



As we prepare to enter the new year, it is important to reflect on both the progress and the challenges facing African agriculture. PAFO has mobilized critical collective action, but more needs to be done to build a resilient, inclusive agriculture that responds to local realities.

Over the past year, our farmers have faced significant economic and climatic challenges, coupled with an urgent need to strengthen their autonomy. As a federation of farmer organizations (FOs), PAFO serves as a driving force for concrete, adaptable solutions. However, we need partners who understand the importance of flexible partnerships that respond to the specific needs of FOs, as they are best placed to act locally and effectively address the unique challenges in their communities.

We therefore call on our partners to adopt a targeted, inclusive approach that recognizes local realities and values our farmers' initiatives. To ensure real impact, it is essential that funding is transparently managed and directed towards building FOs' autonomy, enabling them to become leaders in their environment. As a unifying organization, PAFO is committed to ensuring that these resources are used transparently and efficiently to maximize results on the ground. Our international partners need to do more than just provide funding. It is about building trust based on mutual understanding of the issues and a shared

vision for resilient agriculture. In 2025, this collective commitment will enable us to promote sustainable agricultural development from within, putting African farmers - especially youth and women - at the center of policy actions. The year 2025 also marks a pivotal moment in the repositioning of African agriculture on the global stage. PAFO and its members are committed to representing and defending the interests of African farmers, but success requires the involvement of all.

Together, by pooling our strengths together and strengthening our alliances, we can amplify Africa's voice and help shape global agricultural policies that respect African realities. I therefore invite you, dear partners, to increase your support, to believe in the potential of our FOs and to invest in their capacity to transform African agriculture.

On its part, PAFO is undergoing a transformation through its organization development process that will enable it represent its members effectively and develop strategies that will create the opportunity to build a prosperous future. Thank you for your continued support. I am confident that by combining our efforts, 2025 will be a year of tangible change and significant progress for African agriculture, where our farmers are well positioned to be at the heart of a sustainable and inclusive economy.



The past year has once again highlighted the importance of a strong, unified voice for African farmers in international fora. In the face of multiple global food, climate and economic crises, our farmers are facing increasingly difficult and complex challenges. Now more than ever, it is critical that their needs, solutions and aspirations are heard at the regional and global forums that shape agricultural and economic policies which directly affect their livelihoods.

Throughout the year, farmer organizations (FOs) and PAFO have intensified efforts to ensure effective representation of our farmers in international forums. Together, we have championed the concerns and priorities of our communities in key dialogue spaces. Our interventions have amplified the voice of our producers, affirmed the specific needs of African agriculture, and underscored that our farmers are not just recipients of aid, but solution providers and strategic contributors to sustainable development and global food security.

To amplify this voice, the support of our partners and allies are essential. African farmers' organizations, with their deep understanding of local contexts and challenges, provide essential expertise and guidance on food system. By supporting their advocacy mission, our partners enable us to amplify this voice, sharpen our advocacy and demonstrate to international decision-makers the importance of integrating local specificities into global strategies.

The aim is to create an enabling environment where FOs can adopt sustainable farming best practices and develop resilient business models to ensure their long-term sustainability and success, particularly in the face of climate change that is threatening their very existence.

A key focus of our advocacy has been to strengthen our participation in bodies such as the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Food Forum. We have prepared and submitted common positions on policies that take into account the realities and challenges of African agriculture, and for financing that is more responsive to farmers' needs. As a federation of FOs, PAFO has also worked to build strategic alliances with other regional and international organizations to increase our influence and visibility. As this year draws to a close, I encourage all our partners to continue and strengthen their support. By working together, we can increase the impact of FOs in global discussions and ensure that decisions taken are truly inclusive and meet the aspirations of millions of African farmers that PAFO represents.

Looking ahead, we must commit to building stronger alliances, strengthening the capacity of FOs, and making African agriculture a priority on the international agenda. With your support, African farmers can emerge as leaders and key actors in a sustainable and equitable agriculture in the future.

Editorial by Dr. Babafemi, Oyewole PAFO CEO



PAFO BOARD MEETING



PAFO BOARD MEETING Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

PAFO Board held two meetings during the last quarter of 2024. The first Ordinary Board, took place on October 31 & November 1st, 2024, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, where Board members discussed key strategic points essential to the organization's future. This included an update on the FO4Africa program, a crucial initiative for African agricultural development funded by the European Union (EU). The Board also deliberated on adapting the electoral system and restructuring its Board to strengthen equitable representation of its members and invigorate its decision-making processes. The goal is to ensure governance that is more responsive and suited to members' needs while addressing the global challenges of African agriculture.

