



Cooperation for Holistic Agriculture Innovation Nests in Sub-Saharan Africa

GRANT AGREEMENT NUMBER 101082963

D5.2

Internal dissemination events





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1. Dissemination events

The dissemination of information about the project should begin with internal activities, during which all partner HEIs are expected to host events at their institutions for their colleagues, students and partners. These events should be used to promote the project, present opportunities for participation in the project and raise expectations of end beneficiaries. It is expected that this activity will reach a minimum of 600 individuals. Short-term and long-term opportunities will be created during and beyond the lifetime of the project.

This dissemination activity is to be conducted at the local level within the universities. Furthermore, it is recommended that individuals from other higher education institutions and the farming and industry sector, as well as agri-entrepreneurs, be invited to gain national recognition.

The dissemination events have already been organized and conducted by 5 universities in 3 countries. More than 600 participants took part in the dissemination events, which were held in the form of seminars, workshops and conferences. The following table shows when each event took place, the name of the event organizer and the number of participants in each event.

University	Dissemination event scheduled / held	Event's name and participation
UL	December 16, 2024	“CHAIN” PROJECT DISSEMINATION EVENT (147 participants)
SEKU	November 28, 2024	“CHAIN” PROJECT DISSEMINATION EVENT (110 participants)
JOUST	November 26, 2024	ERASMUS CHAIN Project dissemination workshop (110 participants)
FUTMINNA	1.12.-4.12.2024	3 rd International Conference of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology (ICAAT) in collaboration with CHAIN Project (more than 132 participants)
AE-FUNAI	10.06.-12.06.2024	3-day INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE of Faculty of Agriculture, Alex Ekwueme Federal University Ndufu Alike (AE-FUNAI). Theme: “Climate Change and Food Value Chain Management/Development” (more than 80 participants+30 virtual)



2. Internal dissemination event at University of Lome

The internal dissemination of such project was essential to (i) Ensure that stakeholders and non-teaching actors of the University especially the Students are well informed on the project (ii) helps teams that work together rich the goals and objectives based on common purpose (iii) allows better coordination of resources which can enhance project efficiency, (iv) create a collaborative working atmosphere during project implementation (v) perform discussions which can generate valuable feedback that can refine the project plan, (vi) highlight areas where training may be needed, and (vii) establish a framework for monitoring progress and evaluation of the outcomes to ensure the success.

On Wednesday 18th December 2024, the CHAIN Project of the university of Lome (UL) organised an internal dissemination events within the first year of the project at Conficius Center located in the Campus of UL. Events were organized for students, teaching staff, non teaching staff and Entrepreneurs to inform them about the project, the partners involved, the objectives, the workpackages, the outcomes and the different opportunities.

The events starsted at 9H00 UT by the intervention of the Project Coordinator, Professor Agnassim Banito who welcomed the participants and introduced the project and highlited the background which allowed the development of the CHAIN project. He thanked the University of Triesdorf for the partnership and the European Union for co-financing the project.

The Vice-President Professor Komla Batawila, representative of the president Professor Adama Mawulé Kpodar, welcomed the participants and welcomed this opportunity offered by the partnership with the University of Triesdorf through the CHAIN project, whose objectives are perfectly in line with Togo's agricultural policy. He urged the participants to follow the presentation of this project and the opportunities it offers, in order to make the most of this partnership. He instructed the project steering team to do everything possible to successfully achieve the project's objectives, which will have a positive impact on the various stakeholders involved. He wished the dissemination work every success before opening the seminar.

Parcipients at the Internal Dissemination seminar on the CHAIN Project at the University of Lome (UL), Togo

After the intervention of the Vice-President, a group photo was taken and the seminar was properly started. The aim was to present the project in its entirety from its history to the expected



results and its timeline. The presentation was made by Dr. Tchamye Tcha-Esso Boroze, Lecturer and Vice-Director of the Ecole Polytechnique School of Lome at the University of Lome (EPL/UL). Thus, Dr. Boroze presented the background of the CHAIN project, the institutions (HEI) and partners involved, the objectives of the project, the work packages, the tasks and their interconnection and the deliverables.

There after, Dr. Bayi Reine Dossou presented the opportunities for the students related to the cooperation with HSWT and partners, including short training and Master studies opportunities in Germany, and also the project grants fundings up to 10,000 EURO.

