

The call for greater involvement of the private sector in the development of agriculture and agri-food value chains to meet the challenges of food security, nutrition, poverty and employment, is a leitmotiv of international organizations and most African governments. In view in particular of low rural incomes and climate change impact in Africa, the development of these sectors must be sustainable, that is, combine economic profitability and better social and environmental performances. How and under which conditions can private investments contribute to achieving these objectives is the topic of the 2015 conference organized jointly by the Foundation for World Agriculture and Rurality, and Pluriagri.

This topic will be discussed in three round tables composed of representatives from agriculture, local and international agri-food companies, and the public sector. What is the impact on the private sector of the principles for responsible investments in agriculture and food systems issued by international organizations? How can agri-food processors work in fair partnerships with smallholder farmers? What are the legitimate roles of the private sector and governments for the sustainable development of agri-food value chains in Africa? A debate will examine the controversial role of agribusiness investments in plantations managed by hired workers, rather than in contract farming with small producers.

# CONFERENCE

## Private investment and sustainable development: issues for the agri-food sector in Africa

**December 14th, 2015**

OECD Conference Center  
2, rue André Pascal - Paris 16e, France

Registration and information: [www.fondation-farm.org/investissement-prive](http://www.fondation-farm.org/investissement-prive)

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INTERNATIONAL

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8:30 - 9:00 **Welcome coffee**

9:00 - 9:30 **Opening by René Carron**, President of FARM and **Jean-François Isambert**, President of Pluriagri

9:30 - 10:00 **Address by Moussa Seck**, Chairman of PanAAc (Pan African Agribusiness and Agro Industry Consortium)  
*Private investment: what are we talking about? The diversity of stakeholders and challenges: farmers, upstream and downstream businesses, local and multinational companies.*

10:00 - 11:30 **Responsible investments: the enterprise between public standards and CSR**  
*Does the agri-food industry integrate into their strategy the principles for responsible investment adopted by governments in the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and other international institutions? What are the strengths and limitations of actions taken under the corporate social responsibility (CSR)? How CSR interacts with public policy?*

- Chair and moderator: Jean-Christophe Debar**, Director of FARM
- **Jean-Marc Gravellini**, Vice-President Africa of La Compagnie Fruitière
  - **Odile Conchou**, Manager of ESG division, Proparco
  - **Etienne Giros**, Deputy Chair of the French Council of Investors in Africa (CIAN)
  - **Charlotte Hebebrand**, Director General of the International Fertilizer Industry Association (IFA)

Debate with the floor

11:30 - 13:00 **Working with small producers**  
*How to facilitate the integration of small farmers in agri-food value chains? What are the conditions for successful contracts with food processors? What role can producers' organizations play in this area?*

- Chair and moderator: Michel Petit**, Chair of FARM Scientific Council
- **Catherine Bureau**, Deputy director of the Foundation Avril
  - **Salif Ayéfoumi Olou-Adara**, President of the Grain Producers Organization (Togo)
  - **Jonas Mva Mva**, Head fo Sustainable development, Chocolat Cémoi
  - **Ndidi Okonkwo Nwuneli**, Co-founder of AACE Foods (Nigeria)

Debate with the floor

13:00 - 14:30 *Lunch at OECD*

14:30 - 15:30 **Plantations under siege: can they contribute to sustainable development?**

*Agribusiness land investments are heavily criticized, partly for the risks of excluding small farmers. However, for several crops (coffee, cocoa, palm oil...), plantations are a reality and seduce many African governments. Under what conditions can they contribute to sustainable development?*

**Moderator: Jean-Luc François**, Head of the Agriculture, Rural development and Biodiversity Division, French Development Agency (AFD)

**Face-to-face:**

- **Pierre Bois d'Enhien**, Head for sustainable development, Socfin Group
- **Dr Theo de Jager**, Chair of the Pan African Farmers Organization (PAFO) and the Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU)

Debate with the floor

15:30 - 17:00 **Public-private, how to build together?**

*What are the legitimate roles of companies, governments and NGOs for the sustainable development of agrifood value chains in Africa? How has official development assistance evolved in this area? What are the conditions of success for public-private partnerships?*

**Chair and moderator: Pierre Jacquemot**, President of Gret

- **Bernard Giraud**, President of Livelihoods Venture
- **Patricia Kadjo**, coordinator of PPP of the Coffee Cacao Council of Ivory Coast
- **Leith Ben Becher**, President of the Tunisian Farmers' Union (SYNAGRI)
- **Jean-Jacques Gabas**, Researcher at Cirad
- **François Burgaud**, President of the Association for the Development of International Trade in Agri-food Products and Techniques (ADEPTA)

Debate with the floor

17:00 - 17:30 **Closing session: Ibrahim Assane Mayaki**, Executive Secretary of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)

17:30 *Cocktail*