



How to Nominate the Africa Food Prize Winner

[#AfricaFoodPrize](#)

Introducing the Africa Food Prize

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i. Introducing the Africa Food Prize

The Africa Food Prize is the preeminent award for recognizing the extraordinary individual or institution whose contributions to African agriculture are forging a new era of sustainable food security and economic opportunity for all Africans.



The USD 100,000 prize celebrates Africans who are taking control of Africa's agriculture agenda and changing the reality of farming in Africa from a struggle to survive to a business that thrives. It puts a bright spotlight on bold initiatives and technical innovations that can be replicated across the continent.

In 2018, International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA) was awarded the Prize for generating solutions on and off the farm that have improved the lives of millions in the face of climate change, a surge of crop pests and disease, and an urgent need for youth employment.

The 2017 Prize was jointly awarded to Hon. Prof. Ruth Oniang'o, a professor and advocate of nutrition from Kenya, and Mme Maimouna Sidibe Coulibaly, an entrepreneur and agro industrialist from Mali, for their exemplary efforts in driving Africa's agriculture transformation.

Hon. Prof Ruth Oniang'o was recognized as the leading voice of nutrition in Africa and for her relentless advocacy for the availability and affordability of diverse and nutritious crops for millions across the continent. Mme Maimouna Sidibe Coulibaly, on the other hand, was feted for her mission to produce and supply

improved and high-yielding seed that have led to improved incomes and nutrition for millions in Mali and other West African countries.

The two trailblazers succeeded the 2016 winner - Dr. Kanayo F. Nwanze, the former President of the Rome-based International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). Dr. Nwanze received the inaugural Prize for his outstanding leadership and passionate advocacy in putting Africa's smallholder farmers at the center of the global agricultural agenda and for his courage in reminding African leaders to go beyond promising development and change to delivering it.

Now in its third year, the Prize has grown in stature and popularity. In 2017, a total of 643 outstanding individuals, projects and institutions were put forward for consideration for the prestigious Prize. This represented a 100 per cent growth in the number of nominees from the previous year when the prize was inaugurated. Nominations came from over 20 African countries in Africa as well as from countries outside the continent. Nigeria, Kenya, Tanzania, Mali and Botswana led with the highest number of nominees per country.

The 2019 winner will be chosen by

the Africa Food Prize Committee, an independent body of preeminent leaders that is chaired by the former Nigerian President, H.E. Olusegun Obasanjo. The other committee members are Dr. Vera Songwe, Dr. Eleni Z. Gabre-Madhin, Prof. Joachim von Braun and Amb. Sheila Sisulu.

With the acknowledgement that agriculture is Africa's surest path to inclusive economic growth and development, the Africa Food Prize exists to reward individuals and institutions that are pioneering efforts to create prosperity in Africa. It is hoped that this will encourage others to follow their lead.

The Africa Food Prize began as the Yara Prize, and was established in 2005 by Yara International ASA in Norway to honor achievements in African agriculture. Moving the Yara Prize to Africa in 2016 and rechristening it the Africa Food Prize gave the award a distinctive African home, African identity and African ownership.

The Prize has brought much-deserved recognition to 18 recipients from Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe whose outstanding achievements point the way forward to a more vibrant farming sector for the entire continent by making African farms more productive, profitable and resilient.

The deadline for nominations is Tuesday, 14 May 2019. The winner will be unveiled at a high-profile gala dinner at the African Green Revolution Forum (AGRF) 2019 this September.

ii. Prize Objectives

The Africa Food Prize recognizes extraordinary women, men, and institutions whose outstanding contributions to African agriculture are forging a new era of sustainable food security and economic opportunity that elevates all Africans.

Building on the values and principles established by the Yara Prize, the Africa Food Prize puts a bright spotlight on achievements and innovations that can be replicated across the continent to eliminate hunger and poverty and provide a vital new source of employment and income.

iii. Eligibility

The Africa Food Prize can be awarded to any individual or identifiable group of individuals, as well as to established institutions, associations, organizations or government bodies with a formal and recognized judicial and organizational structure contributing to the overall objectives of the Prize.

The Prize can be awarded to any qualified candidate, irrespective of nationality, profession or location, whose work, and contributions

deriving from the work, has had a clear impact on the African situation, nationally, regionally or for the continent.

