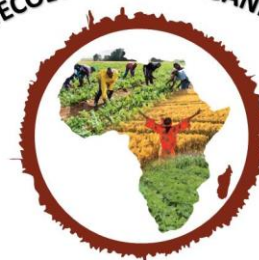


TRANSFORMING AGRICULTURE IN AFRICA
AGROECOLOGY and ORGANIC TRADE



A BRIEF INTRODUCTION OF AFRICA UNION'S HEADS OF STATE DECISION ON ORGANIC AGRICULTURE AND UPDATES ON ITS IMPLEMENTATION

Presented to the 1ST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
AGROECOLOGY TRANSFORMING AGRICULTURE & FOOD
SYSTEMS IN AFRICA AT SAFARI PARK HOTEL, NAIROBI
(JUNE 18, 2019)


Presented by: By Zachary Makanya,
Country Coordinator, PELUM- Kenya

NB: PELUM Kenya hosts the Regional (EA) Secretariat of the
AU-EOAI

THE KEY ELEMENTS OF THIS PRESENTATION

1. The Decision by the AU Heads of state on Organic Agriculture.
2. The efforts to implement the decision
3. The AU-EOAI Framework & Foot Prints
4. The Current Status of AU-EOAI
5. The Key Achievements of AU-EOAI
6. AU-EOAI in Action
7. Key Challenges in the implementation of AU-EOAI
8. AU-EOAI Contacts
9. Acknowledgement and special thanks

THE AU HEADS OF STATE DECISION ON ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

- 
- ❖ AU-EOAI is an initiative to implement the decision adopted in January 2011 (EX. CI / Dec.621 (xvii) by the African Union Heads of States and Governments addressing challenges facing the farmers in agriculture.

THE AU HEADS OF STATE DECISION ON ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

EX.CL/Dec.621(XVIII)

DECISION ON ORGANIC FARMING Doc. EX.CL/631 (XVIII)

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Conference of Ministers of Agriculture held in Lilongwe, Malawi on 28 and 29 October 2010 on Organic Farming, and **ENDORSES** the Resolution contained therein;
2. **EXPRESSES** concern over the current practice of exploitation of the organic farmers in Africa;
3. **REQUESTS** the Commission and its New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) to:
 - i) initiate and provide guidance for an African Union (AU)-led coalition of international partners on the establishment of an African organic farming platform based on available best practices; and
 - ii) provide guidance in support of the development of sustainable organic farming systems and improve seed quality;
4. **CALLS UPON** development partners to provide the necessary technical and financial support for the implementation of this Decision;
5. **REQUESTS** the Commission to report regularly on the implementation of this Decision.

IMPLEMENTATING THE AU HEADS OF STATE DECISION

The first meeting was held in May 2011 at SACDEP Kenya Centre, in Thika

- 👉 Organized by PELUM Kenya (Mr. Zachary Makanya) in collaboration with other key stakeholders.
- 👉 Key stakeholders include: Africa Union Representative (Dr Sarah Olembo), BvAT (Dr Amudavi), ISD (Dr Sue Edwards), SACDEP Kenya (Mr Ngugi Mutura), NOGAMU (Mr Musa Muwanga). KOAN (Eustace Kiarie), TOAM (Jordan Galma), UGO Cert (Prof. Charles Ssekyewa) among others.
- 👉 The meeting was supported by SSNC and AUC



The Key Concepts of the Ecological Organic Agriculture

- 👍 EOA is a production management system that considers the agro-ecosystem in all its diversity, focusing on biological diversity, healthy use of soils, air and water and relying on renewable resources in locally organized agricultural systems.
- 👍 EOA combines modern science, innovative practices and traditional knowledge.
- 👍 Examples of farming practices in EOA include Organic Farming, Sustainable Ecological Agriculture, Bio-intensive agriculture, Permaculture, Ecological farming, biodynamic agriculture, and agroecology.
- 👍 EOA is more accessible for resource-limited rural people and has therefore a high potential for improving the livelihoods of a large group of rural poor and particularly women.

