



THE AFRICA-EU PARTNERSHIP
LE PARTENARIAT AFRIQUE-UE



EU-AU Research and Innovation Partnership on **Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA Partnership)**

As part of the HLPD on Science
Technology and Innovation

Funding Opportunities -
Cooperation between African
and European Universities

Dr. Hans-Jörg Lutzeyer

14/10/22

High Level Policy Dialogue on in a nutshell

Africa-EU-Partnership

- 1st AU-EU Summit in Cairo, Egypt 2000
- Formal political channel of AU-EU cooperation relations

Joint Africa-EU strategy (JAES)

- 2nd AU-EU Summit in Lisbon, Portugal 2007
- Long-term strategic partnership of the AU-EU cooperation
- Prioritising Research and Innovation

AU-EU High Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD) on Science, Technology and Innovation

- 3rd AU-EU Summit in Tripoli, Libya 2010
- Platform for regular exchange on Research & Innovation (R&I) AU-EU policy



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Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) Partnership

- FNSSA was the first common priority research and innovation area, as part of the AU-EU High Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD) on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI), embedded in the Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES).
- The partnership addresses the challenges set out in UN Sustainable Development Goal 2 on ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition and promoting sustainable agriculture.
- The partnership aims to boost the impact of AU-EU joint research at local level by addressing the entire value-chain, strengthening capacity-building (human, research infrastructures and institutional) and focusing on demonstration projects and pilot actions to bring research and innovation results to users.
- Several projects in FNSSA began 2020/2021: [FOODLAND](#) | [InnoFoodAfrica](#) | [HealthyFoodAfricaEWA – BELT](#) | [SustainSAHEL](#) | [SustInAfrica](#) | [UPSCALE](#) | [Soils4Africa](#)



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Timeline of the FNSSA Partnership

2014 EU-Africa Summit

- Establishment of EU-Africa Expert Group to draft a Roadmap towards an EU-Africa R&I Partnership on FNSSA

2016 AU-EU High Level Policy Dialogue on Science, Technology and Innovation Senior Officials Meeting

- Adoption of the Roadmap

2017 Establishment of the FNSSA Working Group

- First Meeting of the Working Group

2017 HLPD Senior Officials Meeting

- Policy recommendations for the R&I Partnership in FNSSA

2019 HLPD Senior Officials Meeting

- Report on progress of the R&I Partnership in FNSSA



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Working Group of the R&I Partnership on FNSSA

Co-chaired by the AUC and EC

- Set up in March 2017
- Representatives from Egypt, France, Germany, Portugal, South Africa, Sudan, Ghana

Responsible for oversight of the implementation of the Roadmap

- Supporting coordination between different instruments and stakeholders
- Monitoring & Evaluation of the FNSSA Partnership and implementation of the Roadmap
- Supported by the [LEAP4FNSSA](#) project, and previously by the former EU funded project research and innovation network for Europe and Africa, [RINEA](#)



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The FNSSA Roadmap (2016-2026)

PRIORITY RESEARCH AND INNOVATION AREAS

- **SUSTAINABLE INTENSIFICATION**
- **AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS FOR NUTRITION**
- **EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL MARKETS AND TRADE**
- **CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES: RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES, CAPACITY BUILDING, EARTH OBSERVATION**
- **OBJECTIVES**
 - Enhance coordination
 - Operate across the entire value chain
 - Design, own, manage, and resource jointly
 - Recognize and address cross-cutting issues



The FNSSA Roadmap (2016-2026)

SOME PROJECTS IMPLEMENTING THE PARTNERSHIP

- **BUILDING THE PARTNERSHIP (UP TO 2013)**

- CAAST-Net & CAAST-Net+
- PAEPARD
- ER AFRICA
- ER A-ARD 1, ER A-ARD 2
- ESASTAP, ESASTAP2 & ESASTAP+

- **BUILDING THE PARTNERSHIP (UP TO 2013)**

- RINEA
- PROIntensAfrica
- LEAP-Agri
- InnovAfrica
- AfriCultuReS
- SEACRIFOG
- African Union Research Grants II