It was also an opportunity for a testimony from a n alumni of this type of cooperation, given by Mr. Yendouhame Mounkonti, beneficiary of a training and project financing grant from HSWT to share with the participants, his experience both for training and for financing which allowed him to create his post harvest treatment structure of agricultural products. Subsequently, questions and answers allowed participants to better understand the outline of the project. They appreciated the approach and welcomed these opportunities for collaboration.

After this question and answer session, the Vice President of the UL, Professor Komla Batawila greeted the participants for their massive mobilization, their active participation, their attention, their interest in the work and the exchanges. Finally, he invited the members of the coordination team to ensure the proper conduct of activities to achieve the objectives of the project, before declaring the work of the internal dissemination seminar of the CHAIN Project closed at 12 p.m.



Internal dissemination seminar at UL, 16.12.2024



Internal dissemination seminar at UL, 16.12.2024



Internal dissemination seminar at UL, 16.12.2024

3. SEKU-“CHAIN” Project Dissemination Event held on 28th November, 2024

The South Eastern Kenya University (SEKU) is one of the partner Higher Education Institutions in the implementation of the ‘Erasmus+ project "CHAIN" Cooperation for Holistic Agriculture Innovation Nests in Sub-Saharan Africa’. SEKU held a Dissemination seminar under the CHAIN initiative on 28th November 2024 at Main Campus, Kitui County, Kenya. The event which was graced by the CHAIN Project Coordinator, Dr Bernd Muller of Weihenstephan-Triesdorf University of Applied Sciences (HSWT), Federal Republic of Germany, marked a significant step in the collaboration between SEKU and HSWT.

The event aimed to inform SEKU students and staff about the CHAIN Project objectives. One of the key deliverables under CHAIN is Curricula Development of a “Master program in Food Value Chain Management. During the event, Dr. Bernd Muller, the guest speaker delivered a key note address on HSWT Programmes and CHAIN Project Objectives. His insights underscored the importance of international collaboration in advancing sustainable food value chains. Dr. Matheus Kauti who is the SEKU-CHAIN Institutional Coordinator and Dean, School of Agriculture, Environment, Water, and Natural Resources (SAEWNR) gave an overview of the school’s academic programs and their relevance to the CHAIN project. It was noted that the CHAIN initiative to develop Agri-business Incubation Hub in the partner HEI will leverage on the already established SEKU Centre for Dry Land Entrepreneurship and Innovation. A presentation of the proposed MSc. Food Value Chain Management was given by the SEKU-CHAIN project coordinator, Dr. Benjamin K. Muli. The MSc. program is intended to prepare proficient, highly skilled and innovative agribusiness and value chain experts capable of leading the commercialization of the country’s agriculture in light of the dynamic nature of consumers’ demand.

At the end, an interactive session provided an opportunity for students and staff to ask questions, share feedback, and engage with the project team. This was followed by a tour of SEKU's incubation center where efforts in fostering innovation and entrepreneurship and opportunities for collaboration in scaling incubation activities were discussed. In summary, the key outcomes of the dissemination included; strengthened institutional collaboration between SEKU and HSWT, increased awareness of CHAIN project's objectives and opportunities, advancing academic programs, and promotion and/or fostering of innovation and entrepreneurship. Key outcomes of the event included:

1. **Strengthened Institutional Collaboration:** The event reinforced the partnership between SEKU and HSWT under the CHAIN project.
2. **Increased Awareness:** Dissemination activities successfully informed SEKU stakeholders about the CHAIN project's objectives and opportunities.
3. **Advancing Academic Programs:** Discussions on the proposed MSc. Food Value Chain Management highlighted the program's potential to address critical challenges in food systems.
4. **Promoting Innovation:** The tour of SEKU's incubation center underscored its role in fostering innovation and entrepreneurship.



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SELECTED PHOTOS

The poster is for the SEKU-CHAIN PROJECT DISSEMINATION. It features a green background with a grid pattern. At the top, there is a row of logos including WUK, UK, and various university crests. Below the logos, the text reads "Cooperation for Holistic Agriculture Innovation Nests In Sub-saharan Africa" and "SEKU-CHAIN PROJECT DISSEMINATION". A central box titled "PROGRAMME" lists the following schedule:

- 0930-1000: Introductions and registration: Ms. Mercy Mutiso
- 1000-1015: General Overview of SAEWNR: Dr Matheaus Kaufi
- 1015-1045: Presentation on HSWT programmes / Background/Objectives of CHAIN Project: Dr. Bernd Muller
- 1045-1115: Presentation on the proposed MSc. Food Value Chain Mgt. Dr. Benjamin K Muli
- 1115-1230: Interactive Session: Dr Joseph Nzomoi

Below the programme, there is a photo of a building and the following details:

- DATE: 28TH NOVEMBER, 2024
- TIME: 09:30
- VENUE: Main Campus, LT2

On the right side, there is a section for "Chain's Profile" with contact information: Website: www.chain-project.eu, Email: chain@chain-project.eu, and a link to the website. At the bottom, there is a "WELCOME ALL" message and a website link: www.seku.ac.ke. The bottom of the poster features the CHAIN Project logo, the text "Cooperation for Holistic Agriculture Innovation Nests in Sub-Saharan Africa", and the European Union flag with the text "Co-funded by the European Union".

