

PANAFRICAN FARMERS ORGANISATION

NEWSLETTER



Written by PAFO Communications

Dear PAFO Community,

Over the first five months of 2025, PAFO has actively pursued its mission to empower African farmers through strategic partnerships, advocacy for inclusive policies, innovation, and capacity building.

From new Memoranda of Understanding to global summits and local training workshops, PAFO has consistently amplified farmer voices and strengthened institutional capacity.

Here is a comprehensive summary of our main activities between January and May 2025,

“This MoU is a landmark in empowering farmers with the climate information they need to thrive,” said Dr. Babafemi Oyewole, PAFO CEO.

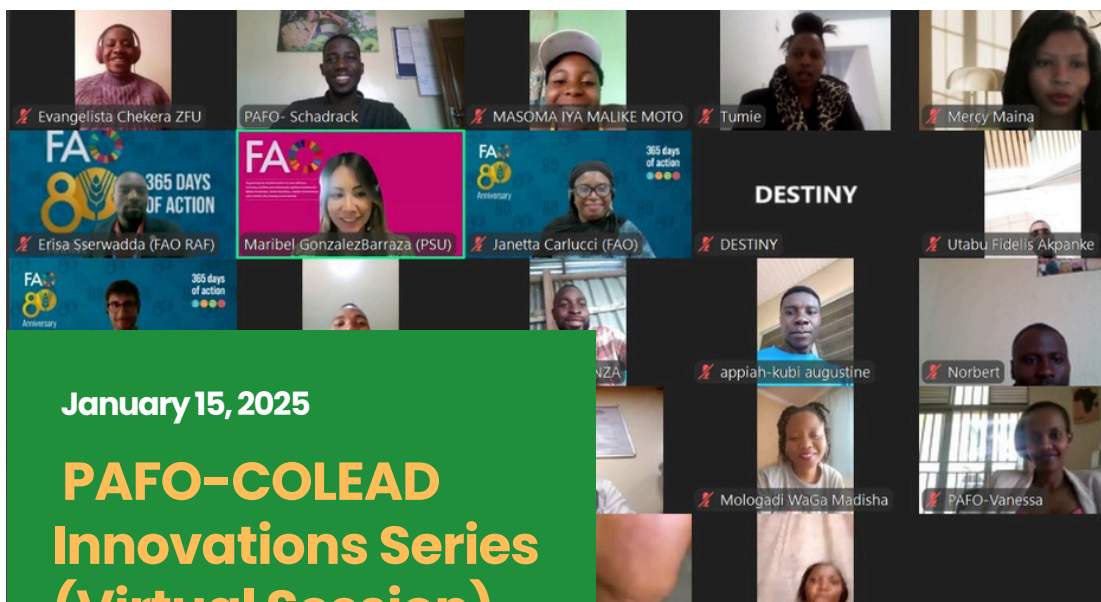
● January 2025 **MoU with ACMAD: Elevating Climate Intelligence**

Kampala, Uganda – During the CAADP Extraordinary Summit, PAFO signed a significant Memorandum of Understanding with the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD). This partnership is designed to bolster farmers' access to accurate and timely climate data, including early warning systems and seasonal forecasts. It aims to enhance resilience and planning in the face of climate change, enabling smallholder farmers to make better-informed decisions.

[Read more](#)



PANAFRICAN FARMERS ORGANISATION



January 15, 2025

PAFO-COLEAD Innovations Series (Virtual Session)

Virtual – PAFO and COLEAD kicked off a series highlighting scalable innovations and value chain initiatives developed by African SMEs and farmer-led enterprises. These webinars provide a platform for exchange and inspiration, especially for youth-led businesses seeking sustainable agribusiness models.

[Learn more](#)

● PAFO-FAO Youth Mentorship Program Launch

January 2025, the Pan-African Farmers' Organization (PAFO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) launched the Youth Mentorship Program. This initiative aims to equip young African agricultural producers with skills, knowledge, and connections to thrive in the agri-food sector. Mentors provide capacity-building workshops, guidance, and networking opportunities to selected young farmers across the continent.

