

# AGRARIAN

## POLICY ISSUE TRACKER



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Building safe, sustainable, and equitable animal feed systems



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## ABOUT ACSA

Advocacy Coalition for Sustainable Agriculture (ACSA) is a legally registered national network of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), which work with small holder farmers (SHFs) and promote Sustainable Agriculture, Agricultural market development, Environmental conservation, Research and Advocacy. This is aimed at increasing farmer's understanding of policy issues affecting small holder farmers in Uganda. ACSA's mandate is "Advocating for the agrarian policy environment for small holder farmers in Uganda". With a membership of 31 CSOs (8 Caritas organizations, 3 Networks, 5 Farmers' Associations and 13 Non-Government Organizations - NGOs) spread countrywide in 46 districts, ACSA's Mission is "to Empower civil society organizations working with smallholder farmers to advocate for favorable agrarian policy environment for sustainable communities" and the Vision of "Smallholder farmers living in a Sustainable Environment", all of which contribute to the overall Goal of: "Relevant agriculture policies and services for Small Holder Farmers (SHFs) are implemented to foster profitable sustainable agriculture enterprises".

ACSA's key focus areas are; Advocacy and Lobbying, Research and Documentation, Capacity building of member organisations, Capacity building of ACSA secretariat, Networking and Partnership building.

### Rationale

The agriculture sector is very sensitive to emerging issues that may be social, economic, cultural and environmental, which are often overlooked in planning and implementation processes by stakeholders at different levels, and yet they heavily impact on food security as well as sustainability livelihood options. Through the objective of "ACSA Member Organizations (MOs) and smallholder farmers influencing the agrarian policy and budgeting processes at different levels", ACSA will continuously identify and popularize the emerging agrarian policy issues for dissemination among MOs and other stakeholders to inform advocacy initiatives towards improved legislation, resource allocation and service delivery.

This publication tracks key agrarian policy issues from the period of October, 2025. Additionally, it also tracks the current status of agrarian and related bills in the Ugandan parliament within the same period.

### Stories Inside

▶ Building safe, sustainable, and equitable animal feed systems

▶ Uganda boosts Africa's coffee exports in August 2025

## International

### **Building safe, sustainable, and equitable animal feed systems**

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) convened policymakers, scientists, producers, civil society, and private sector representatives to explore strategies for ensuring animal feed is safe, nutritious, and sustainably produced.

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### **IWMI Leads the Way: Scaling Solar Irrigation for Climate-Resilient Agriculture**

This is the solar-irrigation paradox: the same technology that can empower farmers and boost food security can also strain the very water resources it depends on if not managed wisely.

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### **WFF 2025: Hand-in-Hand Investment Forum pitches \$15.9 billion in agrifood opportunities**

The Hand-in-Hand (HIH) Investment Forum 2025 opened today at the headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) headquarters, showcasing more than \$15.9 billion in investment cases that target improving the food security of some of the world's most vulnerable peoples.

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### **Bridging knowledge systems: Indigenous practices for sustainable food ways**

Strongly rooted in their native environments, studies of Indigenous peoples' food systems (IPFS) highlight that the environmental impact of their food production is significantly lower than industrial systems due to shorter value chains, the use of integrated production systems

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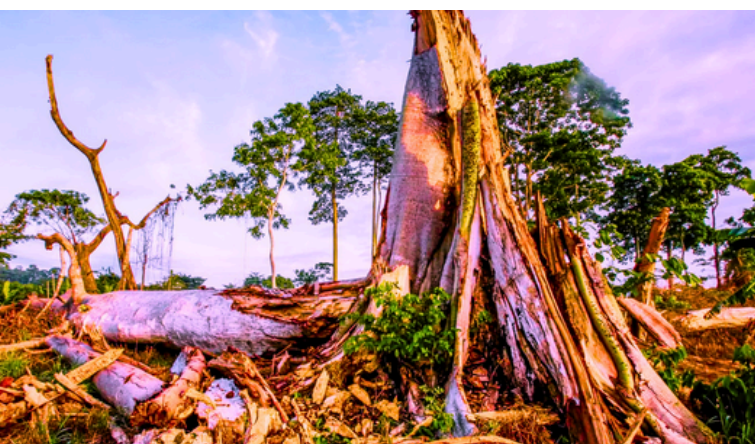
### **World Food Forum 2025 kicks off as FAO celebrates its 80th anniversary**