Dissemination Programme



Courtesy Call Visit to Vice Chancellor, SEKU by Dr Bernd Muller and CHAIN Team on 27th November 2024





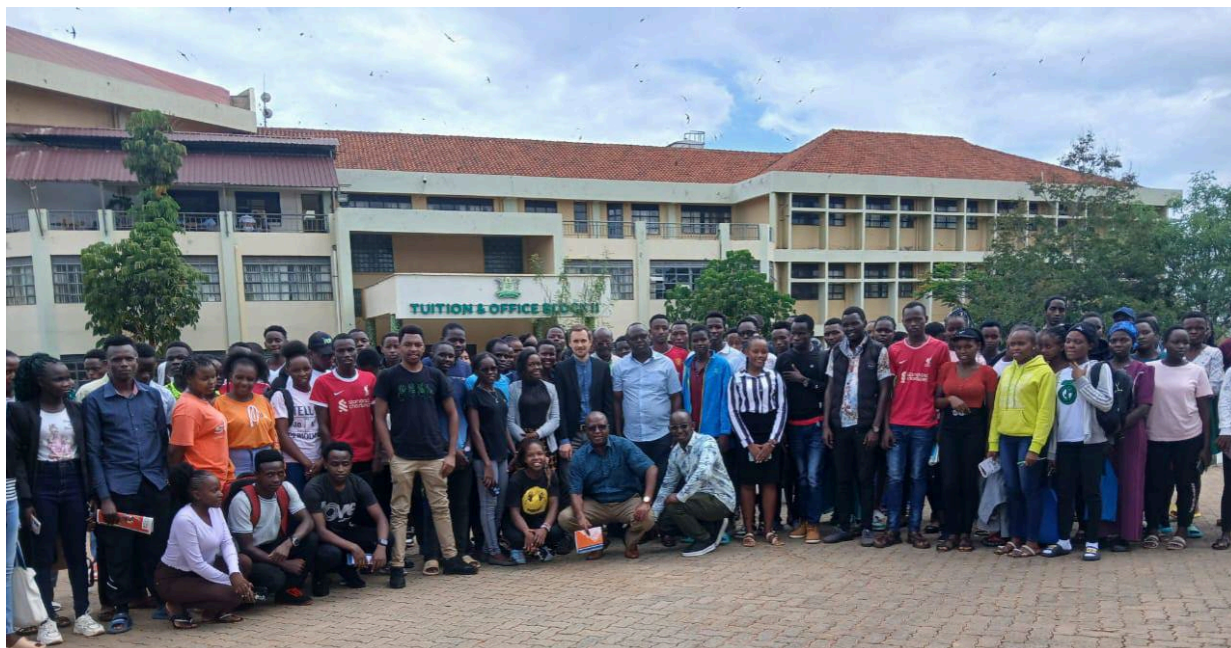
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Group Photo of Dissemination Participants Held on 28th November 2024 at SEKU Main Campus



SEKU CHAIN Project Members and Dr Bernd Muller on 28th November 2024





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CHAIN Project Coordinator, Dr Bernd Muller of Weihenstephan-Triesdorf University of Applied Sciences (HSWT), During the Dissemination Held on 28th November 2024



Session during the Dissemination Held on 28th November 2024





CHAIN Project Members during a tour of the University Farm Held on 27th November 2024

4. Dissemination Workshop at Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology (JOUST)

The ERASMUS CHAIN Project dissemination workshop, held at Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology (JOUST) on November 26, 2024, showcased significant strides in addressing agricultural challenges. Over 100 participants from diverse academic fields attended, emphasizing the project's multidisciplinary and inclusive approach.

Achievements and Initiatives

Curriculum Development

JOUST has designed an MSc in Food Commodity Value Chain Management (FCVCM) curriculum to fill critical skill gaps, focusing on practical training and industry collaboration. Accreditation from Kenya's Commission for University Education is pending, with the program set to launch in 2025.

