

Invitation to 2020 Youth and Agroecology National Summit

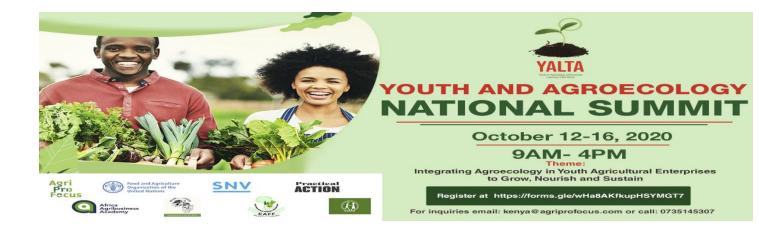
Dear Partner,

AgriProFocus with support from IKEA Foundation is currently implementing the Youth in Agroecology and Business Learning Track in Africa (YALTA Initiative). The program aims to support young agripreneurs to apply agroecological principles and to co-create networks around them in view of contributing to the increased sustainability of food systems and youth employment. To more about the YALTA program please Click HERE

AgriProFocus together with its consortium of partners which consists of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), Africa Agribusiness Academy (AAA), East Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF), Practical Action (PA), Netherlands Development Organisation (SNV) and Participatory Ecological Land Use Management Association (PELUM) are pleased to invite you to the 2020 National Youth and Agroecology Summit which will take place from 12th-16 October 2020.

The summit themed, Integrating Agroecology in Youth Agricultural Enterprises to Grow, Nourish, and sustain, will consist of four regional forums with the activities culminating to a national summit which will be held on 16th October to mark the World Food Day Celebrations. The summit and regional forums aim to create a platform for the youth to connect, share and learn from all actors including agroecology practitioners, agribusiness experts, and policy makers.

It will be a pleasure to have you and we look forward to your active participation (both physical and online) in any of the following events;



- 1. Regional Forum in South Rift/ North Central 12th October 2020
- 2. Regional Forum in Western/Nyanza 14th October 2020
- 3. Regional Forum in Lower Eastern 14th October 2020
- 4. Regional Forum in Upper Eastern 12th October 2020
- 5. National Summit 16th October 2020

Please click <u>here</u> to register!

We will keep you posted on the venue of the national summit and regional county forums as well as the list of speakers and businesses that will be highlighted in the coming weeks.

If you would like to Sponsor the event (s), Exhibit, take Part in Panel Discussions or to be as a Guest speaker, please feel Free to contact Mr. Samuel Kariuki - Project Coordinator YALTA Project on Skariuki@agriprofocus.com or call him on +254717897912

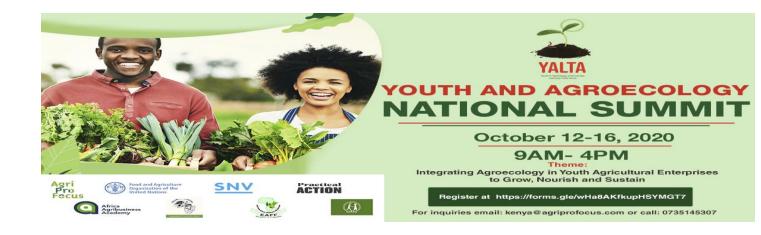
Thanks.

Yours Sincerely,



Andrew Mwaura

Country Coordinator- AgriProFocus Kenya



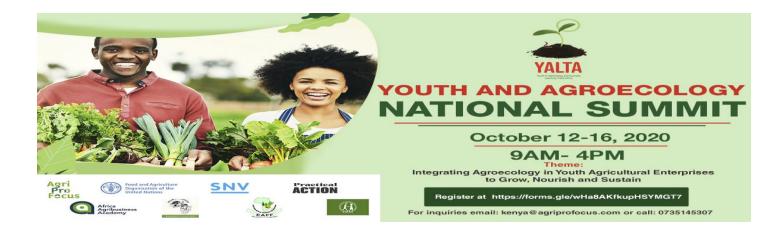
The 2020 National Youth and Agroecology Summit

Agriculture is the backbone of Kenya's economy and the largest source of income for both poor and non-poor households however, it is faced with a myriad of challenges some of which are more specific to the youth and this influences their decision on whether to engage in the sector.