The 2025 edition of the World Food Forum (WFF) flagship event kicked off at the headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Rome. Held under the theme "Hand in Hand for Better Foods and a Better Future", this year's Forum takes on special significance as it coincides with the 80th anniversary of FAO, marking eight decades of the Organization's global leadership in fighting hunger and advancing food security, nutrition, sustainable agriculture and rural development.

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- ▶ FAO Food Price Index declined slightly in September
- ▶ Coffee-driven deforestation making it harder to grow coffee in Brazil, watchdog group warns



## Can regenerative agriculture transform food systems for people and nature?

The climate crisis is reshaping the way we live, work, and produce our food. Its consequences extend far beyond rising temperatures thus threatening food security, health, biodiversity, and livelihoods, and demand solutions that bridge sectors and communities.

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## FAO Food Price Index declined slightly in September

The benchmark of world food commodity prices declined slightly in September, led by drops in the sugar and dairy price indices, according to the new report released by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

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## We are fast running out of options to feed the world sustainably and preserve nature

How do we provide the absolute necessities of food and water for a growing global population without catastrophically degrading nature? The prevailing wisdom has been that through innovation, more efficiency, and smart policy, we could achieve a win-win: more food, but with less impact on land and water. But are we on the right track?

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## Coffee-driven deforestation making it harder to grow coffee in Brazil, watchdog group warns

In Brazil — the world's largest coffee producer — coffee farming is fuelling deforestation, which in turn is making it increasingly difficult to grow the crop, a new report has found. Between 2001 and 2023, more than 1,200 square miles of forest were cleared in Brazil's key coffee-growing regions, according to Coffee Watch.

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## Colombian farmers find stability in shifting from coca to coffee

A small farming community in Colombia's Valle del Cauca region, over a hundred families are demonstrating that replacing the drug economy is not about sermons or slogans — it's about securing buyers, restoring dignity, and allowing time for change.

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- ▶ Cocoa is under pressure while East African economy is on the rise
- ▶ Radio and mobile voices cultivate climate-smart farming changes in Ethiopia

### **Why Climate Finance Must Tackle Food Loss and Waste**

Every harvest season in Africa, food is lost or wasted at staggering levels. Nigeria loses 45% of its 3.9 million tons of tomato harvest each year to postharvest losses and supply chain inefficiencies. Kenya loses up to 40% of the food it produces—around 9 million tons worth KES 72 billion (approximately US\$578 million)—even as one in four citizens struggles daily to find enough to eat.

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### **Pan-African Declaration Charts Bold New Path for Africa's Digital Future in Food and Agriculture**

The declaration raises serious concerns about the convergence of biology and digital technologies, including artificial intelligence, synthetic biology, robotics, sensors, data platforms, lab-grown proteins, and geoengineering, which participants argue are deepening social inequalities, exacerbating ecological harm, and threatening traditional knowledge systems.

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### **Making market information work for neglected crops in Niger**

A recent OECD study on trade in West Africa highlighted how these gaps contribute to underestimating the true economic and social importance of food systems.

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- ▶ Why sustainability is the future of Africa's grain markets



### **Forum for Resilience in Africa 2025: Farmers must become providers of food aid, not recipients, say experts**

Agricultural experts attending the 6th edition of the Africa Resilience Forum, held recently in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, have urged African governments to place greater value on farmers — transforming them from recipients of food aid into providers.

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### **Nigeria Commits to Boosting Soil Health for Food Security**

Nigeria, Africa's fourth-largest economy and a key food producer, is launching the Presidential Soil Health Initiative to strengthen the sustainable development of agriculture

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### **From bottles to solar pumps: how Cocoa farmers in Ghana are innovating to beat water stress**

Across Ghana's cocoa belt, the rhythm of the rains is no longer reliable. Once-predictable wet and dry seasons have given way to longer dry spells, hotter harmattan months, and sudden, intense downpours

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## Côte d'Ivoire races to meet new EU standards with only 40 percent of cocoa traceable

The 200-page report, which analyses key global issues in the chocolate industry such as poverty, deforestation, and human rights, blames weak traceability on the fragmented nature of the domestic supply chain.