The Prize can be awarded with reference to a specific contribution or achievement, or a series of efforts and results in the recent past, preferably within the last few years.

Current or recent members of the Africa Food Prize Committee, or an institution/ organization headed

by such a member, are ineligible for the Prize. The Prize cannot be awarded to a person already deceased, but will be presented in the event a Prize winner dies before receiving the Prize.

The Prize can be awarded to more than one winner, but not more than two. If shared, each winner will receive equal prize money (USD 100 000 divided in two), a diploma and a trophy.



iv. Selection Criteria

The Africa Food Prize will honor outstanding contributions within every aspect of agriculture and food production that is clearly related to combating hunger and reducing poverty in Africa. Decisions will be based on the Prize Committee's research into and deliberations of the nominees' work and an evaluation of their achievements.

The Prize Committee considers the following criteria for the Prize:

- Contribution to reducing poverty and hunger and/or improving food and nutrition security in measurable terms
- Contribution to providing a vital source of income and/or employment in measurable terms
- Potential for transformative change through scalability, replication, and sustainability
- Increased awareness and cooperation among African audiences and organizations
- Proven leadership potential of the individual or organization, specifically the ability of the to persevere despite significant challenges or risks

In its assessments, the Africa Food Prize Committee will particularly emphasize proven, tangible results, scalability and value creation derived from the nominee's work, directly or indirectly, with regard to improvement of sustainable agriculture and food and nutrition security in Africa.

In its deliberations, the Africa Food Prize Committee will furthermore emphasize the value of the nominees' achievements with regard to visionary thinking, their role as motivator and rallying point in the campaign against hunger and poverty, as well as their inclination to share knowledge and cooperate.

The Africa Food Prize Committee will also consider the circumstances under which the work has been carried out and results achieved; that is the complexity of the problem and the difficulties, hostilities or prejudices encountered

v. Nomination and Selection Procedure

The nomination process for the Africa Food Prize 2019 starts with nominations being sent to the Africa Food Prize Secretariat by Monday, 13 May 2019. Nominations must contain the information requested in the Nomination Guide.

The Africa Food Prize Secretariat then assists the Africa Food Prize Committee to screen and select candidates.

The Africa Food Prize Committee chooses the prize winner by unanimous vote. The Committee has absolute authority and its decisions cannot be overruled or appealed.



vi. Guidelines for Submitting a Nomination

To be eligible for the Prize, a nomination must be submitted in writing in either English or French.

In order to be considered by the Africa Food Prize Committee, all nominations and supporting documentation must be received by **Tuesday, 14 May 2019**.

