



THE 6TH EASTERN AFRICA FARMERS CONVENTION, CONGRESS AND EXHIBITION 2025

THEME: "TOWARDS MORE SUSTAINABLE FOOD AND FARMING SYSTEMS"

DATE & VENUE: 30TH SEPTEMBER TO 2ND OCTOBER, 2025

KIGALI, RWANDA

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF) is a regional, non-political, and non-profit organization that started operations in 2005 to represent the voice of smallholder farmers across Eastern Africa. Operating through national farmer organizations in 10 countries, EAFF champions inclusive policies and programs that drive sustainable agriculture, food security, and economic empowerment. The Federation's core mandate is to advocate for farmers' interests at regional and continental levels. Through robust member networks, strategic partnerships, and transformative agricultural initiatives, EAFF works to enhance regional integration and improve the livelihoods of farming communities.

The global food systems are no longer as sustainable as they used to be; they have, over time, become threatened by the effects of climate change, inter-regional trade, increasing population growth, urbanization, and unsupportive policies and investments, among others. This sustained pressure in the food systems necessitated a consultation and the call to action under the United Nations Food System Convention, whose resolutions underscored the need for more inclusive, equitable, efficient, resilient, and sustainable food systems to achieve the SDGs with a resolve to have a comprehensive and coordinated approach involving governments, academia, civil society, farmers, the private sector and the international community to bring SDG 2—Zero Hunger—back on track.

The African continent, therefore, requires a transformative approach to achieve this goal, and the recent CAADP Kampala declaration is a crucial policy instrument that aims to contribute to the development of sustainable food systems on the continent.

It is therefore imperative that as we hold this 6th EAFF congress, we have an honest conversation around the theme "Towards more sustainable food and farming systems" and how the current developments in Africa especially on the situation on food and nutrition security due to deteriorating productivity; the changing demographics in our population including rising youth un-employment; growing number of countries at the verge of debt distress impacting on national budgets, the limited global responses to address climate change impacts, the many years of unfavorable trade pitting Africa and the world, issues of limited resources especially human capital, finance and other productive resources and Gender inclusiveness need to be re-looked at differently to achieve positive results.

ABOUT THE CONVENTION AND CONGRESS

Every four years, the Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF) convenes a Farmers Convention and Congress, which is a premier platform for discussing key agricultural issues. The event brings together over 500 delegates from across the globe and more than 50 exhibitors to exchange insights and showcase innovations.

This year, EAFF will be hosting the 6th Farmers Convention and Congress under the theme "Towards More Sustainable Food and Farming Systems". The 2025 edition also marks a special milestone, the celebration of 20 years of EAFF's operations in Feeding the Region, recognizing the critical roles the Federation has played over two decades. Key areas of focus will include the changing landscape of agriculture and food trade in Africa, climate change and adaptation strategies, and the promotion of agrifood trade. The convention will also explore innovations and technologies shaping modern agriculture, highlight the crucial role of youth and women in driving agricultural transformation, and emphasize the importance of institutionalizing farmer organizations. Additionally, discussions will address the challenges and opportunities in agricultural finance (agrifinance) to ensure farmers have better access to the resources they need.

By fostering dialogue across these thematic areas, the convention aims to facilitate knowledge exchange, promote best practices, and forge meaningful partnerships that will contribute to a more resilient and inclusive agricultural sector in the region

EVENT OBJECTIVES

- 1. To promote dialogue and knowledge exchange on sustainable food and farming systems.
- 2. To enhance the inclusion and participation of youth and women in agriculture.
- 3. To foster innovation and adoption of technologies among farmers
- 4. To build strategic partnerships for increased investment and policy influence

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Immediate commitments towards increased youth and women inclusion in agriculture, adoption and scaling of innovations and technologies, and institutionalization of climate-resilient farming practices.
- Strengthened partnerships and collaborations among government, development partners, the private sector, and regional bodies.
- Concrete commitments to address inefficiencies and boost investment in African food systems.
- Enhanced awareness and knowledge among participants on climate change adaptation strategies and inclusive, sustainable food systems policy frameworks. Scale up successful programs and achievements to become sustainable or commercially viable, ultimately transforming smallholder agriculture into a rewarding investment opportunity.
- Inclusive Farmers Policy influence and advocacy.

TARGET PARTICIPANTS

The Convention and Congress seek to bring together over 300 delegates, including:

- Financial institutions will be key to explore emerging investment opportunities in agriculture. These include banks, venture capitalists, and microfinance institutions investing in agriculture.
- Private sector and industry enablers who will unlock new markets and investment opportunities including but not limited to producers, processors, traders and agribusinesses.
- Government officials for an influence in decisions that drive change among them policymakers, regulators, and representatives from ministries of agriculture and trade.
- Development partners, including International organizations, NGOs, and research institutions supporting food security and trade, driving impactful collaborations





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