- **MID-PARTNERSHIP (2018 AND ONWARDS)**

- LEAP4FNSSA
- InnoFoodAfrica
- FOODLAND
- HealthyFoodAfrica
- SustInAfrica

- **FNSSA Project Database:**

- [https://library.wur.nl/WebQuery/leap4fnssa-projects?q=*](https://library.wur.nl/WebQuery/leap4fnssa-projects?q=)

- **FNSSA priority website**

- https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/strategy/strategy-2020-2024/europe-world/international-cooperation/eu-africa-cooperation/partnership-food-and-nutrition-security-and-sustainable-agriculture-fnssa_en



The FNSSA Roadmap (2016-2026)

ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PARTNERSHIP

- **FUNDING: MORE THAN 390M€ MOBILIZED BY JUNE 2020**
 - Horizon 2020 (5 projects)
 - ER ANet Cofund LEAP-Agri (27 projects)
 - Development Cooperation Instrument (African Union)
 - Research Grants II, 19 projects; DeSIR A, 42 projects)
- **PROJECT RESULTS**
 - LEAP-Agri network of research funders (9 African + 10 European countries)
 - Contributions to the SDGs, particularly SDG2: Zero hunger
 - Collaborative relationships and co-learning for partners in Africa and Europe
 - Direct benefits to farmers, rural households, vulnerable groups, consumers
 - Indirect benefits to research community, value-chain actors, policy-makers
 - Capacity-building, especially for the research community and farmers, and job creation



The FNSSA Roadmap (2016-2026)

LONG-TERM ACTIONS

- **CONNECTING RESEARCHERS, FUNDERS, POLICY-MAKERS, AND OTHER ACTORS**
- **MONITORING AND EVALUATION FOR CONTINUOUS LEARNING AND REFLECTION**
- **LINKING TO NEW PRIORITIES AND POLICIES OF THE EU AND AU**
 - EU Green Deal
 - Towards a comprehensive strategy with Africa
 - AU Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa 2024
 - New EU-AU Innovation Agenda



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EU-AU Research and Innovation Partnership on
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The AU-EU International Research Consortium Platform

- Based on the principle of joint EU-AU ownership and funding of the FNSSA priority
- European Union Horizon 2020 Coordination & Support Action project LEAP4FNSSA (2019-2022)
- Transitioning the AU-EU FNSSA Partnership to a long-term sustainable Platform to improve the implementation of the Roadmap
- An alliance of stakeholders with a long-term and sustainable governance and funding mechanism, and a knowledge management and communication system



THE AFRICA-EU PARTNERSHIP
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EU-AU Research and Innovation Partnership on
Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA Partnership)

The AU-EU International Research Consortium Platform

- **Objectives:**
 1. Increase the synergies and coherence between actors, research and innovation projects, initiatives and programmes
 2. Develop a learning environment and a large knowledge base
 3. Establish a long term and sustainable coordination infrastructure, governance and funding mechanism .
 4. Liaise with the HLPD Bureau.
- **The founding Launch in September 2022**



THE AFRICA-EU PARTNERSHIP
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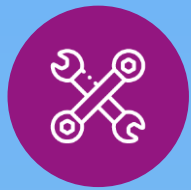
EU-AU Research and Innovation Partnership on
Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA Partnership)



The Joint AU-EU Innovation Agenda

*For building stronger value chains
for sustainable growth and decent jobs*

- **Mainstay of the AU-EU Cooperation in R&I** for the next decade, outcome of the **1st AU-EU R&I Ministerial** meeting of July 2020.
- Aiming to **translate R&I endeavours into tangible businesses, products, services and jobs** and develop a long-term and sustainable operational **AU-EU R&I cooperation model**.
- Acknowledged in the final Declaration of the **6th EU-AU Summit – A Joint Vision for 2030**.
- Flagship initiative of **The Global Gateway Africa – Europe Investment Package**, with a *roadmap* under drafting.



