



European Parliament



African Union

2027 RETREAT

ON FOOD SECURITY AND EFFECTIVE HEALTHCARE SUPPORT SYSTEMS IN AFRICA

Building Resilient Food Systems and Sustainable Healthcare Delivery for Africa's Future



Brussels • Belgium • 17th–20th May 2027
Venue: Park Inn by Radisson Blu Brussels Airport

ORGANIZED BY:
AEIP ACADEMIC FORUMS EUROPE



Fostering Collaboration • Innovation • Sustainable Impact Across Africa & Europe

BACKGROUND

Africa faces a critical intersection of two human security challenges. Over 278 million Africans suffer from chronic hunger (FAO 2024), while fragile healthcare support systems account for 24% of global disease burden with only 3% of health workers. Climate change, post-harvest losses (up to 40%), fragmented farm input systems, and underfunded primary healthcare create a vicious cycle of malnutrition, poor health outcomes, and low productivity.

This high-level retreat, strategically hosted in Brussels seat of the European Parliament and the African Union Mission to the EU seeks to bridge the silos between agriculture and health. It aligns with AU Agenda 2063, UN SDGs 2 & 3, AfDB Feed Africa Strategy, FAO Four Betters, and EU-AU Global Gateway Health & Food Security Partnership.

The retreat will move beyond dialogue to produce the Brussels Declaration on Food & Health Security (2027) – a policy framework for Ministries of Agriculture and Health to implement with funding from AfDB, Gates Foundation, FAO, WHO, and EU.

KEY FOCUS

Day 1 – 17th May 2027: Arrival of all Delegates to Brussels and Registration

Day 4 – 20th May 2027: Official Appointment and Visitation to the European Union Parliament and the African Union Representative/Mission to the EU – Presentation of Declaration & Policy Dialogue.

ACADEMIC OBJECTIVES

- 1.To analyze the nexus between Food Security, Farm Inputs Support Systems (FISS), Nutrition, and Primary Healthcare Delivery in Africa.
- 2.To evaluate effective models of farm input subsidy, storage, cold chain, and last-mile delivery for nutrition-sensitive agriculture.
- 3.To examine EU models of food safety, traceability, and Universal Health Coverage (UHC) applicable to Africa.
- 4.To co-create funding and partnership models involving AfDB, Gates Foundation, FAO, WHO, and EU.
- 5.To develop evidence-based policy recommendations for the Brussels Declaration.

CALL FOR PAPERS (ANNOUNCEMENT)

We hereby invite Academics, Researchers, Policymakers, PhD Scholars, Ministry Officials, NGO Practitioners, and Private Sector to submit Abstracts and Full Papers for peer review and presentation.

CONFERENCE TRACKS & SUB-THEMES:

TRACK 1: FOOD SECURITY & FARM INPUTS SUPPORT SYSTEMS (FISS)

- Sustainable Farm Inputs, Fertilizer & Seed Systems, Subsidy Models
- Post-Harvest Losses, Storage, Warehousing, and Cold Chain Infrastructure
- Climate-Smart Agriculture, Irrigation, and Soil Health for Africa
- AgriTech, Digital Extension, and Precision Agriculture

TRACK 2: NUTRITION, ONE HEALTH & EFFECTIVE HEALTHCARE SUPPORT

- Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture & Food Fortification
- One Health Approach: Linking Human, Animal & Environmental Health
- Primary Healthcare Support Systems, Community Health Workers, and Supply Chain
- Maternal, Child Nutrition & Healthcare Delivery in Rural Africa



TRACK 3: POLICY, FINANCING & PARTNERSHIPS

- AfDB TAAT, Feed Africa, SAPZs, and Health Infrastructure Financing
- Gates Foundation Models for Agriculture & Global Health
- FAO Hand-in-Hand, WHO UHC, and EU Global Gateway Funding
- Public-Private Partnerships for Food & Health Systems

TRACK 4: INNOVATION, RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY

- Food Safety, Traceability, Standards & Regulatory Frameworks
- HealthTech, Digital Health Records, Telemedicine & Nutrition Surveillance
- Youth, Women, and Smallholder Farmers in Food & Health Value Chains
- Building Resilient Supply Chains: Lessons from EU & Africa

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- **Abstract:** 250-300 words, with Title, Author(s), Affiliation, Ministry/Organization, Email, 4-5 Keywords. Indicate preferred Track.
- **Full Paper:** 5,000-7,000 words, APA 7th edition, Times New Roman 12, double-spaced. Should include Abstract, Introduction, Methodology, Findings, Policy Recommendations, Conclusion, References.
- **Policy Briefs:** Ministry officials can submit 2-3 page policy briefs instead of academic papers – detailing FISS challenges, innovations, and lessons from their country.
- **Language:** English (French abstracts accepted, presentation in English)

IMPORTANT DATES:

- Abstract Submission Deadline: 15th March 2027
- Notification of Acceptance: 25th March 2027
- Full Paper / Policy Brief Submission: 30th April 2027
- Early Bird Registration Deadline: 30th April 2027 (Registration €500 + Accommodation/Meals €750 = €1,250 Total)
- Retreat Dates: 17th-20th May 2027 (Day 1 Arrival 17th, Day 4 EU Parliament & AU Mission Visitation 20th)

PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITIES

- All accepted papers will be published in AEIP Conference Proceedings with ISBN (Open Access).
- Selected high-quality papers will be recommended for publication in Special Issue of Scopus-Indexed Journals – _Journal of Food Security & African Development / Journal of Health Systems & Policy_ (Partners TBC).
- Best Policy Brief will be integrated into Brussels Declaration and submitted to AU & EU Parliament.

PRESENTATION MODES

- Oral Presentation (15 minutes) at Park Inn Brussels
- Poster Presentation
- Virtual Presentation available for authors unable to travel (visa support letters available for physical attendees)

HOW TO SUBMIT:

SEND ABSTRACT TO BOTH EMAILS:

research@aeipacademicforums.org AND aeipacademicresearch@gmail.com
Subject: Abstract Submission – Brussels 2027 – [Your Track] – [Your Name]

All registered delegates will receive: Conference Materials, Certificate of Presentation/Participation, Access Pass for EU Parliament & AU Mission Visitation on 20th May, and Visa Support Letters Available for All Registered Delegates upon payment of Registration Fee.

CONTACT FOR ACADEMIC ENQUIRIES:

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