



Under the Distinguished Patronage of the Head of State, H.E. Félix Antoine Tshisekedi  
Tshilombo, President of the Democratic Republic of Congo



# DRC AGRIBUSINESS FORUM

## La revanche du sol sur le sous-sol

4, 5 october 2023 - Pullman Kinshasa



Organizers

Co-organizers



MINISTÈRE  
DE L'AGRICULTURE



MINISTÈRE  
DES FINANCES



Créer des marchés, créer des opportunités



# FORUM ON AGRIBUSINESS INVESTMENT IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO



Agriculture is a pivotal sector in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), employing approximately 70% of the population and accounting for 20% of the country's GDP. The DRC boasts significant agricultural and agro-industrial potential. The country could significantly ramp up its food production to feed its 100 million inhabitants and enhance its exports, given its high annual rainfall, 51 million hectares of uncultivated land out of 80 million hectares of arable land, one of the most substantial hydrographic networks, fisheries resources, and pastures in Africa.

Despite this potential, the country records among the world's lowest agricultural yields and an immense untapped agricultural transformation potential. As a result, the DRC imports a significant portion of its food requirements, amounting to about US\$3 billion per year.

To rejuvenate the agricultural sector, the government of DRC has launched an agricultural sector reform program to promote the development of private investments in the country's main agricultural value chains.

In this momentum, the DRC is organizing the DRC Agribusiness Forum, an investment forum focusing on agricultural value chains in the DRC, from October 4 to 5, 2023, in Kinshasa. The forum aims to attract commitment from both national and international private sectors, highlighting measures taken to foster a conducive environment for the sector's development and presenting concrete investment opportunities.

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a significant portion  
of its food  
requirements,  
amounting to about  
US\$3 billion per year**

09h00-10h30

OPENNING SESSION

CONGO LOUNGE



### DRC: A Growing Agricultural Power

- Speech by the African Development Bank
- Speech by Mrs. **Mary Porter Peschka**, Regional Director, IFC
- Speech by Mr. **Albert Yuma**, www
- Speech by **H.E. Paulo Teixeira**, Minister of Agricultural Development, Brazil
- Speech by **H.E. Nicolas Kazadi Kadima Nzuj**, Minister of Finance of the DRC
- Speech by **H.E. José Mpanda Kabangu**, Minister of Agriculture of the DRC
- Keynote Address by **H.E. Félix Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo**, President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

10h30-11h45

PANEL DISCUSSION 1

CONGO LOUNGE

### Structural Reforms to Boost Investment and Energize Agribusiness

Presentation of government-initiated reform initiatives and projects to revitalize the agribusiness sector in the DRC.

- Discussion of actions taken by various ministries and analysis of efforts made to develop the agribusiness sector in the DRC, from production to marketing.
- Focus on opportunities.
- Does the country have the appropriate institutions, structures, and skills to meet this challenge?
- How to address land-related issues?
- What about investor protection ?
- Discussion on strategies for developing logistics and transportation infrastructure to improve product efficiency and competitiveness.
- Presentation of public-private partnership models for promoting the agribusiness sector.
- How to unite all stakeholders around a common vision ?



**H.E. José Mpanda Kabangu**, Minister of Agriculture  
**H.E. Nicolas Kazadi Kadima Nzuj**, Minister of Finance  
**H.E. Judith Tuluka Sumwina**, Minister of State, Minister of Planning  
**H.E. Jean-Lucien Bussa Tongba**, Minister of Foreign Trade  
**H.E. Julien Paluku Kahongya**, Minister of Industry  
**H.E. Adrien Bokele Djema**, Minister of Fisheries and Livestock  
**H.E. Olivier Mwenze Mukaleng**, Minister of Hydraulic Resources and Electricity

#### Moderators

**Mrs. Alda Kule Dale**, Financial Advisor, Ministry of Finance  
**Mr. Anthony Nkinzo Kamole**, CEO, National Agency for Investment Promotion