Faculty and Student Advancement

Faculty training by HSWT enhanced expertise in entrepreneurship, digital education, and business management. Meanwhile, 33 JOUST students received partial scholarships for the



International Master in Farm Management (IMFM) at HSWT, and 30 students participated in online summer schools.

Research Collaborations

The CHAIN Project aligns with other Erasmus+ initiatives such as MAINSTREAM (climate resilience), GREEN FUTURES (sustainability), FAMFISK (agricultural mechanization), and HORIZON-STREAMING (food trade innovations).

Stakeholder Perspectives

- **Prof. Julius Manyala (JOOUST) – Director Research, Innovation and Extension:** Highlighted the university's achievement of securing 20+ funded projects worth KES 150 million, emphasizing innovation and industry collaboration.
- **Prof. Elijah Ateka (JOOUST) – Deputy Vice Chancellor – Academic, Student Affairs and Research (Representing the Vice Chancellor):** Advocated for precision agriculture to combat climate challenges and stressed the CHAIN Project's vital role.
- **Prof. Christopher Gor (JOOUST) – JOOUST Coordinator, CHAIN Project:** Lauded the collaboration's achievements, emphasizing the importance of aligning curricula with industry needs and fostering innovation through international partnerships.
- **Dr. Bernd Müller (HSWT):** Discussed integrating technology, marketing, and production in agricultural value chains and announced MSc program launches in 2025 (JOOUST) and 2026 (HSWT).

Challenges

Adoption of modern technology by farmers, climate-related impacts, and funding limitations were identified as barriers to program implementation.

Recommendations

The report suggests expediting program accreditation, enhancing industry partnerships, broadening focus to include food systems, and establishing regional training centers to promote innovation.

Conclusion

The CHAIN Project is transforming agricultural education and practices in Sub-Saharan Africa through international collaboration and a focus on sustainability. The upcoming MSc in FCVCM promises to empower students and industry professionals, ensuring a sustainable future for agriculture in the region.





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Program for the CHAIN Project Dissemination Event

Venue: JOOUST Main Campus Date: 26th November 2024 Time: 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Time	Activity	Responsible Person(s)
8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	Courtesy Call (Vice Chancellor's Office)	Prof. Christopher Gor
8:30 AM - 9:00 AM	Arrival and Registration	Secretariat
9:00 AM - 9:15 AM	Remarks and Introduction by Registrar Academic Affairs	Dr. Walter Akuno
9:15 AM - 9:20 AM	Overview of JOOUST and HSWT Collaboration for the CHAIN Project	Prof. Christopher Gor
9:20 AM - 9:30 AM	Remarks by Director RIE	Prof. Julius Manyala
9:30 AM - 9:40 AM	Remarks by DVC ASAR	Prof. Elijah Ateka
9:40 AM - 10:40 AM	CHAIN Project Dissemination Session	Dr. Matilda Ouma
	- Food Value Chain in Agricultural Innovations at HWST	Dr. Ben Müller
	- Presentation of MSc ACVCM Curriculum Development Progress	Prof. Christopher Gor
10:40 AM - 11:00 AM	Tea Break	Secretariat
11:00 AM - 11:40 AM	Interactive Dissemination Session (Q&A)	Prof. Erick Okuto
11:40 AM - 12:20 PM	Feedback from Participants on CHAIN Objectives and Progress	Prof. Erick Okuto
12:20 PM - 12:40 PM	Audience Discussion on Local Implementation Challenges & Insights	Prof. Christopher Gor
12:40 PM - 1:00 PM	Closing Remarks and Future Directions for CHAIN Project	Dr. Ben Müller / Prof. Christopher Gor
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Lunch and Networking	All Participants

