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## Knowledge Centre for Organic Agriculture and Agroecology in Africa Newsletter



### News from the Knowledge Centre for Organic Agriculture and Agroecology in Africa (KCOA)

A service of the project Knowledge Centre for Organic Agriculture and Agroecology in Africa (KCOA)

### Year-End Reflections and Season's Greetings

As we come to the close of the year, we take a moment to reflect on the collective efforts, partnerships, and innovations that have continued to advance agroecology and resilient food systems across our regions. From multipliers action to continental dialogue, your commitment and collaboration have made this progress possible.

We extend our sincere appreciation to all partners for the dedication, energy, and shared vision throughout the year. As the holiday season approaches, we wish you restful, joyful, and well-deserved holidays, and renewed strength for the year ahead.

Here you can read the last highlights of our network for 2025 and we invite you to visit the KCOA platform to explore more inspiring stories from the ground, learn from diverse experiences, and stay connected to the growing agroecology movement.

Enjoy the read and happy holidays!

## Blog Stories

### Stories and Insights from the Field!

Discover inspiring stories and practical insights from KCOA's implementation across Africa — showcasing the people, innovations, and impact driving change on the ground. Explore the latest blog posts at [kcoa-africa.org/blog >>>](https://kcoa-africa.org/blog) and register today to access more updates and join the conversation!



#### Doreen's Green Revolution: Youth Driven Organic Agriculture in Southern Africa

In the sunlit fields overlooking the rolling hills of Chipata City in Zambia's Eastern Province, Doreen Chulu stands out as a symbol of hope and innovation. A passionate young advocate for organic agriculture, she has reshaped her community's farming practices.

[Read the full story >>>](#)



#### Organic rice farming in West Cameroon: what you need to know

At Mbouo Bandjoun's CPF, young trainees are immersed in practical organic rice farming, where the 2025–2026 cohort recently sowed Nerica rainfed rice with highly encouraging germination results. Discover how hands-on training is empowering youth to overcome challenges and build sustainable farming futures.

[Read more here >>>>](#)



#### Why the Farm is Still the Best Classroom for Agroecology and a Gateway to Sustainable Tourism

Agroecology thrives where learning begins — on the farm. At Jero Farm, Entebbe, the KCOA–KHEA team joined partners to launch the Women & Youth-led Network Alliances Programme, celebrating farm-based workshops as powerful spaces for hands-on learning, empowerment, and agrotourism that drive real transformation from the soil up.

[Read the full story >>>](#)

[Click here to discover more stories »](#)

## Current Activities & Achievements

### **KHSA and KHCA: 23 KCOA Facilitators Equipped to Promote Positive Masculinity**



When 97 people applied from across the KCOA for the Positive Masculinity Toolkit Training of Trainers, it signalled strong appetite for advancing gender justice and equality. From 11 to 20 November, KHCA and KHSA, with support from GIZ, brought together 23 participants for a transformative process. They are now equipped to facilitate critical conversations on masculinity, power and behaviour within their communities. The toolkit supports context-sensitive engagement, recognising diverse lived realities. One participant described it as mindset changing. Facilitators developed participatory techniques and safe space practices to encourage healthier expressions of masculinity. This marks the start of an ongoing community of practice.

The full publication will be published in 2026. Stay tuned to get it first hand!

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## **KHNA at the heart of the future of sustainable agriculture in Africa**



Photo: KHNA

The Knowledge Hub for Organic Agriculture & Agroecology in North Africa (KHNA) made a great contribution to the 2nd African Conference on Organic Agriculture Research (AFROREC), held in Egypt on 24 and 25 November 2025. Under the theme ‘Strengthening organic agriculture and agroecology in Africa through innovative research’, this pan-African meeting brought together influential voices around scientific innovation, knowledge sharing, capacity building and key issues related to climate, biodiversity and the inclusion of young people and women.

