

A Multi-stakeholders' Platform for the Nigerian Agricultural Sector is Established

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AFOS Foundation initiates the establishment of a multi-stakeholder's platform for the Nigerian Agricultural sector to create and sustain viable partnership with relevant stakeholders of the Agric industry and to sustain the good results and impact that our work is creating in the and Agriculture sector

Productivity in the Nigerian Agric industry is impacted by numerous challenges ranging from environmental issues to poor technology, high cost of production and poor distribution of inputs, limited financing, and poor access to markets. These challenges cannot be left to only the government, operators, or the private sector, but demands for collective efforts of various players within the sector.

Therefore, there is a need for effective partnerships at different levels and multi-stakeholder engagements because MSPs has been recognized as a strategy for dealing with the challenges of sustainable development, as these platforms operate as innovation systems for knowledge generation and application and to replicate successes derived from these innovations.

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- **Cover photo:** A multi-stakeholders' platform (MSP) with representation from AFOS' industry development partners.

The Initiative for a Multi-stakeholders' Platform for the Agriculture Industry

AFOS Foundation uses a multi-stakeholder approach to promote good agricultural practice, access to financial services, vocational training, advice on product development, marketing, and quality assurance, as well as self-organization in trade & industry chambers and associations in developing nations.

In line with the projected outcomes for our AGRAR II project which has been extended to 2024, AFOS Foundation has initiated the establishment of a multi-stakeholders' platform (MSP) for the agriculture industry, starting first with the poultry value chain with the name: **The Nigerian Agriculture Platform for Poultry Value Chain (NAP-P)**. This is to create dialogue amongst relevant stakeholders of specific agricultural value chains in order to resolve the various challenges facing the industry and bring about innovations for sustainable agribusiness in Nigeria. Other value chains will be integrated step by step.

Representing a framework that explores the relationship among these diverse stakeholders within the system, the aim of this platform is to increase the overall synergy of the Nigerian agricultural sector leading to increase in agricultural production, access to networks /markets, and increased rural wealth and job opportunities in the Nigerian agricultural sector, by enhancing the efficiency of agribusinesses, smallholder farmers, and financiers and establishing strong linkages between them, leading to more robust agricultural value chains.

The Nigerian Agriculture Platform for Poultry Value Chain (**NAP-P**) is a gathering of representatives from agribusinesses, smallholder farmers and their associations, agriculture professionals and consultants, national agricultural development agencies, public sector/policy makers and regulators, microfinance institutions, and non-government development organizations.

The inaugural meeting of **NAP-P** was organized by the AFOS Foundation to introduce the platform to stakeholders and draw attention to the important role of the Nigerian poultry industry in achieving goal no. 2 of the United Nations' sustainable development goals -which is to fight hunger by boosting the efficiency of smallholder farmers and agribusinesses and promote access to financial services in rural areas.



Multi-stakeholder platforms are dynamic network of stakeholders around specific sectors, or production system set up to interact and learn together, and to discuss shared challenges, opportunities, policy actions and advocacy strategies.

Value Proposition & Objectives

Conflict resolution, Capacity building to keep up with most recent topics and technology, Dialogue platform, Value chain integration, Operational standards



- A platform where business operations and business processes are analyzed
- Functional working groups that would analyze and pursue practical resolution of common challenges as well as replication of established successes
- Development of a mutual relationship with the government institutions to establish a concerted and cohesive effort towards the regulation of the sector
- Creation of marketing opportunities and market linkages within interrelated value chains
- Create an enabling environment for agribusinesses to thrive
- Policy advocacy to drive the development of the industry

Participants at the 1st NAP-P Meeting

The inaugural meeting which is the first platform meeting of the multi-stakeholder's platform was held on December 2, 2021, at the Kakanfo Inn & Conference Center Ibadan Oyo state with the objective to:

- provide an in depth understanding of the concept of a multi-stakeholder platform and why this is important for the Agric sector,
- identify key and common challenges surrounding the poultry industry
- set up immediate goals for the platform,
- identify activities that must be carried out to realize such goals,
- Identify key institutions that the MSP must collaborate with for sustained effectiveness.