11h45-12h45

LEADERS INSIGHTS

CONGO LOUNGE

#### Keynote

### Developing the Maize Sector in the DRC

**Mr. Rahim Dhrolia**, CEO, Terra

#### Fire Chat

### Opportunities for Palm Oil Cultivation in the DRC

**Mr. Kalaa Mpinga**, Executive Director, Palanka Ventures

**Moderator** : **Mrs. Arlette Mboyo**, CEO, Akili Consulting

#### Keynote

### Agricultural Potential in the DRC: A Growing Momentum

**Mr. George A. Forrest**, President, Forrest International Group

**Keynote**

**The Significance of Agriculture and Infrastructure for Economic Development**

Mr. Turhan Mildon, CEO, Milvest



**Fire Chat**

**Approaches to Agricultural Sector Development ?**

Mr. Gagan Gupta, CEO, ARISE

**Moderator** Mrs. Alda Kule Dale, Financial Advisor, Ministry of Finance

**Keynote**

**Revolutionizing Agricultural Value Chains: Towards Sustainable and Inclusive Agriculture**

Dr. Mohamed Anouar Jamali, CEO, OCP Africa

12h45-13h30

SPECIAL PANEL ON AGRICULTURAL LAW

CONGO LOUNGE

**Honorable Christophe Mbose N’kodia Pwanga**, President of the National Assembly

**Honorable Prof. Modeste Bahati Lukwebo**, President of the Senate

**Mr. Albert Yuma Mulimbi, President**, Federation of Congolese Enterprises

**Guests**

**Honorable Didier Mumengi**, Senator

**Mr. Kalaa Mpinga**, Executive Director, Palanka Ventures

**Moderators**

**Mr. A.L. Kitenge Lubanda**, Senior Consultant & Governance Expert

**Mr. Anthony Nkinzo Kamole**, CEO, National Agency for Investment Promotion

13h45

OFFICIAL INAUGURATION OF THE EXHIBITION AREA

13h45

NETWORKING LUNCH

PATIO

14h45-16h00

PANEL DEBATE 2

CONGO LOUNGE

**Engagement of International Donors : A New Impetus for Agribusiness**



- Initiatives by the IFC and the African Development Bank (BAD) to support agribusiness in the DRC.
- Discussion on funded projects, their goals, and their impact.
- Exploration of partnership opportunities between donors, the government, and private investors to support agribusiness development in the DRC.

**Mr. Martin Fregene**, Director Agriculture & Agro-Industry, BAD

**Mr. Henrik Pedersen**, Director in charge of Agribusiness, Manufacturing Industry and Services, IFC

**Mr. Mehdi Tanani**, Regional Director for Central Africa, Proparco

**Mr. Marc Nyunzi**, Deputy Office Director, USAID - Economic Growth Office

**Mr. Albert Zeufack**, Regional Director, World Bank, DRC

**Mr. Jean Bakolé**, Regional Director, West & Central Africa, UNIDO

**Mr. Aristide Ongone Obame**, DRC Representative, FAO

**Moderator** M. Anthony Nkinzo Kamole, CEO, National Agency for Investment Promotion, DRC

16h05-18h00

PARALLEL SESSION 1

CONGO LOUNGE

## Climate Considerations: Approaches for Sustainable and Resilient Agriculture ?

The importance of integrating climate change considerations into any strategy aimed at developing agriculture and agribusiness will be central to this session. The discussions will highlight the necessary measures to address climate challenges in the agricultural sector and explore opportunities offered by climate-smart approaches.

- What analysis can be made of the impact of climate change on agriculture and how to address it?
- What sustainable agricultural practices can mitigate the effects of climate change?
- How to foster multi-stakeholder collaboration for climate-smart agriculture?
- What is the impact and correlation with Agribusiness development?

**Mr. Richard Colback**, Global Lead Sustainable Crop Protection, IFC

**Dr. Garba Laouali**, Division Chief, Research and Climate Change Adaptation, BAD

**M. Bavon Nsa Mputu**, Coordinator, FONARED

**Senior Représentative**, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, DRC

**Maître Timothée Mukeng**, Legal Expert, Bilanga Ya Betu (Byb)

**Moderator M. Cheikh Amadou Tidiane Dia**, Senior Agriculture Specialist, World Bank

16h05-18h00

PARALLEL SESSION 2

LUBUMBASHI LOUNGE

## Operational Challenges and Opportunities to Enhance Agro-Industry Resilience in the DRC

**Session facilitated by the International Finance Corporation (IFC)**

This session will highlight the operational challenges faced by the agro-industry in the DRC. The aim is to strengthen the resilience of this critical sector, promoting food security, job creation, and sustainable economic growth.

- There are challenges and risks for private sector development in agribusiness, such as land, climate change, and local tensions and conflicts. What are the main risks, mitigation measures, and opportunities?

