**International Conference and Training Workshop on**

**“Food Systems Transformation for Climate Actions” (ICTW-FSTCA 2025)**

*Organized Under COMSTECH Forum on Environment and Ecosystem Restoration (CFEER)*

Organized by

OIC – COMSTECH, and ICESCO, in collaboration with Makerere University, Uganda

Date: 28 – 30 October, 2025

Venue: Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda

**Tentative Programme**

**Day – 1 (28th October 2025)**

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| **08:30-09:00** | **Registration and Arrival of Guests** |
| 09:00-09:15 | **Welcome Remarks by H.E. Professor Barnabas Nawangwe**  Vice Chancellor  Makerere University, Uganda |
| 09:15-09:25 | **Remarks by Dr. Rosie, Agoi**  Secretary General  Uganda National Commission for UNESCO/ ICESCO |
| 09:25-09:35 | **Remarks by Dr. Muhammad Sharif**  Advisor/Director Science & Technology  ICESCO |
| 09:35-09:50 | **Address by H.E. Prof. Dr. Iqbal M. Choudhary**  Coordinator General  OIC-COMSTECH |
| 09:50-10:10 | **Address by the Chief Guest**  **H.E. Janet Kainembabazi Museveni**  First Lady/ Minister of Education and Sports  Uganda |
| 10:10-10:30 | **Keynote Address by Dr. Logan Cochrane**  ***An Overarching Talk on the Need for Sustainable Transformation of the Food Systems from an African Perspective***  Dean, College of Public Policy  Hamad bin Khalifa University, Qatar |
| **10:30-11:00** | **Tea Break and Networking** |
| **Session I - The Global Call for Food System Transformation**  **Global and Regional Perspectives: Country-Level Experiences and Challenges** | |
| 11:00-11:30 | **The Current State of Food Security in OIC Member States**  Dr. Abdelaziz HAJJAJI  Program Manager  Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS) |
| 11:30-11:50 | **Online - Challenges of Food Security in Africa: Innovative Solutions Through Technology and Nature Based Solutions**  Prof. Dr. Osama Rayis  Chair, Agripreneurship  Arab Organization for Agricultural Development, Egypt |
| 11:50:12:10 | **Agriculture Productivity Landscape in Egypt**  Prof. Ahmed Gabr  Professor, National Research Center, Egypt |
| 12:10-12:30 | **Food Security Landscape in Iran**  Prof. Farhad Nazarian  Dean Faculty of Agriculture, Lorestan University, Iran |
| **12:30-13:30** | **Lunch** |
| 13:30-14:00 | **Agriculture Practices in East Africa**  Mr. Said Gure Osman  Researcher, Benadir University, Somalia |
| 14:00-14:30 | **Agriculture Practices in Central Africa**  Ms. Widad Hassan Abdulhalim Hassan  Industrial Research and Consultancy Center – IRCC, Sudan |
| **Session 2: Drivers of Food System Transformation** | |
| 14:30-14:50 | **A Case Study of Songhai Center: Sustainable Agriculture and Regenerative Practices**  Mr. M. Haris Akram  Programme Manager  OIC-COMSTECH |
| 14:50-15:10 | **Climate Change, Population Growth, and Nutrition Demands**  Dr. Pazi M. Semili  Lecturer  Muslim University of Morogoro  Tanzania |
| 15:10-15:30 | **Trade, Markets, and Innovation in Food Value Chains**  **Makerere University, Uganda** |
| **Group Exercise: Mapping Food System Challenges** | |
| 15:30-16:30 | **Group Discussion**   * Status of agricultural productivity and factors behind yield gaps in Africa? * What are the three main sustainability issues in African agricultural systems? * How are African agricultural systems affected by unstainable practices? * How similar or different are these issues across the continent? * Impacts of climate change on African agricultural systems and vice versa?   Participants divided into groups by thematic area (climate, trade, nutrition, governance)  Each group maps key barriers and opportunities |
| **1930** | **Dinner** |

**Day – 2 (29th October 2025)**

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| 09:00-09:15 | **Opening Remarks and Recap of Day-1**  Prof. Gorettie N. Nabanoga  Principal  College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CAES)  Makerere University, Uganda |
| **Session 3: Pathways and Actions for Transformation** | |
| 09:15-09:40 | **Innovative Solutions and Best Agriculture Practices**  Dr. Mohamadou Dieye  GIS and Remote Sensing Coordinator  Institut Sénégalais de Recherche Agricole (ISRA)  Senegal |
| 09:40-10:10 | **Nature Based Solutions for Making African Agriculture More Sustainable**  Mr. Ben Irwin  Senior Forestry Officer  Global Green Growth Institute  Ethiopia |
| 10:10-10:40 | **Cultivating Change: Actions for an Environmentally Sustainable Food System**  Mr. Azare Auwalu Abdullahi  Deputy Director  Raw Materials Research and Development Council  Nigeria |
| 10:40-11:00 | **Tea Break and Networking** |
| **Session 4: Policy, Governance, and Financing** | |
| 11:00-11:30 | **Enabling Policies for Food System Resilience**  Dr. Logan Cochrane  Dean, College of Public Policy  Hamad bin Khalifa University, Qatar |
| 11:30-12:00 | **Multi-Stakeholder Perspectives: Government, Academia, Private Sector, Civil Society**  Prof. Gorettie N. Nabanoga  Principal  College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CAES)  Makerere University, Uganda |
| 12:00-12:30 | **Role of International Cooperation and Trade** |
| 12:30-13:30 | **Lunch** |
| **Panel Discussion**  **Digital Agriculture, Circular Economy in Food, and Private Sector Innovations and Youth-Led Solutions** | |
| 13:30-14:30 | **Brief Presentations of Group Activity**   1. Environment & Climate Change 2. Supply Chain and Trade 3. Food Science & Nutrition 4. Governance |
| 14:30-16:00 | **Thematic Questions**   * Climate change, population growth, and nutrition demands * Sustainable agriculture and regenerative practices * Access to safe and nutritious food * Gender, youth, and marginalized communities in food systems * Trade, markets, and innovation in food value chains * Private sector innovations and youth-led solutions   **Panelists**   * Dr. Logan Cochrane**,** Dean, Hamad bin Khalifa University, Qatar * Dr. Abdelaziz HAJJAJI, Program Manager, Islamic Organization for Food Security * Prof. Ahmed Gabr, Professor, National Research Center, Egypt * Prof. Farhad Nazarian, Dean Faculty of Agriculture, Lorestan University, Iran * Mr. Said Gure Osman, Researcher, Benadir University, Somalia * Ms. Widad Hassan, Industrial Research and Consultancy Center – IRCC, Sudan * Dr. Pazi M. Semili, Lecturer, Muslim University of Morogoro, Tanzania |
| **Closing Session** | |
| 16:00-16:10 | Key Take Aways and Way Forward |
| 16:10-16:25 | Comments from Participants |
| 16:25-16:35 | **Closing Remarks by H.E. Professor Barnabas Nawangwe**  Vice Chancellor  Makerere University, Uganda |
| 16:35-16:50 | **Certificate Distribution** |
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| 1930 | Dinner |

**Day – 3**

**Field Visit**