The Joint AU-EU Innovation Agenda

For building stronger value chains for sustainable growth and decent jobs



- Foreseeing the involvement of **all innovation stakeholders**, from conception to implementation.
- [Working document](#) of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda drafted through a comprehensive concerted “**Team Europe-Africa**” work, involving the AU and the EU Member States and Commissions, under the AU-EU High-Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD) on STI.

4 objectives:



Make it real

- **Translate innovative capacities and achievements into tangible outputs**, supporting sustainable growth and jobs, in particular for the youth



Generate impact by design

- **Foster - strengthen innovation ecosystems** to enhance socio-economic impact



Strengthen people, communities & institutions

- **Develop sustainable, long lasting and mutually beneficial higher education and R&I partnerships**



Learn, monitor, and scale it up

- Scale-up instruments that can take forward existing successful programmes and projects, enable - strengthen the knowledge triangle of education, R&I & place special focus on **public participation, transparency, and inclusion**



Short-, medium- and long-term set of actions, according to four joint priority areas:

- i. Public Health
- ii. Green Transition
- iii. Innovation & Technology
- iv. Capacities for Science



Mapping of **gaps & needs** for each priority area





6th European Union - African Union Summit: A Joint Vision for 2030

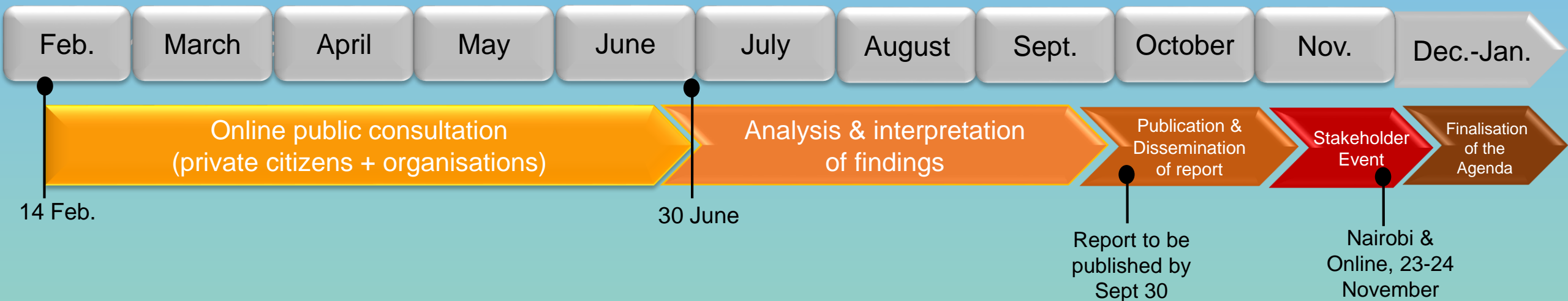
Together, we will step up our support to scientific cooperation between researchers to develop knowledge together, as well as sharing technology and expertise, including through a joint AU-EU Innovation Agenda. We will encourage exchanges of young citizens, volunteers and students, through the expanded Erasmus+ programme and develop partnerships between universities, in order to improve our mutual understanding and foster excellence. We will strive to facilitate cultural exchanges and the movement of artists and artworks between our two continents, and encourage mutual undertaking for the restitution of cultural assets and promote access to and protection of cultural heritage.

Year 2022: Stakeholder Dialogue Process



The year 2022 entails a **Stakeholder Dialogue Process**, to ensure the final version of the Innovation Agenda will address actual societal needs.

Several initiatives planned for this year:



Throughout the year: Engagement of and discussions with Stakeholders across all sectors in both Europe and Africa (and beyond) through webinars, conferences, events, publications and ad-hoc meetings.