Through inspiring exchanges and strategic networking with partners such as FiBL, FARA and AFRONET, KHNA strengthened its role as a catalyst for accelerating the transition to sustainable organic and agroecological agricultural systems in North Africa and across the continent. In recognition of its ongoing commitment, KHNA was honoured with an ‘Award of Excellence and Recognition’, acknowledging its decisive support for the success of this 2nd edition of AFROREC.

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## **KHEA: Advancing Agroecology and Food System Transformation in Dakar, Senegal**



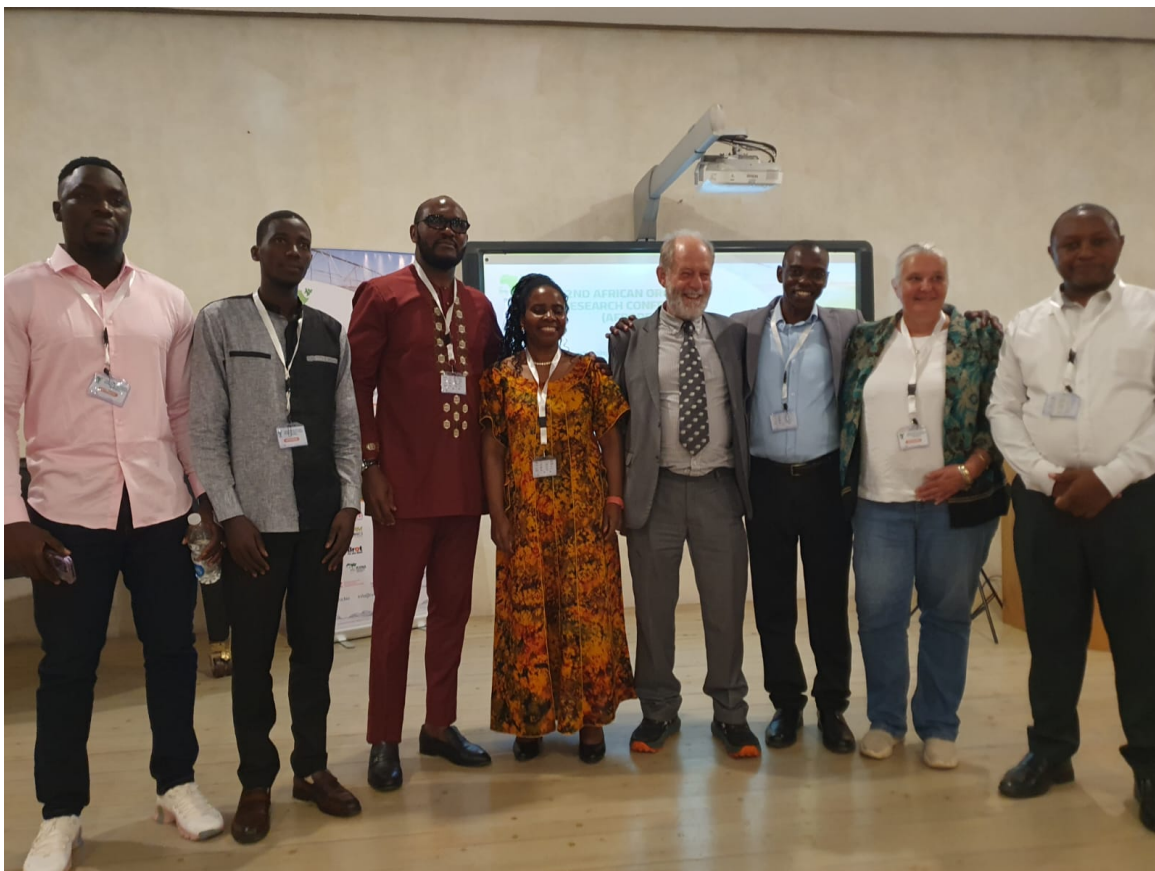
KHEA advanced agroecology and sustainable food systems in Dakar, Senegal, through active participation in the NAS peer-to-peer workshop and the Africa Food Systems Forum 2025. These engagements strengthened networks, shared regional insights, and supported policy dialogue in line with Focus Area 3. Photo: BVAT

Between August and September 2025, a strong Eastern Africa voice helped shape continental conversations on agroecology and food system change in Dakar, Senegal. The engagement began with a three-day peer-to-peer workshop on National Agroecology Strategies, bringing together policymakers, civil society actors, and funders from 13 African countries under the theme “From Strategy to Action.” Participants exchanged practical experiences, strengthened partnerships, and explored pathways for turning national strategies into concrete action.