PAFO Strategic Planning for 2026–2030

PAFO initiated the development of its 2026–2030 Strategic Plan, seeking a consulting firm with expertise in strategy development, institutional growth, and African agriculture. This plan aims to shape the future of farmers' organizations across the continent.

[read more](#)



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MARCH 2025

Promoting Forgotten Foods at IITA Workshop

Ibadan, Nigeria – PAFO CEO Dr. Babafemi Oyewole participated in a high-level workshop organized by the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), focusing on neglected and underutilized species (NUS), also known as "forgotten foods." Dr. Oyewole emphasized the role of smallholder farmers as custodians of biodiversity and local knowledge essential to revitalizing traditional crops.

[Explore highlights](#)

"The Manifesto places smallholder farmers centre stage... as custodians of forgotten foods."

"Farmers must be central to every agricultural decision—without them, food systems will fail."

IBRAHIM COULIBALY

● Advocacy Leadership by President Coulibaly

Letter interview – PAFO President Ibrahima Coulibaly issued a call to action for African governments, donors, and development partners to prioritize farmers structurally in agricultural investment decisions. His statement underscored that sustainable food systems and rural transformation must begin by empowering those who feed the continent.

[Full statement](#)



Written By : PAFO Communications

PAFO Call for Website Developer

To improve digital visibility and better serve stakeholders, PAFO issued a public call for a developer to revamp its website. The new platform will integrate a modern user experience, document library, media archive, and multilingual support.

[Read More](#)



WE ARE LOOKING FOR

WEB DEVELOPER

The Pan-African Farmers' Organization (PAFO) is seeking a skilled Website Developer to redesign its online platform. This role involves designing a user-friendly, dynamic, and engaging website that reflects PAFO's mission and supports African farmers' organizations.

SEND YOUR CV AND PORTFOLIO TO
Communications@pafo-africa.org
info@pafo-africa.org

DEADLINE
 10th march 2025




Policy Advocacy and Thought Leadership

PAFO continued advocacy with national and regional stakeholders to ensure smallholder priorities are embedded in agricultural transformation strategies. Key themes included youth empowerment, gender inclusion, and local food system resilience.

[Learn more](#)



● Global Gateway Conference – Brussels (Mar 11–13)

Brussels – At the DESIRA LIFT Global Gateway Conference, PAFO showcased its approach to linking agricultural research to farmer needs. CEO Oyewole joined global development and research institutions to promote farmer-led innovation for long-term impact.

[Official summary](#)

Written By : INGABIRE M. Rose

Regional Best Practices Exchange in Kenya

Machakos, Kenya (Feb 24-26) - PAFO leadership participated in an exchange meeting hosted by EAFF, bringing together regional Farmer Organizations and stakeholders. Discussions centered on inclusive governance, collaborative policy advocacy, digital innovation, and support systems that place farmers at the center of the agri-food transformation.

[Read the recap](#)



AfDB- PAFO High Level Conference Scaling Finance for Smallholders



● Scaling Finance for Smallholders

Over two days of online panels and presentations, PAFO convened agricultural finance experts and practitioners to identify new solutions for bridging financing gaps facing smallholders. Topics included blended finance, agri-insurance, and digital payment platforms.

[Day 1](#)

[Day 2](#)

Written By : INGABIRE M. Rose

AE-TPP 2025 in Hanoi, Vietnam (Mar 31–Apr 4)

PAFO contributed to global dialogues on agri-food trade partnerships and sustainable development during the Asia-Europe People's Forum's Agriculture and Environment Track.

