

# 1ST ARCX FORUM

Scientific and Technological Support to Regional Centres of Excellence related to Green Transition

15-18 SEPTEMBER 2025

RADISSON BLU HOTEL - ARBORETUM PARK LANE, NAIROBI – KENYA

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*The\_ArcX\_Forum\_Agenda*

## DAY1 - 15 SEPT 2025

### SETTING THE SCENE AND EXPLORING THE ARCX PROGRAMME

#### Plenaries

Time	Session / Activity	Speakers / Organisation
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#### OPENING

08:30-09:00	Registration	
09:00-09:10	Presentation of the Week's Programme	Mr. Piero Nardi (ArcX TAT)
09:10-09:40	Institutional Opening	Dr. Mahaman Bachir Saley (African Union Commission – ESTI Department) Mr. Ondrej Simek (Deputy Head of European Union Delegation in Kenya)
09:40-10:00	Special Statements (5 min each)	Dr. Aggrey Agumya (FARA), Dr. Robert Nasi (CIFOR–ICRAF), Dr. Nico Elema (Stellenbosch University), Mr. Enrique Alvarez (Mercator Ocean International)
10:00-10:30	Coffee Break and Group Photo	Ms. Prody Mwemena Mumba (ArcX TAT)
10:30-11:00	Setting the ArcX Scene	Ms. Catherine Ghyoot (DG INTPA)

#### SESSION 1 – DEEP DIVES IN THE ARCX COMPONENTS

11:00-12:00	Deep Dive 1: Agroecology	Speakers - Dr. Kwaku Antwi (FARA), Dr. Felix Rembold – online (DG JRC), Dr. Brittany Kesselman (RAENS), Ms. Fructueuse Ouidoh Agbodjogbe (RADIUS), Dr. Frank Chidawanyika (RMRN-EA); Rapporteurs - Ms. Ama Asenso (FARA) & Prof. Majaliwa Mwanjalolo (RUFORUM).
12:00-13:00	Deep Dive 2: Biodiversity & Forests	Speakers - Dr. Ya Cor Ndione (CIFOR) & Ms. Adja Sy (CEBio-Eco/AO) & Ms. Florence Palla (OFAC-CE) & Mr. Michael Ngugi Kimani (RCMRD) & Mr. Paolo Roggeri (DG JRC), Rapporteur(s) TBD by Sector Coordinator
13:00-14:00	Lunch Break	
14:00-15:00	Deep Dive 3: Ocean	Speakers - Mr. Enrique Alvarez & Ms. Lillian Diarra – (Mercator Ocean International), Prof. Kouadio Affian – (UNESCO-IOC), Rapporteur(s) TBD
15:00-16:00	Deep Dive 4: Water	Speakers - Dr. Nico Elema, SANWATCE Secretariat (Stellenbosch University) & Dr. Cesar Carmona Moreno (DG JRC) – Rapporteur Ms. Zimbili Sibiyi SANWATCE Secretariat (Stellenbosch University)
16:00-16:30	Coffee Break & networking	
16:30-17:00	Climate	Speakers - Mr. Marco Clerici (DG JRC), Ms. Karolin Eichler (ECMWF) & Mr. Vincent Gabaglio (EUMETSAT), Rapporteur(s) TBD
17:00-17:30	Breaking Down Silos: How ArcX Transversal Component Powers Cross-thematic Research	Speakers – Ms. Magda Moner Girona & Ms. Angela Sarcina (online) (DG JRC)
17:30	End of the Day	

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## DAY2 - 16 SEP 2025

### BREAKING THE SILOS: KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND PARTNERSHIPS

Keynotes, panels, and participatory dialogue

Time	Session / Activity	Speakers / Organisation
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#### SESSION 2 - KNOWLEDGE SHARING ACROSS ARCX THEMATIC SECTORS

09:00-09:10	Keynote speech 1	Dr. Nico ELEMA - SANWATCE Secretariat (Stellenbosch University)
09:10-10:00	Panel 1 Moderated by the keynote speaker 1 Reported by Ms. Zimbili Sibiya SANWATCE Secretariat (Stellenbosch University)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Dr. Peter Minang / Dr. Robert Nasi, TBD - CIFOR</li><li>2. Dr. Florence Nakayiwa / Prof. Majaliwa Mwanjalolo – RUFORUM – TBD</li><li>3. Ms. Yenziwe Mbuyisa - SANWATCE Secretariat (Stellenbosch University)</li><li>4. Dr. Enrique Alvarez – MERCATOR Ocean International</li><li>5. Dr. Marco Clerici – DG Joint Research Centre</li></ol>
10:00-10:30	Coffee break and Networking	
10:30-11:30	Participatory dialogue 1, moderated by the keynote Speaker and reported by the designated rapporteur(s)	

