FEDERAL MINISTRY OF LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT | AASAP |

9TH ALL AFRICA CONFERENCE ON ANIMAL AGRICULTURE 2026

9TH-13TH AUGUST 2026 | 9AM - 5PM

Shehu Musa Yar"Adua Centre
Wuse, Abuja Nigeria

Welcome to the 9TH ALL AFRICA CONFERENCE ON ANIMAL AGRICULTURE ABUJA 2026

CONCEPT NOTE

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9th All Africa Conference of Animal Agriculture (AACAA)

Theme: Repositioning Africa's *Animal Agriculture for Food Security and Global Competitiveness*

Venue: Shehu Musa Yar'Adua Centre Abuja, Nigeria
Date: 9th – 13th August 2026

1. Background and Rationale

Animal agriculture remains central to Africa's food security, nutrition, livelihoods, employment creation, rural development, and economic transformation. Across the continent, livestock production systems support millions of households, provide essential animal-source foods, generate income, and contribute significantly to national and regional economies. However, the sector continues to face complex challenges, including, low productivity, animal diseases, climate change, insecurity, farmer-herder conflicts, weak value chains, limited access to finance, inadequate adoption of technology, and insufficient policy and institutional support.

Despite these limitations, Africa's animal agriculture presents enormous opportunities. The continent has a growing population, expanding demand for animal-source foods, increasing youth interest in agribusiness, emerging digital technologies, expanding research capacity, and strong potential for intra-African trade under the African Continental Free Trade Area. Harnessing these opportunities requires innovation, sustainability, inclusive participation, strategic investment, and stronger collaboration among researchers, policymakers, farmers, industry actors, development partners, and educational institutions.

The **All Africa Conference of Animal Agriculture (AACAA)** is a premier continental platform for advancing dialogue, research, innovation, policy engagement, and partnerships in animal agriculture. Following the successful hosting of the 7th edition in Ghana in 2019 and the 8th edition in Botswana in 2023, the 9th AACAA will be hosted in **Abuja, Nigeria**, and will bring together key stakeholders from across Africa and beyond to deliberate on the future of animal agriculture on the continent.

The 9th AACAA will be held under the theme: **"Repositioning Africa's Animal Agriculture for Food Security and Global Competitiveness."** The theme reflects the urgent need to reposition Africa's animal agriculture through research, technology, innovation, inclusive policies, climate-smart practices, sustainable production systems, and market-oriented strategies that can strengthen food security and enhance Africa's competitiveness in the global livestock economy.

2. Conference Goal

The overall goal of the 9th AACAA is to provide a continental platform for sharing knowledge, innovations, policies, technologies, and investment strategies that will transform animal agriculture into a more productive, sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and globally competitive sector in Africa.

3. Specific Objectives

The specific objectives of the conference are to:

1. **Promote innovation, sustainability, resilience, and climate-smart practices** in African animal agriculture to strengthen productivity and adaptation across livestock systems.
2. **Strengthen the contribution of livestock and animal agriculture to food security, nutrition**, livelihoods, and sustainable development across Africa.
3. **Showcase disruptive technologies, emerging solutions, and research innovations** for transforming livestock production, animal health, value chains, and service delivery.
4. **Advance One Health, animal welfare, and sustainable livestock systems** that address animal, human, and environmental health challenges.
5. **Promote inclusive participation and capacity development** by highlighting the roles of women, youth, smallholders, vulnerable groups, curriculum reform, advisory services, and future skills development.
6. **Facilitate policy dialogue, partnerships, investment, trade, and knowledge exchange** to strengthen public-private collaboration, regional competitiveness, networking, mentorship, and continental cooperation in animal agriculture.

4. Conference Theme

Repositioning Africa's Animal Agriculture for Food Security and Global Competitiveness

The theme underscores the need to move Africa's animal agriculture beyond subsistence and fragmented production systems towards a more innovative, knowledge-driven, market-responsive, climate-resilient, and globally competitive sector. It calls for stronger integration of research, technology, policy, investment, education, and practice to address Africa's current and future food security challenges.

