

Network of African Science Academies (NASAC)

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Opportunities and Challenges for Research on Food and Nutrition Security and Agriculture in Africa takes an integrated approach to understanding the complexities and inter-relationships of agriculture and food systems in the African context and the influence these have on rural livelihoods and the diets of households and vulnerable individuals. This presentation will focus on the opportunities that Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) offer to overcome these challenges and to transform African food systems to achieve the "Africa we want" as set out in the vision of Agenda 2063 and the relevant SDGs (1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 15 and 17 in particular). Achieving the African agenda within the framework of the SDGs will require strong political commitment informed by scientific evidence and the human capacity to support agriculture and food system transformation. The report provides examples of how STI solutions can support this agenda through presenting solutions for improving agriculture and food system efficiency, farm system resilience, food safety and waste reduction. The examples demonstrate how a food system approach can provide a framework for inter-sectoral solutions to addressing the complexity of food security and nutrition in the African context.