



AGRICULTURAL POLICY RESEARCH NETWORK (APRNet) 7TH AGRICULTURAL POLICY STAKEHOLDERS' FORUM AND 1ST ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CALL FOR PAPERS

Theme: *Towards a Resilient and Sustainable Agri-Food System by 2025 in Nigeria and Sub-Saharan Africa*

Aim of the Conference/Stakeholders' Forum

Given the recent shocks from climate change, pandemic and financial uncertainties globally threatening the attainment of SDG 1 (End Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth) and SDG 13 (Climate Action), a need for a very resilient agri-food system value chain building is underlined in Nigeria and the entire SSA region. The conference's overarching goal therefore, is to bring together private and public participants as well as all stakeholders in Nigerian and Sub-Saharan African agricultural and food systems to showcase best practices for advancing the contributions of agriculture and agribusiness to national and regional development. APRNet invites relevant and high-quality papers covering a wide array of sustainable agricultural development issues. A limited number of authors with accepted manuscripts (especially APRNet members) will be invited and funded to attend the conference after evaluation by the steering committee. A Steering Committee of the 7th APRNet Nigerian Agricultural Policy Stakeholders Forum with Professor Pius C. Ike of APRNet as Chair of the LOC, will work with the *Delta State Job and Wealth Creation Bureau*, *FMARD*, *PiLAF* and *IFPRI* to coordinate the event. Interested parties are to submit abstracts and full papers bordering on the major theme and sub-themes below by the deadline:

Sub-Themes of the Conference

The following sub-themes are areas of research focus for the conference:

- 1) *Best and scalable agribusiness models for youth employment generation and sustainable livelihoods;*
- 2) *Agri-food systems Innovations and productivity growth in Sub-Saharan Africa;*
- 3) *Issues around climate change, greenhouse gas (GHG) fluxes in land-based ecosystems,*
- 4) *Optimizing and conserving the blue economy for Sustainable economic growth;*
- 5) *Quest for a workable Agricultural Policy to drive economic growth and development in Nigeria & SSA;*
- 6) *Agricultural marketing in Nigeria and other SSA countries: issues, innovations and prospects;*
- 7) *Leveraging Agricultural Marketing into the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA);*
- 8) *Livestock production models and issues in sustainable livestock systems;*
- 9) *Sustainable Crop production systems and policies; and*
- 10) *Projects working on enhancing smallholder farmers' access to farm inputs and market access.*

Date: Wednesday, 1st to 3rd June, 2022.

Venue: Hotel Benizia, in Asaba, Delta State, Nigeria.

Arrival date : Wednesday, 1st June,

Submission deadline: May 20th, 2022. Authors of accepted papers will be notified by May 26th, 2022.

All papers accepted for presentation (whether by members or non-members) will be published in a Special Issue of APRNet journal, (NAPREJ) to be sponsored by the Delta State Job and Wealth Creation Bureau and International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) after expert panel editing from IFPRI, PiLAF and APRNet.

Participation Fees: The article publication is at no cost to authors and every author is entitled to a free book after publication. All *non-members* of APRNet are expected to pay a registration fee of ten thousand naira (₦10,000) only. *Foreign participants* are to register with a sum of 70 US dollars only payable to the account details supplied at the bottom of this flyer.

Membership and Registration Payment – AGRICULTURAL POLICY RESEARCH NETWORK (APRNet) (See details on how to join or pay at <https://www.aprnetworkng.org/1/index.php/membership>).. *Membership or payment statuses* could be confirmed by Secretary, Dr. Emeka C. Nze (ecnzeh@gmail.com) or the Treasurer, Dr. Gloria Ujor at (gloriacujor@gmail.com). *Other queries* can also be directed at Professor P. C. Ike, Vice President, APRNet (ikepecece@yahoo.com and **Dr. Anthony O. Onoja, APRNet President-**, at : anthony.onoja@uniport.edu). Mobile: +2348065238655.