3. EOAI'S FRAMEWORK AND FOOD PRINTS

3.1 VISION

Resilient and vibrant Ecological Organic Agricultural systems for enhanced food and nutrient security, and sustainable development in Africa.

3.2 MISSION

To scale up ecologically and organically sound strategies and practices through institutional capacity development, scientific innovations, market participation, public policies and programs, outreach and communication, efficient coordination, networking and partnerships in Africa.

3.3 GOAL

To mainstream Ecological Organic Agriculture into national agricultural production systems by 2025 in order to improve agricultural productivity, food security, access to markets and sustainable development in Africa.

3.4 EOAI'S CORE VALUES.

The EOA initiative values are grounded in the reality of sustainable agricultural practices:

1. Biodiversity, respect for nature and sustainable development
2. Promote family farming cultures, indigenous knowledge, cultural practices and wisdom
3. Embrace fairness and justice to the ecosystem
4. Promote safe, nutritious and healthy food

3.5 EOAI STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. To increase documentation of information and knowledge on organic agricultural products along the complete value chain and support relevant actors to translate it into practices and wide application.
2. To systematically inform producers about the EOA approaches and good practices and motivate their uptake through strengthening access to advisory and support services.
3. To substantially increase the share of quality organic products at the local, national and regional markets.
4. Strengthen inclusive stakeholder engagement in organic commodities value chain development by developing national, regional and continental multi-stakeholder platforms to advocate for changes in public policy, plans and practices



3.6 THE KEY PILLARS FOR IMPLEMENTING AU-EOAI

1. Research, Training and Extension
2. Information and Communication
3. Value Chain and Market Development
4. Networking and Partnerships
5. Policy and Programme Development
6. Institutional Capacity Development

3.7 INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR ROLLING OUT AU-EOAI

3.7 (A) NATIONAL PLATFORMS

- **Country-based platform with multi-stakeholder representations from across the country (CSOs, Government, Private Institutions, Academia, research etc.)**
- **Has a National Steering Committee, with a Chair from the Relevant Ministry e.g. a senior officer from Ministry of Agriculture**
- **May also start with the Chair from the Civil Society Organizations.**

3.7 (B). Regional Platforms

- Multi-stakeholder representations from the region (**CSOs, RECs, Private Institutions, Academia etc.**).
 - Currently in Eastern and Western African clusters. Southern Africa cluster is on course
 - Currently has two Regional Steering Committees (RSC) with a chair from the REC (ECOWAS) and a Co-Chair from one of the CSO partners.
 - Has three Regional Secretariats with a coordinator hosted by one of the partners in the cluster.
1. Eastern Africa – hosted by PELUM Kenya
 2. Western Africa – hosted by
 3. Southern Africa – hosted by

