

PRESS RELEASE

Paris, January 11, 2021.

LAUNCH OF THE MULTILATERAL COALLITION DEDICATED TO AGRO-ECOLOGY IN AFRICA: INTERNATIONAL AGROECOLOGICAL MOVEMENT OF AFRICA, (IAM AFRICA).

More than 100 European and African actors have signed a charter of commitment to the development of the agro-pastoral sectors in Africa, particularly in the Sahel.

The original initiative aims to resize and strengthen agricultural cooperation between Europe and Africa while ensuring the protection of biodiversity, a global common good.

The recent health crisis has revealed the resilient capacities of African agriculture. Faced with the closing of borders, the drop of the purchasing power in urban areas, the major disruptions in the international market of raw materials and the availability of agricultural labor generally unaffected both by the virus and the traffic restrictions, the high demand for food products in cities has been a powerful incentive to the increase and the flow of local productions.

Under these conditions, more than ever, agriculture should be one of the main levers of development on the continent. In this respect, a paradigm shift appears indispensable. Thus, the modernization of this sector, particularly through agroecology, digital agriculture, and social business, must once again become a priority. It is an economic, social, environmental, security and democratic issue.

To meet these multidimensional challenges, more than hundred operators from all parts of the agricultural value chain, launched on the sidelines of the One Planet Summit 2021, IAM Africa.

A coalition of private and public actors have committed to the sanctuarization of biodiversity, a global common good, and to the development of sustainable agricultural sectors.

The multilateral initiative was formalized in the presence of the President of the French Republic, Emmanuel Macron, the President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Mohamed Ould Cheikh El-Ghazaouani, and HRH Prince of Wales.

Creating a community of values and actions

Knowing that Africa represents an exceptional lever of growth, companies, employers' organizations, African and European institutions in the agricultural and livestock sectors have decided to join forces to form a team with multiple expertises that are driven by the common desire to provide an appropriate response to this major issue.

With this shared ambition, the signatories of the present charter (the "Charter") intend to jointly prospect and develop value chains that meet precisely to African issues.

Since co-development is at the heart of the ethics shared by all the signatories, a significant part of these activities will be the responsibility of local actors, wich is promoting technology transfers and the appropriation of the know-how necessary to the sustainable implementation of the agricultural and livestock production sectors envisaged by IAM Africa.

"The objective of the signatories, through their commitment to deploying this approach in most Africa, is to participate in the promotion of a strategy combining social, environmental and economic development in the service of prosperity but also the preservation of biodiversity and more generally the stability of the continent", mentions Karim Ait Talb, co-founder of the initiative and Deputy Managing Director of the Advens/Géocoton Group.

Structuring and boosting agricultural value chains in the Sahel

The signatory partners of this coalition specifically commit themselves to participate in the achievement of the 2030 objectives of "the Great Green Wall". The Sahelian strip is identified as one of the global "hotspots" of climate change. In this region, it is essential to provide answers to the tensions on natural resources to meet the objectives of sustainable development and preserve biodiversity. The structuring of agro-livestock value chains that encourage the deployment of agro-ecological practices and the creation of decent and sustainable jobs will be an important response to the adaptation of the region's populations and to the mitigation of the effects of climate change, particularly in terms of migration flows and security challenges.

"The Presidential Council for Africa has been mobilized since 2018 for the structuring of the agricultural value chains in the Sahel and has conducted several missions to meet field actors in order to work on concrete solutions that have an impact on nutrition, on the creation of decent jobs and on the inclusion of

vulnerable populations. IAM Africa is a new scheme where French, African and international companies who commit and are ready to invest in the agro-ecological sectors of the future. I invite all companies who share these values to sign the charter available on the CPA website", says Wilfrid Lauriano Do Rego, partner of the initiative and Coordinator of the Council for Africa (CPA).

Signatory organization:

1T.org

Acacia

Adialea - JV Carrefour CFAO

ADM

AFA

African Commodities

Afruibana

Agir Ong

Agro-Paris-Tech

AWAN AFRICA

Baobab

Beit Mama

Biaugeaud

Biopost - Cofuna

Bolloré

Boloré Logistic

Boubou Lait

Brl

Bureau Veritas

CA17

Cabinet Emergence Légal

Ceva

Chambre Nationale d'Agriculture du Faso

CIAN

Cian

Cirad

Classm

CMDT

Colas

Compagnie fruitière

Coopex

Dalkia Froid Solution

Dijon Céréales

DSV

EBCAM

Ecole Supérieure d'Agricultures Angers Loire

Eilyps

Entrepreneur agricole Togo

Espace Sanzara

e-Tumba

Fert

FGM

Franco-Nigerian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

GDM - Agriconcept

Gito

GNIS

Groupe Initiative

Groupement des Industries du Togo

Hilina Foods

Innofaso

INVESTIV

Invivo

Isolvar

ISTOM

kanopiiis

Limagrain

Loukil

Mairie d'Angers / Angers Loire Métropole

Mali She

Marsh

Maya

MEDFI

Mg2mix

MGH Partners

Moringa

Neofeed

NIOTO

NITIDAE

Nutriguinée

Nutrik

Nutriset

OHVN

Olvea

One Point

Orange

Patronat Sénégalais

RIK TOGO

SAF Ingrédients

Sahel Délices

SAIS Distribution

SAM

Samil Industrial

Savana

Sedima

SN CITEC

Socoma

Sodefitex

Sofitex

Sowit

STA

Team Créatif

Tiviski

Tunisa Taste

UNPCB

Végépolys-Valley

Vergnet-Hydro

Verta Pro

Vinci Construction

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Conseil Présidentiel pour l'Afrique

Planet A

Agri Fund for Africa