

Join the first pan-African expert network on food and non-food biomass

July 12, 3pm-6pm
FIW, Heussallee 18-24, Bonn

Bonn, June 20, 2017

Dear Sir or Madam, dear colleagues,

We are happy to announce the updated program for the inauguration and networking meeting of **“BiomassNet: The first pan-African expert network on food and non-food biomass.”** On this occasion, the *interactive online platform* **BiomassNet.org** will be launched.

The inaugural BiomassNet meeting is open to experts from all disciplines and sectors who address issues of food security and bioeconomy in Africa. In particular, we invite scientists and experts from governmental and non-governmental organizations, development agencies, and the private sector.

The **networking sessions** provide the opportunity for you to present your projects, activities or organisation (5-7 minutes). We have extended the deadline for registering presentations to **June 25, 2017**: <http://biomassweb.org/biomassnet/>

Venue: [Forum Internationale Wissenschaft](#) (FIW), Heussallee 18-24, 53113 Bonn

Date: Wednesday, July 12, 2017, 3:00 – 6:00 pm

Updated program

3:00-3:45 **Welcome address**

Dr. Manfred Denich, Project Leader BiomassWeb / *Center for Development Research* (ZEF)

Dr. Eva Leiritz, Head of the Department of Agricultural Research, *Project Management Jülich (PTJ)* on behalf of *German Federal Ministry for Education and Research* (BMBF)

Petra Geissinger, Advisor, *German Development Cooperation* (GIZ/BEAF) on behalf of *German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development* (BMZ)

Keynote

Prof. Dr. Joachim von Braun, Chair of the *German Bioeconomy Council*

Moderator

Prof. Dr. Zeyauer Khan, *International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology* (icipe)

- 3:45-4:00 **Launch of the interactive BiomassNet online platform**
Dr. Raymond Jatta, *Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa* (FARA)
PD Dr. Christine Schmitt, Lead BiomassNet / *Center for Development Research* (ZEF)
- 4:00-4:15 **Coffee Break**
- 4:15-4:50 **Parallel networking sessions**
Present your projects, activities or organization and discuss interlinkages and new ways of cooperation with other experts
- 4:50-5:00 **Closing remark and outlook**
Dr. Adebayo Abass, *International Institute of Tropical Agriculture* (IITA)
- until 6:30 **Opportunity to continue networking**

Background

BiomassNet aims at supporting African countries in achieving food security and developing sustainable bioeconomies through the exchange of knowledge and expertise between experts from science, policy and practice. The focus is on Africa because many African countries still struggle to attain food security, while facing new demands for biomass as a source of income, energy and industrial raw materials.

Presentations

The networking sessions provide the opportunity to present your projects, activities or organization, and link up with experts from other fields and backgrounds. The exchange can be continued and broadened through the interactive online platform **BiomassNet.org** that will be launched during the meeting.

Registration

Please register for the BiomassNet inaugural meeting at: <http://biomassweb.org/biomassnet/>
Deadline: July 3, 2017.

If you are interested in presenting your projects/organization (5-7 minutes), please register (via the same link as above) by June 25, 2017.

The final program of the event is to be announced in late June.

BiomassNet is an initiative of the BiomassWeb project (www.biomassweb.org) coordinated by ZEF and FARA. It is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF) with additional funds from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). For further information, see: <http://biomassweb.org/biomassnet/>.

In case of any questions, please contact Jelana Vajen (phone: 0228 734972, e-mail jvajen@uni-bonn.de).

Please feel free to circulate this program in your networks!

Yours sincerely,

PD Dr. Christine B. Schmitt, Nikolas Böhlke and Jelana Vajen, **BiomassNet** coordination team, [Center for Development Research](http://www.zef.de) of Bonn University