#### SESSION 3- SYNERGIES AND COMPLEMENTARITIES WITH OTHER PROGRAMMES

11:30-11:40	Keynote speech 2	Dr. Cheikh Mbow, DG Centre de Suivi Ecologique
11:40-12:30	Panel 2 Moderated by the keynote speaker 2 Rapporteur designated by the Keynote speaker 2 – TBD	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Dr. Emmanuel Nkurundziza, Director, The RCMRD</li><li>2. Dr. Peggy Oti-Boateng, Executive Director, The African Academy of Sciences</li><li>3. Mr. Hamdi Kacem, The African Space Agency</li><li>4. Mr. Kevin Chrétien (online), DG INTPA</li><li>5. Ms. Lillian Diarra, MERCATOR Ocean International</li><li>6. Mr. Christophe Larose (Online), DG INTPA</li></ol>
12:30-13:00	Participatory dialogue 2 part 1 - Moderated by the keynote speaker 2 and reported by the designated rapporteur(s)	
13:00-14:00	Lunch break	
14:00-14:30	Participatory dialogue 2 part 2 - Moderated by the keynote Speaker 2 and reported by the designated rapporteur(s)	

#### SESSION 4 - STAKEHOLDERS ENGAGEMENT

14:30-14:40	Keynote speech 3	Dr. Dora Siliya (Zambia Former Minister of Agriculture)
14:40-15:30	Panel 3 Moderated by Dr. Jérôme Queste – CCARDESA Reported by Ms. Ama Asenso (FARA) & Prof. Patrick Okori (RUFORUM)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Mr. Chouaibou Nchoutpouen (COMIFAC)</li><li>2. Dr. Kwaku Antwi (FARA)</li><li>3. Mr. Kofi Acquaye (YPARD)</li><li>4. Ms. Lillian Diarra, MERCATOR Ocean International</li><li>5. Ms. Zimbili Sibiya SANWATCE Secretariat (Stellenbosch University)</li><li>6. Mr. Jacques Matara (KSA), Deputy Director Space Research and Innovation</li></ol>
15:30-16:00	Participatory dialogue 3 part 1 - Moderated by Mr. Jérôme Queste and reported by the designated rapporteur(s)	

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16:00-16:30	Coffee break and Networking
16:30-17:00	Participatory dialogue 3 part 2 - Moderated by Mr. Jérôme Queste and reported by the designated rapporteur(s)
17:00-17:30	Wrap up of the day, closing of the Forum

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### DAY3 - 17 SEP 2025

#### ARCX THEMATIC COORDINATION COMMITTEES (TCCS)

[Parallel sessions](#), [Invitation only](#)

Three thematic sessions (S5 Agroecology, S6 Biodiversity & Forests, S7 Water), together with one transversal session (S8), will take place from 09:00 to 17:00, with three breaks scheduled during the day for coffee and lunch: 10:00–10:30, 13:00–14:00, and 16:00–16:30.

The Ocean component, recently launched and inherently encompassing transversal dimensions (blue economy), will contribute to this first edition of the ArcX Days through sessions 5 to 8.

A final segment (17:00–17:30) will be dedicated to drafting and validating each TCC's recommendations for submission to the PSC.

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### DAY4 - 18 SEP 2025

#### ARCX PROGRAMME STEERING COMMITTEE (PSC)

[Closed meeting](#), [Invitation only](#)

09:00-09:15	Opening and reminder of the PSC's role.
09:15-10:00	Presentation of recommendations from the TCCs (by component).
10:00-10:30	Coffee break.
10:30-13:00	Cont'd presentation, discussion, conciliation and validation/reformulation of recommendations.
13:00-14:00	Lunch break.
14:00-16:30	Cont'd discussion. Strategic orientations and linkage with the components.
16:30-17:00	Conclusion and adoption of PSC decisions. Closing.

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