Press release 3rd Board Meeting



PAFO BOARD MEETING in Abidjan

The second event was an extraordinary Board meeting, held in Abidjan, in December 2024. It aimed at reviewing key strategic documents and adopting new policies to further strengthen PAFO as the leading continental platform for Farmers' Organizations. The discussions centered on revising PAFO's Constitution and internal regulations, as well as updating its strategic plan, with a particular focus on enhancing the resource mobilization strategy. Additionally, new policies were introduced, addressing critical areas such as anti-money laundering, gender, and knowledge management. These initiatives are designed to improve governance, bolster financial capacity, and equip PAFO to effectively address the evolving challenges of agriculture in Africa.



ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP



DO workshop Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

PAFO Board members participated in the 3rd Organizational Development workshop, organized in partnership with **Andreas Hermes Akademie (AHA)**. Held in Addis Ababa, from October 29th to 31st, 2024, this three-day meeting was rich in strategic exchanges. The workshop concluded with concrete progress toward strengthening PAFO and African Farmer Organizations. Focused on enhancing governance processes and electoral structures, the workshop benefited from AHA's valuable technical support, which has been assisting PAFO with structural reforms since January 2024, in the framework of the **organizational development workshops**.

The workshop clarified the roles between the PAFO Secretariat and its regional networks, an essential step toward better coordination and efficiency. This hierarchical distribution ensures smoother management of continental and regional projects, following the principle of subsidiarity.

More details





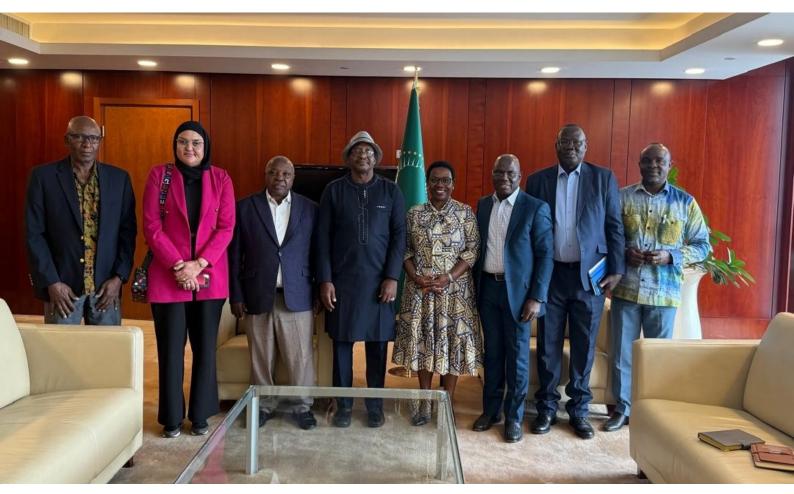








PAFO AT THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION



PAFO Board Members @ African Union

The PAFO Board members made a significant courtesy visit to the **African Union Commission (AUC)**, where they were warmly welcomed by **Her Excellency Dr. Monique Nsanzabaganwa**, **Deputy Chairperson (DCP) for the AUC**. This high-level meeting marked an important milestone in efforts to strengthen strategic relations between the two entities to support sustainable agricultural development in Africa.

Mr. Coulibaly advocated for the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that would serve as an official framework for mobilizing the necessary resources for PAFO to achieve its objectives and continue fulfilling its mission, particularly in defending the interests of farmers across the continent.

Ms. Nsanzabaganwa, in turn, affirmed the AUC's commitment to working hand in hand with PAFO to promote food and nutritional security in Africa.



More information

OLUSEGUN OBASANJOHONORARY PRESIDENT OF PAFO



Former Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo officially appointed as Honorary President of PAFO

Former Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo has been officially appointed Honorary President of PAFO in a ceremony held in Abuja, Nigeria's capital. This event symbolizes a strong commitment to African farmers and the promotion of sustainable agriculture across the continent. The ceremony was attended by PAFO President Mr. Ibrahim Coulibaly, Vice-President Mr. Yusuf Sinare, and PAFO Executive Secretary Dr. Babafemi Oyewole.

