



### **AGRF 2021 Summit**

Date: Friday, September 10

Time: 13:00-13:45 EAT

Venue: Virtual & Nairobi, Kenya

### *Launch of 2021 Africa Agriculture Trade Monitor (AATM)*

#### **Abstract & Objectives**

African countries have diversified both their exports and trade partners over the last decade, African agricultural trade still suffers from structural problems as well as exogenous shocks. Against this backdrop, the 2021 Africa Agriculture Trade Monitor (AATM) analyzes continental and regional trends in African agricultural trade flows and policies. The report finds that many African countries continue to enjoy the most success in global markets with cash crops and niche products. At the intra-African level, countries are becoming more interconnected in trade of key commodities, but there remain many potential but unexploited trade relationships. The report examines the livestock sector in detail, finding that despite its important role in Africa, the sector is concentrated in low value-added products that are informally traded. The report also examines trade integration in the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU), which remains limited due to factors including tariffs, nontariff measures, poor transport infrastructure, and weak institutions. Finally, the report discusses the implications of two major events affecting African trade in 2020 and 2021: the COVID-19 pandemic and the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). While the recessionary impact of the pandemic has led to lower growth rates, rising poverty, and reduced trade flows, the AfCFTA represents an opportunity for significant gains at both regional and continental levels. To fully seize this opportunity, the tariff liberalization accomplished in the first stage is a necessary step, but not sufficient. The AATM calls for deeper and wider cooperation for both trade data and policies in order to support AfCFTA implementation and advance the growth of African trade.

The fourth edition of the AATM will be launched on September 10 during AGRF 2021. The AATM is produced as a collaborative effort between AKADEMIYA2063 and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). Session participants will discuss the research findings and policy recommendations of the 2021 AATM, an annual publication dedicated to addressing intra-African agricultural trade and informing AfCFTA implementation.

Specific objectives of the Session are to discuss:

1. The latest trends, progress, and outlook on African agricultural trade in regional and global markets.
2. The role of trade in building back better during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. Measures policymakers, the private sector, and other development practitioners need to take to boost intra-African agricultural trade, advance AfCFTA implementation, and benefit fully from intra-African and global agricultural trade.



**PROGRAM**

TIME	AGENDA
12:55- 13:02	<b><i>Icebreaker Introductions</i></b>
13:02- 13:16	<p><b><i>Chairperson— Ms. Sara Mbago-Bhunu, Director, East and Southern Africa Division, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Kenya</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Welcome Remarks</i></b> [3 mins]  <b>Dr. Godfrey Bahigwa</b>, Director, Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment, African Union Commission, Ethiopia</p> <p><b><i>Opening Remarks</i></b> [3 mins]  <b>Dr. James Oehmke</b>, Acting Division Chief, Bureau for Resilience and Food Security, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), USA</p> <p><b><i>Keynote Address: 2021 Africa Agriculture Trade Monitor</i></b> [8 mins]  <b>Dr. Ousmane Badiane</b>, Executive Chairperson, AKADEMIYA2063, Senegal</p>
13:16–13:18	<b><i>Presentation of 2021 AATM</i></b> [2 mins]
13:18–13:22	<b><i>Interactive Quiz</i></b> [4 mins]
13:22–13:42	<p><b><i>Moderated Panel Discussion</i></b> [20 mins]  <b>Moderator— Ms. Sara Mbago-Bhunu</b>, Director, East and Southern Africa Division, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Kenya</p> <p><b><i>Panelists:</i></b>  <b>Mr. Yves Bernard Ningabire</b>, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Rwanda</p> <p><b>Dr. Johan Swinnen</b>, Director General, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) &amp; Global Director, Systems Transformation, CGIAR, USA</p> <p><b>Dr. Silver Ojakol</b>, Chief of Staff, African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat, Ghana</p> <p><b>Dr. Maximo Torero Cullen</b>, Chief Economist, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Italy</p>
13:42–13:45	<p><b><i>Closing Remarks</i></b> [3 mins]  <b>Dr. Heike Hoeffler</b>, Project Lead, Agricultural Trade, Agribusiness, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Germany</p>