This momentum continued at the Africa Food Systems Forum 2025, where discussions centered on building resilient, inclusive, and sustainable food systems. Perspectives from Eastern Africa highlighted farmer-led solutions, agroecological practices, and community-driven innovations, enriching plenary sessions, side events, and policy dialogues focused on scaling impact and accelerating food system transformation across the continent.

## International Partners

### Connecting KCOA to Continental Platforms: FiBL-KCOA Ambassadorship Project



2nd AFROREC Conference, Heliopolis University, Egypt, 24 to 25 November, 2025

Among several roles in KCOA since May 2025, FiBL, through the Ambassadorship project, has engaged some continental networks to connect KCOA to 'new' stakeholders. Key highlights include:

- Signing of an FiBL-FARA MoU, partly to facilitate joint initiatives on KCOA.
- Engaging the Pan African Farmers' Organisation (PAFO) - exploring opportunities to reach regional and national farmer organisations.
- Joint organizing of the 2ND AFROREC (Egypt, Nov 2025) with NOARA and others, where a Side Event on Strengthening African Organic Data and Statistics was held. AfrONet, EOA-I, FARA and PAFO were among the KCOA-supported continental speakers.
- Participation, and a presentation on Agroecology Evidence and Knowledge Management, at the PAFO General Assembly, Dec 2025.

## Youth Engagement

### YPARD

WYNA Community Solution Fellows at the National Organic Week 2025 in Uganda



Photo Nabwire Bridget and Anyama Henry WYNA Fellows at the WYNA booth during the NOGAMU Organic Week 2025 at Hotel Africana.

From 5-8 November, WYNA Community Solutions Fellows Nabwire Bridget and Anyama Henry and YPARD Programme Coordinator Ajuna Tadeo showcased the WYNA work at the National Organic Week (NOW) 2025 in Uganda. Bridget and Henry's participation focussed on the projects they are developing through the Programme, as well as general initiatives and activities under WYNA and its partners, and the broader KCOA network. At the WYNA booth, the team presented sustainable farming practices and value-added organic products, spotlighting youth-driven organic agriculture across Africa.

A key moment at the event was when the Fellows had the opportunity to meet the Deputy Prime Minister of Uganda, Rt.Hon.Rukia Nakadema and the Minister of Agriculture Hon.Fred Bwino Kyakulaga, who were both in attendance at the event. Additionally, in a panel discussion at the event, Ajuna was able to introduce the WYNA Programme to the audience, highlighting practical pathways in agroecology for young people, and emphasizing the need for intentional youth and women inclusion through mentorship and leadership roles.

WYNA's presence at NOW 2025 strengthened its visibility and affirmed the growing role of young leaders in steering Uganda's organic agriculture movement. Read more about this [event here >>>](#)

### Three questions to a colleague

In every newsletter, we ask three questions to one colleague from every Knowledge Hub (KH). This time we asked the following questions:

1. If you had to give your KH one compliment, what would it be?
2. If your KH were an object/animal/plant, which would it be and why?
3. What personal goals do you have that KCOA helps you achieve?

**Manei Naanyu I Head of Programs | KHEA - PELUM Kenya | join the project: August 2019**

1. The Multiplier approach has been very effective in multiplying agroecological knowledge on the ground. This approach has proven to be effective in increasing awareness and adoption of agroecology among smallholder farmers. The regular network sessions across the different hubs is a very good approach in ensuring cross learning and sharing among the different CIPs

2. A queen ant as it is very hardworking and multiplies fast like KCOA which has worked so hard to achieve most of its targets in different countries and multiplied agroecology information and knowledge to a thousand of farmers across the hubs.

