



AFSA

ALLIANCE FOR FOOD SOVEREIGNTY IN AFRICA

Shaping the Future of Food Markets in Africa: What kind of markets do we need for the transition to agroecology?

AFSA's 3rd Biennial Food Systems Conference
October 27th – 29th 2020

Programme

LAKE ROOM (PLENARY)

Join Zoom Meeting

Film celebration starts 14:00 in East Africa = 13:00 in Southern & Central Africa = 11:00 in West Africa

Conference starts 15:00 in East Africa = 14:00 in Southern & Central Africa = 12:00 in West Africa

Please Note: All programme times are [East Africa Time \(GMT+3\)](#)

Tuesday 27TH October

Day one: Learn

LAKE ROOM (PLENARY)

Join Zoom Meeting

14:00-15:00 (GMT+3)	Films & celebrations Short films, children's stories, seed and food celebrations from across the continent <i>Famara Diédhiou (ASFA), Senegal</i> <i>Leonida Odongo, Kenya</i>
15:00-15:10 (10 mins)	Opening ceremony <i>Gertrude Pswarayi-Jabson (PELUM-Zimbabwe), Zimbabwe</i>
15:10-15:15 (5 mins)	Stories from the field <i>Mariama Sonko (We are the Solution), Senegal</i>
15:15-15:30 (15 mins)	Official welcome <i>Dr Chris Macoloo, AFSA Chairperson (World Neighbours)</i> Purpose & programme of the conference <i>Dr Million Belay, AFSA, General Coordinator</i>
15:30-15:45	FAO address <i>Dr Allison Loconto, Sustainable Innovations and Trade Expert, FAO</i>
	Official opening speech <i>Dr Lailà Lokosang, Advisor for Food and Nutrition Security, African Union</i>
15:45-15:50	Short film
15:50-16:10 (20 mins)	Keynote address 1 Seeding food systems & indigenous commerce in African mass markets <i>Charles Dhewa (Knowledge Transfer Africa), Zimbabwe</i> <p>African mass food markets are not just foundations of local thriving economies. They are vessels for liberating African agriculture from neo-liberalism. This conversation will take listeners through the rich characteristics of diverse African mass markets starting from West Africa, coming down to Southern Africa, up to East Africa and North Africa.</p>
16:10-16:25 (15 mins)	Supermarkets out of Africa! Food systems across the continent are doing just fine without them <i>Susan Nakacwa (GRAIN), Uganda</i> <p>The report explores the liberalization of the food sector through free trade agreements, the rapid growth of supermarkets, the push for processed food, sidelining agroecologically produced food, harming smallholder farmers and informal trade. The full paper can be found here: https://grain.org/e/6042</p>
16:25-16:30 (5 mins)	Afternoon programme <i>Anne Maina, (BIBA), Kenya</i>
BREAK (10 mins)	
16:40 - 17:25 (45 mins)	Discussion session 1 Moderator: John Wilson & AFSA members

	<p>A chance for you to participate by sharing your experience, questions, issues and opportunities in groups of 8 to 10 people. This will help AFSA develop a clear way forward to transform marketing on the continent as part of the transition to agroecology.</p> <p>Day 1: The strengths and weaknesses of existing African markets and what markets of the future look like as we transition to agroecology.</p>		
17:25-17:45 (20 mins)	Plenary remarks from discussion session		
17:45-17:50	Introduction and directions to the three parallel side events		
17:50-18:30 (40 mins)	<p style="text-align: center;">LAKE ROOM (PLENARY)</p> <p>Revitalisation of indigenous & African food cultures</p> <p>Moderator: Andrew Bennie (African Centre for Biodiversity), South Africa</p> <p>Speaker 1: Bibi Giyosi (NEPAD), Botswana</p> <p>Speaker 2: Prof Cecilia Onyango, (Barefoot Guide), Kenya</p> <p>Indigenous foods in Africa are prominent cultural signifiers for the various ethnic groups. There has been a steady shift from traditional / indigenous production and eating patterns to “modern” patterns. This discussion reflects on a re-awakening on agro-ecological production, consumption and marketing of indigenous/African foods.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Join Zoom Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FOREST ROOM</p> <p>Challenging the feed the world narrative: blockchain technology vs trading in territorial markets</p> <p>Moderator: Ibrahima Coulibaly, (CNOP), Mali</p> <p>Speaker: Pat Mooney, ETC Group</p> <p>At the 2021 Summit, the advocates of Nature-Based Solutions are rolling out an elaborate mirage of the food system they say will feed the world but not until long past 2030. Challenging this technocratic myth is the much more efficient and effective strategy for territorial markets that could feed the world now.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Join Zoom Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MOUNTAIN ROOM</p> <p>Harnessing networks & technology to link small-scale or emerging producers directly to markets</p> <p>Moderator: Leonida Odongo, Kenya</p> <p>Speaker: Dr Naude Malan, University of Johannesburg, South Africa</p> <p>New technology offer farmers real opportunities to expand their business. In this talk Naudé will show how to use SMS, WhatsApp, Facebook and websites to reach clients and build markets. Small-scale farmers can deliver food at competitive prices to local consumers. This talk will show how to build these systems and profit from them!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Join Zoom Meeting</p>