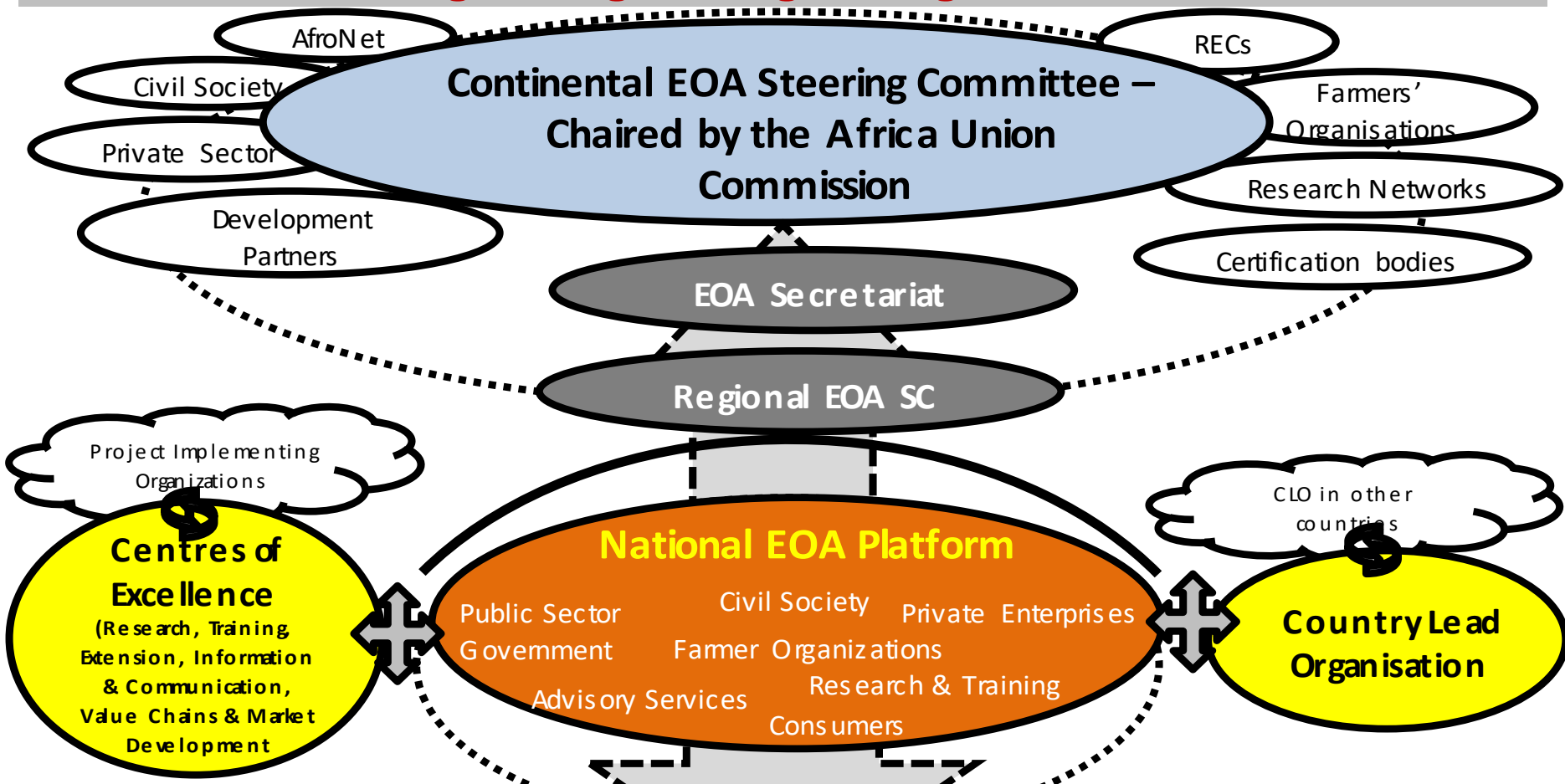
3.7 (C). Continental Platform

- Consists of multi-stakeholder representations.
- Has a Continental Steering Committee (CSC) which is Chaired by Africa Union Commission
- Has a continental Secretariat with a Continental Coordinator based at Biovision Africa Trust (BvAT) in Kenya

3.8 Why the Focus on Multi-stakeholders-layered Platforms.

1. Create coherence and synergy for sharing experiences, lessons and best practices
2. Improve communication, knowledge transfer and know-how among and between various stakeholders
3. Develop and spread new technologies and promote commercial collaborations
4. Popularize the initiative and reach varied and new stakeholders and organic markets
5. Find partners to optimize comparative advantages and undertake joint research and development activities
6. Facilitate identification of policy gaps, capacity gaps, emerging opportunities and contribute to appropriate programme design and development of policies that favor small holder farmers.
7. Amplify benefits from organic investments, the economic and environmental opportunities for small holders farmers.

