



AAVF Newsletter #1
29.01.2019

Dear valued members and readers,

It is with great pleasure that we write and deliver our first newsletter as a new association. **The African Association for Vertical Farming (AAVF).**

This quarterly publication will keep you apprised of the news, events, offers and opportunities that the **AAVF** is working hard to bring to you.

Since our fiscal year began on January 1, 2019, we have been working non-stop to establish the Association and organise our first event. This newsletter includes the most important news items, including an introduction to our newest member. We hope you enjoy reading it as much as we have enjoyed putting it together!

AVF and AAVF Announce close Partnership

The Association for Vertical Farming (AVF) and **The African Association for Vertical Farming (AAVF)** are proudly announcing their close cooperation and active support for each other to promote vertical farming in Africa. Both organisations advocate for a broad implementation of these innovative technologies to ensure a healthy, safe and nutritious food supply to the citizens of Africa and around the world. We will cooperate on all levels and especially support the implementation of pilot projects in Africa.

Our members will benefit from a team on the ground which enables an easy market understanding and access. Conferences, workshops and trainings will connect people and build a network in a continent where especially young people look forward to innovation and a bright future created by their aspiration. **AVF** and **AAVF** will complement each other in its resources, experience and knowledge to successfully support the opportunities Africa has to offer and wants to share.

AAVF attends and presents at SIVAL- France's meeting point for crop production professionals.

SIVAL, the world-class trade fair for plant production in Angers, France, invited the **AAVF** to take part in their 2019 fair and introduce the association to its extensive audience. With 640 exhibitors from the material and services sectors, and 24,000 French and foreign visitors, **SIVAL** is France's premier business and innovation meeting point for crop production professionals.

The **AAVF** team gave technical and promotional presentations about the founding of the association, the goals and activities for 2019, and the vast potential for vertical farming in Africa. In front of a packed house, the presentations were very well received and afterwards the team was able to engage with the public in a 20-minute Q&A session. **AAVF** looks forward to attend more trade fairs and events in Europe and Africa in order to spread the association's name and mission at this early stage.

Introducing AAVF's newest member

Each newsletter will include an introduction to new **AAVF** members. This is a good opportunity to learn about their projects and connect with them through social media.

Introducing: Mr. Samson Ogbole, Lagos, Nigeria. Mr. Ogbole has been called the, "inventor of soilless farming in Nigeria," and it's true that he is a firm believer in the productive capabilities of soilless, vertical farming. He co-founded **PS Nutraceuticals (PS Nutrac)** in 2016, with the idea of implementing "cutting edge agricultural technologies for efficiency in food production to ensure food security."

The [PS Nutrac](#) website has become a good source of industry information for those interested in the Nigerian and Africa-wide agtech scene. Through their subsidiary **PS Farms**, Ogbole and his partner **O.P. Okocha, Jr.** build, manage and maintain farms that use aeroponics to grow premium crops that cater to local and international markets. They are now working on integrating smart sensor technology to ensure consistent feedback from the plants.

Samson was recently featured on CNN's African Voices series: cnn.it/2CeCKst. He has also given multiple TED talks: bit.ly/2SXRwJD. Visit the **PS Nutrac** Facebook here: www.facebook.com/psnutrac/.

The AAVF looks forward to a busy 2019.

The **AAVF** Team is looking forward to returning to South Africa, where this project first began in March 2018. Thereafter, to Kenya, Uganda and other Sub-Sahara regions. We would like to meet with as many interested parties as we can to establish strong relations on the ground and begin growing our association to the needs and demands of the African farmers.

Should you wish to meet a member of the **AAVF** team during these trips, please e-mail info@aavf.ch. Otherwise, please stay tuned to our social media channels for regular updates on **AAVF** activities. Together, we can elevate urban farming to new heights in Africa!

Nothing is impossible. Help Africa Sustain Africa!

Sincerely,

The **AAVF** Team

The African Association For Vertical Farming (AAVF)

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