

## Editorial

Having walked and achieved recognisable progress with you through the year 2017, the African AAIN presents this issue of the Digest as the final issue of the year.

This issue highlights the response of AAIN and our partners to the need for more jobs especially for the youth along various value chains through tested models of incubation.

With the youth and women at the centre of the agenda, this issue also highlights the outcomes of the first edition of the Africa Youth in Agribusiness Day Challenge and work done by Incubator Managers of member incubators to keep Africa on track to create even more jobs and sustainable agribusiness enterprises.

As communicated earlier in the year, our flagship Business Development Platform, the Africa Agribusiness Incubation Conference and Expo will next take place in Dakar, Senegal from the 7th to the 9th of March, 2018.

This edition will also include the Women's Day where delegates will have a day to also view key innovations and available opportunities for women in agribusiness offered by various models of incubation.

**Solomon Kalema Musisi**

**Communications and Public Relations Manager**

## Inside this issue

- Message from the AAIN CEO
- News briefs
- Celebration of the 2017 Africa Leadership recipient Dr Alex Ariho
- The AAIN-FAO partnership for mentorship across Africa
- Unveiling the Africa Agribusiness Incubation Programme (AAIP) for the 2018-2023 duration
- Special Feature for the 2017 festive season and New Year's wishes
- How to join AAIN as a member



Dr Alex Ariho, AAIN Chief Executive Officer

On behalf the Management and Staff of AAIN, I wish to express sincere appreciation of all recipients and readers of our updates regarding progress in agribusiness incubation, the partners, national governments, research institutions, financial institutions, universities, farmers, youth and women groups.

The journey to an Africa with much more dependable jobs and wealth is one that requires this kind of collective effort which you have made from the start and throughout the year 2017.

Agribusiness development is pushed by this kind of effort.

As you will note from the update herein, the year 2017 has been another year of forging strategic partnerships at all levels for the benefit of the sector .

Guided by the motive of **incubating incubators for job and wealth creation**, AAIN is focussed on creating the best possible support structures for each and every idea, SME, start-up and group in the agricultural sector.

While this revolution delivers notable outcomes at continental level, I recommend a visit to an agribusiness incubator for those seeking this kind of support in the countries.

As a highly-responsiveness organisation, we also set up the **Agribusiness Incubator and Mentor Accreditation** and opened it to all who need technical support in establishing incubation centers.

We now have customized models and organisational frameworks for incubation centers that can be set up as anchor incubators or under our newly-introduced Small Scale Agribusiness Incubator Hub concept to benefit as many agribusinesses as possible in Africa.

We are committed to achieving the targets of the partnership-based Africa Agribusiness Incubation Programme (AAIP) for the 2018-2023 duration, one of which is the establishment of two new anchor agribusiness incubators in each one of the 55 member states of the African Union. These and more will be unveiled at the Africa Agribusiness Incubation Conference and Expo in Dakar, Senegal from the 7th to the 9th of March and the Youth Summit on Science and Agribusiness Investment for Youth Employment from the 1st to the 3rd of August in Uganda.

We wish you the best of the new year 2018 and look forward to achieving more with you.

Alex Ariho (PhD), Chief Executive Officer.

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## Graduate incubatee receives national accolade for product quality in Uganda



**Above:** Sam Turyatunga receiving the award on behalf of his company at the 15th Edition of the Quality Awards in Kampala.

Sam Turyatunga, a graduate incubatee from AfriBanana Products Limited which is a member incubator of the African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN) based in Uganda has received an award from the Uganda National Bureau of Standards ([UNBS](#)).

As overall winner in the Agro Processing (MSMEs) Category, his fruit juice company Tursam Investments Limited was recognised at the 2017 Quality Awards Ceremony held at the Pearl of Africa Hotel in Kampala. [Read more](#)

## Accreditation for Agribusiness Incubators and Hubs Kick-started in Accra, Ghana: Africa to gain



The landmark launch was held at the Secretariat of the African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN) in Accra, Ghana earlier today during an event attended by Karina Wong, Senior Executive from [Small Foundation](#) in the United Kingdom (3rd right above). [Read more](#)

## DAKAR, 2018

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**Countrywide study on agricultural financing, Potato Platform launched in Uganda.  
Agribusiness incubation highlighted as means for job creation and technology  
commercialisation**



**Above:** Representatives of partner organisations, farmer groups, government and the private sector at the meetings in Kampala.