The role of Higher Education Institutions in the conceptualisation of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda



1

- Extensive participation in the **public consultation** on the working document of the Innovation Agenda (Feb. 14 – June 30)
- ~40 contributions from African HEIs, from at least 11 countries (Algeria, Nigeria, Kenya, Congo, South Africa, Namibia, Egypt, Ghana, Tanzania, Ethiopia and Senegal)
 - ~20 contributions from Europe and 1 from USA

2

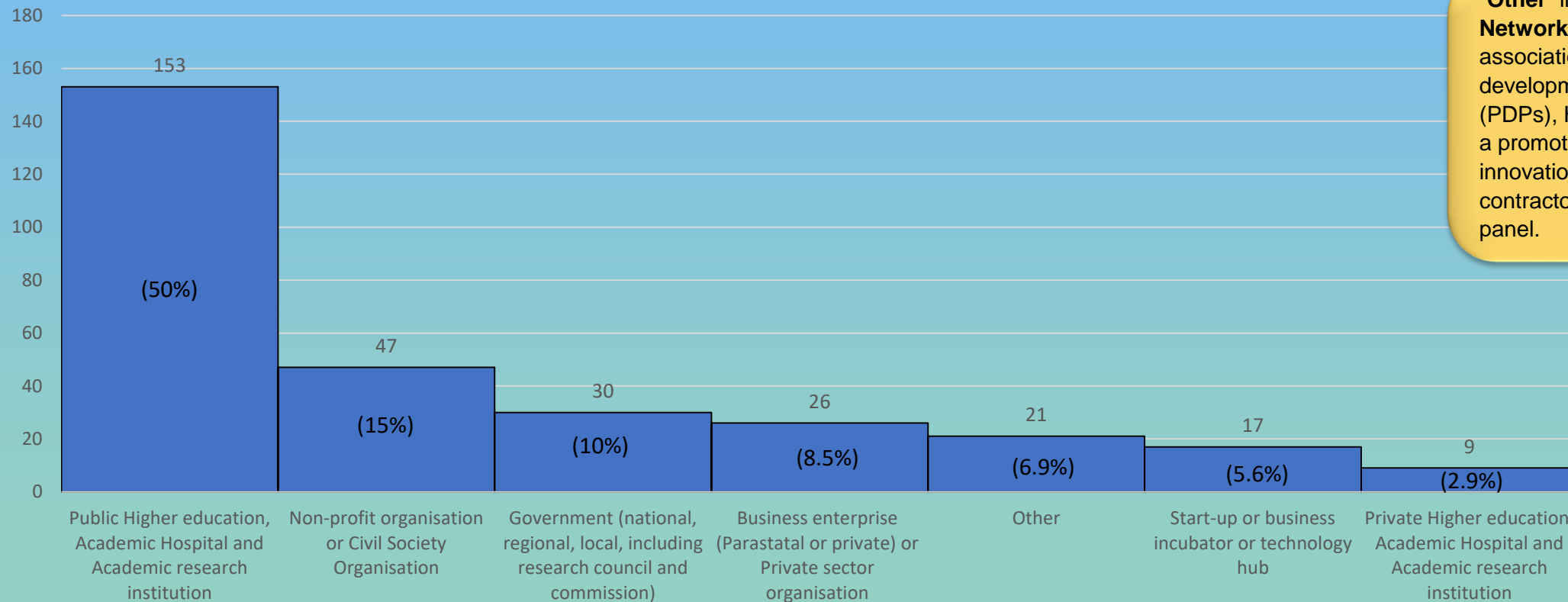
- Significant support in **stakeholder outreach** in the public consultation on the working document of the Innovation Agenda
- Endorsement by and fully supported by **The Guild of European Research-intensive Universities** and **African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA)**.
 - Extensive communication campaign organised by the **Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM)**, (147 African universities from 38 countries).

3

- Actively involved in the organisation and as recipients of the “Innovation Agenda Stakeholder Event”** (November 2022, Nairobi), **to further discuss** on the objectives, planned actions and on the implementation plan of the Agenda.
- Next to discussion sessions, several **training workshops** targeting researchers, innovators and certainly members of HEIs.