Moderator: Prof. Christopher Gor



USV 1842



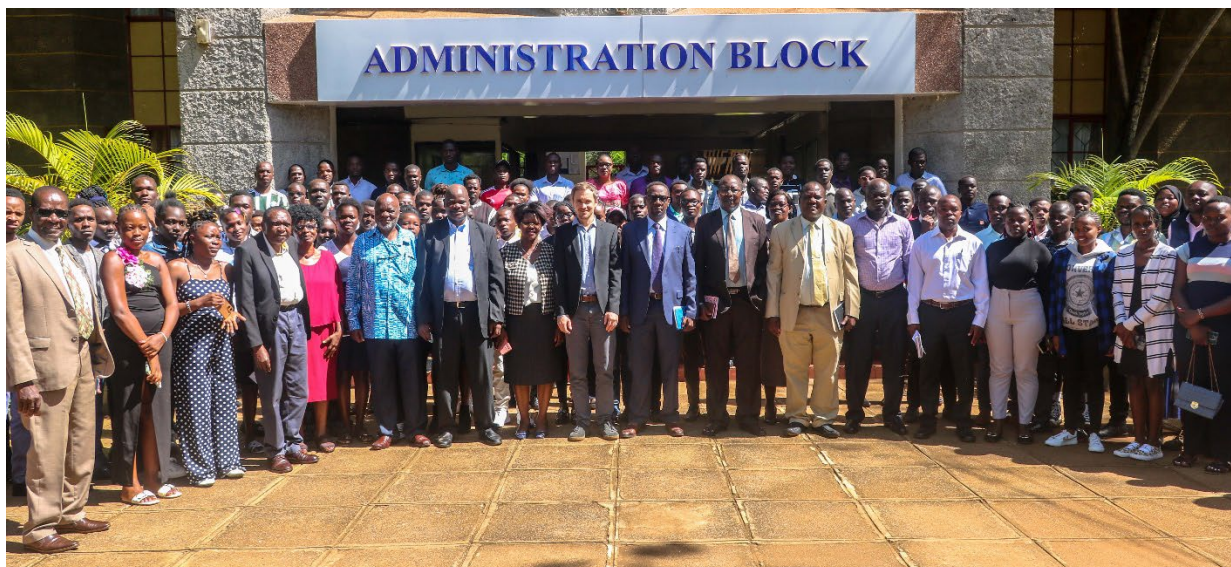
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Group Photo of Dissemination Participants Held on 26th November 2024 at JOOUST



Session during the dissemination seminar at JOOUST. 26.11.2024





5. 3rd International Conference of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology (ICAAT) in collaboration with CHAIN Project, FUTMINNA

The 3rd International Conference of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology (ICAAT) was successfully hosted by the School of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology (SAAT), in collaboration with the CHAIN Project, Federal University of Technology, Minna, Nigeria, from December 1st to 4th, 2024.

The Conference, themed "Integrated Approaches to Achieving Food Security through Artificial Intelligence and Effective Policy Implementation," brought together researchers, policymakers, industry practitioners, and stakeholders to address critical agriculture and food security challenges. The discussions highlighted the transformative potential of artificial intelligence (AI) and the necessity of robust policy frameworks to enhance agricultural productivity, sustainability, and resilience.

Key Discussions

The Conference commenced with a vibrant opening ceremony and plenary session attended by distinguished dignitaries. The Chairman, Prof. Faruk Adamu Kuta (Vice-Chancellor of FUTMinna), was ably represented by Prof Mohammed Abdullahi the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics), who formally declared the session open, setting the stage for a series of impactful deliberations.

The keynote speeches by renowned experts laid a strong foundation for the conference discussions:

- Prof. (Mrs.) Mona Zayed, Director of the Microbial Inoculants Center, Faculty of Agriculture, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt.
- Hon. Musa Salihu Bawa Bosso, FCICN, Honourable Commissioner of Agriculture, Niger State, Nigeria.
- Dr. Sanusi Muhammad, Director of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics, National Space Research and Development Agency (NASRDA), Abuja.

These thought-provoking presentations explored the transformative role of emerging technologies such as AI and the Internet of Things (IoT). The speakers emphasized AI's capacity to revolutionize food production systems and contribute to sustainable agricultural practices, including organic farming, agroforestry, conservation agriculture, and strategies to enhance soil health, biodiversity, and ecosystem services.

Building on the keynote addresses, the technical sessions delved into various critical subthemes, including Enhancing Production and Market Access, Addressing Challenges and Risks, Agricultural Technology, Food Security, and Supporting Innovation and Knowledge Sharing. These sessions featured dynamic presentations, both physical and virtual, showcasing





pioneering research, technological innovations, and groundbreaking discoveries aimed at addressing agricultural challenges and advancing sustainability.

