Overview

The African Green Revolution Forum (AGRF) is considered the world’s premier forum for African agriculture, bringing together stakeholders in the agricultural landscape to take practical actions and share lessons that will move African agriculture forward.

Africa is rising, with signs of prosperity and progress in the lives of millions of individuals and entire economies. But for all of the signs of progress, Africa still needs to move from food shortage to surplus, drive beneficial continental trade, and create millions of jobs and opportunities, particularly for women and youth. This is even more important in the face of climate change and growing populations across the continent. Business and progress as usual is not enough for Africa’s aspirations. We must do more and do it more successfully.

Since its inception, the AGRF has been a platform for advancing Africa’s agricultural agenda to achieve its development goals. Initially established as an annual “African Green Revolution Conference” by Yara International ASA in Norway in 2006, fostering public-private partnerships and mobilizing investments into African agriculture, the conference moved to the African continent in 2010 with the championing of the late Kofi Annan to take an African identity as the African Green Revolution Forum and ensure leadership and broader engagement of African stakeholders in the continent’s agricultural transformation agenda. Over time it has grown into the world’s most important and impactful forum for African agriculture, with an unrivalled power to convene top leaders, thinkers and implementers in African agriculture across private, public, development and non-profit partners, and academic and research sectors.

At the turn of AGRF’s 10th anniversary, the Forum is committed to taking its agenda and impact several notches higher. With five years left to achieve the vision and goals laid out in the Malabo Declaration and ten years left to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Forum is driving a more intentional agenda with more partners.

The Forum, which now consists of an annual Summit and many thematic platforms and activities through the year, brings together partners to energize political will and advance the programs, investments, and policies required to counter the major challenges affecting the agriculture sector and achieve an inclusive and sustainable agricultural transformation across the continent. It works explicitly to help African countries and the continent to make continuous progress to achieve the visions set in the Malabo Declaration and related Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and Africa’s Agenda 2063. It also seeks explicitly to draw stakeholders around a common purpose – to unleash the full potential of Africa’s millions of smallholder farmers and their families who earn their livelihoods from small-scale farms and provide about 80% of the food and agricultural products consumed across the continent.

By helping scale the required policies, programs, and investments, the Forum supports governments and partners in the African agricultural landscape to transform the lives of millions of smallholder farmers, grow African businesses, and put a good number of countries on the path to a sustainable agricultural transformation. The results include significant impacts on food security, nutrition, job creation, rural development, resilience, incomes, and empowering individuals and countries to drive their own future that will ensure this is Africa’s Century.

“AGRF is the most diverse and multi-dimensional event on African agricultural transformation, and it has used this status to successfully inform, influence, and catalyse collective action.”

- Independent Assessment by Dalberg, 2018
Strategic Vision & Objectives

The AGRF serves as the world’s premier forum for advancing Africa’s agricultural agenda to achieve the vision and goals laid out in the AU Malabo Declaration, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and Africa’s Agenda 2063.

Under AGRF’s current strategy, the Forum is particularly focused on driving progress of the Malabo Declaration by 2025 as the priority set of commitments African Heads of State and Government have made to strengthen agricultural development at the center of the continent’s overall development and progress. AGRF tracks progress on the continental agricultural agenda in alignment with the African Union’s leadership by reviewing data of the Biennial Review of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). The Biennial Review with its indicators and data provide detail on how countries, regions, and sub-sectors of Africa’s agricultural system are improving over time and the areas that need more focus and improvement. AGRF thereby shapes its programmatic focus and platforms to best respond and continue to drive progress across the continent.

Within the context of Africa’s overall agricultural agenda, the AGRF derives its impact in terms of concrete results in each of the following six objectives:

1. Agenda Setting
   - Identifying, defining, and driving national-, regional, and continental-level priorities to accelerate progress by a broad cross-section of stakeholders through a shared vision and coordination.

2. Policy & Advocacy
   - Promoting evidence-based policy reforms to unlock the growth potential across the continent through agricultural transformation.