**Mr. Samuel Nganga**, Regional Head of MAS Advisory/Upstream, IFC

**Mr. Roland Decovret**, CEO, Alphatalent

**Mr. Solomane Kone**, Country Manager, BAD

**Senior representative**, Ministry of Agriculture

**Moderator Mrs. Mary Porteur**, Directrice Regionale IFC

16h05-18h00

PANEL DISCUSSION 3

KASAI LOUNGE

## Digital: Honoring Agritech Innovations

The role of digital technology in transforming the agricultural sector in the DRC will be highlighted with a focus on the emergence of Agritech. Discussions will revolve around technological innovations revolutionizing agriculture and agribusiness. This evolution presents unprecedented opportunities for young «agri-preneurs,» who will be honored during the closing session with the announcement of the Agritech competition results. This session will celebrate their creativity and positive impact in promoting sustainable and resilient agriculture in the DRC.

**Mr. Raymond Mendy**, CEO, Silikin Village

**Mr. Benjamin Prinz**, CEO, Asili Agriculture

**Mr. Dominique Miguisha**, CEO, Dev Digital Agency

**Mrs. Magueye Dia**, Operations Officer, World Bank

**Senior representative**, Vodacom

**Mr. Henri-Paul Eloma Ikoleki**, Program Manager, FAO

**Moderator Mrs Fatou Assah**, Principal Operations Officer, IFC

20h00 DÎNER DE GALA «RUMBA IN THE JUNGLE»

Offered by TERRA

The «Rumba in The Jungle» Gala Dinner, held on the sidelines of the DRC Agribusiness Forum, celebrates the essence of Congolese culture, with a special focus on Rumba music. «Rumba in The Jungle», a reflection of artistic diversity, invites you on a journey into the heart of Congolese creativity, authenticity, and passion, where the enchanting rhythm of Rumba and the unparalleled richness of our culture take center stage.

By invitation only  
Uniquement  
sur invitation

09h00-10h15

PANEL DEBATE 3

CONGO LOUNGE

## Honouring Brazil

**SEM. Paulo Teixeira**, Minister of Agricultural Development, Brazil

**Mr. Guilherme Hendges Fries**, CEO and Co-Founder, Prativita

**Mr. Andrei Sousa Mamede Aguiar**, Business Development Director, Sun Fish

**Mr. Itamar Paiva Rocha**, President / CEO, MCR Aquaculture, Brazilian Association of Shrimp & Fish

**Mr. Rubenildo Falcão de Melo**, Deputy President, Campoah Agro, Brazilian Fruit Producers Association

### Moderators

**Mrs. Nina Massangu**, Resident Representative, TBI

**M. Emile Osumba**, Finance Expert, Ministry of Finance

10h15-11h30

PANEL DEBATE 4

CONGO LOUNGE

## Understanding the Financing Challenges of the Agricultural Value Chain

Adequate and sustainable financing plays a crucial role in developing a high-performing agricultural and agro-industrial sector. This debate will highlight the challenges and opportunities related to financing the agricultural value chain, exploring various options for effective support.

- What are the main financial constraints faced by stakeholders in the agricultural value chain?
- What innovative financing strategies can be implemented to stimulate agricultural and agribusiness development?
- How to strengthen collaboration among financial institutions, farmers, and agricultural value chain businesses?



**Mr. Nabil Fawaz**, MIGA Global Sector Manager for MAS, Banque Mondiale

**Mrs. Laurence Feza**, Head of DFIs Relations, Rawbank, DRC

**Mrs. Jesman Cwhonzi**, FIG Manager, IFC

**Mr. Leonard Oruko**, Group Director Food and Agriculture, Equity Bank Group

**M. Eren Kelekci**, Chargé d'Investissement en Chef, BAD

**Moderator M. Henri Plessers Mboyo**, Executive Director, Financialis

11h30-11h40

KEYNOTE

CONGO LOUNGE

## Aquaculture: Towards Sustainable Food Security

**Mr. Willy Fleuren**, CEO, Gerrit Fleuren Ventures

11h40-11h50

KEYNOTE

CONGO LOUNGE

## Challenges and Prospects for Cassava and Maize Development in the DRC

**Mr. Emmanuel Sanginga Interanya**, Coordinator of the Presidential Advisory Council for the National Pact on Agriculture and Food in Kinshasa/Gombe

