

1ST EASTERN AFRICA AGROECOLOGY CONFERENCE
TRANSFORMING FOOD SYSTEMS FOR RESPONSIBLE PRODUCTION,
CONSUMPTION AND SOCIAL WELLBEING

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*Strengthening Resilience and Sustainability in
Food Systems for Environmental and Socioeconomic Development*

The Role of African Progressive Cultural Practices and Social Institutions on Sustainable Agrifood Systems and Improved Nutrition

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To go back to tradition Is the first step
forward" African proverb

Introduction

What? Agrifood systems encompass entire range of actors and their interlinked value-adding activities.

Why? Africa's food insecurity is high with extreme impact of climate change on her food system hence need to identify sustainable agrifood system which is transformative in nature.

How? Strategies to address the underlying institutional and policy structures at the roots of agrifood system unsustainability like abandonment of progressive cultural and/or traditional food system.

Cont...

Food is intimately related to human culture. Most often, the culture will determine how human beings relate to certain food and the respect to food which ultimately affect the level of food security in a community.

Diverse Food Concept in Africa



Methodology



Majorly relied on secondary data. The data was then analyzed based on the trends of beliefs, values and festivities; and how these impact on agrifood systems.

This is not exhaustive information on traditional agrifood system; it focuses specifically on African agrifood system and cultural and traditional practices and values that can support its sustainability.

Findings

- Culture makes food more accessible
- Modernization does not necessarily lead to disappearance of culture

- Adopted agrifood system should take into consideration culturally determined preferences.
- The cultural and traditional practices are practical solutions in today's food insecure world as they are accessible and sustainable.

- Traditional and cultural technologies is more accessible to the disadvantaged groups hence more sustainable.
- Policy makers to integrate cultural with modern approaches.

Conclusion

- Africa's food insecurity is a result of among other things, climate change.
- Cultural and traditional food practices and values can ensure food security and reverse the impacts of climate change hence sustainability.
- The practices and values, if embraced can be means to African food sovereignty.

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Thanks!

ANY QUESTIONS?

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