



Press statement

Statement by the University of Johannesburg on hosting the General Assembly of the EU funded project UP-RISE in Johannesburg between 12-14 February 2025

30 January 2025 – The University of Johannesburg is honoured to host the General Assembly of the European funded project UP-RISE in Johannesburg from 12-14 February 2025.

This international gathering in South Africa will bring together consortium partners from Belgium, Italy, France, Netherlands, Nigeria, Kenya, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire and South Africa, together with members of **UP-RISE Accelerator Platform** -trade organisations, rapid testkit providers, consumers or farmers organisations based in Africa- and its **External Advisory Board** -FAO, the European Commission's Joint Research Centre, and the European, Belgian and French Food Safety Agencies-.

UP-RISE is the **EU-AU Partnership for Resilient, Inclusive and Safe Food Systems for Everyone**. It is composed of **13 international organisations** ensuring an interdisciplinary approach and well-framed gender in order to maximise the project's impact. Focusing on Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa, it will provide groundbreaking knowledge for understanding mycotoxin contamination and possible solutions.

During the course of three days, participants will explore various aspects of strengthening the **African food safety system** to ensure a safer **food supply for all**. Discussions will focus on topics such as **co-creating** solutions for SMEs, **knowledge transfer**, multi-actor **collaboration**, **mentoring**, **gender** dimensions, food safety **regulatory frameworks**, **value chain** analysis, and **fermentation** processes. Participants will also have the opportunity to meet future leaders and **AU Food Safety Ambassadors** from the UP-RISE PhD Community.

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More information

- UP-RISE website: <https://www.uprisefoodsafety.org/>
- X: @EU_AU_Uprise
- LinkedIn: Uprise Food Safety Project
- Facebook: Uprise Food Safety Project
- Instagram: @UpriseFoodSafetyProject
- Youtube: @UpriseFoodSafetyProject