The meeting brought together representatives from AFOS Foundation, CHI Farms, Animal Care Plc., Dayntee Farms, smallholder farmers and members of the Poultry Association of Nigeria (PAN), Department of Animal Husbandry Services- FMARD, NIRSAL Plc., National Association of Microfinance Banks (NAMB), Society for Corporate Governance of Nigeria (SCGN), Nigerian Microfinance Platform (NMP) represented by LAPO MFB, Delegation of the German Industry and Commerce in Nigeria (AHK), and Microfinance Learning & Development Center (MLDC).

Roadmap to a Thriving Poultry Industry in Nigeria

For a thriving poultry industry that would contribute towards serving the protein needs of the nation, a multi-stakeholder collaboration is important to address the needs of the industry which has been identified to include access to capital, access to modern technology, access to quality and affordable input, access to industry information, and markets/market linkages. Others identified are capacity development, health and safety, industry database, micro-insurance, and an effective monitoring system.

In view of these overarching needs, the goal of the NAP-P is to drive an increase in agricultural productivity through its network of partnerships, by supporting capacity building, availability of relevant information for industry actors, development of effective markets and market linkages, support the availability of relevant database and engage in policy advocacy to support agribusiness.

Therefore, willingness is needed on the part of participating stakeholders to lend their services toward implementing these identified goals, as well as commitment to collaborate together in order to develop the agricultural sector into a more profitable business venture and to see the platform as a system for strategic discussions and innovations that will drive the sustainable development of the poultry industry.

Photo gallery



**Poultry Business and Economic Growth in Nigeria -
Insights from the Department of Animal Husbandry
Services, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural
Development (FMARD)**

The Keynote address of the Permanent Secretary, FMARD delivered by the Dep. Director, Animal Husbandry Services -Mr. Victor Egbon provided the following insights:

- The Nigeria poultry industry is said to be the most commercially developed in the agricultural sector with an estimated net worth of 10 trillion Naira, with over 80 million Nigerians being involved in one form of poultry business or the other (PAN).
- Commercialization of the industry is a pathway to food self-sufficiency, job creation, income generation and economic development.
- The Nigerian poultry industry is plagued with the challenges of scarcity and high cost of major feed ingredients, aftereffects of the Covid19 pandemic and insecurity in the country.
- The Federal Government, through Federal Ministry of Agriculture, responded to these challenges working with the Poultry Association of Nigeria (PAN) and the Maize Association of Nigeria (MAAN) to release 5 metric tons of maize in 2020 and by driving collaboration between the two associations.
- The FMARD has been intervening in the various agricultural commodity value chains through input support, capacity building and technical assistance to smallholder actors along the value chains.

Recommendations and Conclusion

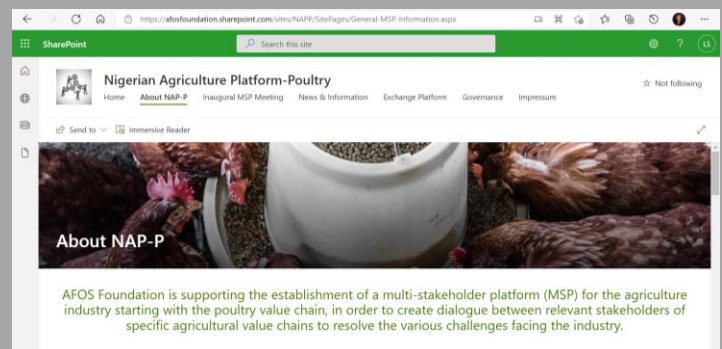
A call to the Federal Ministry of Agriculture (FMARD) to support further dialogue focusing on key market dynamics/ intelligence, bio-security alerts, environmental and climate change, and other potential risks, as well as support the establishment of a market hub for product price determination.

To this end, the platform should reach out to core collaborating government and private institutions that will in turn provide the enabling environment to establish the needed partnerships for a more vibrant industry.

Thus, more effective multi-stakeholder partnerships at all scales are more important now than ever before if we are to achieve a fully functional poultry industry.

Introducing the NAP-P Virtual platform for synchronous and asynchronous discussions on the multi-stakeholders' platform including information on all platform activities, projects, events, and news.

<https://afosfoundation.sharepoint.com/sites/napp/sitepages/general-msp-information.aspx>



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