

PANAFRICAN FAMERS ORGANISATION

NEWSLETTER



Over the first five months of 2025, PAFO has actively pursued its mission to empower African farmers through strategic partnerships, advocacy for inclusive policies, innovation, and capacity building.

From new Memoranda of
Understanding to global summits
and local training workshops, PAFO
has consistently amplified farmer
voices and strengthened institutional
capacity.

Here is a comprehensive summary of our main activities between January and May 2025,

"This MoU is a landmark in empowering farmers with the climate information they need to thrive," said Dr. Babafemi Oyewole, PAFO CEO.

January 2025 MoU with ACMAD: Elevating Climate Intelligence

Kampala, Uganda - During the CAADP
Extraordinary Summit, PAFO signed a
significant Memorandum of Understanding
with the African Centre of Meteorological
Applications for Development (ACMAD). This
partnership is designed to bolster farmers'
access to accurate and timely climate data,
including early warning systems and seasonal
forecasts. It aims to enhance resilience and
planning in the face of climate change, enabling
smallholder farmers to make better-informed
decisions.

Read more





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Virtual - PAFO and COLEAD kicked off a series highlighting scalable innovations and value chain initiatives developed by African SMEs and farmerled enterprises. These webinars provide a platform for exchange and inspiration, especially for youth-led businesses seeking sustainable agribusiness models.

Example Learn more

PAFO-FAO Youth Mentorship Program Launch

January 2025, the Pan-African Farmers'
Organization (PAFO) and the Food and
Agriculture Organization (FAO) launched
the Youth Mentorship Program.
This initiative aims to equip young African
agricultural producers with skills,
knowledge, and connections to thrive in the
agri-food sector. Mentors provide capacitybuilding workshops, guidance, and
networking opportunities to selected young
farmers across the continent

PAFO Strategic Planning for 2026-2030

PAFO initiated the development of its 2026–2030 Strategic Plan, seeking a consulting firm with expertise in strategy development, institutional growth, and African agriculture. This plan aims to shape the future of farmers' organizations across the continent.





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Ibadan, Nigeria - PAFO CEO Dr.
Babafemi Oyewole participated in a high-level workshop organized by the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), focusing on neglected and underutilized species (NUS), also known as "forgotten foods." Dr. Oyewole emphasized the role of smallholder farmers as custodians of biodiversity and local knowledge essential to revitalizing traditional crops.

Explore highlights

"The Manifesto places smallholder farmers centre stage... as custodians of forgotten foods."

"Farmers must be central to every agricultural decision—without them, food systems will fail."

IBRAHIM COULIBALY

Advocacy Leadership by President Coulibaly

Letter interrview – PAFO President Ibrahima Coulibaly issued a call to action for African governments, donors, and development partners to prioritize farmers structurally in agricultural investment decisions. His statement underscored that sustainable food systems and rural transformation must begin by empowering those who feed the continent.

Pull statement



Written By: PAFO Communications

PAFO Call for Website Developer

To improve digital visibility and better serve stakeholders, PAFO issued a public call for a developer to revamp its website. The new platform will integrate a modern user experience, document library, media archive, and multilingual support.

Read More





Policy Advocacy and Thought Leadership

PAFO continued advocacy with national and regional stakeholders to ensure smallholder priorities are embedded in agricultural transformation strategies. Key themes included youth empowerment, gender inclusion, and local food system resilience.

Earn more



Global Gateway Conference – Brussels (Mar 11–13)

Brussels - At the DESIRA LIFT Global Gateway Conference, PAFO showcased its approach to linking agricultural research to farmer needs. CEO Oyewole joined global development and research institutions to promote farmer-led innovation for long-term impact.

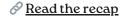
Official summary





Regional Best Practices Exchange in Kenya

Machakos, Kenya (Feb 24-26) - PAFO leadership participated in an exchange meeting hosted by EAFF, bringing together regional Farmer Organizations and stakeholders. Discussions centered on inclusive governance, collaborative policy advocacy, digital innovation, and support systems that place farmers at the center of the agri-food transformation.







AfDB- PAFO
High Level
Conference
Scaling
Finance for
Smallholders



Scaling Finance for Smallholders

Over two days of online panels and presentations, PAFO convened agricultural finance experts and practitioners to identify new solutions for bridging financing gaps facing smallholders. Topics included blended finance, agri-insurance, and digital payment platforms.

<u> Day 1</u>



AE-TPP 2025 in Hanoi, Vietnam (Mar 31-Apr 4)

PAFO contributed to global dialogues on agrifood trade partnerships and sustainable development during the Asia-Europe People's Forum's Agriculture and Environment Track.

Event update





April 1–4 – In Kigali,

Training of Trainers (ToT)
Launch



Training of Trainers (ToT) Launch

April 1-4 - In Kigali, PAFO launched an intensive Training of Trainers program targeting farmer leaders from across Africa. Topics included Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), agroecological practices, sustainable resource management, and advocacy. Graduates are now equipped to replicate the training in their own organizations.

Program announcement



Sustainable Seed Systems Webinar – 29 April

Sustainable Seed Systems Webinar – 29 April This virtual session, co-hosted with AgriCord, explored how farmer organizations can reclaim agency in seed development and strengthen food sovereignty. Contributions came from CIRAD, CIAT, and national seed platforms.





AGRA Workshop – Nairobi (Apr 1–4)

PAFO finance, M&E, and program teams joined a results-focused AGRA regional workshop to improve program implementation, accountability, and alignment with national agricultural investment plans.

Throwback post

Pan-African Farmer Organizations Exchange – 15 April

PAFO, SACAU, and the African Union co-convened a consultative exchange in April to bolster regional cooperation, institutional learning, and alignment of farmer organization strategies at continental level.

Platform insights

PAFO-COLEAD Innovation Series Session #22

Featuring innovative farmer-led businesses from across Africa, this episode focused on climate-smart agribusiness, sustainable packaging, and value chain inclusion.

Watch the session

Kigali Climate-Smart ToT Training (Apr 22–25)

This four-day training brought together representatives from more than 10 African countries. It enhanced farmers' knowledge and skills in climate adaptation, ecosystem services, and participatory advocacy frameworks.

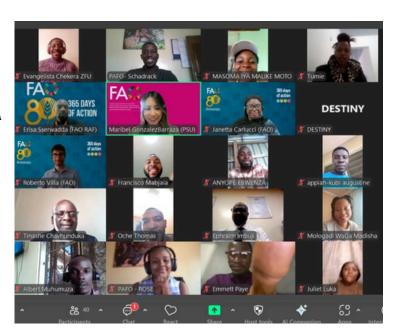
Training recap



PAFO-FAO Youth Mentorship Launch

This highly anticipated mentorship program began in May and aims to equip selected young agripreneurs with coaching, entrepreneurial knowledge, and access to a continent-wide support network.

- **Example 2** Launch announcement
- **Mentorship details**
- Meeting recap





CAADP Kampala Declaration Webinar - 15 May

A continental-level webinar convened by PAFO to unpack the Kampala Declaration, assess progress on CAADP implementation, and position farmer organizations as co-creators in agricultural policy reform.

Watch here



PAFO MIS Virtual Training – 27 May

AA digital training was held to support data management across PAFO and its member organizations. The session introduced updates to PAFO's Management Information System (MIS), with emphasis on data accuracy, reporting, and evidence-based planning.

More information