

9th Africa Agriculture Science Week

10th FARA General Assembly



Abuja, Nigeria | 27th - 30th July 2026

Bola Ahmed Tinubu International Conference Centre



Theme

Innovations and Partnerships for Resilient and Sustainable Agrifood Systems in Africa

Aligned with the event’s theme, “Innovations and Partnerships for Resilient and Sustainable Agrifood Systems in Africa”, the sub-themes for AASW9 and the 10th FARA General Assembly reflect the continent’s agricultural transformation priorities as outlined in the CAADP-Kampala Declaration and Strategy (2026–2035). These sub-themes are framed to galvanise stakeholder discourse on leveraging science, technology, innovations and strategic partnerships to operationalise the action plan and targets set forth in the CAADP-Kampala declaration.

Sub-Themes

Sub-Theme 1: Emerging Agricultural Technologies and Innovations

This sub-theme examines the technologies and innovation ecosystems shaping the future of African agrifood systems. It offers a platform for dialogue and showcasing, for example:

1. Digital and intelligence-led agriculture (AI for farm management, geosatellite-based mapping and forecasting, blockchain for traceability and insurance, smart logistics).
2. Next generation biotechnology and circular bioeconomy models (gene editing, bio-solutions for nature-positive agriculture and post-harvest handling, diagnostic and advisory tools, and validated circular bioeconomy models).
3. Smart mechanisation and energy resilient infrastructure (scale-appropriate robotics, precision implements, Mechanisation as a Service (MaaS) framework, pay-as-you models that increase access to mechanisation by smallholders, agrivoltaics, solar-powered cold chains, irrigation and mobility, Cooling-as-a-Service (CaaS) models).

The focus is on practical, scalable, and context-responsive innovations that promise to boost productivity, reduce labour, improve resilience, increase sustainability, connect producers more effectively to services and markets, and improve profitability.

In line with FARA’s mandate, the sub-theme emphasises the importance of linking research, extension, education, enterprise/production and policy so that science and innovation positively and directly impact livelihoods on a wide scale. The sub-theme champions innovations that are affordable, inclusive, and climate-smart, underpinned by robust partnerships across the “knowledge triangle (research, extension, and education), and strengthened by active collaboration with governments, the private sector and investors to deliver value to end-users.

Sub-Theme 2: Climate-Resilient Agrifood Systems: Innovations for Improving Productivity, Resilience and Sustainability

This sub-theme focuses on innovations for strengthening the resilience of African agrifood systems against escalating climate volatility, biodiversity loss, land degradation, water stress, pest and disease outbreaks and other shocks. It recognises resilience as the inherent capacity of agrifood systems to anticipate, adapt, and transform to remain productive under changing conditions. It explores the critical nexus between increasing productivity and safeguarding livelihoods and the environment through the adoption of science-driven solutions for climate-smart agriculture, agroecology, and regenerative practices, as well as continental knowledge exchange and multi-stakeholder collaboration. It will feature discourse on scalable solutions in the following domains: soil health, resilient seeds and breeds, sustainable land and water management, weather and climate services, and adaptation finance. It will serve as the anchor for side events on climate adaptation and mitigation, the agro-ecological transition, sustainable intensification, soil health and resilience measurement.

Sub-Theme 3: Nutrition, Health and Urban Food Systems

This sub-theme expands the scope from agricultural production to food systems outcomes, addressing the delivery of healthy diets, food safety, and sustainable food environments for Africa's expanding rural and urban populations. It will feature discourse on the critical nexus between agriculture, nutrition, and public health. It will also focus on the unique complexities of urban food systems and their role in fostering healthier diets and safe food environments for burgeoning urban populations, while also acting as a pull factor for rural productivity. It will serve as an anchor for side events that connect production, processing, distribution, regulation, health, and consumption, including school-feeding.

Sub-theme 4: Enabling Impact at Scale: Policies, Financing, Capacities, Institutions, Inclusion

This sub-theme focuses on the structural enablers that bridge the gap between innovation and impact at scale. It examines the convergence of evidence-based policy, innovative financing, institutional capacity strengthening, and multi-stakeholder/cross-sectoral partnerships as critical drivers of systemic impact. A primary priority is the operationalisation of inclusion, ensuring that agrifood systems are intentionally designed to empower youth, women and people with disabilities as entrepreneurs and decision-makers rather than passive beneficiaries. Crucially, the sub-theme prioritises strengthening food systems governance by institutionalising systems thinking and fostering bottom-up engagement across government and within the broader stakeholder ecosystem. It features discussions on advancing mutual accountability and transitioning from reactive planning to proactive foresight. Furthermore, it explores the accelerated domestication of the CAADP-Kampala strategy at the national level, ensuring that science, technology and innovation are strategically harnessed as essential catalysts for systemic transformation.



Theme:

Innovations and Partnerships for Resilient and Sustainable Agrifood Systems in Africa