3. Investment Facilitation & Finance
   - Building the pipeline of agri-investment opportunities across the continent to unlock new private sector investments at all levels – small, medium, and large.

4. Knowledge Sharing & Learning
   - Sharing strategies, approaches, tools, and insights about what works and what does not work to inform prioritization, replication, and scaling where appropriate.

5. Reporting & Accountability
   - Tracking and sharing progress and results of political, policy, and financing commitments made by partners over the years.

6. Partnership Development & Coordination
   - Forging and advancing working relationships across a vast array of AGRF stakeholders to best achieve all other objectives and ensure that the community is best driving a coherent vision and making effective and efficient use of all resources.

Seize the Moment campaign of the AU, NEPAD, AfDB, and AGRA in 2016 resulted in over US$ 30 Billion worth of commitments to the agricultural sector and agreement around nine priority action points.

Ministers of Agriculture clarified priorities against the CAADP Biennial Review to move their countries forward.

The AGRF Deal Room at the AGRF 2020 Summit brought together more than 100 African and regional companies, as well as 37 investors, 17 African regional banks, and several DFIs for more than 350 meetings and the delivery of more than US$200 million in new investments.

New reports and studies – Africa Agriculture Status Report (AASR); Africa Agriculture Trade Monitor (AATM); Malabo Montpellier Panel Reports on Mechanization and Nutrition; A Food Secure 2030 report by USAID

Using the findings of the CAADP Biennial Review to show public and private leaders progress made towards improving countries’ performance in agriculture transformation.

Launching a regional rice platform for West Africa in 2017 that included several governments in West Africa, ECOWAS, and partners such as the African Development Bank, Grow Africa, Intervalle, the Kufuor Foundation, and AGRA
Value Proposition

AGRF has unrivalled power to convene top leaders, thinkers and implementers in African agriculture across private, public, development and non-profit partners, and academic and research sectors.

Stakeholders, whether public or private, appreciate the high level, diverse group of delegates they are exposed to at the Forum with each one of them deriving specific benefits from AGRFs’ six objectives.

01 | Public Sector
Policymakers and technical staff from government find opportunities to learn what works and what does not work from best practices and knowledge across the continent and the globe. They are able to feature their priorities, showcase their progress, and hold bilateral meetings with a range of stakeholders in order to build momentum for their agenda and unlock new investments, programs, and partnerships.

02 | Private Sector
Companies and entrepreneurs of all sizes advance business priorities through engagements with other businesses, investors, government, and implementing actors. They are able to understand latest progress and issues in the continental agenda, feature their thought leadership and programs, and elevate policy priorities essential for an enabling business environment. They also hold bilateral meetings with a range of stakeholders to broker deals, advance partnerships, and unlock new investments.

03 | Implementing Organizations and Civil Society
Institutions working across agricultural systems find a platform to feature their work and ideas and scale their efforts with public and private sector. They are able to connect with stakeholders in government, private sector, and development partners to advance their programmatic missions and agendas with policy reforms, partnerships, and new public and private investments.

04 | Farmers
Individuals working on farms or representing farmers organizations find opportunities to promote what works from their practical experience, as well as learn about innovations, technologies, practices, and ideas that can support their livelihoods and businesses. They are able to inform agendas, priorities, and actions of policymakers, private companies, implementing organizations, development partners, and researchers and thought leaders to strengthen agricultural systems.

05 | Research & Academia
Thought leaders and scientists find the forum as a unique platform to share and acquire ideas and evidence, bridge them into practice, and then see reports back on progress and lessons. They are able to influence agendas and priorities at country, regional, and continental level with data and evidence, which can be amplified well beyond the forum through AGRF communications channels. They are also able to connect with key funders and partners, often essential for the impact and sustainability of their work.

