



13th African Farm Management Association Conference



19th – 23rd November 2023

EAST LONDON INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION CENTRE (ELICC), East
London, Eastern Cape, South Africa

PATHWAYS TO COMMERCIALIZATION, LESSONS AND INSIGHTS FOR CLIMATE SMART
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA



NEWSLETTER ISSUE #3 - SEPTEMBER 2023

Dear Conference Attendees and colleagues,

We have received an overwhelming response from the paper submissions which are now closed. The results of the peer review process have been communicated and we look forward to your participation. Please remember to register before the Early Bird of 25 September to be included in the programme and book of abstracts, please [register online](#) through the website.

MESSAGE FROM AFMA TRUSTEE: Prof Philip Nyangweso

Join us in East London, click to watch – [Welcome message and video](#) Please share with your colleagues.

CONFERENCE DATES AND VENUE:

Mark your calendars! The AFMA Conference will take place from 19th -23rd November 2023 at the East London International Convention Centre (ELICC). Get ready to immerse yourself in a dynamic environment filled with inspiring talks, interactive workshops, and networking opportunities.



PROGRAMME UPDATE:

Keynote Speakers:

We are thrilled to announce our lineup of esteemed keynote speakers who will share their expertise and insights during the conference. Our confirmed speakers, Prof T.L. Thomson, and Prof John Wibberley. Please stay tuned for their topics, and their invaluable contributions to our event.

MEET YOUR PANEL CHAIRS

Professor Michael Aliber: Distinguished Academic and Agricultural Advocate.

Join us in welcoming **Professor Michael Aliber**, a distinguished academic and leader in agricultural and rural development, to our upcoming conference. Currently serving as the Head of Department in Agricultural Economic and Extension in the Faculty of Science and Agriculture and the Director of the Agricultural and Rural Development Research Institute (ARDRI) at the University of Fort Hare, Prof. Aliber's expertise is truly impressive.



His educational journey spans prestigious institutions, including Williams College (USA), the University of Michigan (USA), and the University of Wisconsin (USA), where he earned degrees in Religion, Public Policy, and Agricultural and Applied Economics, respectively.

Prof. Aliber is an esteemed member of the University of Fort Hare's Department of Agricultural Economic and Extension, where his contributions to academia and research are invaluable.

Beyond academia, he passionately engages with the community, collaborating with local and international organizations such as the Raymond Mhlaba Farmers' Association and eDikeni Water Users Association to uplift smallholder farmers. Prof. Aliber also champions food security by supporting study groups across the Eastern Cape and has initiated and continues to support the Keiskammahoek Farmers' Market, boosting economic opportunities for local farmers.

Join us in celebrating Prof. Michael Aliber's dedication to agricultural advancement and rural prosperity in South Africa at our upcoming conference!



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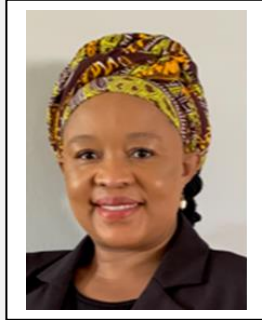
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Prof. Joyce Chitja: A Trailblazer in Food Security

Meet **Prof. Joyce Chitja**, a seasoned academic with two decades of invaluable service at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN). As the Director of the African Centre for Food Security, her expertise in Food and Nutrition Security, particularly for smallholder farmers, has left an indelible mark.



Prof. Chitja is a grant-winning researcher, mentoring the next generation of experts at UKZN. Her influence extends beyond academia to shaping regional food security policies, notably within SADC. Her broad knowledge covers critical areas such as water use security and market access.

Recognized as a global visiting scholar, Prof. Chitja's networking prowess transcends disciplines and borders. Her impact is felt not only in academia but also in corporate boardrooms, where she brings unique insights.

Her dedication has been acknowledged with prestigious awards, cementing her status as a leading figure in food security.

Don't miss the chance to engage with Prof. Chitja's expertise at our conference. Her insights promise to enrich our discussions on crucial food security issues.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

If your organization is interested in partnering with us and reaching a diverse audience of industry professionals, check out our sponsorship packages. Gain exposure, establish connections, and showcase your brand to a captive audience.