Mainstreaming Ecological Organic Agriculture Initiative in Africa



3.9 The EOAI Delivery Approaches

1. Needs assessment, baselines surveys, mid-term and end of programme evaluations
2. Organization capacity assessment (OCA)
3. Strengthening the capacity of the EOAI implementing partners.
4. Promoting partnership and networking
5. Designing of bottom-heavy programmes: where most resources target farmers and extension and marketing
6. Promoting learning via exchange & exposure visits

4. THE CURRENT STATUS ON THE AU-EOAI

4.1 Participating Countries :

1. Eastern Africa: Kenya, Uganda (SSNC)
2. Eastern Africa: Kenya, Uganda: Tanzania, Rwanda & Ethiopia (SDC)
3. West Africa: Nigeria, Senegal, Benin and Mali (SDC)

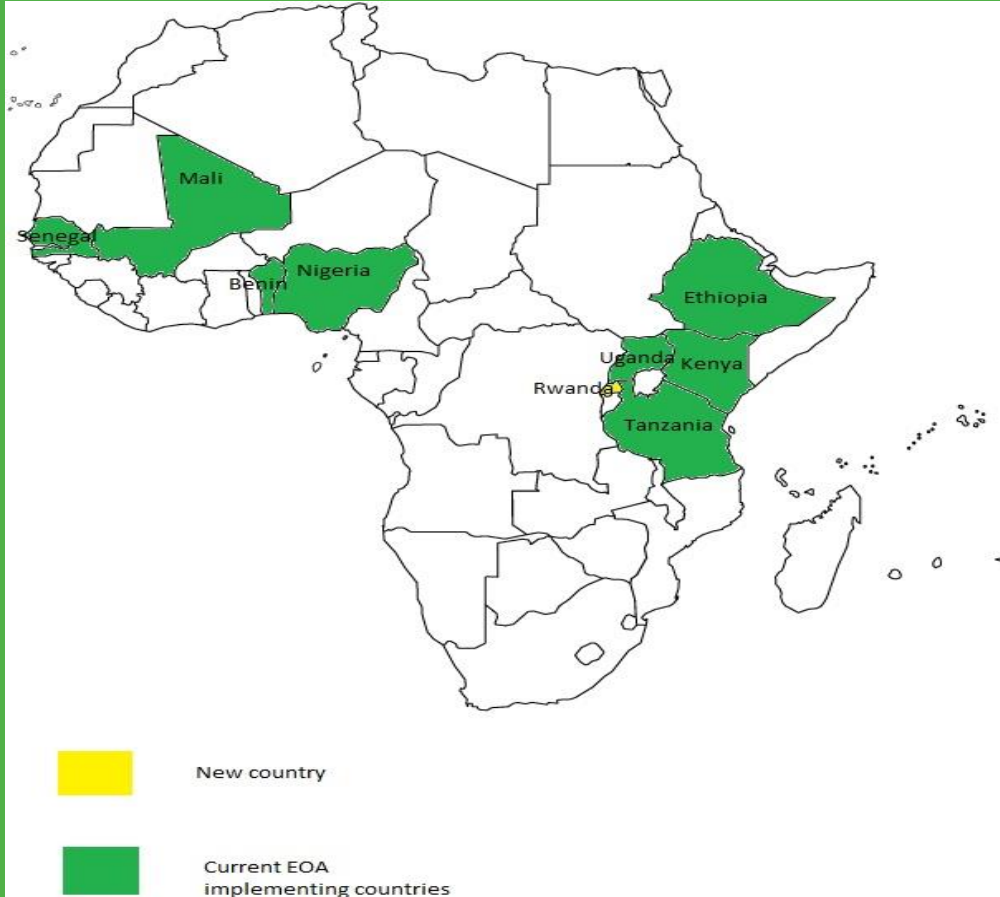
4.2 Financial Support:

- SDC's Global Programme for Food Security (GPFS) committed up to 2019 and a new face July 2019 – December 2022.
- SSNC-SIDA support (committed up to December 2020)
- AUC – support to trainings in Organic Standards and Certification Systems and marketing and the CSC operations.

