
PRESS RELEASE

AKADEMIYA2063 and Bank of Agriculture Partner to Leverage Data for Smarter Agricultural Finance in Nigeria

KADUNA & KIGALI, August 11, 2026 — AKADEMIYA2063 and Nigeria's Bank of Agriculture (BOA) have launched a partnership to harness data and analytics for more effective agricultural finance in Nigeria. Formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed on July 30 in Abuja during the 9th Africa Agriculture Science Week (AASW9), the partnership establishes a framework for applying agri-finance and risk diagnostics to strengthen BOA's lending decisions and portfolio risk management, supporting the Bank's efforts to better target investments, manage risk, and advance its mandate as Nigeria's Federal Government development finance institution for financing the entire agricultural value chain.

"Good data changes how decisions get made and how risk gets managed," said **Dr. Debisi Araba**, Managing Director of AKADEMIYA2063. "Our partnership with BOA puts that principle to work: bringing rigorous analytics and institutional capacity to support the Bank's lending decisions. Together, we are piloting a data-driven financing facility that will de-risk investment, strengthen value chains, and help transform Nigeria's agrifood system."

Under the partnership agreement, the two institutions will collaborate to develop data systems and analytics, including risk modeling and diagnostics, to inform BOA's lending decisions and portfolio management. The partnership will also support the design of financing approaches that more effectively meet the needs of farmers and agribusinesses across Nigeria's agrifood value chains.

"Today's partnership reinforces our commitment to modernizing agricultural finance through better data, stronger partnerships, and innovative solutions that improve access to finance for farmers and agribusinesses. By working with AKADEMIYA2063, we are strengthening our capacity to make better-informed lending decisions that support productivity, food security, and sustainable agricultural growth," — Managing Director/CEO of the Bank of Agriculture, **Mr. Ayo Sotinrin**.

AKADEMIYA2063 and BOA are deepening their collaboration and jointly mobilizing resources for analytics, capacity strengthening, and outreach. Together, the two institutions will contribute to strengthening agriculture finance, accelerating broad-based transformation, and unlocking the full potential of Nigeria's agrifood economy.

About AKADEMIYA2063

AKADEMIYA2063 is a pan-African nonprofit research organization with headquarters in Kigali, Rwanda, and a regional office in Dakar, Senegal. Inspired by the ambitions of the African Union's Agenda 2063 and grounded in the recognition of the central importance of strong, knowledge- and evidence-based systems, the vision of AKADEMIYA2063 is an Africa with the expertise we need for the Africa we want. This expertise must be responsive to the continent's needs for data and analytics to ensure high-quality policy design and execution. AKADEMIYA2063's overall mission is to create, across Africa, state-of-the-art technical capacities to support the efforts of African Union Member States to achieve the key goals of Agenda 2063: transforming national economies to boost economic growth and prosperity. For more information, visit www.akademiya2063.org.

About Bank of Agriculture (BOA)

The Bank of Agriculture (BOA) is Nigeria's premier development finance institution dedicated to transforming the agricultural sector through inclusive and sustainable financing. The Bank provides financial services, technical support, and strategic partnerships that empower smallholder farmers, agribusinesses, cooperatives, and agricultural value chain actors. Through innovative programs and technology-driven solutions, BOA is committed to improving food security, driving rural economic development, creating jobs, and advancing Nigeria's agricultural transformation agenda. For more information, visit <https://boanig.com/>.

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