

Insects for the Green Economy Conference

Theme: **Sustainable Food Systems and Livelihoods in Africa**

Date

28th – 29th February 2024

Venue

The African Institute for Capacity Development (AICAD) at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT), Nairobi, Kenya.

Background

Africa experiences food insecurity driven by climate change, population growth, conflicts and macroeconomic crises. Innovative, nature-based solutions are essential in addressing these challenges. Insects have long played critical roles in ecosystems, diets, and human culture, with over 500 species contributing significantly to food and nutrition security across the continent. However, it is only recently that insects have been considered as a novel 'livestock' in food systems. Research and innovation have surged, fostering a thriving public-private sector. Insects, particularly species relevant to farming, efficiently transform organic residual streams into high-value products. Therefore, insects hold significant potential for sustainability, circular bioeconomy and livelihood improvement. This conference focuses on how insects can contribute to transforming food systems, emphasizing the unique opportunities and challenges in Africa.

Join us to unlock the potential of insects in enhancing food and nutrition security, promoting environmental sustainability, and driving economic growth within the framework of a green economy across the continent!

Objectives

- Provide a platform to review the state of the insects for food, feed and other sectors in Africa
- Present research outcomes relevant for the future development of the sector
- Facilitate stakeholder interactions with a particular focus on how the insect sector can contribute to achieving SDGs in Africa

Conference topics

- Insect species – Biology & Ecology**
 - Relevant species for mass production
 - Genetic diversity
 - Ecosystem services
- Insect production systems**
 - Small scale systems: challenges and solutions
 - Scaling up: industrialization and automation
 - Pest & Diseases
 - Breeding and Substrates
- Food and non-food applications of insects**
 - Feed
 - Food – nutrition and consumers
 - Human health, Plant/soil health
 - Waste management
- Insects in social & economy context**
 - Insects in food culture and food security
 - Regulatory, Economic empowerment
 - Producer networks
 - Special session by World Bank: Insects in refugee settings

Contact persons

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Steering committee

Prof. Goutam Sahana, Aarhus University, Denmark; Prof. Nanna Roos, University of Copenhagen, Denmark; Dr. Rawlynce Cheruiyot Bett, University of Nairobi, Kenya; Dr. John Kinyuru, JKUAT, Kenya; Dr. Chrysantus Tanga, *icipe*, Kenya; Prof. Johnson Kinyua, JKUAT, Kenya; Prof. Grum Gebreyesus, Aarhus University, Denmark; Prof. Monica Ayieko, JOOUST, Kenya; Prof. Dorothy Nakimbugwe, Makerere University, Uganda; Dr. Silvenus Konyole, MMUST, Kenya; Dr. Jacob Anankware, UENR, Ghana; Prof. Philip Nyeko, Makerere University, Uganda; Dr. Saliou Niassy, Africa Union – IAPSC.

Accommodation

Accommodation will be available at the [AICAD Guest House](#), [Maxland Hotel](#), [Centurion Hotel](#) and [Hotel Lillies](#)

How to participate

- Submit an abstract to igec2024@gmail.com
- Instructions for abstract preparation and submission [here](#)
- Deadline for abstract submission: 15th December 2023
- Participation fee: USD 100
- Exhibition space available

Organizers

The conference is jointly organized by *icipe* and the partners of the HEALTHYINSECT and FLYGENE projects, supported by Danida, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Denmark. *icipe* receives sponsorships from: Rockefeller Foundation, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad), Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), European Union, IKEA Foundation, Novo Nordisk Foundation, Bill and Melinda Gate Foundation, Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR).

Local organizing committee

Dr. Rawlynce Cheruiyot Bett, University of Nairobi, Kenya; Dr. John Kinyuru, JKUAT/AICAD, Kenya; Dr. Chrysantus Tanga, *icipe*, Kenya; Prof. Johnson Kinyua, JKUAT, Kenya.