3. Changing the lives of the smallholder farmers especially women and youth through engaging them through building their capacities in different areas such as value addition, market linkages and policy processes. This has contributed to increased incomes resulting to improved livelihoods.



Photo: KHEA

**Busisiwe Mgangxela I Chairperson Eastern Cape Agroecology Farmers' Association (ECAFA) | KHSA Leadership Collective; EOA Leader | join the project: 2021**

1. KHSA shows strong ethical integrity through transparency, consistency and high standards, enabling the team to push boundaries, delivering impact and openly giving and seeking support.

2. KHSA is a bee: it is efficient, ethical and works collectively with recognition of everyone's unique talents. KHSA pollinates knowledge and supports the growth of diversity of knowledge, knowledge products and insights.

3. I have grown professionally as a facilitator and have more confidence through belonging to a community that supports me; and my work within KHSA has enabled me to expand my food forest business and electrify my farmhouse.



Photo: KHSA

**Ines Amamou I |Networking Manager –  
Communication Manager & Gender Focal Point |  
KHNA - Sekem Freunde Deutschland | Since  
September 2020**

**1.** What makes our KH truly exceptional is its ability to inspire, support and connect its members. Every moment of learning, sharing and networking becomes a concrete opportunity for growth and collaboration, creating a dynamic and stimulating community.

**2.** If I had to compare the KH to an object, it would be a lighthouse: it guides and illuminates those who seek to learn and progress. It brings members together, promotes collaboration and offers a clear perspective for addressing challenges and opportunities.

**3.** Thanks to the KH, I am seeking to strengthen my skills, expand my network and actively contribute to sustainable projects. It allows me to share my knowledge, exchange ideas with various stakeholders and apply concrete solutions to promote sustainable agriculture and agroecology.



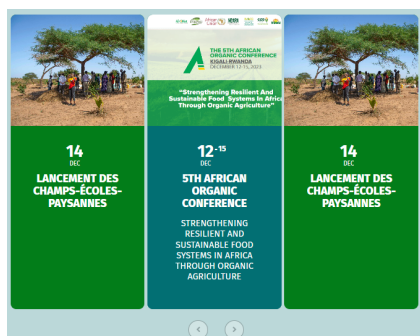
Photo: KHNA

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And the year comes to an end!



## Upcoming events



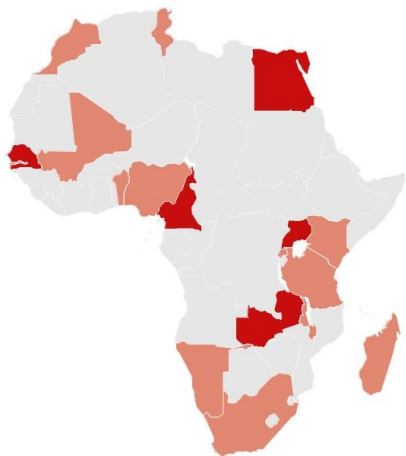
Want to know more about upcoming events?

Or are you a registered multiplier and want to share your next event?

**Access the Multiplier Network and check out our event calendar! >>>>>**

## About the project

The Knowledge Centre for Organic Agriculture and Agroecology in Africa (KCOA) aims to scale up adoption of organic agriculture and agroecology through a network of five Knowledge Hubs in Africa. The Knowledge Hubs are set up as collaborative country-led partnerships.



KCOA is commissioned by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and currently 30 non-governmental organisations in 18 countries across Africa. The project runs from 2019 to 2028.

**Learn more >>>>>**

The hub bases (dark red) and the current project countries (light red). © GIZ

Legal disclaimer: This geographical map is for informational purposes only and does not constitute recognition of international boundaries or regions.



These organisations are part of the KCOA network. The PELUM logo is listed only once. PELUM is a network with several national, independent chapters. KCOA works with PELUM Uganda, PELUM Kenya and PELUM Zambia.

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