4.3 Lead Coordinating Organizations:

- Biovision Africa Trust (SDC Contribution), also hosts the EOAI Continental Secretariat and Coordinator
- PELUM Kenya (SSNC / SIDA Contribution) also hosts the EOAI Regional (Eastern Africa) Secretariat and Coordinator

4.4 Coverage in Africa & Strategic partners



COUNTRY LEAD ORGANIZATION (CLOS)

1. Kenya – Kenya Organic Agriculture Network (KOAN)
2. Senegal – National Federation For Organic Agriculture (FENAB)
3. Mali - Association des Organisations Professionnelles Paysannes (AOPP)
4. Benin - Béninoise pour la Promotion de l'Agriculture Biologique (OBEPAB)
5. Nigeria – Association of Organic Agriculture Practitioners of Nigeria (NOAN)
6. Ethiopia – Institute for Sustainable Development (ISD)
7. Uganda – National Organic Agriculture Movement of Uganda (NOGAMU)
8. Tanzania – Tanzania Organic Agriculture Movement (TOAM)
9. Rwanda (Rwanda Organic Agriculture Movement (ROAM))

Overall, over 32 partners are involved

5. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

5.1 Institutional Achievements

5.1.1. National Level

- All the participating countries have established National Platforms, National Steering Committees and the National Secretariats

5.1.2 Regional Level

- 2 functional Regional Platforms (West and Eastern Africa), Has two functional Regional Steering Committees served by active Regional Secretariats

