



AgriBridge

Jointly facilitated by
WHH & AKADEMIYA2063



Unlocking African Agriculture Trade: Regional Integration and Global Opportunities



Tuesday, April 14, 2026



13:00 – 14:30 GMT/ 15:00 – 16:30 CET

16:00 – 17:30 EAT



Virtual Event

Background

Africa's agricultural trade landscape is undergoing a significant transformation. While intra-African agricultural trade has expanded significantly over the past two decades and demonstrated resilience during recent global shocks, the continent remains highly dependent on global imports for key food staples and agricultural inputs. High tariffs and non-tariff barriers, infrastructure gaps, and uneven implementation of trade agreements continue to constrain the contribution of trade to food security and economic resilience.

The [2025 Africa Agriculture Trade Monitor \(AATM\)](#), produced by AKADEMIYA2063 and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), provides the latest evidence on trends in African agrifood trade, including intra-African and global trade patterns, the role of regional economic communities (RECs), and the implications of trade for food security. The report also assesses how the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) is reshaping trade among regional economic communities (RECs), influencing market integration, and affecting Africa's capacity to respond to food security shocks.

In parallel, AgriBridge – an African-German policy network co-facilitated by Welthungerhilfe (WHH) and AKADEMIYA2063 – has produced [AgriBridge Policy Note #1](#), which further underscores structural challenges in African agricultural trade, including limited regional integration, infrastructure barriers, and export compliance hurdles. It recommends actions to enhance Africa's trade with strategic partners, such as Europe (e.g., Germany), through more balanced trade agreements, targeted infrastructure investments, and inclusive value-chain support that benefits smallholders, women, youth, and SMEs.

Against this backdrop, this webinar will enable exchange among researchers, policymakers, development partners, and practitioners on how trade policy choices, regional integration efforts, and partnerships, including with Europe, can be better aligned to strengthen Africa's agrifood trade performance, while supporting food security, resilience, and inclusive economic growth.

Objectives

The webinar aims to:

- Provide an overview of recent trends in African agricultural trade flows, including intra-African versus extra-African trade patterns and selected commodity value chains (e.g., rice and fertilizers).
- Discuss the role of the AfCFTA, tariff and non-tariff barriers, harmonization of standards, and trade facilitation in unlocking regional markets.
- Focus on Africa-Europe agricultural trade, including opportunities for mutually beneficial partnerships, addressing standards and compliance challenges, and strengthening coherence between development and trade objectives.
- Highlight policy and investment strategies that support value addition, agribusiness growth, SME participation, and climate-smart investments as pathways to enhanced trade competitiveness.

Preliminary Agenda (90 minutes)

Time	Session	Speaker(s)
<p>Moderator: Dr. Sylvester Dickson Baguma, Executive Director – Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA), and Member, AgriBridge</p>		
5 mins	Welcome & Opening	Dr. Rafaël Schneider, Deputy Director – Policy & External Relations, Welthungerhilfe (WHH)
10 mins	Key Findings from the 2025 Africa Agriculture Trade Monitor (AATM) Presentation	Prof. Christian Henning, Chief Scientist – AKADEMIYA2063
10 mins	Policy Perspectives from AgriBridge Policy Note #1 Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Bosco Gumisiriza, Director – Partnership, Compliance and Operations, African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN), and Member, AgriBridge Ms. Maja-Catrin Riecher, Advisor – Agriculture and Development Policy, Welthungerhilfe (WHH)
5 mins	Interactive Session	
40 mins	Moderated Panel Discussion	<p>Moderator: Dr. Sylvester Dickson Baguma, Executive Director – ASARECA, and Member, AgriBridge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prof. Christian Henning, Chief Scientist – AKADEMIYA2063 Mr. Mathews Wanjala, Regional Expert – Market Systems, TradeMark Africa Dr. Diana Akullo Ogwal, Principal Officer – Directorate of Trade in Goods and Competition, African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat Ms. Vanessa Erogbogbo, Director – Sustainable and Inclusive Trade, International Trade Centre (ITC) TBC
15 mins	Q&A	
5 mins	Closing	Dr. Debisi Araba, Managing Director, AKADEMIYA2063



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