

Session Brief

PARI Side Event: How to turn the agrifood sector into an engine of job growth for Africa's youth

Date: Wednesday 7th June 2023@ 1400 – 1600 SAST

Format: Hybrid

Venue: ICC-NAIROBI

Zoom Link: <https://faraafrica.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMsdO2hgTouH9fKQLBiz34R06isIzLcELg>

Synopsis

The need to create income opportunities for Africa's large and growing youth population is one of the continent's key development challenges of this century. The food and agriculture sector can make a significant contribution to help address this challenge. These opportunities remain largely untapped in Africa, this event will discuss how to put the research findings into practice and identify key investment and policy priorities to boost income and employment opportunities in the food and agriculture sector. Within the overall topic of the side-event, questions to be addressed will include, among others:

(1). What are the key challenges faced by young agripreneurs in Africa? (2). How effective are current youth employment policies in Africa? (3). Will mechanization & Digitalization in agro processing create or replace jobs? (4). How can we achieve a better match between the supply of and demand for skills in the agrifood sector?

Program

Sr	Time	Activity	Facilitator
A	1400 - 1410	Opening Thoughts Yemi Akinbamiyo (ED FARA)	Dr. Felister Makini Deputy Director-General; Kenya Agriculture and Livestock Research Institute (KALRO)
OB	1410 - 1445	Key Presentations 1. Oluwole Fatunbi , FARA, on strengthening agripreneurs. 2. Heike Baumüller , ZEF, on employment opportunities in the agro-processing sector	
C	1445 - 1545	High-level Panel Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HE Jennie Cooper (Liberia Minister of Agriculture). H.E Angela Thoko Didiza (South Africa Minister of Agriculture, Land Reforms and Rural Development) Mr. Kofi Acquaye (Youth representative YPARD Africa) Ms Amanda Namayi (GoGettaZ Lead) Kenya Kate Philip- (Programme Lead on the Presidential Employment Stimulus in South Africa) 	Prof Chris Igodan
E	1545 - 1600	Wrap-Up Key issues Way forward	Wole Fatunbi

Speakers`



HE Jennie Cooper
Liberia Minister



HE Angela Thoko Didiza
South Africa Minister



Dr. Heike Baumüller
ZEF Germany



Yemi Akinbamiyo
ED FARA



Prof. Wole Fatunbi
FARA



Dr. Felister Makini
Deputy DG, KALRO



Prof. Kate Philip
South Africa



Amanda Namayi
YPARD Kenya



Prof Chris Igodan
Ohio Univ, USA



Kofi Acquaye
YPARD / FARA