



LILONGWE UNIVERSITY
OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL
RESOURCES (LUANAR)
Knowledge, Innovation, Excellence

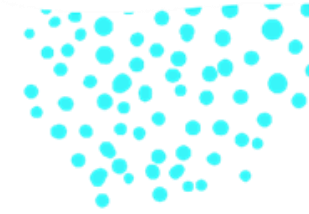
Africa Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Policy Analysis (ACE II AF-APA)

MALAWI

Associate Professor Beston Maonga



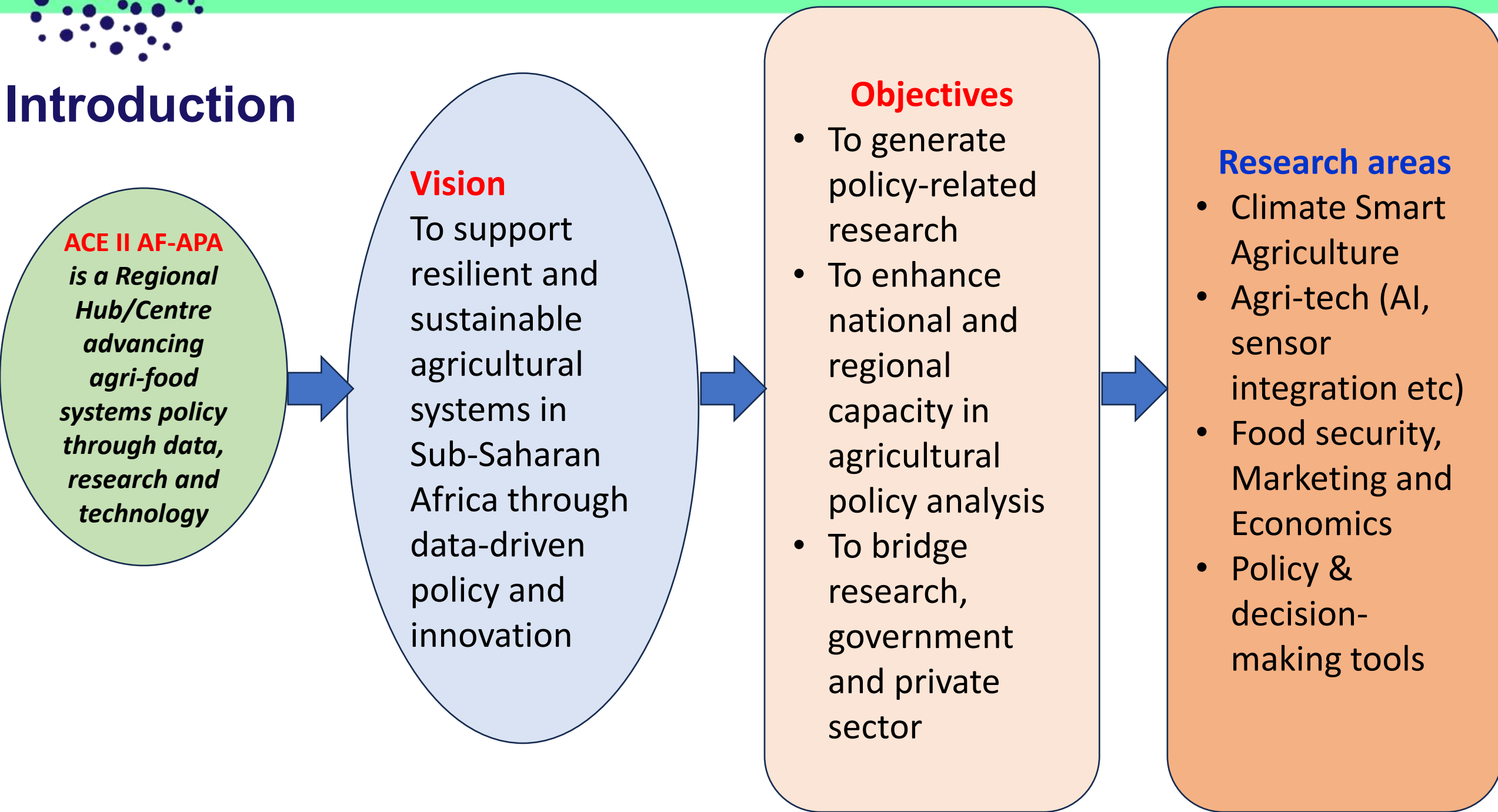
TICAD 9 Conference 2025



***Driving Agricultural Transformation through
Innovation & Global Partnerships: Areas for
investment and collaboration***