Thank you to our sponsors



Thulasizwe Mkhabela: A Leading Expert in Agricultural Development

We are delighted to introduce **Thulasizwe Mkhabela**, a distinguished PhD holder in Agricultural Economics from Stellenbosch University. As an alumnus of UCT, UNISWA (now Eswatini), and the University of Northwest, his academic journey has been marked by excellence.



Thulasizwe brings a wealth of experience as a seasoned agricultural development consultant. With over five years of teaching at Stellenbosch University and roles at renowned organizations like NAMC, ADA, and ARC, he now serves as an Independent Consultant and is the Managing Director at Outcome Mapping.

His expertise shines in his ability to conceive, execute, and assess agricultural development initiatives and land reform projects. Thulasizwe actively engages with economic policy, private equity investments in Africa, and public policy matters in agriculture and rural development.

A prolific writer, Thulasizwe has authored over 20 peer-reviewed papers and Op-Ed columns, showcasing his thought leadership in agribusiness and food systems. Notably, he delves into the intersection of mining and agriculture, particularly in the context of social transition and Social Labour Plans.

We are honored to have Thulasizwe Mkhabela as a distinguished participant at our conference, where his insights and expertise will undoubtedly enrich our discussions on critical agricultural and economic topics.

EXHIBITION OPPORTUNITIES:

Use the opportunity to showcase your product or services to the African Farm Management community. For only R10 500 (US\$585) you have access to a 3x3sqm shell scheme with a fascia. The price also includes 1 complimentary full delegate status. Limited space available – book today.



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FARMERS EXPERIENCES

At our upcoming conference, we are excited to feature a special segment where farmers and industry practitioners will have the opportunity to share their experiences, insights, and success stories. This dedicated session aims to highlight the invaluable knowledge, expertise and technologies of those who work at the forefront of agriculture.

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION:

Don't miss out on exclusive early bird registration discounts! Take advantage of the reduced rates by registering before 25 September 2023. Secure your spot at the conference and gain access to thought-provoking sessions, networking opportunities, and exciting social events. [Visit our website to register.](#)

Registration fees:

Registration Category	ZAR rate	US\$ rate
Early Bird (payment by 25 th Sept)	R8800	US\$490
Standard registration (payment by 20 Oct)	R9500	US\$529
Late and onsite registration fee (21 Oct onwards)	R10 500	US\$585
Student registration	R6000	US\$335
Partners / accompanying guests	R4600	US\$256
Exhibition stand with delegate attendance	R10500	US\$585

US\$ rate is an estimate and only an indication based on the rate of exchange on the day of setting the fees. Fees are to be paid in ZAR.

SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS:

Join the conversation on our social media channels! Follow us on twitter ([@afma-kenya](#)) for the latest updates, behind-the-scenes glimpses, speaker announcements, and exclusive content. Engage with fellow attendees, share your excitement, and be part of the vibrant AFMA Conference community.

ACCOMMODATION AND TRAVEL:

For attendees visiting from out of town, we have partnered with local hotels to offer discounted rates. Secure your accommodation early to ensure availability, book when you register.

STAY CONNECTED:

Never miss an update! Subscribe to our newsletter to receive regular updates,

important announcements, and exclusive content directly in your inbox. Visit our website to sign up and stay connected with the AFMA Conference community.

That's it for our third newsletter! We hope this update has ignited your anticipation for the upcoming AFMA Conference Stay tuned for more exciting announcements and valuable insights as we get closer to the event.

If you have any questions, suggestions, or ideas you'd like to share, please feel free to reach out to us at afma@allevents.co.za. We value your feedback and look forward to making this conference a truly remarkable experience for everyone involved.

Best regards,

Dr. Sifiso Mdletshe

University of Fort Hare

Local Organising Committee Chair

P.S. Help us spread the word! Share this newsletter with your colleagues and peers who would benefit from attending the AFMA Conference. Let's make this conference a gathering of brilliant minds, fostering collaboration and innovation in our industry.

Hosted by:



University of Fort Hare
Together in Excellence