Coordination of Technical Sessions

The following officers were saddled with the responsibility of coordinating the technical sessions (both physical and virtual). The zoom link was <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81725801956?pwd=gKyOw4kT3dVHAUXFCEqVZ6mebyokYC.1>

Meeting ID: 817 2580 1956 and Passcode: 684178

Session	Subject	Venue	Chairman	Rapporteur	Session Co-coordinators
1 and 2	Agricultural Economics and Farm Management, Agricultural Extension and Rural Development, Agribusiness	Room 1 PG Class, SAAT Phase 2	Prof. A. A. A. Coker	Dr. M. Ibrahim	Dr. E. Daniya Dr. (Mrs.) H. M. Ibrahim Dr. Y. Muhammed
1 and 2	Animal Production, Food Science and Technology, Nutrition and Dietetics, and Water Resources, Aquaculture and Fishery Technology	Room 2 PG Class, SAAT Phase 2	Prof. A. A. Malik	Dr. S. James	Dr B. O. Otu Dr K. D. Tolorunse
1 and 2	Crop Production, Horticulture, Seed Science and Technology, Soil Science and Land Management, Wildlife and Forestry Conservation, and Environmental Management	Room 3 PG Class, SAAT Phase 2	Prof. P. A. Tsado	Dr. (Mrs.) A. Y. Mamudu	Dr. R. O. Oyewale Mr Raymond Ederigbe

Student Grant Award Coordinators





Best student paper presenters were given grants ((N10.000) and certification immediately after the Conference. The staff responsible for nominations and subsequent selection of qualified candidates are as follows:

- 1) Dr (Mrs) K. E. Akande
- 2) Mr A. Ibrahim
- 3) Mr O. A. Adesina

Resolutions Adopted

1. Promote the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) into agriculture for improved productivity and sustainability.
2. Address barriers for smallholder farmers by implementing financial support mechanisms like subsidies and microfinancing.
3. Advocate for coordinated policies connecting research, technology, and regulation.
4. Scale up research on AI-driven food security solutions through multidisciplinary collaboration.
5. Strengthen international partnerships for knowledge transfer and shared resources in AI applications for agriculture.
6. Urban Farming through commitment to encourage urban farming systems to reduce dependency on rural land while addressing food demands in urban areas.
7. Reduction of Post-Harvest Losses through investment in cold storage, better transportation, and market linkages to reduce food waste.

Outcomes

The outcomes of the 3rd ICAAT underscore the urgency of embracing innovative, inclusive, and sustainable approaches to address global food security challenges. The conference participants call on governments, researchers, industry leaders, and stakeholders to maintain momentum through collaboration and action. By harnessing the transformative power of AI and strengthening partnerships, the vision of a food-secure future can become a reality.

Selected pictures





Cross section of participants during the opening ceremony of 3rd ICAAT Conference 2024



Cross section of participants during the opening ceremony of 3rd ICAAT Conference 2024





Presentation of certificate to the Niger State Commissioner of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture



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Programme of the Conference at FUTMINNA



**SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE AND AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY
FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, MINNA, NIGERIA**



in partnership with

CHAIN Project

Federal University of Technology, Minna, Nigeria



3rd International Conference of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology

Theme

**Integrated Approaches to: Achieving
Food Security through Artificial
Intelligence, and Effective Policy
Implementation**



**Caverton Hall
SAAT, FUT, Minna**



**1st - 4th
December, 2024**

Sub-themes

- Access to markets, resources, and support services
- Agribusiness and market access for sustainable agriculture.
- Artificial intelligence in agriculture
- Extension and adoption technology
- Food fraud
- Food policy initiatives
- Food processing and nutrition
- Horticultural crops and landscape development
- Multidisciplinary approaches to aquaculture and fisheries research
- Pests, diseases, and post-harvest losses
- Precision agriculture
- Seed technology and crop improvement
- Soil health and conservation
- Sustainable animal production and health
- Urban agriculture

LOC CHAIRMAN

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CHAIN CONTACT

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Conference website: <https://futminna.edu.ng/icaat/>





6. 3-day International Conference of Faculty of Agriculture, Alex Ekwueme Federal University Ndufu Alike (AE-FUNAI)

CONFERENCE THEME: Climate Change and Food Value Chain Management/Development

BACKGROUND

The agricultural sector's vulnerability to climate change has become one which requires global attention and concern. This is because sufficient production and food supplies are threatened due to irreversible weather fluctuations. In recent times climate change has become a global threat to global feeding patterns, particularly in countries with agriculture as an integral part of their economy and total productivity. Nigeria as one country with agriculture as an integral part of her economy is not left out. Food value chain management and development becomes important to adapt food availability, accessibility, utilization and food stability to changing climate. These pillars will require the development of food value chain. This conference afforded researchers and academics the opportunity to come together to share knowledge and research findings on the way forward for sustained food security.