5.1.3 Continental Level

- Consists of a continental Platform with multi-stakeholders
- Has a Continental Steering Committee, Chaired by Africa Union Commission (AUC)

5.2 Some Achievements of Mainstreaming EOA in Standards and Certification

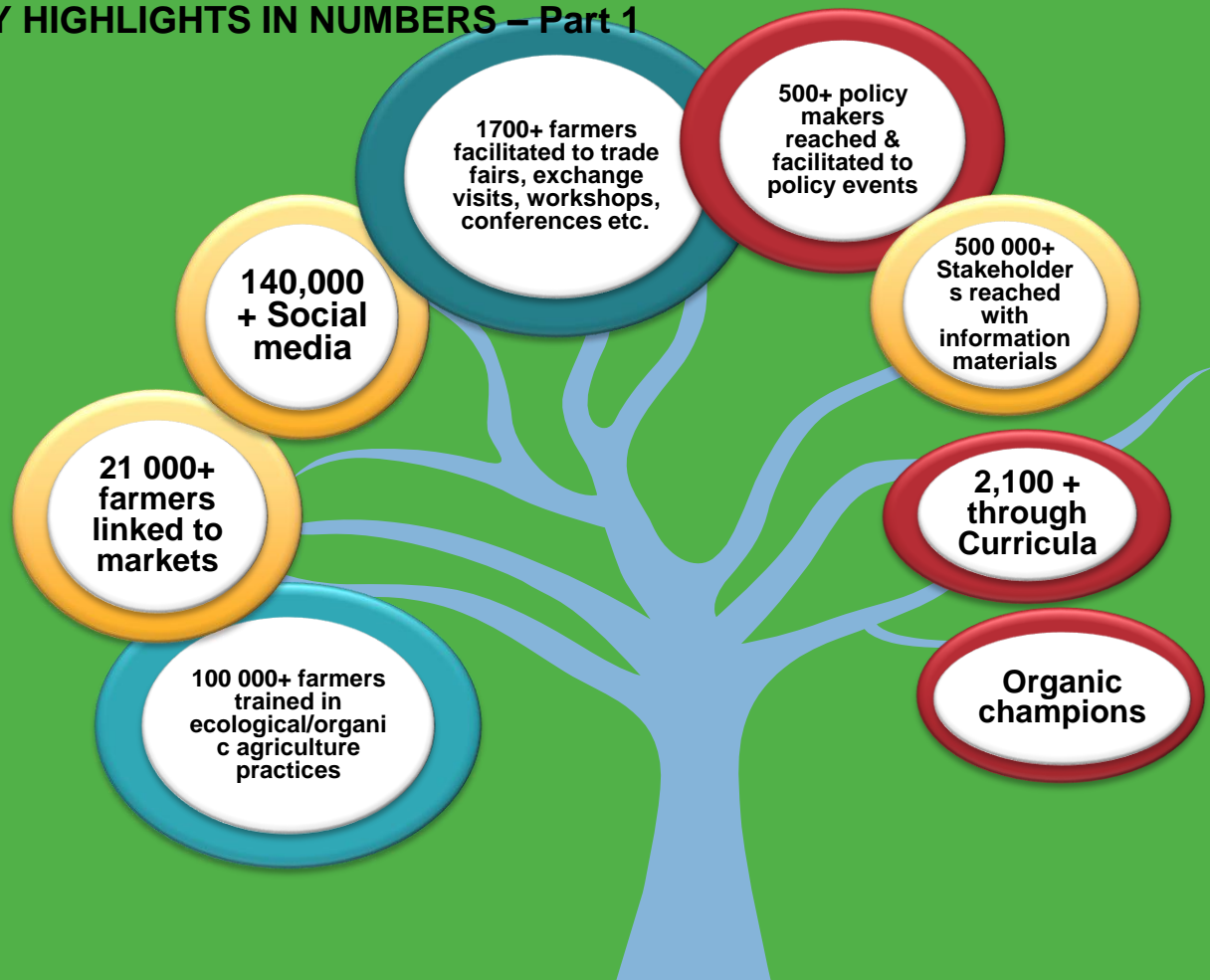
Country	PGS & ICS Processes
Benin	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10 facilitators undertaken through ICS & PGS• 3 organic producers associations trained in ICS & PGS
Ethiopia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 78 producers sensitized on PGS and 50 vegetable farmers undergoing PGS process.
Kenya	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 15 PGS certification
Mali	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No report yet
Nigeria	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fifty-six (56) trained in Participatory Guarantee System procedure of Certification.• Nigeria 47 local inspectors
Uganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 11 Local Inspectors trained in PGS• PGS Assessed for Organic Agriculture production• 226 farmers trained in ICS
Senegal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No report yet
Tanzania	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 42 PGS have been developed 12 bear active licenses under the