Obasanjo's appointment follows extensive consultations conducted by PAFO's Board of Directors, who commended the former president's long-standing dedication to small-scale farmers, both in Nigeria and across Africa. The Board expressed confidence that Obasanjo's experience and networks will advance PAFO's goals, including improving farmers' livelihoods, promoting agricultural development, and ensuring food security on the continent. PAFO's Executive Secretary, Dr. Babafemi Oyewole, emphasized the significance of this appointment for the organization: "PAFO remains the only Pan-African platform uniting African farmers around a shared goal of sustainable agricultural development. President Obasanjo's leadership will be crucial to our mission."

More details

Video

COP29:

PAFO MOBILIZED FOR FAIR CLIMATE FINANCE











Represented by its CEO, Dr. Babafemi Oyewole, and backed by a dedicated delegation from its member networks, PAFO made the most of its presence at COP29, at Bakou, Azerbaïdjan to bring the challenges of African farmers to the forefront. From engaging policymakers to collaborating with financial institutions and development partners, PAFO amplified its calls for targeted action to address the specific vulnerabilities faced by family farmers in Africa. Through its leadership and commitment, PAFO continues to demonstrate its resolve to support farmers in overcoming the challenges posed by climate change while paving the way for a sustainable agricultural future.

Through strategic discussions and exchanges with international organizations and development partners, PAFO highlighted the specific challenges facing African farmers, particularly in terms of food security and climate resilience.

More information









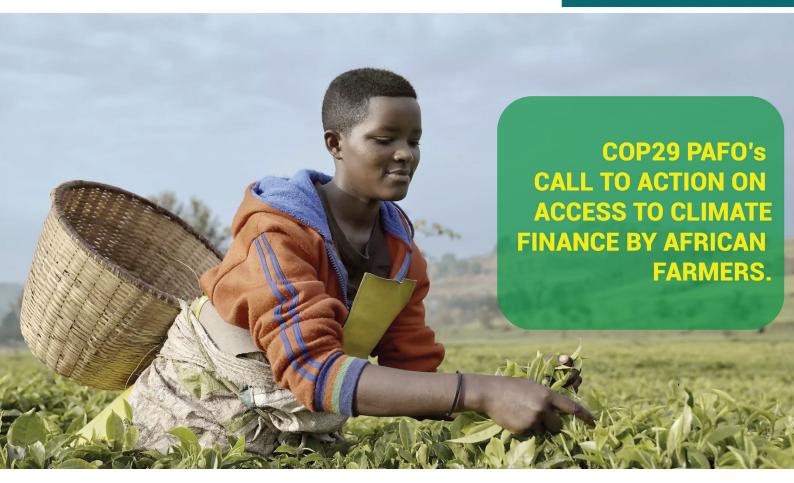




COP29 PAFO'S CALL TO ACTION







PAFO seized the opportunity at the **29**th **Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP29)**, held in Baku, Azerbaijan, from November 11 to 22, to urge global leaders to make access to climate finance for African farmers a top priority. With over 80 million smallholder farmers in Africa severely impacted by climate change, securing funding is crucial to enhancing agricultural resilience and ensuring food security across the continent. Despite facing some of the world's most severe climate shocks, including droughts, floods, and conflicts over water resources, African farmers receive less than 2% of global climate finance.

PAFO underscores that a substantial increase in climate investment is imperative to equip farmers with the resources needed to adopt resilient and sustainable agricultural practices, thus helping to mitigate the impacts of global warming.

COP29 - PAFO'S CALL TO ACTION











COP29:

FARMER-LED CLIMATE ADAPTATION IN AFRICA: TOP PRACTICES





During the Food, Agriculture, and Water Day at COP29, the **Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF)** and the **Accelerating Impacts of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa (AICCRA)**, with the support of the **Pan African Climate Justice Alliance** and the **Pan African Farmers Organization (PAFO)**, released a report presenting ten case studies on climate-smart agriculture (CSA) initiatives led by farmers across Africa.

"As a federation dedicated to representing farmers' interests, we have seen firsthand how farmers are innovating to overcome the challenges posed by climate change. Whether it is adapting their crops to unpredictable weather patterns or finding ways to conserve precious water resources, these actions highlight a fundamental truth: farmers are not just beneficiaries of climate adaptation; they are the key drivers of change and action,"

- Stephen Muchiri, CEO, EAFF.

