

Concept Note

AABNet Book Launch – A Joint Event by AABNet, CTLGH, and ILRI

Date: February 20, 2026

Time: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Venue: ILRI Campus, Nairobi

I. Background and Rationale

The African Animal Breeding Network (AABNet), in collaboration with the Centre for Tropical Livestock Genetics and Health (CTLGH) and the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), proposes a high-level event to mark the official launch of the landmark open-access Springer publication.

This flagship book, developed over four years, is a first-of-its-kind African-led publication that documents Africa's rich livestock biodiversity and synthesizes research, indigenous knowledge, and modern science. It highlights the productive and adaptive attributes of African livestock breeds, sustainable breeding strategies, capacity building, climate resilience, equity, ethics, and effective utilization of genetic resources in the era of modern technologies. The book is tailored for African students, researchers, development actors, livestock farmers, non-governmental organizations, policymakers, and business professionals.

The launch provides a timely platform to spotlight Africa's leadership in sustainable livestock systems while engaging regional and global scientific and policy audiences.

2. Objective of the Event

To unveil the AABNet book and discuss its insights while showcasing Africa's contributions to global animal breeding, particularly in relation to climate change, greenhouse gas mitigation, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable livestock development.

3. Theme & Sub-Themes

Main Theme:

Science, Sustainability, and African Leadership in Animal Breeding

Sub-Themes (Drawn from Book Chapters):

- Scientific Innovations in Animal Breeding
- Bridging Traditional Knowledge and Modern Science
- Driving Policy and Ethics in Sustainable Breeding
- Breeding for Climate Resilience and Methane Reduction

4. Format and Approach

The event will adopt a hybrid, interactive format, featuring:

- Morning and afternoon keynote presentations by contributing authors
- Ceremonial book unveiling with ribbon-cutting and chapter showcase
- Interactive panels (e.g., fishbowl discussions)
- Visual exhibitions and showcase booths
- Strategic partner engagement and networking breaks
- Real-time livestreaming with multilingual captioning (Swahili, English, French)

5. Target Audience

- Scientists and animal breeders
- African university students and faculty
- Policymakers and development partners
- Private sector actors in livestock genetics
- Non-governmental organization actors in livestock production
- Media and communication professionals
- Development and research partners

6. Partnerships and Branding

Lead Organizers:

- AABNet
- CTLGH
- ILRI

With visibility and participation from:

- AU-IBAR, UNEP, AGRA, and Springer
- African universities offering animal science and veterinary science programs
- Nairobi-based institutions (e.g., University of Nairobi, Kenyatta University, etc.)

7. Logistics and Technical Support

- **Format:** Hybrid (In-person + Virtual)
- **Venue:** ILRI Campus, Nairobi
- **Time:** 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- **Technical Support:** CoELIB Media – Zoom + YouTube Livestream with multilingual captioning
- **Sustainability:** Zero-waste policy, solar-powered AV, biodegradable service ware
- **Media Hub:** Press interviews, storytelling, and event coverage

Travel and Participation:

- All participants are expected to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements.
- Participants are requested to confirm attendance in advance, indicating whether participation will be in person or virtual, to support planning and logistics.

8. Funding and Participation

- Group sponsorship (10+ AABNet members) and project-based support under negotiation
- Student discounts and one-day access passes under discussion
- Free virtual access under consideration
- Self-sponsorship permitted and encouraged

9. Proposed Agenda/Program – February 20, 2026

Detailed programme to be shared separately.

10. Hashtag and Social Media Handles

Hashtag: #AABNetBookLaunch2026

Handles to Tag:

- @AABNet_ | @CTLGH | @ILRI
- @AU_IBAR
- LinkedIn: African Animal Breeding Network – AABNet

11. Contact Information

info@animalbreeding-africa.org

+254 711 082 443 / 4

www.animalbreeding-africa.org