



## PRESS RELEASE

### AfDB and AATF to inaugurate TAAT Maize Compact Project in Mozambique

**Maputo, Wednesday, 19 June 2019** – The African Development Bank (AfDB), AATF and partners will inaugurate the Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation (TAAT) Maize Compact initiative in Maputo, Mozambique from 19–20 June 2019.

TAAT is an initiative of the AfDB under its Feed Africa Strategy (2016–2025). Its goal is to transform agriculture in Africa by harnessing high-impact, proven agricultural technologies.

AATF is leading the implementation of the TAAT Maize Compact in 14 African countries and is collaborating with the National Agricultural Research Institute of Mozambique (IIAM), to implement activities in Mozambique.

The inception meeting will provide an opportunity to introduce TAAT Maize compact in Mozambique and on-board public and private sector partners across the maize value chain in the country who will be key in the implementation of TAAT Maize Compact project.

‘The TAAT Maize Compact aims to scale out and promote the use of water-efficient and other climate-smart maize technologies in partnership with IITA, public and private sector players, especially seed companies,’ said Mr Samuel Angwenyi, TAAT Project Officer at AATF.

‘Another key objective of TAAT Maize Compact is to increase uptake of high-yielding climate-smart maize hybrids from breeding platforms like Water Efficient Maize for Africa (WEMA) by smallholder farmers,’ added Mr Angwenyi.

The two-day inception meeting will bring together key stakeholders in the maize value chain including the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Safety, AfDB, AATF, IIAM, seed companies, and farmer organisations among others.

#### About AATF ([www.aatf-africa.org](http://www.aatf-africa.org))

Founded in 2003 to address Africa’s food security prospects through agricultural technology, AATF believes that the agricultural sector is a key foundational pillar as Africa consolidates its economic growth and carves out its new position as a major global economic powerhouse and the next growth market in the world. It was formed in response to the need for an effective mechanism that would facilitate and support negotiation for technology access and delivery and formation of appropriate partnerships to manage the development & deployment of innovative technologies for use by smallholder farmers in SSA.

#### About AfDB

The African Development Bank Group (AfDB) is Africa’s premier development finance institution. It comprises three distinct entities: the African Development Bank (AfDB), the African Development Fund (ADF) and the Nigeria Trust Fund (NTF). On the ground in 37 African countries with an external office in Japan, the AfDB contributes to the economic development and the social progress of its 54 regional member states.

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