

AfDB, Purdue University host conference on successful farming technologies

Hosted by the African Development Bank (AfDB) and Purdue University, the Scale Up Conference on Agricultural Innovations is currently under way in Indiana, USA, addressing how to shift agricultural innovations from research institutions into the developing world, particularly Africa.



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AfDB president Akinwumi Adesina is the keynote speaker at the conference. Together with bank VP for agriculture, human and social development Jennifer Blanke, Adesina will meet with university management and other stakeholders on partnership opportunities, including the Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation (TAAT) initiative, being steered by AfDB. TAAT is a knowledge- and innovation-based response to the recognised need for scaling up proven technologies across Africa.

“This will be the first multi-day conference on this topic that includes presentations, panel discussions, case studies, and breakout group discussions to help conference participants develop a thorough understanding of how to scale up agricultural innovations to reach millions,” said Indrajeet Chaubey, associate dean and director of international programmes for the College of Agriculture at Purdue University.

Dozens of speakers who have implemented scale up processes in agricultural landscapes will participate.

“In the College of Agriculture we work to develop solutions to real world problems while also finding methods to realistically deliver and grow these technologies,” said Karen Plaut, the dean of the College of Agriculture. “The Scale Up Conference is about taking those technologies and applying them in the developing world.”

Participants are expected to gain an understanding of successful, sustainable large-scale implementation. Researchers, implementing organisations, the business community, governments, policymakers and the donor community will come together to discuss best practices for scaling up agricultural technologies.

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