THE REPORT







PAFO AT THE WORLD FOOD FORUM (2024)



PAFO participated in the **World Food Forum (WFF)** held at the **United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** headquarters in Rome. This event was a week of discussion, collaboration and commitment to ensuring quality food for all, now and in the future.

More than 8,000 participants from diverse backgrounds gathered to discuss critical issues such as innovation, investment, the role of youth, family farming, indigenous food systems and water management. PAFO mobilized its members to actively participate in various forums and activities, strengthening the food policy dialogue and promoting an inclusive approach.

The Farmers' Village, a vibrant hub at the conference, hosted side events showcasing innovative practices and the empowerment of family farmers worldwide. Delegates from PAFO and its regional members actively participated, sharing insights and highlighting the importance of youth and climate finance in agriculture.

One of the most inspiring moments was the panel discussion featuring the **PROPAC** President, who detailed successful public policy initiatives in Chad, and the **EAFF** CEO, who showcased innovative climate mitigation and adaptation projects.





Rome | 15-18 October 2024





The event also marked the midpoint of the **United Nations Decade of Family Farming**, where PAFO members reviewed progress made since the launch of this global initiative. Discussions focused on achievements and challenges in supporting family farming.

Statement PAFO CEO

More Details



NEW FO4 AFRICAN CONSULTATIONS



The **International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)** headquarters in Rome hosted the FO4A Strategic Consultations for Farmers' Organizations Programs. This event brought together key partners such as the Pan African Farmers Organization (PAFO), AgriCord, the European Union, IFAD and other FOs from different regions of the world to co-design the next phase of these programs.

Following the remarkable success of the **FO4ACP program**, the European Union has announced additional support of €20 million for Africa and €10 million for Asia to further strengthen farmers' organizations. However, these funds are not a foregone conclusion: they require a solid and collaborative proposal, carefully developed by stakeholders. The extensive consultation process has taken into account the recommendations of previous evaluations, ensuring that the new phase of the FO4 programs responds effectively to the challenges on the ground.

Learn More













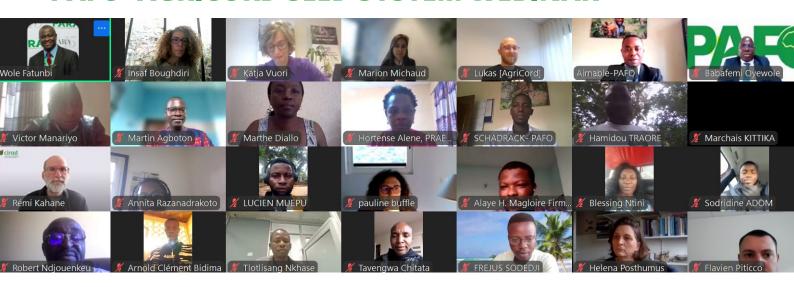








PAFO- AGRICORD SEED SYSTEM WEBINAR



On December 6, 2024, the webinar organized by PAFO and AgriCord delved into the crucial role of farmers' organizations in enhancing seed systems for sustainable agriculture. Highlighting innovative practices, such as those of the INGABO Syndicate in Rwanda and the FORI program in Mali, the event underscored the importance of Community-Based Seed Systems (CBSS) and Farmer-Managed Seed Systems (FMSS).

Through engaging discussions, participants explored ways to produce and distribute quality seeds while advocating for policies that better support these often-overlooked systems. This event served as a pivotal moment to foster collaboration and guide initiatives aimed at promoting agrobiodiversity and resilience in small-scale farming.

Learn More



PAFO: ADVOCACY STRATEGY FOR AGROECOLOGY



PAFO is actively promoting agroecology as a sustainable response to Africa's agricultural challenges. Through an inclusive approach that values local knowledge and smallholder resources, PAFO aims to strengthen its advocacy role with policymakers and financial partners. In collaboration with **Agricord** and supported by the **European Union**, PAFO is currently developing an agroecology advocacy strategy to influence policies and establish a constructive dialogue for resilient and sustainable agricultural practices across the continent











PAFO has made significant strides in empowering farmers' organizations for climate-resilient agriculture across Africa. Through a partnership with the **FAO's Forest and Farm Facility (FFF)** and **Agricord**, PAFO has launched initiatives that focus on agroecology and climate adaptation, offering valuable support to African farmers in navigating climate challenges. Key achievements include the development of a position paper on agroecology, which serves as a tool to amplify farmers' voices in international climate discussions.

