



OFAB ANNUAL MEDIA AWARDS 2023: OPEN CALL FOR ENTRIES FROM JOURNALISTS REPORTING ON SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGIES.

ABOUT AFRICAN AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION (AATF)

The African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF) is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to facilitate sustainable access of agricultural technologies to smallholder farmers in Sub-Saharan Africa.

AATF is driven by the vision of a prosperous and food secure Africa, where the livelihoods of smallholder farmers are transformed through innovative agricultural technologies that deliver results. These efforts, combined with optimal agricultural practices and product value addition, will contribute to agricultural transformation in Africa leading food security and poverty reduction in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA).

About OFAB

OFAB is a partnership platform that contributes to creation of an enabling environment for biotechnology research, development, and deployment for the benefit of smallholder farmers in Africa.

Driven by a vision of sustainable food security and agriculture-driven economic development in Africa, OFAB enhances knowledge and awareness on agricultural biotechnology to build understanding of the technology and inform decision making.

Established by the African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF) in 2006, OFAB operates in ten countries: Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Ghana, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Rwanda, Mozambique, and Malawi.

About the OFAB Media Awards (OMAs)

The OFAB Media Awards was initiated to;

- i) promote excellence in science journalism and appreciate the contribution of journalists in promoting sustainable agricultural technologies particularly agricultural biotechnology and
- ii) reward the critical roles played by journalists in promoting constructive dialogue on modern biotechnology through responsible, professional, ethical, and effective reporting.



The culmination of the Award is the OFAB Africa Media Awards contest that brings together OFAB country level finalists from which the overall winners are selected. The call will culminate in celebrating and awarding three winning journalists in the categories of: Television, Radio and Print & Online.

Eligibility

1. Ugandan journalists who have been reporting on agricultural biotechnology in the country.
2. Articles submitted for consideration should have been published within the past 1 year (August 31, 2022 to August 31, 2023).
3. Categories for the award will be:
 - Print and Online (Newspapers, Magazine and Online)
 - Radio (Audio or podcast)
 - Television

NB: 2022 OFAB Media Award winners WILL BE INELIGIBLE to participate in this year's competition.

Scoring

An independent judging committee will select the winning entries based on:

1. Scientific accuracy
2. Initiative
3. Originality
4. Clarity of interpretation
5. Value in fostering a better public understanding of agricultural biotechnology and its impact in the society

Prizes

Each category will produce 1) category winner and 2) runner-up.

The winners of each category will be eligible to participate in OFAB Africa Media Awards (OMAs) scheduled for end of the year in the country to be announced. The following prizes will be given:



1. Winner: A plaque, Certificate, USD 500 prize and participate in OFAB Africa media Awards
2. Runner-up: A plaque, Certificate, USD 300 prize

Submission Modalities

Journalists are encouraged to submit entries by sharing:

1. Articles which should not be older than 1 year on the date of submission for entry (August 31, 2022 to August 31, 2023)
2. Links to published articles: the URL should be from a media house **and not a personal blog**
3. YouTube and SoundCloud links to TV and Radio stories respectively, and,
4. Links to a maximum of three (3) self-appraised articles or stories
5. The entries (active links) should be submitted online through E-mail: ofab@uncst.go.ug copy l.amanya@uncst.go.ug
6. If an entry is not accessible online, scanned articles should be submitted through E-mail: ofab@uncst.go.ug copy l.amanya@uncst.go.ug
7. Entries should be submitted no later than 5:00 pm on 1st September 2023.