

19 – 25 October 2020

## BioInnovate Africa Programme

BioInnovate Africa Programme held the first Eastern Africa Bioeconomy Conference on 21 – 22 October. The conference brought together regional and international stakeholders under the theme 'Bioeconomy growth prospects for Eastern Africa'. The event received international media coverage:

- [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/africa/2020-10/22/c\\_139457331.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/africa/2020-10/22/c_139457331.htm)
- <https://www.sei.org/featured/sei-experts-help-shape-the-east-africa-regional-bioeconomy-strategy/>
- <https://www.bignewsnetwork.com/news/266753450/eac-calls-for-development-of-bioeconomy-strategy-in-region>

Below are some video highlights:

Opening remarks from *icipe*'s Director General, Dr. Segenet Kelemu:

- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-2cKeiqJEPQ&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-2cKeiqJEPQ&feature=emb_logo)

Welcome message from BioInnovate Africa Programme Manager, Dr. Julius Ecuru:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ucf-xnmCJZU&feature=youtu.be>

A recap of the first day of the conference:

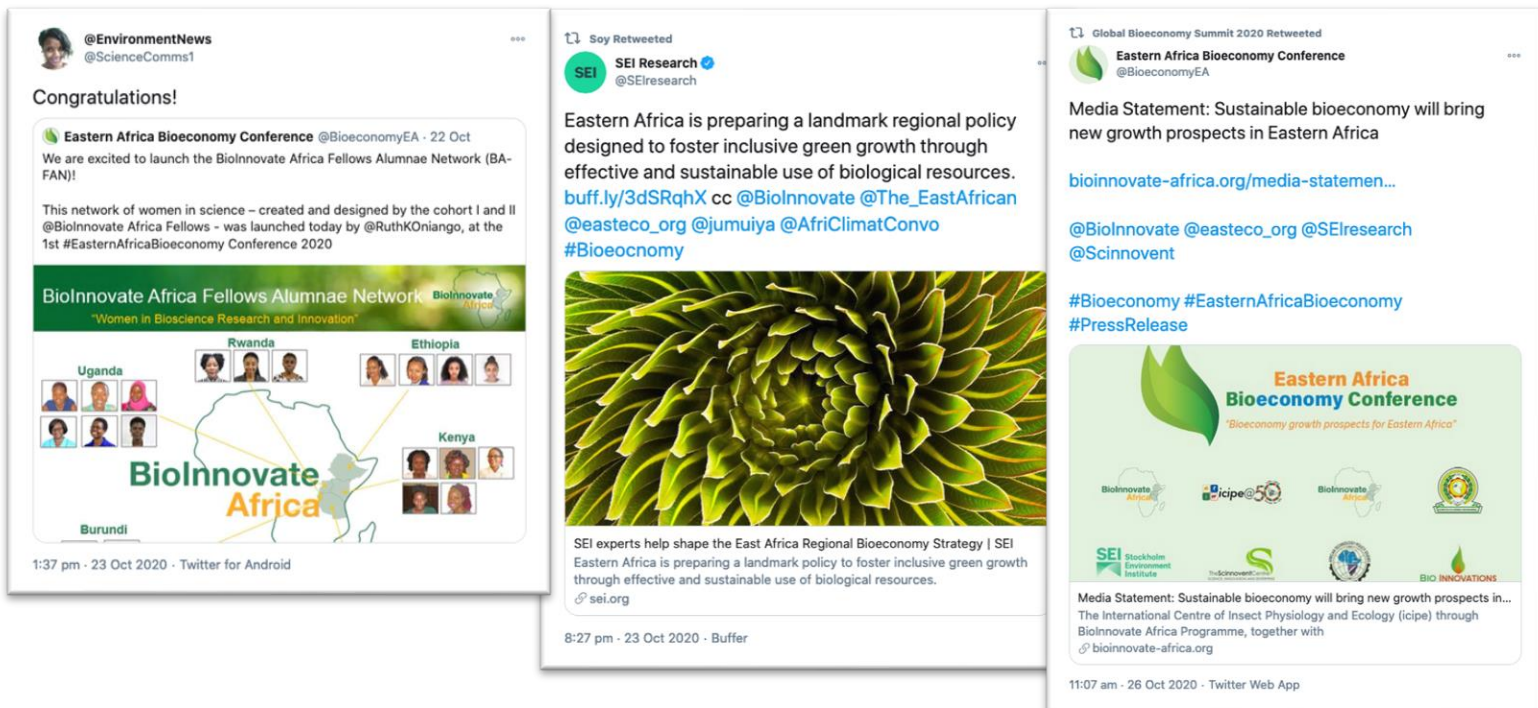
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Co6UMuyzEpg&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Co6UMuyzEpg&feature=emb_logo)

Project leaders' pitches of their bio-based products or enterprises that have gone through business incubation and acceleration:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YZkYLxgwTKk>

Closing remarks from *icipe*'s Director of Research and Partnerships, Dr. Sunday Ekesi:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KH4Z6JGOIV0>



## Malaria research

Dr. Jeremy Herren and Prof. Clifford Mutero were interviewed by *The Conversation* on why *Anopheles stephensi*, a species of mosquito that can carry malaria, has invaded Eastern Africa.

- <https://theconversation.com/invasive-mosquito-species-could-bring-more-malaria-to-african-urban-areas-147530>
- <https://menafn.com/1100981732/Invasive-mosquito-species-could-bring-more-malaria-to-African-urban-areas>

## Technology Transfer Unit

*icipe* participated in the World Food Day celebrations in Embu on October 16. The Centre's stand was covered from minute 1.27 to 2.51 then continues at 6.08 to 9.05 in the live coverage below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=54hnSJZ-4A>

## Locusts

*icipe* is working with partners, including including the Centre for Agriculture and Bioscience International (CABI) the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Desert locust Control Organisation for Eastern Africa (DLCOEA) and government agencies to monitor and report efforts needed for the effective management of locust swarms in Kenya and Ethiopia.

<https://www.cabi.org/news-article/more-than-5-million-farmers-helped-in-bid-to-battle-scourge-of-locust-swarms-in-kenya-and-ethiopia/>



## Biopesticides

*icipe*, in partnership with Real IPM Ltd, has developed new to promote sustainable agriculture in Africa. The products are being used against mealybugs, thrips and fruit flies, in crops such as cucumber, mango, pawpaw and tomatoes.

<https://www.newaginternational.com/index.php/en/news/news-from-suppliers/2477-biopesticides-offers-hope-for-sustainable-agriculture-in-africa>

## Fall armyworm

Research from *icipe*, the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and other institutions is being used to combat Fall armyworm and improve food security in Somalia.

<https://www.cimmyt.org/news/somalia-agriculture-partners-learn-about-integrated-fall-armyworm-control-practices/>

## Environmental Health Theme

*icipe* is conducting research on hive type suitability in different agro-ecological zones of Kitui County.



## Capacity Building and Institutional Development

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) call for scholarship applications at *icipe* is now open and will close on 15 December 2020. Scholarships are granted for development-related masters or doctoral studies for individuals who plan to pursue a career in teaching and/or research at a higher education institution in Sub-Saharan Africa.

[https://www2.daad.de/medien/deutschland/stipendien/formulare/st32\\_call\\_for\\_scholarship\\_applications\\_kenya\\_icipe.pdf](https://www2.daad.de/medien/deutschland/stipendien/formulare/st32_call_for_scholarship_applications_kenya_icipe.pdf)

