

## TICAD8 High-Level Side Event on *Future of Food Security in Africa- in times of Global Food Crisis: How innovation can help our future?*

### Background Information

In the Yokohama Declaration of the TICAD 7 in 2019, Japan and global partners reaffirmed the importance of supporting agricultural transformation through promoting better-quality, higher-value products, and developing food value chains to improve food security and livelihoods and accelerate Africa's economic growth and diversification.

Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, world hunger was on the rise. The COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine brought significant additional threatening to unleash unprecedented wave of global hunger. The war in Ukraine has demonstrated yet another fault line related to food security, particularly in countries where a high percentage of food is imported.

International society has discussed that short- and medium-term support needs to be programmed in a way that leads to a long-term sustainable transformation of agriculture and food systems. It needs to strengthen resilience and thereby reduce humanitarian needs, boost sustainable local production, diversify crops and thereby reduce dependencies on imports.

Making a long-term impact on food system requires the capacity both to implement tried and tested practices and to respond to new challenges and opportunities as they emerge. In other words, it requires the ability to innovate.

### Event Purpose

This event will bring together stakeholders in food systems to discuss and explore new processes, products or approaches that add value and delivers a sustainable, equitable, inclusive solutions to the above stated challenges we are facing.

Following the **Opening** session, **Session 1** will provide an opportunity to hear from partners about innovative technologies that have been successfully introduced to address the challenges in Africa and to discuss how we could better scale-up such innovations to broader regions so that small-scale producers become more resilient for potential future shocks.

**Session 2** will focus on innovative approaches and hear from various partners on their role innovative approach in transforming food system and in order to explore how we can better work together.

This theme would also give IFAD an opportunity to share its experience and discuss with global and African partners while considering what is best small-scale producers for the planet and this time for Africa.