[Event update](#)



April 1–4 – In Kigali,

Training of Trainers (ToT) Launch

● Training of Trainers (ToT) Launch

April 1–4 – In Kigali, PAFO launched an intensive Training of Trainers program targeting farmer leaders from across Africa. Topics included Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), agroecological practices, sustainable resource management, and advocacy. Graduates are now equipped to replicate the training in their own organizations.

[Program announcement](#)



Written By : INGABIRE M. Rose

Sustainable Seed Systems Webinar – 29 April

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This virtual session, co-hosted with AgriCord, explored how farmer organizations can reclaim agency in seed development and strengthen food sovereignty. Contributions came from CIRAD, CIAT, and national seed platforms.

[🔗 Event recap](#)



- **AGRA Workshop – Nairobi (Apr 1–4)**

PAFO finance, M&E, and program teams joined a results-focused AGRA regional workshop to improve program implementation, accountability, and alignment with national agricultural investment plans.

[🔗 Throwback post](#)

- **Pan-African Farmer Organizations Exchange – 15 April**

PAFO, SACAU, and the African Union co-convened a consultative exchange in April to bolster regional cooperation, institutional learning, and alignment of farmer organization strategies at continental level.

[🔗 Platform insights](#)

- **PAFO–COLEAD Innovation Series Session #22**

Featuring innovative farmer-led businesses from across Africa, this episode focused on climate-smart agribusiness, sustainable packaging, and value chain inclusion.

[🔗 Watch the session](#)

- **Kigali Climate-Smart ToT Training (Apr 22–25)**

This four-day training brought together representatives from more than 10 African countries. It enhanced farmers' knowledge and skills in climate adaptation, ecosystem services, and participatory advocacy frameworks.

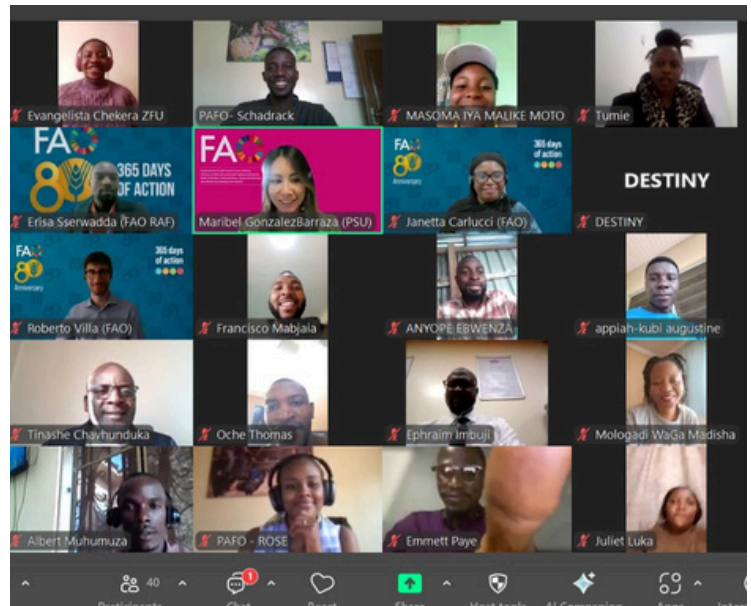
[🔗 Training recap](#)

Written By : INGABIRE M. Rose

PAFO-FAO Youth Mentorship Launch

This highly anticipated mentorship program began in May and aims to equip selected young agripreneurs with coaching, entrepreneurial knowledge, and access to a continent-wide support network.

- [Launch announcement](#)
- [Mentorship details](#)
- [Meeting recap](#)



CAADP Kampala Declaration Webinar – 15 May

A continental-level webinar convened by PAFO to unpack the Kampala Declaration, assess progress on CAADP implementation, and position farmer organizations as co-creators in agricultural policy reform.

[Watch here](#)

● PAFO MIS Virtual Training – 27 May

AA digital training was held to support data management across PAFO and its member organizations. The session introduced updates to PAFO's Management Information System (MIS), with emphasis on data accuracy, reporting, and evidence-based planning.

[More information](#)

