

Knowledge Festival One Planet Laureates Graduation Ceremony Nurturing Africa's leadership to deliver climate solutions October 17<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> 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	
	<ul> <li>Africa CIFOR-ICRAF</li> <li>Dr. Carine Karaïliev, Director, Agropolis Fondation</li> </ul>	
	• <b>Dr. Susan Kaaria</b> , Director, AWARD	





10:00 - 10:30 AM	Health Break
10:30 AM - 12:20 PM	<b>Plenary Theme: ONE</b> 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
	<b>Panel 1: Unified Action for a Sustainable Future</b> 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
	<ul> <li>Panelists</li> <li>Dr. Miriam Makungwe, Postdoctoral Fellow, Scaling Climate-Smart Agriculture &amp; Climate Information Services, International Water Management Institute (IWMI)</li> <li>Dr. Trust Kasambala, Senior Lecturer in Entomology, Sustainable Crop Protection, Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR)</li> <li>Dr. Andrew Ogilvie, Researcher, French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development (IRD)</li> </ul>
	Scene setter 2: Ms. Ruth Okowa, Country Director, GAIN
	<b>Topic</b> : Pathways for co-creating climate solutions
	<b>Panel 2: Partnerships for a Food-Secure Future</b> 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
	<ul> <li>Panelists</li> <li>Dr. Austin Phiri, Chief Agricultural Research Scientist, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development</li> <li>Dr. Dimitri Soro, Researcher, Félix Houphouët-Boigny University</li> <li>Dr. Meseret Tesema, Associate Professor, Hawassa University</li> </ul>
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	<b>Plenary Theme: PLANET</b> 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

	<b>Topic:</b> How might we re-imagine inclusive agrifood systems?
	<b>Panel 3: Agri-food Systems: Towards equitable productivity and food security</b> 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
	<ul> <li>Panelists</li> <li>Mr. James Banda, Research Officer, Ministry of Natural Resources, Energy and Environment</li> <li>Mrs. Marie-Therese Sene, Researcher, Gaston Berger University</li> <li>Dr. Sofiane Boudalia, Senior Lecturer, Project Manager, University 8 Mai 1945 Guelma</li> </ul>
	Scene Setter 4: Prof. Hortense Atta Diallo, Professor of Plant Pathology, Nangui Abrogoua University, Côte d'Ivoire
	<ul> <li>Panel 4: Resilient Ecosystems: A Foundation for a Sustainable Future</li> <li>This panel session will discuss the critical role of ecosystems in building resilience to various shocks and stresses.</li> <li>Topic: The silent crisis of biodiversity loss</li> </ul>
	Moderator: Prof. Sheila Okoth, Associate Dean, Faculty of Science and Technology, University of Nairobi
	<ul> <li>Panelists</li> <li>Dr. Eméline S.P. Assèdé Associate professor, Faculty of Agronomy, University of Parakou</li> <li>Dr. Fadekemi Toyosi Igejongbo, Lecturer, The Federal University of Technology, Akure</li> <li>Dr. Anna Msigwa Haji, Assistant Lecturer, Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology</li> </ul>
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>
	<ul> <li>Dr. Fabrice Blanchard Allechy, Post-doctoral Researcher, Félix Houphouët-Boigny University</li> <li>Dr. Alassan Assani Seidou, Associate Researcher, Laboratory of Ecology, Health and Agricultural Production, Faculty of Agronomy, University of Parakou</li> <li>Dr. Temesgen Gashaw, Associate Professor of Environmental Science, Bahir Dar University</li> </ul>
10:00 - 10:30 AM	Health Break
10:30 AM - 12:20 PM	<b>Plenary Theme: FELLOWSHIP</b> 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
	<ul> <li>Prof. Christine Ouinsavi, Laboratory Director, Coordinator of the Doctoral Program in Natural Resource Management and Planning, University of Parakou</li> <li>Mr. Brian Rop, Intern, Kenya Meteorological Department</li> <li>Ms. Florence Chibuye Kunda, Lecturer and Researcher, University of Zambia</li> </ul>
	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
	<ul> <li>Panelists</li> <li>Dr. Miriam Karwitha Charimbu, Lecturer/ Researcher, Crop Protection, Egerton University</li> <li>Ms. Opri Tatiana Horro, Student Nangui Abrogoua University</li> <li>Mr. Igor Luketina, CEO and Tech Innovator, Cosmotiacs</li> <li>Dr. Tatiana Krasova, Scientific Program Manager, IRD</li> </ul>
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
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>
	<ul> <li>Dr. Éliane Ubalijoro, CEO, CIFOR – ICRAF</li> <li>Prof. Hortense Atta Diallo, Vice Chairperson of the AWARD Steering Committee</li> <li>Dr. Abdou Tenkouano, Executive Director, <i>icipe</i></li> <li>Dr. Daniel Barthélémy, Director of Research Division of Agriculture-Environment-Biodiversity, University of Montpellier</li> <li>H.E. Arnaud Suquet, Ambassador, Mission of France</li> <li>Mr. Collin Marangu, Agricultural Secretary, State Department for Agriculture, Kenya</li> <li>Dr. Susan Kaaria, Director, AWARD</li> </ul>
	Presentation of One Planet Laureates
	Vote of Thanks
4:00 - 5:00 PM	<ul> <li>Celebratory Cocktail reception</li> <li>Mr. Samburu Wa-Shiko, Regional Representative, BMGF</li> <li>Mr. Charles Kagura, Mission of the European Union and its Members States to the UNEP</li> <li>H.E. Callista Jennie Mutharika, Ambassador, Mission of Malawi to the UNEP</li> <li>Mr. Amadi-Ikpe Chibudom Roosevelt, Permanent Representative, Mission of Nigeria to the UNEP</li> <li>H.E. Gertrude Angote, Ambassador, Mission of Kenya to the UNEP</li> </ul>

## 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.