In close collaboration with the New Partnership for Africa's Development ([NEPAD](#)), the German Development Agency ([giz](#)), the [FAO](#), [IFDC](#) and government of Uganda, the Uganda Agribusiness Alliance ([UAA](#)) organised a 2-day Agricultural Investment Facilitation Conference from the 27<sup>th</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup> of November in Kampala.

The conference was informed by the need to increase engagement between the private sector, government and Development Partners to push agribusiness development. [Read more](#)

**20 youth emerge as winners out of 159 finalists in the first ever Africa Youth in Agribusiness Day**



An eight-member panel of experts from across the agribusiness sector released results of the first ever Africa Youth in Agribusiness Day Challenge, listing 20 youth as the winners for 2017.

The 20 youth made history this year as the first group to front youth views on participation in agribusiness, job creation and innovation backed by existing opportunities in continent-wide agricultural policies and agribusiness incubation.

The Africa Youth in Agribusiness Day was launched in response to a [Declaration](#) presented by Agribusiness sector Youth Leaders before a panel that was led by the then African Union Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, Her Excellency Rhoda Peace Tumusiime.

See full list of the top 20 on the next page. [Read more on finalists, the challenge and outcomes](#)

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List of the top 20 participants in the first ever Africa Youth in Agribusiness Day Challenge

DAKAR, 2018

	Participant	Country
1.	Mary Lili Mwema	Kenya
2.	Ankrah Daniel	Ghana
3.	Chanda Karen Chalwe	Zambia
4.	Nshalanyofi Mugisho Christian	Democratic Republic of Congo
5.	Okunogbe Sunday Olawale	Nigeria
6.	Vienna Okone	Kenya
7.	Adione Egom Chuks	Nigeria
8.	Harrison Emu	Nigeria
9.	Alpha Ntayomba	Tanzania
10.	Utibe N. UKO	Nigeria
11.	Kibiwot Geoffry	Kenya
12.	Adebowale Oparinu	Nigeria
13.	Tumukunde Gloria	Uganda
14.	Bright Ebiasuode Kemasuode	Nigeria
15.	Daniel Kapinga	Tanzania
16.	Linnet Nyandia Kamau	Kenya
17.	Ubwiza Chiyungi	Zambia
18.	Alphonsus Ugochukwu Utazi	Nigeria
19.	Aliu Oluwafemi Royal	Nigeria
20.	Byrone Paul	Kenya

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The Experts Panel for the first ever Africa Youth in Agribusiness Day Challenge



Dr Cris Muyunda, Vice President CAADP CNC



Providence Mavubi, AAIN Youth Director



Cheick A. Diarra, MAIH-TETELISO CEO



Dr Nalishebo Meebelo, AUC Nutrition Alliance



Prof. George Tumwesigye, AAIN Board



Solomon Kalema Musisi, AAIN PR



Apollo Segawa, CURAD MD



Muturi Kimani, AfriBanana MD



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Above: Dr Alex Ariho addressing delegates convened by the World Bank in the United States

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Every year for the past six years, the Africa Leadership Awards ceremony has highlighted outstanding personalities and organisations that have made remarkable progress in the sectors of Banking, Telecom, Pharmaceuticals, Oil and Gas, Mining, Insurance Market, Travel and Tourism, Business Process Outsourcing, Information Technology, Agriculture, Manufacturing and Services Sector among others.

The ceremony put together by the World CSR Day and the Stars of the Industry Group will this year feature an award for Dr Alex Ariho, the Chief Executive Officer of the African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN).

Dr Ariho was nominated and selected as recipient of the honorary Green Future Leadership Award which is awarded to **"Outstanding professionals who have the vision, flair, acumen and professionalism to demonstrate excellent Leadership and Management skills in an organisation, making changes and achieving results."** [Read pre-event release](#) [See main ceremony and website details](#)



### AFRICA LEADERSHIP AWARDS



Above: Michael Sudarkasa, the Africa Business Group CEO speaking at the first AYA Forum in Nigeria, earlier this year.