<p>Wednesday 28TH October</p> <p>Day two: Vision</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LAKE ROOM (PLENARY)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Join Zoom Meeting</p>	
14:00-15:00 (GMT+3)	<p>Films & celebrations</p> <p>Short films, children’s stories, seed and food celebrations from across the continent</p>
15:00-15:05 (5 mins)	<p>Mystica</p> <p><i>Appolinaire Oussou Lio, Benin</i></p>
15:05-15:10 (5 mins)	<p>Stories from the field</p> <p><i>Nnimmo Bassey (Health of Mother Earth Foundation), Nigeria</i></p>
15:10-15:15 (5 mins)	Introducing the day’s programme & recap

	<i>Gertrude Pswarayi-Jabson</i>		
15:15-15:30 (15 mins)	<p>Small-scale producers challenging industrial marketing in Senegal</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Mariama Sonko (We are the Solution), Senegal</i></p> <p>Mariama tells the story of the production and marketing of Sum Pak, a range of stock cubes made from spices and natural local products. Launched in Casamance, South Senegal, by the rural women's movement Nous Sommes la Solution (We are the Solution), Sum Pak was created as a healthy agroecological alternative to the widespread use of industrial stock cubes.</p>		
15:30-15:45 (15 mins)	<p>Insights from a long term study of informal markets in Zimbabwe - how small markets outcompete supermarkets</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Clever Mukove (Knowledge Transfer Africa), Zimbabwe</i></p> <p>While African policy makers have embraced the supermarketization of agricultural commodities, small markets that speak to ordinary people's daily needs seem to be giving supermarkets a run for their money. Besides ensuring nutritional diversity, informal markets demonstrate the importance of protecting and supporting informal channels on which the majority depend for their food and income.</p>		
15:45-16:00 (15 mins)	<p>Keynote address 2</p> <p>The role of markets in promoting sustainable food systems</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Dr Mamadou Goïta (AFSA; Institute for Research and Promotion of Alternatives in Development), Mali</i></p>		
16:00-16:15 (15 mins)	<p>Keynote address 3</p> <p>Agroecological enterprises inspire change</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Jen Astone (Integrated Capital Investing), USA</i></p> <p>Local food markets in Africa represent a huge opportunity for farmers, food entrepreneurs and investors. Based on data from ongoing action research, Jen will share examples and initial learnings about businesses and investors engaging in the transition to agroecology. The focus will be on small and medium enterprise development.</p>		
16:15-16:30 (15 mins)	<p>Moderated Q&A</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Moderator: Dr Fassil Gebeyehu (African Biodiversity Network - ABN), Ethiopia</i></p>		
BREAK (10 mins)			
16:40-16:50 (10 mins)	<p>Presentation of Day 1 Synthesis</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Moderator: John Wilson & AFSA members</i></p>		
16:50-17:30 (40 mins)	<p>Discussion session 2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Moderators: John Wilson & AFSA members</p> <p>A chance for you to participate by sharing your experience, questions, issues and opportunities in groups of 8 to 10 people. This will help AFSA develop a clear way forward to transform marketing on the continent as part of the transition to agroecology.</p> <p>Day 2: Strengthening of African markets, linked to farmers' and consumers' rights; and identifying helping and hindering factors behind successfully expanding African markets.</p>		
17:30-17:45 (15 mins)	<p>Plenary remarks from discussion session & afternoon programme</p>		
17:45-17:50	Introduction & directions to the three parallel side events		
17:50-18:30 (40 mins)	<p style="text-align: center;">LAKE ROOM (PLENARY)</p> <p>Supporting the farmer: Building new value chains for agroecological produce</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Moderator: Jen Astone (Integrated Capital Investing), USA</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FOREST ROOM</p> <p>Practical insights: building local markets in the age of big retail</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Moderator: Sabrina Masinjila (African Centre for Biodiversity), Tanzania</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MOUNTAIN ROOM</p> <p>The practicalities of place: exploring approaches to the localisation of food</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Moderator: Dr Luke Metelerkamp, Rhodes University, South Africa</i></p>