PAFO organized three **UNFCCC** seminars, training 177 participants on topics like climate finance and the **Loss and Damage Fund**. A **continental workshop in Tunisia** gathered 94 stakeholders to advance agroecological practices, culminating in a common position on climate resilience. Additionally, PAFO has strengthened its collaboration with the **UN Environment Program (UNEP)** to further support farmers in sustainable practices and resource mobilization.

Through these initiatives, PAFO continues to enhance the capacity of farmers' organizations to advocate for sustainable agricultural policies, ensuring that African farmers remain at the forefront of climate-resilient agriculture.















PANAFRICAN FO EXCHANGE PLATFORM



Join Session 21: "FO & COP29: Priorities, advocacy, financing"

The FO Exchange Platform sessions continued online, with three sessions organized during the last quarter of the year. As **COP29** approached, PAFO-AHA held a joint session on October 31st , 2024, Panafrican FO Exchange Platform and the **UNFCCC Webinars.**

Both projects are implemented by PAFO in collaboration with **AHA**, with financial support from **BMZ** and technical support from **FFD** (**Food and Forest Development Finland**) for the UNFCCC seminars.

- Session 20: "United Nations Decade of Family Farming (UNDFF) Mid-Term: Progress, Challenges, and Perspectives for Africa", moderated by EAFF & UMNAGRI »
- Session 21: Session 21: "Session 21: "African farmers' organizations and the COP 29 Priorities, Advocacy, Finance", moderated by EAFF & SACAU
- All sessions

The sessions will continue in 2025 with topics that are just as important and crucial for African farmers' organizations.









WOMEN FARMERS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM



Women Leadership Program- Workshop Kigali

After a successful first phase in Germany, the exchange workshop between rural women from Africa and Germany took place in Kigali (18-22 November). Rural women leaders from 13 African countries and Germany met in Kigali for the second session of the "Women Lead: Leadership for Rural Women", organized by PAFO in partnership with the Andreas Hermes Academy (AHA) and the German Rural Women's Association (DIV).





Throughout the week, participants strengthened their skills in active listening, time management, and advocacy, while exploring innovative local initiatives like those at the **INGABO Syndicate**, which support women farmers.









The certificate ceremony marked a pivotal moment in their journey, symbolizing their commitment to a future where rural women become key drivers of sustainable and equitable agricultural development in Africa.

Read more

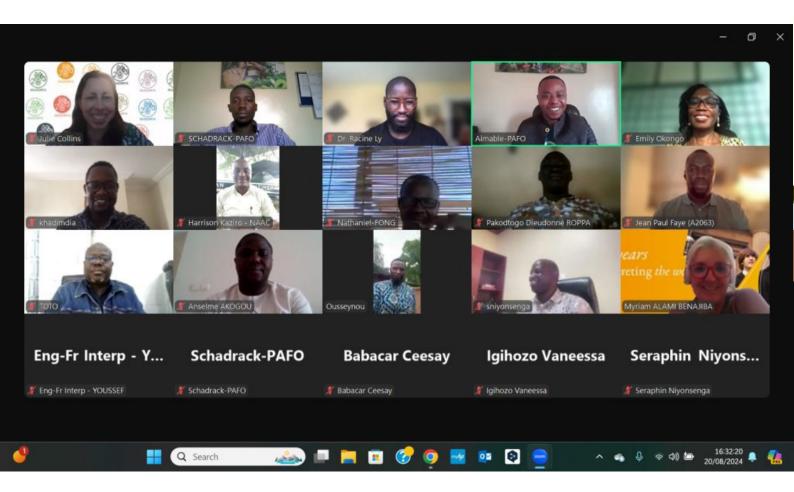








DERPIN PROJECT MEETING



Akademiya 2063 and **PAFO (Pan-African Farmers' Organisation)** organized a virtual meeting to review progress in the implementation of the **DERPIn project**, with the participation of Regional Farmers' Organisations (RFOs). This ambitious two-year Project covering five African countries - Benin, Ghana, Malawi, Senegal and Uganda - aims to transform agriculture through data-driven decision-making and strategic policy dialogue.