Higher Education Institutions & The public Consultation – preview of findings

- **Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)** or individuals employed in HEIs were the main contributor to the online public consultation on the working document of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda (~53% of respondents, considering both public and private HEI).



“Other” includes **University Networks**, scientific societies, associations, product development partnerships (PDPs), Horizon 2020 projects, a promotional bank and innovation agency and a sub-contractor/member of an expert panel.

Higher Education Institutions & AU-EU Innovation Agenda

African institutions contributing to the Public Consultation



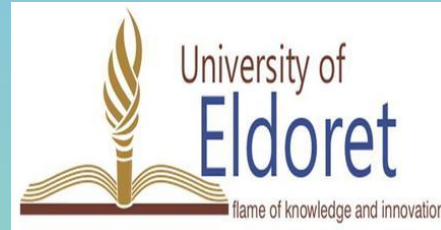
PAMIBIA
UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY



UNIVERSITEIT
iYUNIVESITHI
STELLENBOSCH
UNIVERSITY



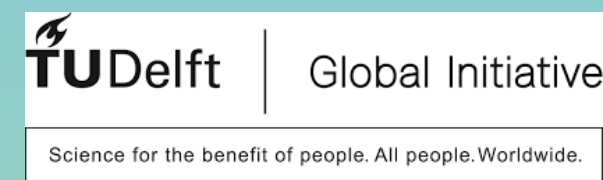
Tanzania Food and
Nutrition Centre



Thank you all very much!

Higher Education Institutions (& networks) & the AU-EU Innovation Agenda

European and American institutions contributing to the Public Consultation



Higher Education Institutions & The public Consultation – preview of findings

- Overall, the feedback received **very much welcomed** the AU-EU Innovation Agenda and endorsed its objectives and actions.
- Respondents highlighted the need to **build on the good results** that have already been achieved in joint AU-EU R&I cooperation, but also the importance of **collaborating inclusively across sectors** from the conception throughout the implementation phases (i.e. in the short-, medium- and long-term).
- The need to **enhance capacity** in terms of **research infrastructure, training (staff and students' exchanges** included) and **funding** was highly mentioned. Moreover, respondents emphasised the importance of **Monitoring & Evaluating** results to ensure the successful implementation of the Agenda.
- While **researchers and research institutions** were deemed as **key beneficiaries** of the work of the Agenda, the importance of **involving other groups** was widely acknowledged, going beyond Higher Education Institutions and involving **schools, local communities** (in **urban and rural areas**), leveraging and protecting **indigenous know-how, empowering youth, women and vulnerable groups** (e.g. **persons with disabilities**) and engaging the **African diaspora**.



The AU-EU Innovation Agenda: Main steps towards finalisation



- **14 February 2022:** EU-Africa Business Forum: Kick-off of the stakeholder consultation on the AU-EU IA online workshop 'The EU-AU Innovation Agenda at the 2022 EU-AFRICA Business Forum', under the general roof of the EU year of youth.
- **17-18 February 2022:** Acknowledgement of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda by State Leaders at AU-EU Summit (Summit Declaration).
- **30 June 2022:** Closure of the online public consultation.
- **Throughout 2022:** Continued stakeholder consultation, identification and formulation of calls for proposals and projects in support of selected actions identified in the AU-EU Innovation Agenda.
- **November 2022:** Stakeholder Event to further consolidate input & feedback on the draft AU-EU Innovation Agenda.
- **End-2022 / Q1.2023:** Finalisation of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda.
- **Q1.2023:** Approval of final AU-EU Innovation Agenda at the second AU-EU R&I Ministerial, including the launch the selected activities.



EUROPEAN UNION



HORIZON EUROPE



INFO DAYS

CLUSTER 6
**FOOD, BIOECONOMY, NATURAL
RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE
& ENVIRONMENT**

13 - 14 December 2022

BROKERAGE
19 December 2022

THE EU RESEARCH & INNOVATION PROGRAMME **2021 – 2027**



Thank you!



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