5.3 Some Key Achievements of Mainstreaming EOA into National Policies

All the 8 EOA-I participating countries s have achieved various levels of mainstreaming EOA into programmes, plans or policies. For example:

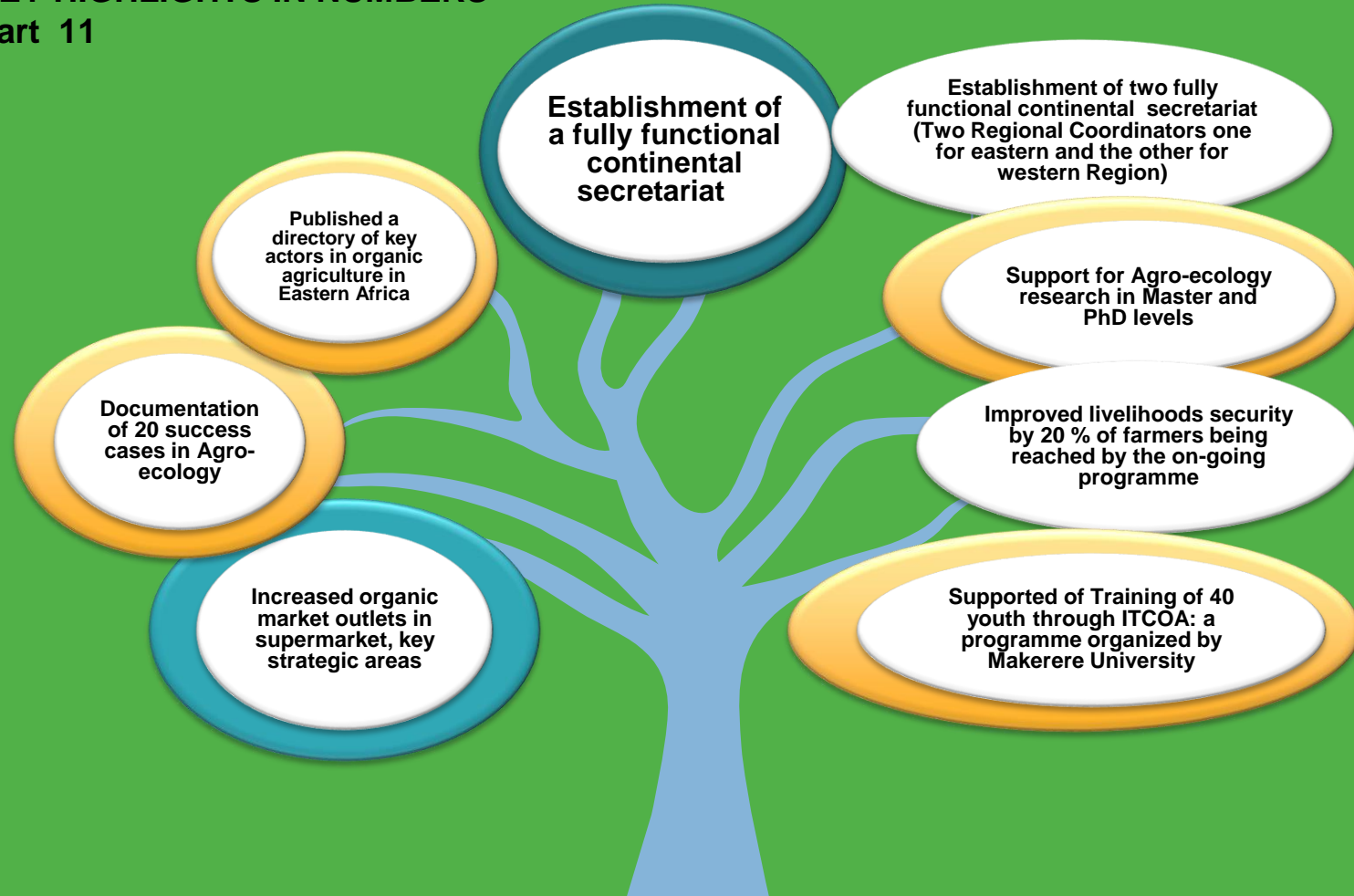
- Kenya has the **5th draft (2017)** undergoing review in the Ministry of Agriculture before submission to the Cabinet.
- Nigeria is on **its 3rd draft** of Organic Agriculture Act of 2017
- Tanzania, organic agriculture is highlighted in the National Agriculture Policy of 2013.
- Uganda, the Ministry of Finance has issued the **Certificate of Financial Implication (CFI)** for the draft National Organic Agriculture Policy (NOAP) on its role on supporting organic agriculture.
- Benin, the Innovation for **Sustainable Agricultural Growth (2017) plan** promotes use of organic herbicides and fertilizers in the rice and soya value chains.
- Senegal, **National Agricultural Investment Program for Food Security and Nutrition (PNIASAN)** is awaiting validation

KEY HIGHLIGHTS IN NUMBERS – Part 1



KEY HIGHLIGHTS IN NUMBERS –

Part 11



Some of the Africans Organic Champions



**Dr Mwatima
Juma**



Mr Ngugi Mutura



Mr John Njoroge

6. EOAI in Action



Making of composts in Ethiopia





KAREN FARMERS MARKET



For Natural
& Organic
Products



Karengata Park
Marula Lane



We are open every **Saturday** 8:00am - 6:00pm



Veggie Expo

Location:
Purdy Arms,
Marula Lane, Karen

Date:
26th - 27th
May, 2018

+264 712 870 807 | www.ofmkop.org







EOAI Warriors engaging the stakeholders in the Media Launch of the this Conference in Nairobi on Thursday, June 13, 2019



7. THE KEY CHALLENGES FACING AU-EOAI

1. EOA is implemented in many countries but there is poor coordination of efforts and reporting on its implementation.
2. Inadequate documentation of success cases of EOA in the continent.
3. Limited funds & resources to roll out / implement AU-EOAI in 54 countries.
4. Inadequate awareness of the AU – EOAI at the REC and the member State Level hence low involvement
5. Limited research on the link between the Ecological Organic Agriculture with human health.

