



ROOT AND TUBER CROPS CONFERENCE & TRADE FAIR

A FOCUS ON THE CASSAVA VALUE CHAIN

(KALRO HEADQUARTER GROUNDS, JUNE 21 - 25, 2021)

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS



Introduction

The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries & Cooperatives (MoALFC), in partnership with Self Help Africa (SHA), Kenya Agricultural & Livestock Research Organization (KALRO) and with the financial support of the European Union through the 'Strengthening the Competitiveness of the Cassava Value Chain Programme' are organizing a Kenya-based conference that will focus on cassava value chain Kenya and within Africa.

Cassava is a major factor in food security and income generation across sub-Saharan Africa. In Kenya, cassava is grown in over 90,000 ha with an annual production of about 540,000 tonnes. It is estimated that in 2019, Africa produced about 55.7% of the global production of the crop (FAOSTAT, 2021). Cassava is a highly resilient crop that can grow in marginal lands, requires low inputs, and is tolerant to pests and drought. It has the potential to mitigate the effects of climate change. Despite its great potential as a food security and income generation crop among the rural poor in marginal lands, its utilization remains low in Kenya.

The National Root & Tuber Crops Development Strategy provides a roadmap for the development of the root and tuber crops subsector in Kenya. The 4-year strategy provides a stimulus for private sector investment in the root and tuber crop subsector. It aims at transforming the subsector into a commercial and vibrant industry that contributes to the country's food and feed security needs, the development of agro-industries, employment creation and improved livelihoods.

The strategy hopes to generate the following outputs:

- i) A robust and self-regulating institution with diverse linkages to provide agribusiness information and financial services.
- ii) Increased and sustainable production and supply of quality roots and tubers and their products.
- iii) Increased market access for root and tuber crops and their products
- iv) Gender, Youth and Persons Living with Disabilities sensitive stakeholder institutions, technologies, financial products and data developed and environmental concerns addressed along the value chain.

Goal of the Cassava Value Chain Conference & Trade Fair

The general goal of the Conference and Trade Fair is to increase knowledge and uphold innovative positive values and attitudes, about the economic, social, environmental and food & feed benefits of cassava and to provide a platform for various cassava value chain stakeholders to share their experiences for scale-up.

Theme: Innovative Promotion of Cassava Value Chain Initiatives for Wealth, Food and Security in Kenya



Themes

The conference and trade fair will focus on three major themes embracing;

1. Best practices of production, processing, scaling up
2. Innovations and technologies
3. Access to markets and trade

The themes will consist of keynote presentations; invited paper and poster presentations and plenary discussion forums to promote dialogue. Local, regional and internationally recognized experts will provide keynote and invited talks, ensuring the highest quality of speakers, presentations and papers covering both scientific and commercial issues.



The conference and exhibition themes have been organized as follows:

Theme 1: Processing, Product Development & Market Access

- Agro-processing & value addition
- Flour blending
- Consumer preferences
- Cassava markets and value chain segments
- Competition and competitiveness of cassava markets
- Connecting farmers to markets
- Trade policies and market regulations

Theme 2: Best Practices, Dissemination, Learning and Scaling up

- Scalable case studies
- Research findings on cassava
- Turning cassava farmers from subsistence to business
- Privatization and digitization of extension services
- Seed delivery systems
- Plant health management

Theme 3: Innovation & Technologies

- Youth & ICT
- Genetic improvement for markets
- Climate smart technologies
- Pre-and postharvest technologies
- How to get technology to farmers
- Mechanization

Theme: Innovative Promotion of Cassava Value Chain Initiatives for Wealth, Food and Security in Kenya

Expected Outcomes

- Sustainable development of demand driven cassava products
- Improved knowledge sharing strategies and scale-up of cassava interventions.
- Establishment of national and county cassava engagement platforms.
- Harmonize research with production and processing trends, emerging markets and trade.

Dates to Remember

- **Deadline for submission of abstracts -**
May 15, 2021
- **Deadline for submission of presentations or full papers -**
May 30, 2021
- **Programme and Book of Abstracts -**
June 15, 2021
- **Conference Dates -** June 21 - 25, 2021

Call for Abstracts

We are looking forward to receiving abstracts for oral or poster presentations. Abstracts will be reviewed by the the Technical Committee. Accepted abstracts will be published in the conference programme and thus available during the conference. Based on the selection of the Technical Committee, authors of outstanding abstracts will be invited to write full papers. These papers will be presented orally (10 min) and published in a peer-reviewed issue of East African Agriculture & Forestry Journal (EAAFJ). Abstracts should be no more than 300 words and include full addresses of authors.

Abstracts will not be accepted after May 15, 2021.

Abstracts should be submitted using rootsandtubers@kilimo.go.ke

Costs and Registration

1. **Participants and presenters attending virtually/online -**
KES. 5,000 OR UDS 50
2. **Participants and presenters attending physically -** KES. 10,000
OR USD 100
3. **Students attending physically or virtually -** KES. 5,000 OR USD 50
4. **Invited speakers -** Free
5. **Smallholder Farmers -** KES. 200 per day

Payment Details

Account Name: Self Help Africa

Account Number: 0102014846200

Name of Bank: Standard Chartered Bank

Bank Branch: Nakuru

Organization Bank Swift Code: SCBLKENX

Contacts

For more information, please visit:

www.rootsandtubers.kilimo.go.ke

<https://kilimo.go.ke/conference/>

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Self Help Africa



The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives