



It's Game On:

Game Meat, a Game Changer for Climate Resilience and Food Security

Human-Wildlife Interactions, Risks and Scaling of Game Meat Value Chains

Across African landscapes, human-wildlife interactions present both significant challenges and untapped opportunities. Negative interactions such as crop raiding, livestock predation, human injury or loss of life, and retaliatory killing erode community tolerance for wildlife and undermine conservation efforts. At the same time, sustainably managed game meat value chains can transform wildlife from a liability into a tangible asset for rural communities. Through generating income, protein, and employment from well-regulated harvesting, these value chains have the potential to reduce human-wildlife conflict, strengthen coexistence, enhance climate resilience through lower-emission protein systems, and improve food security. This theme series critically examines the human dimensions of scaling game meat value chains, with particular attention to conflict mitigation, risk management (including zoonoses and food safety), governance, and equitable benefit-sharing.

Date:

6 August 2026

Time:

10:00–11:30

Platform:

Zoom

RSVP:

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Main Objectives

- To explore how sustainable game meat value chains can shift human-wildlife interactions from conflict toward coexistence, while contributing to climate resilience and food security in African and SADC contexts.
- To examine the risks, governance challenges, transformation opportunities, and emerging dimensions associated with scaling game meat value chains, and to identify practical, people-centred strategies and policy enablers that support responsible, sustainable, and inclusive development.

Programme

Programme Director: Dr Wiseman Ndlovu, African Wildlife Economy Institute (AWEI)

10:00-10:05	Opening and setting a scene	Dr Wiseman Ndlovu African Wildlife Economy Institute (AWEI)
10:05-10:20	Panel introduction	Panellists
10:20-10:50	From Human-Wildlife Conflict to Coexistence: The Role of Sustainable Game Meat Value Chains Scaling Game Meat Value Chains: Opportunities, Risks and Governance Challenges Building Inclusive and Climate-Resilient Game Meat Systems: Policy and Practical Pathways	Ms Yolanda Muthinma AWEI, Centre for Sustainable Transitions (CST), Stellenbosch University Mr Charl de Villiers Chairperson, Game Abattoirs and Meat Establishments of South Africa (GAME SA) Ms Lizanne Nel Conservation Manager, South African Hunters and Game Conservation Association
10:50-11:15	Questions and Answers	
11:15-11:30	Key takeaways and Vote of Thanks	Dr Wiseman Ndlovu