Introduction

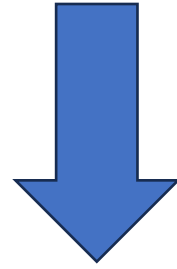




Research Focus & Opportunities

***“Turning data
into policy
decisions for
resilient agri-
food
systems.”***

Current Research



- Machine learning for yield prediction/food loss and food waste management
- Technology impact on food security
- Economic modeling for policy reforms

Joint Research opportunities



- AI & Internet of Things for precision farming
- Climate-resilient crop systems
- Technology adoption in smallholder value chains
- Blockchain in agricultural supply chains



**Why
collaborate
with ACE II
AF-APA?**

*“We are a
meso-level
hub linking
global
innovation
with local
transformati
on.”*

Collaboration Interests:

- Joint research programs with Japanese universities
- Faculty and student exchange (data science, agri-tech)
- Co-application for international research funding
- University–industry partnerships
- Co-development of scalable agribusiness innovations
- Commercialization of research outputs (especially, tech-enabled farming)



Past Engagements by LUANAR/Bunda College of Agriculture

Established Collaboration with Japan through SAA & JICA

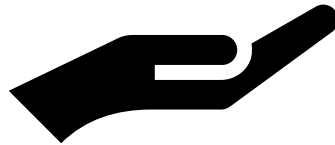
- Since 1998, LUANAR has partnered with **Sasakawa Africa Association (SAA)** to co-develop demand-driven, value chain-oriented Agricultural Extension programs.
- **TICAD VII (2019)**: Formalized collaboration under a **Memorandum of Cooperation** between SAA and **Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)**.
- Japan's **SHEP (Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment & Promotion)** approach introduced to Malawi through LUANAR in partnership with SAA.

Joint Activities with Japanese Support

- **September 2021**: LUANAR hosted a **Training of Trainers (ToT)** on the **SHEP approach and database management**, supported by SAA and facilitated by JICA experts.
 - Trained faculty, alumni, and extension officers in market-led extension practices.
 - Promoted integration of SHEP into LUANAR's curriculum and field programs.
- **November 2021**: Three LUANAR staff participated in the **JICA SHEP Master Trainers Course** with participants across Africa. Training focused on scaling market-oriented farming.

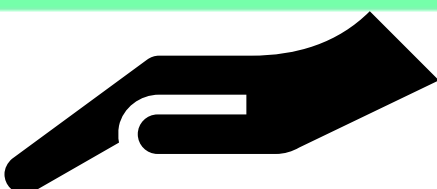


Call to Action



ACE II AF-APA offers:

- Regional reach (Sub-Saharan Africa)
- Policy influence at national and regional levels
- Tech piloting infrastructure
- Strong PPP focus

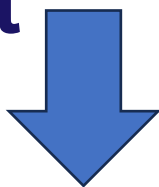


We seek Japanese partners to:

- Innovate together
- Build capacity
- Co-invest in scalable, climate-smart solutions
- Research to foster sustainable and transformative agri-food systems and policy



**Scan the QR
code to learn
more about
APA**



ACE II AF-APA

Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR), Malawi



Email: apa@luanar.ac.mw



Website: www.luanar.ac.mw/apa

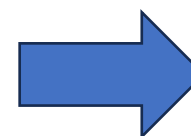


Director: Associate Prof. Beston Maonga
+265 991 997 509



Deputy Director: Dr. Ruth Magreta
+265 999 287 544

**Get in touch
with ACE II AF
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Thank you

Zikomo

ありがとうございます