The African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN) has entered a new partnership with the [Africa Business Group](#), a continental organisation that specializes in designing, promoting, facilitating and implementing African economic development projects.

Through the [Global African Agribusiness Accelerator Platform \(GAAAP\)](#) and more initiatives, the Africa Business Group is one of the lead organisations in pursuit of increased job creation and technology commercialisation with the youth as the main beneficiaries. [Read more](#)

AAIN joins the FAO for the 2017 World Food Day celebrations in Accra, Ghana



On the 16th of October, the African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN) was represented by a team from the Accra-based Secretariat in celebrating the World Food Day with partners, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) in Ghana under the theme, **“Change the future of migration. Invest in food security and rural development.”**

[Read more](#)

Above: Bukar Tijani the FAO Assistant Director General and Regional Representative for Africa speaking at the World Food Day celebrations in Accra, Ghana.

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## Open call for the Africa Agribusiness Incubation Awards third edition

Are you an incubator or beneficiary of incubation in Africa?



**Have you benefited from or have activities that support agribusiness development and ensure sustainability of start-ups and SMEs?**

The Africa Agribusiness Incubation Awards present a chance to stand out as a leading incubator brand or incubatee in Africa.

**Why participate?**

The Africa Agribusiness Incubation Awards give winners exposure to a wide spectrum of financial and business support institutions that have partnered with AAIN for the Africa

Agribusiness Incubation Fund (AAIF). Winners also get automatic qualification for linkage to mentors across Africa to support their delivery in incubation and participate in selected activities with partners aimed at building formidable partnerships.

[Read more on how to enter the 3rd edition](#)

Link for online registration for the Africa Agribusiness Incubation Conference and Expo 3rd Edition Open



Registration for the 3rd Edition of the Africa Agribusiness Incubation Conference and Expo that will feature the second Africa Youth in Agribusiness Day in Dakar, Senegal from the 7th to the 9th of March 2018 is open at [www.africaain.info](http://www.africaain.info) for your participants' package and registration.

Visit [www.africaain.info](http://www.africaain.info) to register.

**Above:** Bukar Tijani the FAO Assistant Director General and Regional Representative for Africa speaking at the World Food Day celebrations in Accra, Ghana.

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African Agribusiness Incubators Network



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

The African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN) has furthered the partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) to provide the vital services of mentorship for incubatees, graduate incubatees and agribusinesses in the ecosystem of incubation across Africa.

With the phase reports coming up, the partnership is making major strides and linkages for the beneficiaries in various countries, thanks to the committed network of mentors who are in constant interaction with the mentees and helping them set even higher targets for 2018.

Full phase reports on this partnership will be shared.

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Prof George Tumwesigye (Right) with Mugisha Brian, a mentee and proprietor of Golden Bees Limited in Kampala, Uganda during a mentorship session under the AAIN-FAO Partnership.



Kenya: Mentor Julious Kioko Mutundu (Center) with mentees already registering progress in agribusiness strategy.



Zambia: John Lubinda (right) a mentee of Dr Cris Muyunda (Right) already ahead in agribusiness value chain logistics.

## AAIN joins the AU for first ever Africa Start-Up Fest in Egypt

The African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN) was a part of the first Africa Start-up Fest in Cairo Egypt organised by the African Union Department of Trade and Industry. AAIN was represented by Providence Mavubi, the Associate Director for Youth Engagement in Agribusiness Trade and Investment (First on the left in the photo below).



The targets of the event revolved around exploring challenges and opportunities for start-ups in Africa ranging from financial inclusion and the role of the private sector to enhancements in job creation and ran from the 6th to the 10th of December, 2017.



Festive season, Christmas and New Year's message from AAIN is accessible [here](#)

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**Title:** "ICT has a key role to play in transforming African agriculture"

**Source:** CTA Press Release

**Date:** 24th November, 2017

## 6<sup>TH</sup> EU-AFRICA BUSINESS FORUM 2017

27 November 2017 - Palais de la Culture, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire



Agribusiness and the digital economy were two key themes of the [6<sup>th</sup> EU-Africa Business Forum](#) that was held on 27 November 2017 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire at which CTA facilitated a session on **'How to integrate innovative ICT into agribusiness'**. The session placed particular emphasis on showcasing successful examples of where CTA has played a leading role in supporting young entrepreneurs working on ICT4Ag.

