

# MwAPATA Institute Disseminates Pro-Youth Agriculture Policy Research



*Dr. Maggie Munthali making her presentation during the AAYS regional dialogue*

Dr Maggie Munthali, a Research Fellow at MwAPATA Institute, interacted with the youths on 3rd August 2024 at the Bingu International Convention Centre (BICC) in Lilongwe during the Regional Dialogue on African Agribusiness Youth Strategy (AAYS) organized by African Youth Union Commission, AGRA-Sustainably Growing Africa's Food Systems, and SADC. In her presentation Dr. Munthali shared the institute's findings on "Youth Engagement in Agriculture and Food Systems in Malawi: Extent, Challenges and Opportunities". She encouraged young attendees to pursue commercial opportunities in the agricultural sector.

collaboration with the National Youth Council of Malawi (NYCOM). During the briefing Dr. Munthali highlighted the findings and policy recommendations from a Policy Brief titled "Prospects and Barriers to Youth Engagement in Agriculture and Agri-food Systems." Echoing Dr. Munthali's insights, NYCOM Executive Director Mr. Rex Chapota stated that the study's insights are crucial for identifying stakeholders who can help promote agriculture among youth. "We are currently drafting our strategic plan and these findings will inform some of our pathways to bringing back the youths in agriculture", said Chapota.

Additionally, Dr. Munthali served as a speaker at the side event on "Leveraging Youth Innovations for Sustainable Agri-Food Systems and Healthy Diets in Africa" during the 2024 Africa Food Systems Forum (AFSF), held at the Youth Dome in the Kigali Convention Center (KCC) in Rwanda on Monday, 2nd September 2024. She was joined by two Technical Support Team Members from Michigan State University, Dr. Milu Muyanga and Dr. William Burke, representing

the MwAPATA Institute. Furthermore, on 12th September 2024, Dr. Munthali presented on “The Role of Women and Youth in Agri-food Systems Transformation” at the 2024 MAPCC at BICC in Lilongwe.