

BioInnovate Africa Program (BAP), which started in 2010 is an ongoing regional bioeconomy innovation-driven platform in Africa. Partner countries include in Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. BAP's development objective is to make agricultural/biological processing a competitive and an environmentally sustainable enterprise, so that it becomes an incentive for smallholder farmers and communities in eastern Africa to increase their agricultural productivity, household incomes and ultimately have better living standards. It hypothesises that transforming agroprocessing through value addition and converting biowaste into useful products, can be a powerful incentive to increase productivity and profitability of smallholder farmers and their communities. This paper will present BAP as a unique, and so far, the largest innovation-driven platform in Africa, incubating and translating innovative bioscience research ideas and technologies into functional bioeconomy businesses and commercial products. The paper also argues that BAP is an example or model for achieving the sustainable development goals in the global south.