The conference achieved the following objectives:

1. Provision of a platform for the presentation of research findings among researcher/presenters across the conference sub-themes
2. Afforded academics and researchers the platform for discussing research findings and thoughts as well as discussed practices, and innovations in the areas of the sub-themes
3. Afforded presenters opportunities to learn new trends in the areas of climate change as it relates to food value chain development
4. Provided opportunity for networking for future collaboration among colleagues
5. Publishing of the collection of papers presented as reference materials for advancing the body of knowledge was done and uploaded on the conference portal on the University website (<https://funai.edu.ng/hidden-hunger-publications>).

The conference, which had different stakeholders in the food, nutrition and environment sectors in attendance both physically and online, discussed and sharing knowledge as well as experiences on the implications of climate change on the need for food value chain development. All these were in addition to offering several specific, measurable, actionable, relevant and time-bound recommendations for realizing formidable food and nutrition security in the face of changing climate with the view of ending food unavailability, inaccessibility, low utilization and instability while proffering ways to mitigate the changing climate

Presentations and discussions were centred around these SUB-THEMES:

1. Climate Change and Agricultural Inputs Supply
2. Climate Change and Food/Agricultural/Fisheries Production
3. Climate Change and Food Processing
4. Climate Change and Food Marketing
5. Climate Change and Food Consumption





6. Policies and Capacity Building on Climate Change Management in Food Value Chain Development
7. Mainstreaming Gender in Climate Change Management for Food Value Chain Development
8. Information, Communication, Extension and Education, Climate Change and Food Value Chain Management
9. Financing Climate Action in Food Value Chain Management
10. Conflicts, violence, Displacement and Climate Change and Food Value Chain Development
11. Forestry and Wildlife and Climate Change Management
12. Using Languages, Drama, Poems in Communicating Climate Change Management for Enhanced Food Value Chain Development
13. Religion, Climate Change and Food Value Chain Development
14. Livestock, Fish and Crop Health and Climate Change
15. Engineering Solutions for Managing Climate Change for Enhanced Food Value Chain Development



Promotion poster of the conference at AE-FUNAI




Program	
DAY 1 – Tuesday 11 th June, 2024	
8.00-9.00	Registration
9.00-10.00	Registration and Arrival of guests, Courtesy call on the VC Opening Ceremony
10.00-10.05	National Anthem
10.05-10.10	University Anthem
	Opening Prayer
10.10-10.15	Remarks by Chairman - Ebonyi State Honourable Commissioner for Agriculture – Chief Hon. Princess Nkechinyere Iyioku
10.15-10.20	Welcome address by Chairman of the Conference Planning Committee, Prof Dr. Johnny Ogunji
10.20-10.25	Remarks by the Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, Dr Christiana Igberi
10.25-10.35	Opening Speech by the Vice-Chancellor of AE-FUNAI Prof Sunday Oge Elom
10.35-11.15	Keynote Address: – 1 Professor Maduebibisi Ofo Iwe - Vice Chancellor MOUAAU Good will messages/Song Interlude/Renditions
11.20-11.50	Keynote Address: – 2 Professor Christopher C. Eze VC University of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences Umuagwo Imo State Good will messages/Song Interlude/Renditions
12.00-12.40	Plenary Address: Dr Bernd Muller from University of Applied Science Weihenstephan – Triesdorf Germany
12.40-13.30	Discussion
13.30-14.00	Group photographs
14.30-15.30	Lunch break
15.30-16.30	Online Paper Presentations
16.30-16.50	Closing Remark and Announcement
17:00	Closing Prayer
DAY 2 – Wednesday 12 th June, 2024	
9.00-9.10	Registration Continues
9.10-9.15	Opening Prayer
9.15- 11.00	Parallel Presentation Session
11.00 – 14.00	Workshop on Publishing and Grant Proposal Writing
14.00 -15.00	Light refreshment
15.00 –15:10	Closing Remark and Announcement
15:10	Closing Prayer

Conference programme, AE-FUNAI



PROFILE OF CHAIRPERSON




Hon. Princess Nkechinyere Iyioku is an illustrious daughter of Ohazara clan, born of the great Iyioku dynasty of Ugwulungwu who has positively impacted the lives of more than a hundred sons and daughters of Ebonyi state and beyond. She has served in several capacities as Senior Special Assistant to the Ebonyi State Governor, office of her Excellency, chairperson of Ohazara Local Government Area, chairperson, Association of Local Government of Nigeria (ALGON), Ebonyi State. Our current Commissioner of Agriculture and Natural Resources in Ebonyi State has renewed her commitment to achieving zero hunger in the state through the transformation programs of her ministry. Dear conference participants, let us welcome the Chairman of the conference, Chief. Hon. Princess Nkechinyere Iyioku to this conference which is central to her passion for humanity.