5. Keynote and Lead Paper Topics

The conference will feature keynote, lead presentations and Panel discussions by eminent scholars, policymakers, development experts, industry leaders, and practitioners on the following broad areas:

- Innovation for Resilient and Climate-Smart Livestock Systems in Africa
- Animal Agriculture and Africa's Food Security Agenda
- Disruptive Transformation for Livestock Development
- One Health and Sustainable Livestock Systems
- Women, Youth, and Smallholders as Drivers of Inclusive Livestock Innovation
- Policy, Trade, and Investment Pathways for Africa's Global Competitiveness
- Curriculum Development in Animal Agriculture for Future Livestock Entrepreneurship

6. Conference Highlights

The 9th AACAA will feature a rich blend of academic, policy, industry, and practical engagement activities, including:

- High-level opening ceremony and keynote presentations.
- Lead papers by globally recognised experts in animal agriculture.
- Plenary sessions on strategic continental issues.
- Technical paper and poster presentations.
- Panel discussions involving policymakers, researchers, industry leaders, farmers, youth, and development partners.
- Opportunities for regional and international collaboration.
- Exhibitions showcasing technologies, innovations, products, services, and investment opportunities in livestock, aquaculture, and agribusiness.

7. Expected Participants

The conference is expected to attract a wide range of participants from Africa and beyond, including:

- Animal scientists, veterinary scientists, and researchers.
- Academics and students from universities and research institutions.
- Farmers, livestock producers, pastoralists, processors, and agribusiness entrepreneurs.
- Government representatives, policymakers, and regulators.
- Regional and continental organisations.
- International development agencies and donor organisations.
- Private sector actors and investors in livestock, aquaculture, feed, animal health, technology, and agribusiness.
- Professional associations and networks in animal agriculture.

8. Expected Outcomes

The conference is expected to produce the following outcomes:

- **Enhanced continental dialogue and shared understanding** for the transformation of animal agriculture in Africa, including policy, trade, investment, and competitiveness pathways.
- **Increased awareness and adoption of innovations, technologies, and sustainable practices** for livestock, aquaculture, and climate-smart animal production systems.
- **Strengthened collaboration and linkages** among researchers, policymakers, farmers, industry actors, development partners, education institutions, extension services, and professional networks.

- **Greater visibility and inclusion of women, youth, smallholders, and innovators** as key contributors to resilient and inclusive animal agriculture development.
- **Expanded opportunities for partnerships, investment, mentorship, and regional cooperation** to support livestock value chain development and continental competitiveness.
- **Development and dissemination of practical recommendations, proceedings, policy briefs, and communiqués** to guide curriculum reform, future skills development, policy action, and sustainable transformation of animal agriculture in Africa.

9. Registration, Abstract Submission, and Participation

A dedicated conference website **https://9aacaa26abuja-nigeria.com** for registration, abstract submission, payment, programme updates, and access to conference information is available. The platform supports seamless participation by delegates, exhibitors, sponsors, students, and virtual participants.

Participants are invited to submit abstracts for oral and poster presentations under the approved conference tracks. Registration categories will include regular participants, students, exhibitors, sponsors, and virtual participants. The platform will also provide information on accommodation, travel logistics, exhibition opportunities, sponsorship packages, and programme schedules.

10. Exhibition and Sponsorship Opportunities

The 9th AACAA will provide a major exhibition platform for organisations, companies, institutions, and innovators to showcase products, technologies, services, research outputs, and investment opportunities in animal agriculture. Sponsoring the **9th AACAA** positions your organisation as a strategic partner in Africa's livestock transformation agenda, providing high-level visibility, direct engagement with policymakers, researchers, investors, farmers, agribusiness leaders and development partners, as well as opportunities to showcase products, services and innovations. Sponsorship packages include **Platinum, Gold, Silver** and **Bronze**. Organisations may also support through **advertising and in-kind contributions**, including programme branding, digital campaigns and logistics assistance. Details are contained in the sponsorship package attached and on the conference website. https://9aacaa26abuja-nigeria.com

11. Conclusion

The 9th All Africa Conference of Animal Agriculture will serve as a strategic continental platform for advancing innovation, sustainability, inclusiveness, and competitiveness in Africa's animal agriculture. By bringing together diverse stakeholders from research, policy, industry, farming communities, development organisations, and academia, the conference will generate practical solutions and partnerships needed to transform Africa's livestock systems for Africa's food security and economic growth.

The conference will not only provide opportunities for knowledge sharing and networking but will also contribute to shaping policies, investments, technologies, and educational reforms required to reposition animal agriculture as a driver of sustainable development, livelihoods, and global competitiveness in Africa.