

Knowledge Festival One Planet Laureates Graduation Ceremony Nurturing Africa's leadership to deliver climate solutions October 17th - 18th 2024 | CIFOR - ICRAF, Nairobi

Overview

As Africa's population continues to grow and the impacts of climate change intensify, ensuring food security has become a pressing challenge. Agricultural research and innovation offer a promising path forward, but we must invest in the next generation of African climate scientists to drive meaningful change.

By focusing on the interconnected themes of **ONE**, **PLANET**, and **FELLOWSHIP**, the Knowledge Festival will explore and demonstrate how:

- 1. Context-specific research and innovation can drive progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in the areas of food security, climate action, and gender equality.
- 2. We can deploy a gender lens in climate research as an urgent imperative to address the needs and priorities of women and men smallholders.
- 3. Collective action is essential for addressing climate change, aligning with the One Planet Summit's vision of shared responsibility.
- 4. We can diversify the voices of African experts in global debates, enhancing their visibility and ensuring that their voices are amplified.

DAY 1		
Time	Item	
8:30 - 10:00 AM	Opening Ceremony	
	The opening ceremony sets the stage for two days of inspiring discussions, knowledge sharing, and collaboration. With a focus on climate-resilient agriculture in Africa, the event welcomes a diverse group of participants, including One Planet Laureates, and other leading experts in agrifood systems.	
	<u>Remarks</u>	
	Major Peter Murunga, Security Manager, CIFOR-ICRAF	
	Dr. Catherine Muthuri, Country Director, Kenya and Regional Convener for East	
	 Africa CIFOR-ICRAF Dr. Carine Karaïliev, Director, Agropolis Fondation 	
	• Dr. Susan Kaaria , Director, AWARD	





10:00 - 10:30 AM	Health Break
10:30 AM - 12:20 PM	Plenary Theme: ONE The first, ONE, is a fitting choice for discussions that will spotlight how multi-disciplinary collaborations can accelerate action towards a common mission of combating climate change for food secure future.
	Scene Setter 1: Dr. Emmanuel Njukwe, Director Research and Innovation, CORAF Topic: Innovative approaches for sustainability
	Panel 1: Unified Action for a Sustainable Future This session will illuminate the strategies and practices that can accelerate optimization of our natural resources while coping with the changing climate.
	Moderator: Ms. Carole Tankeu, Managing Partner, S2 Services
	 Panelists Dr. Miriam Makungwe, Postdoctoral Fellow, Scaling Climate-Smart Agriculture & Climate Information Services, International Water Management Institute (IWMI) Dr. Trust Kasambala, Senior Lecturer in Entomology, Sustainable Crop Protection, Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR) Dr. Andrew Ogilvie, Researcher, French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development (IRD)
	Scene setter 2: Ms. Ruth Okowa, Country Director, GAIN
	Topic : Pathways for co-creating climate solutions
	Panel 2: Partnerships for a Food-Secure Future This session will focus on how networks of researchers transcending geographical boundaries can leverage diversity to create meaningful partnerships and address some of the pressing needs in our world today.
	Moderator: Ms. Nora Ndege, Research Fellow, ACTS
	 Panelists Dr. Austin Phiri, Chief Agricultural Research Scientist, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development Dr. Dimitri Soro, Researcher, Félix Houphouët-Boigny University Dr. Meseret Tesema, Associate Professor, Hawassa University
12:20 - 1:00 PM	Themed Dialogues
	These dialogues will deepen the conversations started in the plenary sessions and foster more connections among the participants.
1:00 - 1:40 PM	Lunch
1:45 - 3:30 PM	Plenary Theme: PLANET This theme will showcase successful case studies demonstrating the interconnectedness of ecosystems and the importance of sustainable management.
	Scene Setter 3: Prof. Fetien Abera, Senior Researcher and Director of the Center of Plant Breeding, Genetics and Genomics (CPBGG), SC State University

	Topic: How might we re-imagine inclusive agrifood systems?
	Panel 3: Agri-food Systems: Towards equitable productivity and food security This panel will discuss improving productivity of Africa's farming systems, focusing on both crops and livestock systems as drivers of inclusive food security and nutrition.
	Moderator: Dr. Annet Mulema, Senior Program Specialist, IDRC
	 Panelists Mr. James Banda, Research Officer, Ministry of Natural Resources, Energy and Environment Mrs. Marie-Therese Sene, Researcher, Gaston Berger University Dr. Sofiane Boudalia, Senior Lecturer, Project Manager, University 8 Mai 1945 Guelma
	Scene Setter 4: Prof. Hortense Atta Diallo, Professor of Plant Pathology, Nangui Abrogoua University, Côte d'Ivoire
	 Panel 4: Resilient Ecosystems: A Foundation for a Sustainable Future This panel session will discuss the critical role of ecosystems in building resilience to various shocks and stresses. Topic: The silent crisis of biodiversity loss
	Moderator: Prof. Sheila Okoth, Associate Dean, Faculty of Science and Technology, University of Nairobi
	 Panelists Dr. Eméline S.P. Assèdé Associate professor, Faculty of Agronomy, University of Parakou Dr. Fadekemi Toyosi Igejongbo, Lecturer, The Federal University of Technology, Akure Dr. Anna Msigwa Haji, Assistant Lecturer, Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology
5:00 to 7:30 pm	An evening of Storytelling featuring eight One Planet Laureates from Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Senegal, and Zambia
	Venue: Louis Leaky Auditorium, National Museums of Kenya
	Day 2
9:00 - 10:00 AM	Planetary Theme: PLANET
	Scene Setter 5: Dr. Peter Minang, Director, Africa, CIFOR-ICRAF
	Topic: Harnessing Data to inform Climate Action
	Panel 5: Climate Intelligence: A Data-Driven Approach How might we leverage data for effective human responses to climate change? This session will tackle the role of data science in building climate action and resilience. We shall highlight the importance of using data to improve climate modeling, prediction, and accessibility, ultimately supporting scientists and researchers in their efforts to address climate change.

	Moderator: Ms. Dorine Odongo, Senior Communications Manager, AWARD
	<u>Panelists</u>
	 Dr. Fabrice Blanchard Allechy, Post-doctoral Researcher, Félix Houphouët-Boigny University Dr. Alassan Assani Seidou, Associate Researcher, Laboratory of Ecology, Health and Agricultural Production, Faculty of Agronomy, University of Parakou Dr. Temesgen Gashaw, Associate Professor of Environmental Science, Bahir Dar University
10:00 - 10:30 AM	Health Break
10:30 AM - 12:20 PM	Plenary Theme: FELLOWSHIP This theme recognizes the invaluable role of structured accelerator programs as catalysts of careers of emerging researchers.
	Scene setter 6: Dr. Fiona Wanjiku Moejes, Chief Executive Officer, Mawazo Institute Topic: Fostering Cultural Exchange and International Collaboration.
	Panel 6: Shaping the Next Generation of Science Leaders This conversation will explore the benefits of mentorship for emerging climate scientists, the fundamental role of intergenerational networks and strategies for sustaining learning networks.
	Moderator: Dr. Esther Kanduma, Research Director, Centre for Biotechnology and Bioinformatics & Senior Lecturer, Department of Biochemistry, University of Nairobi
	 Prof. Christine Ouinsavi, Laboratory Director, Coordinator of the Doctoral Program in Natural Resource Management and Planning, University of Parakou Mr. Brian Rop, Intern, Kenya Meteorological Department Ms. Florence Chibuye Kunda, Lecturer and Researcher, University of Zambia
	Panel 7: Future of Fellowships This panel discussion will explore the future of fellowships, examining emerging trends, challenges, and opportunities in this dynamic field. We will delve into how fellowships can be leveraged to accelerate progress towards development.
	Moderator: Dr. Takemore Chagomoka, Head of Technology Transfer Unit, icipe
	 Panelists Dr. Miriam Karwitha Charimbu, Lecturer/ Researcher, Crop Protection, Egerton University Ms. Opri Tatiana Horro, Student Nangui Abrogoua University Mr. Igor Luketina, CEO and Tech Innovator, Cosmotiacs Dr. Tatiana Krasova, Scientific Program Manager, IRD
12:20 - 1:00 PM	Themed Dialogues
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	more connections among the participants.
1:00 - 1:40 PM	Lunch
2:00 – 4:00 PM	One Planet Laureates Graduation Ceremony
	Moderator: Dr. Michèle Mbo'o-Tchouawou, Deputy Director, AWARD
	This momentous occasion will mark the culmination of years of dedication, hard work, and groundbreaking commitment by the One Planet Laureates. The event will feature inspiring speeches, recognition of mentors, research supervisors, African and European Learning partners and partners, and a celebration of the Laureates' accomplishments.
	<u>Remarks</u>
	 Dr. Éliane Ubalijoro, CEO, CIFOR – ICRAF Prof. Hortense Atta Diallo, Vice Chairperson of the AWARD Steering Committee Dr. Abdou Tenkouano, Executive Director, <i>icipe</i> Dr. Daniel Barthélémy, Director of Research Division of Agriculture-Environment-Biodiversity, University of Montpellier H.E. Arnaud Suquet, Ambassador, Mission of France Mr. Collin Marangu, Agricultural Secretary, State Department for Agriculture, Kenya Dr. Susan Kaaria, Director, AWARD
	Presentation of One Planet Laureates
	Vote of Thanks
4:00 - 5:00 PM	 Celebratory Cocktail reception Mr. Samburu Wa-Shiko, Regional Representative, BMGF Mr. Charles Kagura, Mission of the European Union and its Members States to the UNEP H.E. Callista Jennie Mutharika, Ambassador, Mission of Malawi to the UNEP Mr. Amadi-Ikpe Chibudom Roosevelt, Permanent Representative, Mission of Nigeria to the UNEP H.E. Gertrude Angote, Ambassador, Mission of Kenya to the UNEP

A note on photography and videography:

Please note that we will be documenting the event through photography and videography and by attending this event you consent to having photos and videos of you taken. We will publish the videos and photos on our website and across our socials.