

APPENDIX - ATLAS Laboratory Project

As a complement to the call "Africa Can Become a Major Agricultural Power", the Paris Peace Forum is exploring the possibility of setting up a platform for dialogue and reflection on agricultural transformations for sustainable food security in Africa. One of the options is the creation - with partners from the North and South - of a Laboratory for African Agricultural Transitions, to be named ATLAS (Agricultural Transitions Lab for African Solutions).

This Laboratory would be made up of high-level personalities and experts in agricultural issues and would be tasked with (1) fostering a dialogue between the South and the North on agricultural transitions in Africa, and (2) carrying out work and making recommendations on themes to be chosen by the members of its governance, and which would reconcile the objectives of food security and environmental protection. By way of example, the following issues could be addressed:

- Articulation between European and African agrifood models: how can national and regional choices be better articulated with each other and with food and environmental imperatives?
- Reducing agricultural losses: how can we bring together all the relevant players to draw up a clear, achievable roadmap for reducing losses?
- Water: how can we ensure the necessary irrigation, while limiting pressure on water tables and avoiding their pollution by pesticides?
- The cold chain: how can we invent the cold chain of the future to preserve and transport food, while consuming as little carbon-free energy as possible?
- Soil fertility and health: how can we improve technical production itineraries by promoting innovative sustainable practices and ensuring access to and responsible use of fertilizers, while training farmers in their use so as not to harm the soil?
- Access to land: how can we put in place land policies that enable the extension of cultivated areas particularly for women farmers without land grabbing or deforestation?