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## Nigeria Commits to Boosting Soil Health for Food Security

Nigeria, Africa's fourth-largest economy and a key food producer, is launching the Presidential Soil Health Initiative to strengthen the sustainable development of agriculture.

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## East Africa

### COMESA-EU Horticulture Connect paves way for stronger Africa-Europe agribusiness partnerships

The inaugural COMESA-EU Horticulture Connect Meeting, a landmark engagement bringing together European buyers, regional SMEs, and agribusiness leaders to unlock new trade, investment, and partnership opportunities across Eastern & Southern Africa's horticulture sector was held in Nairobi, Kenya, with the event featuring B2B sessions, policy dialogues, and exhibitions connecting producers with European buyers, alongside discussions on climate resilience, logistics, and digital tools for supply chain traceability.

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### Why sustainability is the future of Africa's grain markets

This powerful call to action set the tone for the 11th Africa Grain Trade Summit in Zanzibar. Under the theme 'Resilient Grain Markets: Unlocking Africa's Food Security Potential', leaders from across the continent gathered to address a critical challenge.

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▶ Cooperatives embrace new seed technologies to build climate resilience

▶ Uganda's coffee prices hold steady despite global market surges

## National

### **EU Commission proposes targeted measures to smooth EUDR implementation**

The European Commission has unveiled a series of targeted proposals aimed at easing the implementation of the EU Deforestation Regulation [EUDR], ensuring the timely and effective rollout of one of the bloc's key environmental initiatives.

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### **Uganda's coffee prices hold steady despite global market surges**

Uganda's coffee sector has shown optimistic performance as global Arabica prices surged while the country's premium Bugisu AA grade held steady. This is according to the latest Daily Coffee Market Analysis Report issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries [MAAIF].

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### **Cooperatives embrace new seed technologies to build climate resilience**

The National Agricultural Research Organisation [NARO] has equipped local cooperatives newly developed seed technologies (tree seedlings) developed to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

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### **MAAIF confirms anthrax outbreak, activates emergency response in Ibanda district**

The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries [MAAIF] has confirmed a suspected anthrax outbreak at a farm in Birongo I, Rwambu Parish, Kijongo Sub-county, Ibanda district.

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### **Uganda boosts Africa's coffee exports in August 2025**

The ICO Coffee Market Report for September 2025 highlights Uganda as the primary driver of the continent's export growth, with its shipments increasing by 17.7 percent to 0.99mln bags in August 2025

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► Fish farmers trained in black soldier fly production to cut feed costs

► Nakaseke dairy farmers harness solar energy to boost production

## **NARO boosts potato production with 13 new varieties**

In a bid to fight food insecurity in the country, the National Agricultural Research Organisation [NARO] has handed over 13 new potato varieties to seed companies for multiplication and distribution to the interested farmers.

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## **Solar hatcheries revolutionizes poultry farming in Teso**

Two such hatcheries have been installed, one in Kaberamaido district and another in neighbouring Katakwi, as part of a wider FAO initiative aimed at boosting climate resilience and food security among smallholder households.

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## **Fish farmers trained in black soldier fly production to cut feed costs**

The Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa [ASARECA] has conducted hands-on training for fish farmers, equipping them with skills in the production of black soldier fly (BSF) larvae - a highly nutritious and cost-effective feed for aquatic species.

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## **Honey production drops in Gulu due to human activities**

Honey production has dropped in Gulu district, according to statistics from the District Entomology Department. In 2019/2020, 72,740 tonnes of honey were produced in Gulu district. Production however dropped to 58,360 tons of honey in 2023/2024.

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## **Nakaseke dairy farmers harness solar energy to boost production**

Dairy farmers in Ngoma Sub-county, Nakaseke district, have embraced smart production techniques by adopting solar-powered equipment to boost milk output.

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