The DERPIn project aims to provide farmers with tools that meet their real needs, making them accessible and useful for improving agricultural practices. With the participation of national research partners, the project focuses on key areas such as crop mapping, yield forecasting, nutritional adequacy and analysis of climatic conditions. These analytical results will be crucial for building resilience and improving farmers' decision-making.

More details

Details of the DERPIn projec





PAFO - COLEAD INNOVATION SERIES



PAFO and **COLEAD** partnership aims at improving capacities for suppliers, processors and smallholders in Africa to produce affordable, safe and nutritious food to supply domestic, regional and international markets. They encourage innovations across value chains to transform food systems, promote sustainable agriculture, and leverage investment.

Five online **Innovations Sessions** were organized, on 2024, where successful entrepreneurs are featured in areas such as circular economy, value addition, nutritious and healthy food, technological innovations, climate resilience.

- Session 17: "Potential of African regional markets: Successes from SMEs and Smallholders".
- Session 18: "Innovations in packaging: opportunities for African entrepreneurs and SMEs".
- Session 19: "Online agrifood marketplaces: presence of African entrepreneurs and smallholders".
- Session 20: "Successful agroecological practices by farmers and SMEs in Africa".
- 21ème Session: "Comment les agriculteurs et les PME répondent à l'évolution des besoins et des préférences des consommateurs »?
- All details on Innovation Sessions on agrinnovators.org



DIGITAL AGRI HUB



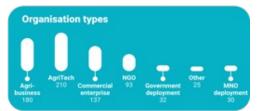
Dashboard

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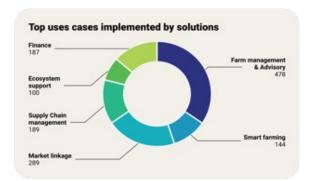


Dashboard Insights

- 707 Digital solutions deployed in 52 low- and middle- income countries in Africa
- Registered users: 55.9% smallholder farmers, 33.3% women, 43.6% youth (calculated based on the solutions for which there is data available about the specific user group)









Digital Agri Hub provides insights into digital agriculture for small-scale producers and supports interested parties' decision making and investments in solutions that have real impact on the ground.

Are you interested in finding out which innovative digital solutions and related services are deployed in your country? More specifically are you looking for solutions on "Farm management and advisory" or "Finance", or "Smart farming", or / and "market linkage" or more use cases? What technology would you prefer? Artificial Intelligence, blockchain, field sensors or more?

- Query the Digital Agri Hub database and results will be displayed on the fly, and at no cost. Are you
 interested in extending your network and exchange with your peers across the globe? The Digital
 Agri Hub hosts a Community of Practice focusing on digitalization for agriculture. Three independent
 platforms cater for English-, French- and Spanish-speaking communities. Members ask questions,
 share opinions and receive members' contributions. Be up to date with digital innovation!
- Read more and join the D4Ag Community of Practice

PAFO NEWS MEMBERS



EAFF Launches Monthly Newsletter

The Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF) has just launched its Monthly Newsletter, a strategic tool aimed at transforming communication and information sharing within the agricultural sector in East Africa. This launch highlights EAFF's unwavering commitment to its members and its pivotal role in promoting inclusive, sustainable, and prosperous agriculture. It also reflects the shared vision of PAFO to strengthen cooperation among its members. PAFO warmly congratulates EAFF for this achievement, which will undoubtedly strengthen the connections between farmers, partners, and decision-makers. We encourage all members and partners to subscribe to this newsletter and actively contribute by sharing their experiences and perspectives.

EAFF Appoints Communications Officer

This launch is a testament to EAFF's firm belief in the importance of communication. In fact, our East African member network has recently appointed a Communications Officer, Mr. Harun Njago. We warmly welcome him to the larger family of African Farmers' Organizations.

Mr. Harun Njago is an experienced corporate communications professional with expertise in the financial industry. He specializes in event management, social media, media relations, speechwriting, photography, and desktop publishing.

Holding a degree in Communication and Public Relations from "Moi University", he has proven his ability to design effective communication strategies and enhance the visibility of the organizations he has worked with.

With his skills and expertise, he continues to play a key role in optimizing communication and contributing to the growth and prominence of the organizations he collaborates with.