8. THE FUTURE PLANS

1. Map out all the actors implementing EOA in all countries and strengthen the coordination of the efforts by stakeholders.
2. All the RECs are integral part EOAI and implementing it
3. All the 55 state members implementing the EOAI.
4. EOA favoring policies in place and operating cascading from the County, National, REC and Continental level
5. Over 70 % small holder farmers and especially the women and the youth benefiting from organic food and products.
6. Over 70% of the Africa population are benefiting from safe, healthy and nutritious food.
7. There is a strong research in support of EOAI offering the solutions to support the small holder organic farming in Africa.
8. Strong institutions like AFRONET, NOAMs, NOARA and Agro-ecological Networks working in harmony with other key stakeholders in moving the EOA agenda in Africa

9. AU - EOAI Contacts in Africa

Dr. Simplice Nouala Fonkou, The Chair, AU-EOAI

Email: Noualas@africa-union.org;

Alex Mutungi, the Continental Coordinator,

Email: amutungi@biovisionafrica.org;

Prof Charles Ssekyewa, Chair, Regional (EA) Steering Committee

Email: cssekyewa@gmail.com;

Ms. Manei Naanyu, Coordinator, Regional (EA) Secretariat

manei@pelum.net;

Mr. Ernest Aubee Chair, Regional (Western Africa) Steering Committee

Email: dsvodouhe@yahoo.com;

Mr. Nafiu Olore , Coordinator, Regional (Western) Secretariat

[Email: oloorenafiu@gmail.com](mailto:oloorenafiu@gmail.com)

Lead Executing Agencies:

Dr David Amudavi, Executive Director, Biovision Africa Trust

Email: damudavi@biovisionafricatrust.org;

Mr Zachary Makanya, Country Coordinator, PELUM Kenya

Email: makanya@pelum.net;

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND APPRECIATION

We need to applaud the following for their gallant efforts to support in the growth and implementation of AU - EOA Initiative so far:

- African Union Commission for offering institutional support for the implementation of EOAI
- The African Union Member States and Governments for providing a conducive environment to operate and expand EOAI.
- The RECS (EAC, ECOWAS) for their support.
- The SSNC, SDC & Biovision Foundation for gallantly supporting the AU-EOAI from its nascent stages
- The Lead Coordinating Organizations (LCOs) Biovision Africa Trust (BvAT) and PELUM Kenya for their coordination of SDC and SSNC support respectively.
- AFRONET and National Organic Movements (NOAMs)
- IFOAM International and UNCTD, for always accompanying and supporting.
- The Chairs of the Regional EOAI Steering Committees
- The Coordinators for the Continental Secretariat and the Coordinators for the Regional Secretariat (for the Eastern and Western Africa).

THREE PARTING SHOTS



“Do not go where there is a well-trodden path or a road to follow; it is very easy to do this! Instead, go to where there are no paths or roads and leave a trail of footprints for others to follow.” By Harold R. McaAlindon



If you find yourself in a hole – stop digging and come out of the hole. We have challenges / issues around pests and diseases, GMOs, climate change etc. Let us stop digging and let us truly embrace Agro-ecology.



If you are here as an individual or organization or a funding partner, what are you supporting? Why are you not supporting EOAI? In EOAI, we are implementing the AU heads of decision to support organic agriculture.



Please join the bandwagon of EOAI, Support EOAI

10 SPECIAL APPRECIATION FOR THE SUPPORT OF THIS CONFERENCE



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC



Swedish Society
for Nature Conservation



german
cooperation
DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

supported by
giz
Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit



Bundesministerium für
wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit
und Entwicklung

IFOAM
ORGANICS
INTERNATIONAL



Hivos
people unlimited

WORLD FOOD
PRESERVATION CENTER®
EDUCATION - INNOVATION - PRESERVATION

Biovision
Africa
Trust