

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### AGROECOLOGY AND AGROBIODIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSE (AAITC) TRAINERS.

#### BIOVISION AFRICA TRUST

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Biovision Africa Trust (BvAT) wishes to recruit qualified trainers for Agroecology and Agrobiodiversity International Training Course (AAITC) under its Transdisciplinary Learning Initiatives (TDLI) programme. TDLI is an innovative programme within BvAT designed to connect university students from various academic disciplines with agroecology and agrobiodiversity experts. By fostering collaboration between academic institutions, practitioners, and stakeholders, TDLI aims to strengthen knowledge exchange and co-creation of solutions to real-world challenges in agriculture and the environment. The programme emphasizes knowledge co-creation, which ensures that solutions are both practical and scientifically sound. The initiative helps academic institutions prepare students to design, communicate, and collaborate effectively in solving complex socio-technical challenges.

### About Biovision Africa Trust

Established in 2009 and headquartered at the *icipe* campus in Nairobi, Biovision Africa Trust (BvAT) is a Pan-African not-for-profit organization dedicated to alleviating poverty and enhancing the livelihoods of smallholder farmers. We serve as a leading catalyst for the agroecological transformation of African agri-food systems by bridging the gap between scientific research and practical, farmer-led solutions through robust knowledge dissemination and capacity building. Our continental impact is driven through the Farmer Communication Programme in East Africa, the AU's Ecological Organic Agriculture (EOA) Initiative, and the Knowledge Centre for Organic Agriculture (KCOA) hubs across all five regions of Africa. Guided by our 2025–2028 Strategic Plan, "Transforming Livelihoods Sustainably in Africa," we focus on six core priorities: strengthening climate resilience, advancing applied research and communication, fostering dynamic market systems, influencing policy reforms, ensuring institutional stability, and deepening strategic partnerships. Ultimately, we are committed to realizing a food-secure Africa where healthy people and thriving environments coexist sustainably.

## 2. AAITC

The Agroecology and Agrobiodiversity International Training Course (AAITC) is a transdisciplinary short course designed to strengthen capacity in agroecology and sustainable food systems. The course is coordinated by Biovision Africa Trust in collaboration with East Africa partner universities. It brings together participants from diverse sectors including academia, civil society, private sector, and farming communities. AAITC adopts a participatory, experiential, and transdisciplinary learning approach, integrating theory, practice, and real-world problem-solving. The course involves both online and in person training mode.

## 3. Purpose of the Training

AAITC is a transdisciplinary short course that seeks to build the capacity of its participants in Agroecology. The course is designed to equip students and young researchers in East Africa

with the knowledge and skills to apply agroecology and agrobiodiversity principles through transdisciplinary collaboration and co-creation. It aims to foster the development of innovative solutions that strengthen agroecological practices as a contribution to enhancing food security, resilience, and livelihoods among smallholder farming communities. The course hinges on pre-selected learning outcomes carefully identified based on the trends in the Agroecology, organic agriculture and food systems sectors. Following its transdisciplinary nature, the course is facilitated by qualified trainers from different sectors; universities, national and international research centers, agroecology practitioners and the private sector. The course places strong emphasis on agroecological innovations as a pathway toward transforming food systems.

#### 4. Key Thematic Areas

The AAITC 2026 cohort has been designed to cover the following key thematic areas, for which trainers are invited to submit applications.

- Soil health
- Circular economy
- Agroecological markets and entrepreneurship
- Innovation and governance
- Transdisciplinary and systems thinking
- Seed sovereignty

#### 5. Scope of Work

Selected trainers will be expected to:

- Develop and deliver training sessions aligned with AAITC learning outcomes
- Apply participatory and experiential teaching methods (e.g., case studies, group work, field-based learning)
- Co-create learning content with other trainers and course coordinators
- Facilitate discussions and knowledge exchange among participants
- Support field visits, practical sessions, and demonstrations where applicable
- Contribute to the development of training materials (presentations, training guides, tools)
- Participate in pre-course planning and post-course reflection sessions

#### 6. Duration and Location

- The training will be delivered between June and August 2026.
- Delivery will be **hybrid** (online and in-person), including field-based components
- Physical sessions will take place in Nairobi, Kenya

#### 7. Deliverables

Trainers will be expected to submit:

- Session plans and training materials in advance
- Final presentations and supporting resources
- Brief session reports

## 8. Qualifications and Experience

- Advanced degree (Master's or PhD) in a relevant field
- Demonstrated expertise in agroecology or related fields
- Experience in training, facilitation and non-formal education
- Strong skills in participatory and learner-centered approaches
- Experience working in multi-actor or transdisciplinary settings
- Experience in the African context is highly desirable
- Experience in ITCOA/AATC training is highly desirable

## 9. HOW TO APPLY

Interested candidates should submit the following:

- A brief cover letter indicating relevant expertise
- CV

If you are interested in the above call for trainers and can demonstrate your ability to meet the qualifications required, submit your expression of interest with the above-mentioned documents to [procurement@biovisionafrica.org](mailto:procurement@biovisionafrica.org) with the subject title: **Call for AAITC Trainer**. The closing date for applications is **3<sup>rd</sup> June 2026**. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.

**Biovision Africa Trust is an Equal Opportunity Employer.**