater Accra to collate relevant data set to be reviewed and used as basis by partners in stepping support for the incubatees.

The outputs were presented at the stakeholders' workshop that followed.

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Harnessing opportunities in agribusiness incubation to create more jobs for youth.

DAKAR, 2017



AAIN Management with FAO representatives at the AAIN Secretariat in Accra, Ghana.

Having collaborated with the African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN) in evaluating the delivery of mentorship services at incubator level in Africa in 2016, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) continues to play a key role in boosting support services for agribusiness incubation.

Youth-led fertiliser SMEs to receive more support from AAIN and partners

Dr. Alex Ariho Chief Executive Officer African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN)



In an attempt to create even more jobs in the sub-sector of fertilizers, the African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN) is rolling out a new program for existing youth-led SMEs.

This according to Dr Alex Ariho, the AAIN CEO is joint work with partners who are also committed to addressing the lack of sufficient data.

The partnership was highlighted at the 2017 West Africa Fertilizer Agribusiness Conference that ran from the 10th to the 12th of July in Accra, Ghana where AAIN was represented by Dr Ariho and Peter Kuria Githinji, the AAIN Partnerships Director.

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Rwandan youth taking agro-based livelihoods to new heights through countrywide forum

DAKAR, 2017



RYAF leadership in a group photo with Dr Alex Ariho the AAIN CEO in Kigali, Rwanda on the 18th of July.

Convened under the theme, "Adopt climate resilient technologies to improve farmer livelihoods" in Kigali, Rwanda on the 18th of July, the leadership of the Rwanda Youth in Agribusiness Forum (<u>RYAF</u>) exhibited growing involvement of the youth in promoting job creation through agribusiness in the country.

This is the drive by the youth to improve livelihoods of youth and farmers through, among other channels, the adoption of climate-resilient technologies for agricultural production as hinted by Jean Baptiste Hategekimana, the Chairperson of the Forum.

Read more

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Going forward, AAIN continues to work with our partners in fostering entrepreneurship as well as the creation of jobs and wealth in Africa through agribusiness incubation by focusing on these four core investment areas

- The African Agribusiness Incubation Fund (AAIF)
- Youth and women engagement in trade and investment
- Technology and innovation commercialisation
- Human and Institutional Capacity Development

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