	<p>Speaker 1: <i>Charles Dhewa (Knowledge Transfer Africa), Zimbabwe</i></p> <p>Unless there is a reliable market, farmers practising ecological-sensitive agriculture may not see the value of their hard work. Thankfully, efforts to build local markets are gaining traction in some districts of Zimbabwe. This discussion will focus on intentional initiatives that are underway in Chimanimani and Mt Darwin districts.</p> <p>Speaker 2: <i>Hervé Bouagnimbeck (Groupement d'appui pour le développement durable), Cameroon</i></p> <p>Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS) are valuable locally focused systems for organic farmers to demonstrate the organic quality of their production to their buyers at an affordable cost. Through practical realities of a PGS in Cameroon, this discussion will focus on what it takes to mobilize and organize farmers for the development of PGS.</p> <p>Join Zoom Meeting</p>	<p>Speaker: <i>Susan Nakacwa (GRAIN), Uganda</i></p> <p>This presentation will showcase "food scandals" that GRAIN and the Citizens and Agroecology working group have worked on mapping in 2020.</p> <p>Join Zoom Meeting</p>	<p>Speaker: <i>Dr Scott Drimie, (Southern Africa Food Lab), South Africa</i></p> <p>Establishing and connecting new markets is key to recalibrating local food systems and building resilience within the failings of the existing system and in the wake of COVID-19. However, this is not as straightforward as it seems; many practical barriers exist and the dominant system pushes back continuously and sometimes in insidious ways.</p> <p>To establish new markets we need to understand the processes of learning and adapting, and confronting power and building alliances. It also involves working with local stakeholders, consumer aspirations, establishing new flows of food, emphasising fresh produce, and connecting actors in new ways that encompass a circular economy, and ecological and social justice.</p> <p>Join Zoom Meeting</p>
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<p>Thursday 29TH October</p> <h2>Day three: Act</h2> <p>LAKE ROOM (PLENARY)</p> <p>Join Zoom Meeting</p>	
<p>14:00-15:00 (GMT+3)</p>	<p>Films & celebrations</p> <p>Short films, children's stories, seed and food celebrations from across the continent</p>
<p>15:00-15:05 (5 mins)</p>	<p>Mystica</p> <p>Injairu Kulundu-Bolus (Environmental Learning Research Centre, Rhodes University), Kenya</p>
<p>15:05-15:10 (5 mins)</p>	<p>Stories from the field</p> <p><i>Elisabeth Mpfu (La Via Campesina), Zimbabwe</i></p>
<p>15:10-15:15 (5 mins)</p>	<p>Introducing the day's programme & recap</p> <p><i>Gertrude Pswarayi-Jabson</i></p>
<p>15:15-15:35 (20 mins)</p>	<p>Keynote address 4</p> <p>Changing policy towards markets for healthy food systems</p> <p><i>Prof Olivier De Schutter, UN Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights, Belgium</i></p>
<p>15:35-16:30 (55 mins)</p>	<p>The Africa we want: Shaping policies for sustainable agroecological markets (Panel discussion)</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Bethule Nyamambi (Trust Africa), Zimbabwe</i></p>

	<p>Panellists: <i>Andrew Bennie (African Centre for Biodiversity), South Africa</i></p> <p><i>Mamadou Goita (AFSA; IRPAD), Mali</i></p> <p><i>Charles Dhewa (Knowledge Transfer Africa), Zimbabwe</i></p> <p>There is a need for a democratic discussion on the political economy of African food markets as well as the political choices we make to transform to more sustainable and healthy food systems. The panel will discuss the opportunities and challenges for translating the reality of African food markets into public policies that enable sustainable food markets.</p>
BREAK (10 mins)	
16:40-17:40 (60 mins)	<p>Presentation of Day 2 Synthesis (10 mins)</p> <p><i>Moderator: John Wilson & AFSA members</i></p> <p>Discussion session 3: ACTIONS (50 mins)</p> <p>A chance for you to participate by sharing your experience, questions, issues and opportunities in groups of 8 to 10 people. This will help AFSA develop a clear way forward to transform marketing on the continent as part of the transition to agroecology.</p> <p>Day 3: Influencing policy and attracting the right kind of investment to strengthen African markets. What should be AFSA's focus?</p>
17:40-18:20 (40 mins)	<p>The way forward</p> <p><i>Moderators: Dr Million Belay</i></p>
18:20-18:25 (5 mins)	<p>Official thanks</p> <p><i>Dr Chris Macoloo, AFSA Chairperson</i></p>
18:25-18:30 (5 mins)	<p>Closing ceremony</p> <p><i>Gertrude Pswarayi-Jabson</i></p>

With thanks to our partners

