



China-Africa Agricultural Science and Technology Innovation Alliance (CAASTIA)

Background

China and Africa have achieved steady progress in agricultural cooperation under the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), notably in research, technology transfer, trade, and capacity building.

The 2015 Johannesburg FOCAC Summit proposed a “10+10” mechanism linking Chinese and African research institutions, which was launched under the leadership of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS), with support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of China (MARA).

This model was reinforced at high-level forums such as the 2018 FOCAC Beijing Summit, the 2019 Forum on China-Africa Cooperation in Agriculture, and the 2021 Ministerial Conference.

These events established a political basis for expanding and deepening agricultural science and technology (S&T)

cooperation between China and Africa across the value chain.

In light of global challenges such as climate change, food insecurity, and low agricultural productivity, China and Africa share a pressing need to strengthen cooperation for agricultural innovation.

Responding to this need and aligned with the outcomes of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) and the African Academy of Sciences (AAS) jointly established the China-Africa Agricultural Science and Technology Innovation Alliance (CAASTIA).

This inclusive platform seeks to promote joint research, accelerate agricultural modernization, and foster sustainable development through enhanced science and technology collaboration.

Vision

- Advance modern and industrial agriculture, sustainable development, and prosperity in Africa through cooperation in science, technology, innovation and Agricultural Industrialization.

Mission

- To focus on the common concerns of agricultural development both in China and in Africa, such as food security, biosecurity, green development, agricultural industrialization etc.;
- To build a China-African cooperation platform covering the whole agricultural value chain;
- To integrate agricultural research and industry resources both from China and Africa;
- To deliver science and innovation that advance agricultural development in Africa.

Objectives

- Be an engine of China-Africa collaborative research in agriculture;
- Be a hub for the commercialization of agricultural research findings;
- Be a talent pool for agricultural S&T in China and Africa;
- Be a think-tank for China-Africa agricultural development strategies.

Organisaton and Membership

Supervising authorities

- **China:** Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA), Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), and Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA);
- **Africa:** African Union Commission (AUC); Commision for Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (ESTI) and Commision for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy, and Sustainable Environment (ARBE).

Co-founders

The Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS)
The African Academy of Sciences (AAS)

Potential Members, Collaborators and Sponsors

- **Members:** Agricultural research and education institutions, agriculture-related enterprises in China and Africa, Agricultural Policy Institutions, etc.
- **Collaborators and Sponsors:** Agriculture-related institutions, including those from developed nations, committed to advancing sustainable agriculture in Africa; international organizations, foundations, and multinational enterprises.

WHY JOIN CAASTIA ?

- Contribute to strategic policy reports that shape China–Africa agricultural cooperation;
- Access resources and opportunities to industrialize your agricultural value chains;
- Access cutting-edge agricultural technologies and scientific expertise from Africa and China;
- Benefit from funding opportunities and support for priority agricultural projects in Africa and China;
- Benefit from training programs, scholarships, joint research opportunities, and capacity-building activities for young agricultural scientists and professionals, including collaboration with Chinese experts through exchange programs and joint laboratories;
- Develop niche products and access new export markets through value-chain platforms like the Sparkle Project (which aims to boost Africa-focused agricultural products processing cooperation).

Institutions interested in applying can do so via this link : <https://forms.office.com/r/k5M1HXYFZs>

For more information

+254 709 158 117

caastia-africa@aasciences.africa

Dr. Nkem Khumbah,
Head of STI Strategy and Partnerships, AAS,
n.khumbah@aasciences.africa

Ms. Sheila Wetugi,
Program Officer, AAS,
s.wetugi@aasciences.africa

Mr. Sergio Djinadja Miawonene,
Exchange Officer, CAASTIA,
s.miawonene@aasciences.africa.