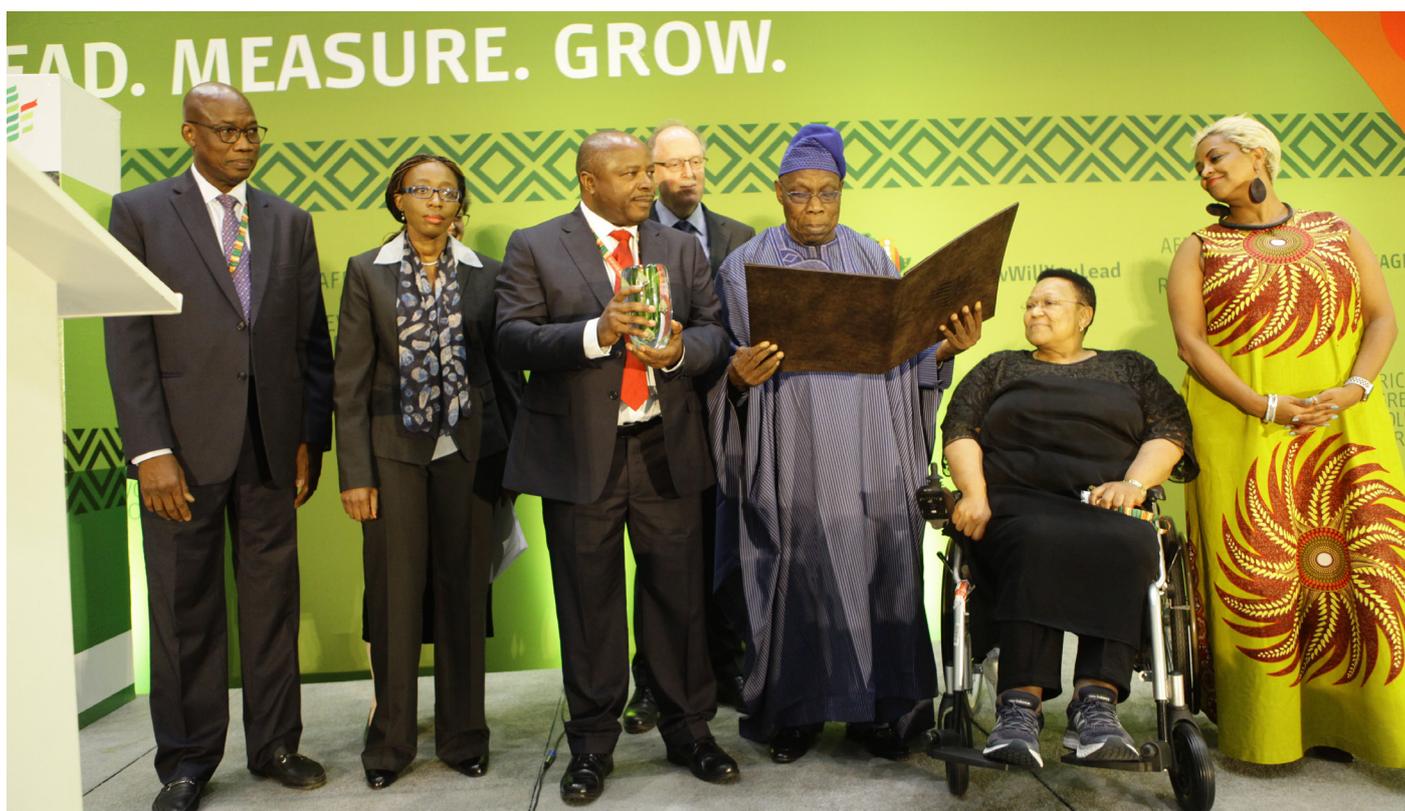
Nominations should be submitted on: <https://www.africafoodprize.org/nominate>



vii. Information on the Prize and Award Ceremony

The Prize is awarded at a special ceremony attended by the Prize winner(s), the Africa Food Prize Committee and invited guests. The Prize winner(s) is committed to attend this ceremony.

The Africa Food Prize 2019 will be awarded during the African Green Revolution Forum, scheduled for **September, 2019**.



ix. About the Africa Food Prize Committee

The Africa Food Prize Committee is an independent body chaired by Former Nigerian President, H.E Olusegun Obasanjo.

CHAIR

H.E President Olusegun Obasanjo,
Founder and President, The Olusegun Obasanjo Foundation
President of Nigeria 1999 – 2007

COMMITTEE

Dr. Joachim von Braun,
Director of the Center for Development Research (ZEF), Bonn University, Professor for economic and technological change.

Dr. Eleni Z. Gabre-Madhin,
Chief Executive Officer, eleni LLC
Former CEO of the Ethiopia Coffee Exchange Winner of the Yara Prize in 2012

Dr Vera Songwe,
Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

Dr. Kamau-Rutenberg,
Executive Director for African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD)

Mr. Birama Sidibé,
CEO and President Agro BioTech

Prof Sheryl L. Hendriks,
Prof of Food Security, University of Pretoria

x. FAQs about Nominations

01
Which individuals or organizations are eligible for the Prize?

The Africa Food Prize can be awarded to any individual or identifiable group of individuals, as well as to established institutions, associations, organizations or government bodies with a formal and recognized judicial and organizational structure contributing to the overall objectives of the Prize.

02
Does the nominee need to be an African citizen or of African descent?

Not necessarily. The Africa Food Prize can be awarded to any qualified candidate, irrespective of nationality, profession or location, as long as his or her work, and contributions deriving from the work, have had a clear impact on the African situation, nationally, regionally or for the continent.

03
Is the Prize awarded for a specific achievement and does it need to be within a certain period of time?

The Prize can be awarded with reference to a specific contribution or achievement, or a series of efforts and results in the recent past, preferably within the last few years.