



**IDF REGIONAL DAIRY CONFERENCE AFRICA,
VICTORIA FALLS, ZIMBABWE**



TIME	ACTIVITY
SUNDAY, MARCH 29th 2026	
1000 – 1700	REGISTRATION
MONDAY, MARCH 30th 2026	
0900 – 1700	REGISTRATION

TUESDAY, MARCH 31st 2026

TIME	ACTIVITY
0730 – 0900	REGISTRATION
0900-1000	Setting the scene – Zimbabwe Dairy Industry Trust
	SESSION ONE: WORLD AND REGIONAL DAIRY SITUATION <i>Socio Economic and statistical analysis of the global and regional dairy sector, including factors driving dairy production costs and consumption.</i>
	<i>Presentation 1: International Dairy Federation (IDF)</i>
	<i>Presentation 2: African Union (AU)</i>
	Discussions (Q&A)
1000 – 1030	HEALTH BREAK



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1030-1200	OFFICIAL CONFERENCE OPENING <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Official opening by Guest of Honour• Signing ceremony – Government of Zimbabwe endorsement of the Dairy declaration of France Official Photoshoot
1200-1245	SESSION TWO: DAIRY TRADE POLICIES AND ECONOMICS IN THE REGION (AfCTA, COMESA, SADC) <p><i>Potential impact of AfCTA on the African dairy industry and the challenges facing regional trade integration in Africa. Feed and Fodder standards for trade are critical for Livestock nutrition as key anchor of dairy production. Addressing end to end contracting trade especially the cold chain logistics across Africa.</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 3: Improving the efficiency of the African dairy value chain: Theory of change for enhancing strategic partnerships and coordination among and between dairy producing and dairy consuming countries/regions to boost intra-African dairy trade</i></p> <p><i>Panel discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Panellists: Regional trading bodies in Africa</i> Discussion (Q&A)
1245 – 1400	LUNCH
1400-1440	SESSION THREE: FINANCE AND INVESTMENT MODELS FOR RESILIENT DAIRY VALUE CHAIN <p><i>Initiating livestock financing tailor made products for dairy across the value chain and promoting dairy industry investment models. Unpacking the data driven finance and investment opportunities to step up African Dairy productivity and trade. Climate proofing the African Dairy initiatives against the catastrophic effects of droughts.</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 4: Catalyzing Private-Led Fodder Financing for Dairy Sector Transformation in Uganda</i></p> <p><i>Panel Discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Panellists: Local, Regional and International Financial Institutions</i> Discussion (Q&A)



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<p>1440-1530</p>	<p>SESSION FOUR: COST OF DAIRY PRODUCTION AND MILK CONSUMPTION TRENDS IN AFRICA <i>Current milk production and consumption trends in Africa, dairy sector growth potential and initiatives to improve productivity, quality, nutrition and food security</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 5: African Regional Dairy Production Patterns and Productivity</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 6: Consumption Focus: Powering Dairy for addressing the perennial Nutrition limitations in Africa</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 7: School Milk Feeding Programs as a tool powering dairy</i></p>	
	<p>Discussion (Q&A)</p>	
<p>1530 – 1600</p>	<p>HEALTH BREAK</p>	
<p>1600 – 1645</p>	<p>SESSION FOUR (A): FARM MANAGEMENT & LABOUR <i>Farm economics, management, human resources (skills), and the role of farms in sustainable food systems</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 8: “Securing the future, identifying successors and developing their skills: Practical Strategies for Succession Planning in Africa's Dairy Sector” – Case studies of successful transitions</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 9: Rethinking Dairy Development in Africa: A Regional Comparative Analysis Using International Farm Comparison Network (IFCN) Data</i></p>	<p>SESSION FOUR (B): HUMAN NUTRITION & HEALTH <i>Developments in human nutrition and health, with a special emphasis on exploring the dairy sector's potential to address malnutrition in all its forms and contribute to food security</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 10: Positioning Milk in Africa’s Evolving Food Environment: Implications for Nutrition Now and in the Future</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 11: Generational health: Role of Dairy Foods in Closing the Nutrition Equity Gap</i></p>
	<p>Discussion (Q&A)</p>	<p>Discussion (Q&A)</p>



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<p>1645 – 1715</p>	<p>VIRTUAL TOURS Medium & large-scale dairy farm, medium scale processor, Analytical laboratory</p>	<p>EXHIBITION PLATFORM AND NETWORKING</p>
<p>1830-2100</p>	<p>WELCOME DINNER </p>	

<p>WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1st 2026</p>	
<p>TIME</p>	<p>ACTIVITY</p>
<p>0900-0930</p>	<p>SESSION FIVE: STRATEGIES FOR AGRICULTURAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT <i>Presentation 12: Case study of Zimbabwe: Agriculture Food Systems & Rural Transformation Strategy II</i> Discussion (Q&A)</p>
<p>0930-1030</p>	<p>SESSION SIX: REGIONAL DAIRY EMERGING ISSUES <i>Comprehensive approaches to address the challenges (climate, price volatility) facing the African dairy sector value chain inefficiencies</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 13: North African perspective</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 14: West African perspective</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 15: Central African perspective</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 16: Southern African perspective</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 17: East African perspective</i></p> <p>Discussions (Q&A)</p>



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<p>1030-1100</p>	<p>Dairy Africa Alliance Launch:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Overview, Objectives and Structure of the Africa Dairy Alliance</i> • <i>Reading of the Joint Communique signed by Heads of National Dairy Boards/Platforms/Associations endorsing the formation of the Africa Dairy Alliance</i> • <i>Launch by Government of Zimbabwe & AU representative</i> 					
<p>1100 – 1120</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HEALTH BREAK</p>					
<p>1120 – 1245</p>	<p>SESSION SIX: SCALING UP AFRICAN DAIRY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES <i>Through reflecting on the effect of past or current projects and amplifying the opportunities for dairy to significantly contribute to addressing malnutrition</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 18: Development partner’s experience</i> <i>Presentation 19: Development partner’s experience</i> <i>Presentation 20: Development partner’s experience</i></p> <p>Discussion (Q&A)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="432 867 1906 1263"> <tr> <td data-bbox="432 867 1171 1263"> <p>SESSION SEVEN (A): DAIRY PROCESSING AND TECHNOLOGY <i>Technological aspects of processing, packaging, storage, and distribution of dairy products, including innovations and process optimization</i> <i>Presentation 21: Dairy processing presentation</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 22: Dairy input supplier presentation</i></p> </td> <td data-bbox="1171 867 1906 1263"> <p>SESSION SEVEN (B): ANIMAL HEALTH AND NUTRITION <i>Innovations in animal health, nutrition, and welfare, with implications for production and disease prevention.</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 23: Optimising Dairy Cow Nutrition to Improve Milk Quality, Feed Efficiency and Farm Profitability</i> <i>Presentation 24: Dairy cattle nutrition management presentation</i></p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="432 1263 1171 1377"> <p>Discussion (Q&A)</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1171 1263 1906 1377"> <p>Discussion (Q&A)</p> </td> </tr> </table>		<p>SESSION SEVEN (A): DAIRY PROCESSING AND TECHNOLOGY <i>Technological aspects of processing, packaging, storage, and distribution of dairy products, including innovations and process optimization</i> <i>Presentation 21: Dairy processing presentation</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 22: Dairy input supplier presentation</i></p>	<p>SESSION SEVEN (B): ANIMAL HEALTH AND NUTRITION <i>Innovations in animal health, nutrition, and welfare, with implications for production and disease prevention.</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 23: Optimising Dairy Cow Nutrition to Improve Milk Quality, Feed Efficiency and Farm Profitability</i> <i>Presentation 24: Dairy cattle nutrition management presentation</i></p>	<p>Discussion (Q&A)</p>	<p>Discussion (Q&A)</p>
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1245 – 1400	LUNCH	
1400 – 1445	<p>SESSION EIGHT (A): ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY <i>Strategies to improve sustainability, enhance energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, conserve water, and lower operational costs for dairy farms and processors.</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 25: Climate Change effects on agriculture production systems in Africa</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 26: Potential of Water hyacinth (Eichhornia crassipas) as a supplementary feed in dairy cattle</i></p>	<p>SESSION EIGHT (B): BREEDING, GENETICS AND FARM INFORMATION SYSTEMS <i>Use of integrated systems to support decision-making in agricultural operations by farmers and agricultural businesses to optimize their practices, improve efficiency, and increase productivity</i></p> <p><i>Role of breeding and genetics in improving dairy productivity and sustainability in Africa</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 28: Farm information systems and driving data management integration to step up dairy</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 29: African Jersey Forum</i></p>
	Discussion (Q&A)	Discussion (Q&A)
1445-1515	HEALTH BREAK	
1515-1600	<p>SESSION NINE: DAIRY INDUSTRY TRENDS AND OPPORTUNITIES <i>Exploring the future of the dairy industry and opportunities for women, youth, and new entrants</i></p> <p><i>Presentation 31: Women Driving the Future of Dairy: Celebrating the International Year of the Woman Farmer</i></p> <p><i>Panel Discussion: Panel 1 Panellists: Regional African countries representatives</i> <i>Panel 2 Panellists: Regional African countries representatives</i></p>	
	Discussion (Q&A)	



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1600-1645	<p style="text-align: center;">CLOSING CEREMONY <i>Conference resolutions, African declaration on dairy, Way forward</i></p> <p><i>Zimbabwe Dairy Industry Trust Remarks: Representative</i> <i>Conference Communique: AU</i> GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE</p>
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THURSDAY, APRIL 2nd 2026

TIME	ACTIVITY
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="499 737 1197 820">1. Organized Tour of Victoria Falls rain forest <i>Participants to register with conference organizers</i> <li data-bbox="499 933 1354 1015">2. Organized Business Visits <i>Participants to indicate trip preferences for necessary arrangements</i>