06 | Development Partners
Strategic funding partners of Africa’s agricultural transformation agenda from across the continent and globe advance their missions through engagements with a wide variety of existing and new stakeholders. They are able to understand latest progress, challenges, and ideas in the continental agenda, feature their thought leadership and programs, and elevate policy priorities essential for an enabling business environment through the Forum’s overall communications channels for significant amplification and visibility. They also hold bilateral meetings to advance policy and program priorities, broker and strengthen partnerships, and unlock new investments.
Thematic Platforms

AGRF advances its mission and work throughout the year to achieve targeted outcomes largely by working through a set of thematic platforms. These thematic platforms and working groups are composed of several member organizations who set a long-term strategy and annual work plan that includes but also extends beyond the annual AGRF summit to achieve specific outcomes.

Ten thematic platforms and thematic working groups have been prioritized for the AGRF to deliver under its current strategy against its priority goals.

Thematic platforms as envisioned by the AGRF are strong independent and multi-stakeholder platforms that exist even outside the Forum with their own mandate, occasionally global in nature, but with AGRF as one key element of their implementation throughout the year. They are managed by their own dedicated Secretariat and manage funding set aside by members of the Platform that ensures they deliver on expectations, while partnering closely with the AGRF Secretariat.

As part of their annual work plans, each thematic platform delivers on at least four things: (i) coordinated engagement and delivery against agreed programs, learning events, and other activities, (ii) new cutting edge knowledge products to shape and advance the continental agenda, (iii) events and sessions at the AGRF Summit, and (iv) collaboration with other African and global events to help AGRF programming spread into wider communities and agendas.

"People just know everyone who they need to meet with will be going [to AGRF]. And they book their tickets without even considering it.” - AGRF Partner, 2018
AGRF Summit Frequency, Location & Theme

Since the first AGRF was held in Ghana in 2010 under the leadership of H.E. President Mills, the Forum has annually brought together Heads of State, Ministers, business leaders, development partner leadership, thought leaders, farmer organization representatives, youth entrepreneurs, and other critical stakeholders to focus on the actions and policies needed to move the continental agenda forward. The Forum was hosted by Heads of State in Tanzania in 2012, Mozambique in 2013, Ethiopia in 2014, Zambia in 2015, Kenya in 2016, Côte d’Ivoire in 2017, Rwanda in 2018, and Ghana in 2019. The Forum and its momentum have grown considerably over these years.

At the end of its first decade, AGRF led a competitive bidding process and the Members of the AGRF Partners Group unanimously selected the Republic of Rwanda as the long-term home country of the forum going forward. AGRF will now alternate between hosting the annual summit in Rwanda in even years and different host countries across the continent in alternate years.

The annual AGRF Summit is now routinely held during the first full week of September, as has been agreed with AGRF Partners and is required agreement for host countries.

Host countries are selected as leading champions of the AGRF mission and vision of inclusive agricultural transformation in Africa, with a proven desire to advance policies, programs, and investments at home as well as across the continent more broadly.

Each year’s theme is selected by the AGRF Partners Group and host government. Several factors are considered when choosing the theme, including alignment with AGRF’s strategic objectives, ability to advance the continental agenda, connection to priority issues of the day, complementarity with other events during the year, and relevance to the Partners and host government. It must also be compelling and unique enough to mobilize attendance of the full breadth more than 2,000 AGRF delegates and enable them to learn and derive value from the Forum’s program.

![AGRF Summit Frequency Diagram](image)

- **Investing in African Agriculture**
- **Scaling Investment and Innovation for Sustainable Agricultural Growth and Food Security**
- **Scaling Up And Financing Inclusive Agribusiness Through Transformative Public-private Partnerships**
- **Walking the Talk on Youth and Women: Bringing Inclusive Agricultural Markets to Life**
- **Beyond the Tipping Point: a New Vision and Strategies for Inclusive and Sustainable Transformation**
- **Seize The Moment: Securing Africa’s Rise Through Agricultural Transformation**
- **Accelerating Africa’s Path to Prosperity: Growing Inclusive Economies and Jobs through Agriculture**
- **Lead. Measure. Grow: Enabling New Pathways to Turn Smallholders into Sustainable Agribusinesses**
- **Grow Digital: Leveraging digital transformation to drive sustainable food systems in Africa**
The AGRF Summit in Numbers

AGRF is a unique multi-stakeholder platform that has an unrivalled power to convene stakeholders across the agricultural landscape. The annual AGRF Summit is routinely attended by more than 2,000 delegates and high-level dignitaries, including current and former Heads of State and Government; Agriculture and Finance Ministers; Central Bank Governors; eminent leaders of global and regional development institutions; top industry captains from the national, regional, and global private sector; cutting-edge knowledge and research institutions, tech leaders and agri-preneurs; and lead representatives of farmer organizations and key non-governmental implementing partners.