Chief. Hon. Princess Nkechinyere Iyioku –
**COMMISSIONER FOR AGRICULTURE AND
NATURAL RESOURCES EBONYI STATE**

PROFILE OF SPEAKERS

**Prof. Maduebibisi Ofo Iwe Vice Chancellors Of Michael Okpara
University Of Agriculture Umudike**



Professor Maduebibisi Ofo Iwe was born on 7th April, 1958 in UmuchaAmudalsuochi, Abia State, Nigeria. An erudite scholar whose academic journey navigated through University of Nigeria Nsukka, University of Ibadan and Wageningen Agricultural university. As an academic, Prof Iwe has lectured at University of Agriculture, Markudi and Michael Okpara University of Agriculture Umudike where he held several reputable positions before rising to the Professorial rank in 2003. As an academic of repute, Prof. Iwe has to his credit a large volume of journal articles in the field of Food Science and Technology, published across the globe. Prof. Madu O. Iwe is married to Dr. Nkechi, a Deputy Director in Federal Ministry of Defence. They are blessed with three married children. It suffices to say that our dear food security advocate is a focused academic, an integrity driven food scientist, guided by godliness and commitment to raising a generation with exceptional pedigree aimed at achieving lasting influence. With a standing ovation, we welcome Prof Maduebibisi Ofo Iwe, the Vice Chancellor, Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike as our keynote speaker to this all important conference targeted at charting a new course for sustainable food security in the world.

Speakers at the AE-FUNAI Conference, November 2024



Professor Christopher C. Eze - Vice Chancellor University of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences Umuagwo Imo State

Prof Christopher C Eze was born in Kano. He obtained a Bachelor of Agriculture (Agricultural Economics), Master of Science and Doctorate degrees from University of Nigeria, Nsukka. before joining the academic community, he served as a Senior Training Officer under the National Board for Community Banks, under the presidency. Prof Christopher Eze joined the Federal University of Technology, Owerri (FUTO) in 2002. Based on his extensive research contributions, Christopher Eze has published numerous scientific articles in local and international journals. Among other things he has to his credit over ninety journal articles in peer-reviewed Journals; plus, about four technical

Reports and an extensive profile of papers presented at various Conferences and Workshops locally and overseas. While at FUTO, Prof C. C Eze held several administrative positions that are too numerous to be mentioned. He has served as a specialist consultant to both governmental and non-governmental agencies across the globe. This has earned him accolades of recognitions. Professor Christopher Chiedozie Eze is committed and devout Anglican Christian. He is happily married to Mrs Victoria Chinedum Eze (Nee Ifediora) and the marriage is blessed with three children.

We are glad to welcome the Vice Chancellor of the University of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Umuagwo, Imo State, Nigeria as he delivers his key note address to the fourth Food Security conference of our dear Faculty of Agriculture, Alex Ekwueme Federal University, Ndufu Alike, Ebonyi State.

**Dr Bernd Muller - University of Applied Science
Weißenstephan – Triesdorf Germany**



Dr Bernd Mueller obtained his PhD from Justus Liebig University Giessen Germany in 2019. He is the Deputy Head of HSWT International School, Postgraduate course "Food Chains in Agriculture", Coordinator of the TOMATO project. He is the coordinator for the Project known as - Cooperation for Holistic Agriculture Innovation Nests in Sub-Saharan Africa (CHAIN). This project is funded by the European Union through Erasmus + scheme, geared towards modernizing agricultural education in Nigeria, Togo and Kenya by fostering a more holistic and human-centered approach to agricultural education, training and innovation. The project duration is 01.06.2023 – 31.05.2026.

He is also coordinating the **Project on Managing (South) Africa and Senegal Sustainability Targets through Economic-diversification of Rural-areas (MASSTER)**. MASSTER project explores venues of support provision to SSA agricultural students and farmers offering innovative educational and training tools, implemented through Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) greater involvement in community development and whole of society approach within the agricultural/rural development and migration/mobility nexus. Six partner HEIs in Senegal and South Africa are project partners. The duration of the project is 01.01.2024 – 31.12.2026.

Let us welcome Dr Bernd Mueller, an Organic Farming Consultant, a trained scientific assistant, a project Manager, a farm Manager, and a worldclass researcher of excellence as our Plenary Speaker to this all important conference targeted at charting a way forward for food value chain development in the face of challenging climate change



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