The sector presents a unique opportunity for youth to create decent work for themselves and for others; with the current impacts of climate change and global warming sustainable agriculture is a solution to find a good balance between the need for food production and the preservation of the ecological system within the environment. Agroecology is a promising way to support a transition towards more sustainable food systems from farm to table with the goal of achieving ecological, economic, and social sustainability. Some of the threats to agroecological practice and food systems include: poor accessibility of land; lack of awareness & interest about agroecology; perceived lack of profitability and over reliance of rainfall. These threats also present opportunities for increasing practice of agroecology i.e there is growing consumer demand for healthy diet and an increase in scientific knowledge of agroecology.

AgriProFocus with support from IKEA Foundation is currently implementing the Youth in Agroecology and Business Learning Track in Africa (YALTA) program which aims to improve business opportunities for youth in agroecology; improve capacity of youth to apply agroecological principles; youth feel more involved in initiatives on agroecology; increase effectiveness and efficiency of initiatives on youth and agroecology; and lastly to increase attention for youth and agroecology in research, policy agenda and educational curricula.

The three year program is currently underway in Kenya, Rwanda, Ethiopia and Uganda. In March we released our mapping study report on the constraints and opportunities of Youth in



Agroecology. The report is available at: https://images.agri-profocus.nl/upload/YALTA_Mapping_final_Report_compressed1596175221.pdf

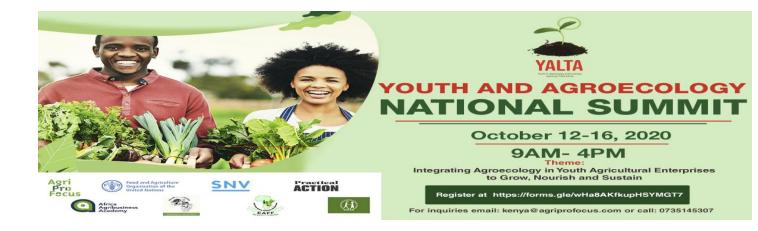
AgriProFocus with its consortium of partners Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), Africa Agribusiness Academy (AAA), East Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF), Practical Action (PA), Netherlands Development Organisation (SNV) and Participatory Ecological Land Use Management Association (PELUM) will host the National Youth in Agroecology Summit which will take place from 12th-16 October. There will be four regional agroecology forums with the activities culminating in a national summit which will be held during the World Food Celebrations on 16th October 2020.

The four regional summits will take place in:

- North and South Rift region Nakuru, Nyandarua, UasinGishu, Kericho, Nandi, Baringo, Elgeyo Marakwet and Narok with the summit being held in Nakuru on 12th October 2020.
- 2. **Nyanza and Western Region** Migori ,Kisii, Homabay,Siaya,Kisumu,Kakamega, Bungoma, Vihiga and TransNzoia. The Agroecology Forum will be held in Kisumu on 14th October 2020.
- 3. **Upper Eastern** Tharaka Nithi, Meru, Isiolo, Laikipia, Kirinyaga, Embu, Muranga. The Agroecology Forum will be held in Embu on 12th October 2020
- 4. **Lower Eastern/Coast** Makueni, Kitui, Machakos, Garissa and coast counties. The Agroecology Forum will be held in Makueni on 14th October 2020

These regional forums will aim to deliberate how to create decent works for the youth and to rally the county governments and partners to support rural youth. The regional summit will culminate to a national summit which will be held during the world food celebrations on 16th October.

The summit will bring together key stakeholders in Agroecology, Agribusiness, Agriculture and Youth Nexus.



Youths and stakeholders working with the youth are highly encouraged to register.

Join us for the summit for an engaging discussion, learning. To register please click **HERE**.

We will keep you posted on the venue of the national summit and regional county forums as well as the list of speakers and businesses that will be highlighted in the coming weeks.

In case of any queries please email kenya@agriprofocus.com or call +254 735 145 307