**10**
Current & Former Heads of State

**US$200M+**
New investments from the AGRF Deal Room

**2000+**
Delegates in attendance

**300**
Keynote speakers

**1,840**
Number of unique media mentions of the 2018 AGRF

**100+**
CEOs & Industry captains

**75**
International journalists

**30+**
Ministers of Agriculture, Finance and Commerce & Trade

“*The knowledge, experience and goodwill in evidence at this forum shows that we have everything we need to succeed. It is up to us working together to drive the necessary change in our respective communities and organisations.*”

- H.E. Paul Kagame, President, Republic of Rwanda
AGRF Partners

The AGRF Partners Group is made up of a coalition of leading actors in African agriculture all focused on putting farmers at the center of the continent’s growing economies. Partners currently include the 23 institutions and actors represented below.*

The AGRF Secretariat is hosted by AGRA on behalf of partners; itself an African-led institution that works in 11 countries across the continent. The Government of Rwanda serves as a long-term host of the forum, championing its agenda throughout the year and hosting the annual Summit in all even years, i.e. 2020, 2022 and 2024. The Chair of the AGRA Board, also serves as Chair of the AGRF Partners Group.

*Partner logos included as of November 2019
Becoming an AGRF Partner

There are many opportunities of becoming a strategic partner and join the AGRF Partners Group to drive a shared vision on inclusive transformation in Africa. aligned to your organization’s vision and strategy. In addition to this strategic engagement, sponsors get visibility and institutional benefits.

As a partner, institutions are able to engage in and help shape AGRF programs throughout the year, as well as the Annual Summit

As a sponsor in different categories, institutions are able to help shape and drive the summit in ways

Below are the opportunities to position your organization or company as market leader in this continental platform and summit, and to explore the range of branding and exhibition opportunities that this platform offers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partner tier</th>
<th>Roles and expectations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| AGRF Partners      | Provide guidance, review, and no objection on: AGRF strategy, operating model, and staffing model  
                      | AGRF business line work plans                                                           
                      | AGRF Summit objectives, themes, agenda, and program                                     
                      | Summit location                                                                        
                      | Budget                                                                                 
                      | Participate in governance meetings                                                     |
|                    | Benefits based on level of financial contribution:                                        |
|                    | Leadership and/or participation in thematic platform(s)                                  |
|                    | Development and/or participation in sessions at the AGRF Summit                          |
|                    | Speaking roles                                                                         |
|                    | Visibility, logo positioning, unique branding                                           |
|                    | Visibility and communication amplification year-round                                    |

Sponsoring Partners:

Receive a combination package (ranked from Bronze to Platinum) depending on their contribution that includes:

- Speaking opportunities
- Networking and Business Opportunities
- Advertising & Marketing

If interested, please contact the AGRF Secretariat at secretariat@agr.org. New partners are admitted throughout the year, but encouraged to engage by end of March to enable the best opportunities for engaging in the annual Summit in September.
“There is something going on out there and our young people are beginning to turn their heads and see the possibilities in agriculture. They are beginning to realize that we can’t have a paradox where the average age of the population is 19 years but for our farmers it is approaching 60.”

- Strive Masiyiwa, Chairman, Econet, and Co-Chair, Pathways for Prosperity
“No country has come out of poverty without having an inclusive agriculture transformation agenda that makes small holder farmers more competitive.”

- Rodger Voorhies, Executive Director, Global Growth and Opportunity, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation