While nearly 70% of farm work is performed manually, agricultural mechanization at a scale appropriate in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) needs to take a systems approach to address issues beyond the farm and includes the entire food value chain. At the same time, technologies such as ICT, IoT, AI and sensors etc. are evolving at a rapid rate and are playing a critical role in agriculture. This initiative takes a holistic approach and seeks to explore and introduce modern technologies to improve the food value chain in SSA. It is expected that modern agriculture—in addition to increasing food security—will reduce poverty of rural populations, and can be an engine for economic growth in SSA countries. A modern agriculture will be productive, efficient and resilient.

**BREAKOUT WORKING SESSIONS**

*Focused on ideation, identifying knowledge gaps, and potential solution approaches*

- **Taking stock of the current agricultural landscape (food security, nutrition, climate change, land, water security, desertification, energy, etc.) in Africa.**
  Facilitator: Margaret Gitau, Purdue University

- **Cultivating entrepreneurship and fostering private investment**
  Facilitator: Klein Ileleji, Purdue University

- **Appropriate capacity building and workforce development**
  Facilitator: Senorpe Asem-Hiablie, Penn State University

- **Public and Private Partnerships and Policy needs to support agricultural development**
  Facilitator: Michael Ngadi, McGill University

**ROUNDTABLE WORKING GROUP (OPEN)**

*Summarize ideas generated from this special session*

The output will be used to plan for the next round of efforts in 2021 and will provide materials for an authoritative White Paper. *(Moderators: Ajit Srivastava, Michigan State University; Margaret Gitau, Purdue University)*