10h30 – 13H30 KASAI LOUNGE

### Deal Room

## Investment Opportunities in Agricultural Value Chains in the DRC

Session hosted by USAID Invest

**Keynote** : HE Lucy Tamlyn, Ambassador of the United States of America to the DRC

**Introduction** : Mrs. Lucine Le Moal, USAID Invest, Managing Director)

**Moderation** : M. Jules Ndambu, USAID Invest Team Lead

Ten companies will present investment opportunities to investors: project presentation, funding needs, return on investment, project impact

**Investors** : DFIs, Impact Funds, Commercial Banks, Industry Promotion Funds – FPI, Foreign Corporates

By invitation only  
Uniquement sur invitation

11h55 – 13H50

PARALLEL SESSION 4

CONGO LOUNGE

### Sector in Focus: Cassava

Session hosted by the African Development Bank and the Social Fund of the DRC

The aim of this session is to highlight the immense potential of the DRC in developing the cassava sector and the business opportunities it offers.



**Keynote**

**Pr. Marie-Thérère Yandju**, Chief of Works, University of Kinshasa

**Panel d'Experts**

**M. Philippe Ngwala Malemba**, National Coordinator of the FSRDC.

**Dr Bakelana**, INERA

**M. Bamba**, IITA

**Pr. Roger NTOTO**, Consultant, BAD

**Pr. Dr Mahungu Nzolameso**, Layuka

**M. Katchy, Mulumba**, CEO, BAB

**M. Martin Fregene**, Director of the Agriculture Department at the African Development Bank

**Moderator M. A.L. Kitenge Lubanda**, Governance Expert

11h55 – 13H50

SESSION PARALLÈLE 5

LUBUMBASHI LOUNGE

### Sector in Focus: Maize

Session hosted by the International Finance Corporation

The panel dedicated to the development of the maize sector in the DRC will examine the considerable potential of this crop, which is one of the country's staple foods. By promoting increased production and better post-harvest management, the DRC can become more self-sufficient in food and reduce costly imports. The maize sector plays a strategic role in agribusiness as it also provides essential raw materials to the animal and processing industries. Investment opportunities in farm modernization, agricultural technologies, and value chains will be highlighted.



**Mr.Yosuke Kotsuji**, Regional Manager MAS Agri, IFC

**Mr.Patience Balomba Mpanzu**, Maize Specialist, WB

**Mr.Benjamin Prinz**, CEO Agilis

**Senior Representative**, Midema

**Senior Representative**, Midema, Equity

**Moderator Stephan Dreyhaupt**, Acting Manager Economics Dep, IFC

13h50

NETWORKING LUNCH

PATIO

15h00-16h15

PANEL DEBATE 5

CONGO LOUNGE

### Investor Debate: How to Revive Investments in Agribusiness and the Role of PPPs?

- Discussion on the benefits and challenges of public-private partnerships in revitalizing investments in agribusiness · Presentation of successful partnership models between companies, agricultural cooperatives, civil society organizations, and the government · Exchange of strategies to strengthen partnerships and encourage sustainable collaboration for agricultural and agri-food development in the DRC
- Debate between agro-industrial players and investors.

**Mr. Romain V. Deniel**, Country Manager DRC, ARISE

**Mrs. Laura Schenck**, Head of Sustainability and Quality Controls, Amatheon Agri Holding N.V.

**Mr. Mamadou Kane**, Expert en Chef Infrastructures Rurale

**Me François Serres**, Cabinet d'Avocats François Serres & Associés

**Mr. Itamar Paiva Rocha**, President / CEO, MCR Aquaculture, Brazilian Association of Shrimp & Fish

**Mr. Gokhan Akinci**, Acting Manager Creating Marketing Advisory, IFC

**Mr. Rubenildo Falcão de Melo**, Deputy President, Campoah Agro, Brazilian Fruit Producers Associations

**Moderator Mrs. Lucine Le Moal**, Représentante Résidente, US Aid Invest



16h20-18h20

PARALLEL SESSION 6

CONGO LOUNGE

## Energy and Transport Infrastructure to Support Agricultural Ambitions

For the agricultural potential to be fully realized, it is imperative to establish efficient transport infrastructure that will facilitate the movement of agricultural products from rural areas to national and international markets. Additionally, the parallel development of energy infrastructure is crucial to power agricultural operations, from irrigation to agri-food processing. This session will explore the links between these two fundamental pillars - transport and energy - and sustainable agricultural development in the DRC, highlighting strategies and approaches that will accelerate essential infrastructure projects to achieve the desired goals.