AgriHack Talent, a CTA supported project launched in 2013, encourages young entrepreneurs to apply their ICT knowledge to agricultural problems

Partners in the first Pitch AgriHack included the African Development Bank, ProHaus Group (a venture capital from the USA) and the African Agribusiness Incubators Network.

Read more:

[Full press release](#)

[About CTA](#)

[Track record of AAIN-CTA partnership for ICT integration and start-up support](#)

To explore more about Pitch AgriHack, visit [pitch-agrihack.info](http://pitch-agrihack.info) [here](#)

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CTA Handbook  
An ICT Agripreneurship Guide  
A Path to Success for Young ACP Entrepreneurs

Download your copy of the  
CTA Handbook  
'An ICT Agripreneurship Guide'  
<https://publications.cta.int>

**Title:** The agribusiness networking cocktail to promote YPARDian businesses

**Source:** Young Professionals for Agricultural Development (YPARD)

**Date:** 6th November, 2017



Cocktail participants at the AAIN Secretariat in Accra, Ghana.

On the on 28th October, 2017, [YPARD Ghana](#) organized an Agribusiness Networking Cocktail event to facilitating networking opportunities and market for its members. To achieve this aim, the drinks, food and services for the event were sourced among YPARD member entrepreneurs. The event took place at the offices of the African Agribusiness Incubation Network ([AAIN](#)) in Accra.

Most of the young professionals who participated in this event were Agtech and Fintech start-up founders, crop farmers, livestock farmers, poultry farmers, fish farmers, and the Key invitees included the former Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture, Dr. Ahmed Alhassan Yakubu; Director of [The Beige Foundation](#), Mrs Akosua Adayi and Dr. Alex Ariho, CEO of the African Agribusiness Incubation Network ([AAIN](#)).

**Read more:**

[Full update by YPARD's Kafui Agbe](#)

[About the Young Professionals for Agricultural Development \(YPARD\)](#)

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**Title:** Africa to benefit from wonderful Agribusiness Programme

**Source:** Trade Focus News

**Date:** 15th December, 2017



AAIN Chief Executive Officer Dr Alex Ariho speaking to the media during an interview.

With the youth unemployment high on the agenda for major agricultural sector organisation through the year, 2018 could bring a new dawn.

The hope for more jobs and support for youth and women-led enterprises in agribusiness will come from among other initiatives, the Africa Agribusiness Incubation Programme (AAIP), a 5-year programme for incubation.

Over this duration, the African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN) which is a continental network of agribusiness incubators and Technical Network of the African Union based in Accra Ghana with major partners including the African Union Commission Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (AUC DREA) have as one of the targets, the establishment of two new agribusiness incubators per country for each one of the 55 member states of the African Union.

It is projected that Africa's share of the world's youth population will grow from one-fifth, where it was by 2012, to as high as one-third by 2050 presenting an even bigger need for jobs.

With agribusiness incubators tasked with the nurturing of enterprises built to contribute to the achievement of these targets, the AAIP comes as one means of solving challenges common to all African countries today.

Read full article by Trade Focus News [here](#)

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**Objective:** To promote job and wealth creation in Africa through support for the establishment of agribusiness incubators across the continent.

**Brief Description of AAIP**

AAIP is a flagship Programme designed by AAIN in partnership with the African Union Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture and partners to support and contribute to the implementation of CAADP and the AU business plan within the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), using incubation models to meet the needs of fledgling African agribusinesses.

AAIP supports the establishment of agribusiness incubators led by both public and private sector in member states of the African Union.

**Focus Countries** Short Term: 20 African countries

Long term: 55 African countries

**Duration** Short Term: 5 Years

Long Term: 10 Years



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
- ◆ Incubation System Development and Capacity Building

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**“AAIN. Incubating Incubators for job and wealth creation in Africa”**