Transformation and Resilience: The Impact of the FO4ACP Project in Chad

Launched in October 2019, the FO4ACP project in Central Africa, initiated by PROPAC and its member organizations, has made significant progress in its second phase, which started in 2023. Although the first phase, which lasted four years, revealed financial shortcomings, the IFAD supervision mission in October 2023 highlighted significant improvements.

The PTBA 2024 launch workshop in Douala identified strategies to improve performance, including the implementation of the TOP UP phase, improved technical reporting and capitalization of lessons learned. To monitor and evaluate progress, PROPAC's Regional Coordination has organized field visits to support and assess member organizations' progress in implementing the FO4ACP.

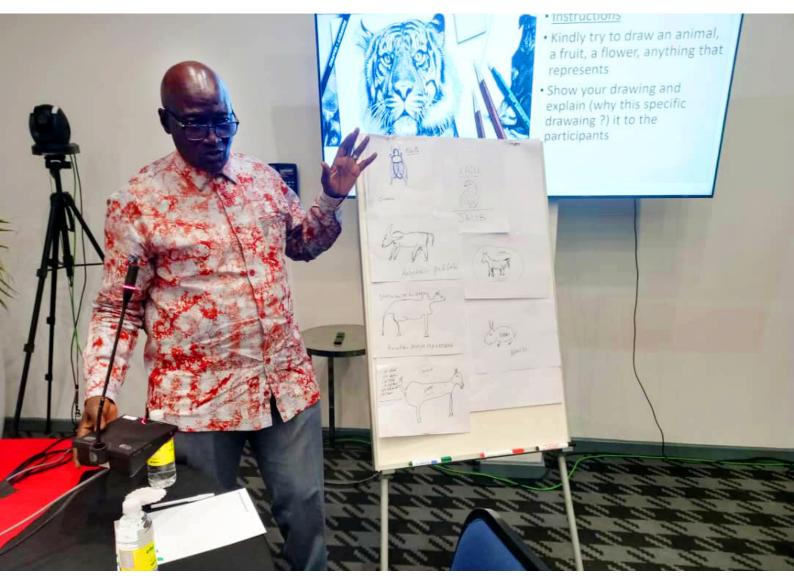
More details











ROPPA, in partnership with SACAU, has just organized a regional consultation in Johannesburg which brought together some twenty delegates from **PAFO** member organizations: **SACAU**, **ROPPA**, **EAFF**, **PROPAC** and the **GAFSP** Coordination Unit. Over three days, participants discussed BIFT, the new GAFSP portfolio, and exchanged views on the future funding mechanism.

Participants shared feedback on previous mechanisms, including challenges and lessons learned. Particular attention was paid to the GAFSP restructuring process and updates to the MMI (Mechanism for Implementation).

These discussions provided a better understanding of developments in GAFSP and explored strategies to improve the effectiveness of agricultural financing. This workshop is an important step towards aligning the priorities of African farmers' organizations and refining financing mechanisms to meet the growing needs for food security and sustainable development in the region.



UMNAGRI organized the closing seminar of the OPenACP-North Africa project, funded by IFAD, in Tunis. This event provided an opportunity to assess the progress made in favor of small farmers while exploring new synergies with stakeholders from the North Africa-Middle East Regional Farmer's Forum.



OPenACP-North Africa Closure

The seminar allowed participants to share project results, evaluate the recommendations of the FAFO-NEN Peasant Forum, and strengthen strategic partnerships to support family farming. UMNAGRI also initiated a revision of its Strategic Plan to better address the needs for developing farmers' skills, particularly in technical and management areas. A key initiative during this event was the presentation of the project to establish Youth (CdJ) and Women (CdF) Colleges within UMNAGRI. Inspired by regional experiences (ROPPA, PROPAC, etc.), participants developed a founding charter and internal regulations to guide these colleges.

These documents will be submitted to the UMNAGRI General Secretariat for validation and adoption in the coming months. In the meantime, transitional committees have been established to oversee the activities of the CdJ and CdF, ensuring the continuity of the project and preparing for their official launch. This seminar marks a decisive step toward ensuring the sustainability of the OPenACP project's actions and a more sustainable future for family farming in North Africa.



Women & Youth Platform creation meeting UMNAGRI



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