



## Press Release

July 19, 2021

### **AKADEMIYA2063 and FANRPAN Sign MOU for Strategic Cooperation in Advancing the Transformation of African Food Systems**

**Kigali, Rwanda, July 19, 2021** –AKADEMIYA2063 and the Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN) recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to collaborate in advancing dialogue and evidence-based policy analysis to transform African food systems.

Under the agreement, AKADEMIYA2063 and FANRPAN have worked together to co-convene two regional food systems dialogues or under the banner of the U.N. Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) Independent Dialogues. The dialogues were held under the theme of “Building Resilient and Sustainable Food Systems in Africa: Mobilizing African Voices and Building Momentum for the UN Food Systems Summit.” The regional dialogues took place on May 31 for East and Southern Africa and on June 30 for West, Central, and North Africa. Together, the two dialogues brought together over 120 African stakeholders that included civil society, farmers’ groups, policymakers, parliamentarians, and the research and academic community to identify game-changing solutions for transforming African food systems, focusing on the UNFSS Action Track 5 on building resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks, and stresses.

“Transforming African food systems will require evidence-based solutions that are work well under African circumstances and specificities and enhance the broader African economic transformation agenda. That’s what we hope to achieve with this partnership,” said Dr. Ousmane Badiane, Executive Chairperson for AKADEMIYA2063.

In addition, under the partnership, FANRPAN and AKADEMIYA2063 will leverage opportunities for joint research on strategic and emerging research topics; support communications and outreach at the country and regional levels in support of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) mutual accountability processes such as the Biennial Review; and help to link knowledge supply to policymaking at the country level in collaboration with local analytical networks.

Commenting on the signing, FANRPAN CEO and Head of Mission, Dr. Tshilidzi Madzivhandila said, “The partnership between FANRPAN and AKADEMIYA2063 is a step in the right direction and a demonstration of the collaborative approaches required to address the continent’s capacity challenges in the policy space.” He added, “Working hand in hand with AKADEMIYA2063 we will enhance the continent’s indigenous capacity for policy formulation, implementation, monitoring and analysis, and ultimately contribute positively to the transformation agenda.”

\*\*\*\*\*

**About AKADEMIYA2063:** AKADEMIYA2063 is an Africa-based non-profit organization with headquarters in Kigali, Rwanda, and a regional office in Dakar, Senegal. AKADEMIYA2063’s mission is to provide data, policy analysis, and capacity-strengthening support to enable the AU Member States to achieve economic transformation and shared prosperity. More broadly, AKADEMIYA2063 leverages science, generates knowledge, and strengthens capacities to help advance the African Union’s Agenda 2063.

AKADEMIYA2063 is home to three longstanding Africawide programs—(1) the Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS), (2) the African Growth and Development Policy (AGRODEP) Modeling Consortium, and (3) the Malabo Montpellier Panel (MaMo Panel)—that provide data and analysis in support of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). For more information, please visit: [www.akademiya2063.org](http://www.akademiya2063.org)

**About FANRPAN:** FANRPAN was established in 1997 in response by ministers of agriculture and environment from Southern and Eastern Africa for an independent network to promote the dissemination of policy research results across Africa, and to act as a platform for policy engagement of all food, agriculture and natural resources (FANR) stakeholders. It is an Africa-wide network of country-based policy nodes that are groups of existing policy institutions with technical expertise and FANR stakeholders collaborating to generate evidence for use in addressing policy bottlenecks. The national nodes are an inter-sectoral platform of different stakeholder groups, including farmers’ organizations, agriculture and policy research institutions, government departments, the private sector, civil society, donors, women, youth, and the media. For more information, please visit: [www.fanrpan.org](http://www.fanrpan.org)

To request an interview or more information, please contact:

1. FANRPAN Contact Person  
Ms. Kanto Harimihaja Razafimandimby  
Policy Advocacy and Communications Officer  
Mobile: +27 (0) 79 694 17 80  
Email: [krazafimandimby@fanrpan.org](mailto:krazafimandimby@fanrpan.org)
2. AKADEMIYA2063  
Mr. Cheikh T. Traore

Communications and Outreach Coordinator

Mobile: + 22177 761 73 02

Email: [ctraore@akademiya2063](mailto:ctraore@akademiya2063)