**Mr. Georges Sinclair Sakou**, IFC Senior Investment Officer  
**Pr. Heng Liu**, Senior Technical Advisor, UNIDO  
**Mr. Roger Sahyoun**, Chairman, Somagec  
**M. Fabrice Lucinde**, General Director, SNEL  
**M. Mathurin Zanga**, Chief Transport Specialist, BAD  
**M. Peter Ngwa Taniform**, Program Lead, World Bank  
**Dr. Serge Mbay Kabway**, Coordinator, Bilanga Ya Betu

**Moderator M. Safall Fall**, Manager Foreign Trade & Investment Promotion, Mazars

16h20-18h20

PARALLEL SESSION 7

LUBUMBASHI LOUNGE

## Agricultural Insurance in the DRC: A Catalyst for Agricultural Development

**Session hosted by the International Finance Corporation**

Agriculture often faces major risks such as unpredictable weather conditions, epidemics, and other natural hazards that can result in significant financial losses for farmers. Agricultural insurance offers a crucial solution by providing financial security to farmers in the event of a loss, encouraging them to invest more in their farms and adopt modern and productive agricultural practices. Additionally, it promotes stability in farmers' incomes, contributing to national food security and economic growth by boosting agricultural productivity. This debate session will explore in-depth the importance of agricultural insurance as a key tool to stimulate agricultural development in the DRC and enhance the resilience of rural communities to emerging challenges

**Mrs. Paula Maria Leynes Felipe**, Regional Director, FIG Advisory Services, IFC  
**Mr. Tarik Lefriyekh**, CEO, Rawsur  
**Mr. Pascal Doye**, CEO, SFA  
**Mr. Patrick Nouh**, CEO, Activa Assurances

**Moderator Mr. Shadreck Mapfumo**, Insurance Practice Group Lead, IFC

18h30

REPORTING SESSION

CONGO LOUNGE

- Reporting : **Mrs Alda Kule Dale**, Financial Advisor, Ministry of Finance

18h45

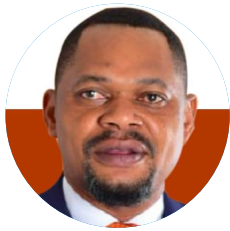
CLOSING SESSION

CONGO LOUNGE

- Address by the African Development Bank
- Address by the IFC
- Address by the Minister of Finance of the Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Address by the Minister of Agriculture of the Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Closing remarks by the Head of State, President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo



# AMONG THE SPEAKERS



**HE José Mpanda Kabangu**  
Minister of Agriculture  
DRC



**HE Nicolas Kazadi**  
Minister of Finance  
DRC



**HE Paulo Teixeira**  
Minister of Agricultural  
Brazil



**HE Judith Tuluka Sumwina**  
Minister of State, Minister of  
Planning DRC



**HE Jean-Lucien Bussa**  
Minister of Foreign Trade  
DRC



**HE Julien Paluku Kahongya**  
Minister of Industry



**HE Adrien Bokele**  
Minister of Fisheries  
and Livestock DRC



**HE Olivier Mwenze Mukaleng**  
Minister of Hydraulic  
Resources and Electricity  
DRC



**M. Rubenildo Falcão de Melo**  
Brazilian Fruit Producers  
Association



**HE Albert Yuma**  
President of the  
Federation of Congolese  
Enterprises



**Mr. Rahim Dhrolia**  
Terra



**Mr. Kalaa Mpinga**  
Palanka Ventures



**Mr. George A. Forrest**  
Groupe Forrest International



**Mr. Turhan Mildon**  
Milvest



**Mr. Gagan Gupta**  
ARISE



**Dr. Mohamed Anouar Jamali**  
OCP Africa



**Mr. Itamar Paiva Rocha**  
Brazilian Association of Shrimp  
& Fish



**Mrs. Mary Porter Peschka**  
IFC



**M. Mehdi Tanani**  
Proparco



**Mr. Henrik Pedersen**  
IFC



**Mr. Solomane Kone**  
BAD



**Mr. Anthony Nkinzo Kamole**  
ANAPI



**Mr. Malick Fall**  
IFC



**Mrs. Alda Kule Dale**  
Ministry of Finance



**Mr. A.L. Kitenge Lubanda**  
Governance Expert



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