



**Forum Africain pour les
Services de Conseil Agricoles**

Renforcement des capacités des systèmes agricoles
nationaux de services de vulgarisation et de consultation

5th ^{FRICA} **AGRICULTURAL
EXTENSION WEEK
Uganda 2021**



19th November 2021,
Kampala, Ouganda
By : African Forum for
Agricultural Advisory Services

THE 5TH AFRICA WIDE AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION WEEK DECLARATION



Top left Hon. Frank Tumwebaze, Minister of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, second top left, the Second deputy prime minister Gen. Moses Ali, Second top Right, Executive Director AFAAS, Dr. Silim Nahdy and other Guests during the opening ceremony of the extension week.



WE, the more than 365 physical and over 630 virtual representatives from African ministries of agriculture; agricultural extension and advisory systems (including public, private and civil society organizations); farmers and their organizations; academia; national, regional and international agricultural research institutions; the private sector; bilateral and multilateral development partner organizations; financial institutions and the media; from over 17 countries met in Kampala, Uganda from 14th to 20th November 2021 to deliberate at the Fifth Africa Wide Agricultural Extension Week (AAEW 2021) on the theme **“Effective Agricultural Extension Systems for Sustainable Agripreneurship in Africa”**;

APPRECIATIVE of the Government and People of the Republic of Uganda for graciously hosting the AAEW 2021, which was jointly organized by the African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (AFAAS), the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), the Uganda Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (UFAAS) and other partners.

RECALLING our commitment at AAEW 2019 in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, to rededicate ourselves to the development of Africa's agricultural extension and advisory services to effectively and efficiently play its roles in exploring options for synergizing private sector participation in AEAS for sustainable development in African Continent.

COGNIZANT of the Malabo declaration recommitment on Comprehensive Agriculture Development Programme and the African Union Commission Agenda 2023, the AUC re-affirmed its commitment to work with AFAAS as a continental institution in providing leadership in AEAS on the continent.

ACKNOWLEDGING the need for collaboration, AFAAS has concretized MoUs during AAEW with: African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF), Farm Radio International (FRI), Sasakawa Africa Association (SAA) and ongoing discussion with others within and outside Africa

AWARE of the low level of technology, innovation and knowledge dissemination to last-mile, the One-CGIAR agreed to work with AFAAS and its network as a technology and innovation, dissemination partner African Continent

With this in mind, we hereby call upon all key AEAS stakeholders including government extension professionals, farmers organizations, regional and global bodies, the private sector, civil society, development partners, and agricultural sector financiers and investors to take the following actions to facilitate effective agricultural extension systems for sustainable agripreneurship in Africa:

Innovative approaches for resilient and practical actions by all AEAS actors to;

1. Promote digitalization, knowledge sharing platforms and innovative approaches like; farmer field school, nucleus farmer, farmer-to-farmer, village agent model, village-based advisors, among others.
2. Institutionalise youth and gender inclusiveness in AEAS programs and activities.
3. Recognise and incentivise AEAS actors to effectively participate in the agriculture value-chain and rebrand AEAS.
4. Integrate nutrition into AEAS to contribute to the eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition in Africa.

Professionalization of AEAS systems in Africa

5. Governments to work with AFAAS in developing extension policies and professionalisation frameworks across the continent
6. Academia to refocus curricula for agriculture programs for enhancement of soft, self-reliance and practical skills as well as integration and institutionalization of innovative approaches
7. Governments to recognise established post-school professional bodies to support registration and accreditation of AEAS providers
8. Development Partners to support collaborative development of a professionalization framework across Africa shared and implemented by the AFAAS network.

Implications for AEAS in Agro-industrialization and trade regimes

9. Promote linkage and access to wider regional and global markets of agricultural produce
10. Provide support for scaling up mechanization across the agricultural value chain in order to assure quality and safety standards at national and regional levels.
11. Promote and support Village Based Agricultural Agents as the last and first mile market support or facilitating business agents.

Harnessing Agripreneurship opportunities for youth and women

12. Support through mentorship, motivation, internships and scholarships to youth and women in to appreciate profitability of their business.
13. To promote mindset and behavioural change for youths and adults towards viewing agriculture as a holistic value-chain system that facilitates development
14. Improve youths' decision-making, access to, and control of land resources at an early stage to motivate them and understand the processes and benefits that accrue from agriculture

AEAS resilience to pandemics and emergencies

15. Encourage the use of blended approaches in training and extension for quick response
16. Governments, development partners, civil society and private sector actors to build capacity for AEAS actors and farmers as well as providing the necessary infrastructure for operating under pandemics and emergencies

This Declaration was presented to the participants who attended the 5th Africa Wide Agricultural Extension Week, 14th to 20th November 2021 for validation and thereafter to AFAAS General Assembly for endorsement.



2021 Extension Week Participants take a group photo after the plenary session.

Endorsed

Dated 19th November 2021
at Munyonyo Speke Resort, Kampala, Uganda